

Turtle Island


Fiji





"The island is beautiful...black volcanic rocks, pristine white sandy beaches and...incredible views over the whole archipelago. God was indeed smiling when He made Turtle Island." AUSTRALIAN GOURMET PAGES, NOVEMBER 2005

AN ISLAND BORN OF VOLCANIC FIRE AND FRIENDSHIP

 We are enroute by floatplane (never mind that the pilot is barefoot) to a remote destination in the South Pacific called Turtle Island, part of the Yasawa Group in the Republic of Fiji. A string of ancient volcanic lagoons and jagged islands, mostly uninhabited, passes below. Born of violent earthly eruptions, they are now the peaceful paradise home of owner Richard Evanson.

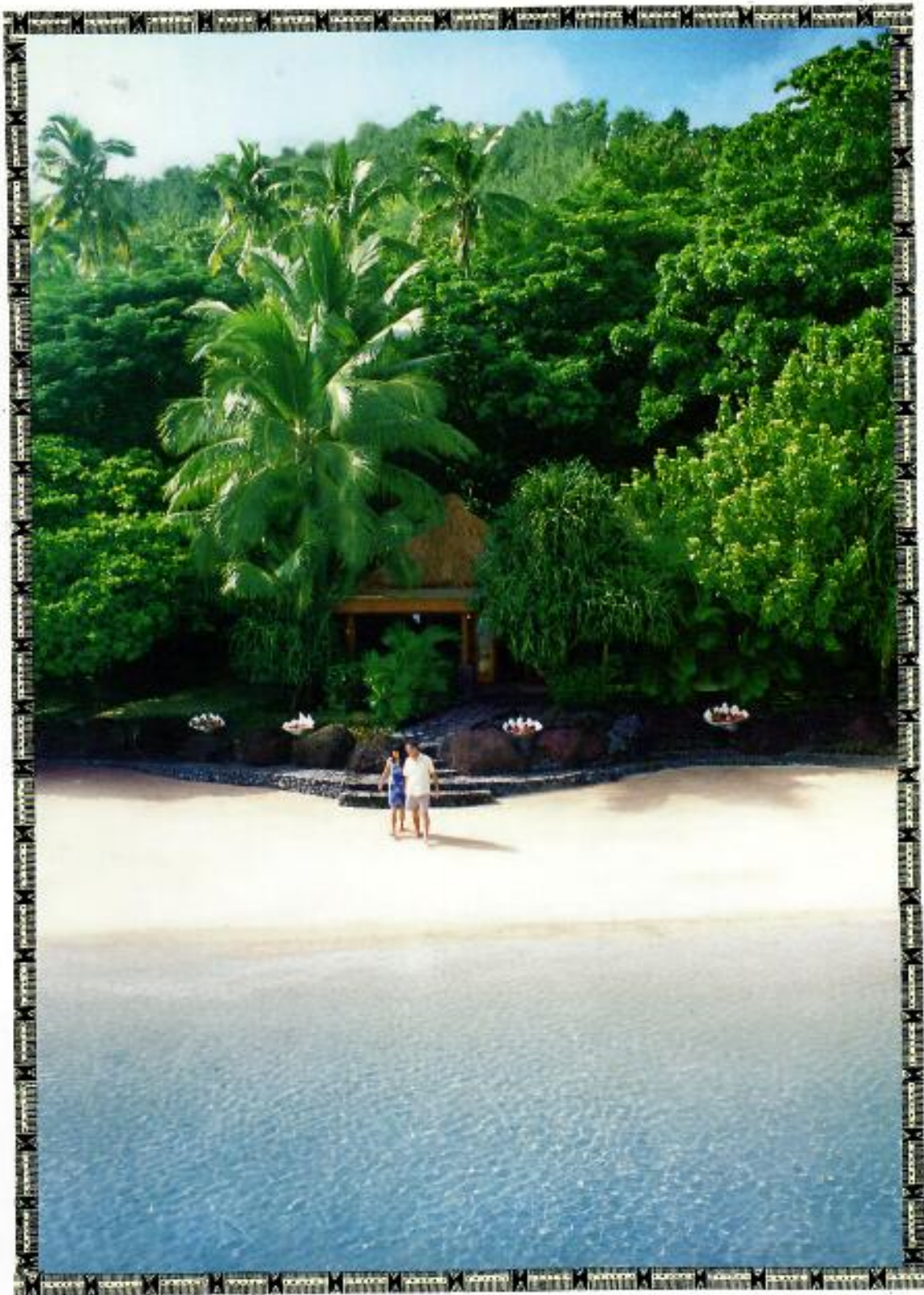
Richard acquired the island in 1972 as a personal hideaway.

Some years later he and his Fijian neighbors began to extend their hospitality to guests seeking an enchanting respite from their usual cares.

Romantic, intimate, comfortable and friendly almost beyond belief, Turtle Island is a world entirely beyond time and obligations. For adventurous island wanderers looking for a private paradise, this is it.



*Hello
Bula*



"Absolutely the best way we could have spent our honeymoon; the most romantic and beautiful place on the planet. We will cherish every memory." KEEGAN & CAMY, CALIFORNIA JULY 2006

*From the moment I heard your tender greeting
Kena ca ni levu tu na ua*

*Isa, Isa, my heart was filled with pleasure,
Vanua rogo na nomuni vanua,*

 During your stay on Turtle, home will be one of only fourteen "bures," traditional, two-room, thatched cottages built by Fijian craftsmen. Each is spacious, comfortable and filled with light. Handwoven 21-foot vaulted ceilings arch over the wheat-colored walls and mellow wood floors. Louvered windows open to the tranquil waters of the Blue Lagoon. Gentle trade winds carry the scent of tropical blossoms through the breezy interiors.



Each Bure has its own Fijian Bure Manager and cultural advisor to nurture guests throughout their stay. Your Bure Manager will help arrange your snorkeling trips, private picnics and other activities. They will take care of your bure, attend to your laundry, and stock your refrigerator with special requests. They will even photograph your special times if you wish, and provide you with memorable images. Your Bure Manager is there to ensure that the mysteries of Turtle Island are accessible.





