

'Tourist Arrivals Will Boost Savusavu Economy'



Savusavu Port.

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There is going to be an economic boom in Savusavu next year with the arrival of more than 25,000 tourists on cruise vessels from January to October next year.

Two Princess Cruises vessels Ruby Princess with a package of 3782 tourists on each trip and Majestic Princess with 3560 passengers on each trip will be visiting the Hidden Paradise twice and three times respectively over the period.

Following the launching of the Assessment of the Economic Impact of Cruise Tourism in Fiji last month tourism operators in the North are better prepared this time.

Ruby Princess's two trips are both on Sundays while Ruby Princess's last trip falls on the day also.

The 14 cruise vessels visits will see 25,438 tourist arrivals in Savusavu.

Yesterday Trip N Tour ground handling agent Edward Bower confirmed that they have plans for those cruise ships arriving on Sunday.

"When any of the cruise ships arrives on

Sunday, we will have the Nakawaga Waterfall and rainforest package for the tourists," Mr Bower said.

"This is because most villages do not engage on Sundays," he said.

Nakawaga Waterfall is located in the district of Koroalau in Cakaudrove. It is a 20 minutes' drive from the town centre followed by a short five-minute jungle walk along a trail leads visitors to the waterfall.

Some of the cruise ships will be in Savusavu two or three times within January and November and they are Ruby Princess, Majestic Princess, Paul Gaugin and Wind Spirit.

Nawi Island

Tourists can also have the opportunity to view the multimillion-dollar two faceted development project on Nawi Island which will upon its completion will feature:

- *an international marina,
- *a dry dock being built first running in conjunction with the sale of real estate lots ranging from beachfront to ocean view lots
- *and then rolling into Phase two which would be the construction of the boutique Resort and Spa.

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The marina would be offering a total of 144 berths for up to 70m super yachts.

Its boutique central facility would be a resort experience for clients including restaurants,

yacht club, spa, accommodation, retails, pool and green spaces.

In addition to this, it would have a historical nautical museum that would share and educate its clients on the marina aspects of Fiji including the culture, traditions and several historical pieces to showcase this wonderful culture.

To date the company had invested FJ\$50 million in the project design, entitlements and construction, with additional \$50m to slated for ongoing progress.

Cruise calls to Savusavu next year:

Ruby Princess- January 19 (3782 pax);
Majestic Princess- January 30 (3560 pax),
Wind Spirit- February 19(148 pax), Silver
Muse- February 26 (596 pax), Maasdam-
March 6 (1258 pax), Ruby Princess- March
29 (3782 pax), Paul Gaugin- April 8 (332 pax),
Noordam- April 24 (1916 pax), Seabourn
Sojourn- May 9 (450 pax), Paul Gaugin - June
8 (332 pax), Wind Spirit- June 19 (148 pax),
Pacific Aria- August 29 (2014 pax), Majestic
Princess- September 23 (3560 pax), Majestic
Princess October 18 (3560 pax).

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