



PO Box 12122, Suva
Duavatasustainabletourism.org
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*We champion the interconnection between experiences within local communities,
the environment & culture.*

Who we are?

The [Duavata Sustainable Tourism Collective](#) is a group of small and medium enterprises in the tourism sector that are passionate about the preservation of Fiji's natural environment, its cultural heritage and arts, the engagement of communities in valuing and protecting natural resources and the ability of the tourism industry to contribute income to support conservation initiatives. The Collective was established in 2018 to provide a more unified voice on some of these issues. Below our current members of our Collective group;

- Leleuvia Island Resort
- Rivers Fiji
- Talanoa Treks
- Takalana Bay Retreat & Dolphin Watch Fiji
- Uprising Beach Resort
- Lawaki Beach House
- Nukubati Resort
- KokoMana
- Waitika Farm
- Namosi Eco Retreat
- Drua Experience (Sailing & Sustainability)
- Barefoot Manta

What is the Duavata Conservation Leadership programme?

The Duavata Conservation Leadership programme will deepen young conservation leaders' connection to nature, by working in partnership with sustainable tourism operators that have longstanding community connections and conservation initiatives.

This initial round will target 160 young conservation champions, between the ages 16-25yrs.

[NatureFiji-MareqetiViti](#) will provide an initial introduction to key issues and challenges in protecting and enhancing Fiji's biodiversity and environment.

Four or five educational experiences, provided by Duavata members, will provide practical educational nature-based experiences.

These experiences will include:

- learning to sail a traditional camakau canoe
- supporting river health monitoring at some of Fiji's important biodiversity hotspots
- learning how to thatch a traditional bure and the importance of soga palm conservation to ensure the continued availability of the resource
- learning about the importance of wetland conservation in the Upper Navua conservation area

- learning about reef ecology and coral restoration
- learning to use art as a way of communicating conservation messages

As part of the programme, participants will be required to commit to an activity that shares their experience and knowledge gained with others in some way. This could be a talanoa session with their community, their school or University, their church group or by writing a short blog or creating a photo diary. They will be encouraged to be as creative as possible and work together in small groups should they wish.

During 2021, they will come back together twice for sessions on two key conservation topics of their choosing. Fijian experts will be invited to share their knowledge at these sessions.

When & where do we plan to do this?

Throughout year 2021, with the main focus in the Central Division initially to test the programme.

Why should I pledge?

Your pledge will provide an opportunity for us to support young conservation leaders to deepen their connection to nature and the outdoors. We know that these outdoor educational experiences early in life, can support them to think deeply about their role in helping to protect their surrounding and ultimately our shared planet and create conservation leaders for the future.

Fijians have a deep rooted connection to land and the environment as an extension of identity. The concept of vanua implies stewardship over land to protect it for the next generation of guardians.

As urban development has continued we have become increasingly disconnected from our vanua. Trips home may be difficult to organise and costly. This has resulted in thousands of school age and young adults in Fiji having experienced little beyond urban centres such as Suva.

The tourism recovery will be long and protracted. In the interim, as Duavata members we want to use our knowledge and expertise to ensure that the experiences on offer to visitors to the country are also accessible to Fijians.

This campaign is a partnership between [NatureFiji-MareqetiViti](#) and the [Duavata Sustainable Tourism Collective](#).

What happens to the donation I make?

The crowdfunding campaign will support the design and set up of the various trips and experience. It will also raise funds for initial seed funding to test the concept with a view to the model becoming self-sustaining.

Guests that have sponsored a young champion on an experience will receive photos as a ‘**Vinaka Vakalevu**’ and an e-postcard or video highlighting some of the learning.

How will my pledge help?

For each \$100 AUD we receive, one young champion will get the opportunity to experience one of the above activities. Your donations will cover all logistics, necessary for the activities to occur in safe and enjoyable conditions, in line with our child protection policy.

Have we done this before?

Several Duavata members have experience of providing educational activities to Fijian and international students and guests. These include conservation science communication, biodiversity

monitoring, flora and fauna surveys and coral reef ecology. While we try and do as much as we can locally, as tourism operators we often find ourselves offering experiences to international guests and students that we wish we could offer to Fijians.

