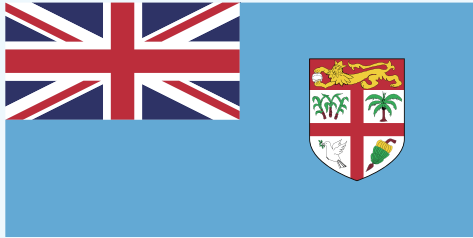


## Country Introduction



Fiji is a beautiful group of islands in the South Pacific, known for its sandy beaches, clear blue waters, and friendly people. There are over 330 islands in Fiji, but only about 100 are lived on. The two largest islands, Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, are home to most of the population.

The capital city, Suva, is on Viti Levu and serves as the country's main political and business center. Fiji has about 900,000 people and is a mix of different cultures, including native Fijians, Indians, and Europeans. The main languages are English, Fijian, and Hindi.

Fiji's economy depends on tourism, farming (especially sugar), and fishing. It is famous for its colorful coral reefs and is a favorite spot for diving and beach holidays. Fiji's culture is warm and welcoming, with festivals, traditional ceremonies, and the well-known ""Bula spirit"" of kindness and hospitality. It is a unique and special place, full of natural beauty and rich traditions.

# FIJI PAVILION



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**Welcome to the Fiji Pavilion!**  
**Explore our rich array of crafts,**  
**textiles, and unique products**  
**that embody the spirit of**  
**Fijian culture**

## Exhibition Concept

Welcome to Fiji's Pavilion at Expo 2025 Osaka!

Bula! Fiji warmly invites you to experience our vibrant culture, natural beauty, and sustainable innovations at the Osaka Expo 2025. Nestled in the heart of the South Pacific, Fiji is more than just a tropical paradise – it is a nation committed to fostering harmony between people and nature. Our pavilion will showcase how our rich traditions, innovative solutions, and deep connection to the environment create a model for sustainable living. Through immersive displays, live performances, and interactive exhibits, you'll discover Fiji's commitment to addressing global challenges, from climate action to cultural preservation. Join us to celebrate the spirit of "Bula", where joy, resilience, and innovation come together to inspire a brighter future for all. Vinaka vakalevu (thank you), and we look forward to sharing Fiji with you!



## The History of Fiji

"Fiji's history spans over 3,500 years, beginning with its first settlers, Austronesians and Melanesians, who established vibrant island cultures. European contact began in the 17th century, followed by increased activity from traders and missionaries in the 19th century.

In 1874, Fiji became a British colony, and Indian laborers were brought in to work on sugar plantations, creating a multicultural society. Fiji gained independence in 1970 but faced political instability, including coups in 1987, 2000, and 2006. Despite these challenges, Fiji has worked toward political stability and economic growth.



## "Modern Fiji: A Blend of Heritage and Progress"

Today, Fiji is celebrated for its cultural diversity, stunning natural beauty, and global leadership in environmental sustainability and climate action. It continues to blend its rich heritage with modern development.



## "The Kinikini: A Traditional Fijian War Club"

"A kinikini is a broad, paddle shaped war club traditionally used by chiefs and priests in Fiji and Tonga. While its shape resembles that of a Culacula, the

kinikini has a broader blade and features more elaborate decorations. It served both as a shield for protection against arrows and throwing clubs and as a symbol of rank and authority. Often, kinikini features two circular motifs that represent eyes, providing spiritual protection. The thin edge of the blade was utilized for cutting and snapping through bone, while the base of the blade widens to points, with ribs extending down the center. These clubs are considered valuable family heirlooms. When used in rituals by priests, kinikini are believed to be infused with supernatural power."



## "The Drua: Traditional Seafaring Canoes"

"The Drua were built from planks and powered by large triangular sails made from pandanus matting. The Waqa Drua were essential for seafaring because of the importance of communal relationships between the islands. They were used for trade, travel, war, and fighting against other tribes."

