



Reef & Rainforest



Vista Mount Hagen Show Tour of Papua New Guinea

Group Tour - Led by Local Guide

05 - 17 August 2020



Vista Mount Hagen Show Tour of Papua New Guinea - Group Tour 2020

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

This is a fully escorted 13 day /12 night program that provides a stunning visit of Papua New Guinea. The journey begins with the stunning vista of Karawari Lodge overlooking the Karawari River. Then transfer to the Sepik Spirit for a special cruise on the Karawari River to the Blackwater Lakes, the perfect way to discover a rarely visited corner of the globe. After the cruise, fly to Lake Murray, which is located in the Western Province. From there, fly into the Western Highlands to feature the highlights of a flamboyant and colourful people at the spectacular Mt Hagen Cultural show, providing an incredible vista of cultures from all over Papua New Guinea. In a land of nearly 800 languages, there is no better place to see so many gathered in one place.

- 05 Aug Depart SINGAPORE on AIR NIUGINI flight to PORT MORESBY.
- 06 Aug Arrive in PORT MORESBY. Meet with group and transfer to the hotel. O/n AIRWAYS HOTEL,(D).
- 07 Aug Fly by charter flight to Karawari and transfer to the lodge. Afternoon visit to Kundiman Village for Sago Making demonstration. O/n KARAWARI LODGE, (BLD).
- 08 Aug Tfr to the MV Sepik Spirit. Afternoon tour. O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD).
- 09 - 10 Aug Day's spent exploring the waterways of the Sepik. O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD).
- 11 Aug Fly by charter flight to Lake Murray. Tfr to the lodge. Afternoon exploring the area surrounding the lodge ad visit a local village. O/n LAKE MURRAY LODGE, (BLD).
- 12-13 Aug Two Full days of ecological and culturally based touring. O/n LAKE MURRAY LODGE, (BLD).
- 14 Aug Fly by charter flight MOUNT HAGEN. Met and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon pre-show program. O/n HIGHLANDER HOTEL,(BLD).
- 15-16 Aug Enjoy two full days at the Mount Hagen Show. O/n HIGHLANDER HOTEL, (BLD).
- 17 Aug Fly to PORT MORESBY. Met and assisted with connection to AIR NIUGINI flight to SINGAPORE.



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VISTA MOUNT HAGEN SHOW TOUR OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, GROUP 2020 DETAILED ITINERARY

05 Aug Depart SINGAPORE on AIR NIUGINI flight to PORT MORESBY.

06 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 AIRWAYS HOTEL,(D). The hotel is very near the airport, and provides good facilities, including an open air bar and restaurant. NOTE: It is advisable to keep to the hotel compound, and not to venture into town at any time without an escort.

07 Aug Morning pick up from the lodge and transfer to the airport. Catch charter flight 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 excursion along the jungle-fringed waterways of the Karawari River where boatmen, standing upright, paddle their slender dugout canoes with sculpted silhouettes of crocodile masks. Village life including carved totems, drums, woodcarvings and different expressions of art are also experienced. See bountiful birdlife along the rivers and nearby lakes.



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 300ft below. The main lodge building is in the shape of a *haus tambaran*, or spirit house, of the local Arambak people.

(2).../ VISTA MOUNT HAGEN SHOW GROUP TOUR, AUGUST 2020



08 Aug

Morning pick up from the lodge and transfer by boat to the air-conditioned comfort of the MV Sepik Spirit. The floating lodge is based in the village Kaminimbit. Inspired by the architecture of the "haus tambaran" or spirit house, the MV Sepik Spirit has a truly unique design. After lunch, enjoy an afternoon tour to Kaminimbit I, Kaminimbit II and Koroua village.



O/n M/V SEPIK SPIRIT, (BLD). The boat, built in 1989, is a "floating lodge", 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.

09-10 Aug

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).



