

Trekking Adventures Papua New Guinea



ABOUT PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea occupies the eastern half of the rugged tropical island of New Guinea (which it shares with the Indonesian territory of Irian Jaya) as well as numerous smaller islands and atolls in the Pacific. The central part of the island rises into a wide ridge of mountains known as the Highlands, a territory that is so densely forested and topographically forbidding that the island's local people remained isolated from each other for millennia. The coastline is liberally endowed with spectacular coral reefs, giving the country an international reputation for scuba diving. The smaller island groups of Papua New Guinea include the Bismarck Archipelago, New Britain, New Ireland and the North Solomon's. Some of these islands are volcanic, with dramatic mountain ranges, and all are relatively undeveloped.

Nearly 85 percent of the main island is carpeted with tropical rain forest, containing vegetation that has its origins from Asia and Australia. The country is also home to an impressive variety of exotic birds, including virtually all of the known species of Bird's of Paradise, and it is blessed with more kinds of orchids than any other country.

For centuries, the South Pacific has been luring the traveller who searched for excitement, beauty and tranquillity. The exploits of sailors to the South Pacific have been told and re-told, but in telling, there is one large country which is not mentioned, Papua New Guinea.

This huge equatorial island provides a smorgasbord of wonderful things to see and do. The rich wealth of flora and fauna will thrill the nature lover, the strong and vibrant culture which dominates everyday life in Papua New Guinea will fascinate the most seasoned traveller, while the natural warmth and friendliness of the people will capture your heart.

Papua New Guinea's climate is tropical, as one would expect in a country located just south of the Equator. December to March is the wet season, although occasional rain falls year-round. While Port Moresby, the capital, and other towns on the coast are quite hot in the summer months, temperatures are considerably cooler in the Highlands. July, August, and September are the best months for trekking vacations.

"discover now, remember forever"

KOKODA TRACK

We invite you to walk with us along this most beautiful track. Let us share with you the emotional stories of our brave young diggers. Get to meet all our kind, generous Papua New Guinean friends who live along the track and have an adventure of a life time.

More than 600 Australians were killed and some 1680 wounded during perhaps the most significant battle fought by Australians in World War II. Forced to repel a Japanese invasion force, which landed at Gona on the north coast of Papua on 21 July 1942, the Australians fought in appalling conditions over the next four months. The Japanese objective was to capture Port Moresby, the main Australian base in New Guinea, by an overland strike across the Owen Stanley Range. The most direct way across these rugged mountains was by a jungle pathway known as the Kokoda Track. During the next four months, until 16 November 1942, Australian soldiers fought the Japanese, first to keep them from reaching Port Moresby and then to push them back over the Owen Stanley's to their north coast strongholds at Buna, Gona and Sanananda.

The Kokoda Track is by far the most popular trek in Papua New Guinea and takes between 6-9 days to complete. It is a physical and mental challenge, the difficulty of the track should not be underestimated. The long days include river crossings, steep and gradual ascents and descents. Most of the 96 kilometre trek is through rain forest. Usually conditions are wet and slippery as rain can be expected on most days. Temperatures range from 24-30 degrees Celsius during the day and 16-24 degrees Celsius at night.



The Kokoda Track Foundation
GOLD TREK OPERATOR PARTNER



Photo: Greg Newington, <http://www.newingtonphotography.com>

Kokoda Track

Ten Day Battlefield Tour

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This track was made famous during WWII and still bears the scars of a fierce campaign. For those of you who had loved ones fighting in PNG during WWII, this walk can be a very spiritual and emotional experience. Trekking in mud up to your knees and tricky river crossings indicates exactly the conditions under which our diggers fought.

Our guides are extremely knowledgeable about the WWII history across the track. They have all spent time exploring battlefields and found interesting side trips for our trekkers to see ammunition pit, war artefacts and areas where the Japanese and Australians dug in to fight.

Trekkers need not have an Australian connection with the track. It is the most beautiful walk, the scenery is stunning, we get to camp out and integrate with our PNG boys working for us. There is a lot of singing and telling of stories around camp fires in the evenings.

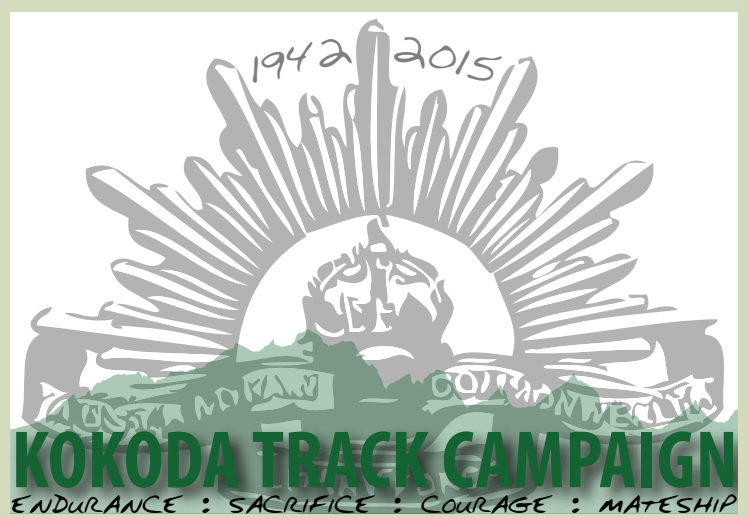
When we stay in villages your guide will take you for a walk around the village so you get to meet all our friends. They will talk to you about the PNG culture and maybe organize a village sing a long that evening. The local people who live along the track are Koiaris. They are warm, friendly and generous people who welcome trekkers onto their land. This is the complete learning experience.

You learn about the WWII History, the culture, the people, the flora and fauna and will walk away from our country a better person for having this experience. Although ideally suited to walkers who are of reasonable fitness, training for this trek is necessary. Please try and be as fit as you possibly can. Remember the fitter you are the more enjoyable the trek will be. The best time to do the track is between the end of April and the beginning of November.

Treks starting from (ex-Port Moresby):

A\$3895

See page 5 for inclusions & exclusions.



Itinerary

Day 1 - Port Moresby

On arrival at Port Moresby International Airport the group will be met by PNG Trekking Adventures representatives and transferred to their hotel. After checking in there will be a gear check followed by a briefing of what is going to happen over the next 8 days.

Accommodation: Hotel

Day 2 – Kokoda to Isurava Village

We fly from Port Moresby on a Private Charter. It is a 35 minute flight to Kokoda and upon arrival we walk from the airstrip to Kokoda Station to see the War Museum and other memorials. We start our trek here, walking approximately 2 hours arriving at Hoi Village. It is here that the reality hits you that the Kokoda Track will not be easy. It is a very steep ascent out of Hoi; however, do not throw in the towel yet. Take it easy, we are walking in the heat of the day today. It will take around 1 hour to walk up to the Deniki Camp Site where we will have lunch. Our boys will have gone ahead to boil the billy. Deniki was an Australian Camp Head Quarters during the battle of Kokoda. It takes another 3 – 3.5 hours walking up hill before we arrive at Isurava Village. Depending on what time we are able to fly into Kokoda we may not get here until late afternoon, anywhere between 4 & 6pm, following approximately 6-7 hours walking time.

Highlights: Kokoda Museum, Rubber Plantations, Hoi & Deniki.

Accommodation: Traditional Village.

Meals: BLD



Day 3 – Isurava Village to Eora Creek

As to get into a pattern, we set off early this morning. Normally waking at 5 and walking by 6:30. We head for the next village of Alola, and then on to Eora Creek. On the way we will stop and visit the Isurava Memorial, which Australian Prime Minister John Howard visited in August 2002 to open the magnificent war memorial. This was the site of the most significant World War II battle on Kokoda and now one of the most sacred sites along the trail. Enjoy panoramic views of the Kokoda and Yodda valleys. On the way to Alola Village we will also pass Surgeons (Cons) Rock. This is a very emotional spot. We will also climb up onto Eora ridge to look at Japanese ammunition pits just prior to arriving at Eora Creek. This was where the Japanese dug in for their last battle along the track before retreating to Buna and Gona. We continue along the ridges into Eora Creek which is our camp for the night. Today is approximately 5-6 hours walking time.

Highlights: Isurava Memorial & Battlefield, Alola and Eora Creek.

Accommodation: Bush Camp.

Meals: BLD

Day 4 – Eora Creek to Digger Camp

We have one of the more difficult ascents out of Eora Creek today before descending down to Templeton's 2. From here it's another up and down again into Templeton's 1. Finally it's another big climb up onto Mount Bellamy, the highest point of the Kokoda Trail. Diverting off the ridge and walk into Myola look out. This is where the biscuit bombers dropped supplies to the Australians. A most beautiful walk and well worth the effort. From here it's another 45 minutes to our overnight camp site along the way visiting where the American plane (B13) crashed. There are only spare parts scattered around and a couple of large bombs to be seen now, however it still well worth a visit. Today is approximately 9.5 hours walking time.

Highlights: Templeton's 2, Moss Forrest, Mt Bellamy, Myola Lookout & Crashed Bomber.

Accommodation: Traditional Village.

Meals: BLD

Day 5 – Digger Camp to Efogi Village

It is a most beautiful walk this morning through the moss and pandanas forest. We normally arrive at Naduri Village around 10 am. We do not go through Kagi. From Naduri Village it is a very steep descent and ascent into Launumu Village. Stopping here only

for a break before descending on down a gentle hill to Efogi, where we are booked into what is one the nicest guest house along the track. This is owned by our very good friend Lendy. We pick up our food for the second half of our trek here. Later this afternoon trekkers can take a leisurely walk around the village, maybe play games with some of the village children and chat to the Mums and Dads about their lives. Today is approximately 6 hours walking time.

Highlights: Pandanas Forrest, Naduri & Efogi Village.

Accommodation: Traditional Village.

Meals: BLD

Day 6 – Efogi Village to Agulogo Camp Site

It's another climb this morning onto Mission Ridge before Brigade Hill, which together with Isurava is one of the most sacred sites of the Kokoda Trail. We stop here to pay homage to the diggers that lost their lives. We then have long descent down into Menari Village. We should be at Menari River just before lunch. After lunch it's again straight up "the wall", we are rewarded from the summit with fine views of Menari. We then descend down to 720 meters to our camp site tonight. This is another lovely spot with a river running through it for trekkers to swim in. Approximately 7 hours walking time.

Highlights: Mission Ridge, Brigade Hill, Menari Village & The Wall.

Accommodation: Bush Camp. **Meals:** BLD

Day 7 – Agulogo Camp Site to Ioribaiwa Village

With an early start again we arrive at the Brown River, cross and then walk for another hour un-



til we start climbing the 9 false peaks. At the 7th false peak we arrive at Naoro Village. It's another 2 false peaks to go before we start walking across the Maguli Range. This is a long hard walk with muddy false peaks all the way. We then descend to Ofi Creek for a well deserved break, this descent is long and hard, most of us suffer from laughing legs at the end. We have lunch beside this delightful river. It's then a cracker of a climb out up onto Ioribaiwa Ridge, where the Japanese were turned back. From here it's a gentle 45 minute trek down to tonight's camp site after approximately 8 hours walking time.

Highlights: Brown River and Swamp, Naoro Village.

Accommodation: Traditional Village.

Meals: BLD

Day 8 – Ioribaiwa Village to Goldie River

This morning we descend down to Ua-Ule Creek which we will cross approximately 15 times. After all these river crossings there is the last hard grind of the day up onto Imita Ridge, we then descend what was during the war the 'Golden Stairs' to Goldie River which is our camp site tonight. This is a lovely wide soft flowing river to swim in. Today is approximately 7 hours walking time.

Highlights: Japanese Ladder, Ofi Creek, Ioribaiwa Ridge & Imita Ridge Golden Staircase.

Accommodations: Bush Camp. **Meals:** BLD

Day 9 – Goldie River to Port Moresby, (via Owers Corner & Bomona War Cemetery)

We all walk the last 45 minutes up to Owers Corner as a group. Before crossing under the arches at the end



hold hands and walk under them together. This is a very emotional moment. We are met by our transport with a much appreciated hamper of cold drinks and salad rolls. On our way back to Port Moresby we will visit Bomona War Cemetery.

Highlights: Owers' Corner & Bomona War Cemetery

Accommodation: Hotel. **Meals:** BL

Congratulations, you have just completed one of the world's toughest treks and have climbed nearly 5,500 metres (18,000 ft) and descended almost the same figure. An amazing experience that you will never forget.

Day 10 – Depart Port Moresby

Today the group will be transferred to the International Airport to commence their journey home.

Tour Inclusions

- 2 nights' Crowne Plaza accommodation Port Moresby either side of the trek (twin share bases)
- Port Moresby airport transfers
- Private Charter Flight to Kokoda
- Services of a WWII Historian Australian Tour Leader
- Visit WWII sites along the track
- PNG Guide & Trek Leader
- Visit to Bomona War Cemetery
- Cultural and environmental aspects of the Track
- PNG Carriers food and equipment
- PNG Carriers accommodation, food and repatriation home
- Risk Management and responsible ecological practices on the track
- 7 nights' accommodation and all meals on the Track
- Road transfers from Owers Corner to Port Moresby
- Detailed training notes and program
- Tents (each trekker gets a two person tent)
- Kokoda Track Authority Trek Permit
- Polo Shirt and Kokoda Certificate
- Public Liability Insurance
- Licensed PNG Tour Operator
- Satellite Phones & Radios
- Medivac Procedures

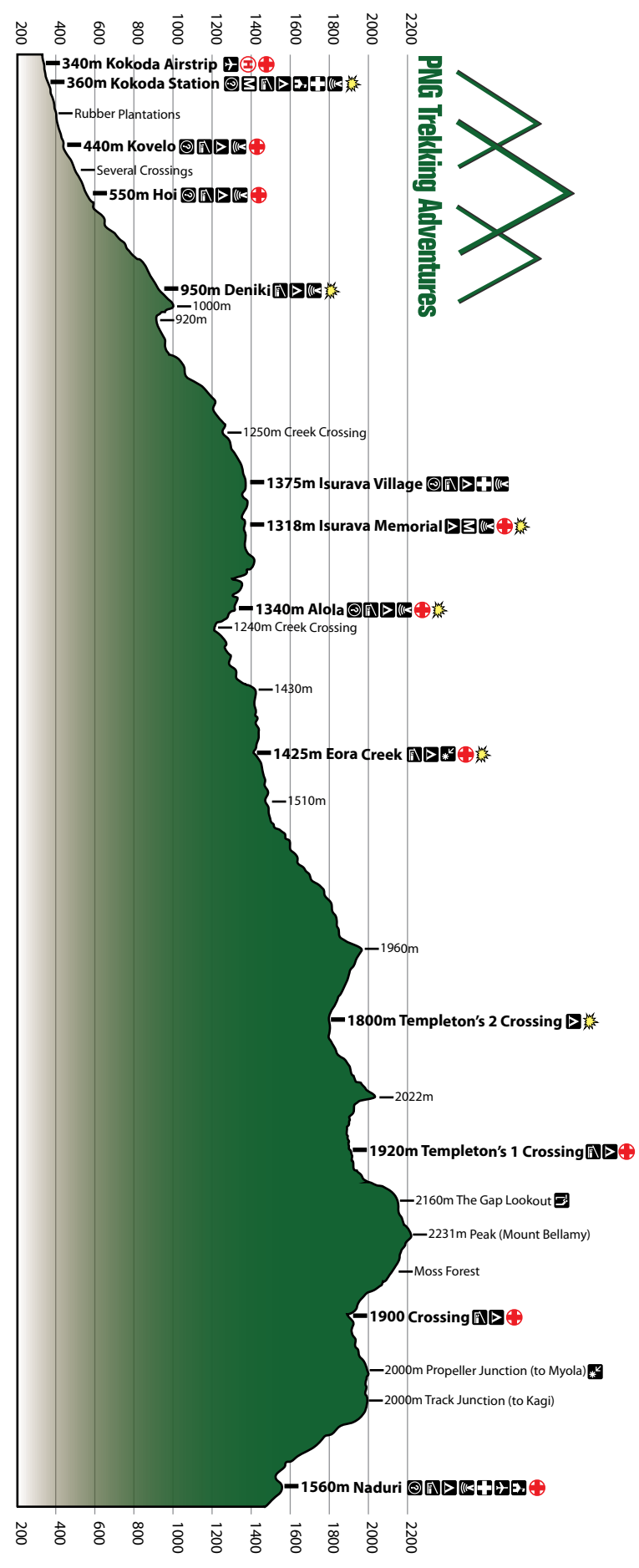
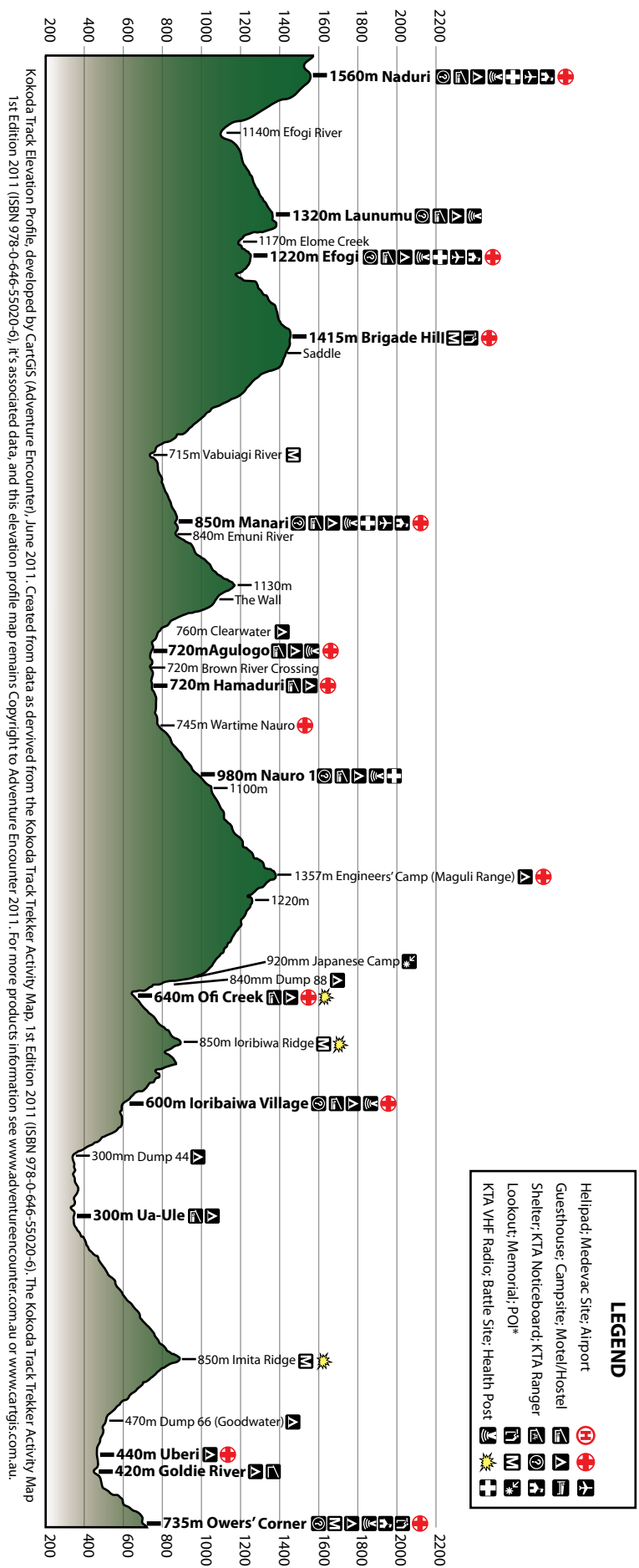
Tour Exclusions

- The cost of a personal porter is A\$790.00 which covers the porter's wages, food, airfare and road transport.
- International Airfares
- Passport & Visa Costs
- Travel Insurance
- Vaccinations and anti-malaria medicines
- Beverages & anything of a personal nature at hotel in Port Moresby

**Accommodation Single Supplement A\$195.00*



KOKODA



LEGEND

- Helipad; Medevac Site; Airstport
- Guesthouse; Campsite; Motel/Hostel
- Shelter; KTA Noticeboard; KTA Ranger
- Lookout; Memorial; POI*
- KTA VHF Radio; Battle Site; Health Post