



Reef & Rainforest



Sepik River, Madang and the Spectacular Goroka Show

Group Tour led by Local guides

17 September – 01 October 2026



Sepik River, Madang and the Spectacular Goroka Show - Papua New Guinea Group Tour 2026

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Led by various regional guides, this two-week group tour is perfectly suited to those with limited time to visit Papua New Guinea. The group will begin a visit to the Eastern Highlands for the spectacular Goroka Show, the oldest and largest cultural festival (or *sing sing*) in the country. For two days, over 100 highland tribes come together to display their unique music, regional dances and tribal rituals: a spectacle like no other on earth. Next we travel to the warm coastal resort of Madang for the opportunity to experience the local culture and snorkel or dive the colourful coral reefs. Finally visit remote villages along the Sepik River, travelling by motorised canoe for a truly authentic glimpse of village life along New Guinea's longest artery.

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| 17 Sep | Depart SINGAPORE |
| 18 Sep | Arrive in PORT MORESBY. Tfr to the hotel. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (B) |
| 19 Sep | Full day spent at the GOROKA SHOW. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (BL) |
| 20 Sep | Full day spent at the GOROKA SHOW. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (BL) |
| 21 Sep | Morning Mt Gurupoka Hiking with ghost dance. Afternoon visit to Chimbu village for cultural experience. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (BL) |
| 22 Sep | Pick up from the hotel and tfr by road (c7-8 hours) to MADANG, stopping at Yonki Hydro Dam en route. O/n MADANG RESORT HOTEL, (BL) |
| 23 Sep | Morning harbour cruise to Siar Island, Pig Island and snorkelling. Later, visit Amele Villages, including Hobe, Suyao and Haya. O/n MADANG RESORT HOTEL, (B) |
| 24 Sep | Morning tour of the north coast tour. Afternoon excursion in Madang including a visit to Balek Habitat, museum and local market. O/n MADANG RESORT HOTEL, (B) |
| 25 Sep | Meet with group and catch AIR NIUGINI flight to WEWAK. Met and tfr to the hotel. O/n IN WEWAK BOUTIQUE HOTEL, (B). |
| 26 Sep | Morning tfr by road to PAGWI (c.4 hours) then transfer to motorised dugout canoe and commence Sepik river Canoe Safari. O/n WAGU GUEST HOUSE, (BLD). |
| 27 Sep | Early morning visit to the rainforest to see the Lesser Bird of Paradise. After breakfast, visit Wasukuk Hill area black water tributaries. Continue by canoe to Chambri Lake. O/n CHAMBRI GUEST HOUSE. (BLD) |
| 28 Sep | Visit the Chambri lake villages. Arrive at Kanganim and witness Dancing mask performance. O/n KANGANAMUN GUEST HOUSE. (BLD) |
| 29 Sep | Return to Pagwi by canoe and transfer by road to Apangai village in Maprik for mini cultural show. Later transfer to Wewak. O/n IN WEWAK BOUTIQUE HOTEL, (BL). |
| 30 Sep | Early morning tfr to the airport and catch AIR NIUGINI flight to PORT MORESBY. Afternoon excursion to the Adventure Park. O/n AIRWAYS HOTEL, B |
| 01 Oct | Early morning visit to Varirata National Park. Return to the hotel and then transfer to the airport. Catch International flight to SINGAPORE. |



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PAPUA NEW GUINEA GROUP ITINERARY **THE SEPIK RIVER, MADANG AND THE SPECTACULAR GOROKA SHOW**

- 17 Sep Depart SINGAPORE on AIR NIUGINI flight PX393 at 2040.
- 18 Sep Arrive PORT MORESBY at 0520. Met on arrival at the airport and assisted with connection to AIR NIUGINI to GOROKA.

On arrival in Goroka, transfer to the hotel. Goroka is situated 1600m above sea level and boasts its ever-spring weather. It is "Coffee Capital" of Papua New Guinea where high-grade organic Arabica coffees are produced on its rich soil. It is also a home for famous "Asaro Mudman". In the Tribal fight age, Asaro tribes were always beaten by the enemy tribes. While they were running away from the enemy, they jumped into the mud-pond, and all of their body was covered with mud. The enemy tribesmen were scared of them and vacated the land and withdrew. Since then, Mudman became the guarding symbol of Asaro villages. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (B) A small hotel offering simple, comfortable accommodation in private ensuite rooms. Amenities include Flat-screen TV, Portable fan and In-room safe. Facilities at the hotel include a restaurant and swimming pool.



