



Papua New Guinea - Highlands Tribes Tour 2019

Papua New Guinea

8 Days / 7 Nights

18 people

09 September 2019 - 16 September 2019

Papua New Guinea

Located only 100 miles north of Australia, this Melanesian nation shares the island of New Guinea with Papua, Indonesia's easternmost province. The island is blessed with a wealth of natural treasures including dense rainforests, idyllic islands, rich highlands, and volcanic sites. Visitors can look forward to diving along pristine coral reefs and World War II wrecks, observing the traditional culture of the local tribesmen in the Highlands, or exploring remote villages along the spectacular 550-mile Sepik River. Aside from the dizzying array of diverse ethnic groups, one of the prime attractions is the island's unique ecosystem which is home to some unusual wildlife such as tree-climbing kangaroos and the much celebrated birds of paradise. Still steeped in mysticism, Papua New Guinea remains one of the most remote and intriguing destinations in the world. It makes an ideal destination for intrepid travellers seeking a wild adventure into one of the world's final frontiers.



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Introduction

Accommodation	Destination	Start	End	Basis	Duration
Mount Hagen	Papua New Guinea	9 Sep	11 Sep	FB	2 Nights
Goroka	Papua New Guinea	11 Sep	12 Sep	FB	1 Night
Goroka	Papua New Guinea	12 Sep	16 Sep	D, B&B	4 Nights

Key

D, B&B: Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

FB: Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Price

\$2450 USD per person based on 2 sharing.

\$390 USD single supplement

Included

- 7 nights' accommodation.
- Includes meals except 2 lunches at Goroka
- Show entry with VIP passes, Sing Sings.
- Domestic flights and transfers

Excluded

- 2 lunches at Goroka
- Visa fees (if applicable - most nationalities get free visa on arrival)
- Tips

Day 1: Mount Hagen, Papua New Guinea (Mon, 9 September)

Day Itinerary

After arriving at Mt Hagen airport, we travel to Paiya village to meet the chief and his wives, learn about their customs, see a fire making demonstration, and listen to the traditional bamboo flute

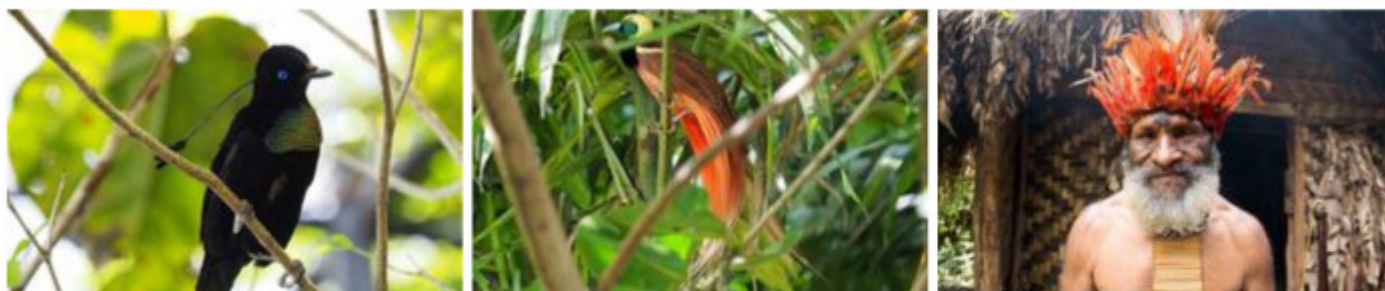
Activities

We drive 30 minutes from the airport to Magic Mountain Lodge. Village visit

Overnight: Mount Hagen

Mount Hagen is a city in the Western Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea overlooking the spectacularly scenic Waghi Valley. The area is home to the Melpa people who, in the face of ever encroaching modernity, continue to live largely traditional subsistence lifestyles. The town's population is around 60,000. There are numerous excellent

spots for bird watching, and half-a-dozen different species can be found in a day with the help of a good guide, more over a longer periods if one is patient.



Basis

Full Board

Day 2: Mount Hagen, Papua New Guinea (Tue, 10 September)

Day Itinerary

Full day birding – Breakfast at 4:30 am and 5:00am transfer in vehicles to Rondon Ridge (60 minutes) and continue to the birding site for a one-hour walk along a well cut path. Spend the morning with your guide looking for mating displays by the male birds of paradise and spotting other endemic species too. Return to Mt Hagen town for lunch, then continue to Kumul Losge to see birds feeding at a bird platform. Return to Magic Mountain late afternoon.

