

**2 nights Goroka, 3 nights Madang, 2 nights Wewak with optional extensions**

**This year-round itinerary features three of PNG’s contrasting destinations with varied natural, cultural and historical attractions:**

Goroka - scenic highlands terrain, biodiverse forests, mountain villages.

Madang - pretty coastal scenery, peaceful seaside villages and tropical rainforest, colonial history

Sepik River – riverside stilt villages, the artistic powerhouse of PNG

The package is semi-escorted ie our trained local guides at each destination will accompany you for each day’s activities but the guide does not fly with you or stay with you at the hotel.

This is not a trekking package but some walking is required to see everything on the itinerary. Any walking activities will require the ability to walk 30 minutes at a time, at the most, apart from an optional bushwalk in Madang.

Extending for an extra night in Wewak allows for a day trip to tropical Muschu Island the following day. It is also possible to overnight at the Sepik River village.

**TOUR ITINERARY**

Day 1	<p><b>PORT MORESBY / GOROKA (Goroka sightseeing)</b></p> <p>On arrival at Port Moresby airport you will be met by our operator who will assist you to check in for your connecting flight to Goroka.</p> <p>Morning Air Niugini flight Port Moresby to Goroka (aircraft: Dash 8-400 turboprop with 70 seats)</p> <p>10:40 You will be met on arrival in Goroka by our local guide – look for somebody holding a sign with your name. The guide will drive you 5 minutes to your hotel, assist you to check in and then leave you to have your lunch (not included / pay as you go).</p> <p>13:00 Meet up with your guide again at reception and commence a half day tour of Goroka by private four-wheel drive vehicle. This half day tour includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mt Kiss lookout (see most of Goroka town and the adjacent Asaro Valley)</li> <li>- JK McCarthy Museum of Highlands Culture (if open)</li> <li>- fresh produce market (vegetables, pigs, chickens)</li> <li>- handicrafts market (woven bilum bags are the best buy)</li> <li>- a scenic drive out a rural road to the Bena Bena district (the winding road crosses bridges over babbling brooks and meanders through copses of native forest and roadside villages with waving children).</li> </ul> <p>17:30 Return to hotel. Overnight Bird of Paradise Hotel, Goroka (premier room, accommodation only).</p> <p><i>TOUR NOTE</i>  <i>Dinner and breakfast at this hotel are not included in the tour package (ie these meals are pay-as-you-go or PAYG – the hotel accepts major credit cards, travellers cheques and local currency). The hotel has two eateries - a bistro/pizzeria with daily specials and a formal restaurant with a la carte dining on weekdays and a full buffet on weekends. There is a good Chinese café across the street. Groceries for self-catering can be purchased from the small supermarket opposite the hotel which closes at 18:30.</i></p>
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Day 2	<p><b>GOROKA (Goroka villages excursion)</b></p> <p>07:00 Breakfast in the upstairs bistro (pay as you go)</p> <p>08:00 Your guide will meet you at reception and you will again depart by private four wheel drive vehicle for a full day tour of the Asaro Valley.</p> <p>From the hotel it is a one hour drive straight up the scenic Highlands Highway to Daulo Pass, a high altitude biodiversity hotspot where the highway winds through swirling mists past giant tree ferns and trickling waterfalls.</p> <p>Near the peak of the pass, you will leave your vehicle at the road side and some locals, who live a rather cold existence way up here, will lead you on a 30 minute walk through the moss forest, still enveloped in morning fog and dripping with condensation. The forest is populated by flowering trees and tree ferns which form a substrate for the growth of a wide variety of saprophytic native orchids, green mosses and colourful fungi, lichens, liverworts and leafy epiphytes.</p> <p>From Daulo Pass you will drive back down the highway to Asaro village, home of the famed Asaro mudmen. These people have a tradition of crafting fierce looking clay helmets worn during tribal fights in the old days to frighten the enemy. The helmets are also worn for traditional dancing and drama performances demonstrating how their ancestors confronted enemy tribes wearing their mud helmets, their bodies smeared with grey mud pretending to be ghosts. You'll be shown how the clay helmets are made and worn, and you'll be treated to some dance and drama.