

THE IN-FLIGHT MAGAZINE OF AIR NIUGINI VOLUME 2 MARCH - APRIL 2016



PARADISE

DRESS CODE

22 photos of colourful costumes and masks worn in PNG

ISLAND ESCAPE

Blue water, giant manta rays and languid times at PNG's Doini Island

CROWNING GLORY

Meet PNG's winner of the Miss Pacific Island's pageant

CITY GUIDE

Everything you need to know about Jakarta

PLUS: PNG CULTURE, BOOKS, MOVIES, GADGETS



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IN PARADISE

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OUR COUNTRY, OUR REGION, OUR WORLD



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Cover photo: A mud man from the Eastern Highlands, photographed by Wylda Bayron. Her story and photos chronicling PNG's national dress and costumes starts on page 66.



PARADISE



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Message from the Chairman

Welcome aboard



When it comes to the future of the tourism industry in Papua New Guinea, I am an optimist.

My optimism is shared by the Air Niugini team, which has been helping to promote tourism since the airline's formation more than 40 years ago.

Air Niugini is well placed to continue playing a leading role in the development of PNG tourism in the immediate future. We have the experience, we have new and modern

terminal facilities at Jacksons Airport in Port Moresby, as well as key regional centres, and more modern and efficient aircraft are being introduced into the Air Niugini fleet.

The significant improvements are part of the improved attraction PNG must offer as a tourist destination if the industry is to go anywhere close to realising its potential.

Developing the nation's tourist potential will happen if there is a commitment to work together on the part of the national government, provincial governments, local communities, the aviation and wider transport sectors, and tourism operators.

The recent commitment from the new Minister of Tourism to drive tourism growth is most welcome. It builds on the overall commitment by the Prime Minister to develop the nation's small to medium enterprise sector and to ensure tourism projects form a key part of that development.

As I have mentioned, Air Niugini is already well placed to play a leading role in tourism development.

This year, we will expand our contribution and our capacity to do even more with the introduction in the coming months of a second weekly service to Narita in Japan; by introducing a new service between Mount Hagen and Jayapura, Indonesia; by expanding services to Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands, and possibly the Federated States of Micronesia; and the introduction of seasonal charter flights between Alotau and Brisbane.

We are also planning the establishment of our first services to China as soon as we have the capacity and passenger base to do so.

The expansion of our services will be a direct contribution to the development of the nation's tourism potential.

Air Niugini is focusing on the development of Port Moresby as a regional hub for the South Pacific. Again, as that development succeeds, it will benefit our tourism sector and open up new opportunities.

We see real growth coming through a focus on tourism that targets special interest groups such as trekkers, divers, game fishing enthusiasts, bird watchers, and visitors who have a family connection with our war-time history.

PNG's natural attractions are outstanding. The challenge is to grow tourism around them, and we at Air Niugini will work with the new Minister for Tourism, the Tourism Promotion Authority, and with all stakeholders in the tourism sector to meet this challenge.

One of the factors that has inhibited tourism growth since Independence has been the relatively high cost of most tourism experiences.

It is important for our tourism industry to keep costs down so we can be competitive in the South Pacific and South East Asia.

That is why Air Niugini is undertaking the largest re-fleeting and fleet upgrading in the airline's history.

We will see the introduction of a further seven Fokker F70 jet aircraft to our fleet as part of that program. They have been chosen for their safety, passenger comfort, and for their fuel efficiency.

As we modernise and upgrade, our capacity to help grow tourism will improve significantly.

And so will your comfort as our most valued passengers.

Thank you for travelling with Air Niugini – and enjoy your flight.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frederick Reiher'.

Sir Frederick Reiher, KCMG, KBE
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YOUR WORLD
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Air Niugini teams up with Flight Centre

Air Niugini has signed a preferred partner agreement with Australia's biggest travel agent, Flight Centre, with the focus to deliver considerable benefits to the growing number of Australian travellers to Papua New Guinea.

Air Niugini's chief executive officer, Simon Foo, says Australia is Air Niugini's biggest market and the appointment of Flight Centre will ensure the airline's interests and brand are well represented in Australia.

"Air Niugini is privileged to be associated with Flight Centre.

We trust that with Flight Centre's large network, it should be able to extensively sell and promote the Air Niugini brand, PNG tourism and reach out to a larger network of corporate travellers in Australia."

Flight Centre is Australia's largest travel agent and is also one of the largest travel agency groups in the world. The centre offers cheap flights, holidays packages, cruises, travel deals, insurance and more.

Air Niugini operates 26 flights to Australia each week – including 13 to Brisbane, 11 to Cairns and two services to Sydney. Aircraft used on the routes include the Boeing 767, 738 and the Fokker 70. ■



New tourism minister

Justin Tkatchenko has taken over as Papua New Guinea's Minister for Tourism Arts and Culture.

The acting chief executive officer of the PNG Tourism Promotion Authority, Peter Vincent, recently welcomed him to the role.

"The tourism industry is very fortunate to have Hon. Justin Tkatchenko as its minister and also delighted to hear that Prime Minister O'Neill is very supportive of tourism and is keen to see its development in the country."

Tkatchenko has stressed the importance of promoting PNG's art and culture to the world and says he will create more exposure for national cultural events. ■

Good health is on the radar

Air Niugini has released a series of medical packages to Manila, with the idea that executives, and others, can get thorough health check ups.

The packages start from PGK4879 and include a medical examination, return airfares to Manila from Port Moresby, three nights' accommodation at a hospital guest room, airport transfers, breakfasts and travel insurance.

A senior male check up (for ages 45-59) includes tests geared to detect and manage possible age-related illnesses, while a package for women (for ages over 45) includes gynaecologic and post-menopausal assessments.

For the full range of programs and costs, contact Air Niugini Tours, phone (675) 327 3557 or 180 2121; email tours@airniugini.com.pg. ■



BUCKLE UP FOR JAPAN



Air Niugini's second service from Port Moresby to Narita in Japan is set to take off on July 6. The new flights will depart on Wednesdays, adding to the current Saturday service. For a taste of Japan, see our story about hot springs on page 48.



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Honour for Air Niugini staff

Air Niugini chief executive officer Simon Foo has congratulated three Air Niugini staff who have been recognised in the 2016 New Year's Honours list.

The trio – Lohia Garo, Phyllis Tabara and Nancy Aue – were nominated for their services to Air Niugini, and the aviation industry in general.

Garó (pictured right with Marco McConnell, acting general manager, Link PNG) was awarded Member of the Order of Logohu (ML) for his services to the aviation industry and Air Niugini, while Tabara and Aue each received a Logohu Medal (LM), having worked with Air Niugini for 24 and 29 years respectively.



Simon Foo commended them for their commitment and loyalty to Air Niugini. "You have worked with Air Niugini long enough to see how it has developed into where it is today. I acknowledge your hard work, loyalty and support to the airline and congratulate you."

Garó has been with the airline for almost 28 years and is executive manager (planning).

Tabara and Aue retired last year. Aue worked as a personal assistant to four chief executive officers, and Tabara spent most of her years at the airline's human resources department.

In September last year, Marco McConnell, was awarded Member of the Order of Logohu (ML) for his services to the airline industry. McConnell has worked with Air Niugini for more than 20 years. ■

Better air links in South Pacific

South Pacific airlines are working on improving air links for passengers who travel on different carriers in the region.

The most recent conference of the Association of South Pacific Airlines (ASPA), in Brisbane late last year, tackled the issue with several airlines getting together to collaborate to improve intra-regional connectivity.

The advances already made in a tripartite arrangement between Air Niugini, Solomon Airlines and Air Vanuatu were noted.

The airlines will continue to work closely on scheduling arrangements and will report back at the next ASPA conference in May.

The chairman of ASPA is Simon Foo, who is the chief executive officer of Air Niugini. ■

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PARADISE Q&A: JOHNNY CHUNG

This affable 72-year-old barman has worked at Hong Kong's luxurious Peninsula Hotel for more than half a century, serving movie stars such as Clark Gable and Roger Moore.

Q: When did you start working at the Peninsula?

A: It was in 1957, when I was 15 years old.

Q: What did you do there to start with?

A: I was a messenger boy in the catering department and I helped my colleagues deliver letters, messages and packages to different departments.

Q: Your father worked at the Peninsula, so was it an automatic choice for you to go there, or did you consider other careers?

A: My father worked as lobby captain before he passed away. The hotel was extremely caring and invited me to join the Peninsula family. In the past, it was very difficult to join a luxury hotel unless you had connections. I was very lucky to be invited by the company, and at the age of 15, I did not think of other careers.



Q: What's the best piece of advice your father gave you about working at the Peninsula?

A: Work hard and always have the attitude to learn new things.

Q: What advice would you give to a new barman?

A: Be innovative and patient – watch how other barmen mix their cocktails and learn from your mistakes.

Q: Can you tell us about Clark Gable and the Screwdriver?

A: My most famous encounter came when American actor Clark

Gable (who was staying at The Peninsula during the filming of *Soldier of Fortune*) entered the bar and asked for a 'Screwdriver'. I was nonplussed, as I had never heard of such a drink in Hong Kong, and was about to call the hotel's engineering department for assistance when Gable explained the recipe for the famous concoction (vodka and orange juice), and thus the Screwdriver was introduced to Hong Kong.

Q: Who are some other famous guests you have served?

A: Others included William Holden (in Hong Kong to film *Love is a Many Splendored Thing* and *The World of Suzie Wong*) and Rex Harrison (filming *The Bridge on the River Kwai* in Sri Lanka). Roger Moore was a regular visitor to the L'Aperitif Bar each evening during the filming of *The Man with the Golden Gun* in 1974.

Q: What was their drink of choice?

A: Holden and Harrison would drink gin and tonic, and Clark Gable had his Screwdriver, while 007's favourite tippie was a Jack Daniels and coke.

Q: Drinks come and go. Can you recall an old-time drink that is no longer fashionable?

Scotch and water used to be the favourite of many celebrities, but guests nowadays prefer cocktails that are more innovative with a more complex blend of ingredients.

Q: What drinks would you recommend for a couple wanting a nightcap after dinner?

A: My favourite – gin and tonic.

Q: What are the essential qualities of a good barman?

A: You must listen carefully to what your guests need and what they like and dislike. Every guest may have his or her own recipe in mind for a cocktail. A successful bartender is one who can mix a good cocktail that suits the guest's taste, and not one who only knows how to follow every step of a recipe. ■



STORIES FOR PNG CHILDREN

An anthology featuring 33 of the best children's stories entered in the 2015 Crocodile Prize for writing is to be distributed to schools and libraries in Papua New Guinea.

The book, *Trickery at the Crocodile Pool and Other Children's Stories from Papua New Guinea*, has been sponsored by the Paga Hill Development Company (PNG).

The company also sponsors the award for the best stories for children in the Crocodile Prize and was overwhelmed with the entries last year.

All of the stories are by PNG writers.

Co-founder of the Crocodile Prize, Keith Jackson, says PNG has a long tradition of storytelling for children and it forms an important part of their development by presenting useful information, norms and ideas in an entertaining way. He says this special edition children's book will inspire young Papua New Guinean readers. "The book features prominent local authors who bring a sense of real quality to the project." ■

BIG FISH

One of the year's big events for fishermen will take place in Rabaul in March with the staging of the 41st National Game Fishing Titles.

The competition attracts up to 450 anglers and is conducted by the Game Fishing Association of PNG, which says it is the biggest annual sporting event in the country.

Air Niugini has packages to the titles in Rabaul, including return airfares from Port Moresby, three nights' accommodation and airport transfers from PGK1566 a person, twin share.

If you can't wait until the titles for your fishing fix, check out our page 38 story about fishing for black bass at Baia Fishing Lodge, near Rabaul.

See airniugini.com.pg. ■

A PNG adventure for billionaires

Global financial and media company Bloomberg has listed a trip to Papua New Guinea on its shopping guide for billionaires.

The trip, through luxe travel company Epic Tomato, is listed among other desirable billionaire purchases such as a 1962 Aston Martin (\$US15 million+), a journey into space (\$US90,000) and a wine chateau in Saint Emilion (\$US5 million).

But it warns that the PNG trip "is not for the faint-of-heart billionaire".

"The 20-day itinerary penetrates so deep into rural Papua New Guinea that patrons will encounter territory that hasn't been explored by outsiders since the 1960s. It is impossible to predict what travellers will encounter along the way. (Plus they must carry boats on their backs)."

The boats in question are 'pakraft' that are carried cross-country in the Western Province until the expedition reaches the May River where, according to Epic Tomato, participants will raft on "never-before navigated waters".

The 20-day trip is priced at \$US15,000 ... loose change for billionaires, when compared to some of the other items on the shopping list.

But Epic Tomato says the trip is "priceless" because of the experiences it provides, including trekking into the remote Star Mountains, where few tourists have travelled.

Epic Tomato is a spinoff from the award-winning luxury travel company Black Tomato, based in London and New York. ■



WALK WITH ORANG-UTANS

With less than 6600 orang-utans in the wild in North Sumatra, Australian-based Raw Wildlife Encounters leads fundraising tours that contribute to the survival of the primates.

Last year, the tours raised more than PGK200,000 for Earth 4 Orang-utan programs.

By participating in these tours, travellers commit to raising a minimum of \$AUD500 (PGK1040) and are given an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the Sumatran Orang-utan Conservation Program (SOCP).

This is the only time that travellers are allowed to enter the SOCP, which is not open to general travellers. Time is also spent with leading orang-utan specialists, including Dr Ian Singleton (named one of the UK's top 50 conservationists).

Accommodation is in eco lodges, jungle caves and under a waterfall!

Travellers will also be able to hand feed and bathe baby elephants, but they may not touch the orang-utans.

The seven-day tours are \$AUD2000 (PGK4160) a person, with 100 per cent of profits donated to the Earth 4 Orang-utans projects.

See rawwildlife.com.au/tours.





PNG wins Miss Pacific Islands crown



Twenty-four-year-old University of Papua New Guinea science graduate Abigail Havora has been crowned Miss Pacific Islands.

She won at a glittering ceremony at the Rarotonga Auditorium in the Cook Islands. The pageant also included contestants from Fiji, Solomon Islands, Niue, Tonga, American Samoa, Samoa and the Cook Islands.

The runner-up was Miss Samoa, Ariana Taufao, and third place was taken out by Miss Tonga, Brittne Fuimaono.

The Miss Pacific Islands pageant, previously known as the Miss South Pacific pageant, was developed by the Samoan government 29 years ago to promote the cultures of the Pacific, and offers young women an opportunity to act as cultural ambassadors for their countries. It aims to instil a sense of pride in what it means to be a young and modern woman from the islands.

Pageantry ... (clockwise, from top left) PNG's Miss Pacific Islands, Abigail Havora, winning the crown; in sarong; meeting the locals in the Cook Islands; with fellow contestants.

Apart from the overall crown, Havora won the 'best sarong' and 'best talent' categories.

A poem she wrote and recited about gender equality, her faith and her country clinched her the talent award.

She says that winning the pageant is the "biggest achievement in her life".

"I am passionate about making a difference, which may come across as a rather broad statement, but it is the essence of what drives me to do things," Havora says.

"This passion has influenced my personal motto to leave the place better than when you arrived.

"I try to exercise this through my sphere of influence in the conversations I have, speeches I make, presentations I give, chores I do, work I produce and the projects I carry out; like this pageant. My passion stems from the realisation of self and discovery of purpose which drives me to push beyond the barriers in my life."

Havora, who is from the Gabagaba Village in Central Province, set herself apart from the seven other contestants from the start.





PICTURES: EURALIA PAINE

She stood out by wearing a *bilum* dress when the contestants visited the Cook Islands Acting Prime Minister, Mark Brown.

During a float procession through the streets of Rarotonga, she wore feathers laced with cuscus fur, and a Trobriand Island grass-skirt under her billowy calico skirt.

“Culture is our way of life, so each girl has her own definition, or own way, to show what culture means,” Havora says. “We Pacific

islanders are connected to our culture and that’s what the pageant hopes to bring out.”

To get to the Miss Pacific Island pageant, Havora first had to win the Miss PNG crown.


The chairperson for Miss PNG, Katherine Johnston, says: “We wanted a girl who was the embodiment of the modern PNG woman, both educated and culturally aware. Riding on the wave of success at the Pacific Games (held in Port Moresby last year), we also


wanted to choose a girl who represents the best that PNG has to offer, with the ability to share the spirit of PNG with others, and with an ability to act as a cultural ambassador for our diverse country.

“Abigail Havora is that girl and has made us truly proud.”

The next Miss Pacific Islands pageant will be in Samoa in November. ■

– EURALIA PAINE







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Big red march

The great Christmas Island crab migration took place recently, with 50 million crabs on the march.

The red crabs make their way to the sea to mate and the annual migration has become a tourist attraction for the island, near Java, in the Indian Ocean.

To reduce the number of crabs squashed under car tyres, rangers rolled out 20 kilometres of plastic barriers to funnel them into specially constructed crab underpasses.

At the height of the march, the local radio station broadcasts crab bulletins to advise where the crabs are and of road closures.

Naturalist David Attenborough has described the mass march as one of the most spectacular annual migrations on the planet. ■



Traffic stopper ... the red crabs at Christmas Island.



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A Singaporean treasure

Singapore's prestigious Fullerton Hotel has been gazetted as the country's 71st national monument.

The grand neo-classical building, at the mouth of the Singapore River, was once the general post office, and at other times housed government departments. It has also been witness to several historic events.

During World War 2, the building was used as a hospital for British soldiers in the days leading up to Singapore's fall. Shortly afterwards, in 1942, the Chinese community presented a \$US50 million cheque to the Japanese in the Singapore Club, which was in the building. The payment was an 'atonement

fee', which the Japanese demanded from the Chinese in Singapore and Malaya.

These days, the five-star hotel offers guests a luxe stay in historic surrounds and stunning interiors that include a grand staircase and marble floors. The building has five frontages and a colossal, two-storey Doric colonnade. The façade has classical decorations created by Swiss sculptor Rudolf Wening and Italian sculptor Cavaliere Rudolfo Nolli.

Guests also have views to the river and bay, an infinity pool, luxury boutiques and in-house spa treatments. See fullertonhotel.com.

Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Singapore five times a week. See airniugini.com.pg. ■

NUMBER CRUNCH

717 bird species live in PNG, according to Birdlife International. Of this number, half are endemic, or unique to PNG. The country is home to 38 of the 43 known species of the exotic bird of paradise. The largest birds are the flightless cassowaries. Only one bird of the 717, beck's petrel, is critically endangered, while another 35 are endangered or vulnerable.



Grand architecture ... Singapore's Fullerton Hotel has been gazetted as a national monument.



HONG KONG LUXE

It has been a busy time for the Langham hotel group in Hong Kong. The flagship hotel in Kowloon recently received the final touches to a \$US30 million, year-long facelift.

The hotel also received a much sought after, five-star rating from *Forbes Travel Guide* last year, putting it in the top 115 hotels in the world and in the top eight in Hong Kong.

Work has just finished on the last of the hotel's 498 rooms. In a city teeming with upmarket hotels, GA Design has injected the hotel with sense of luxury inspired by local Cantonese culture.

Public areas have been spruced up and the trendy, award-winning London bar concept, Artesian, was introduced to the Tsim Sha Tsui hotel. The art-deco-style bar has earned a reputation for its glamorous cocktails overseen by mixologist Rajendra "Rush" Limbu. It has 52 bourbons, 34 gins and seven tonics (a blessing for those G&T diehards).

A savoury afternoon tea, recently introduced in Palm Court, is a favourite with locals. Think raspberry and rose foie gras lollipops and acorn-fed Iberico ham with daiquiri melon. Chef Pedro Samper (who has worked in two three-Michelin star restaurants in Spain) has revitalised the menu.

Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Hong Kong three times a week. See airniugini.com.pg; hongkong.langhamhotels.com.

— MARY O'BRIEN





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What lies beneath ... giant manta rays are a drawcard at PNG's Doini Island.

A giant ray of sunshine

From big sea creatures to ancient skulls, *Christina Larmer* discovers there's more to Doini Island Plantation Resort than lolling by the beach.



“

They say the Milne Bay is one of the safest regions in the country, sheltered by the impenetrable Owen Stanley Ranges, and you certainly feel cocooned here, with the softly spoken staff shepherding you everywhere.

”

I know I should be nervous as a giant manta ray glides beneath our tiny dinghy, its enormous width magnified in the shadowy blue ocean below, but all I can think is, “must get the snorkelling gear on pronto and take a closer look”.

Before I can manage to tug my flippers on, however, the magnificent creature has vanished, off to the tip of a nearby island, where it will join the queue of other manta rays waiting to be groomed by a diligent team of reef-dwelling ‘cleaner fish’.

Like an underwater car wash, this manta ray cleaning station is one of the most extraordinary marine spectacles in the world and just one of numerous drawcards of neighbouring Doini Island, where my

dinghy full of *dim-dims* (a nickname for white people) has been staying.

Shaped a little like a manta ray itself, Doini Island is in the heart of the Milne Bay, on Papua New Guinea’s eastern tip.

Over the decades, this 1100-hectare private island has undergone several transformations, from local burial site (more on that later) to coconut plantation, where I spent time as a child. Back then, it had little more than a thatched guesthouse for stragglers, a kerosene fridge for supplies, and nowhere to dock your boat.

