

Fiji 7 Days

Nearly 2,000 miles from Sydney, Australia, the country of Fiji consists of over 330 islands and islets dotting the peaceful South Pacific Ocean. The two main inhabited islands are Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, both of which are mountainous – with peaks up to 5,000 feet – and covered in lush tropical forests. Off the northwest coast of Viti Levu are the Yasawa Islands, a chain of 20 volcanic islands known for their pristine tropical white sand beaches, crystal clear waters and picturesque views.

Your charter will begin from Port Denarau Marina, which is located 20-30 minutes from the Nadi International Airport. From here you will cruise directly to the outer islands, where the true nature and generous hospitality of the Fijian people is at its best. Here, in this largely unspoiled enclave, easily accessed via short passages inside the reefs, you will find picture-perfect deserted islands where you can swim with manta rays and dive with sharks in your own private paradise.

Being on the “dry side” of Fiji, the Yasawa and Mamanuca islands offer the best climate, along with plenty of spots for safe, easy diving for novice to moderately experienced divers and good snorkeling. This is a great area for families and for guests who do not like open water. It offers opportunities for pleasant hikes and forays outside the western reefs for those wishing to experience deep-sea fishing. This is an excellent itinerary for all ages, including small children, and can easily be adjusted to suit weather conditions.



- = GOLF
- = DIVE/SNORKEL
- = HIKING



DAY 1

PORT DENARAU MARINA TO WAYA ISLAND

Our crew will greet you at the Nadi Airport and transfer you to Belle Aimée, about a half-hour away at Port Denarau Marina. A welcome cocktail and appetizers set the tone as you are immediately underway for a 2-hour cruise to the deserted island of Vomo Lailai, for a few hours of diving or snorkeling in the clear aqua water that makes Fiji such a sought-after destination. A round of golf at Vomo Island Resort's 9-hole course can also be arranged.

After lunch on the covered aft deck, you're underway again, for a short 1 1/2hr cruise to the southernmost island of Waya. Anchored in Yalombi Bay (or Waikoko Bay to the east), tender ashore to visit the Octopus resort, whose golden sand beach has been rated one of the best in the world. The afternoon can be spent relaxing on the beach, snorkeling or diving the self-protected marine reserve just feet from the shore or "Fan Club" reef to the west, or hiking to the nearby local village of Nalauwaki (1-2 hours).

Alternatively, spend the afternoon hiking the steep hillside leading from Yalombi Bay to the Natawa village (2-3 hours) or cross-island from Rurugu Bay to Waya Levu Village (2 hours) or from Vanuaseva to the Nalauwaki village (2 hours).

This evening, you'll visit Namara village and present your kava root to the village chief in a traditional Sevu Sevu ceremony. In Fiji, the kava ceremony is an important element to visiting any new village, and it is customary for visitors to present a gift of Yaqona (kava root) to the village leader. Your crew will advise you of the proper etiquette for the kava ceremony and, after several sips of this traditional Fijian drink, the two "families" (the guests and the villagers) are now one and the celebration of song and dance can begin.



DAY 2

WAYA ISLAND TO NANUYA LAILAI

Early risers might enjoy a short sunrise hike to the peak of Waya island this morning to greet the day with spectacular views, with a refreshing dip in the natural spring along the way.

Back onboard Belle Aimée, after a delightful breakfast featuring traditional Fijian favorites such as lemon leaf tea with papaya, watermelon, bananas and pineapple, head up to the sun deck to enjoy the scenery as Belle Aimée departs for a 3-hour cruise to the famed Blue Lagoon islands.

A variety of spectacular dive spots can be visited along the way, including Pete's, Boyd's Menagerie, Bonzai or Cabbage Patch, the nearly 500-year-old coral formation that looks like a large underwater garden.

The Blue Lagoon island (or Nanuya Lailai) is not only the setting for the popular movie of the same name, but offers a variety of options for the afternoon, from visiting the small beachside resort or relaxing on the white sand beach to snorkeling, fish feeding, kayaking or playing on the water toys. Circumnavigate the entire island with a pleasant hike at low tide (1-2 hours), or explore the neighboring islands with a hike from Nasomo Bay to Vuakudu on Matacawa Levu island or trek to the peak of the unspoiled Tavewa Island.

That evening, your crew will arrange for a Lovo (traditional cooking method on rocks buried in the ground) and Meke (Fijian dance show) on the beach at Otto and Fanny's Place on nearby Tavewa Island. Belle Aimée will anchor here for the night.



DAY 3

NANUYA LILAI TO YAWINI ISLAND

After breakfast and a refreshing morning swim, retire to the covered upper deck while Belle Aimée draws anchor and departs for the 2-hour passage to Yawini Island, a picturesque ocean oasis situated at the top of the Yasawa island chain.

