

THE IN-FLIGHT MAGAZINE OF AIR NIUGINI VOLUME 1 SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2022



# PARADISE

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# PARADISE

*Paradise is the complimentary in-flight magazine of Air Niugini, Papua New Guinea's international airline. The magazine is published by Business Advantage International.*

## BUSINESS ADVANTAGE INTERNATIONAL

### PUBLISHING DIRECTOR

Andrew Wilkins

### COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

Robert Hamilton-Jones

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Charles Saldanha

+61 (0)404 842 472

cs@businessadvantageinternational.com

Business Advantage International Pty Ltd  
www.businessadvantageinternational.com



### CORRESPONDENCE TO THE AIRLINE

The Chief Executive Officer

Air Niugini

PO Box 7186, Boroko, NCD, Papua New Guinea

Tel +675 327 3498 Fax +675 327 3550

### EDITOR

Robert Upe

### STAFF WRITER

Gabriella Munoz

### CONTRIBUTORS

Richard Andrews, Mary Aseari, John Brooksbank, Paul Chai, Glenn Dunks, Ruby Gamoga, Bronwen Gora, Belinda Jackson, Brian Johnston, Leanne Jorari, Lemach Lavari, Trevor Mallen, Mary O'Brien, Theresa Patterson, Peter Sevara Jr, Matt Shea, Robert Weber

### AIR NIUGINI EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Illan Kaprangi

### DESIGN

Alicia Freile, Peter Schofield

### PROOFREADER

Sally Woollet

Editorial inquiries

paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com

Paradise online

www.airniuginiparadise.com

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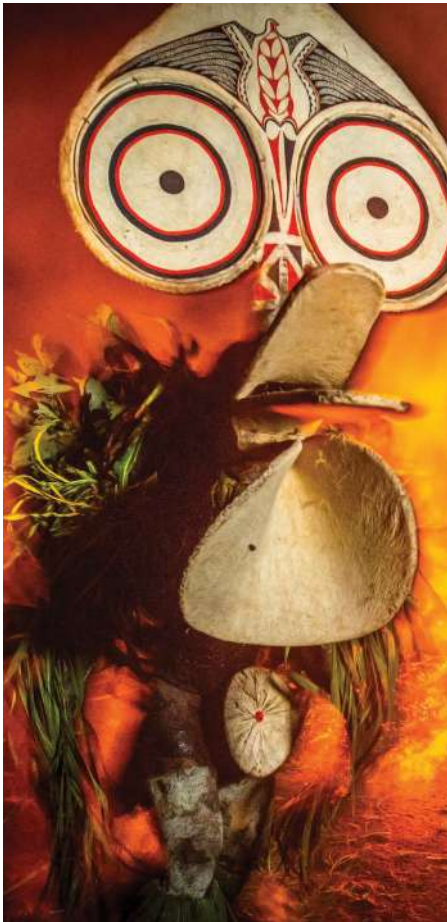
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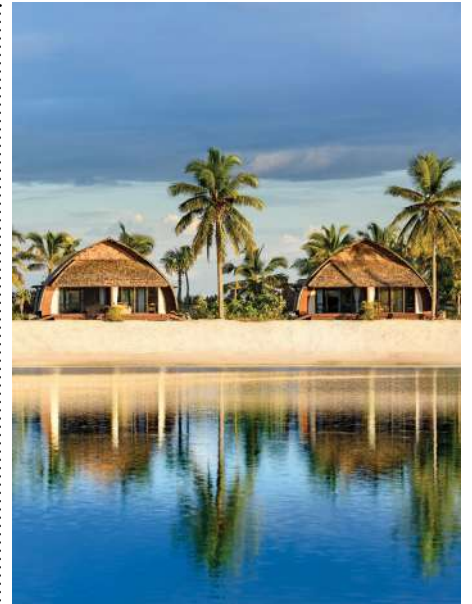
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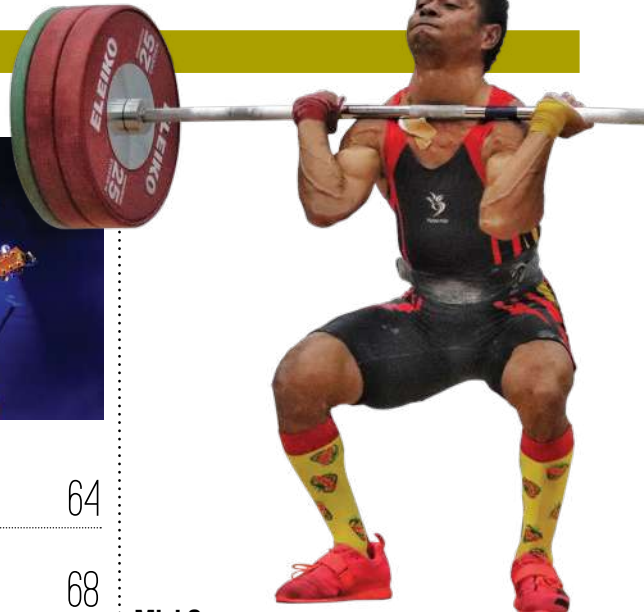
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*COVER PHOTO: PNG's cultural shows are back up and running and are the perfect place to see cultural dress and performance. Picture by Robert Weber.*



# Message from the CEO

## Welcome aboard



I'm delighted to welcome you back to Air Niugini's inflight magazine, *Paradise*, which is returning after an enforced break due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

First published in 1976, when Papua New Guinea was newly independent, *Paradise* is PNG's longest established and most widely read magazine.

It plays a unique role, in keeping with Air Niugini's role as the national carrier of PNG.

As well as keeping our customers informed about the latest developments at the airline and the many travel destinations we fly to, *Paradise* showcases our culture, nature, places, events, people and businesses.

*Paradise*'s return is the latest sign that air services in PNG are returning to a more consistent footing after two challenging years.

I'm pleased to report that Air Niugini's passenger numbers are already back to pre-COVID -19 levels, and our international services are continuing to expand as more and more countries open up again, and remove travel restrictions.

In recent months, Air Niugini has seen a ramp up of services to all our major international routes, and we expect this to continue.

Globally, the rebound of the aviation sector has caused its fair share of challenges for airlines and passengers. I'm particularly proud of the efforts of Air Niugini's staff in ensuring any impacts on our passengers have been kept to a minimum.

We constantly benchmark our performance against other major airlines in our region, and I'm pleased to observe that our recent record for on-time departures and low flight cancellations has been better than our key international competitors by some margin.

Within PNG, we are also doing our best to support the country's tourism sector, which is now bouncing back after two tough years. I encourage you to consider some of the excellent package deals available, thanks to our close partnership with the PNG Tourism Promotion Authority. You'll find a lot of inspiration inside this issue of *Paradise*.

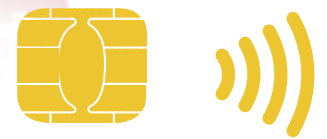
Ours is indeed a beautiful country and flying with Air Niugini is the best way to see it.

A good airline is always looking for opportunities to improve, and Air Niugini is no different. Plans are already underway to upgrade our fleet in 2023, which will provide you with even better services in the air, as well as helping the airline meet its goals for lower carbon emissions.

Thank you for choosing Air Niugini and we look forward to welcoming you back next time you fly.

Bruce Alabaster  
Chief Executive Officer





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# BACK IN THE AIR

**A**ir Niugini has gradually resumed international flights as travel restrictions have been relaxed in the region.

In August, the airline started flying again to Honiara, in the Solomon Islands and Nadi, in Fiji, after being grounded for two years because of COVID-19.

Air Niugini CEO, Bruce Alabaster, says: "We are confident that the resumption of these flights will boost trade, investment, and people movement."

The Air Niugini flights to Nadi are scheduled to provide convenient connections to Suva, Los Angeles and San Francisco. In Honiara, they connect conveniently with Solomon Airlines domestic services.

At the time of going to press, the full list of international airports Air Niugini was flying to included Brisbane, Cairns, Sydney,

“

The resumption of these flights will boost trade, investment, and people movement.

”

Hong Kong, Manila, Singapore, Honiara and Nadi. (Check online at [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg) for any updates.)

Air Niugini's General Manager Commercial, Paul Abbot, says the relaxation of many COVID-19 restrictions signals a return to the freedom to travel that everyone enjoyed in the past.

Part of that relaxation of rules means that travellers no longer need to have proof of vaccination documents at check-in for many countries, including Papua New Guinea, Australia, Singapore and the Philippines.

"The removal of the proof of vaccination documents frees up un-vaccinated travellers to move freely between PNG and Australia, with travel being just as seamless as prior to COVID-19," he says.

Air Niugini operates seven times per week between Port Moresby and Brisbane, three times per week to Cairns and weekly to Sydney. ■

**For Air Niugini bookings, visit an Air Niugini sales office or travel agent. You can also call toll free on 180 3444, or book online at [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg).**

# Air Niugini backs Hunters for another three years

**A**ir Niugini has extended its agreement with the SP PNG Hunters for another three years.

Under the agreement, Air Niugini supports the rugby league club's travel to Queensland, as well as within Papua New Guinea.

Air Niugini's General Manager Commercial, Paul Abbot, says the national airline is proud and happy to be able to continue the long-standing partnership with the Hunters.

"Both Air Niugini and SP PNG Hunters represent the country. Air Niugini has a great relationship with the team and it's great for us to be able to continue the partnership."

**Air Niugini has embraced the SP PNG Hunters (right) with an extension to the agreement to fly the rugby league team within PNG and to Australia.**

SP PNG Hunters' Commercial Manager, Alan Moramoro, acknowledged the airline for its continuous support.

"It's good to know that Air Niugini is back on board, continuing this important partnership to assist with our travel."

Air Niugini has been a foundation partner with the SP PNG Hunters since the franchise was launched in 2014. ■



PICTURE: SUPPLIED BY SP PNG HUNTERS





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# Kokopo visit for Air Niugini board

The Air Niugini board buckled up recently for a flight from Port Moresby to Kokopo.

Led by Chairman Sir Kostas Constantinou, the board and airline management visited Kokopo for a board meeting and made courtesy calls to airline staff at Tokua Airport and the Kokopo sales office.

Staff were briefed about the latest developments within the airline and the challenges posed by COVID-19. ■



PICTURES: AIR NIUGINI

**Top left:** Air Niugini Board Chairman, Sir Kostas Constantinou (yellow shirt), and the airline's CEO, Bruce Alabaster (blue shirt) are welcomed by airline staff at Tokua Airport.

**Middle:** Air Niugini board chairman and directors (from left) Bruce Alabaster, Lady Aivu Tauvasa, Sir Kostas Constantinou, Monica Salter and Anthony Seeto. (Absent: Prashant Shastri, Gary Seddon and Karl Kerepa Yalo).

**Top right:** Air Niugini board, management and staff at the Kokopo sales office.

# TOP EXECUTIVE JOINS AIR NIUGINI

Air Niugini has appointed experienced aviation executive Paul Abbot to the role of General Manager Commercial.

He started with the airline in June, after previously working with Air New Zealand and PNG Air, where he was CEO.

"I am looking forward to being the voice of the customer within Air Niugini and ensuring product, service and operations take a customer-centred approach," he says.

For our full interview with Paul Abbot, turn to the Strictly Business pages, starting on Page 94. ■



**New General Manager Commercial, Paul Abbot (front row, centre), with his team. (Back row, from left) Manager Sales and Retail Operations, Peter Dokta; e-Commerce manager, Betty Seto; Executive Manager Customer Experience and Product Design, Floyd Smith; Manager Destinations Loyalty, Henry Gelu; Executive Manager Sales and Distribution, Charlie Wanma. Front row, from left) Manager Advertising and Events, Ido Kariko; Manager Passenger Service Systems, Maggie Gime; Manager Corporate Communications, Illan Kaprangi; and Manager Agency and Interline, Racheal Ume.**

# HARDWARE PARTNERSHIP

Air Niugini Destinations and Executive Club members now have the benefit of a 10 per cent discount at Badili Hardware.

Badili Hardware joins six other corporate partners that provide discounts to members.

Air Niugini CEO, Bruce Alabaster, welcomed the hardware outlet on board.

"A key feature of corporate partnerships with the airline is the ability to not only allow for earning and redemption of loyalty points, but also providing the opportunity for members to enjoy other benefits apart from travel," he said.

Air Niugini continues to grow corporate partnerships to give back to loyal customers.

Apart from Badili Hardware, Pacific MMI Insurance and Kokopo Beach Bungalow have also renewed their partnerships recently.

