



Reef and Rainforest Tours



Goroka Classic Show Tour Papua New Guinea

Group Tour - Led by Local Guides

03 – 19 Septemeber 2012



PNG Goroka Classic Show Group Tour

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

This Classic tour begins in Mount Hagen, spending a night at the resplendent Rondon Ridge in a valley that was unknown to the outside world until 70 years ago. From Mount Hagen your journey takes you into the Sepik Region to explore the waterways of the Sepik River and its tributaries. Next, visit Karawari Lodge, perched on a ridge overlooking the Karawari River. From Karawari, fly to Tari Valley home of the flamboyant Huli, a colourful and proud people still largely living as their ancestors did. Finally, fly to Goroka to attend the two days famous Goroka Cultural Show.

- 03 Sep Depart LONDON HEATHROW.
- 04 Sep Arrive SINGAPORE and connect with your flight to PORT MORESBY.
- 05 Sep Arrive PORT MORESBY. Met on arrival and meet with group. Transfer to the hotel. O/n GATEWAY HOTEL, (D).
- 06 Sep Fly to MOUNT HAGEN. Afternoon birding on the trails around the lodge, O/n RONDON RIDGE, (BLD)
- 07 Sep Charter flight to the SPEIK AREA. Transfer to the MV Sepik Spirit. O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD).
- 08-09 Sep Two full days spent exploring the waterways of the Sepik. O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD).
- 10 Sep Transfer by river boat to KARAWARI. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, (BLD).
- 11 Sep Charter flight to TARI AIRSTRIP. Tfr to the lodge. Afternoon exploring the area surrounding Ambua. O/n AMBUA LODGE, (BLD).
- 12-13 Sep A day of ecological and culturally based touring. O/n AMBUA LODGE, (BLD).
- 14 Sep Charter flight to GOROKA. Transfer to the hotel. O/n BIRD OF PARADISE HOTEL, (BLD).
- 15-16 Sep Two full day spent at the GOROKA Show. O/n BIRD OF PARADISE HOTEL, (BLD).
- 17 Sep Fly to PORT MORESBY. Transfer to the hotel. Afternoon city tour of Port Moresby. O/n GATEWAY HOTEL (BLD).
- 18 Sep Fly to SINGAPORE. Connect with your flight back to LONDON HEATHROW.
- 19 Sep Arrive LONDON HEATHROW.



GOROKA CLASSIC SHOW TOUR PAPUA NEW GUINEA GROUP TOUR 2012 DETAILED ITINERARY

- 03 Sep Depart LONDON HEATHROW.
- 04 Sep Arrive SINGAPORE and connect with your flight to PORT MORESBY.
- 05 Sep Arrive PORT MORESBY. Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Meet with the rest of the group. . Rest of the day at leisure to recover from the journey and make use of the hotel facilities. O/n GATEWAY HOTEL, D. The hotel is close to the airport, and provides comfortable accommodation. Facilities at the hotel include a bar, restaurant and swimming pool. NOTE: It is advisable to keep to the hotel compound, and not to venture into town at any time without an escort.
- 06 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch domestic flight to MOUNT HAGEN. Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the lodge. Afternoon birding and nature tour along the trails surrounding the lodge. O/n RONDON RIDGE, (BLD). RONDON RIDGE is located at 7100 feet on Kum Mountain. This location promises the visitor eternal spring weather and magnificent views of the Hagen Range, Mount Giluwe, the Sepik Divide, the Baiyer Gap and the Wahgi Valley.

Over 200 species of birds have been spotted in the forest surrounding the lodge, including 13 species of birds of paradise. Guests are accommodated in 12 units, each unit featuring 180 degree views, modern bathroom, electric blankets and continental quilts for the cool highland evenings. (contd../) The Lodge features a main building housing the lounge, bar, dining room, conference centre and a cozy fire place.



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- 07 Sep Morning pick up from the lodge and transfer to the airport. Catch charter flight to the SEPIK AREA. Transfer by river boat to the air-conditioned comfort of the MV Sepik Spirit. Inspired by the architecture of the "haus tambaran" or spirit house, the MV Sepik Spirit has a truly unique design. With its shallow draught, it allows travel to rarely visited areas of the Sepik River and its tributaries in comfort.



O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD). The boat, built in 1989, is designed for cruising the mighty Sepik River, with full air-conditioning, dining room, lounge, bar and observation deck. The SEPIK RIVER is lined with villages whose arts and crafts are very impressive. It is

likely the boat will cruise the seldom-visited BLACKWATER LAKES area during your stay.

- 08-09 Sep Two full days are spent exploring the many waterways of the Sepik and its tributaries including visits to traditional Sepik Villages. The Sepik River is one of the largest rivers in the world - in terms of flow. Steeped in mystery, the people of the Sepik area have fascinated anthropologists like Margaret Mead since the area was first visited. Part



of the mystery and attraction of the Sepik peoples is their amazing carvings, now famous the world over. O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD).

