

Part of the "History of National Flags" Series from Flagmakers

Flag of Solomon Islands - A Brief History





Trivia

The national flag is also used as civil, state and war flag on land.

Tec	hnic	al Sp	ecifi	cation

Adopted:	18 th November 1977
Proportion:	1:2
Design:	A blue-green diagonal bicolour with a diagonal yellow stripe and five five-pointed white stars in a H shape top left.

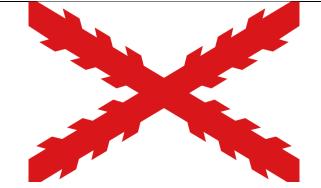
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Г	-		DI 200	V II 400	0 255		
	Colours:	PMS	Blue: 300	Yellow: 123	l Green: 355		
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Brief History

The first country to colonise the Solomon Islands was the Spanish in 1568.

The cross of burgundy flag, a white field and a large red crossing diagonal stripes, and the national Spanish flag would have been flown.

The final Spanish flag would have been the flag of Spanish East Indies, a red-yellow-red horizontal triband with the coat of arms centre left.







The Flag of the Spanish East Indies (-1898)

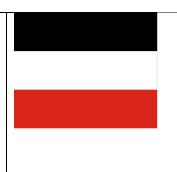
In 1884 the Northern Solomons became a Protectorate under the German Colonial Empire administered by German New Guinea.

The black-white-red horizontal tricolour of the German Colonial Empire and the white field with German national flag top left, black lion with red fleur-de-lise centre right were adopted.





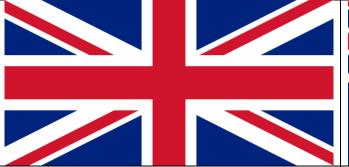






The Flag of German New Guinea (1884 – 1919)

In 1893 Southern Solomons became a British Protectorate under the Union Flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain. By 1906 the whole of the Solomon Islands would be under British control and have a specific British Blue Ensign with a white disc, crown surrounded by "BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS".

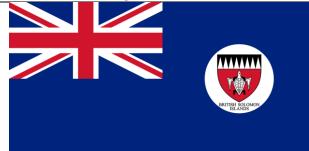


The Flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain (1893 – 1978)

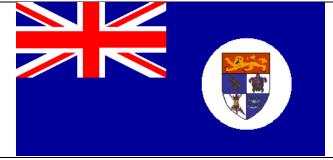


The Flag of the British Solomon Islands (1906 – 1947)

The coat of arms was changed in 1947 to feature a red shield with turtle and a vertical stripe made of black and white isosceles triangles. In 1955 the coat of arms was changed again to feature a shield split into five parts with the images of a lion turtle and other symbols of the Solomon Islands. When the country became The Solomon Island in 1975 the flag remained the same.



The Flag of the British Solomon Islands (1947 – 1955)



The Flag of the British Solomon Islands
(1955 – 1966)
The Flag of the Solomon Islands
(1975 – 1977)

In 1977 the Solomon Islands gained independence a new flag was adopted.

The design is a blue-green diagonal bicolour with a diagonal yellow stripe and five five-pointed white stars in a H shape top left.

Each element of the flag has a specific meaning. The blue represents the ocean, the green is the land and





the yellow is sunshine. The five stars are the main Solomon Islands.

The Flag of the Solomon Islands (1977 to Present Day)

The Coat of Arms of the Solomon Islands

The Coat of Arms of the Solomon Islands is a shield divided into two an upper blue band with an eagle between Frigate birds and the lower yellow part with a green X, a shield, crossed spears and two turtles.

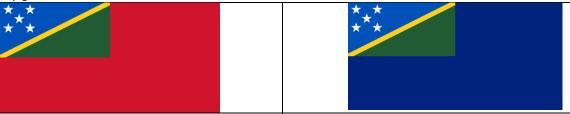
Supporting the shield is a crocodile and shark. Above is a helmet and a stylized sun. Below is a banner stating "TO LEAD IS TO SERVE".



The Ensigns of the Solomon Islands

The Civil Ensign of the Solomon Island features a red field with the national flag top left. It is the flag of the merchant ships.

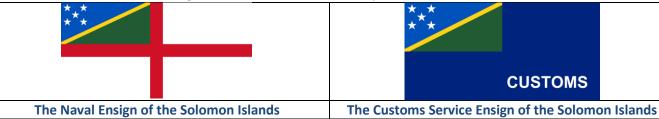
The State Ensign of the Solomon Islands features a sky blue field with the national flat top left. This is the flag of non-military government vessels.



The Civil Ensign of the Solomon Islands

The State Ensign of the Solomon Islands

The Naval Ensign is a white field with a red cross and national flag top left. The Customs Service Ensign of the Solomon Islands is the State Ensign with "CUSTOMS" in block capitals.



The Flags of the Provinces of the Solomon Islands

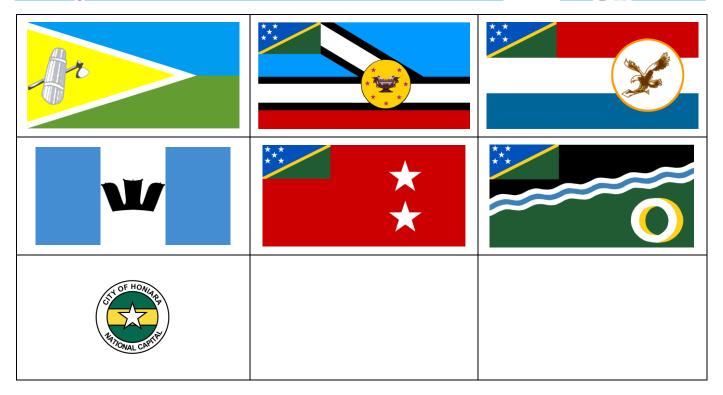
Each province of the Solomon Islands has a specific flag. Examples of the flags are below.











The Flag of the Governor-General of the Solomon Islands

The Flag of the Governor-General of the Solomon Islands is a dark blue field with a lion and crown and a banner stating "SOLOMON ISLANDS".