Today it’s blossomed into the Doini Island Plantation Resort, a beautifully crafted eco-resort, complete with two jetties. Getting there is still an adventure, though, ►



A giant ray of sunshine

requiring a quick flight with Air Niugini from Port Moresby to the provincial capital, Alotau, and then a bumpy boat ride. The latter can take between one-and-a-half and four hours, depending on the vessel, so bring a book, some sunscreen, and your camera for the pod of cheeky dolphins that gleefully escort you through the harbour.

Once on the island, everything is a breeze. There's a range of accommodation to suit a variety of needs and budgets, including beachside bungalows with ensuites for up to six guests, a larger executive bungalow with its own jetty, and a revamped guesthouse set back from the beach beneath a shady poinciana, with cooking facilities and bedding for 12.

There's a bar and restaurant offering three meals daily, including room service and three-course dinners inspired by the local ingredients — think fresh fish with Asian greens and cooked bananas in caramel sauce.

The dining area is the heart of the resort and a visual feast. Designed around eight, hand-carved kasikasi poles, it features four bright murals painted by local artists and reflecting the country's distinctive cultures, from the Highlands to the Milne Bay's ancient trade network, the *Kula Ring*. Who needs a local guide book when you can just look up from your continental breakfast?

Large decks extend from the restaurant, reaching out over the sand and to one jetty that is so impressive that it's P&O-approved. In fact, Doini Island plays host to various cruise ships throughout the year. But don't panic; for the most part you'll have the island all to yourself, if you don't count the resident crocodile and the ghosts ➤



Island hopping ... (from top) the historic church on Kwato Island; docking at Doini Island; old church ruins reveal Samarai Island's glory days; visitors can hire a range of vessels to explore the neighbouring sites.





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A giant ray of sunshine

of elders past, that is; because the other big drawcard is the legendary skull cave.

Hidden like buried treasure in the thick rainforest, the cave is an eerie reminder that you can modernise the facilities, but Doini Island’s cultural history lingers. Really just a rocky ledge that shelters the skulls of 20-plus clansmen, the skull cave has always been the island’s pièce de résistance, the thing that draws me back time and again.

“

Gem seekers can clinch a bargain from the resident Pearl Man, who sells his locally produced wares at the main wharf.

”

Today the track is more tourist friendly than I recall, but it’s still a sweaty hour’s walk from the main resort, and just as foreboding when you scramble up the final leg and encounter the skulls, some missing their jawbones, others with teeth clinging like dried kernels of corn. Local legend has it they’re the remains of esteemed villagers whose bodies were buried in an upright position after death, their heads poking out above the ground. A clay pot was placed over them until they snapped free, then the skulls were carried to this reclusive burial spot, shepherded by the remaining clan.

They say the Milne Bay is one of the safest regions in the country, sheltered by the impenetrable Owen Stanley Ranges, and you certainly feel cocooned here, with the softly spoken staff shepherding you everywhere. Like the popular *Ghost Who Walks*, you never really notice they’re there until you veer off course and a gentle nod prods you back on track, or your legs grow weary and a tractor-trailer appears to whisk you away.



Hidden secrets ... a vibrant coral reef is just a quick paddle from the resort (top); an ancient skull cave lures visitors deep into the forest (above).

It’s also an efficiently run operation with everything in easy reach and most of your needs covered. There’s a laundry service, tropical-strength insect spray in every room, a small shop with souvenirs, gifts and toiletries, spare snorkelling gear and kayaks, and various vessels for hire.

We take advantage of this one day and head to neighbouring Samarai, once the thriving provincial headquarters and now a shell of its former self. ➤





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A giant ray of sunshine

Situated about 10 kilometres northwest of Doini Island, it's worth a visit, especially if you're an enthusiast of World War 2, when the town was destroyed and then rebuilt. Gem seekers can also clinch a bargain from the resident Pearl Man, who sells his locally produced wares at the now-dilapidated main wharf.

Nearby Kwato Island is also worth a stop, if only to explore the ageing stone church, which was built by early London missionaries. We take a moment to enjoy a family game of cricket on the parched field in front of the wharf, before heading back to Doini Island where you can commandeer a dinghy to go fishing, diving or circumnavigating the island.

Or, like us, simply stay anchored for the rest of the day, exploring the surrounding coral reef. Conveniently located within wading distance of your beach bungalow,



you just pop on your goggles and go. My children are enthralled by a family of clownfish who re-enact *Finding Nemo* each time we float past; 'Marlin' and 'Nemo' popping out tentatively from the anemone before zipping back in again.

And when you've had your fill of sun, sea and celebrity fish, you can trek to Tuyam Point, head to the hill-top look-out, or kick back with a book on the main deck. There, you'll find sofas strategically positioned to soak up the ocean view while you lap up the freshly baked muffins that are available with tea and coffee facilities all day.

Pearl harbour ... locally grown pearls can be bought for a bargain on Samarai Island.

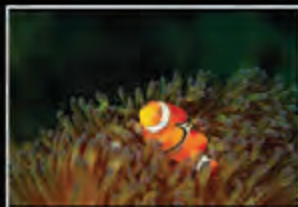


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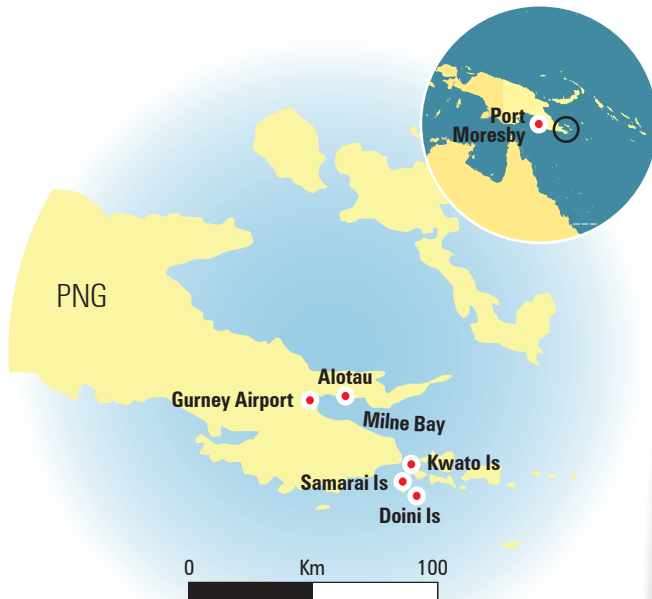
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A giant ray of sunshine



I have to confess, I found myself lounging there on more than one occasion. After all, there are only so many giant sea creatures and ghoulish skulls one *dim-dim* can handle in one holiday. ■

 **Air Niugini flies daily between Port Moresby and Alotau. See airniugini.com.pg.**

NEED TO KNOW

STAYING THERE Bungalows from PGK350 a night (sleep four to six); guesthouse from PGK880 (sleeps up to 12).

MEALS All meals provided for PGK150 per person a day (children under 12 half price).

TRANSPORT Airport transfers from Gurney Airport to Doini Island and back are PGK1600 per boat for up to eight people.

MORE INFORMATION doiniisland.com





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“

These islands lure yachties, sports fishermen and die-hard surfers. Kavieng is a sleepy Somerset Maugham-style port, with more shipping containers than stores lining the streets.

”

PNG'S PANHANDLE

Philip Game goes exploring in New Ireland, where he finds colorful birds, palm-fringed coves, war history and legends.

There are probably no leprechauns in New Ireland, but ghosts and spirits aplenty populate this island province of Papua New Guinea. Generations of tribal ancestors – Malagan, Tumbuan and Kabai – live on in dance and ritual. Also present, in spirit, are the casualties of two world wars.

Lying two degrees south of the equator, New Ireland (*Niu Ailan*) is a panhandle of solid coral lying within the Bismarck Archipelago, which extends from Manus down to Bougainville and the Solomons.

These islands lure yachties, sports fishermen and die-hard surfers. I have arrived with a contingent of birdwatchers in search of the paradise drongo, the New Ireland boobook, Huntstein's mannikins, the Bismarck white-eye and the purple-bellied lorys.

When the 'twitchers' move on, I stick around to further explore New Ireland.

Before World War 1, Baron Boluminski, a German colonial administrator, carved out a road along the east coast. The Boluminski

Highway strings together palm-fringed coves, coconut and palm oil plantations and rustic villages. Home stays, simple resorts and surfers' retreats have sprung up along the way. Kavieng is a decidedly sleepy, Somerset Maugham-style port, with more shipping containers than stores lining the streets.

Stroll down to the waterfront market under the spreading fig trees, and admire the glistening, fresh-caught barracouta, trevally, grouper, tuna, red emperor, sweet joe and the medleys of colourful coral fish. Traders also offer local fruits and vegetables, live mud crabs and baskets of pipis and cockles.

Ready-to-eat snacks include tapioca slice made with coconut milk, plus sago slice, doughnuts and rice balls.

Boluminski's grave can be seen down the road, alongside those of Australian troops dispatched in 1915 to seize his domain. Little remains of Kavieng as it was between the wars, but a memorial honours civilians killed by invading Japanese during World War 2.

So, what else to do on a torrid Saturday afternoon in Kavieng? How about ambling across town to the Malagan Beach Resort, with its laidback beachfront bar and mouth-watering crayfish grill?

Forget about travelling far on Sunday, the Lord's day.

Better, grab a 'banana boat' for the short crossing to Nusa Island Retreat. Run by an Australian brother and sister, the retreat features island-style bungalows projecting out over the water and a sand-floored bar-restaurant.

Monday, and I squeeze into a PMV, a public motor vehicle (basically, a minibus) to head down the highway. Clusters of thatched village houses flash by, affording glimpses of golden sand beyond.

Regimented oil palms have replaced many of the coconut palms, but virgin rainforest survives on higher ground, such as the war-time Japanese lookout at Panamafei. ▶

Tropical idyll ... the beachfront at Namatanai, a crossroads hamlet where the author arrived to find the only hotel booked out.





PNG's panhandle

We witness a dramatic open-air cultural performance by Melanesian dancers. Red-skirted warriors, some wearing fearsome wooden masks, launch into a dance of welcome, which combines strands of the island's three major cultural traditions.

Another long drive down the tropical coast deposits me in



Banana belt ... (from left) the waterfront market in Kavieng; village boys on Nusa Lik; Nusa Island Retreat; the custodian of the Japanese lookout at Panamafei.

the crossroads hamlet of Namatanai.

With the only hotel fully booked, the alternative is a bare-bones guesthouse. Jimmy, the genial manager at Kokobala Lodge, makes a sterling effort to fix me a dinner: diced Spam with instant noodles, plus a plate heaped with steamed taro and kumara.

Out across sparkling blue

waters, a chain of volcanic islands spreads across the northeastern horizon. Many, notably Lihir, are rich in gold deposits. Banana boats are lined up on the shore, under the swaying palms, to take on passengers. ➤



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PNG's panhandle

A local entrepreneur operates another fleet of speedboats, which race from New Ireland's west coast across to Kokopo, a port near once-lively Rabaul on New Britain, now smothered in ghostly volcanic ash.

Our gunwhales, just above the waterline, throw up a bow wave as high as my shoulder. On the return journey I look up to spy a trio of glistening black dolphin fins keeping pace against a backdrop of menacing clouds.

I'm back in Namatanai all too soon, to cool my heels until the PMV operators feel ready to move off. Meanwhile, everyone but me chews betel nut. This requires bean-like mustard seeds and lime powder as well as the green betel nuts, and most consumers carry these fixings in a brightly patterned knitted *bilum* or dilly bag slung around their necks.

Regular users' lips and teeth are stained red.

My destination is all of 45 kilometres up the road towards Kavieng.

Evening falls as the last seats are claimed on the PMV and we lurch off up a rutted stretch of gravel.

Eventually, to my great relief, we swing into an unmarked driveway, towards a larger-than-usual homestead.

Yes, this is Rubio Plantation Retreat, a mecca for itinerant surfers. American-born Shane, a wiry blonde surfer, is relieved to welcome his new guest at last.

Shane's parents manage the coconut palm plantation that surrounds this idyllic hideaway, set around its own sandy cove. Solar collectors enable essential lighting and battery charging.

A booming surf lulls me to sleep in my simple cabin, and my two days here pass as though in a dream.

Next stop is Bol village, 115 kilometres short of Kavieng, where local chief Demas Kavavu and family operate a very simple but hospitable guesthouse.



Family homes of timber, cane and thatch are set among wide, well-swept clearings. According to Demas, three or four languages are spoken in this one village, although many young people speak only pidgin.

As evening falls, a teenager strums a guitar to entertain the younger children.

Other villagers wade out to gather titbits, the shallows reflecting a salmon-tinted sky.

Another torpid Saturday afternoon in Kavieng. Kids splash about in the shallows offshore. The telly flickers above the bar at the Malagan Beach Resort: half a world away in London the grey streets of the city are as far from here as is humanly possible. ■

 **Air Niugini flies daily between Port Moresby and Kavieng.**
See airniugini.com.pg.

Still waters ... an island off Rubio Plantation Resort (top); a quiet afternoon on Kavieng Harbour (below).



NEED TO KNOW

STAYING THERE Malagan Beach Resort (malaganpng.com) has rooms from PGK299; Rubio Plantation Retreat (newirelandsurf.com) has bungalows from PGK255 a person, twin share; Nusa Island Retreat (nusaislandretreat.com) has rooms from PGK340; Namatanai Lodge (namatanailodge.com) has double bungalows from PGK250.

MORE INFORMATION newireland.info, or see Visit.New.IrelandPNG on Facebook.



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Samuel Maiabau
Head Teacher
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Reel adventure

Angus Gorrie journeys by plane and boat to a remote jungle fishing lodge in his quest for the legendary black bass.

The black bass (*Lutjanus goldiei*) is a near-mythical creature to many anglers. It is one of the world's hardest-hitting fighting fish and, adding to the legend, it inhabits rivers in some of the world's most-remote jungle areas.

Our team of three anglers has ventured to Papua New Guinea's New Britain in a quest for the black bass, as well as the lesser known, but equally impressive, spot-tail bass (*Lutjanus fuscescens*).

Both species test us on a five-day adventure based at Baia Fishing Lodge.

Each river in this region has unique characteristics, from fast-flowing rapids to snags. Each variation requires a different tactic and angling plan.

Getting to Baia Fishing Lodge is easy, despite its remote location. After arriving at Port Moresby's international airport, it is a short walk to the domestic terminal for a flight to Hoskins Airport. Once landed at Hoskins we transfer by the lodge bus to Kimbe, where we stay at Liamo Reef Resort. This is a perfect place to rest and discuss the trip to come.

Early next morning, lodge staff load up a boat with our gear and we head off on the next leg of our expedition. The trip takes about five hours, but the time passes easily as we enjoy the volcano-dotted coastline, coral atolls and pods of dolphins frolicking in the wake of the boat.

Baia Fishing Lodge is owned by Riccard Reimann, who has maintained its wilderness authenticity by setting it within the jungle surrounds with minimum encroachment on the natural beauty.

The lodge is also integral to the people of Baia village, with most of the guides, cooks and other staff having been trained up from the village itself.



The sense is immediate that the lodge has maintained a relationship of symbiosis with the local community, as opposed to one of exploitation.

We are thrilled at the fishing experience here. The aggressive nature of both bass species, their willingness to hit lures and their awe-inspiring fighting capabilities, justify their international acclaim. Every fish is a challenge, and with over 200 bass caught we are exhausted. Some of the fish make it to our dinner plates, and some are offered as tokens of





Catch of the day ... the author Angus Gorrie with a mahi mahi caught on the Torio River (main); the Baia Fishing Lodge and a friendly local boy (opposite page); a spot-tail bass caught on the Pandi River by Henry Do (above left); a dolphin welcoming committee (above right).

appreciation to the many villages that reside on the river's edges, but most are released to ensure their future prosperity.

Surface lures are the most effective technique during the trip, and they allow us to see the fish ascend from the gin-clear depths and inhale the artificial offering. This sort of sight fishing results in dozens of heart-in-mouth moments that raise adrenaline levels.

Each day we venture to the rivers by boat in groups of three. The trip takes between 20 and 45 minutes, depending on which river we are targeting. Loaded up with lunch, drinks and our knowledgeable guide, the plan is usually to commit to a full day's fishing.

The lodge also offers countless blue-water fishing opportunities as well, including reef popping and jigging, trolling for billfish and other pelagic species and good old-fashion bottom bashing for reef fish.

It is common to see schools of pelagic fish on the way to and from rivers, at which we are always obliged to cast a few lures. ➤



Reel adventure



“

Lodge staff load up a boat with our gear and we head off on our expedition. The trip takes about five hours, but the time passes easily as we enjoy the volcano-dotted coastline, coral atolls and pods of dolphins.

”

Smoke on the water ... the coastline on the way to Baia Fishing Lodge (above); Angus Gorrie with the expedition's best black bass of the trip (bottom left).

This results in many a fine feed of dolphin fish (*mahi mahi*), tuna and trevally, which compliments the already sumptuous meals presented each night at the lodge.

The cooks at the lodge are sent to Liamo to train, so each meal is a banquet of excellent cuisine, with enough local greens, root vegetables and local seafood to make it unique.

Home Reef, on the doorstep of the lodge, provides a pleasant distraction for tired anglers, who can cool off after a long day of fishing and admire the coral and tropical fish.

The central lounge and bar also offer an excellent location to relax, enjoy a beverage and discuss the day's successes. With such long and tiring days, the clean and daily serviced rooms are a welcome final destination each night.

The scope of opportunity for such a varied range of fishing assures that a visit here will keep offering new and worthwhile challenges, so we vow to come back annually. With so many rivers to explore and ground to cover, that niggling question will remain on the mind ...

"what is around the next bend?" ■



 **Air Niugini has daily flights from Port Moresby to Hoskins.**
See airniugini.com.pg.

NEED TO KNOW

COST A five-night stay at Baia Fishing Lodge, including transfers between Hoskins and Kimbe, plus two nights at Liamo Reef Resort in Kimbe, boats, guides and food is about PGK10,000 a person. See baiafishingpng.com.

EQUIPMENT Baia Fishing Lodge supplies an excellent range of gear at no extra cost, except lures, which guests need to pay for if they lose them.

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ALOHA

12 HAWAIIAN ESSENTIALS



Dark coastline ... the popular black-sand beach at Punaluu on Hawaii Island.

PICTURES: HAWAII TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Born and raised in Hawaii, *Marisa Howden* provides an insider's guide to the must-do activities and best-kept secrets of the islands.

Sharing a similar culture and climate, Hawaii is Papua New Guinea's Polynesian neighbour to the north, approximately 6900 kilometres away. Many people don't realise that Hawaii is made up of a chain of 137 islands, with Hawaii (Big Island), Maui, Oahu, Kauai, Lanai, Molokai, Kahoolawe and Niiahu making up the eight main islands.

Being from Hawaii, I'm often asked if I surf. Sadly, I have to say no, but there's so much more to do in Hawaii.

Here are 12 suggestions.

1 If I could make only one suggestion it would be to visit one of the islands other than the popular Oahu (home to Honolulu and Waikiki). The islands are unique in their own way, offering diverse backdrops, stunning scenery and an endless number of activities. Kauai, Molokai and the Big Island are great for vivid landscapes and laid-back vibes, while Maui and Lanai have beautiful beaches and luxurious resorts.

2 With four locations across the islands, Merriman's restaurants are a local favourite and well worth visiting when on Big Island, Maui or Kauai. Chef Peter Merriman offers a contemporary take on classic Hawaiian dishes – such as kalua pork, teriyaki chicken and ahi poke – while using the freshest local ingredients.

See merrimanshawaii.com. ➤



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Aloha: 12 Hawaiian essentials

3 There's no better way to see Hawaii's varying landscape than from up in the air. Blue Hawaiian and Paradise Helicopters are two reputable companies, offering tours of all the islands, be it the dramatic Napali coastline on Kauai or the billowing Kilauea volcano on the Big Island.

See bluehawaiian.com or paradisecopters.com.



4 A date that will live in infamy is December 7, 1941. It's the day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, resulting in 2403 deaths and marking the USA's entrance into World War 2. Today, the attacks are remembered at the Pearl Harbor memorial on Oahu, which provides an insightful look into the attacks while touring the USS *Arizona* and Battleship *Missouri*.

See pearlharboroahu.com.

5 Shopping is a must in Waikiki, whether you want fashion brands like Victoria's Secret and Forever 21, or designer goods such as Gucci, Chanel and Dior. The action is at the main strip on Kalakaua Avenue and at the Ala Moana Centre. There are good discount outlets at Waikele.

See alamoanacenter.com.

6 If visiting between December and April, I recommend getting out on the ocean for some whale watching from Maui, which is considered the gateway to the best whale watching in the world.

See mauicharters.com, pacificwhale.org ▶

Surf's up ... waves rolling in at Waikiki (left); Pearl Harbour (top); Waikiki entertainment (above).





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Aloha: 12 Hawaiian essentials

7 Hawaii is the perfect place for viewing the Pacific's abundant marine life, with great snorkelling and dive spots across all of the islands. Kealakekua Bay on the Big Island (site of Captain Cook's first arrival) is a sheltered marine sanctuary ideal for snorkelling, while Hanauma Bay on Oahu is one of Hawaii's most popular snorkelling destinations.

See hawaiisnorkelingguide.com.



8 Watching the sunset while sipping a mai tai cocktail is one of my favourite pastimes and one of the best places to do it is at a bar called Dukes. An institution among locals and tourists, Dukes pays tribute to famed surfer Duke Kahanamoku, serving some of Hawaii's best cocktails with a picture-perfect view over Waikiki Beach.

See dukeswaikiki.com.