"The bunes are luxuriously appointed, beautifully furnished and very private. Guests are assigned a Bune Mama who looks after their every need."
AUSTRALIAN GOURMET PAGES, NOVEMBER 2005

*Happy country where roses bloom in splendor
Kena kau wale na salusala*

*O'er the ocean your island home is calling,
Domoni dina na nomu yanuyani,*

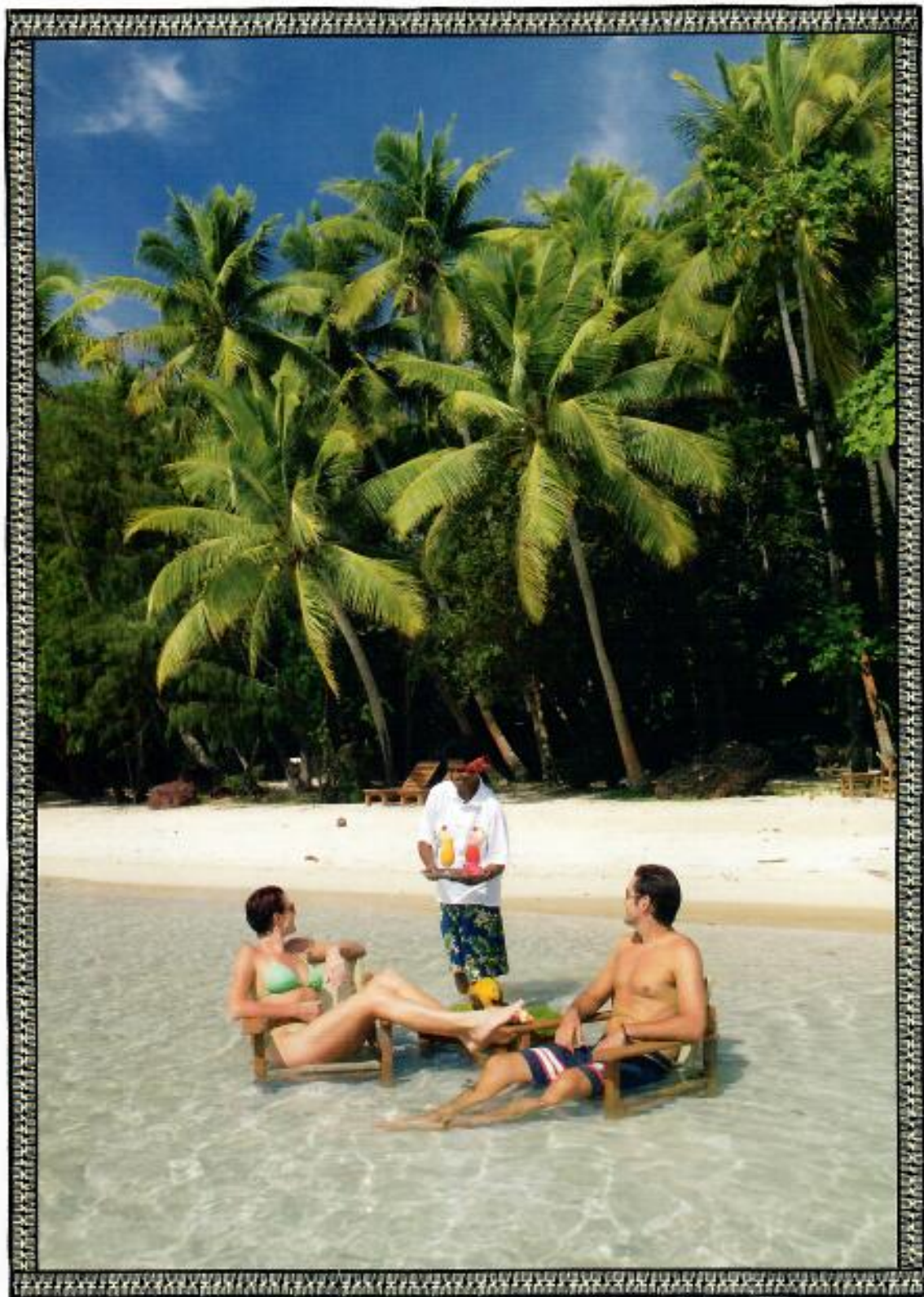


Grand Bure (shown)



Each bure is private, spacious and comfortable. Every bure has a four poster king-size bed, sitting room, walk-in double shower, extensive dressing area, CD player and writing desk. All bures include a refrigerator stocked with wine, fruit juice, soft drinks and fresh tropical fruit. Snacks and coffee making facilities are also available in each bure. For relaxing and afternoon napping in the sun-flecked shade of the palms, each bure has a queen-size daybed on its Blue Lagoon facing verandah. In addition, for those romantic evenings, all Grand bures have full-sized in-room hot tubs.






Voted "World's Best Service." TRAVEL & LEISURE MAGAZINE, 2006

*Amid the sunshine,
Lomaqu voli,*

*Along the beach in Fiji,
Ruku ni vula ni kata buto.*



 The island is blessed with fourteen powdery, white sand beaches. Some are adjacent to the living and dining areas, and some are totally isolated, surrounded by high cliffs or set within a cove.

