

PANORAMA HAGEN SHOW TOUR: 18-31 August 2017

Panorama is a carefully planned 14 day/13 night escorted trip. It begins with the famously vibrant Mount Hagen Cultural Show and continues on to some of Papua New Guinea's most iconic places, the Sepik region, Lake Murray and the Southern Highlands.

The Hagen Show brings together sing-sing groups from across Papua New Guinea. The variety of cultures represented by the groups reflects the diversity of Papua New Guinea's landscape. During your travels after the show, you experience that diversity first hand.

Fly to Lake Murray Lodge, nestled among the trees on an island spit – situated on the largest lake in Papua New Guinea. With a rich population of [birds](#), fish and a unique culture, this is an unforgettable experience. From there fly into the Sepik River region where your wondrous journey continues to Karawari Lodge. Discover river life on the Karawari River and spectacular primitive art as well as an incredible array of parrots and orchids. Transfer to the Sepik Spirit. The Sepik Spirit will primarily journey on the Karawari River, the storied tributary of the Sepik River, and on to the Krosmeri River which allows entry to the mysterious Blackwater Lakes.

Then take a scenic flight from the tropical river lowlands to the temperate Southern Highlands. This is the land of the Hulis and home to thirteen different species of Birds of Paradise. The Hulis are perhaps the most famous of Papua New Guinea's cultural groups. Shake hands with Huli Wigmen and marvel at the rituals involved in growing hair for their elaborately embellished wigs. Meet Huli families who, regardless of the gradual arrival of airstrips, a road and cell phone coverage, live much as they did when they welcomed the very first outsiders.

Return to Port Moresby before heading home to share your photos and marvel at the memories of your trip.

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

- 2 nights – Airways Hotel, Port Moresby
- 2 nights – Rondon Ridge, Mount Hagen
- 2 nights – Lake Murray, Middle Fly (Western Province)
- 1 night – Karawari Lodge, Sepik Region
- 3 nights – Sepik Spirit, Sepik Region
- 3 nights – Ambua Lodge, Southern Highlands

Friday 18 August 2017

Upon arrival at Jackson's International Airport in Port Moresby, you are met by Trans Niugini Tours' staff members who transfer you to the nearby Airways Hotel. There your escort will introduce you to the other travelers in your group and orient you to the journey ahead.

Overnight: AIRWAYS HOTEL (D)



Saturday 19 August 2017



Transfer from the Airways Hotel back to the airport for your flight to Mount Hagen. The town of Mount Hagen is in the upper Wahgi Valley, a fertile area with some of the world's oldest evidence of agriculture. Upon arrival from Port Moresby at Mount Hagen's Kagamuga Airport, you are met and transferred directly to the Mount Hagen Show. Be sure to have plenty of memory in your camera as your two days at the show are exceptionally photogenic.

Later in the afternoon you are driven up a picturesque road past highlands gardens and on to Rondon Ridge. Perched high above Mount Hagen, with mist filled views of the Wahgi Valley below, Rondon Ridge is your accommodation during the Hagen Show.

Overnight: RONDON RIDGE (BLD)



Sunday 20 August 2017

Enjoy your second full day at the Mount Hagen Show.

Overnight: RONDON RIDGE (BLD)

Monday 21 August 2017

Fly by charter from Mount Hagen to Lake Murray. Arrive at Lake Murray you will be transferred to the lodge and have lunch and then proceed on with a half day tour.

Overnight: LAKE MURRAY LODGE (BLD)



Tuesday 22 August 2017

Full Day Tour. **Overnight: LAKE MURRAY LODGE (BLD)**

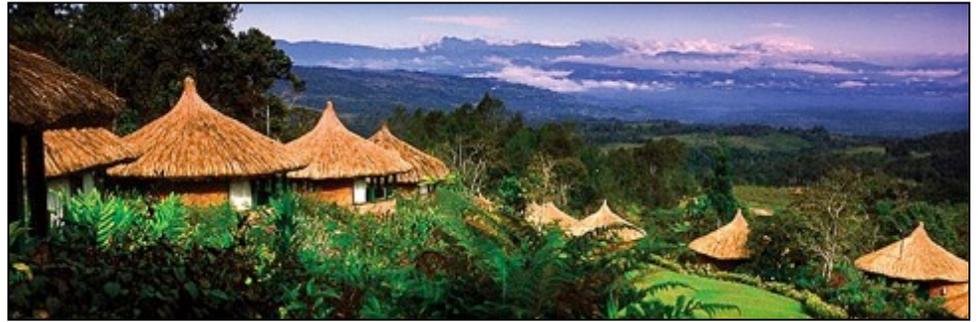
Wednesday 23 August 2017



Wednesday 23 August 2017

Fly by charter from Lake Murray to Karawari. From Karawari airstrip, you will be transferred by river boat and vehicle to

Karawari Lodge. Sitting on a ridge above the Karawari River, Karawari Lodge boasts a spectacular view over hundreds of kilometers of dense tropical jungle. Karawari Lodge was inspired by local architecture and built with traditional materials, while still providing modern comforts.