The program, launched in August 2009, has 124,000 members. ■



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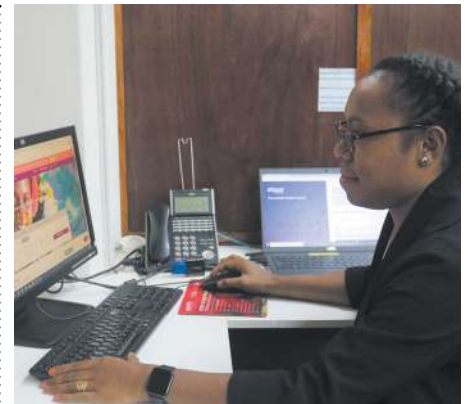
Air Niugini has introduced Fare Lock to its seat-booking process, a system that ensures a customer's selected airfare does not change and that their flight does not sell while they make a final decision on whether to book.

Air Niugini CEO, Bruce Alabaster, says: "It can be used where a customer needs to finalise vacation plans, book accommodation, arrange airport transfers or is still undecided. Whatever the reason may be, Fare Lock now gives customers the chance to hold fares while they decide."

Fare Lock is available exclusively online at airniugini.com.pg. It is a self-service facility that gives customers the opportunity to hold their reservation for between 36 and 48 hours with a fee.

How it works:

1. Search for a flight at airniugini.com.pg.
2. Select your preferred flight and complete the required details.
3. On the payment page, select the 'Lock My Fare' option and pay the applicable fee to reserve your booking with any of the valid payment options.
4. Take note of your booking reference on the confirmation page. You will also receive an email confirmation with your travel details.
5. When you are ready to pay, access the 'Manage Booking' option. Use your booking reference and surname to retrieve your saved booking and proceed to complete ticket purchase. ■



Booking airfares online with Air Niugini has just become more flexible with Fare Lock.

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# NATION'S AIRPORTS IMPROVED



PICTURES: NAC & AIR NIUGINI

Vanimo Airport's new PGK28.8 million terminal building will provide Air Niugini passengers with a new level of comfort.

New airport facilities were recently opened in Vanimo, Sandaun Province, as part of a nationwide upgrade of domestic airports.

The new Vanimo terminal caters for 100 passengers and features comfortable seating, air-conditioned departure and arrival lounges, luggage trolleys, baggage scanners and baggage conveyor belts, security screening machines, a kiosk and toilet facilities. The runway has been extended by 300 metres.

The upgrade is thanks to the National Airports Corporation (NAC) and Asian Development Bank, implemented under the



An Air Niugini Fokker 100 aircraft on the ground in Vanimo next to the new terminal building.



Air Niugini CEO, Bruce Alabaster, with the operating crew and staff at Vanimo Airport.

Government's Civil Aviation Development Investment Program (CADIP).

The new airport terminal is valued at PGK28.8 million and is part of the entire Vanimo upgrade project, valued at PGK70.1 million.

With West Sepik Province being PNG's closest gateway into Asia and sharing a geographical land border with Indonesia, the NAC anticipates that Vanimo will host international flights in future.

It says the airport has the potential to increase the volume of socioeconomic

activities in the province, the country and the Asia-Pacific region.

New facilities were also opened recently by the Prime Minister James Marape at Momote Airport in Manus Province, and work is continuing at other airports including Rabaul, Kavieng, Madang, Lae, Mendi and Wapenamanda.

Air Niugini has resumed its Fokker jet services to Vanimo, Rabaul and Kavieng following runway upgrades.

Rex Kiponge, Managing Director and CEO of the NAC, says there have been significant improvements to airports since the implementation of CADIP in 2009.

"We can now see jet aircraft such as Boeing 737s, F100s and others landing in our major airports. This is because our airport runways have been improved and extended to accommodate bigger planes," he says.

In addition, he says there are five new state-of-the-art terminal buildings under construction at major airports in PNG.

Security fencing has also now been installed at most of PNG's 22 airports. ■



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## PARADISE Q&A

# ALFREDO FABILA

Being born into a musical family, Alfredo Fabila was always destined for a life of music. *Theresa Patterson* speaks to him about his music, his band and the hardships faced by musicians in PNG.



PICTURE: SCHUBERT MAKETU

**Q: How old were you when you started playing music?**

A: I was 12. I came home one day, and my eldest sister, Faustina, was playing the guitar in the room. I thought, "Oh, that sounds really good" so I asked her to teach me how to play the basics. And that was it.

**Q: You come from a family of musicians?**

A: Yes, on both my mum's and dad's sides. My dad and his best friend from high school, whom he still hangs out with almost every other weekend, are musicians. So, growing up, I heard a lot of acoustic and country songs playing in the backyard after barbecues. There were a lot of songs from The Eagles and The Little River Band; both are still very strong influences now. My uncle Emmanuel (singer for PNG act Zarma) is the biggest influence in my music career.

**Q: At what point did you think you could do it professionally?**

A: When I joined Zarma. Uncle Emmanuel took me into his band after I finished high school. I was lead singer and I performed with them for about seven or eight years. In 2017, I went solo for a year and then Back Seat Radio started in 2018, with three members: myself, Vincent and Elton. We're all cousins.

**Q: Where does the name Back Seat Radio come from?**

A: When I was doing solo gigs, I performed

for a couple of mates. After the gig, they offered to drop me off. As we were heading home, I had my guitar in the back seat. The driver said he didn't have a radio. So, his front-seat passenger said: "Don't worry, we have Doogie in the back, he can just play his guitar in the back seat."

**Q: How would you describe your solo music and that of the band?**

A: When I perform solo, it's mostly jazz and island reggae. With the band, it's more country. All the band members are singers: Elton can hit the higher notes. I have a mid-range, rusty. Vincent usually does the third harmonies.

**Q: What has been the highlight of your music career?**

A: I have about five. One was winning battle of the bands in high school in 2009. It was my first award in relation to music. We had to write our own compositions. Second was being first runner-up at Digicel Stars 3 in 2012. It was my first national recognition. I won PGK5000. Third was producing my first single called Bounce as 'Doogie' under Panakatsu Production in 2014. The name Doogie comes from my aunty; she was a big fan of the Doogie Howser show in the 90s. Fourth, I performed *No Other Love* in 2014 with the Common Kings at the Gold Club. Fifth was opening for Lucky Dube and

providing backup vocals for PNG artists such as B-Rad.

**Q: Is there a PNG music style?**

A: There's a genre called Calypso from the Caribbean. It's an African style of playing music, usually from those countries where lots of reggae is played. Nowadays, we have artists who use a Calypso fusion with R&B ragga. Ragga is not exactly rap, but a reggae style of rap. PNG-made Western-style music is now using this style.

**Q: Future plans?**

A: We plan to release an island reggae EPL with Back Seat Radio. We've got some material we are ready to record, it's just about us finding the time. We all have day jobs. We're all family men. We may be dropping in and out of music but it's in our blood.

**Q: Will you pursue music full-time?**

A: That would be the ultimate dream. At this point, I can't see a sustainable way for musicians in PNG; there's not much government support and there's no system in place to protect our musicians. There's also the *wantok* system where people try to lower our rates. They don't understand what it takes to be a musician. The equipment we use is expensive, and there's also the time and effort we put into delivering songs and entertaining – we don't get enough recognition for that. ■





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# Ok Tedi plans mining museum

**O**k Tedi Mining Limited (OTML) has announced that it will build a PGK7 million mining museum to showcase the history of the company and the community that lives in the vicinity of the mine in the Western Province.

“This project will capture Ok Tedi’s rich history from discovery to production and will showcase prominent people including government and community leaders who have been behind the success of the company,” says OTML Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Musje Werror.

“The museum will be shaped like a star, which is synonymous to the Star Mountains where the Ok Tedi mine is situated.”

The Star Mountain Museum project is being done in conjunction with Mineral Resources Star Mountain Limited (MRSM) and the Landowners Royalty Trust Limited.



The official ground-breaking ceremony for the Star Mountain Museum.

MRSM Chairman David Kaiankim has applauded the initiative, saying it is timely that the landowners are working with OTML and other stakeholders to implement the project.

“When we unite, we achieve greater things

as opposed to working in isolation and I must commend everyone for this and pledge our utmost support.”

Work on the project is expected to start in January. ■

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# SP Sports Awards presented

**W**eightlifter Morea Baru and long jumper Rellie Kaputin have been named as the male and female athletes of the year at the SP Sports Awards. The annual event was held at the Crown Hotel ballroom.

Other winners include the PNG Barramundis as the Carbine Club team of the year for the second straight year, Moreas Mararos as the CPL best sportsperson with a disability, Joshua Porter as the Westpac junior male athlete of the year, Amity Alarcos as the Westpac junior female athlete of the year, and Fidelis Wasari for sports photo of the year. ■

PICTURES: SP BREWERY



**Award winners (from left) the PNG Barramundis, Fidelis Wasari, Morea Mararos and Amity Alarcos.**

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# Discounts on offer for domestic tourists

The PNG Tourism Promotion Authority (PNGTPA) has provided half a million kina to Air Niugini as travel subsidy to promote domestic tourism in the country through the airline's extensive range of tour packages.

Of the total PGK500,000, half of that money will go towards promotion in the domestic market, while the other half will be used to support and promote the inbound Australian tourism market.

PNGTPA Chief Executive Officer, Eric Mossman, says: "COVID-19 brought travel and tourism to a standstill over the last two years, however with the restrictions being slowly lifted and more people now travelling, we hope they can make use of the domestic travel subsidies being offered.

"Air Niugini, as one of our leading industry partners, provides a wide range of tour packages. We therefore encourage people to make use of the subsidies by purchasing domestic tour packages from Air Niugini, which in turn will boost domestic tourism."

Once the travel subsidy is in place, every person who purchases an Air Niugini domestic tour package will be offered a PGK500 discount. A tour package includes airfares, accommodation, return airport transfers, breakfast and taxes.

Apart from Air Niugini's current range of domestic tour packages, the airline will also look to create a new product to come on the market to further support domestic tourism initiatives. ■



**Air Niugini's Paul Abbot and the PNGTPA's Eric Mossman at the signing of the tourism marketing agreement.**



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# Snorkelling gong for PNG

**P**apua New Guinea has been ranked the sixth-best best snorkelling destination in the world.

The rankings, released by worldwide luggage storage service Bounce, analysed

coral reef areas, fish species and tours.

Australia was rated No. 1 in the list of 50 countries, followed by the Maldives, the US, Cuba, the Bahamas, PNG, the Philippines, Indonesia, Fiji and Micronesia. ■



PICTURE: PNG TOURISM PROMOTION AUTHORITY

## VALE SIR PETER BARTER

**O**ne of Madang's most prominent businessmen and former PNG politician, Sir Peter Barter, 82, has died in Cairns where he was receiving medical treatment.

Australian-born Sir Peter was elected as the regional member for Madang Province in 1992 and later served as PNG's Health Minister and Governor of Madang.



He was a naturalised Papua New Guinean who was a strong advocate for tourism in PNG, and he ran and operated Madang Resort. ■



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# BIG PICTURE

TAKEN BY: TREVOR MALLEN

Kimberley Tau takes a dip in the cooling water at Abraham's Creek, about seven kilometres from Kiunga in the Western Province. Photographer Trevor Mallen says it is a popular swimming spot for townsfolk and villagers. Mallen recalls that the photo was taken about 2pm, when the sun was really hot.







*If you have a photo of Papua New Guinea that you'd like published in Paradise, email your submission to [paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com](mailto:paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com). Photos should be at least 1.5mb and 300dpi.*



# TRAVELLER

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1



PICTURE: PHILLIP WOODHOUSE

2



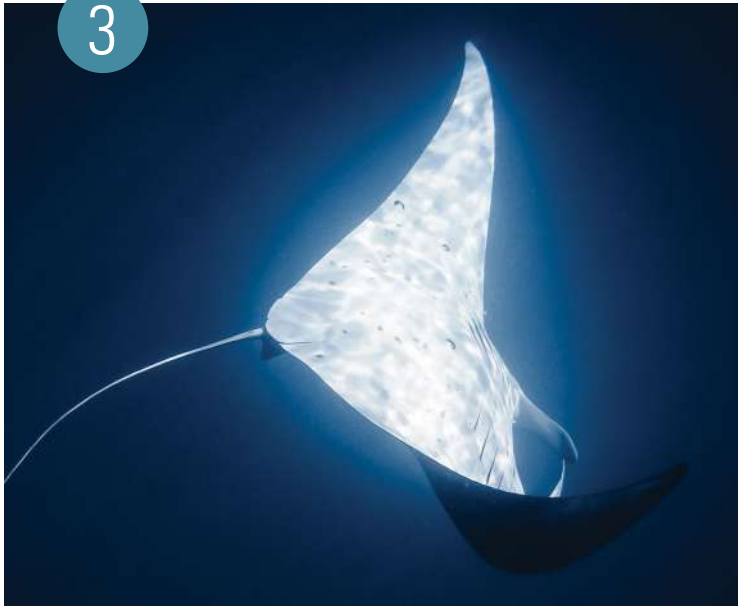
# #HOT 50

*Paradise* writers nominate some of their favourite places to eat, drink and stay in PNG, unique PNG experiences, adventures, TV shows to watch, books to read and more.