</p> <p>From Asaro you will drive another 30 minutes back towards Goroka town, arriving at a typical local village around midday. The village is a typical semi-rural highlands community with round huts made of bush materials, smoky cooking fires and pigs wandering around untethered. At the village you'll see local people engaged in a variety of daily activities such as market gardening, harvesting, food preparation, billum weaving, hunting wild pigs with bows and arrows, crafting wooden drums and other "sing-sing" props and tending their coffee crops. Organic coffee grown on smallholder blocks is the major cash crop in the highlands.</p> <p>At the village a traditional-style <i>mumu</i> lunch is prepared for you which involves wrapping meat and vegetables in banana leaves or stuffing them into the nodes of giant bamboo stalks and roasting in the fire or burying in a pit under hot coals or hot stones. The food takes about 2 hours to slow-cook this way and when it comes out of the "oven" it has a delightful smoky barbeque flavour.</p> <p>Also at the village you have the option to take a 1 hour hike into the nearby montane forest to the nearby river and waterfall. This forest is populated by birds and tree mammals such as cuscus which can sometimes be seen peeping out of their hiding places, understandably wary of bows and arrows. Mid to late afternoon is the time of day when the raucous Raggiana bird of paradise is most active: the bird is relatively easy to spot in the trees as it flutters from tree to tree emitting a loud distinctive cackle. There are known nesting spots along the forest paths near the village. Wild animals including</p>
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	<p>birds of paradise are plentiful in PNG and are not protected by law but locals have preserved some areas of forest for visitors to enjoy. <i>(NB Due to weather and other considerations today's itinerary may be adjusted to suit the local conditions).</i></p> <p>17:30 Return to hotel. Overnight Bird of Paradise Hotel, Goroka (premier room, accommodation only).</p>
<p>Day 3</p>	<p><b>GOROKA / MADANG (scenic road transfer)</b></p> <p>06:00 Breakfast in the upstairs bistro (pay as you go)          07:00 Your guide will meet you at reception and you will make an early start on your drive to Madang so that the vehicle will be able to return to Goroka the same day. The drive from Goroka to Madang takes about 6 hours and involves a 3 hour descent along the mountainous Highland Highways to the head of the Ramu River Valley where you will make a left turn onto the relatively flat Ramu Highway for a smoother and faster 3 hour run down to Madang.</p> <p>The Goroka to Ramu River sector meanders over hill and down dale, crossing many bridges and passing through the rural towns of Henganofi and Kainantu.</p> <p>You will also make a stop for a break at the Yonki hydroelectric dam before descending through the steep winding Kassam Pass to the Ramu River Valley. As your vehicle descends the hairpin bends down through the pass – which is occasionally blocked by landslides so no yodelling please ☺ - you may notice the change in temperature and humidity as you transcend the thermal inversion layer from the dry, cool air of the highlands to the moist, warm air of the coastal tropics.</p> <p>The drive north west down the fertile Ramu River Valley passes by many kilometres of sugar cane farms and other agricultural ventures. Turning due north for the final run into Madang town the highway becomes more crowded with roadside villages and smallholder market gardens. For the last half hour or so of the drive you will have glimpses of the Bismarck Sea visible to your right. (Bottled water and fruit is supplied on board the bus).</p> <p>14:00 On arrival in Madang town you will be dropped off at your hotel in time for a late lunch.</p> <p>To allow for possible delays during the road journey from Goroka, no formal touring is planned for this afternoon but our guide is available to accompany you on an exploratory walk around the foreshore area near the hotel if you are feeling up to it. Adjacent to the hotel is the Coastwatchers Memorial Lighthouse which flashes the Madang harbour signal out to sea at night and is an iconic feature of Madang – somewhat resembling a life-size space rocket. Further along the foreshore are a number of wartime artillery relics and a sheltered swimming beach where local families congregate and children swim in the sea. Opposite the foreshore is the unfenced Madang Golf Links – the tropical plants that festoon the golf course are as beautifully manicured as any botanical garden and you are welcome to walk through the grounds.</p> <p>A fifteen minute walk in the opposite direction from the lighthouse brings you to the barbeque fish market where you can buy some tasty fried fish or fried banana, and the small boat dock where dinghies plying the short route to the harbour islands for commuters tie up between trips.</p> <p>Overnight Madang Resort Hotel, Madang (dlexue room, room only).</p>