Proceed with lunch then followed an afternoon visit to Kundiman village for sago making demonstration. Sago is the Staple food for the river people.

Overnight: KARAWARI LODGE (BLD)

Thursday 24 August 2017

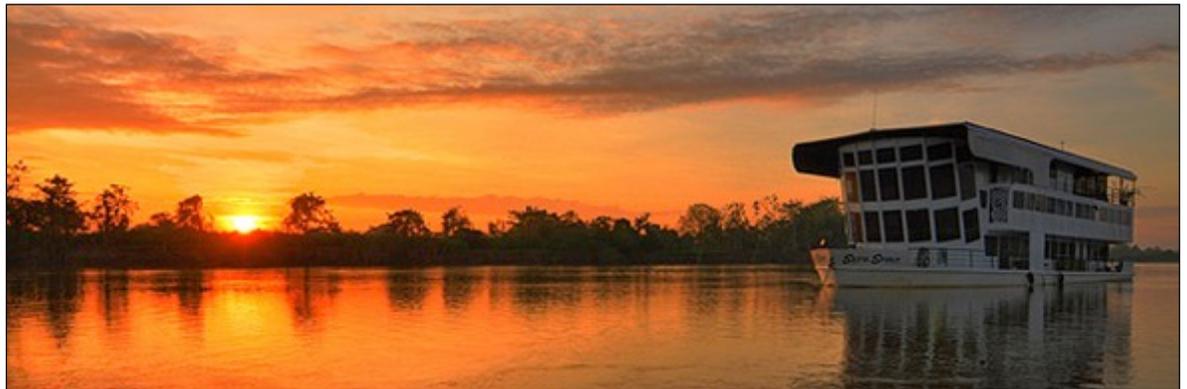
Down the brown swirling waters of the Karawari, past vine and orchid tangled trees, the "river trucks" move towards the Sepik Spirit. The almost absolute silence is broken only by the shrill cry of a disturbed water bird. Sometimes the jungle clad banks, crowd in casting a deep gloom over the "river boat" churning its way down river. At other times the river flows broad and quiet, with little villages incised from the jungle. Sago, betel nut, limbum and other palms compete with breadfruit trees and wild yams for a safe foothold.

Transfer from Karawari to the comfort of the Sepik Spirit. Enjoy lunch on board the Sepik Spirit. Begin your voyage of discovery to local villages. Inspired by the local architecture of the "haus tambaran" or spirit house, the Sepik Spirit has a truly unique design.

Overnight: SEPIK SPIRIT (BLD)

Friday 25 August 2017

After breakfast you will leave the ship for a full day tour and a picnic lunch to the remote Black Water Lakes. While touring you will visit villages where the people are prolific carvers. Here you can purchase many interesting items such as masks, elaborately carved hooks, ancestral figures, hand drums, baskets, bilums and gourds. **Overnight: SEPIK SPIRIT (BLD)**



Saturday 26 August 2017

After breakfast you will visit the village of Mumeri. Enjoy a jet boat ride to meet with the Sepik Spirit at the Krosmeri Junction for lunch. After lunch a tour to the Mindimbit villages. You will meet up again with the Sepik Spirit while cruising back to the Karawari area.

Overnight: SEPIK SPIRIT (BLD)



Sunday 27 August 2017

Enjoy an early breakfast before your transfer to Karawari airstrip for departure. Fly by charter aircraft to Ambua airstrip

- home of the Huli, colourful and proud people, still largely living the same way that their ancestors did. The afternoon is spent exploring the area surrounding Ambua - high mountain forests with roaring waterfalls beckon the intrepid traveller.

Overnight: AMBUA LODGE (BLD)

Monday 28 August 2017

The Ambua area is home to numerous orchid species as well as an incredible 13 species of birds of paradise. You will be offered the opportunity to do some pre-breakfast birding. Enjoy the day of cultural and ecological touring. Travel by vehicle into the Tari Valley. Visit Huli compounds and sacred places. Learn how the Huli live and how they interact with and use their environment.

Overnight: AMBUA LODGE (BLD)

Tuesday 29 August 2017

Today you will again learn more about the fascinating cultures, traditions and beliefs of the Huli people.

Overnight: AMBUA LODGE (BLD)

Wednesday 30 August 2017

You are transferred by vehicle from Ambua Lodge to Tari Airport for your flight to Port Moresby. Upon arrival at Jackson's Airport in Port Moresby, you are met by Trans Niugini Tours' staff and transferred to the Airways Hotel. A half day city tour today will feature only the main sites, i.e. the National Museum, the Parliament House (outside view only) and the Nature Park. If time permits, other sites of interest will be visited.