BY THERESA PATTERSON, RUBY GAMOGA, LEANNE JORARI & ROBERT UPE



3



4



**1 TREK THE KOKODA TRAIL** This year marks the 80th anniversary of the Kokoda Campaign in which Australian soldiers fought against advancing Japanese troops during World War 2. The gruelling 96-kilometre trail is one of PNG's most famous treks, best tackled from April to October. More than 30 trekking companies in PNG and Australia offer guided tours.

**2 FEAST ON A MUMU** This is a traditional way of cooking in PNG with heated stones or hot coals in a pit. It usually consists of pork and vegetables but can include other meats and seafood. The food is wrapped in banana leaves and buried in the pit to slow cook. One of the best places to try a *mumu*-style meal is in the sophisticated surrounds of the Mumu Restaurant at The Hilton Port Moresby. [hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

**3 SWIM WITH MANTA RAYS** Take the plunge and swim with these gentle creatures at Gona Bara Bara Island in Milne Bay. Tours operate from Alotau, or stay at nearby Doini Island where the resort folk will oblige with a transfer to Gona Bara Bara, just 800 metres away. [doiniisland.com](http://doiniisland.com)

**4 CATCH THE BIG FISH** Port Moresby based Sport Fishing PNG runs bluewater and river expeditions in pursuit of some of PNG's most sought-after fish, including barramundi, black bass, giant trevally and dogtooth tuna. Luxury onboard accommodation and experienced guides are part of the deal. [sportfishing.net](http://sportfishing.net)

**5 CRUISE PORT MORESBY'S FAIRFAX HARBOUR** COVID-19 temporarily curtailed the fishing expeditions (see above) conducted by Sport Fishing PNG, so the company had to pivot and started Port Moresby Harbour and Cruise Charters offering sunset tours of Fairfax Harbour and fun beach days at the picturesque Fisherman's Island. [facebook.com/portmoresbyharbourcruises](https://facebook.com/portmoresbyharbourcruises)

**6 SCRAMBLE UP A VOLCANO** Mount Tavurvur is an active volcano that devastated Rabaul in 1994 and most recently erupted in 2014. It's possible to scramble to the top of the rim. There is no technical climbing, just a steep slope with loose shale. Set out as early as possible before the sun comes up because things do get hot, and take plenty of water. Go with a guide (Kokopo and Rabaul hotels will help you find one) and seek expert advice on whether it's safe to go up.

6



**7 WATCH A GENUINE PNG SUPERSTAR** Justin Olam is a Papua New Guinean rugby league player who has impressed with Melbourne Storm in the NRL since 2019. Olam was part of Storm's team that won the 2020 grand final. Catch him at a game, or on TV, to see why he has become a PNG hero and why he was named the Dally M centre of the year in 2021.

**8 KEEP INFORMED ABOUT CIVIC ISSUES** Human rights advocate Yanamlyn Yana has started a videocast (a video-based podcast) on Instagram to discuss civic issues affecting PNG, especially youth between 15 and 24. Called *Conscious Kumul*, her platform aims to educate and spur conversations through provocative posts and through hosting live Q&As with prominent people in politics and academia. [instagram.com/consciouskumul](https://www.instagram.com/consciouskumul)

**9 BINGE ON A LOCAL TV SHOW** Check out PNG's TV talent in *It Takes a Village*, a series airing on TVWAN. The show follows rising rugby league star Rex as he deals with the loss of his wife from complications at birth, struggles with being a single father, and faces cultural and bureaucratic challenges as he tries to build a health centre in his village.

**10 TRY KITESURFING** Chase the wind on the beaches at Hula, a 90-minute drive from Port Moresby along the Magi Highway. The Hula Kite Club, founded by Benny Kali, who was the first Papua New Guinean to represent the country internationally in the sport in 2013, teaches kitesurfing and runs a guesthouse.

**11 JOIN A TRIVIAL PURSUIT** Social trivia nights are catching on in Port Moresby. Recently, 18 teams competed at the Holiday Inn's Trivia Thursday, pushing prize money over PGK1000 for first place. Raffles conducted at the trivia events include prizes such as Telikom top-ups, SP Brewery merchandise, Kopibin food vouchers and accommodation at the Holiday Inn.



**12 VISIT OR STAY AT LOLOATA ISLAND RESORT** This is a genuine high-end resort experience, close to Port Moresby. If you're not staying in the overwater bungalows or ocean view rooms, you can visit with a day pass to experience the swimming pool, dining, bars, snorkelling, day spa and more. [loloataislandresort.com](https://www.loloataislandresort.com)

**13 COOL OFF UNDER A WATERFALL** The Awawi Falls in the Sandaun Province are in a lush tropical jungle setting, about a 15-minute drive from Vanimo. Take the plunge in the crystal-clear water to cool off.

**14 STAY AT RONDON RIDGE** Set high in the hills a 40-minute drive from Mount Hagen, Rondon Ridge has panoramic views of the Wahgi Valley and the twinkling lights of Mount Hagen at night. This modern lodge is surrounded by rainforest that is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna. The lodge has hours of walking trails to explore the ecology of the area. Rondon Ridge is part of the Trans Niugini Tours group of wilderness lodges, including Karawari Lodge in the Sepik region, Ambua Lodge near Tari in Hela Province, and Lake Murray Lodge in Western Province. [pngtours.com](https://www.pngtours.com)

**15 HAVE A GOOD READ** *World Beyond: An Anthology of Papua New Guinean Speculative Fiction* is a book of nine short stories, each a unique blend of Papua New Guinean flavour and speculative fiction themes. There is time travel, space travel, futuristic worlds, hidden cities, mythology and more. [hibiscusthree.com](https://hibiscusthree.com)

**16 HAVE ANOTHER GOOD READ** The rich and vibrant home-grown writing of prominent and new authors is featured in the newly launched biannual *Sumatin* magazine, produced and distributed by Ples Singing Masterminds. [plessingsing.com](https://plessingsing.com)

**17 TAKE A COFFEE BREAK** Duffy Cafes are close to the heart of coffee drinkers in Port Moresby. When in Mount Hagen, Kofi Kai Cafe is the place to go. The smell of freshly brewed Highland's coffee will make you glad that you've stopped in for a break.



**18 TRY POM'S NEWEST STEAK HOUSE** The recently opened Numundo steak house in Waigani's new Rangeview Mall has a variety of affordable cuts from Numundo in West New Britain. Owner Stephanie Mane and her husband say they are thrilled to be sharing a taste of their home province with the rest of the country. "I tell my customers that this is the best beef in Port Moresby and Papua New Guinea," she says.

**19 DRINK IN THE HARBOUR VIEWS** The Fairfax Bar on Baruni Road has views of Port Moresby's Fairfax Harbour. It has a social club atmosphere, pool tables, barbecue area, and air-conditioned lounge. There's live music on the last Saturday of the month.



**20 GETAWAY IN KIMBE BAY** Family owned Walindi Plantation Resort at Kimbe Bay in New Britain has a big program of dive tours, bird watching, village visits and thermal hot river swimming. [walindiresort.com](http://walindiresort.com)

**21 DIVE IN** Secluded Tawali Leisure and Dive Resort in Milne Bay has a full program of dives, plus bird watching, skull cave and waterfall tours. This is also where you can enjoy an authentic *mumu* or see the wreck of the Black Jack B117F Flying Fortress bomber. [tawali.com](http://tawali.com)

**22 GO FOR A SURF** The Surfing Association of Papua New Guinea lists a variety of surfing experiences from liveaboard boats to surf camps such as Nusa Island Retreat (with overwater bungalows), Rubio Plantation Resort, Vanimo Surf Lodge and Tupira Surf Club. Wherever

you end up putting your head on a pillow, you'll be assured of uncrowded waves, pristine jungle and island environments. The latest frontier opening for surfing is Bougainville. [sapng.com](http://sapng.com)

**23 JOIN THE CLUB** The Royal Papua Yacht Club is the perfect venue for sundowners. There's a beer garden, bars, restaurant, cafe, and of course it's ideal to drop anchor if you have a boat. Sign in as a guest or become a member. Likewise, in Lae the yacht club is a popular venue, including a bar, restaurant, and gaming room. [rpyc.com.pg](http://rpyc.com.pg), [laeyachtclub.com.pg](http://laeyachtclub.com.pg)



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24

PICTURES: PNG TOURISM PROMOTION AUTHORITY



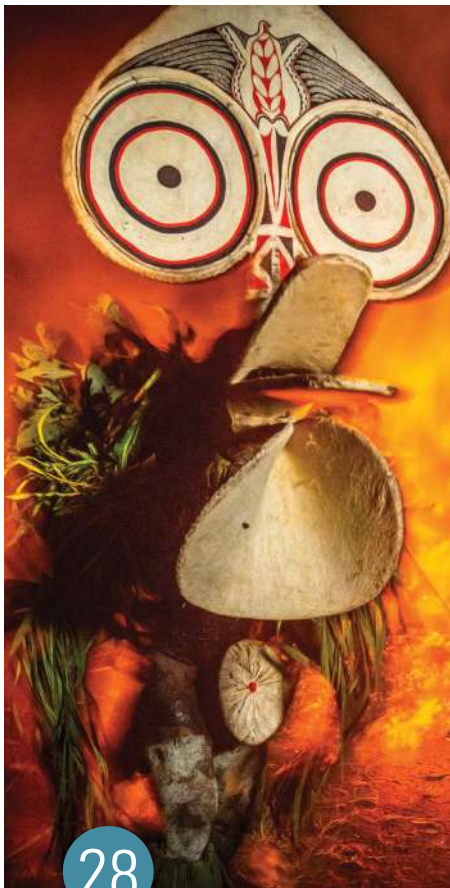
**24 CHECK IN FOR A BUNGALOW STAY WITH VOLCANO VIEWS** The Kokopo Beach Bungalow Resort has volcano and island views and arranges a wide range of tours and activities for guests, including day trips to the Duke of York Islands. Kokopo is the capital of East New Britain Province and is about a 45-minute drive from Rabaul. [kbb.com.pg](http://kbb.com.pg)

**25 STAY AT A BEACHFRONT BEAUTY** Rapopo Plantation Resort is a neighbour of Kokopo Beach Bungalow Resort, also set on the beachfront with great views. The resort has a dive centre and arranges tours. [rapopo.com](http://rapopo.com)

**26 VISIT THE MUSEUM** The PNG National Museum and Art Gallery at Waigani has artefacts from all 22 PNG provinces. [museumpng.gov.pg](http://museumpng.gov.pg)

**27 STAY AT AN ICONIC HOTEL** The Rabaul Hotel was one of the few survivors from the 1994 volcano that devastated the town. The hotel is full of character and has 40 modest rooms and an Asian-style restaurant with a big and very satisfying menu. There's a real sense of staying somewhere iconic, and it's all run by the indefatigable Susan McGrade who has kept her family's hotel operating against the odds. Her stories about Rabaul are fascinating. [rabaulhotel.com.pg](http://rabaulhotel.com.pg)

**28 SEE FIRE AND DANCE** Head to the Kokopo Showgrounds for the annual National Mask Festival to see cultural dance, art and craft, and fire dancing at night. The festival is usually held in July. For more about PNG's festivals, see our story starting on page 60.



28

**29 SEE SPINNER DOLPHINS** Blanche Bay at Kokopo has a thriving population of spinner dolphins. Head out on an early morning tour, arranged through Kokopo hotels, to see their spinning aerial acrobatics. If conditions are right, some tours allow guests to enter the water.

**30 PUT ON YOUR HIKING SHOES** Sogeri Hikers & Adventures has a range of treks and soft adventures in the Sogeri wilderness. Company founder Kevin Rau says hikes are planned every weekend, culminating in a swim at the Rouna 2 waterfall.

