

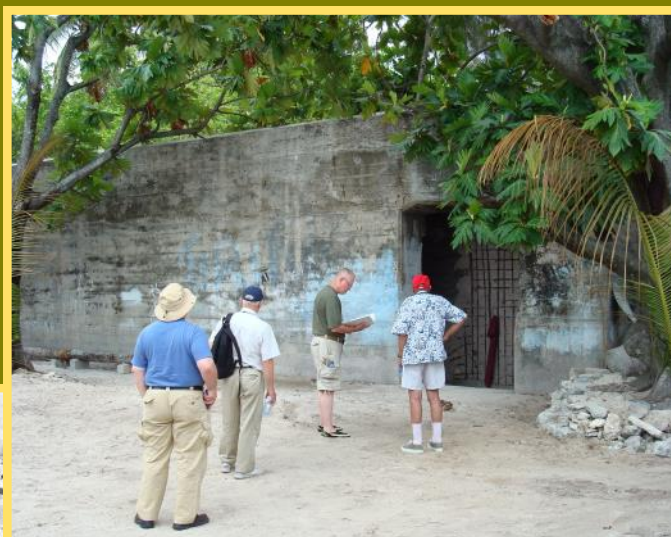
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Buy  
into the  
Guadalcanal  
Post Tour!

# "BLOODY TARAWA"

**TARAWA TOUR & GUADALCANAL PRE-TOUR**

**TOUR LEADER: COL JOE MUELLER USMC(RET)**



**MILITARY™**  
HISTORICAL TOURS, INC



13198 Centerpointe Way Ste. 202 Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285

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**Tarawa.** The Japanese occupied Tarawa just two days after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Following an August 1942 raid by U.S. Marines on Makin to deflect attention from the invasion of Guadalcanal, Japanese Imperial forces fortified the tiny islet of Betio with big guns, bunkers, pillboxes, mines and barbed wire. In November 1943, U.S. Army troops took the island of Makin, while the Marines engaged an entrenched and determined enemy on Betio. The brutal, 76-hour struggle for Tarawa resulted in more than 3,000 Marine casualties and some 5,000 Japanese dead. The hard-fought battle was the first full-scale amphibious assault against a fortified target and taught valuable lessons for the rest of the American island-hopping campaign to defeat Japan.

We are pleased to bring you this in-depth approach that includes extensive pre-departure research, utilizing a vast resource of maps and other source material, ensuring the finest possible experience. The Tour Leader for this program is among the most knowledgeable on this subject. In-depth, but easily understood, briefings are conducted on each battle and other historic sites. For those wanting to go into more detail, the onsite staff is always available.

Participants are invited to contribute by sharing their personal knowledge and expertise as we walk the battlefields. Ample time is allowed for personal exploration and sightseeing. Since we come close to many places of great historical interest, we will include stops at some of these, depending on available time and group interest.

All of these things, along with the most experienced Battlefield Guide will make your trip the most enjoyable, relaxing, entertaining and educational experience possible. We welcome your phone calls, letters or e-mails to discuss this expedition with one of our Battlefield Specialists. Call us M-F 10AM-5:00PM or e-mail us. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Daily Itinerary

### **Day 1-2, Fri – Sun 26 – 29 Jul) Depart LAX**

Depart Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) aboard an Fiji Airways flight (FJ811) at 11:55PM for Fiji. Cross International Dateline and lose a day.

### **(Day 3, Mon 29 Jul) Arrive FIJI/Transfer to TARAWA**

5:45AM Arrive Nadi, Fiji Islands. You have a short layover before your 7:30AM departure from Nadi International Airport via FJ 231 for your three hour flight to the island of Tarawa. Upon arrival, 10:35AM we transfer to our hotel and check-in. Group meeting to discuss the battle and walking orientation to the "old pier" area. Meeting to discuss today's and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Short walks will be included in this program) Meals: (D)



### **Tarawa Only Tour Price \$ 2,300**

(Based on Double Occupancy) - (BoDO)

### **Single Supplement \$ 300**

#### **Tour Price Includes:**

- \* Three Night Hotel Accommodations on Tarawa
- \* Motorcoach and Driver
- \* Breakfast & Lunches on Tarawa
- \* Trip Kit containing tour ball cap, bag tags, name badge and travel info
- \* Local Taxes & Land Access Fees Paid
- \* Admission fees to all sites & museums
- \* Services of experienced Tour Leader Col Joe Mueller, USMC(Ret) & local guides.



**AIR NOT INCLUDED OPTIONAL DISCOUNT AIRFARE AVAILABLE:** MHT can book you round trip from your home city to Guadalcanal via MHT's Airline Partners and save you domestic baggage fees! MHT's discount airfare is available upon request. Business Class upgrade is also available upon request.



### **Hotel: George**

The Restaurant is open air. Nice Bar/Lounge. Each room has individually controlled air-conditioning units, private bathrooms and a refrigerator. Rooms are simple but adequate.

### **(Day 4, Tue 30 Jul) TARAWA**

Following breakfast, we head south along the causeway road to Betio, for our first view and orientation on amphibious assault operations. Walking tour of Red Beaches and Green Beaches. Return to hotel. Meeting to discuss today's and tomorrow's events. Dinner. (Short walks will be included in this program) **Over-night Hotel: George Meals: (B & D)**

### **(Day 5, Wed 31 Jul) TARAWA**

After breakfast we continue with our walking tour making it the most comprehensive exploration of the island you could experience. Orientation of the air-field facilities, fortified positions and tank and landing craft. Return to hotel. Discuss today's and tomorrow's events. including visiting sites such as Admiral Shibasaki's headquarters, the well-known 8-inch Vickers Guns on the "Bird's Beak", Dinner. (Moderate walks will be included in this program) **Overnight. Hotel: George Meals: (B & D)**

### **(Day 6, Thur 1 Aug) Depart TARAWA**

After a leisurely morning checkout we transfer to the airport for our 11:50AM departure via FJ 230. Arrive Nadi



2:55pm. Meals: (B)

For those heading on to Guadalcanal:  
Check into Fiji Hotel  
(Day 7-8, 2 & 3 Aug) Rest Days on Fiji to enjoy the pool & beach.





## Optional Stopover at Fiji on way home

### Nadi, Fiji Islands

Fiji Airways now flies daily from Nadi to Los Angeles, so a stopover for any length of time is possible.



**Room Cost:**  
\$150 per night single occupancy or \$100 per night per



person for twin share occupancy.

Includes round trip airport/hotel transfers; hotel accommodations at the Tokatoka Hotel near Nadi Airport or similar; local taxes; Costs are per person, twin share. Cost & a half

for single occupancy. Beachfront hotels also available upon request, but quite a bit more expensive.



26 JUL-1 AUG 2024  
TARAWA  
RETURN TO  
82ND ANNIVERSARY  
"BLOODY TARAWA"



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★★★★★  
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**HISTORICAL TOURS, INC.**