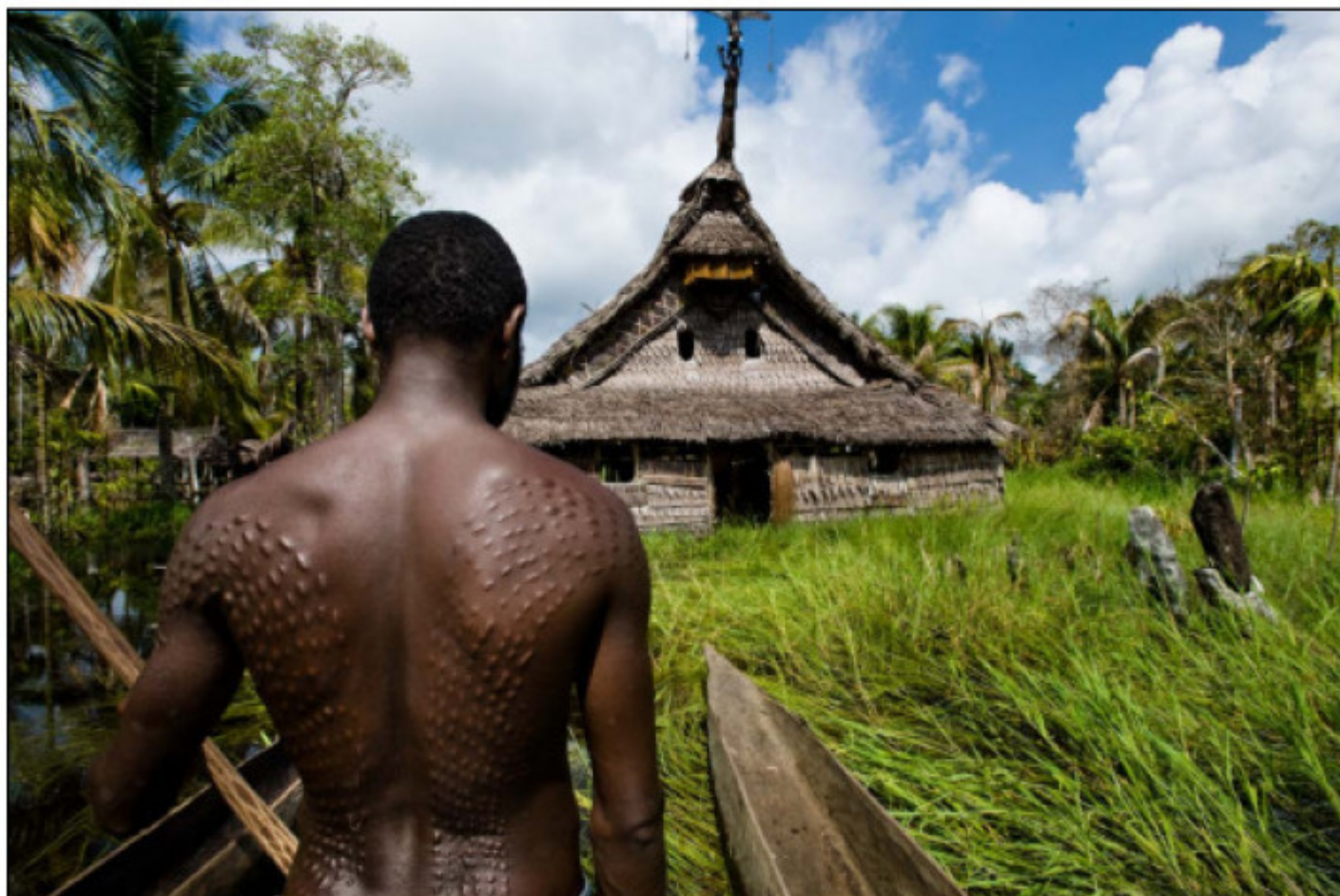


SEPIK ADVENTURE 16 to 22 SEPTEMBER 2019



The Sepik River stretches from Telefomin in Sandaun Province to its outlet into the Bismarck Sea at Kopar village. There are many villages and hamlets in this culturally and environmentally rich area. The largest local animal is the wild pig - which is tamed and kept in the villages for use at cultural gatherings and compensation ceremonies. There are many other natural animal inhabitants, such as snakes, lizards, bandicoots, rats and above all birds. Many of the village songs and dances centre on indigenous animals and birds - the largest of which is the angry-looking flightless cassowary, a relative of the emu and the second heaviest bird on the planet.