**31 CHECK IN AT ONE OF PORT MORESBY'S FINEST** Airways Hotel, just minutes from Jacksons International Airport, is among the Pacific's best hotels. Luxurious rooms, a day spa, swimming pool, an outstanding gym and tropical gardens in secure grounds await guests. Oh, and don't forget the fine-dining Bacchus restaurant where wagyu and crepe suzette star on the menu. [airways.com.pg](http://airways.com.pg)

**32 JOIN THE MOVEMENT** There's a new art activism movement in PNG that aims to inspire thought-provoking dialogue for young artists. At bi-monthly events at the Moresby Arts Theatre, there are spoken poetry performances, dances, songs, and mini-exhibitions about confronting issues. "It is not watered down," says Courtneyalla Dotson, the show's production and talent manager. "It is very emotional – both for audience members and the artists. We had 21 acts the first night in May." The show is open only to theatre members. Membership fee is PGK30. [instagram.com/artactivisminpng](https://www.instagram.com/artactivisminpng)

**33 GO TO THE BEACH** Kodericka Beach is a beautiful getaway on the road to Edai Town just outside Port Moresby. It's on the turnoff to Porebada village. Be prepared to pay PGK5 to the locals to open the boom gate and another PGK20 to the *papa graun* (Tok Pisin for landowner or father of the place) to use this sandy stretch of paradise.



34



**34 SEE WAR RELICS** The Kokopo War Museum (adjacent to the town's golf course and the Gazelle Hotel) has a large collection of war artifacts, including armoured vehicles. **Tel. 982 8453**

**35 STAY ON AN ISLAND** Jonah's Cabin is a four-room guesthouse on an island on Sirinumu Dam, about a 60-minute drive out of Port Moresby. There are short treks, fishing and bird watching. **Tel. 7157 2931**

**36 EAT THE FOOD OF THE WORLD** International buffets are popular at Port Moresby's hotels. Seek and you will find. Just for starters, Crown Hotel has an Indian buffet, and the Grand Papua has Asian.



**37 ESCAPE THE URBAN JUNGLE FOR BRUNCH** The newish J'S Cafe at 17-Mile is in a peaceful green setting overlooking the Laloki River and has quickly become popular for brunches and riverside picnics for city-dwellers seeking a break from the urban environment. **facebook.com/jscafepng**

**38 INDULGE IN MUD CRABS** The Konebada Resort is about a 30-minute drive from Port Moresby via Baruni Road, located by the sea. Pull up an overwater seat on the verandah and eat some mud crab or lobster. There are cabins if you wish to stay overnight, and activities such as kitesurfing, hiking and bike riding. **facebook.com/Konebada.resort**

**39 ISLAND HOP IN MADANG HARBOUR** Imagine white sandy beaches, palm trees swaying in the sea breeze, and a cold drink in your hand to cool you off. That's what you get on half-day and full-day island-hopping excursions in Madang Harbour with Niugini Dive Adventures. The company has a whole range of dive excursions too. **niuginidiveadventures.com**

**40 EAT FRESH SEAFOOD AT THE MARKET** One of Madang's worst-kept secrets is the Kranget seafood market, just outside the Madang Resort and a stone's throw away from the town centre. Indulge in fresh seafood from mussels to squid, crabs, prawns and fish.

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42



PICTURE: PORT MORESBY NATURE PARK

**41 TAKE A PIT STOP** The long and gruelling Highlands Highway is made easier by pit stops at roadside markets. The most remarkable is the Daulo Pass Market in the Eastern Highlands Province. Equally remarkable are the breathtaking views from Daulo Pass, as well as the market vendors. Have a well-deserved PNG coffee while grabbing some local fruit and vegetables. Don't forget to pick up a bouquet of everlasting flowers.

**42 TAKE A NATURE WALK** The Port Moresby Nature Park is an award-winning showcase of PNG's unique flora and fauna. The park is home to hundreds of native animals, including the bird of paradise, PNG's national emblem. In Lae, the 57-hectare Lae Botanic Gardens include 15,000 plant species. [portmoresbynaturepark.org](http://portmoresbynaturepark.org), [laebotanicgardens.com](http://laebotanicgardens.com)

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**43 BUY A BILUM** *Bilums* are traditional intricately woven bags made by women in PNG. They are a common sight in PNG and widely available at markets and shops. If you're out of PNG, the not-for-profit Among Equals sells them online. [amongequals.com.au](http://amongequals.com.au)

**44 CLIMB MOUNT WILHELM** PNG's highest mountain presents a considerable challenge. The 4509-metre peak sometimes gets snow, and altitude sickness can strike. There is a trail to the top (technical climbing not required). All up, it takes three or four days to get to the summit, staying at the base of the mountain and then at a base camp. To make the most of the experience, go with a reputable guiding company, such as PNG Trekking Adventures. [pngtrekkingadventures.com](http://pngtrekkingadventures.com)



**45 RAMBLE DOWN THE RIVER** The Sepik River, PNG's longest, and its tributaries open a jungle world of remote villages and teeming bird life. Find a tour company and take the ride.

**46 BOOK A ROOM** If you're in search of local-style accommodation including huts, guesthouses, and homestays, this is the place to go. [villagehuts.com](http://villagehuts.com)

**47 VISIT A HISTORIC VILLAGE** Wom village in the East Sepik Province attracts visitors from all over the world because of the history attached to the place. Cape Wom Memorial Park is located on the precise spot where Japanese Lieutenant General Adachi signed the official surrender and handed his samurai sword to Australian Major General Robertson on September 13, 1945. The park is well kept, like the village that surrounds it.

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48



**48 RESERVE A TABLE** There's a good food vibe happening in Port Moresby, with several new restaurants opening. Among them are the elegant dining and lounge bar Akura, the homely Cozy's Diner on Ela Beach Road with live music, and the new Daikoku at Harbourside with a sizzling-hot teppanyaki menu.

**49 TAKE A DIVE** Tufi Dive Resort in Oro Province has spectacular fjord views and a comprehensive offering of dive trips. Village and cultural tours also available. [tufiresort.com](http://tufiresort.com)

**50 EXPLORE THE MARKETS** Port Moresby and Lae have thriving markets. The Port Moresby markets rotate on weekends and include the POM City market at the National Museum every second Sunday, the Laguna Hotel craft market on the first Saturday every month, the Moresby Arts Theatre craft market on the second Saturday, the Holiday Inn craft market on the third Saturday, and the Ela Beach craft market on the last Saturday. In Lae, the Main Market is open from 7am daily (except Sunday) and has local food and flowers. ■



50

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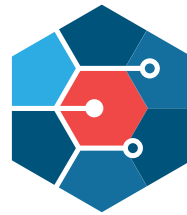
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## CITY UPDATE

## BRISBANE

BY MATT SHEA

**B**risbane has had a relatively charmed run through the pandemic. What was supposed to curb its buoyant food and drink scene became an accelerant, with stranded locals spending big in the city's heaving restaurants, bars and cafes.

With the Olympics now locked in for 2032, Brisbane has a real spring in its step. Its precincts are busy, its galleries and museums are buzzing, and it's attracting more visitors than ever before. Here's our pick of what's new in town.

## BAR

**Dr Gimlette**

From the team behind the celebrated Death & Taxes comes this brilliant cocktail bar in the heritage-listed Metro Arts building in Brisbane's CBD. The fit-out is all timber and original brick, with a nine-metre-long marble bar stocking more than 300 spirits, and a couple of vintage Martini carts servicing four enormous leather-lined booths. Otherwise, there are cocktails, beers on tap and an Old World-leaning wine list. [drjimlettebar.com.au](http://drjimlettebar.com.au)

PICTURES: GRACE ELIZABETH



PICTURE: NATASHA HARTH, QAGOMA



EXHIBITION

**Chiharu Shiota: The Soul Trembles**

Brisbane’s superstar GOMA (Gallery of Modern Art) will until October 3 host this spectacular exhibition that gathers together 25 years of Chiharu Shiota’s artistic practice. Celebrated for her otherworldly, large-scale, threaded installations, the Japanese artist taps into concepts of memories, dreams and anxiety. This is the largest solo exhibition of her work to date, so try not to miss it. [qagoma.qld.gov.au](http://qagoma.qld.gov.au)

“

With the Olympics now locked in for 2032, Brisbane has a real spring in its step.

”

CAFE

**Lune Croissanterie**

You no longer need to travel to Melbourne to get your hands on what the *New York Times* has labelled the world’s best croissant. Lune opened this slick South Brisbane spot in late 2021, peddling its usual mix of fresh-baked savoury and sweet croissants, danishes, morning buns, kouign amann and pain au chocolat. Grab-and-go with some Coffee Supreme espresso or book ahead for a session at Lune Lab, a private bar overlooking Lune’s climate-controlled pastry kitchen that serves a three-course experimental set menu. The Lune crew have also opened their own wine bar, Butler, just next door, if you’re in the area at night.

[lunecroissanterie.com](http://lunecroissanterie.com)

HOTEL

**Hotel X**

Brisbane’s newest five-star hotel is a flashy stunner sitting high on the hill at the eastern end of Fortitude Valley. That location affords it spectacular views of the city – particularly from Iris, its funky rooftop bar and restaurant – but what’s inside is just as impressive: the hotel’s 146 rooms decked out with timber floors, mosaic tiling and moody, recessed lighting. They also feature bottled cocktails, Lavazza coffee machines, and Dyson and GHD hair appliances. Beyond Iris, there’s buzzy French bistro Bisou Bisou on the ground floor, and the CBD and popular Howard Smith Wharves precinct are just a walk away.

[hotelx.com.au](http://hotelx.com.au)

PICTURE: HOTEL X





HOTEL

**Miss Midgley's**

You'll find these brilliant, self-contained New Farm apartments hiding in plain sight inside a beautiful circa 1863-built former schoolhouse. The digs match original Brisbane tuff walls, ceilings and timber floors with modern fittings and furniture such as Didier Puffalo lounges, brass-top kitchen tables and nifty custom-made bedroom uplights. The property also features a pool, remote check-in, and the three ground-floor apartments are dog friendly, in case you don't go anywhere without your best friend. But it's the location that really sells it: on the doorstep of the spiffy James Street precinct, with its brilliant restaurants and boutiques, and a short ride away (on one of Miss Midgley's electric bikes) to New Farm Park and the river.

[missmidgleys.com.au](http://missmidgleys.com.au)



PICTURES: DAVID CHATFIELD

RESTAURANT

**Sushi Room**

This is the latest in a series of exceptional restaurants that opened in Brisbane during the pandemic, including Agnes, Essa and Bianca. Sushi Room is owned by Simon Gloftis, who also owns Hellinka, and this is him taking his single-minded dedication to fresh seafood through to its logical conclusion. You can order a la carte at this flash 60-seater, but omakase is perhaps the best way to experience chef Shimpei Raikuni's precisely presented sashimi and nigiri, served at a specially imported 9.3-metre-long solid hinoki timber counter and washed down with sake, Japanese whiskey or something from a 160-bottle wine list.

[sushiroom.com.au](http://sushiroom.com.au)



PICTURES: BROCK BEAZLEY

 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Brisbane seven times a week.**  
See [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg).



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## CITY UPDATE

**SYDNEY**

BY BRIAN JOHNSTON

**S**ydney never sits still, and this year is no exception as the city emerges from its pandemic slowdown with renewed vigour. A spate of stylish restaurants and bars is freshening up the food scene, while the decade-long hotel boom shows no signs of slowing.

Among the new hotels is everything from the smart, glamorous Aiden Darling Harbour ([aidendarlingharbour.com.au](http://aidendarlingharbour.com.au)) in the middle of the tourist action to the away-from-it-all Crane Lodge ([wildluxury.co](http://wildluxury.co)) in bushland at Palm Beach. Meanwhile the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth ([sofitelsydney.com.au](http://sofitelsydney.com.au)) has reopened after major refurbishment.

Sydney's dining scene is ever evolving, and a slew of new restaurants brings the world's flavours to those who want a taste of the hip and happening. Be inspired by Mexican cuisine and great tequilas at Bar Patron ([barpatron.com.au](http://barpatron.com.au)) in Darling Harbour, get your brunch on at Blackwood Bondi ([blackwoodhospitality.com.au](http://blackwoodhospitality.com.au)) or explore the flavours of Spain's Basque region at Gildas ([gildas.com.au](http://gildas.com.au)) in always-buzzing Surry Hills.

## RETAIL

**Koskela**

The latest addition to Sub Base Platypus in North Sydney – another former harbourside industrial site, once used as a submarine base and torpedo factory – is the two-storey concept store of upmarket design company Koskela. It showcases ethically sourced, sustainable and Australian-designed furniture, rugs and homeware, as well as regular exhibitions of First Nations art. Check out the quirky animals created by Tjanpi desert weavers, Tiwi paintings and the perennially popular range of cushions, many featuring indigenous designs.