This morning, guests can dive the black rock wall or fish the islets north of Yawini island. Those preferring a more leisurely pace can swim or snorkel the pass and stroll along the stunning beaches.

Yasawa is the sunniest and driest part of Fiji, which nearly guarantees spectacularly comfortable conditions and ideal water temperatures. At low tide, a sand bar connecting Yawini with its southern neighbor, Yasawa I Rara, appears, presenting a bridge between the two or a quiet spot for relaxation.

In the afternoon, enjoy a BBQ luncheon on Yawini beach, and a hike to the pretty Yasawa I Rara village (2 hours) for a traditional meke and to peruse the shell and handicraft market. That evening, enjoy a viewing of the movie, The Blue Lagoon under the stars on Belle Aimée's sun deck.



DAY 4

YAWINI ISLAND TO LIKU BEACH AT NARAWA BAY AND NAQELENIVONU BEACH

After a leisurely morning, Belle Aimée moves the short distance (1/2 hour) to Narawa Bay for a day at Likuliku lagoon, with its breathtaking beach that is home to one of the world's best snorkel sites.

That afternoon, another short cruise (1/2 hour) to Naqelenivonu beach where the day is spent swimming, snorkeling, relaxing and enjoying Belle Aimée's water toys.

Reconvene aboard Belle Aimée late in the afternoon for cocktail hour to recount the day's activities amidst yet another stunning sunset.



DAY 5

VAWA ISLAND

Today, the deserted Vawa island is your private paradise. Spend the day snorkeling or collecting shells on the beaches to analyze later in Belle Aimée's wet lab. Divers will enjoy the Vawa patches and underwater cliff, which is suitable for novice divers.

Lunch is enjoyed on the beautiful beach at Devoi and can be easily walked off with a leisurely stroll on the beach or a more rigorous hike inland for some great views.

After dinner, cozy up under the stars for popcorn and movie night on the sun deck with a showing of *The Castaway*.



DAY 6

VAWA ISLAND TO SAVA I LAU TO NAVITI ISLAND

Early this morning, Belle Aimée departs on a 1-hour cruise to Sava i Lau, to visit the underwater caves featured in the movie *The Blue Lagoon*. Swim or kayak in the crystal clear lagoon or, if you're feeling adventurous, explore the underwater caves. A guide will show you how to dip under the ledge and into the caves, the first of which is lit with natural light, but you'll need a flashlight for the second cave. Snorkeling along the reefs outside of the caves is also very pretty.

If you prefer to stay on land, a hike from Tamasua to the 765-foot Taucake peak yields amazing views.

Late morning, Belle Aimée embarks for the small volcanic island of Naviti (2 hours), passing through the scenic channels between the three islands to the south of Naviti. Along the way, guests can take the opportunity to dive Boyd's Menagerie.

Upon settling in at one of the lovely anchorages off of Naviti island, tender ashore for a half-hour hike to Soveti and Clara's place. This lovely couple resides in a gorgeous beachside bure (wood and straw hut), and guests are welcomed like family. You will bring tea, rice and flour instead of kava here, and at low tide a swim and snorkel to a nearby WWII plane wreck yields delightful underwater discoveries.

Savor stories, singing and music as the afternoon wanes before returning to Belle Aimée for dinner on the upper deck.



DAY 7

SOUTH NAVITI TO MALOLO LAILAI ISLAND

Today is spent visiting the manta reefs of the Nanuya Balavu area (1 hour cruise) and exploring the small bays, including Vuata Bay with Belle Aimée's water toys. The southern tip of this island is a favorite feeding ground for these docile, plankton-eating creatures, and they can be seen daily from May to September. There are also many 1-3 hour hiking options available at Soso Bay.

Mid-morning, curl up with a book on the upper deck as Belle Aimée begins the 3 ½-hour voyage to Malolo Lailai Island. Here you will visit the Musket Cove Island Resort and Marina, a South Pacific yacht club with great activities for kids, a spa and restaurants. Plenty of options are available for your afternoon activities, from a dive at nearby "Pinnacle" to a hike to the peak at Musket Cove for a great view. A round or two at the beachfront 9-hole golf course at Plantation Island Resort can also be arranged today.



DAY 8

RETURN TO PORT DENARAU

Enjoy a relaxing breakfast on the main aft deck while reading up on the undersea life encountered during your visit. Belle Aimée gets underway this morning for the 1 ½-hour return to Port Denarau.

After a round of golf at the championship 18-hole Denarau Golf and Racquet Club, you'll enjoy a final dinner aboard before being transferred to the Nadi International Airport where you'll bid a fond farewell to your crew and embark on your flight home.