Birds possible to be seen- King of Saxony, Stephanie's Astrephaga, Brown sickle bill, Black sickle bill, Buff-tailed sickle bill, Superb bird of paradise, Loria's bird of paradise, Short tailed paradigalla, Raggiana bird of paradise, lesser bird of paradise. Blue bird of paradise (Note blue bird of paradise will take one full day to view because of the distance.). Other non birds of paradise include Honey eater, Blue capped ifritta, fantails, robins, swallows, whistlers, doves & pigeons, falcons, parrots, lorikeets. Macgregor's and Yellow-breasted bowerbirds, scrub wrens, berrypickers, cuckooshrike, goshawk & kites and other species.

Activities

A full day birdwatching looking for birds of paradise.

Basis

Full Board

Day 3: Goroka, Papua New Guinea (Wed, 11 September)

Papua New Guinea

See Above

Day Itinerary

Today we transfer to the Asaro Valley by small coach. We will drive over the Daulo Pass, giving us splendid views of the valley leading to Goroka town in the distance. Once settled in we will go for a tour of the village and a dip in the river.

Half-an-hour west of the Goroka lies the Asaro Valley and its fascinating Asaro Mudmen, one of the iconic cultural groups of the country. The Asaro are happy to explain their story, through eery representations of battle, cannibalism, and communion with their gods. The valley also has some stunning walks and viewpoints, birds of paradise and many orchid species, as well as the refreshing Asaro River.

Accommodation for one night is in a lodge built by the Asaro in their village. The Asaro village guest house has twin and double rooms, 24-hour electricity, male and female "long drop" toilets, and hot rainwater showers.

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Basis

Full Board

Day 4: Goroka, Papua New Guinea (Thu, 12 September)

Papua New Guinea

See Above

Day Itinerary

Day trip to Mount Akemeku to see the coffee plantation and hike along the Akemeku River to learn how the people use the land and forests around them to live. We visit to the secret cave and sacrifice site at Mt Guropoka too.

At the end of the day we leave the Asaro and relocate to our guest house in Goroka town. The guesthouse was built in 2016, has air-conditioned rooms (not at all needed at night, and rarely during the day), and en-suite bathrooms.

Overnight: Goroka

Goroka is the capital of the Eastern Highlands Province. A town of approximately 19,000 people, 1600m above sea level. it is on the "Highlands Highway", about four hours from Mt. Hagen. It has a mild climate, known as a "perpetual Spring". The mountains and valleys around are fertile and produce some of the finest coffee beans in the world. Every September the town hosts the amazing and unique Highlands Cultural Festival, when up to 150 different tribal groups gather for the weekend closest to independence day, the 16th of September. Around 350 foreign visitors are privileged to be able to attend, vastly outnumbered by tens of thousands of locals from the surrounding areas.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 5: Goroka, Papua New Guinea (Fri, 13 September)

Day Itinerary

Today we learn about Asaro traditions, including bride price negotiations, preparing a "mumu" (earth oven). Three sing sing performances, archery practice, mask making demonstration.

At the end of the day we return to our guest house in Goroka town.

Activities

Goroka Festival with VIP pass



Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 6: Goroka, Papua New Guinea (Sat, 14 September)

Day Itinerary

VIP access to the spectacular Highlands Cultural Festival. Up to 150 tribal groups attend to show off their traditional finery in a riot of colour and sound. Tens of thousands of locals come to watch. It is an unforgettable experience. We can take photos and videos freely all day.

Activities

Goroka Festival with VIP pass.



Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 7: Goroka, Papua New Guinea (Sun, 15 September)

Day Itinerary

Second day with VIP access at the Festival. Don't forget to check out the agricultural fair in the bottom field with its splendid orchids and wonderful coffee to taste. There also a concert and the hilarious greasy pole competition.

Basis

Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 8: End of Itinerary (Mon, 16 September)

Day Itinerary

Transfer to the airport for your scheduled flight back to Port Moresby.

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
09 Sep	Scheduled		Jacksons International Airport [POM]		Mount Hagen			
16 Sep	PX961 (Scheduled)	Air Niugini	Goroka	10:05	Jacksons International Airport [POM]	11:15		

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
11 Sep		Mount Hagen	Goroka		Transfer
12 Sep		Goroka	Goroka		Transfer

Urgent Contact Numbers

Company Name	Telephone	Email Address	Contact Person
Best of PNG	+447713342729	cb@bestofpng.com	Christopher Bartlett

Terms and Conditions

Itinerary Terms and Conditions

25% non-refundable deposit to book.
Balance due by June 9th.