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SUMMARY

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- Le Méridien Nouméa gets better with time
- Extension to the "Relais de Kodjeu"
- Port Bélandre restaurant

Entertainment

- Thursdays on the Anse Vata resume
- Dinner and show at the Tjibaou Cultural Centre

Sports & excursions

- International Marathon
- New Caledonia Fishing Safaris
- Return of the humpback whales
- Sea Walker

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- Kouakoué natural park

Information

- A satellite of the Tourism Office on the Isle of Pines
- The new members of New Caledonia Tourism. *South*

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NEW ZEALAND MARKET?

ADVERTISING

New Caledonia Tourism. South continues its advertising presence on the NZ market:

Press :

In the travel section of the NZ Herald, distributed every Tuesday, a variety of packages are featured for holidays to New Caledonia.

Television :

Our 15 second and 30 second advertisements continue to be screened on national television. The theme of "France's best kept secret on your doorstep" continues to raise awareness of our destination on the NZ marketplace.

PROMOTIONAL TOOLS:

We have recently distributed an 8 page supplement on New Caledonia which was produced by Traveltrade Magazine. Supplies of these are available on request. Also available :

- 20 page destination brochure
- Map of Noumea and Southern Province
- Jasons 2003 New Caledonia Map
- Diving brochure 4 page
- Set of 3 New Caledonia posters
- Guide Citron New Caledonia
- New Caledonia Meeting Planner
- The New Caledonia Travellers Guide will be printed in August.

TRAVEL SHOWS:

New Caledonia Tourism. South will be participating in the following consumer shows in Auckland in August:

01/03 August:

The Food Show

13/16 August:

Pacific Islands Showcase

30/31 August:

The Womens' Expo

WHOLESALE PRODUCT:

New brochure release in July with Escape Holidays New Caledonia brochure. Flyers currently on the market have been produced by Go Pacific, Gullivers Pacific, Travelplan, Infinity Holidays, Talpacific Holidays and Escape Holidays.

TRAVEL AGENTS SPECIAL DEALS:

Special deals are available to travel agents wanting to visit New Caledonia in conjunction with Aircalin. Participating hotels include Le Méridien, Parkroyal, Novotel Surf and Le Lagon. There are special agents rates for Mary D Lighthouse Excursion and airport transfers. All agents travelling on these deals will receive a complimentary ticket on Le Petit Train once their air ticket has been issued.

TRAVEL AGENTS SALES CALLS:

In conjunction with Sales Development Services (SDS) we will have a sales rep visiting all travel agencies nationally (except Auckland which has already been covered) within the next few months. Brochure kits with destination brochures on New Caledonia and airline information from Aircalin will be distributed during calls with the invitation to call our offices for further information or brochure supplies.

ACCOMMODATION & EATING OUT

LE MERIDIEN NOUMEA GETS BETTER WITH TIME

Extract of "Journal Le Méridien Nouvelle-Calédonie".

Le Sextant gets a major lift !

After 8 years of operation, Le Méridien Nouméa continues looking good however that's no reason not to spend XPF 100 million (€ 838,000) for a makeover. Le Sextant restaurant has temporarily closed its doors at the end

of June and reopen on September 1st. The highlights of this renovation include the construction of a veranda, the repositioning of the cold buffet, new furniture, new design and décor and better adapted lighting. During the period from 30 June to 31 August 2003, buffets breakfast and theme dinners will be served at Le Faré restaurant.



The Women's Show

it's all about



you

Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 August, 2003

ACCOMMODATION & EATING OUT

Guestrooms go for a new look and feel !



A change of decor for Le Méridien Nouméa's guestrooms began in 2002 and will be completed by the end of this year. The new atmosphere is more contemporary, whilst remaining inspired by the sea and its palette colours.

Additionally, all guestrooms lock will be replaced by a new magnetic key card system offering even more security ease of use and less maintenance.

Finally, a new telephone system is currently being installed at both Le Méridien Nouméa and Ile des Pins. This system will provide a better, easier to use service for our clients with multi-lingual voice

mail and high speed / lower cost Internet connections in all rooms.

The gardens get a colour and a trim!

The "Pedestrian path" (wide walkway through the Le Méridien Nouméa's gardens) is also being remodelled. The large columnar pines and coconut palms bordering it will be trimmed in order to offer more natural light for the guestrooms and also to make way for larger more bountiful flower beds.