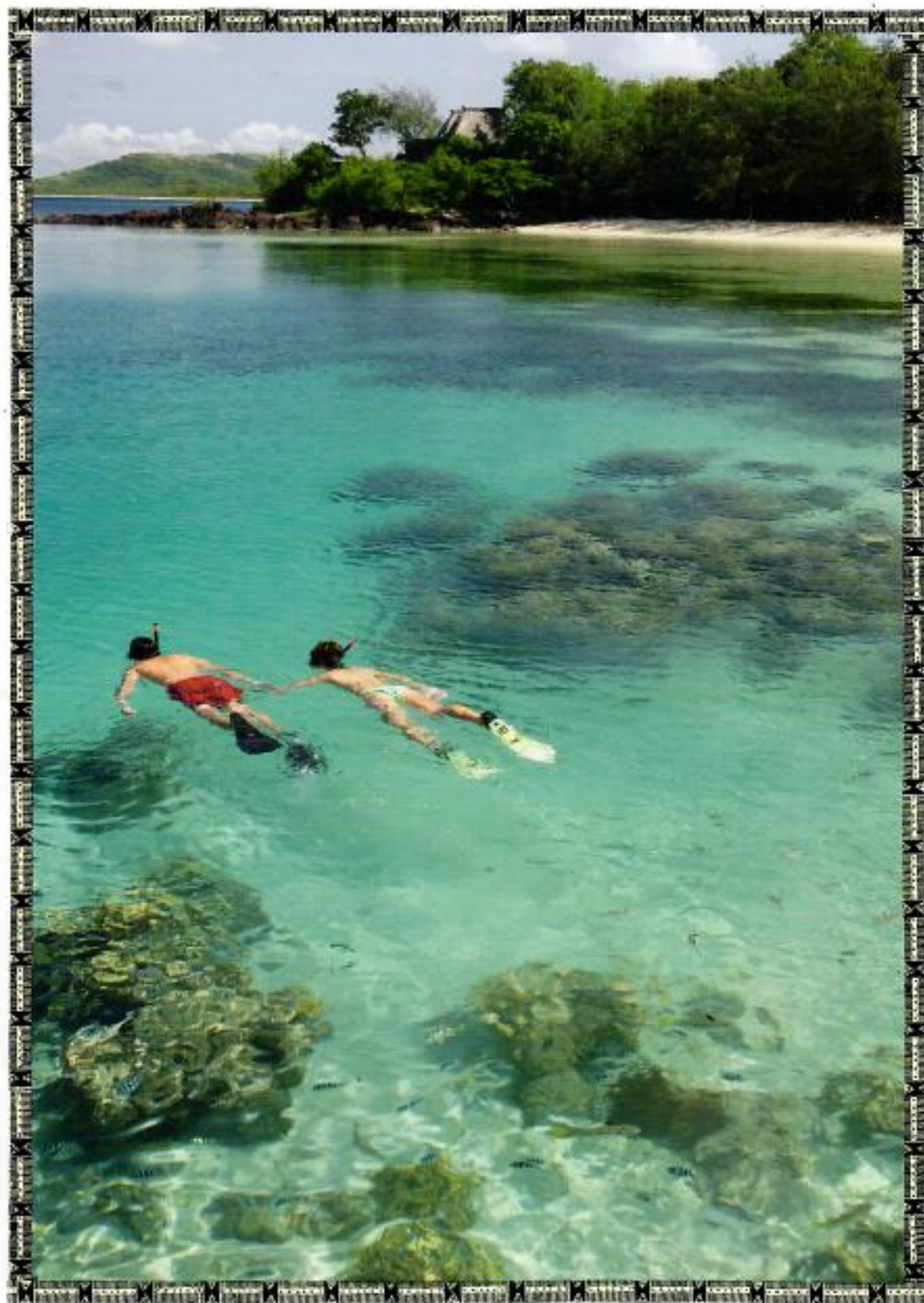


Your time on Turtle is your own, whether you want to stroll the beaches, wade in the turquoise waters, cruise on one of our sailboats, snorkel, or scuba with a Fijian Bure Manager as your guide. Couples can reserve a beach for the day and enjoy a romantic picnic where a luncheon of lobster and champagne, or whatever you prefer, will be delivered to your own private beach. Lose your worldly inhibitions. Read a book. Sip champagne. Work on an all-over tan.



*We spend hours together
Meu bau batuka*






"This has been the best vacation of our lives. We couldn't have been more pleased and it literally broke our hearts to leave...looks like we'll be back within 24 months!" KELLY & ELIZABETH, KENTUCKY, SEPTEMBER 2006

*Over the ocean,
Domoni dina,*

*Beneath the mooy ice stroll along,
Vadugu na ua ni cakau,*



 The Blue Lagoon is as clear as new blown glass and offers spectacular displays and diversions. Living coral reefs of blue, green and yellow, called "fringing reefs," ring the island and are home to colorful galaxies of fish, from lion to angel to butterfly fish. Squid and octopi live here too, as well as sea cucumbers, rays and crabs. Don snorkel gear and go eye-to-eye with a green or hawksbill turtle.

On soft, star-studded nights, the breezes carry the scent of frangipani down to the sea's edge and the waves turn green-gold with bioluminescence.



*Your island home is calling
Na nomu ganuganu*






"The days unfold lazily. I snorkel among emerald green, cobalt blue and ludicrously pink fish, gallop down the beach on a sleek white horse at dawn, hike to the top of the mountain and bike down the other side, and devour several books in my hammock." CONDE NAST TRAVELLER UK, OCTOBER 2005

*Life is just like a beautiful song,
Vovosa malua mai vei au,*

*Another "BULA VINAKA" how do you do,
Noqu tadra oi lei sa maumau,*



 Turtle is a place for the young at heart, a retreat for couples who seek a renewal of the spirit and a return to the innocence of falling in love for the very first time. Whether you're a honeymooner looking for the perfect place to begin your life together, celebrating a special occasion or just trying to escape from the world, Turtle offers many diversions.

Horseback ride or mountain bike around the island. Fish for trevally, coral trout, bonefish, and red sea bass. Sail, windsurf, or sea kayak. Enjoy the more placid pastimes of sunbathing, swimming or hammock-testing.



*It's just Turtle Island hospitality
E rui totoko, domoni vei au*




"We had the unique experience of diving on one of the floating platforms in the middle of the Lagoon. A canopy of stars and the rising moon enhanced the romantic setting."
SPECIALTY TRAVEL INDEX, SPRING / SUMMER 2006



*When you're far away,
Na nodatou lasa,*

*O, forget not,
Bau nanuma,*

 Guests find open-air dining to be as much fun as it is delicious and varied. Lantern-lit dinner parties are lively, as worldly problems seem to disappear in the joyous gatherings of our guests. For a romantic evening, try a seaside moonlight dinner or a meal by lantern light on a floating dock.

You'll feast on freshly caught yellowfin tuna, lobster, crab, succulent Australian beef, native fruits, and sweet island-grown vegetables picked just that afternoon from our organic vegetable garden. Maybe grilled lobster with lemon grass or pork fillet with honey, ginger and pineapple, followed by jasmine crème brûlée with mint sorbet. Fine French, Italian, Australian, New Zealand, and United States wines and champagnes are poured generously throughout the evening.



