



# Reef and Rainforest Tours



## **Highlights of Papua New Guinea with the Mt Hagen Show**

Group Tour - Led by Local Guides

31 July – 15 August 2012



## **Highlights of Papua New Guinea with the Mt Hagen Show - Group Tour 2012**

### **ITINERARY IN BRIEF**

This exciting itinerary, escorted by local leaders, includes a visit to the famous Mount Hagen Show. This festival brings together performing 'sing sing' groups from all over the country in an amazing conglomeration of colour, beauty and culture. Explore Papua New Guinea's most culturally fascinating areas, staying at the country's premier remote lodges. A visit to the Karawari River and the Tari Valley showcase two amazingly different parts of Papua New Guinea.

- 31 Jul Depart LONDON HEATHROW.
- 02 Aug Arrive SINGAPORE and connect with your flight to PORT MORESBY.
- 02 Aug Arrive in PORT MORESBY. Meet with group and transfer to the hotel. O/n GATEWAY HOTEL, D.
- 03 Aug Fly to MOUNT HAGEN. Afternoon birding and nature tour. O/n RONDON RIDGE, BLD.
- 04 Aug Transfer the airport. Fly by charter plane to KARAWARI. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, BLD.
- 05 – 06 Aug Two full days of ecological and cultural touring programs. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, BLD.
- 07 Aug Fly by charter to AMBUA airstrip. Afternoon exploration of the area surrounding Ambua. O/n AMBUA LODGE, BLD.
- 08 – 09 Aug Two full days of ecological and culturally based touring. O/n AMBUA LODGE, BLD.
- 10 Aug Fly by charter to MOUNT HAGEN. Afternoon pre-show program. O/n AIRPORT RESORT, BLD.
- 11-12 Aug Two full days at the Mount Hagen Show. O/n AIRPORT RESORT, BLD.
- 13 Aug Fly to PORT MORESBY. Tfr to the hotel. Afternoon at leisure. O/n GATEWAY HOTEL, BLD.
- 14 Aug Tfr to the airport. Catch flight to SINGAPORE. On arrival in SINGAPORE connect with your flight to LONDON HEATHROW.
- 15 Aug Arrive LONDON HEATHROW.

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## **HIGHLIGHTS OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA WITH THE MOUNT HAGEN SHOW, GROUP 2012 DETAILED ITINERARY**

- 31 Jul Depart LONDON HEATHROW.
- 01 Aug Arrive SINGAPORE and connect with your flight to PORT MORESBY.
- 02 Aug Arrive in 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.
- 03 Aug Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch Air Niugini flight to MOUNT HAGEN. Mount Hagen Town is in the upper Wahgi Valley - a valley with some of the oldest evidence of agriculture in the world. Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the lodge. Afternoon birding tour on the trails surrounding the lodge. O/n RONDON RIDGE, FB. 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.



Guests are accommodated in 12 units, each unit featuring 180-degree views, modern bathroom, electric blankets and continental quilts for the cool highland evenings. The Lodge features a main building housing the lounge, bar, dining room, conference centre and a cosy fireplace.

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04 Aug Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch charter plane from Mount Hagen to KARAWARI, the mountains start to give way until eventually vast tracts of dense tropical lowland rainforest cover the landscape for as far as the eye can see. Sitting on a ridge above the Karawari River, Karawari Lodge boasts a spectacular view over hundreds of kilometres of dense tropical jungle. Inspired by local architecture and built with traditional materials, the lodge provides modern comforts. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, BLD.



05-06 Aug Wake up to the chattering of Lorikeets and Eclectus Parrots. After breakfast enjoy touring programs that provide insight into the amazing ecology and culture of the Karawari area. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, BLD.

07 Aug Fly by charter aircraft to AMBUA airstrip over some of the most rugged and impressive landscapes in the world. The country between Ambua and the Sepik region is an amazing array of jagged limestone that seems to rise and drop at impossible angles. 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. (Contd.../)

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(Contd.../) 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.

08-09 Aug Two full days of ecological and culturally based touring are 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.

10Aug Fly by charter aircraft to MOUNT HAGEN. Mount Hagen Town is in the upper Wahgi Valley - a valley with some of the oldest evidence of agriculture in the world. In preparation for the Mount Hagen Cultural Show, there will be a pre-show program in the afternoon. Perhaps the most famous cultural show in Papua New Guinea, the Mount Hagen Show brings together sing sing groups from all over the country in an amazing conglomeration of colour, beauty and culture.

O/n AIRPORT RESORT, BLD. A new hotel, close to the airport and very convenient for the show ground. Accommodation in simple and clean spacious rooms with private bathroom.

11-12 Aug Two full days are spent at the Mount Hagen Show - world famous for its colour, culture and vibrance. It is a truly spectacular event. The diversity of the coastal, lowland and highlands singing groups at the Hagen show reflects the incredible diversity of Papua New Guinea's landscape - an unforgettable experience. O/n AIRPORT RESORT, BLD.



13 Aug Pick up from the hotel and transfer to Mount Hagen Airport for your flight to PORT MORESBY. Met on arrival and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon at leisure. O/n GATEWAY HOTEL, BLD.

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14 Aug After breakfast, pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch your flight to SINGAPORE. On arrival, connect with your flight to LONDON HEATHROW.

15 Aug Arrive LONDON HEATHROW.

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA WITH THE MT HAGEN SHOW GROUP 2012**

<i>Departure Dates from London</i>	<i>Adult Price</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
31 July 2012	£6,728	£625

NB: Single supplement is based on single room throughout, except at Airport Resort.

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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## **Reef and Rainforest Tours Ltd.**

A7 Dart Marine Park, Steamer Quay, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5AL, UK

Tel: ++ 44 (0)1803 866965 Fax: ++ 44 (0)1803 865916

Websites: [www.reefandrainforest.co.uk](http://www.reefandrainforest.co.uk) [www.familytours.co.uk](http://www.familytours.co.uk)

E-mail: [mail@reefandrainforest.co.uk](mailto:mail@reefandrainforest.co.uk)

