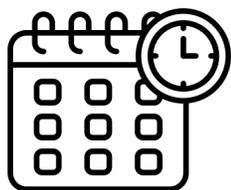




Snorkeling Area Rules & Regulation



1 BOOK YOUR VISIT!

You must book a trip at least 2 hours in advance. Use the link or QR code to visit our booking page.



Contact Tavarua Boat Shed before approaching

Marine VHF Chanel 10

Or call +679 9076689
 Email: MPA@Tavarua.com



2 SNORKELING RULES

- NEVER PICK UP OR TOUCH ANY ANIMALS OBSERVE THEM AS THEY ARE
- NEVER REMOVE ANY ANIMALS, SHELLS, OR ROCKS FROM THE REEF
- NEVER DROP OFF OR LEAVE SNORKELERS **UNATTENDED**
- DO NOT WALK OR STAND ON THE REEF, MAKE SURE TO SWIM AND SNORKEL IN WATER DEEP ENOUGH TO SWIM ONLY
- ALWAYS DIVE **WITH A BUDDY**
- **NO FISHING** OR TAKING OF ANY MARINE LIFE FROM THE REEF SURROUNDING TAVARUA ISLAND
- ONLY USE **REEF SAFE SUNSCREEN** TO HELP PROTECT THE AQUATIC LIFE



3 BOAT RULES

- DIVE AREA IS MARKED BY **YELLOW DIVE FLAG'S**, NEVER MOTOR INTO THIS AREA FOR THE SAFETY OF DIVERS & MARINE LIFE
- ONLY **ONE BOAT** AT A TIME
- NO MORE THAN **10 SNORKELERS** IN THE WATER AT A TIME
- NO TRIPS WHEN **REEF IS EXPOSED**, STRONG **CURRENT**, OR DANGEROUS **WEATHER**
- NO BOATS ARE ALLOWED TO DROP ANCHOR OR MOTOR INTO THE MPA
- NO BOATS ARE ALLOWED TO DROP OFF DIVERS AND LEAVE BOATS MUST STANDBY WHILE DIVERS ARE IN THE WATER, NO EXCEPTIONS



4 TAVARUA GUIDES

Tavarua has dedicated **Reef Wardens** (usually in red) who help us enforce and protect this beautiful area. Please follow their directions for a safe environment.



5 THIS IS A MARINE PROTECTED AREA (MPA)

Learn more about the Tavarua Island Marine Reserve on the the next page



A Marine Protected Area



What is an MPA? A Marine Protected Area (MPA, or the Tavarua Island Marine Reserve) is an ocean region designated for long-term conservation, safeguarding intertidal or subtidal zones along with their water, flora, fauna, and cultural features through legal or effective measures. As part of Tavarua's long term environmental goals, the resort owners, management and the local qoliqoli reef owners have worked tirelessly for over 10 years to protect the pristine ecosystem around Tavarua.

MPAs are essential for conserving marine biodiversity, supporting ecosystem services like carbon sequestration, and promoting sustainable uses such as eco-tourism, while restricting harmful activities like overfishing, crowding, anchoring or similar human activities. They help mitigate climate change by protecting coastal habitats that reduce human vulnerability to storms and enable species to adapt to environmental shifts, ensuring healthier oceans for future generations, especially with our Giant Clams, a Keystone species for this environment.

Officially gazetted by the Fijian Government on April 1, 2025, under the Fisheries (Tavarua Island Marine Reserve) Regulations 2025, our 5.62 square kilometer MPA within the Vanua o Malolo customary fishing grounds protects iconic reefs, Fiji's largest giant clam population, diverse corals, over 70 fish species, 10 sea cucumber species, and turtle nesting sites. This reserve fosters regulated snorkeling and activities, enhancing eco-tourism while benefiting local communities through sustainable practices and marine restoration efforts.

As the guardians of the marine reserve, the Tavarua team has dedicated staff and support teams who continue to work tirelessly to protect the ecosystem while ensuring everyone continues to have free access to this world wonder. Please support our efforts by following our guidelines, adhering to requests from our dedicated snorkeling/clam guides and using this booking to limit the stress on our ecosystem.



HELP US PROTECT THIS BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT

To facilitate protection, the Tavarua team are required to support enforcement as honorary fish wardens, educating visitors on reef-safe practices, regulating snorkeling visits (e.g., one boat with up to **ten snorkelers at a time**, no trips when reef is exposed), and reporting non-compliance to the Ministry. We also reserve the right to refuse entry or request you to vacate the MPA should you violate the rules and guidelines set out herein. This collaborative approach ensures the reserve's conservation goals are met while allowing regulated eco-tourism, benefiting local qoliqoli owners and communities through sustainable practices. Please help us protect this incredible ecosystem for generations to come. For more information and disclaimers, visit our dedicated MPA page through the QR link.



PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:

