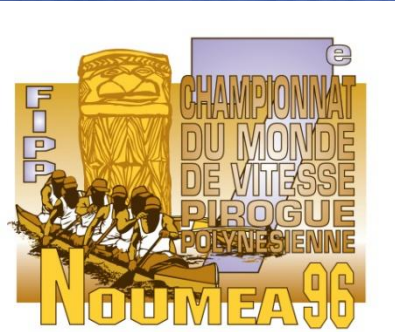




Nouméa





Sandra LAVIGNE
Président of the
Organizing
Committee



1996 - 2010

Fourteen years after hosting its first World Championships, New Caledonia will have the great honour to organize again this prestigious event in 2010

The 2010 World championships will take place for the second time on the magnificent water front at ANSE VATA.

The trials and competitions will occur along the beach, providing the public with a spectacular view of all field events

The quantity and quality of the hotel accommodations and tourist attractions in the immediate vicinity of the site, as well as the great motivation of the

Organizing Committee members, will guarantee the success of this endeavour, which is in other respects supported by all the local communities.

Only one year from the 2011 Pacific Games, also planned to take place in New Caledonia, this world Championship event is shaping into a great rehearsal, not only sportive, but also cultural.

As the 13th World Championships in Sacramento, to which I wish a great

success, are approaching, I am pleased to provide you with a note-book containing helpful information to prepare your trip for the 14th World Championships in New Caledonia.

Starting now, The Organizing Committee and I are at your disposal to help

you with your travel arrangements.

FACTS TO KNOW

Political of New-Caledonia

New-Caledonia is constituted of **3 PROVINCES**: the Islands Province, the South Province and the North Province, each being administrated by a specific Province Assembly, elected members of which are also part of **THE CONGRESS** of New Caledonia.

Placed under the locally elected Congress authority, the **GOVERNMENT** of New-Caledonia rules the current public affairs and matters, with a progressive transfer of Competencies from the French State to the New Caledonian authorities.

Since the 1998 Noumea agreement signed by the major Political poles of New-Caledonia and the French Government, Our territory is now an autonomous self-governed French Overseas Territory.

Currency

Our currency is the pacific franc (XPF).

Rates August 2007, 1 US\$ = about 100 XPF

Immigration formalities

A valid passport is compulsory. Two way air tickets are also necessary along with a short term visa for which applications can be made at all French Consulates or embassies in all countries, and if none, in Suva. European, Japanese, New Zealand, and United States passport holders are visa free.

Upon arrivals at Tontouta International Airport, customs and quarantine declarations are to be handed to the officers.

Medical

New Caledonia is a healthy country and apart from routine vaccinations, no special health certificates are required. Noumea has a capacity of over 1000 beds within two public general hospitals and two private health clinics, 380 doctors, over 100 dentists, 700 nurses, 80 chemists, and 70 physiotherapists. Critical cases can even be evacuated by air towards Australian hospitals.

Security

Currently under the French law, every citizen in New Caledonia has the same rights and protection thanks to developed police and security services like the National Police and Gendarmerie agents present on all the island. New Caledonia is a very secure country. The security and welfare of the paddlers will be the constant priority of the organisers.

PRATICAL DETAILS

Local telephone

The New Caledonia country code is 687 followed by the 6 digit numbers of your correspondent.

For outgoing international calls press 00 then the country code and finally the number.

Water

The tap water in New Caledonia is excellent and quite safe. But you can also purchase bottled water of local or imported brands in all groceries and supermarkets as well as at the venue of the events.

Electricity

The entire archipelago is serviced with domestic electricity with a 220 voltage. Adaptation plugs may be needed as our local plug system utilizes double rounded pins

Local time

The local time is GMT + 11 hours.

In September sun rises at 6:00 am and sets at 6:00 pm.

Banking

All major credit cards (visa, Amex, Masters...) are accepted in almost all shops, restaurants, hotel, petrol stations in Noumea and elsewhere.

ATM machines are available outside all banking branches throughout the city

Rental cars

Over 20 rental car companies offer a wide range of vehicles, average rate: 3000XPF per day for a small car.

Flights

Noumea La Tontouta International airport is situated 45km from the city, via express highway.

There are direct flights from Noumea to Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane (Australia) also to Auckland (New Zealand) as well as Port Vila (Vanuatu), Nadi (Fiji), Papeete (Tahiti) and Wallis et Futuna.

Five major airlines fly to and from New Caledonia: Air France, Aircalin, Qantas, Air New Zealand, and Air Vanuatu.