Overnight: AIRWAYS HOTEL (BLD)

Thursday 31 August 2017

Trans Niugini Tours staff transfers you from the Airways Hotel to Jackson's Airport for your international flight to Manila, Hong Kong, Brisbane or Cairns. **(B)**

End of tour arrangements

NB: This quote has been based on the Westpac Inward Telegraphic Transfer US Dollar rates to Kina of between .35 - .45. Should the exchange rates fall outside of these parameters, we will requote on this itinerary.

LAND COST

\$8,670 per person - Twin Share

\$1,353 per person - Single supplement throughout except twin share on Sepik Spirit & Rondon Ridge

LAND COST INCLUDES

Accommodation, airport transfers and tours on a seat in a bus basis, meals from dinner on Friday 19 August to breakfast on Monday 31 August, services of a professional tour escort throughout, local guides and show gate fees. Also included are gratuities to hotel and restaurant staff, local guides, drivers and porters.

LAND COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Domestic and international flights, visa fees and services of a personal nature such as beverages, laundry charges, phone and internet bills.

CHARTER FLIGHTS

\$2100 per person

THREE CHARTER FLIGHTS ARE REQUIRED:

Monday 21 August 2017 - Mt Hagen to Lake Murray

Wednesday 23 August 2017 - Lake Murray to Karawari



Sunday 27 August 2017

- Karawari to Tari

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING CHARTERS: Maximum baggage allowance per person is one **10kg** bag plus a maximum of **5kg** in a small carry on bag. Large, hard sided suitcases are not permitted on charter aircraft.

DOMESTIC AIR NIUGINI FLIGHTS:

Saturday 19 August 2017 - Air Niugini PX180 Port Moresby to Mt Hagen

Wednesday 30 August 2017 - Air Niugini PX865 Tari to Port Moresby

DOMESTIC AIR NIUGINI FLIGHT COSTS: \$400 subject to availability

TOTAL LAND COSTS AND FLIGHTS

Based on 2 sharing: **\$11,170**

Based on single occupancy: **\$12,523**

BOOKING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES

To secure space, a NON REFUNDABLE deposit of \$500 per person is required. We will confirm your booking only on receipt of your deposit. Full payment is due on 5th June 2017.

POLICY ON EXCHANGE OF SERVICES & SERVICES NOT TAKEN

Please note that Best of PNG is unable to refund any services which appear in the main itinerary, but are not taken. Please also note that Best of PNG is unable to exchange services which are not taken in the main itinerary for other services. Services must be taken on the day that they appear in the main itinerary, and cannot be transferred to a different day.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations received between 6th June 2016 and commencement of the tour will attract a 50% fee of the total land and air charter costs. No refund is available after scheduled arrival in Papua New Guinea or in respect of any tour, accommodation, meals or any other service not utilized during the tour. Any additional costs incurred because of changes made during the itinerary by clients, will be to the client's account.

CLIENT INFORMATION

Upon receipt of deposits, you will be sent a confirmation packet and Client Information Booklet. We cannot stress enough the importance of reading this information prior to your arrival in Papua New Guinea. The Client Information Booklet has been specifically designed to give you vital information about strict luggage weight limits on the small aircraft used throughout the tours, possible delays in aircraft movements, standards of accommodation, etc. - Information in advance may help you to adjust to situations better as they occur.

INSURANCE

Travel insurance is mandatory. We advise that you take out travel insurance to cover you in the event of inability to commence travel due to health reasons and medical insurance whilst abroad. Check out World Nomad policies here <http://www.indigosafaris.com/pages/travel-insurance.php>

VISAS

Visas on arrival are available at Port Moresby airport for passport holders from the EU, North America and some other nationalities. Contact us for the full list The Visa fee of 100 PGK has been waived as of October 2013. Other nationalities must apply for their visa in advance.

MAI ARIA

Malaria is transmitted by a night biting mosquito. Insect avoidance measures should be followed throughout the trip. Medication for the prevention of malaria is crucial for the Papua New Guinea. Which drug is recommended depends on individual circumstances & needs to be discussed with an experienced travel physician. It is also vital to continue with the medication for the recommended interval on return to Australia. Upon return, any flu like illnesses should be investigated by a travel health specialist.

<http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations/australasia--pacific/papua-new-guinea/papua-new-guinea-malaria-map.aspx>

Major plasmodium species: P. falciparum (89%), P. vivax (11%)

Major anopheles species: An. punctulatus, farauti, koliensis

COMMUNICATIONS:

Digicel has decent coverage and a shop at the airport in the arrivals area. You can get a local SIM card and buy airtime. Airtime can be converted to data packages quite cheaply for smartphones and iphones.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Bartlett', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Christopher Bartlett