*Precious moments beside dear Turtle Island
Mai Siva nanuma tiko go*



"It is the interaction with the Fijians, which makes a holiday on Turtle Island so very special. Fijians seem to always be happy, coping with whatever the world throws at them, making their company almost therapeutic." AUSTRALIAN GOURMET PAGES, NOVEMBER 2005


*Nothing on earth,
Tale yani vei iho,*

*Can make life more worthwhile,
E sega ni dua tale na ka i vuruvura,*



*Then the friendliness of a Fijian smile
E rawa ni sivita na mata ni dredre ni kai viti*



 The Fijian's vibrant living culture is an integral part of life on Turtle Island.

Fijians are taught from an early age that family and friends are the most important things in life. The Island has embraced only the essentials of modern technology so as not to impact on cultural authenticity.

From this warm and ancient culture comes a new sense of community and a nurturing, teaching, fun-loving staff with a great South Pacific sense of humor. You'll find them eager to share their musical heritage and their ceremonies, to explain the sea life and reefs, to demonstrate medicinal uses of trees and plants found in the forest, teach you to wind-surf or take you fishing. They will spoil you with their hospitality or, if you prefer, leave you to savor your solitude.






"Romantic interludes and privacy are keys to the days at Turtle Island. Every other day we would spend the afternoon at any one of the seven isolated beaches that surround the Island." SPECIALTY TRAVEL INDEX, SPRING / SUMMER 2006

*We will smile back at you
Kai to e na gai mata*

*Each time you smile,
Na veu gauna o iko dredre,*



 Though rich in culture, Turtle and the surrounding islands are essentially undeveloped. There are no luxury high-rises or tennis courts. No air-fields or shopping malls. No televisions or billboards. Just unspoiled natural beauty and the gentle rhythm of the tides.



After a few days, most guests realize the real pleasures here go beyond what the eye can see. You'll easily surrender to the leisurely flow of our friendly, sun-filled Fijian days. At day's end, many guests enjoy sitting under the banyan tree, sharing "kava" (the Fijian ceremonial drink) and singing with the other guests and the staff.





"Turtle Island was amazing. We made new friends and many new memories. The wedding was phenomenal with the sunset and singing in the background, it was just a perfect day. We will be looking forward to going back to Turtle." GLENN & NANCY, VIRGINIA, AUGUST 2006.

*Oh, if I could,
Mocelob, bua,*

*But journey there beside you,
Na kukuwatu, lagakali,*



Turtle Island has been referred to as paradise many times over and what better place to celebrate love than paradise?

Turtle Island's secluded, romantic, tropical environment is ideal for a wedding or renewal of marriage vows.

For a true Fijian cultural event, the bride and groom may choose to dress in traditional Fijian wedding attire.

A Turtle Grand Wedding begins with the bride nestled on a flower-decked billi billi, escorted down the calm blue waters of the Blue Lagoon by traditionally dressed warriors. The groom and minister wait on a powder white sand beach, while the trumpeting of a conch shell and the roll of the lali drums announce her arrival.

Every Turtle Island wedding is a special and unique ceremony individually planned for each couple.



*Then forever my heart would sing in rapture
Maba na rosi damu*




"Today Turtle Island is covered in a thick forest of mahogany, casuarinas, eucalyptus, rain trees, fruit trees, hibiscus and palms, and the resort continues to plant 20,000 trees each year, as well as supply neighboring islands with trees for planting. Environmental audits – the only ones in the world conducted for purposes of tourism – are commissioned by the resort every five years to assess the economical, social and cultural impact the resort has on life in the region." TRAVEL & LIVING MAGAZINE, AUSTRALIA, 2006

*As the roses will miss the sun at daening,
Cara boka ko a mai cakava,*

*Every moment my heart for you is yearning
Nomu lako au na sega ni lasa*



 Because of the environmental fragility of the island and Richard Evanson's commitment to sustainability, Turtle's access and use will always be limited to only fourteen couples. Arrangements are in place to ensure preservation of the island's wildlife and natural habitats, and the integrity of Fijian culture.

Through an intensive reforestation program over 500,000 trees, including over 100,000 mahogany, have been planted on the island in the last thirty years. The trees encourage ecological diversity, re-establish indigenous forests, prevent soil erosion, create windbreaks and add to the natural beauty.

Turtle's three-acre organic garden provides the island with fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs and spices.

Environmental audits, conducted in 1994, 1999 and 2005 to assist the island with its environmental programs, concluded that "Turtle Island is a precious gift of nature and something to be treasured and protected...."

Richard Evanson





HEALTH CLINICS

Through the years Turtle Island has hosted many eye and dental clinics that have made a huge improvement in the health of Turtle Island's staff and local villagers. Bi-yearly dental clinics continue to be held in Turtle's fully functional dental bure. Thanks to these clinics, Fiji's friendliest people on earth really have something to smile about.



*As you sail away,
Domo ni seve tale,*

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

EDUCATION

Richard Evanson identified many years ago that the retention rate between primary and secondary schools in Fiji was as low as 20%. Poverty continued from one generation to the next due to lack of proper schooling. He saw a need to educate the future leaders of his community and in 2002 started The Evanson Learning Center on Turtle Island. The school is providing unprecedented access to a world-class education for the young people in the area.



COMMUNITY RESORT PROJECTS

Richard Evanson has assisted his community in building small, backpacker resorts through interest-free loans to local villagers of the Nacula and Naisisili villages. His engineering skills constantly at use, he has been instrumental in the design of the resort's bures, and his business sense has guided the local owners in marketing and managing their resorts. The project has brought success to the resort owners who have provided over 150 jobs to the area.

*I'll be glad of the time to come back someday
Ia buca ke ko ni yali meu nei cei*

"It is clear that Turtle holds an important place in the hearts of those who live and work there...Richard Evanson's invaluable humanitarian and environmental contributions to Turtle Island and the surrounding islands will be remembered long after he is gone. He has created a successful tourism model that could be implemented worldwide, one that benefits the environment and people of isolated destinations while pampering guests in five star surrounds and enriching their cultural experience."