- 19 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the hotel and show ground. You will visit Goroka Show over the 2 days. The staging of the Goroka Show started back in 1957 at the Independence Park opposite the Goroka Main Market. It was first introduced and organized by Australian Kiaps (Patrol Officers). Kiaps from each district built round houses typical of their districts. They proudly displayed cultures of their districts. The kiaps brought in sing sing groups from their area - twenty nine different languages and societies in Eastern Highlands was reflected in their culture.



Over the years, Goroka show has grown to one of the most vivid cultural events in Papua New Guinea, where visitors can experience the customs of over a hundred tribes that populate the Papua New Guinea highlands. During the course of the weekend the tribes gather for music, dancing, showing-off and extraordinary displays of tribal rituals. (Contd..)

(2).../ THE SEPIK RIVER, MADANG & THE SPECTACULAR GOROKA SHOW

(Contd.../) Amongst the performers are the legendary mud men of Asaro. Tribal folklore records that centuries ago the warriors of Asaro were defeated in a tribal fight "payback" raid, and, to make themselves look fierce in the process, covered their bodies with grey mud. According to legend, the ruse worked. Their enemies fled at the



sight of these ghostly apparitions. The mud men recreated the drama at the Goroka show. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (B)

20 Sep Another day at the GOROKA show (shared). O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (B)

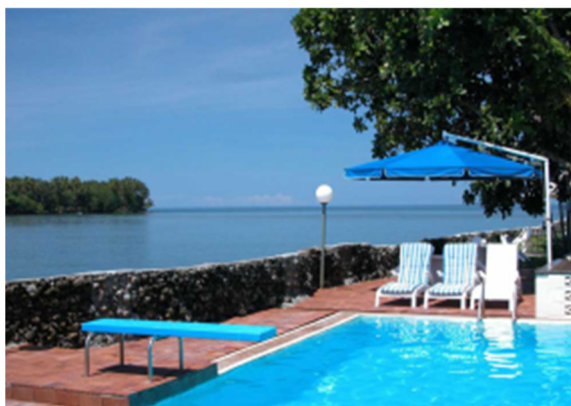
21 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel and visit to Mt Gurupoka. It is a moderate ½ hours walk to the top of the hill, overlooking Asaro valley. You will visit the Ancestral Cave & enjoy a ghost. Return to the hotel.

Afternoon pick up from the hotel for a visit to Chimbu Village. See how the local people make weapons, bilum making and traditional courting ceremony. O/n HOTEL PHOENIX, (B).



22 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel and commence the transfer overland to Madang. (Approx 7-8 hours). On the way, there will be various stops en route including a visit to the Yonki Hydro Dam (for its scenery). Picnic lunch included. Arrive in Madang and transfer to the hotel.

O/n MADANG RESORT HOTEL, (BL). The Madang resort hotel is ideally located close to the centre of Madang, overlooking the Madang harbour. There are a total of 150 rooms, of varying standards surrounded by beautiful gardens that are home to exotic birds. Rooms have private bathroom, air-conditioning, satellite TV, telephone and most have private balconies overlooking the gardens or harbour.



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23 Sep After breakfast, pick up from the hotel for a half day harbour cruise, including a visit to Siar island for a short walks and Pig Island for snorkelling, before returning to the hotel. Afternoon visit to Amele Villages including Hobe, Suyao and Haya. Enjoy a sing sing performance at Haya Village. O/n MADANG RESORT HOTEL, (B).

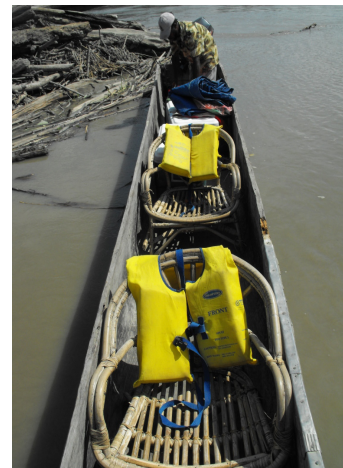


24 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel for a north coast tour including the historical Alexishafen mission, a german catholic mission used by the Japanese to store ammunition. In the afternoon, enjoy an excursion to the Balek habitat, museum and local market. O/n MADANG RESORT HOTEL, (B).

