The Many Cultures

While Solomon Islanders are predominantly Melanesian, there is a wide range of cultural influences that make our islands a true South Pacific melting pot. Our people of Rennell and Bellona are from Polynesian ancestry and visitors will almost immediately notice the dance and art influences of these people all around.

Additionally, Micronesian, European and Chinese populations make up the remainder of the cultural scene of Solomon Islands history and influence. Travellers to our home will quickly learn about these enriching elements that we are so proud of.

There are also the Salt Water people of Malaita who live on man-made artificial islands built tirelessly by human hands with skills that have been handed down from centuries past. Also, the concept of shell money still exists to this very day. While primarily used for trading and barter, it is also vital for its symbolic and traditional value for settling disputes and for both bridal and land payments.

Delve into our dark and gripping head hunting and warrior activities from days of old. Heads kept for memorializing or as trophies still remain as vivid reminders of prehistoric times. Often misunderstood and misinterpreted, their significance remains highly revered and honoured.

We invite you to come visit us and learn more about the heartbeats of the Solomon Islands. Enter into an evocative world that is waiting to be explored.
The Panpipe
They say that music is a window to the soul and when resplendent panpipe music is played at local traditional gatherings and entertainment events around our nation and the world, it offers us all a glimpse of Solomon bliss. Our unique music is at times captivating and at times a vibrant, ‘hapi’ lilt of willowy pipes that resound throughout the Islands. It provides an exceptional experience for visitors who become entranced by the enlightening sounds. Panpipe music has gradually evolved to include a blend of traditional and modern pipe melodies that irresistibly results in hand clapping and feet tapping. Watching a live performance will quickly have you feeling ‘piped in’.

The Sharing
Undoubtedly the most important part of our culture is our inherent need to share. Despite being blessed with the bountifulness of Mother Earth, the wealth of both the land and sea is for all people. It’s this belief that makes us who we are. We have always had a propensity to broaden our community and share our resources… it’s in our blood. Our natural friendliness, hospitality and smiles are literally world renowned. They say that smiles are an act of charity and we Solomon Islanders ‘always’ feel charitable… and when you smile back, we brighten the world together.

The Wisdom Of The Past
The culture of Solomon Islands is modern tradition interwoven with a colourful and profound history. It is a fabric of our past, present and future. It is the fibres that runs through our while change is inevitable and often welcomed upon, seldom appreciated is how our Island home, ‘timelessness’ is considered a gift from above. how we see today is not very different than how our forefathers benefit among it… and we treasure this.

The Dugout
When visiting our beautiful home, you’ll surely notice that we are people of the ocean and we love to travel in our precious dugout canoes. Today, our daily economic activities continue to rely on fishing as well as local barter and trade. While small, single engine boats have slowly started to replace the ever dependable dugout canoe, it still remains that for accessibility our dugouts faithfully carry the load. For most of us, this is how we put food on our table. Yes, we surely prefer to maintain our traditions and ways of life and it is our dugouts that reliably serve as both a vessel symbol of our strength and a poignant tool for forward progress.

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