TRAVEL & LIVING MAGAZINE, AUSTRALIA, AUTUMN 2006

"Turtle Island Resort is a retreat for couples who seek a renewal of the spirit and a return to the innocence of falling in love."

D MAGAZINE, DALLAS/FORT WORTH, MARCH 2006

"Kava rituals take place at most of the resorts in Fiji, but Turtle is unique in the scale of Kava gatherings and the degree to which staff and guests are encouraged to interact with each other."

CONDE NAST TRAVELLER UK, OCTOBER 2005

"We adored the whole Turtle Island experience. There may be islands as beautiful, there may be places with such great climates, there may be resorts with such terrific food, but there is nowhere with ALL of these things; and nowhere where the staff is so friendly, helpful and happy!"

ALICE & TONY, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, MAY 2006





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Domo ni sere takei,*

*I'll be glad of the time to come back someday
Isa buna ke ko ni yali meu nei cei*

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ALICE & TONY, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, MAY 2006





"Turtle Island is the most magical place on earth. The romance, the staff, the natural beauty, the booze, the privacy, all the friends, the water, the songs, the food and the wines, all make this the best destination in the world. We were married on Turtle Island in a grand wedding, one word, PERFECT. Turtle will exceed your expectations by making every wish and want become reality. Dreams do come true!" RYAN AND KIM, OHIO

 **Columbia** Pictures, in looking for a location to shoot "The Blue Lagoon," surveyed a thousand possible sites before deciding to film the movie entirely on Turtle Island. Columbia felt that Turtle closely resembled the beautiful, mythical island described in the 1906 novel on which the movie was based. The movie, starring Brooke Shields, was completed in 1980. The original 1949 version, starring Jean Simmons, was also filmed here.

It's no wonder Turtle Island is constantly recognized as one of the most outstanding resorts in the world.



*Goodbye
Moco*

Turtle Island

VISITORS GUIDE

ACCOMMODATION, ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES

PRIVATE SUITES

The fourteen cottages or *bures* are spacious, and luxuriously appointed with handcrafted furniture and fittings. Each offers all the comforts and serenity of a private vacation home. Your sitting room features comfortable chairs and sofas, a wet bar and refrigerator stocked with your favorite beverages. Sunlight and sea breezes stream through the many louvered windows. Even on a hot and humid night, you can enjoy a sound and restful sleep.

All Grand *bures* have a king-size four poster bed, an extensive dressing area, a jacuzzi, an outdoor shower and a verandah with queen-size daybed. The Deluxe *bure* has a king-size four poster bed, double shower, sitting room and writing desk. All *bures* are equipped with hairdryers, CD players, tea and coffee making facilities, toiletries, irons and ironing boards.

Special attention has been paid to the overall design of our *bures*, combining modern building techniques with traditional Fijian craftsmanship. Much of the timber used in the *bures* was grown on Turtle Island. The roof is covered with thatch, intricately woven both inside and out. Guests tell us that our vaulted ceilings are the most beautiful they have ever seen, and that they fall asleep gazing upward.

A generous expanse separates your *bure* from the next. You can sip a cocktail, watch the sunset over the Blue Lagoon, and feel that you have your own slice of paradise.

ACTIVITIES...ON LAND AND SEA

Start your day whenever you wish. Rise with the sun for a couple of hours of deep-sea fishing or sleep till noon. Troll for the yellowfin tuna, dorado, sailfish and marlin that inhabit the local waters. Along the reef, fish for grouper, barracuda, trevally and coral trout.

Return in time for breakfast, which is served between 9-10:30 AM daily. At the breakfast table, savor anything from a lobster omelet or Eggs Benedict, to banana pancakes accompanied by fresh tropical juices.

PRIVATE BEACHES

Activities are limited only by your imagination. Beaches are available for the complete and exclusive use of our guests. A private picnic for two is a wonderful experience on Turtle Island. Each couple is assigned a beach every second day for their exclusive use. We'll prepare a sumptuous picnic basket complete with wine, champagne or other favorite beverages. Take it with you or arrange to have it delivered at lunchtime. Sunbathe, take a swim or simply enjoy the fresh, tropical ambience on your own private beach.



TRAILS FOR HIKING AND BIKING

Many excellent trails, from easy to moderate, offer the hiker, mountain biker or those just out for an evening stroll, plenty of wonderful opportunities. With 500 acres to roam, all trails boast spectacular South Pacific scenery, providing striking views. Enjoy the native rain forests, the verdant hills and the fascination of the mangroves. Feel free to explore. The staff is always delighted to guide you, or you can venture out on your own.

HORSE STABLES

Regardless of your level of expertise, you'll find one of our horses just right for a ride along the trails and beaches. A good selection of saddles ensures a comfortable ride. We do require you to wear safety helmets.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

As you would expect on an island, every imaginable water activity is available. Numerous boats are on hand to help you explore the lagoon and shoreline. Gaff-rigged Sunfish sailboats, windsurfers, paddle canoes and kayaks give you freedom of movement. Our snorkeling is some of the best in the world. Explore the under-water wonders of scuba diving. Swim to one of the large pontoons which serve as floating islands in the lagoon. Glide towards a shimmering horizon during a magnificent sunset cruise on our cruise boat.

You can also share a Sunday evening service and a cappella hymns with the staff in our chapel, where six breathtaking stained glass windows depict the history of Turtle Island.

SUMPTUOUS DINING

Every night is a dinner party. Sumptuous cuisine and an unlimited supply of imported liquors and champagne are served beachside under the stars. The meals are exquisite and our remote dining sites are always unique...equalled only by the warmth and charm of our staff. The menu may include freshly caught crab or lobster, prime Australian beef, vegetables from our three-acre organic garden and tropical island fruits. Our wine list has a reputation as the finest in the South Pacific. After dinner, enjoy the talented, entertaining Fijian staff as they perform their favorite songs and dances. Linger for hours among new-found friends and stimulating conversation.

THE GRAND FIJIAN WEDDING CEREMONY

Imagine celebrating that special day in an exotic tropical setting – meeting your loved one on a white, sandy beach with a warm breeze stirring the air. On Turtle, weddings are special events, and some of our guests' fondest memories are of the delightful Fijian wedding ceremonies held at sunset on the shores of the famous Blue Lagoon.