9 Whether you're in the hustle and bustle of Waikiki or enjoying the luxury resorts on Maui, it's worth getting out of your hotel and going for a drive around the island. Only 90 minutes outside Honolulu, the north shore of Oahu is home to big-wave surf spots like Pipeline, while the road to Hana (on Maui) offers a stunning drive through lush rainforest, soaring waterfalls and black-sand beaches. Rental cars are available through various companies.

10 If you'd like to immerse yourself in Polynesian food and culture, I'd recommend a *luau* (a Hawaiian feast). The Old Lahaina Luau and Feast at Lele on Maui are two of the best, presenting a celebration of Hawaiian, Samoan and Tahitian culture through traditional food, music and dance. The Polynesian Cultural Centre on Oahu is home to Hawaii's most popular *luau*.

See feastatlele.com, polynesia.com.

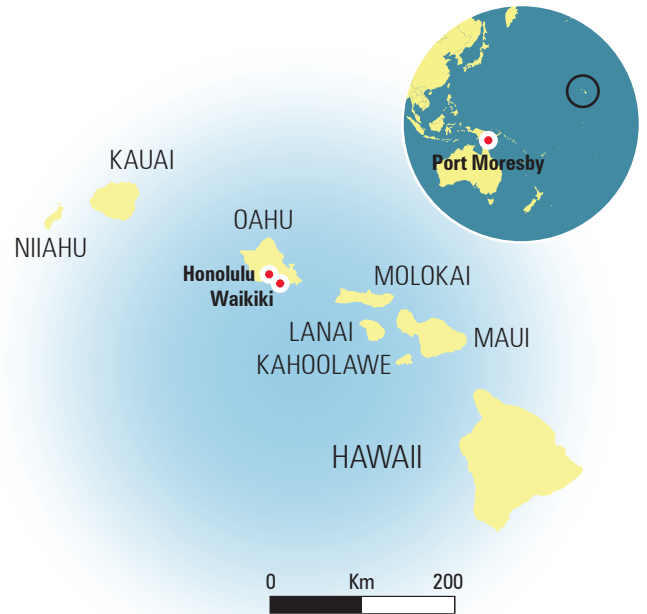
11 Just because I don't do it, doesn't mean you shouldn't partake in Hawaii's most famous sport, surfing. Most of the islands offer lessons and rentals, usually within sheltered beaches with small waves. Stand-up paddleboard lessons are also available.

See hawaiiansurfingadventures.com, konaboys.com.

Snorkelling paradise ... underwater at Kailua-Kona (left); fit for a feast (inset); paddle boarding at Waikiki (above); an iconic Hawaiian sunset (opposite page).



Aloha: 12 Hawaiian essentials



 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Sydney and Brisbane, where passengers can pick up a connection to Honolulu. See airniugini.com.pg.**

12 Hawaii has some incredible hiking, from the Big Island’s Mars-like lava fields, to Kauai’s sweeping Napali coast. If you want to get off the beaten track, head to Molokai, known for its steep trek down to Father Damien’s century old leper colony in Kalaupapa National Park. ■

See molokai-outdoors.com.

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TOTAL IMMERSION

Since ancient times, the Japanese have enjoyed bathing in hot springs: part ritual, part health cure and all relaxation. *Brian Johnston* reports.

For thousands of years, the *onsen* or hot springs that bubble up across Japan have been a source of inspiration and relaxation. *Onsen* enthusiasts say their worries float away with the water, leaving them soothed and euphoric.

Any visitor to Japan who joins them up to the neck in a hot tub, gazing over a view of distant mountains, will soon realise why the Japanese are such *onsen* advocates. The origins of *onsen* bathing

“

The true aim of enthusiasts is to find a quiet little *onsen* on a hillside, where they can soak up fine views along with the mineral salts.

”

are obscure, but certainly the ritual has been around for 2000 years.

One of the oldest *onsen* in Japan is Dogo near Matsuyama; records suggest that Prince Shotoku took the waters at Dogo for his health in the seventh century. Visitors still bathe here, inside traditional wooden buildings, before wrapping themselves in robes and relaxing on tatami mats, sipping green tea and nibbling on rice cakes.



PICTURES: JAPAN NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANISATION



Thanks to Japan's volcanic activity, there are *onsen* scattered everywhere; about 2300 of them in all. They come in many forms: indoor and outdoor, public and private. Some are housed inside old-style inns (*ryokan*), such as the famous Daiichi Takimotokan in Noboribetsu, which houses 30 pools, mineral baths, steam rooms and saunas dotted with statues. The Japanese imperial family has its own *onsen* there. Occasionally, *onsen* become massive resorts replete with hotels, waterfalls, slides and dozens of hot and cold baths. Spa World in Osaka, one of the few *onsen* in an urban setting, is a large theme park complete with swimming pools and sun terraces. Sixteen spas give reign to the Japanese fondness for international themes; you can visit 11 different 'countries', from a traditional sauna in Finland to 19th-century baths in Germany.

The coastal city of Beppu is the biggest *onsen* centre in Japan, receiving 12 million visitors each year. Nothing could be further from the image of *onsen* as tranquil country retreats: the town is filled with bawdy clubs, bars and souvenir shops. Some 3000 hot springs gush up within the city confines, serviced by 168 bathhouses.

At the famous and aptly named 'hells' (*jigoku*) orange mud bubbles up at near boiling point. Elsewhere, gushing vents, steaming holes and springs erupt on almost every street corner.

Time in Beppu is spent wending one's way from one 'hell' to another, with frequent stops at the city's bars and restaurants for refreshment. At Takegawara bathhouse you can get buried up to your neck in hot black sand; at Suginoi Palace you can float in bubbling pools surrounded by tanks of goldfish.

While the stereotype of a tranquil, uncrowded *onsen* isn't always accurate, most *onsen* are deep in the countryside. Some of the most famous are spartan and rustic. The true aim of enthusiasts is to find a quiet little *onsen* on a

Soaking it up ... there are estimated to be 2300 *onsen* in Japan, scattered across the country from rural areas to the sea.



hillside, where they can soak up fine views along with the mineral salts.

Taking to the *onsen* is an escape from modern life's stress and busyness that should lead to an almost Zen-like meditative state surrounded by the glories of nature.

Equally important, though, is the idea that *onsen* bathing enables the Japanese to momentarily break down the rigorous bonds ▶



Total immersion

of their hierarchical society. Since everyone bathes naked in the same pools, everyone is equal in a relaxed environment. One of the modern incarnations of this ancient philosophy is the work trip, in which colleagues and bosses go to *onsen* resorts for a weekend of bonding.

Many foreign visitors are anxious about the etiquette of *onsen* bathing but, while the Japanese are sticklers for convention, many of the rules are increasingly relaxed. The main challenge for novices is that they have to leave their clothes and inhibitions behind in the changing rooms. *Onsen* bathers carry with them only a small hand-towel. Historically, both sexes bathed together, but these days all but the smallest rural *onsen* are divided into male and female sections.


Onsen patrons always take a long, serious shower before clambering into the pools, a ritual that might take a good 20 minutes. Taps



Onsen getaway ... winter in Oshuku, a hot-springs resort in Iwate Prefecture.

are usually at waist height, and patrons sit on small stools, using bowls to scoop water over themselves. The Japanese say this is as much about cleansing your soul as your physical body – another means to wash away stress. The Japanese are always clean before they take the *onsen* plunge, and never use soap or shampoo in the baths.

The best *onsen* moments are in the waters, floating in the warmth and breathing in the steamy air, as muscles relax and the mind unwinds to the sound of gurgling water. Patrons sit with their eyes downcast, not only for modesty's sake but because *onsen* bring on meditative moods. ■

 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Tokyo once a week, but will introduce a second flight from July 6. See airniugini.com.pg.**

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City guide:

JAKARTA

Brian Johnston reveals the best of the Indonesian capital.

The Indonesian capital started life as a fishing village and emerged as one of the world's largest cities. Along the way, Hindus, Muslims, Portuguese and Dutch turned it into a trading post and left a rich cultural and architectural heritage as they came and went.

Today, Jakarta still hides a delightful historical heart where you can peel away the layers of its remarkable history. But Jakarta is also a high-rise, contemporary city with fabulous multi-ethnic food, a hot nightclub scene and the country's best shopping.

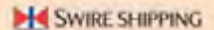
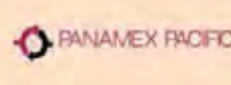
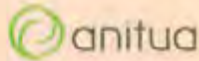
GETTING AROUND

Between humidity and motorcyclists, walking is seldom pleasant, even if often quicker than being stuck in Jakarta's notorious traffic. Taxis are reasonably priced and the best way to go: stick to reliable companies such as Blue Bird Group (bluebirdgroup.com). The eight lines of the TransJakarta bus system (transjakarta.co.id) connect major points in Jakarta via reserved bus corridors. ➤



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City guide: Jakarta



Landmarks ... Jakarta's iconic National Monument (left); Dutch colonial architecture at Taman Fatahillah Square (above); the five-star Grand Hyatt (previous page).

SIGHTS

The iconic marble obelisk of the National Monument (jakarta.go.id) provides fine city views from its summit, while its base has a museum detailing Indonesia's road to independence. The surrounding park is dotted with statues of national heroes.

Taman Fatahillah square is flanked by historic monuments; cobbled footpaths and whitewashed, red-roofed buildings evoke old Amsterdam. Inspect the former governor's palace, old cannon and historic Café Batavia. Nearby Kali Besar canal, built in 1628, is lined with impressive Dutch townhouses. The area looks like a little Amsterdam in the tropics, but its woodwork has a distinctively Chinese style, picked out in shades of red.

JAKARTA SPECIAL

Trace how Jakarta started at Sunda Kelapa at the mouth of the Ciliwung River, founded as a 12th-century port and later at the heart of the Dutch trading empire. Visit the excellent Maritime Museum (Jalan Pasar Ikan 1; museumbahari.org), housed in a 1652 warehouse, and admire spice-laden sailboats that arrive from all over Indonesia. The elegant old sailing ships are a marvel from the tips of their tall masts to their high, jutting bowsprits, and come in weathered shades of red, yellow and blue. ➤



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City guide: Jakarta

CULTURE VULTURE

Museum Wayang (Jalan Pintu Besar Utara 27) has a good collection of Javanese puppets and masks, from perforated leather shadow puppets to carved wooden mythological figures dressed in Hindu finery. There are Sunday-morning performances.

Head to the Textile Museum (Jalan Aipda KS Tubun 2–4; museumtekstiljakarta.com) for a look at the country's exquisite batik and gold-thread *songket* fabrics. A workshop provides demonstrations of batik, and even allows you to create your own.

The Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics (Jalan Pos Kota 2; museumsenirupa.com), housed in a former Dutch courthouse, displays wood sculptures, ceramics and paintings by some of the country's best contemporary artists.



CHILD'S PLAY

Bricks 4 Kidz (bricks4kidz.co.id) has three city locations where kids can play and build with LEGO bricks; there are theme-based and project kits, and various problem-solving models.

Waterbom Jakarta (waterbom-jakarta.com; pictured above) is a water

park in landscaped gardens in northern Jakarta, with myriad water slides and swimming pools suitable for kids of varying ages.

Seaworld Ancol (ancol.com) is home to one of Asia's biggest aquariums. Children will love the sharks, crocodiles, dugongs and electric eels, and can walk into see-through underwater tunnels.

RETAIL THERAPY

Pondok Indah Mall (Jalan Metro Pondok Indah Blok. 3B; pondokindahmall.co.id; pictured right) is one of the city's best malls, eschewing luxury brands to provide a more affordable, mid-range shopping experience. It also has great food selections.

Head to UKM Gallery (Jalan Jenderal Gatot Subroto; smescoindonesia.com; pictured top) for handicrafts from all over Indonesia, including painted masks, wooden carvings, sarongs, Lombok pottery, ceramics and puppets.

The city's fish market Pasar Ikan (Jalan Maritim Raya, Penjaringan) is a spectacle of rust-red squid, mussels and fish. Nearby alleys feature tiny shops selling chandler's supplies and household goods.



City guide: Jakarta



SPORTING LIFE

Arthayasa Stables & Country Club (Jalan Bulak Tengki 10; arthayasa.com) offers riding lessons and courses, including for children, on a 5.5-hectare spread south of Jakarta.

The rolling terrain of Royale Jakarta Golf Club (Raya Halim Tiga; royalejakarta.com; pictured above) provides a world-class, 27-hole course pitted with water hazards, as well as a practice range and gallery.

Skyrink Jakarta (Mal Taman Anggrek 3; skyrinkjakarta.com), one of the largest ice rinks in Asia, is great family fun and a retreat from Jakarta's often sweltering humidity. It also hosts ice-hockey games and ice-dancing competitions.

ESCAPE

About 30 kilometres west of Jakarta, Anyer is a popular getaway with good beaches, seafood restaurants and scuba diving on its coral reefs, which are colourful with tropical fish.

An hour south of Jakarta is the provincial town of Bogor, notable for its excellent Botanical Gardens (krbogor.lipi.go.id), riverside walking trails, Taman Safari animal park (bogor.tamansafari.com) and golf clubs.

Head to the hills around Puncak south of Jakarta (though not at weekends, when traffic can be horrendous) for cooler air, spectacular views and walks through tea plantations of Gunung Mas, where you can also tour the tea factory. ➤

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City guide: Jakarta



PILLOW TALK

Hotel Mercure Jakarta Sabang (Jalan H. Agus Salim 11; mercure.com) is well-positioned in downtown Jakarta, near the National Monument and offers a restaurant, complimentary WiFi and outdoor swimming pool.

Grand Hyatt Jakarta (Jalan M.H. Thamrin Kav. 28-30; jakarta.grand.hyatt.com) is an effortless example of contemporary minimalism, and has one of the city's best hotel swimming pools.

The elegant Hermitage Hotel (Jalan Cilacap 1, Menteng; jakarta.hermitage.co.id) occupies a spectacularly renovated 1920's telegraph building and has all the luxe and service you'd expect of Leading Hotels of the World.

WATERING HOLES

Find a quiet nook overlooked by a serene Buddha statue in Face Bar (Jalan Dr. Kusuma Atmaja 85; face-jakarta.com) and order a sangria or martini before kicking back on silk cushions for a romantic evening à deux.

La Vue (Jalan Cilacap 1, Menteng; jakarta.hermitage.co.id) feels like a beachside bar, but sits on a ninth-floor rooftop with light-twinkled city views. It's noted for its chocolate martinis and rather fine casual bites.

Cloud Lounge (Jalan MH Thamrin; cloudjakarta.com; pictured above) tempts with a dizzying outdoor bar space that catches the late-afternoon breezes, plus a chilled vodka bar if you really want to cool down. It has an extensive wine and cigar menu. ➤

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City guide: Jakarta

EATS



Shanghai Blue (Jalan Kebon Sirih 79; tuguhotels.com) takes you back to 1930 Shanghai's golden era and blends Chinese and Indonesian cuisine. It has a great bar with live jazz most evenings.

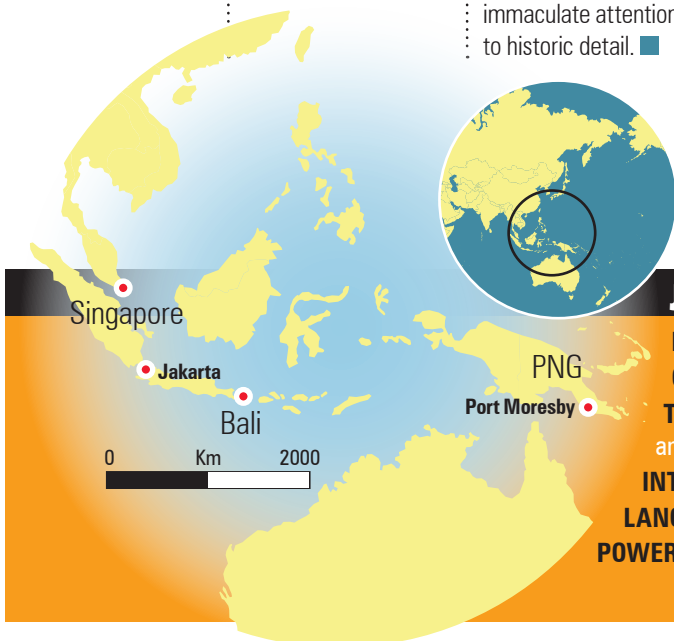
E&O (Jalan Dr Ide Anak Agung Gde Agung; eandojakarta.com) celebrates Thai–Vietnamese cuisine in a classy and romantic space. The bar knocks up some of Jakarta's best cocktails.

Dapur Babah Elite Restaurant (Jalan Veteran 18–19; tuguhotels.com) celebrates Peranakan cuisine, a 1900s Chinese–Javanese fusion with Dutch influences. The glorious, antique-rich decor pays immaculate attention to historic detail. ■

TUCK IN

Fried noodles, or mi goreng (sometimes called bamie goreng), is surely the signature dish of Indonesia, and is found on street stalls and fancy restaurants alike. Typical additions to the stir-fried noodles include garlic, onion, shallots, meat or prawns, cabbage, tomato and egg. Try mi goreng at Bakmie Gang Mangga (Jalan Kemurnian IV; bakmiggmangga.com) or go for the upmarket version at Grand Cafe (Grand Hyatt Jakarta, Jalan M.H. Thamrin Kav. 28-30; jakarta.grand.hyatt.com).

 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Bali every Monday. From Bali connect with a local airline to Jakarta. See airniugini.com.pg.**



JAKARTA

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Three of a kind ... beers



SOUTH PACIFIC (SP), PNG

ABOUT

SP Brewery was founded in 1951 with the express intention of slaking PNG's thirst. South Pacific Export has won a number of international beer awards and comes in that slim bottle shape that is the globally recognised branding for 'quality beer', but most drinkers reckon the regular old SP Lager from an ice-cold green can does the job just as well. SP is now owned by Heineken, which is ramping up export to take PNG's favourite beer to the world market.

ALTERNATIVES

If you're after a lighter-tasting beer, Niugini Ice might hit the spot. It's also made at the SP Brewery, but follows the 'ice' trend started a while ago by some of the Japanese breweries to make a super-crisp, quaffable drop.

WEBSITE

sp.com.pg



VONU PURE LAGER, FIJI

ABOUT

Named after the largest of the green sea turtles, Vonu emphasises its environmental credentials, proudly stating that it is brewed from the 'pure, tropical water' of Fiji. Vonu's Pure Lager is malty and quite sweet. Vonu also makes the powerful Eight, named for its 8 per cent alcohol content. Vonu is a supporter of the Mamanuca Environment Society's Turtle Conservation Project. Now under the Coca-Cola Amatil banner, expect to see Vonu in more export markets.

ALTERNATIVES

Paradise Beverages makes the mainstream brews in Fiji: Fiji Bitter, Blonde and Premium. Paradise is owned by Australia's CUB, and some would say that the recipes haven't been tweaked that much: if you know what VB, Carlton Draught and Hahn taste like, you'll know what to expect.

WEBSITE

vonubeer.com



TUSKER PREMIUM, VANUATU

ABOUT

Tusker used to have a reputation for being a little bland, but a recent rejig of the recipe has improved the flavour and body, giving it a bit of a spicy kick. Tusker contains no preservatives or additives.

ALTERNATIVES

Nambawan is the other main brewer in Vanuatu, offering Draft, Bitter, Gold and even a Porter. Beer bloggers are saying good things about the Seven Seas microbrewery, to be found at the War Horse Saloon restaurant about 15 minutes outside Port Vila near the Mele Cascades. Seven Seas makes small batches of beers in a range of styles.

WEBSITE

tusker.vu

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Madang, 1971

Andrew Peacock, then Australian Foreign Affairs Minister, visited Papua New Guinea in 1971 prior to the country's self-government and Independence. This photograph shows his arrival in Madang, where he is being met on the tarmac by the then District Commissioner, Des Clifton Bassett.

While it is interesting to see a young Andrew Peacock, this photo clearly illustrates the accepted corporate business attire of the day – shirt, shorts and long white socks.

During the 1970s, this was the standard dress for most national and expatriate public servants. Those days have gone, although there has been a resurgence in recent years in PNG of hat wearing.

– JOHN BROOKSBANK

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PICTURES: WYLLDA BAYRON



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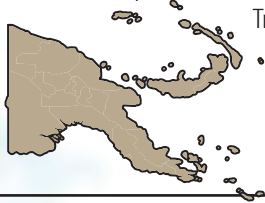
Expressing beauty through cultural identity, finery and decorations can take the form of shells, bones, feathers, bark, bamboo, flowers, leaves, paint ...

”

Dress code

Photographer *Wylda Bayron* chronicles the national dress from each of Papua New Guinea's 22 provinces.

One of the last truly pristine and wild tribal environments in the world, Papua New Guinea has over 850 unique languages and tribes in a single land mass. It's the world's most culturally diverse country.



Tribal identity has been fiercely guarded and maintained for generations, and its rich tapestry of colours is evident today, even

under the pressures of the modern world.

From the highlands to the islands, I travelled across PNG for 18 months for what became a photo preservation project. I witnessed how the expressions of identity vary considerably, in part due to the natural environment that makes materials freely available for people to create their traditional *bilas* (dress).

Bilas provide a form of expressing beauty through cultural identity, finery and decorations, which can take the form of shells, bones, feathers, bark, bamboo, >

BOUGAINVILLE

Buka shells and grass skirts are part of the dress of these girls from the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. They are also painted on their heads and hair with lime and natural red dyes.



