An intrepid guided trek through the jungle interior of Vanuatu’s fabled Malekula Island

A 5 day tour on the iconic Manbush Trail, as described in Lonely Planet and by visiting film crews.

Your own Manbush guide introduces you to custom bush life and stories.

You are welcomed into villages still practicing many of their ancient customs.

Travel by truck, foot and boat on a circuit from Norsup and Lakatoro, down the east coast, across the interior, and back up the west coast to your starting point.

Prices

Tour per person: (2 minimum) VT 29,500

Transport by truck and boat per group: (8 maximum) VT 37,000

(The more people, the lower the transport cost per person) Prices valid until 31 March 2013

Inclusions

- Experienced local guide
- 1 porter for every 2 guests
- 3 nights basic village guesthouse accommodation and one night in a bush shelter
- Meals
- Adventure and discovery!
- Group transport price includes pick up from Norsup or Lakatoro and return

Optional extras

1. Enjoy a relaxing shell of Manbush kava before your evening meal – VT 100 per shell.

2. Guided day trip from Lebongbong to World War Two airplane wreck and back to Lebongbong. This adds an extra day to the tour – VT 5,900 per person for the group.

3. Visit the fascinating floating beach during your boat trip from Lawa - Lambumbu, go swimming and have a picnic – VT 1000 per person for the group, including lunch.

How to get here

- Air Vanuatu flies to Norsup airport most days from Port Vila or Santo.
- We pick up from Norsup airport or your accommodation.

"Robert proved to be a remarkable guide – well organised, caring, knowledgeable and with a great sense of humour. Truly an experience we will never forget.”

Vic & Maryann, New Zealand

Telephone +678 48888 reservations@malampa.travel www.malampa.travel
Fitness Requirements
Parts of the trail pass through rugged bush country, through rivers, and you climb to a height of 854 m. You need to be of adequate fitness to complete the 4 days of walking – if in doubt, consult your doctor. Children must be at least 14 years of age and accompanied by a parent or guardian.

What to bring
- Wear comfortable walking clothes for a tropical climate and strong, comfortable footwear (athletic trainer shoes are ideal).
- Bring a small day pack containing insect repellent, sunscreen cream, personal medication and first aid supplies, water bottle, and toilet paper. A camera and snacks are also suggested.
- Bring one large backpack between two for the porter to carry, with plastic bags containing one set of spare clothes (and a warm top in April-October), spare footwear, spare socks and underwear, towel, silk sleeping bag liner or double bed sheet (replace with light sleeping bag in April-October), torch and spare batteries, toiletries, and spare toilet paper.
- Ladies, please bring a dress or sarong to wear over your shorts in more remote villages.
- We suggest you bring your choice of breakfast spreads for the lovely fresh bread.
- You will be sleeping on thin woven mats on the floor, so a lightweight self-inflating mattress such as the Thermarest brand is recommended.
- Any extra gear must be by prior arrangement with your guide.

Manbush Trail Tour

Day 1: Norsup/Lakatoro – Unua by truck (2 hours), then Unua – Lambure (6 hour walk approx.)
Our truck collects you in the morning from your Norsup or Lakatoro accommodation, taking you on an interesting journey down the east coast of Malekula to Unua and on to Red Ground, where you start your guided walk to the bush village of Melken, entertained by stories of custom life along the way. You stop at Melken for a well-earned rest and tour of the village, as well as a visit to the local nakamal, a custom meeting place. You then continue your walk to the picturesque village of Lambure, where you spend the night at the local guesthouse.

Day 2: Lambure – Mt Laimbele (6 hour walk approx.)
The second day has some serious uphill walking! Your trek takes you to the summit of Mt Laimbele for a well-earned rest, and some fantastic views (weather permitting). You may be able to see both the east and west coasts of Malekula, and even catch sight of the islands of Ambrym, Paama, Pentecost and Ambae. You camp out in a bush shelter, where you may catch sight of the awesome glow from the volcanoes of Ambrym.

Day 3: Mt Laimbele – Lebongbong (6 hour walk approx.)
Keep an eye out for the birdlife, and you may even spot some wild cattle. You arrive at your guest house in Lebongbong in the afternoon ready to enjoy some special Manbush food (in season) – Nesowong is a dish made from bush banana, water taro and coconut milk.

Day 4: Lebongbong – Lawa (8 hour walk approx.)
Your guide leads you onto the trail again to begin your last day of walking to the west coast. Highlights of the day include visits to a cave, nakamal and waterfall. Big banyan trees feature along the trail as well. You complete your trek at the Lawa guesthouse.

Day 5: Lawa – Lambumbu by boat (3 hours), then Lambumbu – Norsup/Lakatoro by truck (30 min.)
Our boat takes you up the idyllic west coast of Malekula to Lambumbu, where our truck meets you for the ride back to Norsup.