**[koskela.com.au](http://koskela.com.au)**







PICTURE: DESTINATION NSW

“

Sydney’s dining scene is ever evolving, and a slew of new restaurants brings the world’s flavours to those who want a taste of the hip and happening.

”

HOTEL

**Ace Sydney**

Swap city centre for trendy inner-city suburb Surry Hills – known for its dining scene – with a stay at Ace Hotel, another Aussie first from a much-lauded American boutique chain noted for well-priced, well-presented rooms and a focus on local community. Cultural talks are held in the lobby. Architecture is former brick factory, decor-restrained cool. The hotel is endowed with a cafe, bar, rooftop restaurant Kiln and informal but upmarket eatery Loam, and is a walk to Central Station.

**[acehotel.com](http://acehotel.com)**



PICTURE: ACE HOTELS



PICTURE: DESTINATION NSW/JAMES HORAN

THE ARTS

**Pier 2/3**

Walsh Bay, under the shadow of the Harbour Bridge and backed by the historic district The Rocks, has opened a final piece of its renovated heritage puzzle. The century-old former wool storage facility at Pier 2/3 now houses the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Australian Theatre for Young People, and Bell Shakespeare theatre company. They join several other arts companies at Walsh Bay’s wharfs, which have also become a dining hub with Italian, Lebanese, dumpling and other restaurants, plus several spots for a caffeine hit.

**[walshbay.com.au](http://walshbay.com.au)**



RESTAURANT

**Topikos**

Visitors heading to the beach can rejoice at the opening of Topikos, which brings Greek-island flavour to Bondi. The dishes, designed for sharing, finger licking and lingering conversation, cover classics such as grilled octopus, eggplant moussaka, slow-cooked lamb shoulder and keftedes (meatballs). Nothing taverna-like about the interior, however: expect shared and individual tables and a modern, informal and classy decor of pale wood and low lighting. If you aren't eating, you should at least have a cocktail at the long bar.

[topikos.com.au](http://topikos.com.au)



PICTURE: TOPIKOS BAR & DINING ROOM

RESTAURANT

**Mayandoz**

What's not to like about innovative cocktails, stone-baked bread and boldly flavoured mezze dishes with a contemporary update, all prettily plated? Turkish chef Somer Sivrioğlu, already well-known in Sydney for two restaurants, and a presenter on MasterChef Turkey, focuses on seasonal Aegean small dishes, mostly vegetarian, including halloumi kebabs, smoked beetroot sandwiches, baba ganoush and a hearty mutton soup. Take the opportunity to try interesting Turkish wines. The chic, almost opulent little restaurant sits behind Wynyard station in the CBD.

[maydanoz.com.au](http://maydanoz.com.au)



PICTURE: DESTINATION NSW

HOTEL

**Kimpton Margot Sydney**

This new downtown five-star boutique hotel is a first in Australia from international brand Kimpton. The art deco building it inhabits has been lovingly restored to preserve the heritage aesthetic, yet the decor brings contemporary cool with eye-catching designer furniture and colour. Well-known Australian chef Luke Mangan helms the glamorous but casual restaurant. There's also a chic art deco cocktail bar with wine-tasting socials each evening, and a fitness centre, yoga studio and heated rooftop pool.

[kimptonmargotsydney.com](http://kimptonmargotsydney.com)

 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Sydney weekly. See [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg).**



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Children in the Papua New Guinea Highlands | Photo by Brook Sabin


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CITY UPDATE

# CAIRNS

BY BRIAN JOHNSTON

**C**airns is geared up for a post-pandemic resurgence with a chunk of waterfront smartened up, several hotels overhauled, and hotels that opened in 2020 finally coming into their own, including the luxury Crystalbrook Flynn ([crystalbrookcollection.com](http://crystalbrookcollection.com)) and Oaks Cairns Hotel ([oakshotels.com](http://oakshotels.com)), both overlooking the Esplanade.

Cairns is tantalising the taste buds with new venues such as chic, modern-European, shared-plate Two Blocks ([twoblockscafe.com](http://twoblockscafe.com)) on the northern beaches and the budget-minded Nonna Leotta's House ([nonnaleottashouse.com.au](http://nonnaleottashouse.com.au)) in the CBD for home-style Italian cuisine.

The landmark Dunwoody's Pub ([dunwoodys.com.au](http://dunwoodys.com.au)) in North Cairns has emerged looking brand-new, with a now-stylish bistro and new beer garden.

Meanwhile tour companies are expanding the ways to explore the surrounds. Strait Experience ([straitexperience.com.au](http://straitexperience.com.au)) flies you on a day trip to Thursday Island, Far North Escapes ([farnorthescapes.com.au](http://farnorthescapes.com.au)) has introduced small 4x4 tours to Cape York, and Cairns River Cruises ([cairnsrivercruises.com.au](http://cairnsrivercruises.com.au)) has new boat journeys along Trinity Inlet.

## DINING PRECINCT

### Cairns Esplanade

If you haven't been to Cairns since pre-pandemic days, you'll find an entirely new incarnation of Cairns Esplanade thanks to a A\$28-million upgrade. The alfresco dining area has been extended and several new restaurants opened. Have a sunset cocktail at rooftop Oak & Vine or the suave Whiskey & Wine, then tuck into Bavarian, Italian or Thai cuisine. If you're after Asian street food, a lively night market operates every evening.

[tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au](http://tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au)



“

If you haven't been to Cairns since pre-pandemic days, you'll find an entirely new incarnation of Cairns Esplanade.

”

EXPERIENCE

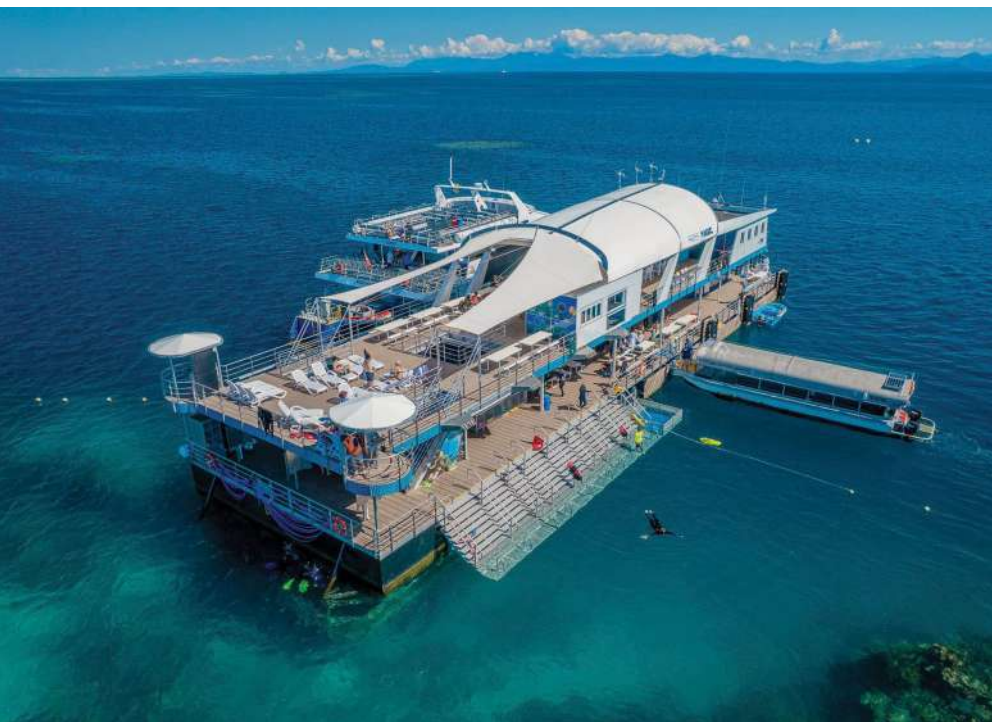
**Mandingalbay Ancient Indigenous Tours**

This indigenous-owned and operated company has launched tours for independent travellers that provide a new angle on Cairns. The tours take you into the wetlands of Hills Creek in Mandingalbay Yidinji country a 15-minute boat ride from town. After a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony, a guided interpretive walk addresses the region's culture and how its natural resources are traditionally used. Meanwhile the Deadly After Dark tour entertains with dance, music, storytelling and a bush-tucker dinner under the stars.

**[mandingalbay.com.au](http://mandingalbay.com.au)**



PICTURE: TOURISM AND EVENTS QUEENSLAND



EXPERIENCE

**Reef Magic Pontoon**

Those keen to explore the Great Barrier Reef have a new way to do so on this wind- and solar-powered pontoon and laboratory for marine biologists. Anchored off Moore Reef, the pontoon offers guided snorkel tours, introductory and certified diving courses, and the largest helmet diving circuit on the Barrier Reef. Those who'd rather keep their head above water can take to a glass-bottomed boat or relax on the pontoon's expansive sundeck as they gaze over extraordinary peacock-coloured waters.

**[reefmagic.com.au](http://reefmagic.com.au)**

PICTURE: REEF MAGIC PONTOON

EXPERIENCE

**Wunyami Cultural Walk**

Wanyami or Green Island has long been a go-to destination on the Great Barrier Reef. Now a new indigenous-led walking tour provides another way to enjoy its beauty. Hear about the ancient journeys of ancestral story-time beings, learn about the culture of the GuruGulu Gungganji and Gimuy Yidinji tribes, and discover their connection to the seascapes of this iconic island, which is home to 55 bird species and a mix of coastal and rainforest plants. [greatadventures.com.au](http://greatadventures.com.au)



PICTURE: TOURISM AND EVENTS QUEENSLAND

PICTURE: ACCOR HOTELS



PICTURE: TOURISM AND EVENTS QUEENSLAND



HOTEL

**Pullman Cairns International**

A multi-million-dollar rejuvenation of the city-centre Pullman is underway, with the overhaul of the first eight floors of guestrooms complete; the rest will be done by early 2023. The brand-new rooms feature designer furniture and striking black-and-white palette accented by bold colours and artworks from regional artists. The hotel has a day spa, seafood restaurant, sauna, and a swimming pool with expansive sundeck. [pullmancairnsinternational.com.au](http://pullmancairnsinternational.com.au)

RESORT

**Fitzroy Island**

If urban life isn't your idea of a good holiday, Fitzroy Island is a 45-minute ride off Cairns and nearly all covered in national park crisscrossed with walking trails and scalloped with beaches. Coral lies just offshore and is home to colourful fish and occasional turtles. The resort – the island's only accommodation – has stepped out after a serious makeover of guestrooms, swimming pool and landscaped walkways. The resort has two dining options, Foxy's Bar and Zephyr Restaurant. [fitzroyisland.com](http://fitzroyisland.com)

 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Cairns three times a week. See [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg).**





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Our products are distributed nationwide, that is why no matter where you are in PNG you can always find a packet of your favourite Trukai or Roots Rice.



UPDATE

# SINGAPORE

BY MARY O'BRIEN

**O**ne of those cities that never sleeps, Singapore has a bevy of new places that have opened in the past two years. The city-state may be small, but the range of hotels, bars and restaurants is impressive with venues to suit every taste and budget.

On the accommodation front, the new Hilton Singapore Orchard is one of the biggest hotels in the region. Raffles Sentosa Resort & Spa is due to open later this year and Artyzen Singapore will launch next year.

We've listed the notable new or refreshed arrivals on these pages, but also look out for Mama Diam restaurant (inspired by the '90s Mama convenience stores), iconic coffee shop Chin Mee Chin, upmarket Marguerite restaurant at Gardens by the Bay and revamped Ocean Restaurant on Sentosa Island.

Top bars include the Regent's flash House Bar, plant-based sustainable bar Analogue and California Republic Bar.

## BAR

### The Writers' Bar

While most people head to Raffles Hotel's Long Bar, the classic Writers' Bar off the lobby is perhaps even more glamorous. After a refresh following pandemic closures, the watering hole – dedicated to the memory of famous writers who stayed at the hotel – is looking better than ever. Voted one of the best hotel bars in Singapore 2022 by Travel & Leisure Asia, many cocktails are inspired by literary themes. Top of the current list is Sloth, a heady mix of crème de menthe, crème de cacao and cardamom.

[raffles.com](http://raffles.com)







## RESTAURANT

### Claudine

This much-anticipated restaurant is the second in the city from chef Julien Royer (from Odette, the best restaurant in Asia on the World's 50 Best Restaurants). The Dempsey Hill setting in a former 19th-century chapel, designed by Nice Projects, is a stunner. A 15-metre-long paper lantern hangs from a red ceiling and glass panels of local greenery work as a backdrop to colourful furniture. The menu is inspired by Royer's mother and popular dishes include bouillabaisse, vol-au-vent and his own sweet pariterole.