Dress code



CENTRAL

flowers, leaves, paint, or anything deemed beautiful, flash, or of value to the owner. PNG's relationship to *bilas* can be seen today, even in the way a child will pick up a feather or flower and place it in his hair on his way to school. It seems to be in the nation's DNA. Great care and craftsmanship is expressed in the creation of the different *bilas*.

Because *bilas* are made of natural materials, sometimes they have to be newly created each time a particular ceremony or occasion is to be conducted; new materials are collected, treated, dyed, and crafted into the dress.

Other times, meticulously preserved heirloom feathers, headdresses, pig tusks and kina shells, passed on from generation to generation, may be added to the final expression of the dress.

All of this culminates in lovingly assembled *bilas* that represents and exemplify centuries of history and pride for the people in any particular village. ➤

Wylda Bayron spent 18 months travelling solo in PNG, where she photographed the traditional dress from each of the 22 provinces for a preservation project and upcoming book. See wyldabayron.com.



MOROBE

The head and arms of this Central Province girl (left) are decorated with raggiana feathers, while the necklace is made of dog teeth and banana seeds; a body mask, called a *tumbuan*, keeps the identity of the wearer in Morobe Province secret (above); six-year-old Jafan from Oro Province (below) has a headdress with a great variety of feathers, including cockatoo. The painted tapa cloth around his waist is made from pounded bark.



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Dress code



MANUS



WESTERN HIGHLANDS

This Manus Island girl (left) wears a necklace made up of green snail shells, unique to the island, and a traditional elongated Manus *bilum* around her neck; Western Highlands men (above) with chest pieces of large kina shells, heirloom feathers and loincloths that swing in unison to the rhythm of drums; a Western Province man (below) with a painted mask. These masks depict various venerated local animals, in this case a bird. ➤



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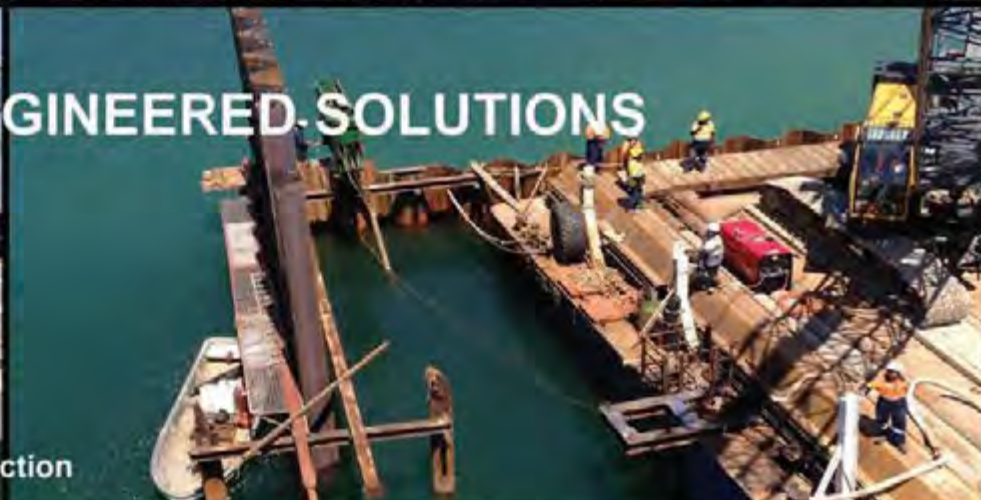
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Dress code



EASTERN HIGHLANDS



SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS



MADANG

A famed Asaro mud mask from Goroka (above) with dramatic hand adornments made of cane. Legend has it that when the men emerged from the Asaro River covered in mud the enemy thought they were spirits and would retreat in fear. Warrior dress (top right) made with natural fibers in the Southern Highlands; a village elder with a cassowary quill and shell nose adornment in Madang Province (right); distinctive round Engan wigs made of the owner's hair and topped with sicklebird feathers (below).>



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Dress code



A dancer at Port Moresby's Hiri Moale Festival (left) where Motuan culture, including traditional tattoo designs, is showcased; a Chimbu man with feathers and nose adornment (top right); a Jiwaka warrior painted with charcoal and oil (right); Huli wigmen in Hela Province where they make large wigs out of their own hair and paint their faces brightly (below).



CHIMBU



JIWAKA



HELA



PORT MORESBY (NATIONAL CAPITAL DISTRICT)



Dress code



GULF

A shark mask in the Gulf Province (left); a yam mask in the East Sepik (right). While this mask is in use the body of the dancer is covered in long palm leaves to conceal his or her identity. The masks of the East New Britain fire dancers (below) are made of a cane frame and beaten tree bark paper. ➤



EAST SEPIK

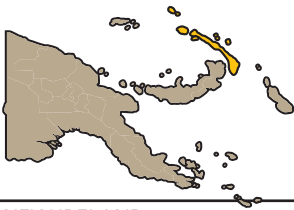


EAST NEW BRITAIN



Dress code

New Ireland men (right) paint their feet and lower legs with different coloured mud and their faces with lime mixed with natural colours. Their headdress is a modern interpretation of a feathered headdress. A Trobriand boy in Milne Bay Province (far right) with his face painted with charcoal, lime and natural red dye, typically seen at the Yam Festival. >



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Dress code



WEST NEW BRITAIN

This shield and grass skirt from West New Britain (left) have been created from modern materials, combined with age-old designs; a penis sheath, or *koteka*, made from gourd in the Sandaun Province (right).



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Pain and power

UNTOUCHED WORLD

A scientific expedition has discovered new species of wildlife on PNG's Mussau Island. *Richard Andrews* reports.



PICTURES: NATHAN WHITMORE

A scientific expedition to PNG's most remote northern islands has found a veritable 'Garden of Eden' on Mussau, containing new species of wildlife – protected, in effect, by teachings in the Old Testament.

The team of 26 local and overseas experts made the discoveries in 2014, during an exploration of Manus and Mussau islands, organised by the Goroka-based Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

A report on the expedition's findings was only recently released. It shows that both islands support a wealth of wildlife, including more than a dozen species of frogs,

bats, lizards and plants that were previously unknown, or undescribed, in scientific literature.

Expedition leader, Nathan Whitmore, says Manus is already known for its high species diversity in the intact rainforest. However, the unexpected sightings on neighbouring Mussau Island largely result from a human source: religious conversions by Seventh Day Adventist missionaries dating back to the 1930s.

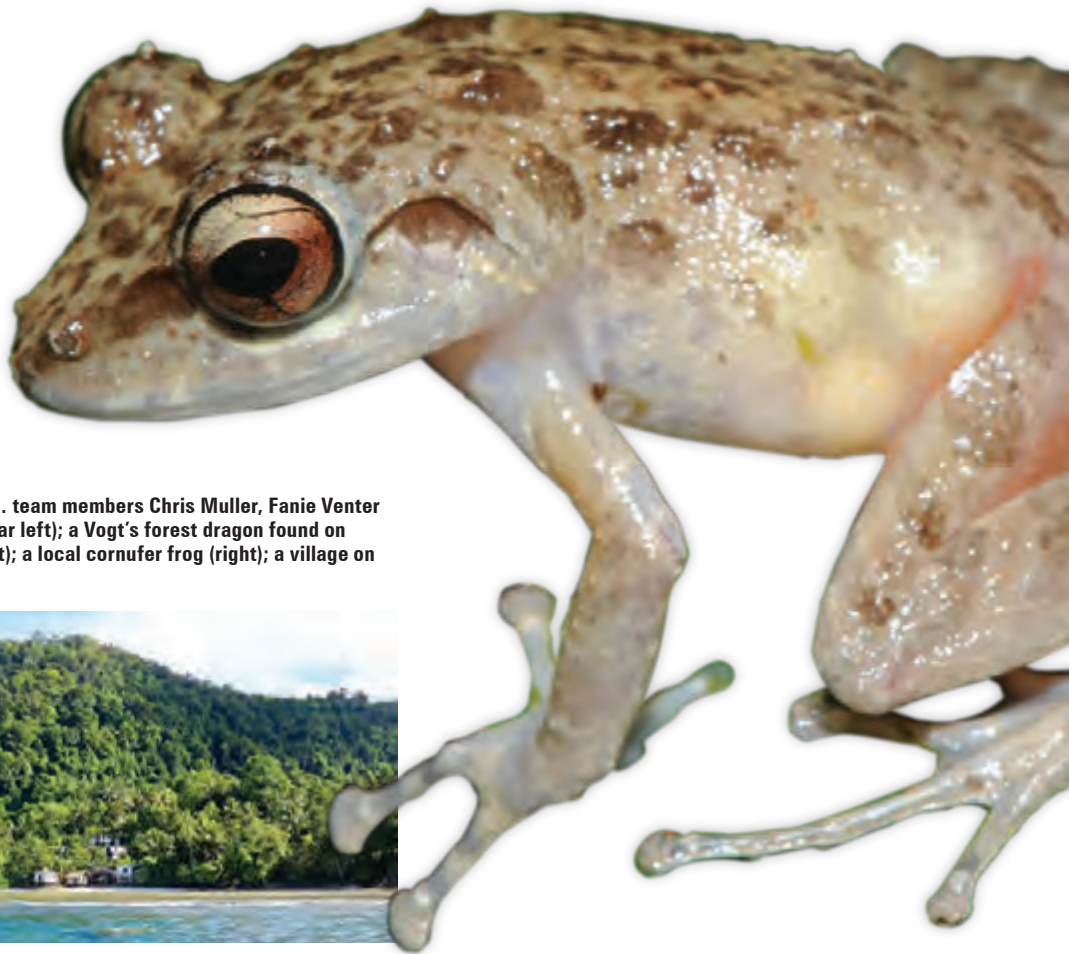
"Despite logging on Mussau last century, we were surprised to find significant regrowth and a forest ecosystem with a high abundance of certain animals," says the WCS officer.



“

We explored caves to discover colonies of bats, waded through mangroves and were serenaded at night by the mating calls of the male cornufer frog. Then, of course, was the thrill of finding new species.

”



On the wild side ... team members Chris Muller, Fanie Venter and Yazid Abdad (far left); a Vogt's forest dragon found on Mussau Island (left); a local cornufer frog (right); a village on Mussau (below).



“The islanders follow a strict Seventh Day Adventist vegetarian diet, according to the laws of Leviticus. These restrictions have helped make the island a sanctuary for many turtles, coconut crabs, bats and lizards, which were previously consumed.”

(Unfortunately, the same restrictions have allowed exotic wild pigs to become a pest.)

Whitmore found that organising the expedition was not exactly an island holiday.

Mussau Island has no airport, communications were difficult and it took months to get consent from protective local landowners. Access to both islands involved long boat

journeys from more developed locations.

“The first field day was full of drama, with rough seas off the south coast of Manus,” says Whitmore. “Our team came across a local boat which had capsized and luckily managed to rescue a family who were struggling to keep their baby above the water.”

Shortly after arriving on the island, things got off to a poor start. One team member had to be sent back for medical treatment in the provincial capital, Lorengau, when a log bridge collapsed and he was impaled on a large nail.

Setting up a base the next day was also a challenge and local villagers were enlisted to help lug 1.5 tonnes ➤



Untouched world



Survey team ... expedition leader Nathan Whitmore, with beard, is crouching at front (above); a collared kingfisher (right).

of equipment to the 500-metre summit of Mount Sabomu.

The heavily wooded areas on both islands and lack of roads also meant that team members had to travel around the coast in small banana boats, then hike inland carrying field equipment in the tropical heat.

"It was all worth it," says Whitmore. "A scientific expedition of that size was a first for Mussau and the

surroundings were spectacular. "We explored caves to discover colonies of bats, waded through mangroves and were serenaded at night by the mating calls of the male cornufer frog.



PICTURE: RICHARD CUTHBERT

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Untouched world



Home sweet home ... an island camp for the 'Garden of Eden' expedition.



PICTURE: STEPHEN RICHARDS

Then, of course, was the thrill of finding new species such as a large fruit bat, giant gecko and damselfly."

But to ensure there's no 'trouble in paradise' for the outside world, two scientists from the PNG Institute of

Medical Research accompanied the expedition. Their job was to catalogue any new or emergent diseases, as well as parasites capable of transferring diseases from animals to people.

Research and community groups are now studying the implications of the surveys for conservation strategies in PNG and elsewhere in the Pacific.

"The real work is just beginning," says Whitmore. ■

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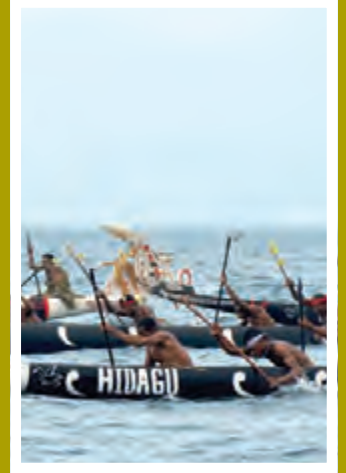
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PICTURES: JOHN BROOKSBANK



FESTIVAL OF

CANOES AND DRUMS

With direct flights scheduled to start between Australia and Alotau's Gurney airport later this year, *John Brookesbank* recommends that travellers make a beeline for the family friendly Kenu and Kundu Festival.

Each November, Alotau bursts into a colourful frenzy of activity with the staging of the annual Kenu and Kundu Festival.

Craftsmen spend months making and decorating canoes for the event, but the competitive canoe and sailing races are just part of the festival.

There are also traditional songs and dances, and an amazing array of local craft for sale at bargain-basement prices.

The boat races include single-hull war canoes that battle it out for line honours near the town's picturesque foreshore, while the sailing outriggers compete across the bay to Wagawaga village and back.

“

Adventurous tourists are able to have a go in one of the long, brightly painted war canoes.

”

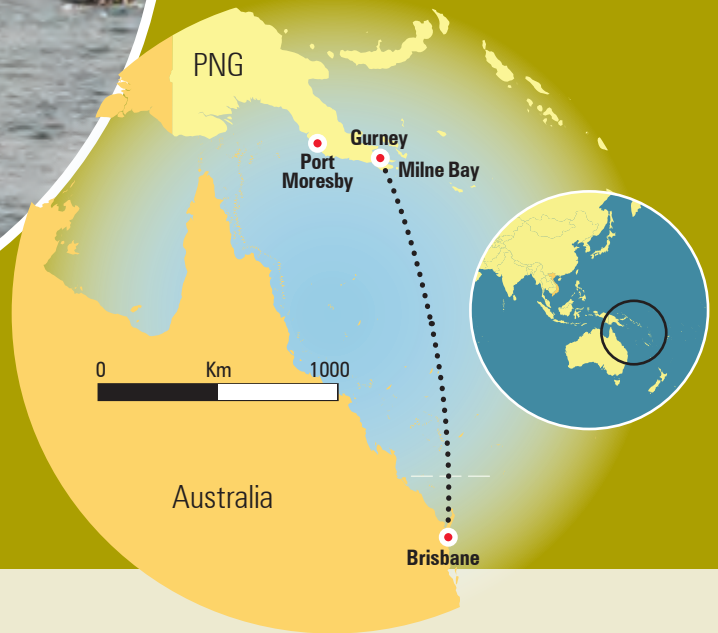
Close by, near a central dancing arena and stage, vendors sell all kinds of goods at pop-up stalls.

For visitors with faith in their ability to hand hold delicate goods all the way home on the plane, there are piles of clay cooking pots, for sale at just PGK15–20 each. This is amazing value considering the work involved in their construction.

Other goods include woven mats, woven baskets and *bilums* made from wool and bush rope.

Carvers from the Trobriand Islands sell walking sticks, bowls, fish and other sea creatures made from ebony or rosewood – all usually inlaid with decorative mother-of-pearl shells. The





Sail time ... outriggers and canoes in action at the Kenu and Kundu Festival where the locals come out in all their colour. There are also lively markets and local goods and souvenirs for sale for visitors.


ebony items, whether of king, queen or striped varieties, are quite expensive. Some of the larger pieces have price tags of a few hundred kina, but they are beautiful examples of Milne Bay art.

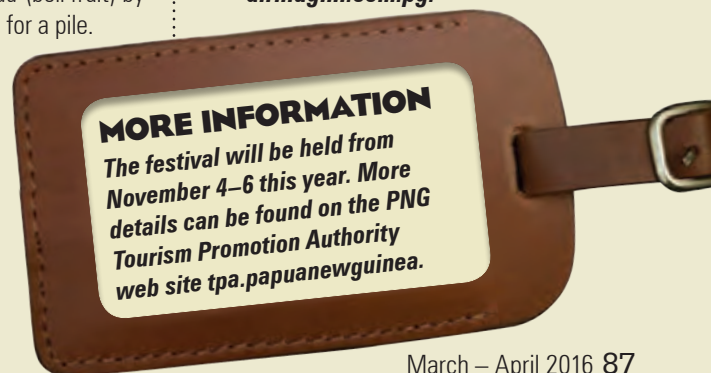
Local string bands entertain the visitors after dark, while during the day dancing groups from different parts of Milne Bay Province put on formal and impromptu shows of traditional *sing-sings* to wow the crowds. Most of the dancers are grass-skirted females, of all ages, accompanied by men maintaining the dance rhythm with hand-held *kundu* drums.

Adventurous tourists are able to have a go in one of the long, brightly painted war canoes.

The Alotau market is clean and well laid out with prices for fresh fruit, vegetable and seafood at a fraction of those charged in Port Moresby. I find bright red *lau-lau* (bell fruit) by the bucket load at just 20 toea for a pile.

This festival is a safe and fun-filled outing for the whole family; a showcase of the vibrant cultures that thrive in the various districts of Milne Bay. ■

 **Air Niugini is planning to start direct flights between Brisbane and Gurney (Alotau's airport) later this year. The airline also flies from Port Moresby to Gurney daily. See airniugini.com.pg.**



VANUATU IN THE FRAME

*Glenn Dunks reports on two Australian directors who lived with the Yakel tribe on Tanna Island for seven months to make their remarkable movie *Tanna*.*

The island of Tanna, one of many that make up the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu, may appear to be lost in time.

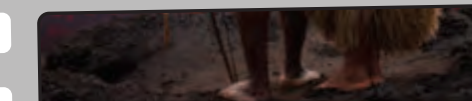
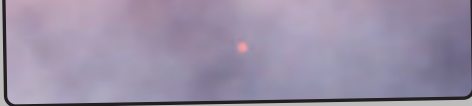
Among the residents of this place is the Yakel tribe, where the people live according to a traditional way of life known as *kastom*. It goes back thousands of years to when Tanna was first colonised by Papua New Guinea emigrants.

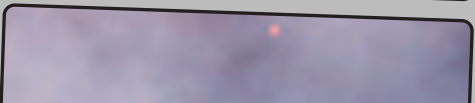
They rise every morning with the sun and end their days at sunset with a kava ceremony. They live in houses made of materials gathered from the jungle, and hunt for food using bows and arrows. This way of life was once challenged by the modern values of civilisation, and many locals were imprisoned as a result of their rebellion against the clothes, money, and schools that western society brought to them. However, those wrongs have since been righted, and the customs of the people of Tanna are respected despite their close proximity to the expanding world around them.

This world is shown most extraordinarily in *Tanna*, a new film from Australian directors Martin Butler and Bentley Dean that marks the first ever Australian–Vanuatu production.

Apart from minor scenes of the marooned romance of *The Blue Lagoon* in 1980, *Tanna* marks the first time a major motion picture has been made in Vanuatu. And certainly the first of its kind to feature Vanuatu performers and languages.

The two young directors lived with the Yakel for seven months, writing and filming their movie while embracing the culture. They exchanged traditions, shared stories and songs, learned the local language, and their children played together.





“

Tanna marks the first time a major motion picture has been made in Vanuatu. And certainly the first of its kind to feature Vanuatu performers and languages.

”

Having previously made film and television works detailing the history of Australian indigenous cultures, *Tanna* came about as naturally as it could to these two filmmakers.

Inspired by Rolf de Heer's classic *Ten Canoes* and with a desire to live in another culture for an extended period of time, the two men set about finding the right tribe to work with in Vanuatu. When introduced to the Yakel, Dean and Butler were greeted warmly by their new film stars and set about crafting their audacious movie concept around them with everyone deciding a man named Mungau should play the romantic male lead simply because he was the most handsome.

The movie is an adaptation of a song that Dean and Butler heard on the island. The song tells the tale of two lovers who defied their elders to be together and subsequently altered the history of their people.

Set among the bright greens of the Vanuatu jungle and the translucent blues of the Pacific Ocean and sky, as well as the eye-popping visuals of a nearby active volcano, *Tanna* is a visually striking romance that has all the hallmarks of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. ➤

Show reel ... on location for the making of the movie *Tanna*. The directors, Martin Butler and Bentley Dean, are pictured arm-in-arm with locals who they lived with for seven months.



Vanuatu in the frame

They say the shoot was remarkably easy despite all of the circumstances that included the Yakel people being in a vicious and bloody land dispute with another tribe.

The filmmakers and locals were playful and the Yakel adapted themselves easily to the filmmaking process. While one camera was destroyed by acid rain thanks to the volcano, it was an otherwise serendipitous meeting, with of filmmakers and subjects coming together to make an extraordinary, once-in-a-lifetime film.

The movie premiered at the Venice Film Festival, where the Tanna residents in traditional outfits walked and danced down the red carpet at one of the most prestigious film events in the world, tried pizza and used light switches for the first time. A fitting end to the extraordinary ride of a film that everyone should see. ■

See facebook.com/TannaMovie.



SOUTH PACIFIC IN FOCUS

Other notable movies and documentaries shot in the South Pacific region.

■ PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea has been the location of many documentaries, including the Oscar-nominated *First Contact* from 1982, *Cannibal Tours* from 1988, and *Black Harvest* from 1992, which all examined the effect of western civilisation on the native Papuans and their way of life. The 2012 drama, *Mr Pip*, starring House actor Hugh Laurie, was set and filmed in Bougainville, as was the 1956 Australian film *Walk Into Paradise* starring Chips Rafferty, which was filmed in the country's highlands.

■ FIJI

The first, and as yet only, film ever made in Fiji is Vilsoni Hereniko's *The Land Has Eyes*. It follows the story of a young woman who has been shamed because she is the daughter of an accused thief, but who finds personal inspiration in the legends of her people and especially that of the 'Warrior Woman'. Star Sapeta Taito had never even seen a film before starring in *The Land Has Eyes*, and she plays opposite Rena Owen, a famous Maori actress best known for her work in *Once Were Warriors* as well as two of the Star Wars prequels and several of the spin-off Star Wars computer games.

■ TAHITI

The largest and most populated island in French Polynesia, Tahiti has been seen on screen many times. Multiple versions of the famed story of the HMS *Bounty* have been filmed there, including those starring Errol Flynn (1933's *In the Wake of the Bounty*) and Marlon Brando (1962's *The Mutiny on the Bounty*). The most critically acclaimed film to be produced in Tahiti is the Academy Award-winning, 1931 silent epic *Tabu* about a forbidden love in the south seas from world-renowned German filmmaker F.W. Murnau.

■ TUAMOTU ISLANDS

This small cluster of islands and atolls in French Polynesia became famous as the end mark of the dramatic Kon-Tiki trans-Pacific raft journey undertaken by Norwegian scientists in 1947. The events were first seen in the 1950 documentary *Kon-Tiki*, which won an Academy Award, and again in the 2012 dramatic adaptation. The journey from Peru to South Polynesia changed the way people viewed the origin of people in the South Pacific.

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As a major operator in a developing country, we strongly believe we have a responsibility to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of Papua New Guineans.

”

Papua New Guinea's largest company, Oil Search, is taking an active approach in improving the health and wellbeing of Papua New Guineans.

In 2011, the company set up the Oil Search Foundation, which is still going strong today. The foundation provides health care, leadership and education opportunities, and women's protection and empowerment programs.

The programs are set up in collaboration with communities and government agencies.

"Oil Search was established in Papua New Guinea in 1929," the company's managing

director Peter Botten says. "Today, our activities go far beyond oil and gas ..."

For Oil Search, there is a smart business strategy in supporting economic development in PNG and improving the social conditions of the communities in its operational areas. Benefits, such as providing health care, increase the likelihood that communities will support the company's long-term operations – known as a 'social license to operate'.

Investment in health, education and women's protection and empowerment also contribute to the development of a strong and healthy Papua New Guinean workforce,

which is critical to successful operations, Botten says.

"As a major operator in a developing country, we strongly believe we have a responsibility to make a meaningful contribution to the lives of Papua New Guineans and that our work, both directly and through the foundation, is critical to protecting Oil Search's value and driving growth," he says.

Kymerley Kepore, the recently appointed Papua New Guinean chief executive officer of the foundation, points out that creating shared value requires collaboration. ▶



She emphasises the importance of building partnerships with communities.

The foundation's most well-established program aims to strengthen district health systems. The health program is driven by collaboration with communities and government agencies.

"Take the enormous tuberculosis challenge in PNG. We are supporting the government's emergency response team to address the growing issue of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and working with a variety of partners to find solutions in the Gulf Province," says Kepore.

Other health activities include support for Papua New Guinean agencies to increase access for women to safe and skilled deliveries of their babies; improving the survival of children through immunisations and nutrition; and assisting the government's program for malaria elimination.

In co-operation with others, the foundation also tackles HIV through education and access to testing and treatment.



Meeting the community ... an Oil Search executive on the ground in Kutubu in the Southern Highlands Province (above); managing director Peter Botten at the Tigibi Aidpost in Hela Province (previous page).

Gender inequality and violence against women is another focus. The company says it provides a safe, supportive and progressive work environment for women.

"Through this approach, we aim for Oil Search to be a private-sector champion and leader in the field of women's protection and empowerment. We are implementing company wide policies, offering tools and knowledge to staff on crucial issues like interpersonal, family, sexual, and workplace violence that affect our staff, our business, and our communities. But we also reach out to communities directly with culturally sensitive activities in response to local needs," Botten says.

The foundation is forging ahead with early childhood literacy programs in remote communities, as well as programs to strengthen leadership and education at secondary schools.

"We believe that the proactive participation of the corporate sector is not only needed, but is a social obligation," Botten says. ■

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Fashionably PNG

Papua New Guinean fashion designer Dru Douglas is cutting out a career for himself in New Zealand. *Kevin McQuillan* reports.

Dru Douglas left Papua New Guinea to develop an IT career in New Zealand seven years ago, but when the NZ economy tanked and stunted his IT aspirations in 2011 he turned to his first passion, fashion design.

Born in Rabaul to an Anglo-Indian father and a Rabaul mother, Douglas was educated at international schools in Rabaul and Lae, where the Douglas family moved three years after the Rabaul twin volcanic eruption in 1994. After completing Grade 12 at Coronation College in Lae, his father persuaded him to apply for a NZ scholarship in information technology, which he won, and so moved to Dunedin in 2002.

"It was quite an experience," says Douglas. "I found it rather difficult trying to acclimatise to Dunedin weather. I arrived in summer but it was

so cold. It was a really big time for me. The first time away from my family and I had to support myself."

A condition of the scholarship was that at its end, he had to return to PNG for two years.

"It was a difficult time finding an IT job in Lae. People preferred to give jobs to friends and families. I was fortunate to get two six-month contracts."

IT was still in its infancy in Lae in the mid-2000s.

"I really wanted to get into software development but there were no software development companies in PNG at that time. I thought that, career wise, I should return to NZ."

Within a week of relocating to Auckland, he was working as an IT analyst. But because of the recession in NZ, software development work

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remained elusive, so Douglas started looking for fresh fields.

There wasn't much happening, so he went back to uni. It was time, he thought, to follow a passion he'd had since he was five: fashion design.

Accepted into the demanding fashion design degree program at Auckland University of Technology, he learnt and excelled.

"When I went into the course, I knew nothing about the practicalities of fashion work – like using a sewing machine or drafting a pattern – and I learnt so much in my first year."

In his second year, in 2013, he was selected to attend the prestigious Amsterdam Fashion Institute. While there, his father died, and it's only now, he says, that he is beginning to refocus ➤



Dru Douglas ... a talent for fashion and IT.

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Fashionably PNG

“

It's very important for designers and consumers to be conscious of the environment and the social impacts of how their clothes are made.

”

on his career. “For my graduate collection I was inspired by masked beings known as *dukduks* and *tambuans*, which are a part of the traditional secret men’s society in Rabaul,” he says. He describes his collection as “dramatic yet playful and incorporates movement, volume and texture”.

“I’m focusing on exploring the basic concepts contained in my graduate collection and am trying to translate these concepts into a ready-to-wear collection, particularly for career women.

“I follow these amazing Papua New Guinea women on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter, and it’s interesting to see what they’re doing.

“They’re wanting to make a difference within PNG and so when I think about my collection



PICTURE: RON STAM

Gold class ... one of the designs by Dru Douglas.

and who I want to dress, those are the kinds of women I want to dress.

“They are creative, self-assured and confident, and they want to see change in the country. But they are the sorts of people who appreciate ready-to-wear quality garments inspired by local culture. I find that those women are proud to be Papua New Guinean, so those are the clients I am aiming for.”

While developing his line, Douglas works full-time for the software company he has been with since 2008 and helps manage and contributes to macandmae.com, an influential lifestyle blog in NZ.

Douglas will use his IT knowledge to promote and manufacture his fashion in a sustainable way. He is marketing mainly online, rather than having a shop front, but says he is not averse to

having a local agent in Port Moresby.

“I want to approach my manufacturing differently and I want to employ a different design concept. I want to make garments as they are ordered, which means I won’t be making bulk orders.

“When I was studying, I learnt just how much waste there is in the fashion industry. It’s such an ugly thing about the industry; just how people buy so many cheaply produced items and throw them away. This cut-throat competition forces factories to treat their employees appallingly and not pay them a fair wage.

“It’s very important for designers and consumers these days, to be conscious of the environment and the social impacts of how their clothes are made.

“Ideally, I would like them to be made in PNG. That would be a wonderful way of developing the industry and employing people, but right now I am researching factories in Asia, or even Fiji.”

So how does a 32-year-old Papua New Guinean now see his homeland?

“I had such an amazing childhood (in PNG), full of adventure, fun and being immersed in the culture. I stay in touch by reading about what’s happening in PNG through social media, and I make the occasional visit.

“It’s more diverse than any other country and it’s exciting to read about young Papua New Guineans who are speaking their minds and, because of social media, so many issues, including corruption, are so much more visible now.”

Douglas says it is pleasing to see creative Papua New Guineans making a name for themselves in the fields of fashion, art and theatre. ■





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BY NINA KARNIKOWSKI

Trail blazing

Whether you're doing the hard yards on the Kokoda Trail or lounging about in a jungle camp, we've got you covered.



Patagonia Sol Patrol shirt

You love to hike, but you hate to burn. Well, you can button down and hike up in the Sol Patrol travel shirt, which provides UPF 30 (ultraviolet protection factor) sun protection and a stand-up collar to protect your neck. It also features a lightweight, polyester ripstop construction, making it light yet durable and just the thing for bashing through the Kokoda trails. Available in green, peach, blue, stone and white, and also with long sleeves. *From about PGK224; patagonia.com.*



Columbia Tamiami shirt

This is one of the most technical hiking shirts around and has a UPF 40 rating. Its anti-microbial fabric and mesh-lined vent in the back will keep you fresh as a daisy, even at the end of a 30-kilometre trek, and the classic modern fit will ensure

you look as good as you smell. Comes in a bold range of colours. *About PGK143; columbia.com.*



Orvis Bush shirt

As stylish as it is practical, the Orvis won't leave you looking out of place the moment you step out of the wilds. Its fabric, bush poplin, breathes well and wicks dust and moisture to keep you dry and cool while you're adventuring, and has been used widely in expedition and safari clothing for nearly a century. *About PGK293; orvis.com.*



Icebreaker Tech t-shirt

Whether you're hiking through the forest or lounging about in camp, Icebreaker's Tech short-sleeve crew is the perfect adventure tee for hot and muggy days. It's made from a light, soft, breathable merino wool fabric – which will also keep

you warm should the temperature suddenly drop (hey, we can dream). *About PGK216; au.icebreaker.com.*



ExOfficio Bugs Away pants

When the bug situation gets out of hand, the ExOfficio BugsAway No Borders pants are almost guaranteed to save the day. Featuring "insect shield technology" – which uses an invisible, odourless chemical called permethrin that's so tightly bonded to the fabric it stays effective up until 70 washes – the BugsAway pants repel mosquitoes, ticks, ants, flies and more, without you lifting a finger. *About PGK269; exofficio.com.*



Arc'teryx Rampart shorts

If you're a hardcore hiker, you'll need shorts that will allow you to jump and climb, and maybe even karate kick a taipan. The gusseted crotch and stretchy fabric of these Arc'teryx shorts will ensure you never feel restricted, and the pockets at the hip, on the legs and in the back mean you won't even

have to take a bag if you want to trek light. Available in a funky selection of colours. *About PGK269; arcteryx.com.*



Marmot Adams shorts

Take a tumble crossing a stream while hiking? Or feel like taking a dip when you reach that stunning beach at the end of the trail? Pfft, don't worry, you're wearing your Marmot Adams shorts, remember? The lightweight, quick-dry polyester fabric means they can transition between land and sea as quickly as you can say, "where's my towel?", plus they offer UPF 30 sun protection. Stand out from the hiking hoi polloi with the check print, or stay classic in heritage blue. *About PGK156; paddypallin.com.au.*



Kathmandu Mocoa shorts

Quick-drying. Stain resistant. Wrinkle defiant. All phrases the travelling hiker wants to hear when choosing a pair of shorts for the next adventure. The elasticated waist and nylon webbing belt of Kathmandu's Mocoa shorts means they're super comfortable to wear, plus they've been doused in Scotchgard to give them exceptional stain protection. Now that's something we'll raise our hiking poles to. *About PGK130; kathmandu.com.au.*



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Gadgets and travel accessories

Charger alarm

We all know how easy it can be to forget your mobile phone, laptop or tablet charger in your hotel room or at the airport gate. Thankfully, the clever folk at ChargerLeash have come up with the ingenious Forget-Me-Not cable, which sounds an alarm when you disconnect your device but forget to unplug it from the wall. It also has a snooze feature so you can silence the alarm when you're at home, and is compatible with both Apple and non-Apple devices.

About PGK89; chargerleash.com.



Travel washing machine

Whether you're travelling in Papua New Guinea, sailing in the South Pacific, or surfing in Hawaii, the lightweight Scrubba Wash Bag lets you do your laundry anywhere on the road. Just put your washing, two to four litres of water, and some washing detergent in the bag, clip it closed, rub your clothes against the internal flexible washboard and rinse in fresh water. About PGK142; thescrubba.com.au.



Safe drinking bottle

If you're travelling to a part of the world where the drinking water may be suspect, consider taking CamelBak's All Clear drinking bottle. The 750-millimetre bottle is equipped with rechargeable lithium ion batteries and uses UV light to neutralise viruses and bacteria to provide safe drinking water in 60 seconds, from nearly any tap or natural water source. About PGK326; camelbak.com.



Tubular hanging bag

If you like the idea of never having to unpack again, ROLO has designed a tubular carry-on bag that has a hook inside so you can unroll it and hang it vertically, giving you direct access to the mesh pockets containing all your clothes and travel essentials. Perfect for the minimalist traveller who wants to save time and stay organised. About PGK149; rolotravel.com.



Tiny travel iron

You get to your hotel in Port Moresby, quickly unpack to get to that meeting on time, and discover all too late that your shirts are creased. Sound familiar? You might want to invest in this tiny travel steam iron, which bills itself as the world's smallest. It fits in the palm of your hand and ensures your clothes remain wrinkle free. It heats in one minute, has three temperature settings and a steam emission button, and can switch voltages for international use. About PGK89; hammacher.com.





Customisable pocket knife

Pocket knives are a travel necessity for the active traveller – only problem is that you rarely need everything they offer, and sometimes need things they don't. Enter the Switch customisable pocket knife, the modern version of a Swiss Army knife that comes with 12 easily interchangeable attachments. These include a wood saw, serrated blade, bottle opener, screwdrivers, scissors, LED flashlight and more, that perform 16 distinct functions and can be mixed, matched and customised to suit your needs. *About PGK312; amazon.co.uk.*



Virtual pet minder

For animal lovers who hate the thought of travelling without their furry friends, the PetCube connects to your Wi-Fi network and video streams what your pets are getting up to while you're away. The device's two-way microphone and speaker means you can listen to, and talk to, your pet. *About PGK593; petcube.com.*

iPad privacy screen

Are you sick of busybodies peering over your shoulder at your tablet when you're working on planes or commuting to and from the office? Solo's privacy screen slim case for the iPad Air has a built-in privacy screen with a magnetic cover lock that darkens when viewed from the side, and is probably an easier solution than trying to block your screen with your arm. *About PGK209; solo.net.*



Smart phone printer case

If you miss the days when you'd print your travel photos, fret not. Prynt is here. This smartphone case essentially turns your mobile phone into a photo printer. It includes a rechargeable internal battery so it won't drain your phone's power, and it doesn't need an internet connection or ink cartridge: just click your phone in and instantly print any photo. *About PGK415, including a 10-pack of Prynt paper; pryntcases.com.*



Flash drive cufflinks

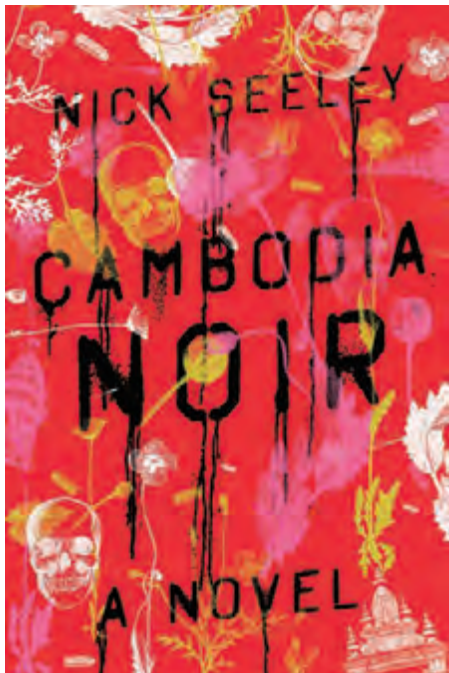
Like something out of a James Bond film, these stylish Ravi Ratan cufflinks discreetly provide the wearer with a Wi-Fi hotspot and 2GB mini USB, making them ideal for the style-conscious business traveller who wants to have important documents at their fingertips. They can also be engraved for that extra bit of pizzazz. *About PGK522; cufflinks.com.*



Hammock tent

For those adventurous getaways, the Lawson Blue Ridge Camping Hammock is probably something you don't want to be without. This waterproof tent hammock will keep you cool and above the ground. It is crafted from ripstop nylon and features a net canopy, so you can rest easy in the bush. *About PGK418; lawsonhammock.com.*





***Cambodian Noir* (Simon & Schuster), by Nick Seeley**

Nick Seeley's debut novel is a thriller about a mysterious American woman who disappears into the Cambodian underworld, and the photo-journalist who attempts to find her.

In Phnom Penh, once-renowned war photographer Will Keller spends his days taking any job that pays. His nights are a wild haze.

Keller's ride to oblivion is interrupted by Kara Saito, a young woman who begs him to help find her sister, who disappeared during a stint as an intern at the local newspaper.

Keller's best clue is the woman's diary: a collection of experiences, memories, and dreams. As he digs, he uncovers disturbing facts about the missing girl (June) and her bloody family history. The most dangerous thing in Cambodia may be June herself. Given the chaos in Phnom Penh at the time of her disappearance, that is a highly original feat.

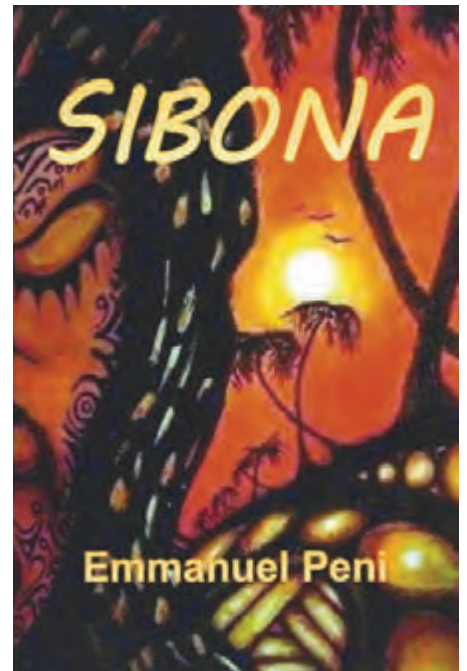


***Inside the Crocodile* (Troubador), by Trish Nicholson**

Before her adventures in Papua New Guinea, UK-born Dr Trish Nicholson worked in anthropology and had a successful management career in Europe. Life's compass spun wildly when she won a job in PNG with the brief to restructure and provide training within the Department of Personnel Management in Sandaun in PNG's northwest.

This book is a record of the five years Nicholson spent meeting personal and professional challenges.

Colleagues and new friends, including Frisbee the Hound Dog, helped Nicholson find her way through the challenges she faced in PNG in the late 80s and early 90s. This detailed account is based on her extensive diaries, but *Inside the Crocodile* also includes photos Nicholson, a woman of many talents, took during what proved to be a memorable adventure.



***Sibona* (Pukpuk Publications) by Emmanuel Peni**

Peni, 43, was born in Madang, has a bachelor's degree in applied science and is co-director of a PNG micro-finance company.

Peni has also written short stories but this, his first book, explores the expectations and obligations of relationships. The novel's characters are many, but ultimately the story is about Sibona, a woman sent to live with her aunt in Port Moresby, who has to learn to live with the often-testing expectations of her adopted family.

Not surprisingly, Sibona struggles to come to terms with her new life.

Peni's work has been described as being about the courage and resilience of one individual against many obstacles, and that *Sibona* portrays the best and the worst of contemporary Papua New Guinean culture.

The novel's cover is a copy of a painting by Gary Juffa, Governor of Oro Province.





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Dheepan

This drama, the Palme d'Or Winner at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival, begins near the end of Sri Lanka's civil war. Dheepan (Antonythasan Jesuthasan) is a Tamil freedom fighter, a Tiger, a soldier of the soon-to-be-defeated side.

Dheepan decides to flee, taking with him two strangers – a woman and a little girl – hoping they will make it easier for him to claim asylum in Europe.

Arriving in Paris, the 'family' moves from one temporary home to another until Dheepan finds work as the caretaker of a run-down suburban housing block.

He works to build a new life and a real home for his 'wife' and his 'daughter', but the daily violence he confronts quickly reopens his war wounds. Dheepan is forced to reconnect with his warrior's instincts to protect the people he hopes will become his true family.

The film stars Antonythasan Jesuthasan (pictured), a former Tamil Tiger, and is reportedly partly based on his life.



Risen

Joseph Fiennes and Tom Felton (from the *Harry Potter* series) star in this tale of a Roman inquiry into the reported resurrection of Jesus Christ.