The bride and groom may choose to dress in traditional Fijian wedding attire made especially for them by the Turtle Island staff members. The cloth is *tapa*, made from tree bark and hand-painted with traditional Fijian symbols in tan, brown and black. All of the guests, along with the bride and groom, wear garlands of fresh, fragrant flowers around their necks.



Trumpeting conch shells announce the bride's arrival on the billi billi (wedding raft). Drums beat ceremonial rhythms as the bride disembarks and is escorted to her groom by two Fijian attendants. As they approach the open-air Fijian chapel, they are heralded by a Fijian choir.

After the ceremony, everyone participates in a Kava ceremony, an ancient tradition in honor of the bride and groom. The newlyweds are then carried onto the billi billi for their return to the wedding lovo or feast. No wedding is complete without a cake, so our staff bakes and decorates a cake of your choice. Then, under the soft glow of lantern light, guests raise their glasses in a toast to the happy couple and continue to celebrate, with everyone enjoying traditional Fijian dancing.

Turtle weddings aren't just for newlyweds. They're also a lovely way to renew vows. Our staff will make all the preparations, from the wedding clothes to the wedding feast.

Methodist clergy are available from neighboring island missions, along with the island's own staff choir. Our guests are also invited to participate in such a joyous event.

Arrangements can also be made to enjoy your wedding in private. Please discuss alternatives with your Turtle Client Manager.

To ensure that everything proceeds smoothly, plan to arrive in Nadi on a weekday, at least three days before your wedding day. This allows time to obtain your license before coming to Turtle, to get acquainted with staff members and fellow guests, for the feast to be planned and wedding garments prepared.

A CD of digital images of the wedding and a Fijian hand-made photo album are presented to each bride and groom.

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



DRESS

Cool, casual, comfortable and colorful! For men, lightweight trousers or shorts with a T-shirt are appropriate, and for women, shorts and T-shirt or a light cotton dress.

Bring comfortable shoes for walking, hiking and jogging. Sandals and thongs are the only other footwear necessary. Sunscreen and a hat will offer protection from the sun's rays for guests unaccustomed to being so near the equator. A lightweight wrap may be welcome for the evenings.

Swimsuits and brief attire are fine on the beach or around Turtle, but Fijian's are modest by nature, so brief attire may cause offense in public places. We ask our guests to be sensitive to the Fijian culture.

TIPPING

Your stay on Turtle Island is entirely prepaid. However, most guests leave a gratuity to the staff fund, which is distributed twice a month. Also, many guests choose to contribute to the school fund.

DEPARTURE FROM NADI

Visitors leaving Fiji are subject to an airport departure tax. If your airline does not include the departure tax with your ticket price, you will be required to pay (F)\$20 per person upon your departure.

WEATHER

Fiji's weather is warm and pleasant without great extremes of hot or cold. The temperature averages 87°F (30.5°C) November through April and 84°F (28.5°C) May through October.

ELECTRICITY

The current is both 110 and 240 volts AC. Dual plugs are installed in each bure.



EASY TO GET TO

FROM NORTH AMERICA

Air Pacific and Air New Zealand provide non-stop service from Los Angeles to Fiji with seven flights weekly. Flight time is approximately ten hours.

FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Air Pacific, Qantas and Pacific Blue fly direct from Australia. Flight time is approximately four hours.

Air New Zealand and Air Pacific fly from New Zealand. Flight time is approximately three-and-a half hours.

FROM UK AND EUROPE

Air New Zealand flies from London to Los Angeles, with connecting flights to Nadi. Air Pacific/Qantas have special fares in conjunction with British Airways or Virgin to Los Angeles, with connecting flights to Nadi.

Nadi is included on both One World and Star Alliance round-the-world fares, providing many options from continental Europe. Flying time from London to Los Angeles is approximately eleven hours, and from Los Angeles to Nadi approximately ten hours.

FROM ASIA

Air Pacific flies from Tokyo to Nadi. Flying time is approximately nine hours. Korean Airlines flies from Seoul. Flying time is approximately ten hours.

FROM SOUTH AMERICA

We suggest you work with your local travel agent or visit online at www.aerolineas.com for flights. Flying time from Buenos Aires to Auckland is approximately thirteen hours and from Auckland to Nadi approximately three-and-a half hours.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

To ensure smooth connections, let us help you arrange your international flights.

Some international flights arrive in Nadi early morning or late in the evening, so you may wish to purchase our "arrival" package, which provides a room at an airport hotel while you await your island transfer by seaplane. We arrange transportation to and from the hotel with your connecting international flight or island transfer.

Some return flights depart late in the evening or very early in the morning, so accommodations may be desirable for this period as well.

SEAPLANE TRANSFER

Arrangements are made through our reservation office at the time of booking. A chartered aircraft departs Nadi for the thirty-minute flight. Your arrival and departure are memorable events that the entire Turtle family wants to share. When it's your turn to leave, you'll find our staff at the dock to bid you farewell.

LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE

A total allowance of 33 lb. (15 kg) is allowed per person on the seaplane. Dress is casual and a daily laundry service is readily available on Turtle, therefore, a minimal amount of luggage is required. In particular, we provide beach towels, bathrobes and hairdryers, so leave these behind! If required, we have complimentary luggage storage available at our Nadi office.



ARRIVAL IN FIJI

Upon arrival at Nadi International Airport, you proceed through immigration and then to the lower level of the airport to claim your luggage. After clearing customs, you enter the public lobby. Go directly to our office, which is located about ten doors down on the left. Someone will be there to assist you.

Please come to our office even if you are visiting another destination in Fiji prior to Turtle Island. We like to know that you have arrived safely and where to reach you if necessary. Besides, we want to be among the first to extend a warm welcome to Fiji!

The last leg of your trip is a brief flight by seaplane in which you glide to the beach and a warm welcome on Turtle Island.

FIJIAN CURRENCY

Fiji's unit of currency is the Fijian dollar. Because your stay at Turtle Island is completely prepaid, you will have little need for local currency. If you plan to spend any time in Nadi sightseeing or shopping, we do suggest that you convert a small amount of money. The Nadi Airport currency exchange bank is opened during all flight arrivals and from 9AM to 4PM weekdays. It is the first office on your left after clearing customs at the arrival concourse.