BP 1915 - 98846
Nouméa Cedex
Ph: (687) 26 50 00
Fax: (687) 26 51 00
E-mail: le-meridien@meridien.nc
www.lemeridien-noumea.nc

EXTENSION TO THE "RELAIS DE KODJEUE"

10 more bungalows have been built at the "Relais de Kodjeue" on the Isle of Pines,

enabling this establishment to house 120 guests. Those comfortable bungalows are equipped with telephone, television, refrigerator and air-conditioning. This extension will enable the "Relais" to gain a second star and thus become a hotel. The bungalows which stand on poles will also be renovated in 2004, they have a bedroom, lounge and kitchen.

BP 75 - 98832 Ile des Pins
Ph: (687) 46 11 42
Fax : (687) 46 10 61
E-mail : reservations@canl.nc
www.ile-des-pins.com



PORT BELANDRE RESTAURANT

Located on the Anse Vata, Port Belandre restaurant is the chic place to go in Nouméa. Entirely constructed over the water, this complex comprises a gastronomic restaurant with two giant aquariums as well as a natural aquarium underneath the restaurant. Open from Tuesday to Sunday, Port Belandre offers a new menu featuring French cuisine with an emphasis on seafood from the lagoon, in refined surroundings.

"The Terrace" situated at the entrance to the complex is open from 7 am to 6 pm every day except Monday and is a very pleasant place to eat breakfast with pastries baked on the premises, or a rapid lunch (grilled meat and fish) or simply relax over an ice cream, tea or cocktail and take in the beautiful view over the lagoon.
Ph: (687) 25 07 00
Fax: (687) 25 07 02



ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAYS ON THE ANSE VATA RESUME

Thursdays on the Anse Vata, had taken place on Nouméa's waterfront each week, but had had to be interrupted following the damage caused by cyclone Erica.

The huts which form the Thursdays' village have now been repaired and artisans, dancers, musicians, portrait artists and artists of all types resumed their habitual activities at this event on 3 July from 5 pm to 8.30 pm.

The planned themes for this term are:

- 31 July : Sports Thursday and craft market
- 7 August : The Province of the Islands
- 14 August : The districts of Farino and Sarraméa present their Thursday
- 21 August : Creative leisure workshops and craft market
- 28 August : The districts of Boulouparis and Tomo host

their Thursday

- 4 September : The district of La Foa hosts Thursday
- 11 September : The districts of Yaté and Goro host Thursday
- 18 September : The district of Poya hosts Thursday
- 25 September : Thursday of Wallis and Futuna

Ph: (687) 28 75 80
Fax : (687) 28 75 85
E-mail: office-tourisme@canl.nc

SPORTS & EXCURSIONS

INTERNATIONAL MARATHON

The 21st edition of the international marathon will take place in Nouméa on Sunday 24 August 2003. Three courses are available: the marathon (42 km) and the half-marathon (21 km), which will begin at 7 am and the "Foulées de l'amitié" (5 km) at 10 am.

Enrolment forms and the rules of the courses are available from the offices of New Caledonia Tourism. South. Enrolments can be made as from now through the COMINC (Comité Organisateur du Marathon de Nouvelle-Calédonie):
BP 333 - 98845 Nouméa Cedex
Ph: (687) 28 10 57
Fax: (687) 28 80 80
E-mail: ctos@cool.nc

DINNER AND SHOW AT THE TJIBAOU CULTURAL CENTRE

Every Thursday from 5 pm, the Tjibaou Cultural Centre puts on a dinner and show at the Kanak trail. The show begins with dancers from the Nyian troop who guide the spectators along the trail, to the sound of their ancestral music. This is followed by the visit of one of the exhibition rooms, then visitors are taken to the "falé" (a traditional hut) situated by the sea, to discover the traditional oven

in which the "bougna" (a dish of meat or fish and root vegetables cooked in coconut milk) is cooked. The bougna is eaten in the "falé", cradled by the sound of sea waves and the rythms of the Pilou (Kanak dance).

The dinner and show sold at the public price of XPF 6,800 /person (€ 56,9), ends at 8.30 pm.

Ph: (687) 41 45 45
Fax: (687) 41 45 56
E-mail: adck@adck.nc
Internet: www.adck.nc



SPORTS & EXCURSIONS

RETURN OF THE HUMPBACK WHALES

As has occurred every year between July and September, humpback whales come to reproduce and give birth in New Caledonian waters. Several have already been spotted in the southern lagoon and near the Amédée Lighthouse.

You do not need to have your own boat to be able to see these mammals. In fact, many yacht and motorboat hire companies, in Nouméa and on the Isle of Pines, organise whale watching excursions. They usually depart from Prony bay.