25 Sep Pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch AIR NIUGINI flight to PORT MORESBY. On arrival, connect with AIR NIUGINI flight to WEWAK. Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel. O/n IN WEWAK BOUTIQUE HOTEL. Situated on Wewak Hill overlooking the beautiful Bismarck Sea. Accommodation in room with private bathroom, air conditioning and satellite TV. Facilities at the hotel include resort style pool, Cocoa Cafe & Vanilla Room Restaurants for meals.



26 Sep After Breakfast, depart Wewak by private vehicle to Pagwi. The drive will take you over the Prince Alexander Ranges through to Passam, Kubalia, Yangoru, Hayfield /Maprik, Wosera to reach Pagwi. Most of the road is sealed, there is a one hour of the drive, which is on a dirt road. From Pagwi station you will start Motorised Canoe Safari Trip and travel to Wagu. As you canoe further into the tributary, the majestic Hunstein range approaches rapidly until you reach the foot hill at Wagu village to overnight in the village guest house. Wagu Lake is the gateway to the Hunstein Range Wildlife Management area and WWF tries to preserve the vast Rainforest and its inhabitants. In the evening you will visit a vast lake environment full of herons, cormorants, wild ducks, egrets, kites, jacanas and lots of species of water birds.



O/n WAGU GUEST HOUSE, (BLD). Accommodation is in a basic village hut but has common toilet, cold water shower adjacent to the main accommodation building. For the humid nights, battery operated personal fan may be useful to get cool air.



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27 Sep Early morning visit to the nearby forest to see the Lesser Bird of Paradise. This area is home to many water birds including Herons and Egrets. Next you will head to the Wasukuk area of the Blackwater tributaries. Visit the villages of Meon, Tonginmjam and the continue to Chambri Lake. O/n CHAMBRI GUEST HOUSE (BLD) Accommodation is very basic. Simple hut made out of local material. There is pit toilet outside the hut; no shower, no electricity but light will be provided by the lamp. Mattresses with Mosquito nets are provided. NB: Torch (and spare battery) is a "must" item to bring along.



28 Sep Visit the Chambri Lake villages. Chambri Lake is home of primitive arts such as wooden spirit masks, as well as pottery at Aibom village. Continue down the river to the Middle Sepik and arrive at Kanganamun where you will witness the cassowary Dancing Mask and four spirit dancing mask performances. The village has stood firm against the invasion of Christianity. They still have their Haus Tambarans (Spirit House) and practice their customs including the initiation or scarification on young boys that depict the crocodile as symbol of power and strength. The villages are also famous artists and they make carvings with bird heads.



O/n KANGANAMUN GUEST HOUSE, (BLD). Accommodation is in a basic village hut with mattress and mosquito net. Bucket shower and out-house pit toilet. For the humid nights, battery operated personal fan may be useful to get cool air.



29 Sep After breakfast, depart upstream to Pagwi and end the canoe adventure. Change to road transfer and visit Apangai village in Maprik district to visit a towering cone-shaped Haus Tambaran and enjoy a traditional sing sing. Later, continue by road to Wewak and transfer to the hotel. O/n IN WEWAK BOUTIQUE HOTEL, (BL).

(5).../ THE SEPIK RIVER, MADANG & THE SPECTACULAR GOROKA SHOW

30 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch AIR NIUGINI flight PX141 at 0740 to PORT MORESBY, arriving 0900. Met on arrival and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon excursion to the Adventure Park which has the largest orchid garden in PNG as well as a large Aviary with several species of Birds of Paradise. O/n AIRWAYS HOTEL, B.



The art deco-style hotel was built in 1987 very close to the international airport at Port Moresby. Facilities include restaurant, bar, lounge, outdoor tennis court, swimming pool with separate children's pool, spa, gym, conference centre, 24-hour reception desk, currency exchange and ATM. The comfortable and modern rooms have cable TV, phone, safe, ceiling fan, mini-bar, balcony and air conditioning. Wi-Fi is available at a surcharge. NOTE: It is advisable to keep to the hotel compound, and not to venture into town at any time without an escort.

01 Oct Early morning pick up from the hotel, for transfer to the Varirata National Park. Morning to explore the national park. Visit the Regiana Bird of Paradise site to observe their parades. Then enjoy the view over the valley and spot some other birds such as Papuan frogmouth, Brown headed and Sacred kingfishers, Papuan dwarf-kingfisher, and Growling riflebird. Return to the hotel to check out and then transfer to the airport to catch AIR NIUGINI flight PX392 at 1450 to SINGAPORE, arriving 1930.