<p>Day 4</p>	<p><b>MADANG (sightseeing and village excursion)</b></p> <p>08:00 Today’s program will be a full day exploration of Madang and a local village. Your guide will arrive with an appropriate sightseeing vehicle and show you first around the town area including the Madang shops, market, flying fox trees in the town square, Madang Resort carver’s hut, orchid gardens and boardwalk, Coastwatcher’s Lighthouse, Madang culture museum (if open), and the Balek sulphur spring where part of Pierce Brosnan’s <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> movie was shot.</p> <p>12:00 From Balek another 30 minutes’ drive south out of town brings you to a village where a traditional style lunch and afternoon of activities have been prepared for you. The village is a small rural community inland from the Gum River. All homes in the village are of traditional bush material construction and there is no electricity. The villagers farm the land to grow fruit and vegetables to sell at Madang market as well as for home consumption. The village is situated adjacent to a tract of tropical forest where the locals hunt for game and harvest bush materials for building and repairing their houses. On arrival you will be greeted with a welcome sing-sing and the village children will perform their butterfly dance. Locals will show you around their village and you will be able to go inside family homes and see how they live.</p> <p>You may also be able to see men and women engaged in daily activities in their homes such as food preparation, weaving sleeping mats, weaving large string bags (billums) for carrying garden produce and firewood, caring for young children (often they are carried around in billums too!) and working in their nearby food gardens.</p> <p>17:00 Depart village for Madang town and drop off at hotel.</p> <p>Overnight Madang Resort Hotel, Madang (deluxe room, room only).</p>
<p>Day 5</p>	<p><b>MADANG (Rempi lagoon and rainforest excursion)</b></p> <p>08:00 am Check out of the Coastwatchers Hotel and load your luggage onto the tour vehicle. (An earlier start is available if you prefer).</p> <p>Your guide will drive you north out of town past the airport, and the first stop will be a side trip up Nobnob ridge to the Nobnob lookout which offers panoramic views of the Madang coastline: Madang town and lagoon to the south east and Karkar Island to the north. Back on the main road, turn off to the right this time and drive through a coconut plantation filled with parrots to get to Nagada Inlet, the site of Jais Aben Resort where you will be staying tonight. Check in to your room and leave your luggage. From Jais Aben our guide will drive you further out the North Coast road to Madang’s only satellite township, Alexishafen.</p> <p>Spend some time looking around the old German catholic mission at Alexishafen then continue another 30 minutes’ drive along the north coast road to Rempi Lagoon. The picturesque shallow lagoon is protected by a line of tiny islands running parallel to the beach. More of the Pearce Brosnan film <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> was shot here at Rempi Lagoon and in the adjacent rainforest on shore. On arrival at Rempi village some locals will paddle you around the lagoon and out to the little islands in a native dugout canoe and you can get off on one of the islands and take a walk right around in just a few minutes then paddle back to shore again.</p>