Raid N'Gatahi:

infos@raid-ngatahi.nc

Sun Speed:

wilypetrel@hotmail.com

Maryvonne (a traditional Italian 30 metre yacht):

Ph: (687) 77 48 76

Ile des Pins Croisières :

Ph/Fax : (687) 46 10 00

Highlander:

didiermrobert@yahoo.fr

Pacific Charter:

pachart@canl.nc

Ekué-Ekué:

aml@cool.nc

This list is inexhaustive.

Prices are around XPF 7,500 (€ 62.8) for adults and XPF 5,300 (€ 44.4) for children for a full-day trip meal excluded.

The Internet site of the association "Opération cétacés" has a lot of information on humpback whales and their behaviour. www.offratel.nc/op.cetaces



Crédit photo : Claire Garrigue

SEA WALKER

As from the beginning of July, you can now go for a walk under the sea departing from the pontoon situated in the Dumbéa pass. With a diving suit helmet linked to the surface by a hose, you walk under the water at a depth of 5 to 6 metres enabling you to admire the lagoon's many fish species. This activity is available to those over 8 years of age and requires no training; you just need to listen carefully to the instructions given prior to going underwater.

Departures for this excursion are from Port Moselle, in Nouméa, every



Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (departure at 8 am returning at 4 pm). The transfer to the pontoon is aboard the Ekué-Ekué catamaran.

The price of the transfer, including the meal, snorkelling, and the possibility to have a trip on a glass-bottom boat is XPF 8,000/adult (€ 67) and XPF 5,000 for those under 12 (€ 41.9). The "Sea Walker" lasting 25 minutes costs XPF 5,000/adult (€ 41.9) and XPF 2,500/child (€ 20.9).

For information and reservations

" Le Ponton "

BP 4023 - 98846 Nouméa Cedex

Mobile : (687) 77 80 52

Ph/Fax : (687) 28 21 97

E-mail : ggarnier_iruka@hotmail.com

NEW CALEDONIA FISHING SAFARIS

This new service provider organises sports fishing safaris from the shore or in a boat, from fishing camps set up on impressive wild sites of the New Caledonian coast. The main fish sought after in New Caledonia are the "bonefish", "carangues", "red carp", "tazars",...

The equipment necessary for this activity can be hired or bought on site.

Ph/Fax: (687) 25 95 96

Mobile: (687) 78 62 00

E-mail: president@flyandgtfishingclub.com

www.flyandgtfishingclub.com



Fly and Gt Fishing Club

ENVIRONMENT

KOUAKOUÉ NATURAL PARK

60 000 hectares of natural protected park, this is the ambitious ecological project of the Southern Province.

This park is planned



to open in 5 years' time. These 60 000 hectares include all the diversity of the Mainland's ecosystems: tropical and dry forests, bush, savannah, mangroves, river, estuary, coast, a portion of the great barrier, land reef... This region of Kouakoué is practically pristine nature and scientists describe it as "the most beautiful tropical forest of the island world".

There is no question of letting tourists stream into it. "There is cur-

rently no road, and we will not build one" states Yves Magnier, president of the commission for the environment. The nature will remain pristine and we will only be developing walking tracks for those walking with guides". Some heliports will be built in the massif but cars will be prohibited. "The aim is that the area is not spoilt in any way. The only concession we envisage is along practical lines: the construction of a

wharf which will be used by boats carrying hikers heading for the Mountain chain or to the reef for diving".

The Southern Province will initially become the owner of the region concerned. The natural resources will then be listed. In 3 years' time, the first developments should be able to take place.

Extract from "Sud Magazine" - June/July 2003

INFORMATION

AN ANTENNA OF THE TOURISM OFFICE ON THE ISLE OF PINES

Angèle Koteureu, born on the Isle of Pines, heads this new information point. The office has been set up in the village of Vao. It is open to tourists all day Monday to Friday, as well as on Saturdays and Sunday mornings.

Contact: Ph/Fax: (687) 46 10 27.

Visitors can obtain their tourist information and brochures on their arrival at the Isle of Pines' air terminal. A map of the island is now available to tourists.

THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

New Caledonia Tourism. South currently has 41 members, of which 5 have recently joined:

- **Amiral Dream 2:** taxi boats for trips around Nouméa.

- **Relais de Kodjeue:** accommodation on the Isle of Pines.

- **Creipac:** Centre teaching French to foreigners.

- **Arc-en-ciel Voyages:** tourism agency.

- **Compass Consultant:** business creation, development advisor, business auditing and marketing advice (notably in the tourism sector).