GLOSSARY OF FIJIAN WORDS

<i>Bula</i>	Hello
<i>Bure</i>	Fijian-Style Cottage
<i>Lovo</i>	Feast
<i>Mana</i>	Magic
<i>Vinaka</i>	Thank You
<i>Ni Sa Yaova</i>	Good Morning
<i>Yalo Vinaka</i>	Please
<i>Sa Moce</i>	Good-Bye
<i>Aka Lailai</i>	A Little
<i>Dua Tale</i>	One More
<i>Vonu</i>	Turtle

INFORMATION WE NEED

How you like to be addressed?

Only first names are used, so be sure to let us know if you prefer (for example) "Bob" instead of "Robert." Our staff will know your name when you arrive.

Exact flight information:

If we are not arranging your flights, please advise us of your arrival and departure schedule.

Your travel plans:

Tell us where you'll be in Fiji, before and after Turtle Island, and we'll assist you in any way we can.

Are you celebrating a special occasion?

Please let us know so that we can help you celebrate a birthday or anniversary.

Dietary or medical requirements:

If you have special needs, let us know when you make reservations, and we'll do everything possible to accommodate your request.

Preparing for Paradise Booklet:

Please be sure to obtain our informative and comprehensive Preparing for Paradise Booklet prior to leaving.



Jan	Mar	May	Jul	Sep	Nov	(average)
88	87	85	83	84	86	Degrees Fahrenheit
31	30.5	29	28	28.5	30	Degrees Centigrade
75	80	77	76	69	67	Percent Humidity



TURTLE ISLAND'S CONCEPT...A MAN AND HIS DREAM

On Turtle Island, you are invited to share in a unique and enduring philosophy that is one man's dream brought to life. The island's mana, or magic, blends the delicacy of nature with the Fijians' gentle lifestyle to create an enchanting paradise where visitors can relax in natural surroundings, alone or with other guests and the friendly Fijian staff.

PARADISE FOUND

Richard Evanson, an American, purchased Turtle Island in 1972. He studied at Harvard Business School after earning an Engineering degree at the University of Washington. Upon graduating with honors in Business Administration, Richard returned to the west coast to make his fortune. He found professional success in the newly emerging world of cable television, but his achievements required sacrifices that led to personal disappointments, alcoholism and divorce.

He sought escape in the South Pacific, away from the stresses of Western Civilization. Fiji's charm, beauty, and the friendliness of its people were infectious, and Richard stayed. He purchased Turtle Island, intent on retreating from the world.

Before long Richard met and hired Joe Naisali, who was just 17 years old when he began working for Richard in 1972. Imagine the astonishment of this young Fijian when he arrived at Turtle to be greeted by an eccentric American, equipped with just his tent, a storage shed and a generator chugging away to power a lone refrigerator, standing among the coconut palms and filled exclusively with beer. That was the year of Typhoon BeBe. The violent storm blew away the tent, demolished the shed and downed the banyan tree which had provided shelter for the two men. Richard and Joe escaped

injury by crawling in the safety of its roots to wait for the storm to pass.

The ensuing years have worked their own mana in Richard's life. The arduous task of rejuvenating the island and building a home brought a new lifestyle, a new philosophy...a revamped definition of personal fulfillment and success. Preserving the natural order and beauty of his tropical home became a single-minded quest.

PARADISE PRESERVED

Turtle is a South Seas paradise of exotic trees, shrubs and flowers – a garden of tropical fruits and vegetables. Richard has created a fantasy that constantly challenges him to enhance the splendor of nature's best. He has planted thousands of trees, many of them Honduras Mahogany, to supplement the island's own.

A road, built with care through the underbrush to preserve the natural environment, circles the island. Other paths, built primarily to access the reservoir, provide guests with picturesque views of the island.

Richard's visionary zeal, rigorous attention to detail and uncompromising philosophy have enabled him to make his dream a reality.

PARADISE SHARED

Richard felt that to continue enjoying his island while sharing his dream with others, he had to retain the intimacy and bring out the best of the native lifestyle. The Fijians are a warm, loving, caring people – perhaps the friendliest on earth. In their culture, everyone shares the success and bounty of another. Family, friendships, and community are greatly valued.

Traditionally, a village did not have many visitors, so one's arrival was a very special event. Today, the Fijians are still eager to extend a warm welcome and share their hospitality. On Turtle, staff members take their duties very seriously, devoting their time and energy to the happiness and comfort of their guests. Because the number of guests is small (no more than fourteen couples stay at any one time) and the duration of their stay longer than at many other Fijian resorts, the natural, hospitable tendencies of the Fijians are very evident. For example, some time ago a man lost his ring while horseback riding. A staff member scoured the island until he found the missing ring and returned it to the visitor.

"The island is very special to me," comments Richard, "and I want it to be the same for my guests...people who truly enjoy exploring other cultures, the company of others...relaxing, escaping, becoming good friends."

Richard's island guests are couples who can communicate and enjoy each other's company and humor. It is thus more enjoyable if at least one partner speaks conversational English, which allows for complete interaction with staff and fellow guests – an important ingredient of Turtle Island. This way, when everyone sits down to dinner, all can share stories and conversation. Meal-time becomes a gathering of friends.

"Bookings are limited to fourteen couples," states Richard. "Progress on Turtle means preserving the natural environment for the pleasure of our guests, not building 500 new rooms."

The smallness of the group allows guests maximum use of the facilities and the opportunity to savor all the privacy and seclusion that Turtle Island has to offer. Guests get to know the staff and enjoy the warm feeling of being a part of the family. The staff responds with unequalled service based on genuine care and friendship. Everyone, including the staff, is on a first-name basis.

STAY AWHILE...AND RELAX!