According to this version of the story, Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect who sentenced Jesus to death, was told that followers of Jesus were claiming he would rise again in three days. Pilate ordered soldiers to guard the tomb to prevent his body from being taken, but still Jesus' body disappeared. Had he risen?

Clavius (played by Fiennes, pictured) is the Roman tribune ordered to investigate the disappearance of Jesus' corpse.

Rich Peluso, the movie's American producer, has said the story is original as it's told from the Roman point of view. According to Peluso, this is Clavius's story. This powerful pagan finds himself leading not only an investigation but also his own self discovery.



13 hours: The secret soldiers of Benghazi

A cynic will tell you this story was going to be made into a movie within minutes of the real-life tragedy unfolding. In 2012, on the evening of the 11th anniversary of the September 11 attack on New York's Twin Towers, a group of militants attacked the American diplomatic compound and a nearby CIA annex in Benghazi, Libya.

Enter the CIA security contractors – comprised of military veterans who served with the Navy SEALs and the Army Special Forces. They attempt to defend the American ambassador and his staff within the compound. In real life things did not go according to the script the CIA may have envisaged for such an attack.

13 hours is written by award-winning reporter and author Mitchell Zuckoff.

Port Moresby's Paradise Cinema screens many of our reviewed movies. For screening dates and session times see paradisecinemaspng.com.



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GOING COCONUTS

Niugini Organics is on a roll, with its highly prized coconut products exported around the world. *Ben Creagh* reports that the PNG business is also bolstering the incomes of hundreds of families that harvest the coconuts.

Niugini Organics has exported organic coconut products, manufactured at its headquarters near Kerevat on East New Britain, since 2008.

The PNG-owned company's export market for coconut oil and soaps continues to expand. In Australia and New Zealand, in particular, Niugini Organics' products are well-known and available in thousands of health stores and supermarkets.

Director Dennis Hill tells *Paradise* that Niugini Organics has experienced a fairly steady growth rate on the export market that now includes a presence in Europe and Asia.

"Our strategic advantage for doing business here is the supply of coconuts in a town that happens to have a good port with a reasonable amount of direct overseas shipping," Hill says.

"Our coconut oil has always performed well, but at the moment we seem to be getting a number of things right with our soap products as well. The feedback we get from our customers is that the product is the best on the market."

Another key advantage for Niugini Organics is the regular supply of coconuts it has from smallholders in the area, a relationship that has developed over several years and continues to be mutually beneficial for both parties.

"We now have around 200 smallholder coconut suppliers and that is something we are proud of," Hill says.

"We specifically run it as a smallholder operation, not a buying point where we just buy coconuts. We have a buying plan and a schedule we put out weeks in advance. All of the smallholders are also organically certified."





Hand to mouth ... a youngster picks out a treat to take to school (top left); coconut workers and family; jars ready to be filled with oil.

The reliable supply of coconuts has allowed Niugini Organics to invest in the expansion of its factory into a 1200-square-metre facility, as well as the development and training of its workforce.

For Hill, and his wife and co-director Debra, who have been married for 27 years, working in and around smallholder groups has been a recurring theme of their experience in PNG's agriculture industry.

Coconuts are a family affair for Debra. Growing up on the tiny island of Emirau, she helped harvest coconuts for copra, which provided the income that paid for Debra and her siblings' education.

Arriving in PNG from Australia in 1980, Dennis, an agricultural scientist, became familiar with the concept of integrated smallholder agriculture, establishing similar projects with Tablebirds in Lae and the

Anglican Church in Popondetta. He became fascinated by the economics of small-scale coconut oil production after taking up a management role in the plantation industry.

"The whole industry was decades out of date and it occurred to me that the best way forward was downstream processing, a phrase often used but rarely implemented," Hill recalls.

"The copra industry could be summarised by taking the coconut, which has such unique properties, and then damaging it thoroughly by drying it over smoky fires and then storing under conditions that promote mould growth."

Coconut oil made from copra must be extensively chemically treated before it can be used for any purpose, Hill adds.

"However, by processing freshly husked nuts that are collected as they fall it is ▶

The stories in our 'Strictly Business' section were first published in PNG's online business magazine, businessadvantagepng.com and are re-published by arrangement with Business Advantage International.



Going coconuts

possible to extract a very high-grade virgin coconut oil that retains all of the natural goodness, and is now known as one of the healthiest edible oils available," he says.

Hill was hopeful of developing a business model that would make the coconut crop profitable again for village farmers around coastal areas.

“

Our coconut oil has always performed well, but at the moment we seem to be getting things right with our soap products as well. The feedback is that the product is the best on the market.

”

In 1994, the Hills founded Tropic Frond Oils Limited to establish opportunities for processing coconuts into finished products, and launched Curls, a cosmetic brand for the PNG market.

However, following the devastation of the twin volcanic eruptions of Mount Tavuvur and Vulcan the couple was forced to start again, leading to the construction of the premises near Kerevat.



Hill says the relationship with smallholder groups was vital for Niugini Organics from the outset, and something that remains a priority for the company.

“One thing that we don’t want is the issue of large land ownership and the complications that brings,” he explains.

“There is a certain amount of ethical decision-making there – everything is better served by sharing it out. You can utilise your capital for expansion of the core business without spreading it over things such as the cost of land ownership.”

With PNG’s agricultural industry, and especially the coconut sector, requiring a boost, Hill believes the smallholder model has potential to provide benefits for other agriculture businesses.

“The model where you have an integrated company that really sticks to its own business and does what it is good at, which is producing a product, isn’t utilised enough,” Hill says.

“They can utilise small holders to do what they do – that’s a model that works. It is a pity in a way that more businesses don’t follow that model. Coconuts are a big expenditure for us, we are spending between PGK1000 and 2000 each day, seven days a week.”

As Niugini Organics’ export market has expanded so has global demand for organic coconut products. Hill says the industry has become mainstream with several new competitors joining the marketplace.

“From being what they used to call niche or boutique products a few years ago, we are now putting out a very high-quality product in a large market that is moving towards supermarkets rather than health stores,” he says.

Despite growing competition, the quality of the company’s virgin coconut oil was recently recognised when it was named runner-up in the Best Organic Product category of the Australian Consumer Choice Awards, finishing ahead of 14 Australian-produced finalists. ■



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Industrial zone goes ahead

The Pacific Marine Industrial Zone (PMIZ) has been launched, with local business leaders saying it will reduce freight costs, speed up transport and reduce congestion at Lae's wharves. *Kevin McQuillan reports.*

The Prime Minister, Peter O'Neill, launched the \$US95 million construction phase of the PMIZ project late last year, saying it will earn the country between \$US2 billion and \$US4 billion (PGK6 billion and PGK12 billion) a year when fully developed, with Madang Province earning about \$US6 million (PGK20 million) a year.

"The project will bring with it 30,000 jobs," he said.

The PM said it is the government's aim to beat Thailand and the Philippines as the largest tuna processing and canning hub in the Asia-Pacific region.

Fisheries Minister Mao Zeming said at the opening that the government will introduce a new policy this year "where all fish caught in PNG waters must be processed on shore".

He predicted the zone would be home to nine canneries by 2018.

Madang currently has one tuna cannery, owned by the Philippines' company RD Tuna Canners, which sold the land for



The PMIZ ... an artist's impression of the Madang development.

the zone to the PNG Government for PGK4 million.

RD's chief executive officer, Pete Celso, said the zone will allow businesses to centralise their logistics and fast-track shipping.

"The area is also intended to complement the currently overcrowded Lae wharves, considering that Madang is much nearer to the Highlands, where most of the agricultural products are coming from.

"The zone, by the way, is not purely intended for canneries.

This can cater to any value adding/on-shore processing

companies and other relevant industries that can make use of the modern wharf and other

infrastructures that will be set up in the area."

Examples of industries that might benefit include coconut, cocoa, coffee, seaweed, and marine and wood products.

"The idea is to create economies of scale, thus enabling shipping companies to pick up more cargo in one location and hence ultimately reducing the cost of freight."

Trade Minister Richard Maru previously announced that Oil Search Limited would provide power to the PMIZ, and Water PNG would provide water. ■

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Construction by: China Shenyang International Corporation. Due for completion in November 2016

Ownership: A joint venture between Kumul Consolidated Holdings and the Madang Provincial Government.

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The human factor

A company's human resources division can play a major role in the firm's strategic planning. Commentary by consultant and guest writer, *Dean Kuri*.

The major challenge facing human resources (HR) personnel is the need to support corporate productivity and efforts to improve performance.

So, it is logical that HR professionals must be more involved in designing – not just executing – the company's strategic plan.

This is because they can identify the *human* issues that are vital to defining and achieving that business strategy.

“

Superior human resources and people management practices are an important source of competitive advantage.

”

Perhaps most importantly, they can conceptualise and execute organisational change, which often fails — usually because executives don't understand the human dynamics involved with implementing change.

Organisations that know how to engage their human capital, from strategy

development to strategy execution, are surging ahead.

Superior HR and people management practices are important sources of competitive advantage, but this is only true if the HR is used in the right way and for the right reasons.

There are a number of ways in which HR departments can help senior management formulate strategy, including:

- Supplying competitive intelligence that may be useful in the strategic planning process.
- Supplying information regarding the company's internal human strengths and weaknesses.
- Building a persuasive case that shows how – in specific and measurable terms – the firm's HR activities can and do contribute to creating value for the company.

For its part, a competent HR division will ask itself a series of basic questions on a continuing basis:

- Is our HR policy comprehensive and conclusive?
- Does our policy comply with statutory and legislative standards?
- Is our staff disciplinary and code-of-conduct policy adequate?

- Is our HR and payroll system automated and integrated?
- How effective is our performance management system?
- How fair and rewarding is our remuneration structure?

A HR department is usually assigned the role of developing behavioural competencies; that is, ensuring that staff skills, knowledge and behaviours are in alignment with the company's values. It's a great way to ensure that staff time and effort are not wasted and productivity is maximised.

It is necessary that HR staff monitor the 'health' of the company's corporate culture, and also assess the relevance of those values, which often change and should reflect the prevailing economic and social climate. That means defining values, and this is an area that trained HR staff are uniquely qualified to help senior executives develop and describe for all staff.

A well-defined and thoroughly described set of values, endorsed by the executive team, provides a powerful basis for creating the desired corporate culture. ■

Dean Kuri is the principal consultant of Bonn HR Consulting in Lae.

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Bank statement

The World Bank's PNG country manager, Steffi Stallmeister, says that financing the country's infrastructure and agriculture is essential. She speaks with *Kevin McQuillan*.

Q: What are your priorities during your tenure in PNG?

A: The World Bank's priorities are financing infrastructure and agriculture. They are major sources of livelihood, so it's absolutely critical to strengthen the agricultural sector and create opportunities for Papua New Guineans in rural areas.

Q: What inspired you to join the World Bank?

A: The World Bank's strong support to education and its overall goal to reduce poverty and boost shared prosperity attracted me to the institution. Prior to joining the World Bank, as a young professional in 2002, I worked for the German development agency, GIZ, in Indonesia for two years, focusing on vocational training and economic development issues, and also as a World Bank consultant. My first three years at the World Bank were spent specialising in education issues in Africa and the Middle East. I then went to Timor Leste from 2005 to 2008, then it was

back to Africa for four years before serving as a senior strategy and operations officer, covering Europe and Central Asia, from 2012 to 2014. I arrived in PNG in 2014.



My father was a shepherd and that shaped my values and my passion for education; because it is education that opens up opportunities. Education opens doors to change lives, especially for girls.



Q: Education is important to you. Why?

A: I was born in Warstein in north-west Germany (population 26,000), and I grew up on a farm. My father was a shepherd and that shaped my values and also my passion for education; because it is education that opens up opportunities. Education opens doors to new opportunities to change lives, especially for girls.

Education is a personal passion for me. It is pretty important for every country because it's critical that a country has education as a basic priority. That of course, equals human capital.

The things I value are fairness, honesty and equal opportunities for everybody.

Q: What qualifications do you have?

A: I am fluent in English, German, and French, and I have a basic knowledge of Spanish and Indonesian. I have a Masters in Education International Affairs from the University of Münster in Germany, a Masters in International Affairs from the American University in Washington DC, as

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well as a bachelors degree in sociology and anthropology from Luther College in Iowa.

Q: How do you spend your time away from World Bank activities?

A: My relaxation activities include reading, diving, sport and catching up with friends and family around the world. I enjoy ballroom dancing, but I've yet to find a teacher in PNG.

I love PNG and this part of the world. That's why I took up the opportunity to come back to this region.

Recently I went to New Ireland, the Highlands, and Milne Bay, where I enjoyed driving all the way down to the south of New Ireland, was amazed by the hospitality of the communities in the Highlands, and loved the diving and visits to remote islands in Milne Bay.

My favourite part of PNG, so far, has been meeting the people in the communities. There are so many wonderful, warm people, who welcomed me and never lost patience in answering my many questions.

Q: How long will you stay in PNG?

My three-year appointment ends in 2017, but could be extended for a further two years.

But after four to five years, I have to move on, because the idea is to rotate experts across regions, as the World Bank's philosophy is to share global knowledge and to change countries and regions, and that's how we add value. ■

Steffi Stallmeister ...
"The things I value are
fairness, honesty and
equal opportunities
for everybody."



POWERING UP

Kevin McQuillan reports that the Ramu 2 hydro project has finally been launched, along with four other agreements for renewable energy in PNG.

The Ramu 2 Hydro Power Project is expected to increase total electricity generation capacity in Papua New Guinea by 36 per cent, according to Garry Hersey, the managing director of Kumul Consolidated Holdings (KCH), which is managing the project. It's one of five new energy projects launched recently.

The project, which was launched late last year, had been on the drawing board since 2008. When completed, it will lift the Yonki dam's electricity capacity from 93

megawatts to 273 megawatts. The capacity of Ramu 2 will be 180 megawatts.

Ramu 2 will be based on a public-private partnership (PPP) model, which will see traditional landowners assume equity, Hersey says.

He says construction of the estimated PGK5.97 billion project should begin next December.

Hersey says KCH is now in the process of finalising the structure to attract a private-sector development partner.

"The launch will now enable our consultants to move in to complete social mapping, deliver awareness, undertake environmental and social impact studies, and mobilise landowners to corporatise so that they can participate in the PPP model."

The launch of the Ramu 2 project is one of five recent agreements using renewable energy to supply additional power to PNG.

PNG Power has agreed to buy power from the Edevu hydro-power project, a 50-megawatt capacity station to be built ➤

Linking our country

Map locations: Hayfield (outside Wewak), Tabubil, Telefomin, Tari, Wapenamanda, Mt Hagen, Kiunga, Moro, Mendi, Chimbú, Bulolo, Lae, Popondetta, Port Moresby, Daru, Gurney, Kavieng, Rabaul, Lihir, Hoskins, Jacquot Bay, Losula (Trobriands), Buka, Gurney.

Legend:
 - Current routes (solid yellow line)
 - Proposed routes (dashed yellow line)
 - Charter service (dotted yellow line)

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Making a splash ... several hydro projects have been given the go ahead in PNG recently and will provide the country with a significant boost in renewable energy supply.

PICTURE: PNG TOURISM PROMOTION AUTHORITY



Powering up

along Brown River, about 40 kilometres from Port Moresby.

Chinese company PNG Hydro Development will build the project over the next five years.

PNG Biomass will use wood chips from new plantation trees grown and sustainably harvested in the Markham Valley, in Morobe Province, to provide up to 30 megawatts of base load power to the Ramu grid.

“

Ramu 2 will be based on a public-private partnership model, which will see traditional landowners assume equity.

”



PICTURE: ADB

Power source ... the Rouna hydro-power cascade that already delivers power to Port Moresby.

The construction of an initial 15-megawatt unit is due to start late this year, with the unit expected online in late 2018.

PNG Biomass is a joint venture between Oil Search (70 per cent) and Aligned Energy (30 per cent), an international biomass energy consultancy.

Highlands IPP (100 per cent owned by Oil Search) will construct an initial two-

megawatt, gas-fired pilot power project located near Hides in the Hela Province, with potential to ramp up to five megawatts in the short-term and up to 65 megawatts by 2030.

PNG Power has also signed an agreement with Landfill Energies to turn waste at Port Moresby's Baruni dump into power. ■



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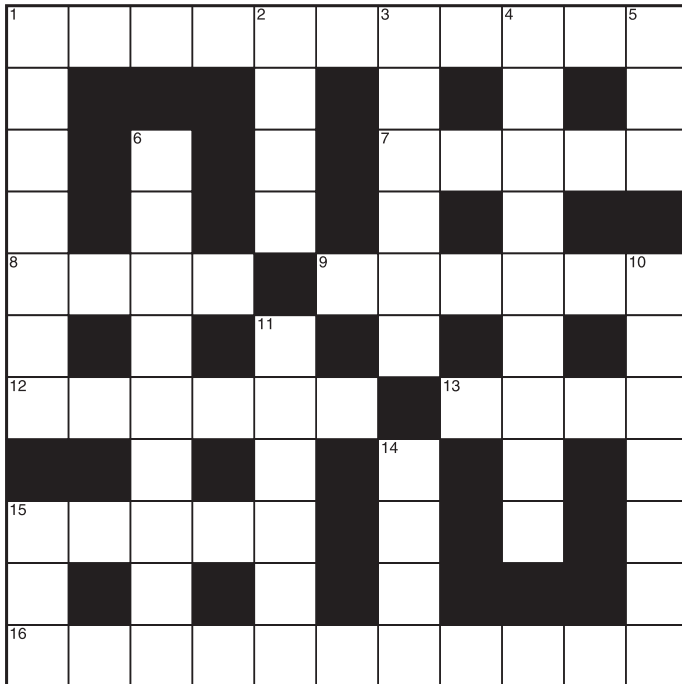
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DoubleTake

Tackle either set of these clues – you can even mix and match them, because the solutions are the same for both sets



CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

1. Important to sign if I can't (11)
7. Worship a door, in a manner of speaking (5)
8. Lee's cooking morays (4)
9. Depends what you hear about real eyes! (6)
12. It is, in an old-fashioned way, little Susan with a paper hanky (6)
13. Enid went back to have dinner (4)
15. Outposts a leopard can't change (5)
16. It was no surprise when blip reacted strangely (11)

DOWN

1. Present not in order for one who is always legless (7)
2. I managed Persia! (4)
3. I'm a long time with reflections (6)
4. Some of the flagon is ingested? Painful! (9)
5. The earliest era is where to start, at the links (3)
6. Tellers cope, apparently, with eyeglass (9)
10. For a change, respect Rod (7)
11. Mule is mixing cereal (6)
14. Point out seat (4)
15. Short drink from Mississippi (3)

STRAIGHT CLUES

ACROSS

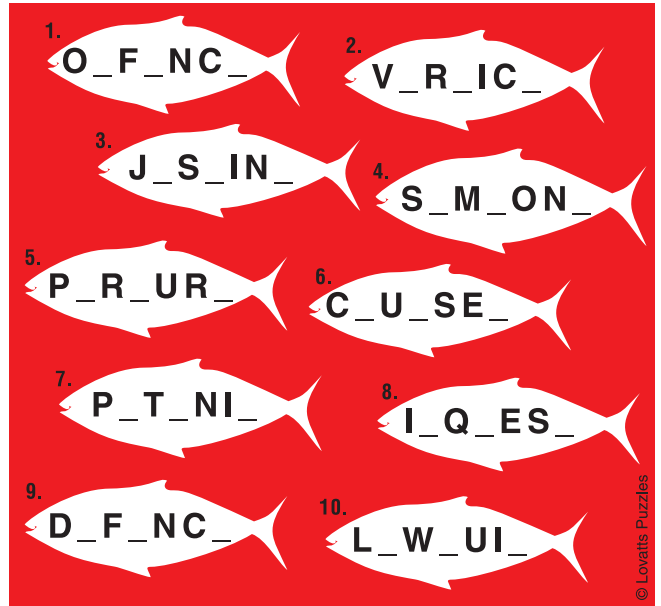
1. Meaningful (11)
7. Greatly love (5)
8. Slippery fish (4)
9. Trusts, ... on (6)
12. Delicate wrapping paper (6)
13. Treat royally, wine & ... (4)
15. Locations (5)
16. Foreseeable (11)

DOWN

1. Snake (7)
2. Iraq's neighbour (4)
3. Mental pictures (6)
4. Excruciating (9)
5. Golf-ball holder (3)
6. Astronomer's instrument (9)
10. Orb & ... (7)
11. Breakfast food (6)
14. Sunrise direction (4)
15. Sample (wine) (3)

Red Herrings

Fill in the gaps with letters to find the names of eight legal terms. Only eight? Yes, two of the examples are red herrings and won't produce anything but frustration. All the answers have seven letters.



The Paradise Quiz

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE REGION?

- 1 Who is the Deputy Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea?
- 2 What are the four colours on the Papua New Guinean flag?
- 3 If you're eating a Portuguese egg tart, where in Asia are you likely to be?
- 4 In which sea was the aircraft carrier the USS Lexington sunk during World War 2?
- 5 Who wrote *Tales of the South Pacific*?
- 6 What time is it in Queensland, Australia, if it's 6pm in Port Moresby?
- 7 Name the major conference of world leaders that will take place in Port Moresby in 2018.
- 8 Who was the first European credited with discovering the Sepik River?
- 9 What is the currency used in French Polynesia?
- 10 In what denominations can you get kina notes?
- 11 What was Mathias Kauage famous for?
- 12 What is the largest island in Indonesia?
- 13 What are the four main languages spoken in Singapore?
- 14 Singapore is one of three city-states in the world. Can you name the other two?
- 15 Which well-known city is also known by the world's longest multi-word place name of: *Krungthepmahanakhon Amonrattanakosin Mahintharayutthaya Mahadilokphop Noppharatchathaniburirom Udomratchaniwetmahasathan Amonphimanawatansathit Sakkathattiyawitsanukamprasit*?

