

# Vanuatu DXpedition

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 16, 2022

**Contact:** Van Herridge, N4VGE  
Team Leader  
843-303-1885  
[vanherridge@gmail.com](mailto:vanherridge@gmail.com)

### Vanuatu DXpedition Being Planned

CHARLESTON, SC - A group of hams are organizing a DXpedition to Vanuatu in the South Pacific for two weeks in December 2024 for the ARRL 10 meter Contest. Not every DXpedition has to be a trip into the wilderness or to an island in a rubber raft. We have located a top 100 most wanted DX country with commercial airlines service, rental homes, electrical power, a city with 40,000+ population, and lovely beaches from which we can operate.

On the DX Most Wanted Countries, Vanuatu is #100 out of 340 countries. It's main island is Efate (IOTA OC-035), in the Province of Shefa. Vanuatu's capital city Port Vila is located on the main island and has a large Expat population but no hams. It has commercial air service to Australia, Fiji, and Honolulu.

In this nation of tiny islands and indigenous villages, Port Vila is the exception: a bustling port town with hotels, restaurants and markets to delight visitors and cruise ship passengers. The 150-foot-high Mele Cascades waterfall is the ideal place to refresh yourself in the South Pacific heat. For a glimpse of real Vanuatu culture and traditions, travelers say a trip to Ekasup Village is a must. <https://youtu.be/wK-DXdi9SB8>



Operating CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8 we are expecting to make over 50,000 QSOs over the two week period with over 10,000 during the ARRL 10m Contest on December 14-15, 2024. We have over \$50,000 committed for the DXpedition plus a Flex 6700, Yaesu FTDX10, Icom 7300, and a Yaesu FT891. The budget per person is \$6,500 and spouses are encouraged to join.

Since we are older hams (average age of 70) we are bringing our wives for them to enjoy sunbathing, snorkeling, scuba diving, sightseeing, and shopping while we operate. We are hoping that they will keep our spirits and energy up with good food and drink. There are numerous Youtube videos on Vanuatu including prior Vanuatu DXpeditions. We are currently working on a website, [vanuatudxpedition.org](http://vanuatudxpedition.org) so we can keep everyone advised of the latest news about the Vanuatu DXpedition and post the names of sponsors.

We are looking for four more hams and their wives to join us for this exciting DXpedition and sponsors to help with the antennas systems. I can be contacted at [vanherridge@gmail.com](mailto:vanherridge@gmail.com) or 843-303-1885.