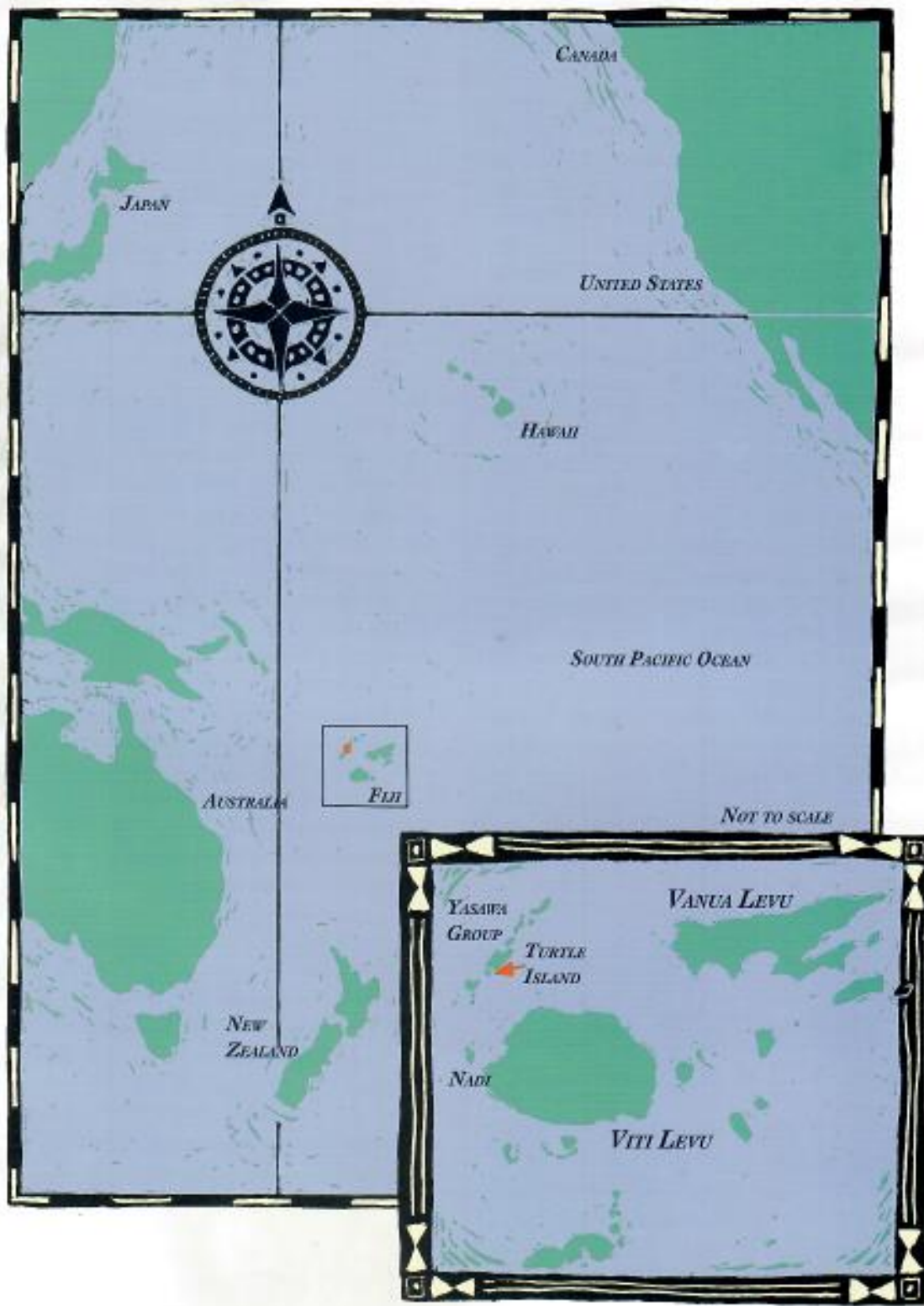
It is important to Richard that guests experience the unique aspects of Turtle Island – the tranquility and serenity. There is a minimum stay of six nights which allows you to experience all aspects of Turtle Island – time to relax, explore the island, make friends among fellow guests and become part of the Turtle family.

The relaxing pace on Turtle owes much to the prepayment policy created to free each guest from all economic decisions. All meals, drinks and activities, including scuba diving and deep-sea fishing are included in your all-inclusive tariff. However, gift shop purchases, additional massages and scuba lessons are additional. The fee is all-inclusive for a very important reason. Once you arrive, you are transported out of a money-oriented society into another world. No bills to sign, no checks to cash, no monetary considerations whatsoever. No concern as to who will pick up the tab or buy the next round of drinks. A fundamental relaxation occurs.

It has taken more than three decades to build and preserve the environment that Richard envisioned. The result is a truly unique resort so traditional to the Fijian culture that is no exaggeration when he explains, "True to Fijian tradition, on Turtle we live for the moment...not for yesterday or tomorrow, but for now."

Our aim is to provide you with your most enjoyable holiday ever. Be assured that you will receive unparalleled personal attention from our Fijian staff. From the many guests who return and become members of our Turtle family, we know you'll find your stay unforgettable.


Vinaka for your interest in Turtle Island!





"The island is beautiful...black volcanic rocks, pristine white sandy beaches and...incredible views over the whole archipelago. God was indeed smiling when He made Turtle Island." AUSTRALIAN GOURMET PAGES, NOVEMBER 2005

AN ISLAND BORN OF VOLCANIC FIRE AND FRIENDSHIP

 We are enroute by floatplane (never mind that the pilot is barefoot) to a remote destination in the South Pacific called Turtle Island, part of the Yasawa Group in the Republic of Fiji. A string of ancient volcanic lagoons and jagged islands, mostly uninhabited, passes below. Born of violent earthly eruptions, they are now the peaceful paradise home of owner Richard Evanson.

Richard acquired the island in 1972 as a personal hideaway.

Some years later he and his Fijian neighbors began to extend their hospitality to guests seeking an enchanting respite from their usual cares.

Romantic, intimate, comfortable and friendly almost beyond belief, Turtle Island is a world entirely beyond time and obligations. For adventurous island wanderers looking for a private paradise, this is it.




*Hello
Bua*



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*Helo
Bula*

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Vision Statement

Turtle Island will provide a genuine and loving
Fijian experience for caring people
and will be a vital resource to its community.



TURTLE ISLAND

Once Discovered, Never Forgotten

FIJI