- 10 Sep Transfer by river boat to KARAWARI. This is an area of vast alluvial floodplains, laced with narrow waterways. The Karawari are the most remote of the floodplains people. Afternoon visit to KUNDIMAN VILLAGE for various demonstrations including basket weaving, for catching fish and preparing and cooking of their staple food from the sago palm. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, (BLD).

Perched upon an isolated ridge in the midst of huge expanses of lowland rainforest in one of the most remote areas of the island, the lodge has comfortable cottages built of bush materials and is only accessible by boat along the Karawari River 300 ft below. The main lodge building is in the shape of a *haus tambaran*, or spirit house, of the local Arambak people.



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11 Sep

Transfer to the airstrip and catch charter flight to TARI. Met on arrival in TARI and transfer to Ambua lodge. Ambua Lodge is high on the slopes of the Tari Valley - home of the Huli, a 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. O/n AMBUA LODGE, (BLD).



Set at 7000 ft in the Southern Highlands, the lodge is an inspired example of environmentally sensitive building, gaining it the 1991 Pacific Asia Travel Association Heritage Award. Guests are accommodated in 40 detached cabins built in highlands tradition. The main building contains the lounge, bar, dining room and a central fireplace (it can get cool at night – take light warm clothing). There is a small hydro-electric unit for the lodge's electricity needs.



Visits to the renowned TARI GAP could reveal up to 10 species of birds of paradise alone, and the villages are inhabited by Huli Wigmen with their flamboyant costumes and dances.

12-13 Sep

A day of ecological and culturally based touring sure to satiate those yearning for discovery. The Tari area is home to an incredible 13 species of birds of paradise, as well as numerous orchid species. Learn how the Huli live and how they interact with and use their environment. O/n AMBUA LODGE, (BLD).

14 Sep

Transfer to the airstrip and catch charter flight to GOROKA, home of the famous and intriguing Asaro mudmen. Met on arrival and transfer to the hotel. O/n BIRD OF PARADISE HOTEL, (BLD) The hotel is part of the Coral Seas hotel chain and offers comfortable accommodation in en-suite rooms with air conditioning and satellite tv. Facilities at the hotel include a swimming pool, fitness center, restaurant and bar.



15 Sep

Full day at the Goroka show. Goroka Show is held in Eastern Highlands Province of PNG is held every September. It is a marvelous opportunity to gain an overview of PNG cultural diversity. (Contd.../)

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(Contd.../) The shows were first held in the 50's as a means of gathering together the different tribes and clans. At times there could be more than 40,000 painted warriors dancing to the beat of the Kundu drums. The scenario was an amazing success and grew from its original concept of a local get-together into a major tourist attraction.

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 BIRD OF PARADISE HOTEL, (BLD).



16 Sep Another full day at the Goroka show. O/n BIRD OF PARADISE HOTEL, (BLD).

17 Sep Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch AIR NIUGINI flight to PORT MORESBY. Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon pick up from the hotel for a tour of Port Moresby and the surrounding area. The tour will include visits to the National Museum, Botanical Gardens, and National Parliament House. (picnic lunch included. Return to the hotel. O/n GATEWAYS HOTEL, (BLD).



18 Sep Pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch flight to SINGAPORE. Arrive SINGAPORE and connect with your flight back to LONDON HEATHROW.

19 Sep Arrive LONDON HEATHROW.

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THE GOROKA CLASSIC SHOW TOUR - PAPUA NEW GUINEA GROUP TOUR 2012

<i>Departure Dates from London</i>	<i>Adult Price</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
03 September 2012	£7,298	£645

NB: Single Supplement is Single room throughout EXCEPT at the Bird of Paradise Hotel and on board the Sepik Spirit, which are on twin share basis.

Please call 01803 866965 if you have any queries, would like to secure your place on the tour, and/or if you would like to extend the tour to include other locations.



IMPORTANT NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ITINERARY

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: 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: Adequate insurance cover is mandatory. Please supply us with details of your cover.

NB: All international flights should be re-confirmed at least 72 hours before departure.

NB: All domestic flights should be re-confirmed at least 36 hours before departure. During the main tour, our representatives will provide this service. During extensions you should make the re-confirmations – your hotel should be happy to provide the service if requested.

NB: Visas are required to be arranged before departure. Please contact the PNG High Commission.

NB: Baggage Restrictions – The aircraft used for transfers between lodges are small (5-8 seats only) with limited weight / space for luggage. Clients must restrict their luggage to 10 kgs plus a small carry-on hand or camera bag. The airlines are strict and will off-load excess weight. With only three flights per week between our lodges, this can mean no personal effects for several days.

NB: There is an international airport departure tax payable - please check with our representatives for the current rate, currently around K60 pp. Please ensure you retain sufficient cash to pay.



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