Sudoku

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

Rating: ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

9								
	7		6		2		3	1
2				1		7		8
	6		5			8		7
	1		3	9	8		2	
4		9			7		1	
5		7		8				6
1	9		4		6		7	
								9


For solutions to the quiz and puzzles, see Page 124.

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Solutions

Red Herrings

SOLUTION:

Offence, verdict, RED HERRING, summons, perjury, counsel, RED HERRING, inquest, defence, lawsuit.

S	I	G	N	I	F	I	C	A	N	T
E			R		M		G			E
R		T		A		A	D	O	R	E
P		E		N		G				
E	E	L	S		R	E	L	I	E	S
N		E		M		S		S		C
T	I	S	S	U	E		D	I	N	E
		C		E		E		N		P
S	P	O	T	S		A		G		T
I		P		L		S				R
P	R	E	D	I	C	T	A	B	L	E

9	5	1	8	7	3	4	6	2
8	7	4	6	5	2	9	3	1
2	3	6	9	1	4	7	5	8
3	6	2	5	4	1	8	9	7
7	1	5	3	9	8	6	2	4
4	8	9	2	6	7	5	1	3
5	2	7	1	8	9	3	4	6
1	9	8	4	3	6	2	7	5
6	4	3	7	2	5	1	8	9

The Paradise Quiz

1. Leo Dion.
2. Red, black, white, yellow.
3. Macau, where the egg tart is a national institution.
4. Coral Sea.
5. James Michener.
6. 6pm (there is no time difference).
7. APEC.
8. Friedrich Hermann Otto Finsch, a German colonial explorer, 'discovered' the Sepik River in 1885.
9. French Pacific franc.
10. 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100.
11. He was a famous PNG painter awarded an OBE by Queen Elizabeth II for services to the arts. He died in 2003.
12. Sumatra.
13. English, Mandarin, Malay, Tamil.
14. Vatican City and Monaco.
15. Bangkok (it translates to City of angels, great city of immortals, magnificent city of the nine gems, seat of the king, city of royal palaces, home of gods incarnate, erected by Visvakarman at Indra's behest).

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Out and about

A quick guide to Papua New Guinea, from catching a taxi to making a phone call.



PICTURES: PNG TOURISM PROMOTION AUTHORITY; DAVID KIRKLAND

CLIMATE

With the exception of the Highlands, PNG has a warm tropical climate. The wet season in Port Moresby is from December to April.

COMMUNICATIONS

Internet: Web access in Port Moresby has improved immensely in recent years. Although it remains costly, all the Port Moresby hotels listed in this guide provide a fast-speed internet service. In other urban centres, you may still be relying on dial-up. For those staying longer, wireless internet, via a USB modem is available, although download speeds can vary.

Phone: International mobile phone roaming is possible in PNG but it is costly. A cheaper option is to buy a local SIM card and pre-paid credit (including data packs for smartphones).

It is much cheaper to make international calls from PNG than vice versa.

ELECTRICITY

The current in PNG is 240V AC 50Hz, using Australian-style plugs.

GETTING AROUND

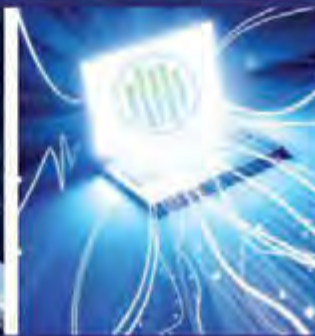
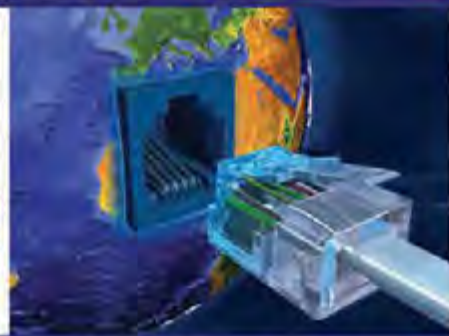
As a general rule in PNG, you need to plan your travel carefully.

Taxis: Recommended firms are Comfort (325 3046) and Scarlet (7220 7000).

Car hire: Deal with one of the international names and ask them to provide a driver (around PGK400 per day). With the poor state ➤



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of roads, especially in Lae, 4WDs/ SUVs are recommended.

Airport transfers: For arrival/ departure in Port Moresby, any of the hotels listed in this guide will provide a complimentary transfer.

Domestic flights: Travelling within PNG often means taking an internal flight (for instance, you cannot drive between Port Moresby and Lae). Air Niugini offers passengers the chance to book (and check in) online but make sure you print out a copy of your receipt to show at the check-in counter. Aircraft and helicopter charter services are available for travel to remote locations.

HEALTH

Serious medical conditions typically require treatment outside the country. Travellers should ensure they have adequate health cover (the cost of medical evacuation alone can reach \$US30,000). Visitors should also note that malaria is prevalent in PNG and there have been cases of measles and tuberculosis in some parts of the country.

MONEY

PNG's currency is the kina (PGK). ANZ and Bank of South Pacific (BSP) have branches at Port Moresby's international airport. ATMs are



located around Port Moresby, Lae and other urban centres.

SAFETY

While the situation is not as bad as portrayed by some international media, you should always take precautions, especially at night.

TIME ZONE

PNG has a single time zone, 10 hours ahead of UTC/GMT.

EATING, DRINKING, SOCIALISING IN PORT MORESBY

Airways Hotel: Port Moresby's ritziest hotel has several places to eat. If you're after fine dining, Bacchus is the place to go. For something more casual, go poolside, where Deli KC's serves antipasto, salads, sandwiches,

milkshakes, espresso and a limited Italian menu for dinner. The Poolside Bar should not be missed for its garlic prawns. The Vue Restaurant, which has a buffet each morning and evening, as well as an a la carte menu, has stunning views. This is also the place for traditional rectangular, wood-fired Italian pizza. See airways.com.pg.

Aviat Club: The club is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Home-style meals include stir-fries, toasted sandwiches and salt-and-pepper prawns. The burgers and the fish and chips are spectacular. This is a great spot to sit at lunchtime under the shady mango trees, or in the air-conditioned bar. See aviat.com.pg.

Cafe on the Edge: There are good hamburgers here and

breakfast options such as eggs benedict, avocado and the best crispy bacon. The servings are generous. It is one of the few cafes in town that opens early; you can grab your first cuppa from 6.45am. Located under the residential buildings on the new Harbour City development, down behind the ANZ and BSP bank. See facebook.com/CafeOnTheEdge.

Crowne Plaza Hotel: There are multiple eating options at Crowne. The in-house restaurant includes a buffet for breakfast (eggs cooked to order), as well as lunch and dinner. It's one of the few restaurants in Port Moresby with gluten-free choices. The hotel also has fine dining at the Rapala restaurant, where the steaks and garlic prawns are impressive. Old-fashioned crepes suzette makes an appearance here, too, and is cooked at your table.

Daikoku: The extensive Japanese menu has teppanyaki, donburi bowls and a large range of sushi. Tucked away above the SVS shopping centre in Harbour City, chefs will whip up your meal at your table. The teppanyaki menu includes several courses, so come with an empty stomach. See ourportmoresby.co/things-to-do/archives/daikoku. ➤





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Duffy Cafe, Gabaka Street:

This has rapidly become popular among the expat community, with excellent coffee and homemade cafe-style food. See [facebook.com/duffypng](https://www.facebook.com/duffypng).

Dynasty at Vision City:

This may be the biggest restaurant in Port Moresby. Its size, its chandeliers and its gold decor make it a favourite for balls, dinners and parties. The menu is huge, too, with pages of Asian dishes. Don't miss yum cha on Sunday mornings. See ourportmoresby.co/things-to-do/archives/dynasty.

Fusion: This is one of the newer restaurants in the city and always seems to be doing great business. It's Asian with a fusion of flavours from China, Thailand and Vietnam. Takeaway available.

Grand Papuan Brasserie:

The funky Grand Papua Hotel bar serves up cocktails and has a decent wine list, along with some tasty tapas-style bar food. Grab a seat in one of the huge, black leather chairs or head to the Brasserie, which has a nightly buffet. The a la carte menu is good and the steaks are delicious. See grandpapaahotel.com.pg.

Lamana Hotel: The hotel's restaurant has a daily soup and salad buffet lunch, with your choice of main and a drink. There is an Indian buffet night on Thursdays. See lamanahotel.com.pg.

Royal Papua Yacht Club:

Relaxed, spacious and open to non-members. Comfort food, draught beer and an open-plan bar area showing sport on large screens. If it's too busy, try the Aviat Club in nearby Konedobu. See rpyc.com.pg.



Seoul House: This restaurant specialises in Korean and Thai food, cooked on the hot plate right in front of you. Seoul House is tucked away in a garden oasis compound in Five Mile. Tel +675 325 2231.

Tasty Bites: This is the newest restaurant in Port Moresby, serving Indian and tucked away in the town centre in Hunter Street near Crowne Plaza. You won't get a table unless you book. Tel +675 321 2222.

Vision City: PNG's first major shopping mall houses an increasing array of eateries. The cavernous Dynasty (Chinese) and the Ten (Japanese) are stand-outs. See ourportmoresby.co/things-to-do/archives/dynasty.

HOTELS

Airways Hotel: PNG's only top-tier hotel, Airways is located within a large, secure compound next to Jacksons International

Airport. An inspiring setting, luxurious rooms and excellent service. See airways.com.pg.

Crowne Plaza: Upmarket rooms and suites in the heart of the CBD. Decent gym, business centre, undercover parking, thriving café and Mediterranean restaurant. Tel +675 309 3329.

Ela Beach Hotel and Apartments: On the fringe of the CDB, this constantly expanding hotel/apartment complex is part of the Coral Sea Hotels group. Its main eatery is popular at lunchtime. See coralseahotels.com.pg.

Gateway Hotel: Another member of Coral Sea Hotels, this time located next to the airport. A range of amenities include Port Moresby's largest dedicated meeting space. See coralseahotels.com.pg.

Grand Papua
Port Moresby's newest premium hotel opened in late 2011. The

hotel features 156 suite rooms (short and long stay), an executive floor, gym and conference facilities. The separate restaurant and bar areas are popular venues for business meetings in town. See grandpapaahotel.com.pg.

Holiday Inn

Located in the government district of Waigani. Large grounds with walking track, in a tropical garden setting. Outdoor restaurant dining and bar area, business centre and gym. Recently expanded to include a three-star Holiday Inn Express hotel (Port Moresby's newest hotel). Tel +675 303 2000.

Laguna Hotel

The Laguna is the latest hotel to open in Port Moresby, providing high-end facilities. The 60-room property is a five-minute drive from the heart of Port Moresby and features a lagoon-style pool, free airport transfers, free WiFi



and free buffet breakfast.
Tel +675 323 9333.

Lamana Hotel

Also in Waigani, this modern hotel's facilities include the popular Palazzo restaurant (steaks, pizzas and Indian cuisine), business centre, conference facilities and fashionable nightspot, the Gold Club. Tel +675 323 2333.

EATING, DRINKING, SOCIALISING IN LAE

Bunga Raya Restaurant:

A local favourite, serving Malaysian-style Chinese. Located next door to the Lae Golf Club. Make sure to try the stuffed lettuce cups, laksa and claypot tofu. Tel. +675 472 7177

Chigi's Cafe: A delightful place inside the temporary Brian Bell store near the Lae main markets. Serves good coffee, milkshakes, sandwiches, cakes and salads. Tel. +675 7217 1966.

Golden Aviat: A good option for Chinese, located on Huon Road in Eriku. Open for lunch and dinner and yum cha on Sundays. Tel. +675 472 0486.

Huon Club: A private members' club, offering air-conditioned facilities, comfortable lounge chairs, an expansive deck overlooking the Lae Golf Club, a fully stocked bar and Foxtel connection to preview all the racing and sporting events. Tel. +675 7347 1058.

Lae International Hotel: Home to three restaurants – Lulua's Italian Pizza, Vanda, and Kokomo, which all serve an array of international and Western cuisine, including Indian and seafood buffets. The Sportsman's Bar (aka Jack's Bar) is also a good place for a nightcap, or two. See laeinterhotel.com. Tel. +675 472 7000.

Lae Golf Club: Whether it's after a challenging round of golf or just an excuse to catch up with friends, the club is excellent for a few sundowners as you overlook the stunning green. Tel. +675 472 1363.

Lae Yacht Club: The perfect place for late-afternoon beers, or just as nice for a relaxing lunch. Serves pub-style food including burgers, steaks and pizza, which goes down a treat with the surrounding views of the Huon Gulf. See laeyachtclub.com. Tel. +675 472 4091.

Mountain View Restaurant: One of Lae's newest restaurants is at the Crossroads Hotel at Nine Mile. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, make sure to try the Japanese fusion menu – it's the only place in town where you can get good sushi. See hornibrook.com.pg/crossroads/. Tel. +675 475 1124.

HOTELS

Crossroads Hotel: A 45-room facility at 9 Mile. The hotel has a Japanese-themed teppanyaki restaurant with Asian/Western fusion menus, full bar service, a well-equipped gym, WiFi and complimentary transport transfers both to Lae City and Nadzab Airport. See hornibrook.com.pg/crossroads/. Tel. +675 475 1124.

Lae City Hotel: One of the newest hotels in town, offering a 24-hour concierge service. Located in the main Top Town area, it also has an excellent cafe and restaurant with western and Asian cuisine. See laecityhotel.com. Tel: +675 472 0138.

Lae International: The city's premier hotel has newly renovated rooms, full bar service, conference and banquet halls, a gym and pool.

See laeinterhotel.com. Tel: +675 472 2000.

Lae Travellers Inn: An affordable option, offering clean and comfortable rooms. Just a few minutes from the centre of town, the inn also has conference facilities and a small restaurant serving western and Indian cuisine. Tel. +675 479 0411.

Melanesian Hotel: An iconic property located in the heart of Lae. The city centre is easily accessible and the hotel has nice rooms with harbour views. A gift store and hairdresser is available on site, as well as a contemporary restaurant offering everything from pizza and steak to Asian and roast buffets.

See coralseahotels.com.pg. Tel. +675 472 3744.

For general information about Lae, see lcci.org.pg and rainylae.com.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Air Niugini, airniugini.com.pg

Business Advantage PNG, businessadvantagepng.com

PNG Tourism Promotion Authority, papuanewguinea.travel

Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce and Industry, www.pomcci.com ■

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TWO-MINUTE GUIDE TO TOK PISIN WORDS/PHRASES

Papua New Guinea has more than 800 languages, but the three official languages are Tok Pisin, English and Motu. Here, we outline some Tok Pisin, which is the largest *lingua franca* of PNG.

- *Where do I find a taxi?*
Bai mi painim taxi long wea?
- *One coffee with milk, please.*
Wanpela kap kopi wantaim milk plis.
- *Where is the toilet?*
Toilet istap wea?
- *How much is this?*
Dispela em haumas?
- *Thank you very much.*
Tenkyu tumas.
- *You understand English?*
Yu save long tok Inglis?
- *Where is my bag?*
Bag bilong mi istap wea?
- *Where can I change my money?*
Wanem hap bai mi senisim moni bilong mi?
- *One beer, please.*
Wanpela bia plis.
- *Why? Long wanem?*
- *How many children do you have?* **Yu gat haumas pikinini?**
- *Where are you from?*
Yu bilong wanem hap?
- *I don't know. Mi no save.*
- *What do you want?*
Yu laikim wanem samting?
- *Restaurant*
Ples bilong kai kai
- *Goodbye* **Gudbai**
- *Hello* **Halo**
- *Water* **Wara**
- *Baggage* **Kago**
- *Airport* **Ples balus**
- *Place* **Ples**
- *Fish* **Pis**

NUMBERS

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Wan | Tu | Tri | Foa | Faiv | Sikis | Seven | Et | Nain | Ten |

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MT HAGEN.....542 1933

GOROKA.....532 3552

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KOKOPO.....982 8193

TABUBIL.....649 9048

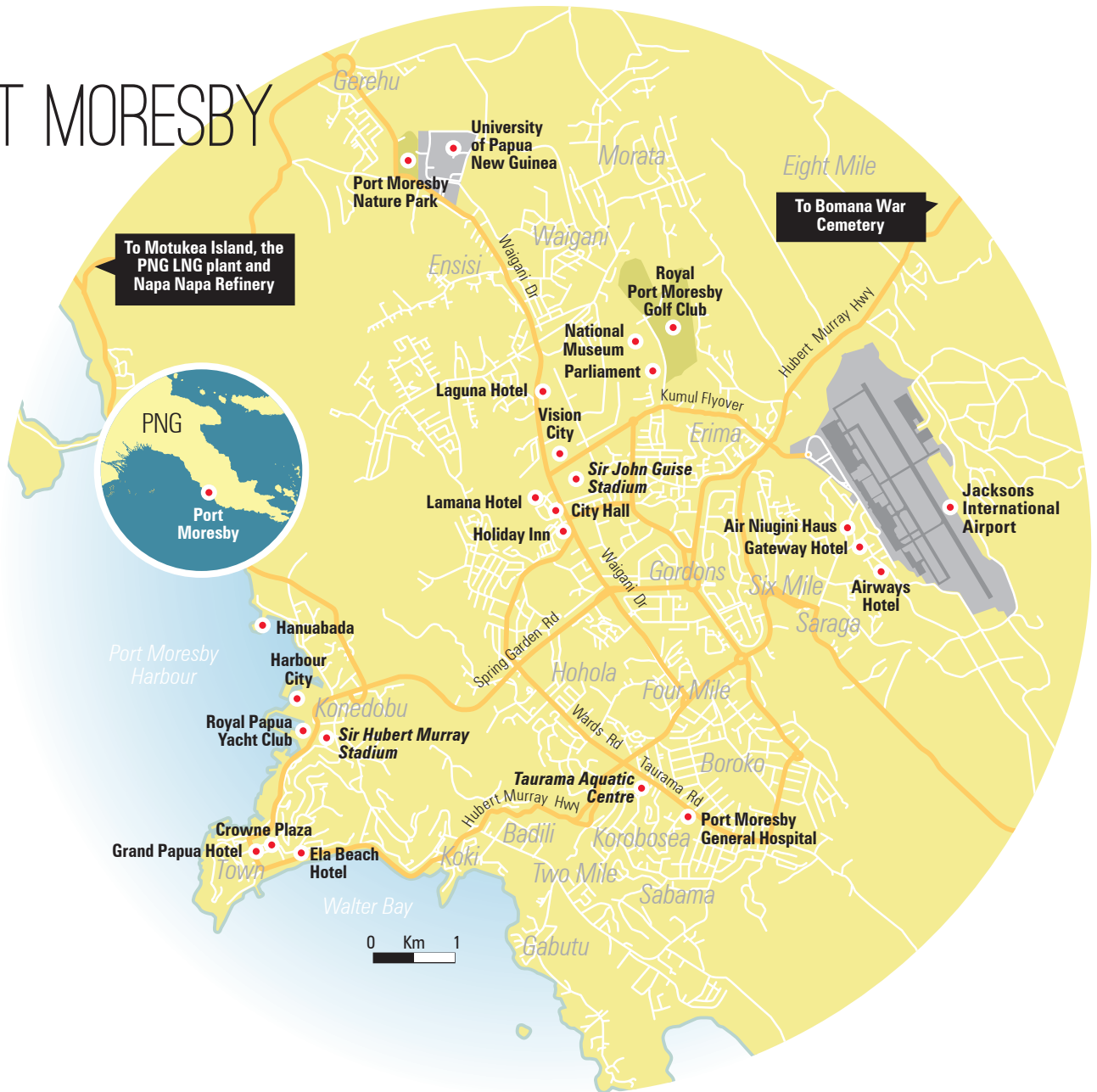
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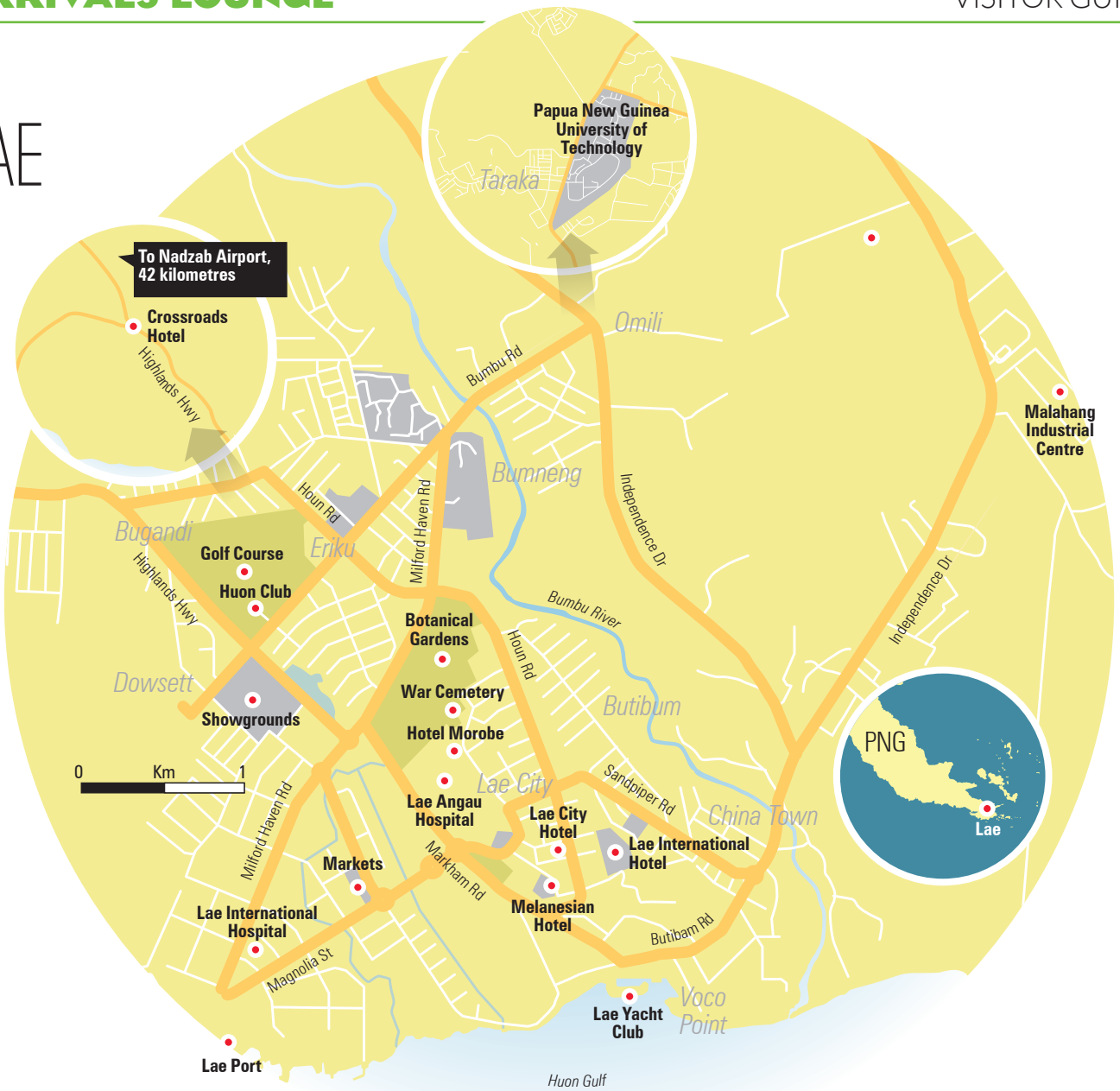




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Hand luggage

Please ensure that your carry on luggage is placed in the overhead locker or under the seat in front of you.