The Middle Sepik is the last remaining area where the crocodile skin cutting initiation is still practiced. The villages in this region are more accessible and not so far apart in terms of travel time than on the more remote Upper Sepik. These villages have stood firm against the invasion of Christianity. They still retain their Haus Tambarans and practice their traditional customs including the initiation and scarification of young "crocodile men". Also, the villages are home to famous artists and their sought-after birds' head carvings.

visitors (long days in canoes under the fierce sun can cause acute sunburn etc).





All the villages included in our trip have been carefully chosen to offer a wide variety of distinctive cultural styles; including their extensive carved artifacts, both displayed and for sale, providing our visitors with interesting cultural contrasts and experiences. Witnessing daily activities, like the carving of artifacts, making a house roof out of sago palms, the long, daily, task of sago production (sago is a staple Sepik starchy food which requires lengthy processing), fishing and so on, is encouraged.

All expeditions start and end with a night at the In Wewak Boutique Hotel. It is only a few years old, very well managed and maintained, with good security – it has high standards throughout. The views are great, the pool is cooling, the rooms are all clean, airy and comfortable and the food and ambience is pleasant.

Whilst on the expedition, guests are accommodated in village guesthouses where facilities are very basic: we provide a mattress, clean bedding, and mosquito nets. Toilet facilities are simple – most often a “long drop” - a hole in the ground - serves as the toilet inside a bamboo cubicle – but these toilets are reserved for guests and not used by the whole village. Washing/showers is either in the Sepik River (villager style), or with a shower bag. Visitors will experience life like a villager - BUT with “washing machine cleaned sheets” and all bedding items, crockery and utensils brought in, plus their own toilet and washing areas.



Day 1. Arrive on Air Niugini or PNG Air from Port Moresby. Pick up from the airport and transfer to In Wewak Boutique Hotel.

Day 2. Depart Wewak by vehicle and travel over the Prince Alexander Ranges through Passam, Kubalia, Yangoru, Hayfield/Maprik, Wosera to reach Pagwi.

The Sepik River is a vast volume of water. It's approximately 1200 km long, 10 to 12 meters deep and 100 to 200 meters wide in some area. Travelling into the tributaries of the Sepik River is a wonderful experience, passing typical Sepik villages. At high water a beautiful landscape of little islands and trees standing in the water is created against a backdrop of mountains, which connects to the Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

From Pagwi station you will travel to Kamindimbit. Here there is a cluster of three villages: Palimbei, Yentchan and Kanganaman. These villages have stood firm against the invasion of Christianity. They still have their Haus Tambarans and practice their ancient customs including the initiation and scarification of young “crocodile men”. The villages are also home to great artists and carvers and their sought-after birds' head carvings.

Day 3.

Visit to the spirit houses at Palimbei and Kanganaman, then you will cruise to the Chambri lakes and the amazing spirit house at Wabom, meeting men carving and women at work fishing, giving a rare insight into this traditional way of life that is still in existence today.



Day 4. After breakfast, you head back to Pagwi to catch a vehicle to Wewak with lunch en-route. On arrival at Wewak you will board a boat and cruise to Mushu Island where we will be greeted and welcomed by the villagers.

Day 5: Today there is ample opportunity for some rest and relaxation on the beach, then we visit Kairiru Island and its hot springs on the beach.

Day 6: Relaxation on the island, snorkel some more, hang out with the locals, before returning to Wewak. Overnight at In Wewak Boutique Hotel.

Day 7. Morning check in for the flight from Wewak to Port Moresby.

Price: \$1900 USD per person, single supplement \$170 USD

Inclusions: Vehicle transfers, motorized canoe, boats, petrol, accommodation, sleeping gear including mosquito net, village entry fee, sight fees, skipper and guide, water, meals except at In Wewak Boutique Hotel.

Exclusions: Meals at In Wewak Boutique Hotel, soft drinks, alcoholic drinks.

Payment schedule

35% non-refundable deposit to book spaces, balance 60 days prior to departure.

Payment via bank transfer to our USD account. Can be converted to Euros or GB Pounds.

Credit card payment possible, subject to third-party processing fees of 2.9% on USD cards, 1.4% on EUR and GBP cards.