(3).../ VISTA MOUNT HAGEN SHOW GROUP TOUR, AUGUST 2020



11 Aug Transfer to Karawari airstrip and board charter flight over stunning mountain scenery and down to Lake Murray in the country's western lowlands. Transfer by boat to the lodge and have lunch and then proceed on with a half day tour.

O/n LAKE MURRAY LODGE, (BLD). Located on the banks of Lake Murray – the largest lake in PNG, stretching over 2000 square kilometres – this new lodge features 12 wooden cabins raised on stilts along the shoreline. Each features king or twin beds, ceiling fans, modern en-suite bathrooms and covered verandas overlooking the lake. The lodge is 100% solar powered and provides 24hr electricity plus plenty of hot water.



The large main building comprises a large dining room, bar and wraparound veranda providing superb views over the lake. Opposite the lodge is a large expanse of lowland rainforest providing good opportunities for birdwatching with possible sightings including sulphur crested cockatoo, palm cockatoo, king bird-of-paradise, Raggiana bird-of-paradise and occasionally southern cassowary. (Contd.../)

(4).../ MOUNT HAGEN DISCOVERER SHOW GROUP TOUR, AUGUST 2020



(Contd.../) The lake itself is home to a large number of water birds including Australian Ibis, paradise kingfisher, white-bellied sea-eagle, magpie goose, green pygmy-goose and Australian pelican. There is excellent fishing here (catch and release) for black bass, barramundi and saratoga.



During your stay, you will also visit remote lakeside villages which see very few westerners: a great way to learn about their traditional way of life, culture and fishing techniques. At only around 70m in altitude, Lake Murray is particularly low lying so one should expect much warmer and humid conditions than the highlands. Wear loose fitting clothes and drink plenty of water.



- 12 Aug Full day cultural tour. Explore the waterways of Lake Murray and visit local villages in one of the remotest parts of Papua New Guinea. O/n LAKE MURRAY LODGE (BLD).
- 13 Aug Full day cultural tour. Explore the waterways of Lake Murray and visit local villages in one of the remotest parts of Papua New Guinea. O/n LAKE MURRAY LODGE (BLD).

(5).../ MOUNT HAGEN DISCOVERER SHOW GROUP TOUR, AUGUST 2020

14 Aug Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch charter 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 and transfer to the hotel. In preparation for the Mount Hagen Cultural show there will be a pre-show program in the afternoon. O/n HIGHLANDER HOTEL, (BLD). The hotel is near the town centre, and provides good facilities, including a heated pool, and a pleasant garden surrounded by a secure fence. NOTE: It is advisable to keep to the hotel compound, and not to venture into town at any time without an escort.



15-16 Aug Two full days spent at the Mount Hagen Show – world famous for its colour, culture and vibrancy. It is a truly spectacular event. The diversity of the coastal, lowland and highlands sing sing groups at the Hagen show reflects the incredible diversity of Papua New Guinea’s landscape – an unforgettable experience. O/n HIGHLANDER HOTEL, (BLD).



17 Aug Pick up from the lodge and transfer to the airport. Catch AIR NIUGINI flight to PORT MORESBY. Met on arrival at the airport and assisted with connection to AIR NIUGINI flight to SINGAPORE.

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VISTA MOUNT HAGEN SHOW - PAPUA NEW GUINEA GROUP TOUR 2020

<i>Departure Dates from Singapore</i>	<i>Adult Price</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
05 August 2020	£9,657	£880

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

NB: Maximum group size is 17

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: Visas are required for travel. If you wish to arrange your visa before arrival, please contact the PNG High Commission. It is currently possible to obtain a visa on arrival, free of charge.

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: 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: 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: 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; helmets may not be supplied on horse riding trips, in which case do not go on the ride; 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).

NB: Due to the small size of some charter aircraft and depending on the size of your group, it may be necessary to split the group when transferring by air to the next location.

NB: It is not possible to refund any services that appear in the itinerary that are not taken. It is also not possible to exchange services in the itinerary for other services. Services must be taken in the day that they appear and cannot be transferred to a different day.

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