	<p>On one of the islands you can run along the same beach where Pearce Brosnan and Man Friday chased crabs in the movie. Don't hesitate to ask for your turn with the paddle, it's great fun paddling even if you go around in circles ☺ The local dugout canoes have stabilising outrigger arms which prevent them from tipping over. And wherever you see a flash of brilliant colours in the water you can jump out with a mask and flippers for a spot of reef snorkelling. There is good new coral growth in the lagoon.</p> <p>Back at Rempi village a local style seafood lunch is prepared for you, some fish barbequed under hot stones or coals and some local vegetables cooked with coconut and seafood in traditional clay pots.</p> <p>After lunch, say farewell to the lagoon and head inland 10 minutes' drive to the Warwin Creek rainforest. Here a 3 hour hike through the pristine rainforest is available if you enjoy reasonable physical fitness. There is a steep descent to the creek at the start and a steep climb out of the gully at end. The hike includes a foray into a bat cave (walk in with flashlights and see thousands of small bats, stalactites and a small stream running through the cave) and a stop at the limestone cascades and swimming hole where you can jump in to cool off.</p> <p>If you are not a good hiker, a shorter forest walk on flat ground is available, skipping the creek and the bat cave.</p> <p>Late afternoon, drive back to Jais Aben Resort in time for a stroll through the tropical orchid gardens and coconut plantation - mind your head ☺</p> <p>Overnight Jais Aben Resort, Madang (deluxe bungalow, room only).</p>
<p>Day 6</p>	<p><b>MADANG / WEWAK</b></p> <p>Spend this morning enjoying the activities at Jais Aben Resort:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- take a dip in the freshwater swimming pool</li> <li>- snorkel over the fringing reef near the resort</li> <li>- paddle a kayak around Nagada Inlet, out to one of the small islands in the lagoon and through the mangrove labyrinth that lines the shore</li> <li>- stroll through the tropical orchid gardens, coconut plantation (mind your head) and light rainforest surrounding the resort</li> </ul> <p>For lunch today, pay-as-you-go at the resort.</p> <p><i>NB You may have to check out of your room before lunch to make way for arriving guests, but otherwise you can request late check-out after lunch.</i></p> <p>Departure time today will depend on which flight to Wewak you are booked on, which in turn depends on the day of the week.</p> <p>Air Niugini or Airlines PNG flight departs Madang to Wewak</p> <p>On arrival at Wewak airport, wait for your luggage to be offloaded from the aircraft and collect your bags. Security guards will cross-check your luggage tags with the stubs on your boarding pass before you will be allowed to exit the terminal. The hotel shuttle bus will be waiting for you at the exit - if you don't see him just scan the kerb outside for the hotel bus. The hotel knows you are coming and they won't leave without you ☺ From the airport it is a pleasant 10 minute drive through Wewak town to the hotel which is situated on top of a bluff overlooking the sea.</p> <p>Overnight In-Wewak Boutique Hotel (3.75 star twin-share room, room only)</p>

<p>Day 7</p>	<p><b>WEWAK / SEPIK RIVER / WEWAK (full day excursion to Sepik River)</b></p> <p>A choice of two different destinations is offered for today’s day trip to the Sepik River:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Middle Sepik (Palembei village)</li> <li>2. Lower Sepik (Chimondo village)</li> <li>3. If you are able to advise in advance your preference, we will seek to arrange your preferred destination. If we do not receive any notice from you we will select the destination we feel is most suitable for you or your group.</li> </ol> <p>The Middle Sepik day trip involves 3.5 hours’ drive to Pagwi, 2 hours downstream by motor canoe and 30 minutes walking inland to arrive at Palembei village, the heart of the “crocodile cult”. Only 2 hours will be spent at the destination then you will return via the same route. The total trip time will be 14 hours (7:00 am to 9:00 pm) – the hotel will keep a late dinner hot for you. Attractions at Palimbei include touring the village with a local guide, meeting some of the initiated men and seeing the “crocodile skin” scars on their backs, inspecting the men’s spirit houses with their collections of old artefacts, being entertained by a traditional dance (“sing-sing”) and tasting local foods like baked sago, smoked fish and fresh tropical fruit for lunch. A selection of excellent Sepik artefacts will be available for purchase from local weavers and carvers.</p> <p>The Lower Sepik day trip involves 3 hours’ drive to Angoram, 1 hour motor canoe ride up the Sepik River and Keram River (a tributary of the Sepik) to Chimondo village. There is no walking involved on this excursion except ambling around the village which is optional.</p> <p>The total trip time for this excursion is 10 hours including 2 hours at Chimondo village. Attractions include touring the village with a local guide, inspecting the community meeting house with its intricately carved posts and beams, being entertained by a traditional dance (“sing-sing”) and tasting local foods like baked sago, smoked fish and fresh tropical fruit for lunch. A special attraction at Chimondo is the availability of “Kambot story boards” which are large flat slices of wood carved with pictorials about village life on one side which are perfect for wall hanging. These storyboards are unique to the Keram River villages Chimondo and Kambot. Locals will also bring other carvings, woven bags and baskets for sale.</p> <p>There are no “spirit houses” or “crocodile skin men” at Chimondo because it is a different tribe and does not follow the crocodile cult.</p> <p>Your time at the village can be extended to 3 or 4 hours if you are happy to arrive back in Wewak at a later time.</p> <p>Overnight In-Wewak Boutique Hotel (3.75 star twin share, room only)</p> <p>(See additional tour note about Sepik River day trip at the end of this itinerary. See also option to extend with 1 night in the Sepik River Village).</p>
<p>Day 8</p>	<p><b>WEWAK / PORT MORESBY</b></p> <p>03:45 Early rise and have coffee and biscuits in your room, check out at reception and settle your meals bill.</p> <p>04:15 The hotel shuttle bus departs for Wewak airport. Passenger check-in usually opens at 05:00. The aircraft has overnighted at Wewak and the pilots have probably stayed at</p>