[claudinerestaurant.com](http://claudinerestaurant.com)

PICTURE: HOSANINA SWEE



## EXPERIENCE

### Museum of Ice Cream

Get ready for the sugar rush at this family-friendly destination. Discover the secrets of ice cream across 14 multi-sensory installations. Highlights include a pink beach, a dragon playground and a pool filled with sprinkles. You can pop into the public cafe or pay to enter the museum for a 60- to 90-minute tour followed by unlimited frozen treats. Open since last year, this is the first Museum of Ice Cream outside the US.

[museumoficecream.com/singapore](http://museumoficecream.com/singapore)



EXPERIENCE

**SkyHelix**

Test your head for heights in this open-air gondola at Imbiah Lookout and you will be rewarded with 360-degree views. Sentosa Island's SkyHelix, which is about nine months old, rises in a spiral motion and gently rotates 79 metres above sea level (or 35 metres above ground level). Each ride is 12 minutes and offers impressive views from the island to Keppel Bay. It's best to book ahead, and sunset rides are great for photos.

[mountfaberleisure.com](http://mountfaberleisure.com)



EXPERIENCE

**Central Beach Bazaar**

Slated for opening at Singapore's Sentosa Island in September is the Central Beach Bazaar, which promises a day-to-night carnival beach experience. The bazaar will include International Food Street, the 80-metre-high Sentosa SkyJet, the tallest fountain in South-East Asia, carnival games and rides.

[mountfaberleisure.com](http://mountfaberleisure.com)

HOTEL

**Oasia Resort Sentosa**

For those seeking relaxing vibes, the Oasia Resort on Sentosa Island, which opened last September, is a good option. The 191-room hotel, which is housed in a former barracks, includes a spa, and offers wellness classes. Choose from sunrise qi gong or sunset yoga and work out at the gym and infinity pool in between. Bedrock Origin restaurant includes healthy menu options. It's 15 minutes to the business district, the monorail is a one-minute walk and Siloso Beach is nearby.

[oasiahotels.com](http://oasiahotels.com)



HOTEL

**Hilton Singapore Orchard**

Hilton launched this 1080-room hotel, its largest in the Asia-Pacific region, in February after a US\$150 million revamp of the former Mandarin Orchard. Expect sharp design with a nod to Singapore's colonial past and energy-efficient technology. The hotel includes two gyms and an outdoor pool. The food offerings are particularly strong with five restaurants including Osteria Mozza by renowned US chef Nancy Silverton and two-Michelin star Shisen Hanten. It's beside Orchard Road shops and close to Somerset MRT.

[hilton.com](http://hilton.com)

 **Air Niugini flies from Port Moresby to Singapore five times a week. See [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg).**





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**THE GUARD DOG GROUP**  
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# AIR NIUGINI'S EXECUTIVE LOUNGE, PORT MORESBY A PEEK INSIDE

**T**ucked away in the corner of the terminal at Port Moresby's Jacksons International Airport is the Paradise lounge, a comfortable retreat for Air Niugini's Executive Club members.

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

Guests are warmly greeted at reception before entering a large, airy and bright open-plan space with three main zones, including a seating area, a work area and a dining area.

## SEATING

The seating area has low-set lounge chairs facing each other across two-person tables.

There is room to stretch out your legs, power outlets to charge your devices, a TV screen, and Papua New Guinean artwork on the walls.

The latest magazines, including *Paradise*, are available, along with complimentary beer, wine and soft drinks so you can unwind while waiting for flight announcements.

## WORKSPACE

If you need to get some work done before boarding, you can set up your computer and spread out your documents at a long and well-lit desk, or at the bench seating along the windows looking out to the tarmac.

## DINING

Positioned between the seating and work zones, there are small, round cafe-style tables adjacent to the food area.

Snacks, drinks and larger dishes such as five-star hotel-grade gourmet pies, omelettes, curries and salads are available all day.

Barista-made coffee made with Banz Kofi sourced from Mount Hagen is available, along with an array of teas.

Airways Hotel is the caterer for the international and domestic Paradise lounges in Port Moresby. (There are four other domestic lounges nationwide, in Lae, Kokopo, Madang and Mount Hagen, all with their own local catering arrangements.)

## SHOWERS

There are spacious shower facilities adjacent to the seating area. Towels are provided, and there is also a baby changing room and a disability room.

## VIP RETREAT

The Paradise lounge includes an inner sanctum for VIP travellers such as dignitaries, ambassadors and members of parliament who require privacy. The inner sanctum is a more intimate version of the general seating area, and it must be requested ahead of time so requests can be accommodated.

## EARLYBIRDS

The earliest flights leave at 6.30am on some mornings, so the lounge opens at 4am on those days.

## WHO GETS IN?

There are three tiers of Executive Club membership: gold, silver and minor (for those under 18).

They all include access to the lounge.

Gold members (PGK2299 annually) can also access international partner lounges, such as the flash Air New Zealand lounges in Brisbane and Sydney, as well as domestic Paradise lounges.

Silver members (PGK1599 annually) don't have access to the international partner lounges but do have access to the Paradise domestic lounges.

There is also access into the Paradise international lounge via reciprocal membership, which, for example, gives Qantas members flying with Air Niugini use of the lounge.

Benefits common to gold, silver and minor members are priority check-in and waitlist, advanced seat selection, priority baggage handling, extra bag allowance, and guest passes if you want to bring a friend into the lounge. ■



PICTURES: THERESA PATTERSON





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# HOTEL REVIEW: FIJI MARRIOTT RESORT MOMI BAY

Tel +679 670 7000, see [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

**WHO STAYS?** Families and couples on holiday.

**HOW BIG?** 250 rooms and suites.

**COST** From about PGK1000.

**CHECK IN** 3pm

**CHECK OUT** 11am

**HIGHLIGHTS** Even when it's busy it never feels crowded with so many places to go, a great lagoon for water sports, a good selection of restaurants so you'll never get sick of the food, and live entertainment in the bar every night.

**NEARBY** Nadi and Denarau Island are only 25 minutes away where you'll find the largest selection of restaurants and bars in Fiji.

- ..... **Wi-Fi in rooms/public areas:**
- ..... **TV:**
- ..... **Air conditioning in room:**
- ..... **Room service:**
- ..... **Swimming pool:**
- ..... **Free airport transfers:**
- ..... **Gym:**
- ..... **Business centre:**
- ..... **Hotel arranges tours:**
- ..... **Breakfast included in standard charge:**



## LOCATION

You're only 25 minutes to the international airport at Nadi and the same distance from bustling Denarau Island, but the resort is on its own peninsula amongst green rolling hills, so you'll feel a million miles from anywhere. It's built right on the coast, so you can look out to the Mamanuca Islands for sunset or take easy boat rides from the resort's wharf to the islands.

## THE PLACE

Fiji Marriott Resort Momi Bay bridges the gap between family resorts and adults-only retreats by combining them in the same resort. Guests can choose the sections of the resort that suit them – adults-only overwater bungalows or family-friendly rooms. There's also a bar and restaurant built on the cliffs above the sea that's the best sunset spot in Fiji.

## ROOMS

There are eight different types – all have high ceilings, private outdoor decks, and freestanding bathtubs. The adults-only overwater bungalows are

the only ones of their kind on Fiji's main island, Viti Levu. There's also a choice of ocean front or lagoon view bures of varying sizes.

## FOOD AND DRINK

There are five dining choices – the adults-only Fish Bar is the resort's fine dining option, with food served in an open-plan restaurant with views over the sea. Guests can eat overlooking the lagoon at Goji Kitchen and Bar with its fantastic breakfast buffets or catch a Polynesian fire performance and the village choir singing beside the water at the Lagoon House and Bar. There are BBQ-style meals at Voi Bar.

## WHAT GUESTS LIKE

"We loved this spot as we could see the sunrise each morning and swim and relax on our own lounges by the lagoon."  
– TripAdvisor

"We could not have asked for a more relaxing location with lovely staff, great food and drink options and fantastic amenities (swimmable lagoon, pools, gym, tennis courts)."  
– TripAdvisor



# HOTEL REVIEW: LAMANA HOTEL, PORT MORESBY

Tel + 675 323 2333, see [lamanahotel.com.pg](http://lamanahotel.com.pg)

**WHO STAYS?** Mostly conference-goers and business travellers, and the occasional city resident who wants time to relax.

**HOW BIG?** 100 rooms, including long-stay apartments and units.

**COST** From PGK550 + GST per night.

**CHECK IN** 2pm

**CHECK OUT** 11am

**HIGHLIGHTS** The hotel's Spa Pua provides a sanctuary from the toils of the day. Combining ancient and contemporary techniques from around the world, therapists offer treatments to bring back your spark. The hotel also has the first-ever bowling alley in Papua New Guinea. For something special, try the Thursday night Indian buffet or the Saturday night Filipino buffet.

**NEARBY** It's a five-minute drive to the Vision City and Range View shopping malls.

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- ..... **Business centre:** ✓
- ..... **Hotel arranges tours:** ✓
- ..... **Breakfast included in standard charge:** ✓



## LOCATION

Lamana is in Waigani, the administrative, commercial and educational heart of Port Moresby. Waigani is where you'll find most government departments, corporate head offices and other business houses. It's also known for its sporting stadiums, schools, shopping malls and the PNG National Parliament building. Waigani is about five minutes from Jacksons International Airport.

## THE PLACE

The four-star Lamana Hotel is modern and stylish. Guests have a choice of a wide variety of entertainment options, including the famous Gold Club with five bars, poker machine lounges and regular live music and in-house DJs. Snooker, 10-pin bowling, tennis, a swimming pool and gym are also on offer. There's a business centre, and excellent conference facilities (including eight function rooms of varying sizes) that can cater from board meetings right through to cocktail events, with the back-up of an experienced functions team and on-site IT experts. There's even a barber within the hotel, and a dental practice.

## ROOMS

There are spacious twin, queen deluxe and king executive rooms. Depending on your level of accommodation, in-room amenities include flat-screen TVs, Nespresso coffee machines, complimentary bottles of drinking water, complimentary laundry, lounge seating, a writing desk and daily newspaper.

## FOOD AND DRINK

The Italian restaurant is open for lunch or dinner and Spices for breakfast, lunch or dinner. There's also Cafe Palazzo, open from 9am to 5pm and Rio's, which is available for group bookings. The Gold Club's bars have a daily happy hour from 5pm to 7pm.

## WHAT GUESTS LIKE

"Booked at this hotel a number of times now and find the staff at the front desk very friendly and responsive. Andrea, Ruth, Patricia, and Elizabeth are an asset to the business."  
– Hotels.com

"Clean and safe hotel. Good food."  
– Expedia.com



# THREE OF A KIND: STUNNING SWIMMING POOLS



## LOLOATA ISLAND RESORT, VIA PORT MORESBY

Loloata Island Resort, about 40 minutes from Port Moresby, opened in 2019 and has many things going for it. There are overwater bungalows, world-class diving, private beaches, a day spa and, of course, a luxurious swimming pool. There's poolside food and beverage service, sun lounges for bathers and private pods right next to the water.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

The hotel's open-plan Bootless Bay Restaurant has a relaxed vibe and overlooks the pool. The menu is wide-ranging, but the Indian dishes are the star of the show, according to *PNG Now* magazine.

### HOW TO EXPERIENCE IT

Book into the resort as an overnight guest or visit with a day pass (PGK100 for adults and PGK70 for children under 10). The day pass includes sea transfers, use of the pool and use of private beaches.

[loloataislandresort.com](http://loloataislandresort.com)



## MARINA BAY SANDS HOTEL & SANDS SKY PARK, SINGAPORE

There is barely a more spectacular pool than the infinity pool atop the Marina Bay Sands Hotel. For a start, the Sands Sky Park, as the rooftop and pool area is known, perches 200 metres above the ground and, at 150 metres long, is the world's largest hotel at that height. It also sits on one of the world's longest public cantilevers crowning the three hotel towers that make up the hotel. From this height, swimmers can overlook the South China Sea, Marina Bay and the Singapore skyline.

The entire Sky Park area is landscaped as a 1.2-hectare tropical oasis. Poolside food and drinks available, as well as sun lounges.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

How about a yoga class in the sky? The Sky Park Observation Deck next to the pool area is the venue for sunrise and sunset yoga.

### HOW TO EXPERIENCE IT

Exclusive to hotel guests. Open daily 6am to 11pm.