Am I going to receive updates once I donate?

Pictures, videos and newsletters documenting the activities that the conservation leaders participated in will be communicated to all donors. Regular updates will happen on our social media pages and our website.

How will your conservation leaders be chosen?

In order to qualify or be chosen as a conversation leader applicants should be between 16-25yrs, with prior consent from parents/guardians of those applicants between the ages 16-18yrs. Applications will need to be supported by a letter of recommendation from a recognised individual or organisation e.g. community group or leader, church group, school or educational institution etc. Applicants will have to demonstrate prior commitment to environmental conservation.

Who will be managing all donated funds & will we be advised of its allocation/use?

The Duavata Sustainable Tourism Collective is in process of registering as a non-profit organisation. NatureFiji-MareqetiViti is the operational arm of the Fiji Nature Conservation Trust and was established in 2007.

Funds donated will be managed by NatureFiji-MareqetiViti and provided to the Duavata members managing each activity.

What categories of donation is there, that I can donate towards?

Ga ni Vatu	-Electronic postcards from the young conservation leaders that connected with nature through your support	\$25.00
Kulawai	-Electronic postcards from the young conservation leaders that connected with nature through your support -Pictures, videos, and newsletters documenting the activities that the youngsters participated in	\$50.00
Bell	-Electronic postcards from the young conservation leaders that connected with nature through your support -Pictures, videos, and newsletters documenting the activities that the youngsters participated in -20% discount voucher for one person on your next activity with a Duavata member	\$150.00
Kacau ni Gau	-Electronic postcards from the young conservation leaders that connected with nature through your support -Pictures, videos, and newsletters documenting the activities that the youngsters participated in -Voucher for one activity or one room night for one person with one of the following Duavata members: Rivers Fiji Talanoa Trek Leleuvia Island Resort Namosi Eco-Retreat -20% discounted rates for additional purchases with Duavata members for 5 years 29 left	\$500.00
Tagimoucia	-Electronic postcards from the young conservation leaders that connected with nature through your support -Pictures, videos, and newsletters documenting the activities that the youngsters participated in	\$1,500.00

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voucher for two activities or two-persons night with one of the following Duavata members; Rivers-Fiji Talanoa Trek Leleuvia Island Resort Namosi Eco-Retreat -20% discounted rates for any purchases with Duavata members for 5 years <p style="text-align: right;">10 left</p>	
Nanai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Electronic postcards from the young conservation leaders that connected with nature through your support -Pictures, videos, and newsletters documenting the activities that the youngsters participated in -Voucher for two activities or two-persons night with one of the following Duavata members; Rivers Fiji Talanoa Trek Leleuvia Island Resort Namosi Eco-Retreat -20% discounted rates for any purchases with Duavata members for 5 years - Mention to you at the end of the project promotional video -5 years of individual membership or 1 year of Corporate membership with NatureFiji MareqetiViti <p style="text-align: right;">5 left</p>	\$3,500.00

Where can I learn more?

Below are some further links you may want to click on to give you a bit more idea of what we're about and some of the experiences that will be adapted to support conservation leaders.

Duavata Sustainable Tourism Network:

<https://duavatasustainabletourism.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Duavata-Collective-2221682748156317>

Example Experiences:

Experience 1

Learning to sail a traditional Camakau at Leleuvia

<https://www.leleuvia.com/>

https://youtu.be/OeEI6oL_-7o

Experience 2

Learning about Fiji wetland conservation by rafting the Upper Navua with Rivers Fiji

<https://www.oars.com/video/river-eden-film-pete-mcbride/>

Experience 3

Monitoring Fiji tree frogs and falcons at Nabalesere's beautiful waterfalls with Talanoa Treks

<https://www.talanoa-treks-fiji.com/waterfall-and-cave-diy-options/>

Experience 4

Learning to thatch a traditional bure at Namosi Eco Retreat

<https://www.facebook.com/namosieco>

Experience 5

Learning about the importance of agroforestry systems at Waimakare Forest Farm and /or KokoMana

<https://www.waimakare.com/visiting-our-farm/> <https://www.kokomanafiji.com/>