	<p>the same hotel as yourself, and will probably travel to the airport on the same shuttle. 06:10 Air Niugini flight departs Wewak for Port Moresby (aircraft: Fokker F100 with 98 seats) 07:30 On arrival in Port Moresby, our tour operator will meet you and assist you with your onward arrangements.</p> <p>CORE TOUR ENDS</p>
<p>Optional Day 7</p> <p>1 NIGHT SEPIK VILLAGE</p>	<p><b>SEPIK RIVER VILLAGE</b></p> <p>After travelling to the village as per day trip itinerary, stay overnight at the village (Palembi or Chimondo) in the village guest house. Accommodation will be basic but clean and you will have more opportunities to get to know the village people and their way of life.</p> <p>Local style food is served for dinner (e.g. boiled vegetables, smoked or poached fish), and fried bananas, sago flour pancakes and fresh fruit are served for breakfast. (The cost of this extra night also includes additional river and road transfers, additional guide time, additional village activities and overnight accommodation and food for your guide and canoe crew so that they can stay close by.)</p>
<p>Optional Day 8</p>	<p><b>SEPIK RIVER VILLAGE / WEWAK</b></p> <p>Spend the next morning in the village, have lunch at the village guest house then depart for Wewak after lunch.</p> <p>Overnight In-Wewak Boutique Hotel (3.75 star twin share, room only)</p>
<p>Optional Day 9</p>	<p><b>DAY 9 WEWAK / PORT MORESBY</b></p> <p>Fly out.</p>
<p>Optional Day 8</p> <p>1 NIGHT WEWAK WITH DAY TRIP TO MUSCHU ISLAND</p>	<p><b>WEWAK (full day excursion to Muschu Island)</b></p> <p>07:00 The hotel restaurant opens for breakfast. 07:30 Meet up at reception with our local guide who will walk with you 15 minutes down to the beach in front of the post office to board your banana boat (open speed boat) for a 30 minute boat ride to the eastern coast of beautiful Muschu Island.</p> <p>(An earlier start is available on request).</p> <p>The morning hours are the best time to enjoy this lovely tropical paradise before the sun reaches its scorching zenith.</p> <p>Walk along the beach, swim in the warm waters and play games in the sand with the village kids who will view you as a novelty because hardly any tourists come here. Snorkelling masks are available for viewing the coral reef.</p> <p>Bottled water and fresh drinking coconuts are supplied and a local style tropical lunch is served at the village guest house near the beach.</p>

	<p>This coastline was a key defence position of the Japanese during World War 2 and the local guide can lead you on an optional hike through the coconut plantations and rainforest to see old gun emplacements and other war relics. <a href="http://www.gunsofmuschu.com">www.gunsofmuschu.com</a>          17:00 Depart Muschu Island by boat for Wewak. From the beach, hike up to your hotel or your guide can arrange the hotel shuttle bus to pick you up.</p> <p>Overnight In-Wewak Boutique Hotel (3.75 star twin share, room only)</p>
Optional Day 9	WEWAK / PORT MORESBY Fly out.