[marinabaysands.com](http://marinabaysands.com)



## SYDNEY SOFITEL DARLING HARBOUR

The towering Sydney Sofitel Darling Harbour hotel added to Sydney's already substantial wow factor when it opened in October 2017. The hotel's fourth-floor infinity pool overlooks the water and city skyline. The facility stands alone as the only hotel infinity pool offering such expansive, uninterrupted views of Sydney's skyline and harbour. Guests can recline on deck chairs in the sun, or have food and cocktails delivered from the Le Rivage Pool Bar to their poolside table. The pool is heated year-round, too.

### SOMETHING SPECIAL

This is Darling Harbour's tallest building, so take advantage of it by booking a room between levels 28 and 34. Rooms on these levels have access to the Club Mellesime Lounge, perched on the top level.

### HOW TO EXPERIENCE IT

Book a room at the hotel, 30 minutes from Sydney Airport.

[sofitelsydneydarlingharbour.com.au](http://sofitelsydneydarlingharbour.com.au)



**Air Niugini has flights from Port Moresby to Singapore and Sydney. See [airniugini.com.pg](http://airniugini.com.pg).**







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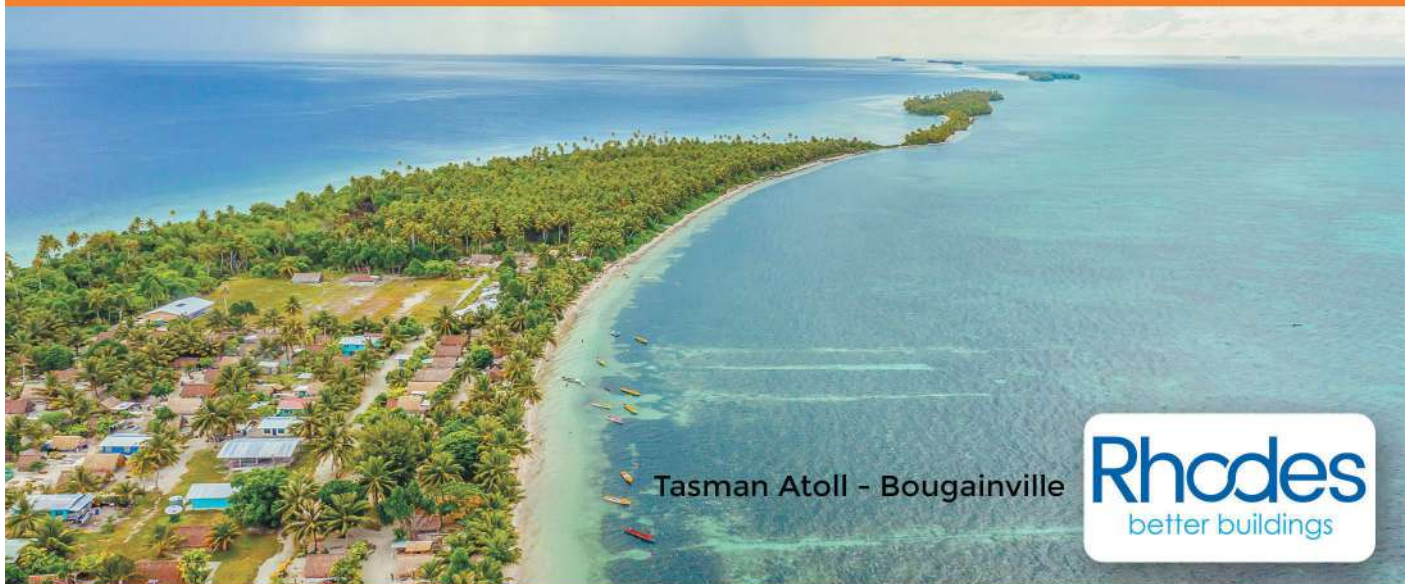
**The Kontikis, Four Mile Club, Port Moresby, 1965**

In the 1960s, Papua New Guinean musicians progressed from traditional instruments and acoustic guitars to electric guitars to copy Western music and adapt local songs to this new medium. There were several bands in Port Moresby, consisting of expatriate, mixed-race and national musicians who played at venues such as the Aviat Sporting and Social Club, the Royal Papua Yacht Club and the Four Mile Club. Well known bands included The Porehods, Rainbow, Delepou, Fuzzy Wuzzy, Gwadus and, as featured here, The Kontikis. Members of the Kontikis (pictured left to right) were Carolus Ketsimur, Joe Lavett, John Dawanicura, Sam Clunn and Steve Ramos. Sir John Dawanicura, as he is known now, is the current president of the PNG Olympic Committee.

***If you have a photo that may be suitable for Time Traveller, email [paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com](mailto:paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com).***



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# CULTURAL SHOWS

PICTURES: ROBERT WEBER



# ARE GO PNG'S FESTIVAL SEASON IS UNDERWAY

*Theresa Patterson* reports that cultural shows are back in full swing despite the pandemic.

**W**ith Papua New Guinea learning to live with COVID-19, most cultural festivals in PNG are back in full strength, while others, at the time of writing, were still to be confirmed pending the outcome of this year's election.

Sentiment on the ground is optimistic, with festival organisers confident they can capitalise on pent-up demand for tourists to return to PNG.

Here, *Paradise* highlights some must-see festivals in PNG this year, including one, already passed, which showcased the intricate skin etchings designed to resemble the crocodile's skin, of Sepik tribesmen.

## GOROKA BILUM FESTIVAL

Exciting things are in store at the 13th Goroka Bilum Festival, held in the township from September 12 to 17. Over 1000 visitors will be treated to a *Bilum Toktok* program (storytelling of different bilum designs), a cultural night where *bilum*-related creations are displayed and a gala night where corporate and individual buyers can connect with hundreds of weavers from all over the country, among other activities.

"Our *bilum mamas* (sellers) made PGK60,000 at last year's event," says founder Florence Jaukae Kamel. The festival is the only platform solely dedicated to female PNG artists.

## KUTUBU KUNDU AND DIGASO FESTIVAL

The Kutubu area in the Southern Highlands Province isn't known just for its oil fields, which supply the US\$19 billion PNG LNG project. It is also host to the Kutubu Kundu and Digaso Festival, which will take place at Daga village on September 22 to 24.

In the style of all other cultural shows PNG-wide, there will be traditional dances performed by different tribes, unique arts and crafts on sale, dramatic acts, and canoe racing at Lake Kutubu, the second-largest lake in the country. Additionally, visitors can check out the orchid farms, visit a human skull cave, bird watch, go swimming or trek through the challenging terrain. ➤

All the colour of the show. PNG's cultural festivals are renowned for their traditional dress, dancing, and *sing-sings*.





The Kenu and Kundu Festival (above) is set to make a splash again in November and the Asaro Mudmen (below) will be at the Goroka Show in September.

## GOROKA SHOW

Go on a spellbinding ride as the famous Asaro Mudmen take you through one of their mystical dances at the Goroka Show, on September 17 and 18. Originally intended to bring together warring tribes in the remote Highlands, the event has become truly national in nature in recent years. In a country with over 1000 tribes and 800 dialects, this means the variety of food, storytelling, wares, headdresses and colours on display can be overwhelming.

## MOROBE SHOW

The 59th Morobe Show has been green-lighted for October 8 and 9. It will be held at the Lae showgrounds. The usual favourites are expected – the freestyle motorbikes, the agricultural and horticultural displays, the crowning of the Morobe Queen, and the cowboy and ring events, to name but a few programs planned. The festival normally draws 250,000 people and the organising committee is hopeful this many will attend again.

## NATIONAL KENU AND KUNDU FESTIVAL

The Kenu and Kundu Festival in Alotau, Milne Bay, is back on after a two-year break. Held the first weekend in November, from the 4th to the 6th, it will feature the iconic (and very competitive) canoe racing, the thrilling leaps and shouts of different island groups, as well as their colourful bilas (Tok Pisin for 'traditional wear'). Be sure to take

lots of pictures and buy some world-famous Massim carvings. A conch shell is poignantly blown to open the three-day ceremony.

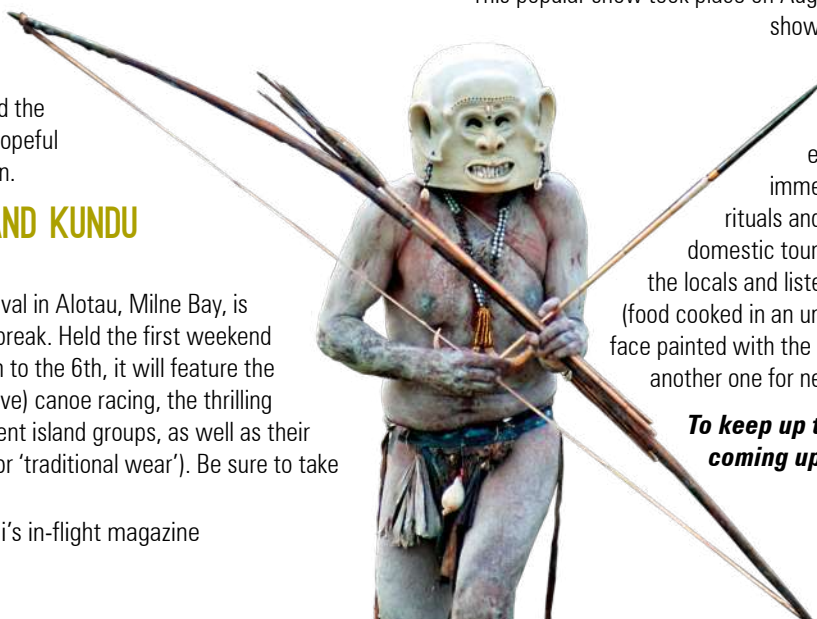
## SEPIK RIVER CROCODILE FESTIVAL

The Sepik River Crocodile Festival, which took place from August 5 to 7 at Ambunti, delighted those fascinated by the *pukpuk* (Tok Pisin for 'crocodile') culture of the riverbank Sepik peoples. For them, the crocodile represents power and manhood, so scarring the backs of young men to reflect the jagged skin of crocodiles is an important rite of passage. There were reptilian dances staged, souvenirs sold and real-life crocs on display. If you missed it this year, put it in your diary for next year.

## MOUNT HAGEN CULTURAL SHOW

This popular show took place on August 20 and 21 at the Kagamuga showgrounds in PNG's third-most populous township. Approximately 2000 participants from over 100 ethnic tribes gathered to put on an immersive kaleidoscope of productions, rituals and feasts for international and domestic tourists. Join in on a dance, mix with the locals and listen to their stories, sample *mumu* (food cooked in an underground oven), or have your face painted with the natural pigments and dyes. This is another one for next year's diary. ■

**To keep up to date with all the shows coming up, see [papuanewguinea.travel](http://papuanewguinea.travel).**



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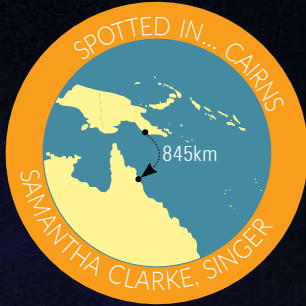
PICTURES: SUPPLIED BY SAMANTHA CLARKE

Samantha Clarke made her debut performance in Port Moresby and has since performed in Australia and on P&O cruise ships.

# THE SONGBIRD







Singer-songwriter Samantha Clarke brings her soulful tunes to Cairns, Australia, but while her voice is overseas, her heart remains in the Trobriand Islands, writes *Belinda Jackson*.

It's a Saturday night in Cairns, in far northern Australia, and the band is starting to play its soulful playlist of pop, reggae, soul and R&B classics and originals. There's a keyboard, a bass guitar, drums, and there's singer-guitarist Samantha Clarke. This is Kaweyova.

"Kaweyova is a name given to me by my grandfather," says Clarke, who is from Kiriwina, the biggest of the four Trobriand Islands, in Milne Bay Province. "It translates to 'basket of treasures' and relates to the *kula* – the trade of *mwali* or *bagi*, shell money in Milne Bay Province," she says.

"I use this name now to remind myself of my very humble beginnings on the island, and as a way of honouring my people, no matter how far my music may take me," explains the singer, whose mother is from Trobriand Islands, while her Australian father moved to Papua New Guinea to work as a teacher, later running a dive resort in Milne Bay.

Growing up without radio or television, Clarke started singing traditional songs, and at nine, taught herself guitar by watching family members playing at church. Her favourite song was *Ilidamwau*, based on the tragic legend of a beautiful young woman from Woodlark Island cursed by a jealous rival to sleep in a giant clam shell, able to come out at night, when all the world is sleeping.

Clarke's idyllic island life took a turn when, at age 15, she was sent to boarding school in Australia's NSW northern tablelands, where her father is originally from.