Takeoff and landing

Ensure that your seat is in the upright position during takeoff and landing. Folding tables must be returned to their original position in the seat back or the armrest.

Safety first

Your seat belt must be securely fastened during take off and landing or whenever the seat belt sign is on. When the seat belt sign is off you may move about the cabin as necessary. However while seated, keep your seat belt fastened securely in case of unexpected turbulence.

Electronic equipment

Cellular telephones, TV receivers or radio controlled devices are not to be used at any time on board an aircraft. Electronic devices such as portable computers, compact discs or cassette players and video games can be used only when the seat belt sign is switched off.

Children and babies

The cabin crew will also be pleased to assist in preparing your baby's food and bottle. Baby food and diapers are also available. Please do not hesitate to ask our friendly cabin crew.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted on any Air Niugini flight.

Entertainment

A selection of movies and music including classical, modern, country and local are available on international services.

Pillows and blankets

On International flights, pillows and blankets are available on request from our cabin crew.

Cuisine

Our in-flight* meals have been specially prepared for your enjoyment. If you require a vegetarian meal or you are on a special diet, child or baby food, please inform us when making your reservation.

In-flight Duty Free

During the flight take some time to look through our In-flight Duty Free brochure located in your seat pocket. Duty free purchases can be made after Meal Service. All major credit cards are accepted.

Immigration and Customs Forms

During your flight, our cabin crew will distribute Immigration and Custom forms before each landing point. Ensure that you carefully read and complete these documents and have them ready for inspection with your passport at the Immigration and Customs arrival counters.

Before you leave

Please check your seat pocket and overhead lockers before you disembark to ensure you have not left any items of value. We look forward to seeing you when you next fly with us on our Bird of Paradise Service.



Air Niugini fleet



B767-300ER - Boeing

Length: 59.94m	Power plant: 2 x PW4000
Wing span: 47.57m	Normal altitude: 11000 - 12000m
Range: 8100km	Standard seating capacity: 214
Cruising speed: 857kph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 2



B737-800 - Boeing

Length: 39.5m	Power plant: 2 x CFM56-7B26
Wing span: 35.79m	Normal altitude: 11300m
Range: 8100km	Standard seating capacity: 158
Cruising speed: 857kph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 2



B737-700 - Boeing

Length: 33.6m	Power plant: 2 x CFM56-7B22
Wing span: 35.79m	Normal altitude: 11300m
Range: 6370km	Standard seating capacity: 122
Cruising speed: 830kph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 1



F100 - Fokker

Length: 35.528m	Power plant: 2 x Rolls Royce Tay 650
Wing span: 28.076m	Normal altitude: 11000m
Range: 3000km	Standard seating capacity: 98
Cruising speed: 780kph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 7



F70 - Fokker

Length: 30.91m	Power plant: 2 x Rolls Royce Tay 620-15 turbo-fan engines
Wing span: 28.08m	Normal altitude: 11000m
Range: 3410km	Standard seating capacity: 80
Cruising speed: 743kph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 1



DASH 8-Q400 NextGen - Bombardier

Length: 32.8m	Power plant: 2 x Pratt & Whitney PW150A
Wing span: 28.4m	Normal altitude: 7500m
Range: 3000km	Standard seating capacity: 74
Cruising speed: 670kph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 6



Falcon 900EX - Dassault

Length: 20.21m	Power plant: 3 x Honeywell TFE731
Wing span: 19.33m	Maximum altitude: 51000ft
Range: 4500nm	Standard seating capacity: 12
Cruising speed: 650mph	Number of aircraft in fleet: 1

Your health inflight

At Air Niugini we care about your comfort and safety. We have included the following information about your health in-flight that we hope you will find helpful and useful.

When you are flying you can be seated and be inactive for long periods of time. The environment can be low in humidity and pressurised up to an altitude of 2240 metres above sea level. Unlike other forms of transportation, air travel allows for rapid movement across many time zones, causing a disruption to the body's "biological clock". Although these unique factors do not pose a health or safety threat to most passengers, there are guidelines you can follow that will improve your comfort level, during and after a flight. We hope the following recommendations will help you have a more pleasant flight today and in the future.

Blood Circulation/Muscle Relaxation

When you're sitting upright in a stationary position for a long period of time, several things can happen.

The central blood vessels in your legs can be compressed, making it more difficult for the blood to get back to your heart.

The long inactivity of your body muscles in this position can result in muscle tension, back aches or a feeling of excessive fatigue during, or even after, your flight.

A stationary position inhibits the normal body mechanism for returning fluid to your heart, and gravity can cause the fluid to collect in your feet. This results in swollen feet after a long flight.

Studies have concluded that prolonged immobility may be a risk factor in the formation of clots in the legs (DVT - deep vein thrombosis). Particular medication and medical conditions may increase the risk of formation of clots if associated with prolonged immobility.

Medical research indicates that factors which may give you an increased risk of blood clots in the legs include:

- ◆ Former or current malignant disease
- ◆ Blood disorders leading to increased clotting tendency
- ◆ Personal or family history of DVT
- ◆ Immobilisation for a day or more

- ◆ Increasing age above 40 years
- ◆ Pregnancy
- ◆ Recent major surgery or injury, especially to lower limbs or abdomen
- ◆ Oestrogen hormone therapy, including oral contraceptives
- ◆ Dehydration
- ◆ Heart failure
- ◆ Trauma
- ◆ Varicose veins
- ◆ Obesity
- ◆ Tobacco smoking

Recommendations

- ◆ If you fall into any of these categories or you have any concern about your health and flying, Air Niugini recommends you seek medical advice before travelling.
- ◆ Follow our in-flight exercises programme.

Jetlag

The main cause of jetlag is travelling to different time zones without giving the body a chance to adjust to new night-day cycles. In general, the more time zones you cross during your flight, the more your biological clock is disturbed.

The common symptoms are sleeplessness, tiredness, loss of appetite or appetite at odd hours.

Recommendations

- ◆ Get a good night's rest before your flight.
- ◆ Arrive at your destination a day or two early, to give your body a chance to become more acclimatised to the new time zone.
- ◆ Leave your watch on home time if you're staying at a destination less than 48 hours. Also try to eat and sleep according to your home time.



- ◆ Change your watch to the local time if your stay is longer than 48 hours, and try to eat and sleep in accordance with the local time.
- ◆ On longer stays, try to prepare in advance, adjust your meal and rest times to be closer to those of your destination.
- ◆ Try some light exercise - go for a brisk walk, or do some reading if you can't sleep after arrival at your destination. It generally takes the body's biological clock approximately one day to adjust per time zone crossed. Fly direct to minimise flight time. This allows you to relax more upon arrival.

Cabin Humidity/Dehydration

Humidity levels of less than 25 percent are common in the cabin. This is due to the extremely low humidity levels of outside air supplied to the cabin. The low humidity can cause drying of the nose, throat, eyes and it can irritate contact lens wearers.

Recommendations

- ◆ Drink water or juices frequently during the flight
- ◆ Drink coffee, tea and alcohol in moderation. These drinks act as diuretics, increasing the body's dehydration.
- ◆ Remove contact lenses and wear glasses if your eyes are irritated.
- ◆ Use a skin moisturiser to refresh the skin.

Eating and Drinking

Proper eating and drinking will enhance your comfort both during and after your flight.

Recommendations

- ◆ Avoid overeating just prior to and during the flight. It is difficult to digest too much food when the body is inactive.
- ◆ Drink coffee, tea and alcohol in moderation. These drinks act as diuretics, increasing the body's dehydration.

Cabin Pressurisation

It is necessary to pressurise the outside air drawn into the cabin to a sufficient density for your comfort and health.

Cabins are pressurised to a maximum cabin altitude of 2440 metres. It is the same air pressure as if you were at an elevation of 2440 metres above sea level. The cabin pressure and normal rates of change in cabin pressure during climb and descent do not pose a problem for most passengers. However, if you suffer from upper respiratory or sinus infections, obstructive pulmonary diseases, anaemias or certain cardiovascular conditions, you could experience discomfort. Children and infants might experience some discomfort because of pressure change during climb and descent.

If you are suffering from nasal congestion or allergies, use nasal sprays, decongestants and antihistamines 30 minutes prior to descent to help open up your ear and sinus passages. If you have a cold or flu or hay fever your sinuses could be impaired. Swollen membranes in your nose could block your eustachian tubes-the tiny channels between your middle ear chamber. This can cause discomfort during changes in cabin pressure, particularly during descent.

Recommendations

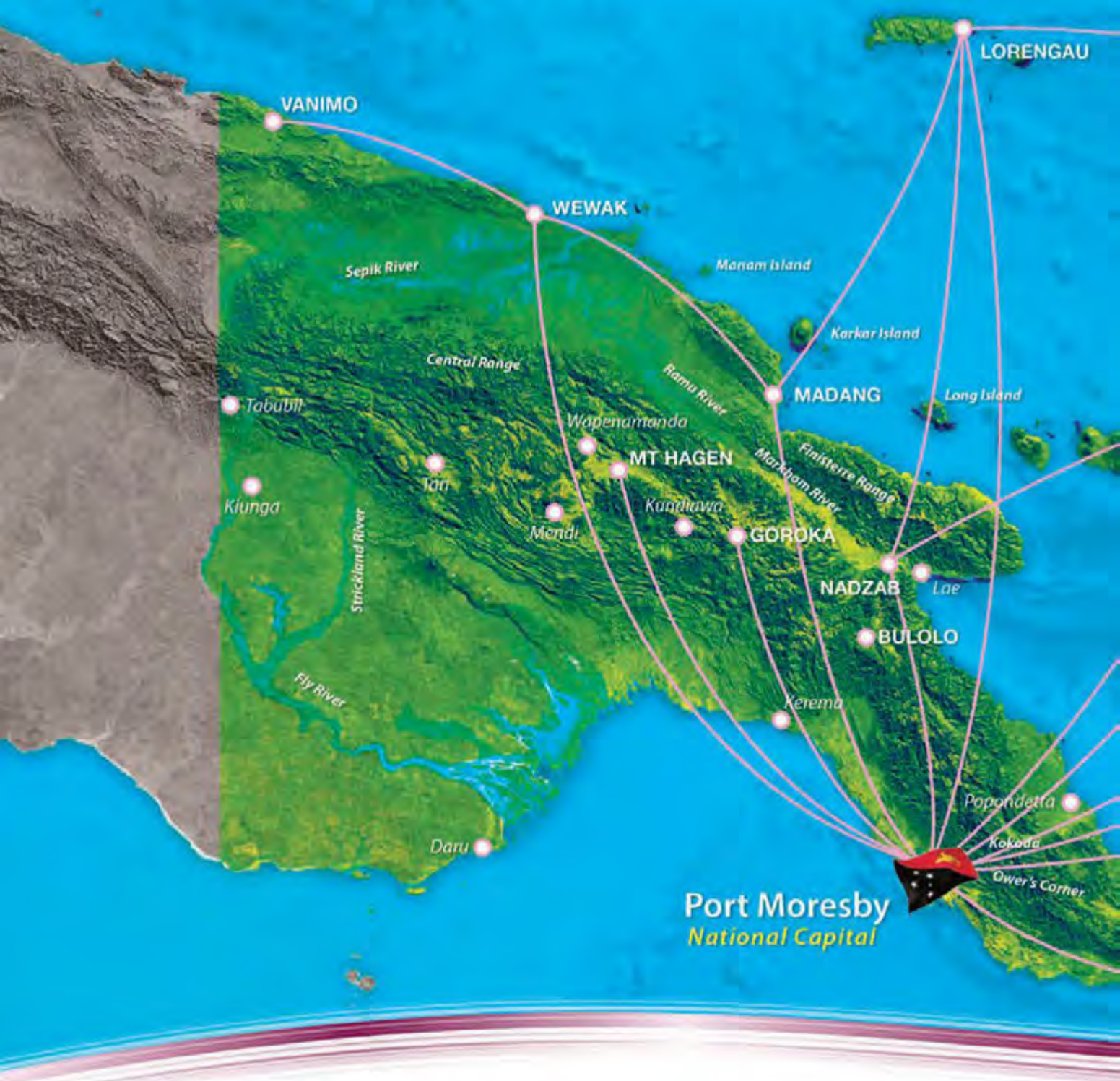
- ◆ If you have a pre-existing medical condition that warrants supplemental oxygen, you can order from us. Please give at least seven days notice before travelling.
- ◆ To "clear" your ears try swallowing and/or yawning. These actions help open your eustachian tubes, equalizing pressure between your ear chamber and your throat.
- ◆ When flying with an infant, feed or give your baby a dummy during descent. Sucking and swallowing will help infants equalize the pressure in their ears.

Motion Sickness

This ailment is caused by a conflict between the body's sense of vision and its sense of equilibrium. Air turbulence increases its likelihood because it can cause movement of the fluid in the vestibular apparatus of the inner ear. If you have good visual cues (keeping your eyes fixed on non-moving object), motion sickness is less likely to occur.

Recommendations

- ◆ When weather is clear and you can see the ground, sea or horizon, you are less susceptible to motion sickness.
- ◆ You can buy over the counter medications but we recommend that you consult your doctor about the appropriate medications.



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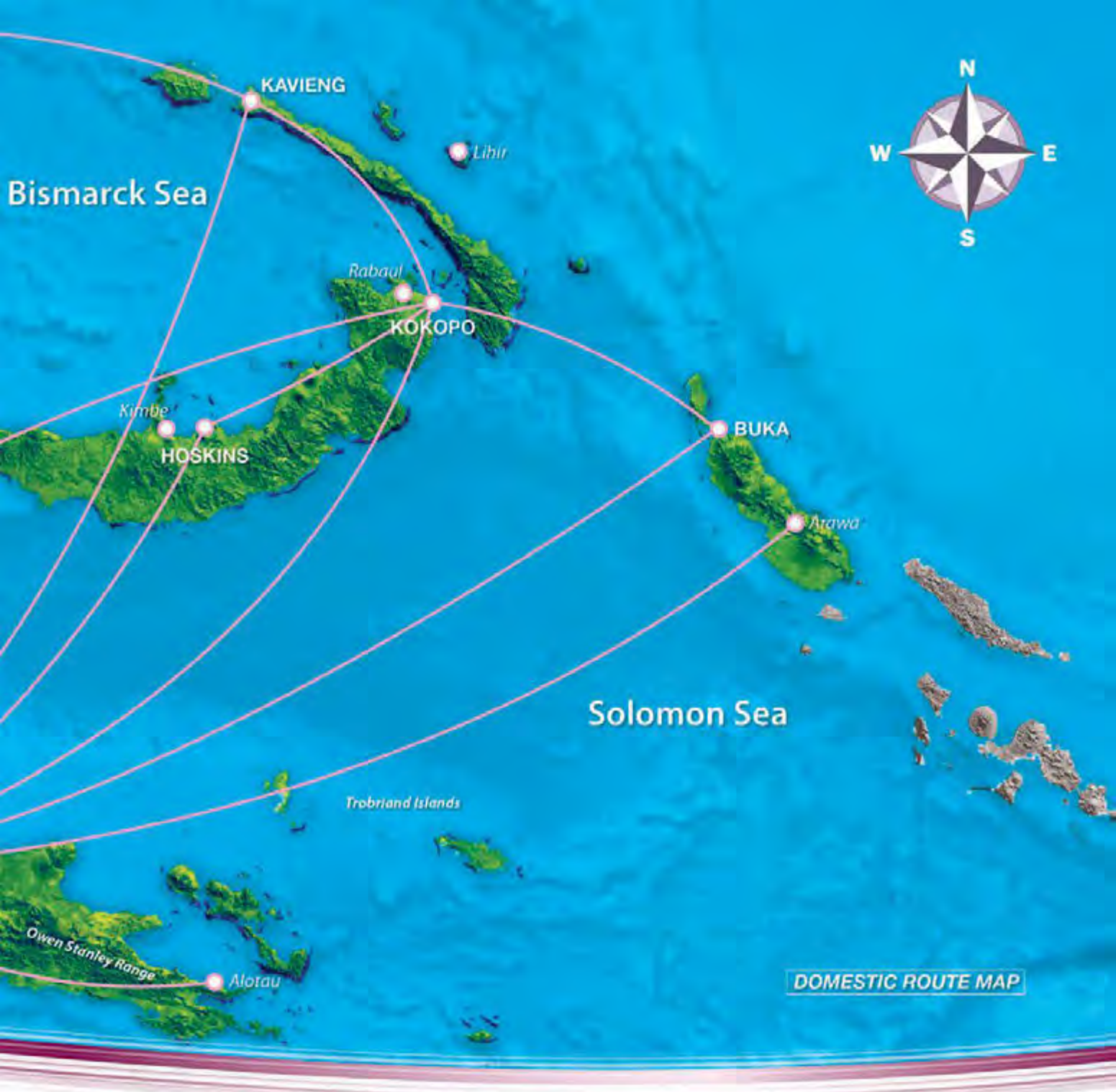
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Your wellbeing



These exercises are designed to encourage a safe way to enjoy movement and stretch certain muscle groups that can become stiff as a result of long periods of sitting. They may be effective in increasing the body's circulation and massaging the muscles. We recommend you do these exercises for three or

four minutes every hour and occasionally get out of your seat and walk down the aisles if conditions allow. Each exercise should be done with minimal disturbance to other passengers. None of the following should be performed if they cause pain or cannot be done with ease.



ANKLE CIRCLES

Lift feet off the floor; Draw a circle with toes, simultaneously moving one foot clockwise and the other foot counter clockwise. Reverse circles. Do each direction for 15 seconds. Repeat if desired.

KNEE LIFTS

Lift leg with knee bent while contracting your thigh muscle. Alternate legs. Repeat 20-30 times for each leg.

SHOULDER ROLL

Hunch shoulders forward, then upward, then backward, then downward using a gentle circular motion.

ARM CURL

Start with arms held high at 90° angle - elbows down, hands out in front. Raise hands up to chest and back down alternating arms. Do these exercises in 30 second intervals.

KNEE TO CHEST

Bend forward slightly. Clasp hands around left knee and hug it to your chest. Hold stretch for 15 seconds. Keeping hands around knee, slowly let it down. Alternate legs. Repeat 10 times.

FORWARD FLEX

With both feet on the floor and stomach held in slowly, bend forward to walk your hands down the front of your legs towards your ankles. Hold stretch for 15 seconds and slowly sit back up.



OVERHEAD STRETCH

Raise both arms straight up and over your head. With one hand grasp the wrist of the opposite hand and gently pull to one side. Hold stretch for 15 seconds. Repeat other side.

SHOULDER STRETCH

Reach right hand over left shoulder. Place left hand behind right elbow and gently press elbow towards shoulder. Hold stretch for 15 seconds. Repeat other side.

NECK ROLL

With shoulders relaxed, drop ear to shoulder and gently roll neck forward and to the other side, holding each position about 5 seconds. Repeat 5 times.

FOOT PUMPS

Foot motion is in three stages.
1. Start with both heels on the floor and point feet upwards as high as you can.

2. Put both feet flat on the floor.

3. Lift heels high, keeping balls of feet on floor. Continue these three stages with continuous motion in 30 second intervals.

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