**PRICES – PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE, IN AUD**

Tour option	1 Person	2-3 People	4-5 People	6 or more
Flights Ex Brisbane	From \$1100*			
Flights ex Cairns	From \$1000*			
Flights ex Port Moresby	From \$575*			
Core Tour 7 nights	\$11,650	\$7175	\$4950	\$4175
Single Supplement	\$1250			
1 night Sepik extension	\$895	\$715	\$525	\$390
1 night Muschu extension	\$1250	\$990	\$715	\$550

\*Based on best available airfare at time of printing (07 APRIL 2017)

**TOUR NOTES**

**ABOUT MADANG**

*Madang is the capital of Madang Province and is a town with a population of around 27,500 people, situated on a peninsula on the north coast of Papua New Guinea. It was first settled by the Germans in the 19th century and was originally called Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen. The majority of the country's Cocoa and Copra is produced on Kar Kar Island.*

**ABOUT GOROKA**

*Goroka is the capital of the Eastern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea. It is a town of approximately 19,000 people (2000), 1600m above sea level. It has an airport (in the centre of town) and is on the "Highlands Highway", about 285 km from Lae in Morobe province and 90 km from the nearby town of Kainantu also in the Eastern Highlands. Other nearby towns include Kundiawa in Simbu Province and Mount Hagen in Western Highlands Province. It has a mild climate, known as a "perpetual Spring". Coffee is a common cash crop in the area; smaller*

*industries include trout farms, pigs, bee keeping and food gardens (broccoli, kau kau {sweet potato}, carrots, ginger and peanuts are examples of produce that grow well here; nearby Bena Bena is known for its pineapples).*

#### **ABOUT WEWAK**

*Wewak town (population around 50,000) is the jumping-off point for the Sepik River and the Wewak Islands. A smaller town than Madang, Wewak is less tourist-oriented and the local economy is mainly based on commercial fishing. There are three good hotels and a number of smaller motels and guest houses. From Wewak there are two roads leading to the Sepik River (one to Pagwi on the Middle Sepik and one to Angoram on the Lower Sepik) and charter aircraft operate from Wewak airport to airstrips along the river at Ambunti (Upper Sepik), Timbunke (Middle Sepik) and Karawari (a tributary of the Sepik). From the Wewak waterfront open speed boats travel less than an hour to the offshore Wewak Islands, Muschu and Kairiru.*

*Sepik River day trips. Arranging excursions to the Sepik River is very challenging and there are various unexpected problems that can arise at short notice which may prevent us from getting you to the advertised destination, for example: village death and funeral, local disputes, bad weather and flooding, outboard motor breakdown, vehicle flat tyre.*

*If we are unable to operate your day trip according to the advertised itinerary we will do our best to substitute an alternative itinerary on the Sepik River. However it is important for you to be aware that in some situations we may be forced to cancel your day trip to the Sepik River altogether. In this case we will issue a part refund equivalent to the value of the Sepik River excursion but we are unable to compensate you for disappointment. You must accept this possibility when booking this tour.*

#### **PACKAGE INCLUSIONS (CORE TOUR)**

- J International airfares from Australia (if selected)
- J Port Moresby – all airport meet and greets and check-in assistance
- J Goroka - 2 nights 3.5 star accommodation at Bird of Paradise Hotel (room only)
- J Goroka – half day tour of Goroka and surrounds by private car
- J Goroka – full day tour of Asaro Valley by private car including Daulo Pass, Asaro mudmen and Goroka village experience, local style lunch
- J Goroka – road transfer to Madang
- J Madang – optional walking tour of town area
- J Madang - 2 nights 3.5 star accommodation at Madang Resort Hotel (room only)
- J Madang - 1 night 3.5 star accommodation at Jais Aben Resort (room only + airport transfer)
- J Madang – full day sightseeing and village tour by private car (includes local style lunch)
- J Madang – full day Rempi Lagoon and Warwin Creek Rainforest excursion (includes local style lunch)
- J Wewak - 2 nights 3.75 star accommodation at In-Wewak Boutique Hotel (room only + airport transfers)
- J Wewak - private road transfer from Wewak to the Sepik River and return
- J Sepik River - motor canoe trip to Sepik River villages specified in the day trip option selected or provided (includes canoe and engine hire, fuel, skipper, life jackets)
- J Sepik River - Sepik River guide and helpers