Number of Participants: Minimum 4, Maximum 12

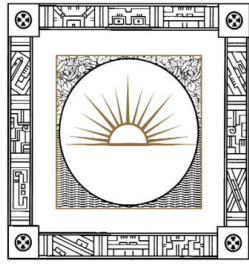
Price: £5,995

Single Supplement: £930

NB: Guest Houses during the Sepik Canoe safari are very basic - no power (sometime generator run lights may be on during meal times), no shower and pit toilet. There are no other accommodation options in the area. Torch with a spare battery is a "must" item to bring. For humid nights, battery operated personal fan is recommended.

To include: All accommodation as described, Air Niugini International and domestic flights from Singapore, transfers, meals, all tours and excursions as stated, site fees, transportation with experienced driver, services of various local guides, Goroka show Tourist Pass, government taxes, service charges.

Excludes: International flights to Singapore meals not described and personal costs such as drinks, laundry, telephone, Visa fees (if applicable), Green Fee.



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IMPORTANT NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ITINERARY

NB: Visas are required for travel. Visa on arrival is currently suspended. You must apply for an e-visa prior to arrival in PNG. Applications via the e-Visa portal cost US\$50. Visas are valid for a period of 30 or 60 days. <https://evisa.ica.gov.pg/evisa/account/Apply?ReturnUrl=%2fevisa%2f>

NB: Guest houses during the Sepik Canoe Safari are very basic, no power (sometimes generator run lights during meal times), no shower and pit toilet, but there is no other accommodation in the area. Torch with spare battery is a must item. A battery operated personal fan is also recommended for the humid nights.

NB: All itineraries are subject to change without notice to take into account possible airline flight schedule changes which can take place before departure date or during the tour, and other operational factors.

NB: Any optional excursions outside of those pre-booked and paid for in the Reef & Rainforest itinerary are undertaken solely at the client's own risk.

NB: The quoted price for the above itinerary is based on current airline fares (both international and domestic), fuel surcharges and flight taxes. These (and other tour costs) may be subject to unanticipated increases beyond our control at short notice, either before or after you have booked the tour, in which case the price would need to be revised accordingly.

NB: This tour involves some travel in remote areas. This adds to the adventure and increases the opportunity to enjoy a true wildlife experience. However, due to terrain, weather, road conditions, and other factors beyond our control, some elements of the tour may have to be altered. Times of some activities may need to be changed or even cancelled due to the conditions. If an activity is cancelled it will usually be replaced with an alternative activity that is more appropriate for the conditions. Advance notice will be given for any changes where possible, although at times changes may need to be made whilst the tour is in progress.

NB: Prices are based on a specific airlines and specific economy seating classes. Flights are booked on an ad hoc basis and so early booking is recommended to take advantage of the cheapest fare availability. Prices may rise if a more expensive seat class needs to be booked. Please call for information on price variations for using alternative airlines or for seat upgrades.

NB: It is a condition of booking that full travel insurance including Emergency Medical Repatriation is taken out by each person travelling. Your insurance cover must also include Missed Departure and/or Missed Flight Connection for both outbound and return flight sectors (such cover might be subject to a small additional premium – please confirm with your insurers). We ask that you send us a photo/fax/electronic copy of your policy document together with the 24hr medical assistance telephone number issued by your insurer.

NB: All inbound foreign passport holders entering PNG will be required to pay the green fee of K50.00 upon departure. It is recommended you pay in cash as payment by credit card will incur an additional K15.00 fee.

NB: Clients must be aware that hotels, lodges and resorts as well as suppliers of tours and excursions used in this itinerary might not comply with European standards of health and safety. For instance, balconies may not be entirely child-safe or may be low in height, so always ensure children are kept away from balconies and do not go near them when intoxicated or unwell; swimming pools may not display depths, so never dive into a pool without checking depth first; vehicles may not always have safety belts fitted - contact our representatives if so, and refuse to travel; public areas might not be well lit, so take extra care and use a torch. Clients must be vigilant and take extra care for their own safety, as they may well be travelling to remote and primitive locations where high quality standards of safety may not be present.

NB: Before and after booking, clients must familiarise themselves with current UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) travel advisories so as to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the destination(s) to be visited in this itinerary. All decisions relating to the tour will be based on UK FCO advisories, and not those of any other countries' governments. In the event of any emergency or other problem encountered in the destination, it is advisable if appropriate to contact the local UK Embassy, High Commission or Consulate for assistance. The FCO in London also has dedicated telephone call centres: Crisis Management Dept - 0207 008 5335 (during UK office hours), and Global Response Centre - 0207 008 1500 (out of UK office hours).

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