- ) Sepik River - activities at the villages as stated in the day trip option selected or provided
- ) Sepik River - local style lunch and bottled water for the day
- ) Sepik River - toilet tissue, soap, towel, insect killer, umbrellas

Throughout the tour we provide:

- ) daily guide and assistant guide or driver i.e. 2 staff to accompany you or your group at all times
- ) all fees and gratuities for local villagers, demonstrators and helpers
- ) all airport/hotel transfers
- ) all road travel by late model mini bus or four wheel drive vehicle with bottled water on board
- ) all water travel by open speed boat, skiff or motor canoe with life vests supplied and bottled water on board
- ) various additional gear that may be required for your safety and comfort in remote areas such as mobile satellite phone, tropical first aid kit, mosquito net, tropical sleeping bag, supplementary food supplies (we may ask you to carry such items with your personal baggage from Port Moresby to your destination and if this incurs any excess baggage penalty we will pay the charges)
- ) daily reconfirmation of flights and arrangements coordinated by our operator's Port Moresby office
- ) 24 hour assistance from our operator's Port Moresby office (phone 7700 5066, 7204 6950 or 7686 8917)

#### **PACKAGE INCLUSIONS (SEPIK EXTENSION)**

- o **Sepik River - 1 night 1 star village guest house accommodation with clean bedding and local style food**
- o **Sepik River – additional motor canoe and road transfers**
- o **Sepik River – additional village touring and activities**
- o **Sepik River – additional guide and canoe crew time**

#### **PACKAGE INCLUSIONS (MUSCHU ISLAND EXTENSION)**

- o **Wewak - 1 extra night accommodation at In-Wewak Boutique Hotel**
- o **Wewak - private “banana boat” (open speed boat) transfers Wewak - Muschu Island - Wewak (includes boat and engine hire, fuel, skipper, life jackets)**
- o **Muschu Island - village tour, beach activities including snorkelling gear, refreshments, bottled water, local style lunch, optional jungle hike (includes toilet tissue, soap, towel, insect killer, umbrellas)**

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

- Travel insurance (mandatory). We can arrange this for you.
- meals, bar drinks and bottled water not stated
- tips (not expected, and only appropriate for exceptional service)
- souvenirs and items of a personal nature
- visas and visa assistance
- airline excess baggage charges (the free allowance on Air Niugini is 30 kg + 5 kg)
- personal items such as hat and sunscreen or medical kit.

### GENERAL TOUR NOTES

1. Prices are quoted in Australian Dollars and are correct at the time of printing this document (07 April 17). They are subject to currency fluctuations and may need to be re-quoted if large variances occur with the USD and PGK rates. PNG Holidays **WILL NOT** be liable for changes in price due to the above and the rate is not guaranteed until paid in full. A final invoice with the amended total will be given to you by the payment due date.
2. Flights. All flight prices are quoted as 'from' which were available on random dates when pricing this package. They are subject to change on a day to day basis and we have no control over this. However, we do have our 'all year round' rates which include international flights from Australia which we can offer you, subject to them being available on your preferred dates.
3. Hotel accommodation. Hotel rooms in the towns transited on this tour are generally of three and a half star standard. Hotel and resort rooms all have private bathrooms, TV and air-conditioning (except in the highlands), unless otherwise specified. While we endeavour to book you into the hotels stated in the tour itinerary, in cases where specified hotels are fully booked by the time we receive your tour deposit we may have to book you into alternative accommodation. In this situation we strive to book you into the next-best available accommodation and we apologise in advance for any disappointment. No compensation or partial refunds or discounts can be paid or allowed on the basis of the perceived quality of hotel rooms provided for you while on this tour because the wholesale rates offered to us by the higher quality tourist hotels are similar to the non-commissionable rates we have to pay lesser quality motels when the tourist hotels are full.
4. Extras. Bar drinks, between-meal snacks, any meals not included in the package, and other extras at hotels can be paid for in cash or with credit card direct to the hotel or restaurant.
5. Safety and security. Papua New Guinea is sometimes portrayed as a dangerous destination, but although street crime is a concern in some urban areas and tribal fights are prevalent in some parts of the Highlands, the vast majority of the country, especially the rural areas, is safe and welcoming. It is very uncommon for a tourist to be a victim of crime in PNG because tourists do not usually visit areas where crime or tribal violence are prevalent. Nevertheless, PNG Holidays takes the safety and security of our visitors seriously and all tours we offer involve destinations that we rate as safe.
6. Climate and clothing. In the Highlands areas like Goroka, the days are generally warm and sunny with moderately cold nights and mornings. Coastal towns of Wewak, Madang, Port Moresby, and the Sepik region will be hot and humid. We suggest visitors pack clothes made predominantly of cotton which will allow an evaporative cooling effect in hot humid areas. Pack a sweater or warm jacket for wearing in the Highlands in the evenings. Recommended sleeping attire is light track pants and sweat shirt or similar. Papua New Guinea is a conservative country and brief or revealing clothing worn by foreigners is frowned upon.
7. Packing suggestions. We suggest that your packing list include: rain poncho, a small bath towel, your favourite soap in a leak-proof container, a one-litre water bottle, a small first aid kit. We recommend valuable personal items (camera, travel documents etc) be packed in zip lock plastic bags to protect them from the wet. Suitable footwear for this tour includes tennis shoes/sneakers, and a pair of sandals/thongs/flip flops. Bring plenty of spare batteries for your digital camera because batteries seem to go flat more rapidly in the humid climate and are not obtainable in all stores here. Power outlets are the same as in Australia.

8. Baggage – scheduled flights. The free baggage allowance on scheduled domestic flights without international is 16 kg and the carry-on limit is 5 kg. Naturally you can check more baggage if you are prepared to pay the excess baggage rate which is approximately PGK8 per kilogram Port Moresby to Goroka. Due to narrow-body turbo-prop aircraft operating some scheduled flights, large carry-on items may be taken off you and stored in the hold even if the weight is under the carry-on limit. Liquids are permitted in both checked baggage and carry-on for domestic flights but pressurised aerosol spray cans are not permitted on any domestic flights in PNG either in checked luggage OR carry-on. Bring pump-action sprays or roll-ons. When flying out on your international flight, pack all gels, lotions and other liquids in your checked baggage as carry-on luggage will be hand searched and liquids including water bottles will be removed. If you have liquids that you need during the flight, declare them, to airline staff at check-in.

9. Meals - If you are on a gluten free diet or require other special food just let us know in advance and we will do our best to accommodate you.

10. Water. Town water supplies in Papua New Guinea are treated and officially rated as safe to drink. In the villages, drinking water is usually collected in rainwater tanks or carried in containers from clean water sources. However to prevent discomfort from drinking from a different water supply every day as you progress through your tour, we recommend you drink bottled or boiled water, or use water purification tablets.

11. Visas. Tourist visas are available on arrival at Port Moresby airport for citizens of designated countries including Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada and Northern and Western European countries; Please note your passport must have at least 6 months validity left on it in order to be issued a PNG visa. Passport-holders of central and eastern European countries, Middle Eastern countries, African and Caribbean countries must normally apply for a visa at least 6 weeks in advance, from a PNG embassy or high commission (London, Brussels, Washington DC, Canberra, Singapore, Manila) or through the Australian diplomatic mission in other countries.

12. Money. The best way to obtain PNG currency is by withdrawing a credit card cash advance on arrival. Automatic teller machines operated by major banks in PNG will accept MasterCard and Visa Card but there is an ATM withdrawal limit of PGK2000 (about USD\$1040) per day. Larger amounts can be withdrawn over the counter in bank branches located in major towns. The currency exchange booths at Australian and Asian airports usually have PNG Kina currency in stock (banks and currency exchange booths in the city centres may not), but don't change large sums of money before arrival in PNG because the exchange rate for purchasing PNG kina is better there.

13. Health. Malaria is prevalent throughout the coastal and wetland areas in PNG. We recommend you visit a tropical health GP a few weeks prior to departure to start a course of anti-malarial tablets. Your GP will also advise if there are any other possible health issues or recent outbreaks.