"Armidale was a shock to my system, it snowed, and I thought I would die," she remembers. "I was the only PNG student at my school, and I felt so lonely and out of place. One day, I went to the cinema where I saw a Fijian lady. I just ran up to her, hugged her and started to cry. It made me appreciate home so much more." ➤

“

There are quite a few PNG people in Cairns, and we all come out of the woodwork and celebrate PNG Independence Day.

”

# OF KIRIWINA





**Samantha Clarke, also known as Kaweyova, came from humble island beginnings before finding a niche for herself on the international stage.**



After completing school, Clarke returned to PNG and in 2010 made her debut performance in Port Moresby at a fundraising event for Milne Bay's annual Kenu and Kundu Festival. She began performing publicly, winning singing competitions, and recorded her first album, *Nightshift*, with her friend and musician Jeremiah Prout, from Milne Bay Province's capital, Alotau.

Clarke returned to Australia to live in Cairns in 2012, her career taking her around Australia and the world, performing in Dubai and – through a chance encounter – becoming an established performer on cruise ships.

"I was on a visit home, and scouts for P&O Cruises were visiting Kiriwina ahead of the cruise liner's debut in the region," she recalls. Singing with her family, she caught their eye, and was invited onto the *Pacific Dawn* as a guest entertainer, sailing between PNG and Australia. "It was the perfect balance: doing gigs in Cairns with the band, then going on the ships for solo performances, where I could go home to see my family in the Trobriand Islands," she recalls.

In 2020, Kaweyova released several songs: *Akayoyu*, sung in her mother tongue, Kilivila, and an English-language track, *Mama*, a song about domestic violence.

"*Mama* is a song very close to my heart – anyone you ask has been through, or knows someone who's been through, domestic violence, but we've always turned a blind eye to it. Now, a lot of people are coming out and saying it's not right. It needs to stop."

Although she remains based in Australia, Clarke is not completely cut off from home.

"There are quite a few PNG people in Cairns, and we all come out of the woodwork and celebrate PNG Independence Day," she says. "We

go to the park and eat yams, taro, sago and aibika (spinach-like plant), and we dance.

"The last time we celebrated, our group did a rattle dance – we have home-made rattles, and it's quite a workout. We also did the famous *Mweki*, or *tapioca* dance, which is performed during the yam harvest on my island. It's not so energetic, but it's quite a promiscuous dance that involves a lot of hip thrusting."

Clarke also keeps her home connections alive by catching up with other PNG performers working in Cairns, including Vivien Aisi and Callum Bray. "We're in a foreign country, and we've all grown up in tight-knit communities, so it's very good to have that familiarity, it doesn't matter where in the country you're from.

"We've thrown around the idea of collaborating, which is in the works," promises Clarke.

"I don't know when I'm going home next – the pandemic hit musicians especially hard in Australia. There was no work for quite a long time, and no government support until late in the pandemic," she says.

"We're super lucky in Cairns because we can get taro and aibika," she says. "But I miss the people back home, the feeling of family coming together." ■

**Hear Kaweyova's music on Spotify, iTunes, YouTube or see [kaweyova.com](http://kaweyova.com).**





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PICTURES: SUPPLIED BY THE FBI



*Richard Andrews* investigates an FBI probe that found thousands of stolen cultural artifacts, including items from PNG.

# The world's most curious CULTURAL HEIST

**A**n FBI raid on a grave-robbing missionary; stolen sacred objects; ancient artifacts; hundreds of human remains; prehistoric monsters; an alleged chunk of Hitler's suicide bunker; fears of an atomic weapon in a remote farmhouse. And even, perhaps, the wrath of spirits.

It all sounds like an outlandish television series, complete with an episode set in Papua New Guinea.

The story starts with a puzzling, anonymous tip in 2014, when the FBI raided the home of 91-year-old Don Miller – a Christian missionary and former atomic scientist.

Agents found a basement, bunker and tunnels in his rural Indiana house, crammed with artifacts dug up by the self-styled archaeologist.

"I was astounded. We found 42,000 items collected over six decades from all around the world," says Special Agent Tim Carpenter, from the FBI's Art Theft Unit.

"It was the largest-ever single recovery of cultural property in the agency's history."

During a painstaking six-day operation, the FBI took possession of 7000 items and has spent the past eight years returning them to their rightful owners.



**Stolen artifacts (right and opposite page) that were recovered by the FBI.**





“We seized those artefacts that we felt were problematic, that were outright illegal or had been obtained improperly,” says Carpenter.

The list of those items is also astounding.

It includes 2500-year-old Chinese jewelry; Ming Dynasty vases; an Egyptian sarcophagus; pre-Colombian weapons; Aztec, Mayan and Inca relics; Celtic axes; plus symbolic *toki* adzes belonging to a Maori chief.

Among the stolen prehistoric items were dinosaur eggs as well as tusks from a woolly mammoth in Canada, which were up to 20,000 years old.

“We were sceptical about a shrunken head we also found and thought it was some kind of fake tourist trinket from South America,” says Carpenter. “However, scientists identified it as a shrunken human head.

“Miller’s looting activity goes back to his early years in the 1950s and he

was aged 88 at his last dig,” says Carpenter.

“Historic burials in the US were his favourite.”

The raid recovered approximately 500 sets of human remains, largely looted from Native American burial grounds.

“Sometimes Miller would dig up the entire remains of an individual and other times he would just take the head and assemble the rest from a box of bones,” says Carpenter “That made it really difficult to parse out the true origins.”

The FBI learned Miller usually found artifacts by talking to the locals or by using ham radio for information that would lead him to burial sites where he could dig.

The international market for historic indigenous objects is “pretty robust” says Carpenter. A ceremonial *Uli* statue from the early 20th century was auctioned last year by Christies for 1.8 million euros (about PGK6.5 million). However, money was not the issue in this case.

“It’s not about market value,” says Carpenter. “FBI concern is cultural value and legality.”

**From left, opposite page: Ancient earthenware pots that were part of the heist; the FBI Art Theft Unit; a stolen artwork; Don Miller’s underground ‘museum’ on the day it was raided.**



That concern was expressed in 2020, when the US ambassador to PNG handed over more than 130 stolen artifacts to the National Museum and Art Gallery in Port Moresby. The repatriated items included human remains, skulls, clay faces from an initiation ceremony in the Sepik, axes, daggers, drums and ceremonial masks.

“We know Miller was raiding burial caves and disturbing remains in PNG,” says Carpenter.

“He travelled all over New Guinea and brought back cultural items from both sides of the island. We have some items that have to go back to Indonesia for that reason.

“I’m not a psychologist,” says Carpenter, “but Don told me very specifically one day that this was a ‘heroin addiction’ to him. That he just couldn’t stop.”

Nevertheless, Carpenter describes Miller as a “fascinating character” with a string of degrees and a history of prestigious achievements. “A really smart guy.”

Apart from his missionary work, Miller was involved in the Manhattan Project during the 1940s and claimed to have detonated the first atomic bomb, using a radio system he developed.

Interestingly, the FBI had visited Miller’s home years before the 2014 raid, following a tip he was storing a potential nuclear reactor.

“It turned out to be just a chunk of depleted uranium,” says Carpenter. “He liked to embellish. We also disbelieved the claim that he owned a piece of the bunker where Adolf Hitler committed suicide.” ➤



The FBI was unable to release a photo of Don Miller, but *Paradise* found this image of him published by the *Indianapolis Star* newspaper in 1974.



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Embellishment or not, tracking rightful owners and legal status of the seized items has been a huge task, involving Indigenous groups, academics, archaeologists, museum curators and other experts. The initial search and seizure included a team of 100 that had to be specially trained to handle objects that were often culturally sensitive and fragile.

To date, roughly two-thirds of the works seized have been returned to PNG, Cambodia, Canada, China, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, New Zealand, Spain and across the US.

Miller died in 2015 and no charges were ever laid.

"He co-operated with investigators," says Carpenter. "It was his wish that we take these objects and return them to their rightful owners, and for the Native American ancestors to be reburied appropriately."

"In my culture, when remains have been dug out of the ground after being laid to rest, their spirits are wandering," says Pete Coffey, a tribal official collaborating with the FBI. "They cannot rejoin their relatives and family members in the afterlife."

Other cultures also hold this belief, and some tell of curses or mishaps resulting from the disturbance of remains or the theft of sacred objects.



"Don never shared such stories, but our team all had personal issues almost immediately after the seizure," says Carpenter.

"You'll understand I'm reluctant to talk about it. We almost lost our daughter in hospital, my father died – just a series of things started to happen."

Carpenter recalls that tribal spiritual leaders conducted protective ceremonies at the time, because they were concerned about his health and safety.

"I was overwhelmed and humbled by the outpouring of support by the tribal community," he says. "It was very compelling that they came forward and tried to keep us safe."

"With our belief system I know it's easy to scoff and dismiss that stuff. I didn't pay much attention to it at the beginning. I'm not sceptical anymore." ■

One of the 42,000 items that Don Miller collected over six decades.



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**ERA DORINA ESTATE**



MY PNG

BY MARY ASEARI

# Inspiration found on Mount Wilhelm

A severe case of writer's block leads our correspondent to embark on a high-altitude trek.

I had just completed my final year at the University of Papua New Guinea and I was getting nowhere with a manuscript I was writing. I needed inspiration to complete it and I thought trekking to the top of Mount Wilhelm would provide that inspiration.

A month of planning with my friends and a thousand phone calls later, I was in a Dash 8 aircraft on a flight from Port Moresby to Nadzab Airport. After a night's rest, we travelled to the small village of Mandime to tackle the mountain the next day.

The trek started even before my friends and

I reached the foot of the mountain. Our ride to the start of the track broke down before we could reach it! "Just another six hours (of walking) to the base of the mountain," said one of the locals who had joined us on our climbing expedition.

By the time we arrived there my legs were already feeling sore. I had three options. Camp Jehovah Jireh to my left looked like a peaceful place to rest. On my right, the delicious smell of the famous trout fish coming from Betty's Lodge was so strong I was almost convinced to end my journey even before it started and

settle for a healthy meal instead. Directly in front of me was the start of the track promising me nothing but the unknown. I chose the unknown.

It proved to be beautiful. From the foot of the mountain to the base camp there are four resting places. The first leg of the track was fine but I felt the toll of the climb when we reached resting place number three. I found the going tough, but I was determined to push on.

My boots had layers of mud that added weight. I would often stop to clean off the mud on the moist plants that nature provided as

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The writer, Mary Aseari, at Mount Wilhelm's beautiful Lake Piunde.

“

I found the going tough, but I was determined to push on.

”

door mats. I quenched my thirst with the cool water that came out of a group of rocks and continued on trekking.

After what seemed like ages, we stepped out of the blanketed forest and into the open to resting place number four, the last stop before the base of the mountain. After hours of more climbing, there before my eyes was the famous Lake Piunde (Lake Meri). We had reached the base of the mountain.

A short time later it was getting dark. Gathered around a fireplace, we warmed our bodies and retired to an early night's rest in the lake house.

The weather was not fitting for us to climb to the summit the next day. However, we went up a little further to see Lake Aunde (Lake Mahn). It was at the lake that the curse of the writer's block was lifted and the notes app on my phone was put to use once more. Although I did not reach the summit of the mountain I had found the perfect inspiration I was in search of.

The descent was faster and much easier. A few hours later I was back in Mandime typing the last pages of my manuscript. I submitted my work, *She Bleeds Words*, and found out a few weeks later that it was the winning manuscript for the Hibiscus Three Publishing Award 2022. ■

***'My PNG' is a column in which Papua New Guineans write about where they live, or about a part of the country they know and love. Paradise is seeking contributions for the next issue. If you wish to contribute, email [paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com](mailto:paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com).***

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## Drawing the line

Leanne Jorari meets an artist who is giving voice to PNG women in his detailed works.

**W**ith wisdom beyond his years, Jordan Morris, 27, tells a story through his canvas. The story is of a young woman who has come of age, celebrated by markings on her face signalling that she is ready. Not marriage ready, not love ready, but ready for change.

The artist is an observer and a critic, and with his latest instalment of work he celebrates 'the essence of a woman', a common theme in his paintings.

His art reflects his culture, society and the injustices that go along with it. His detailed paintings document Papua New Guinean women, hailing from different provinces, celebrating their traditional way of life.

"I never draw men. A lot of people ask, 'why don't you draw a chief?' I tell them that I can draw a chief but in the form of a woman.

"The fabric that traditionally kept a home together was women. I like to give voice to that because it has shifted so much in modern times. How we value women now has changed so much, and that is not okay with me."

Looking at his paintings, you can see the dedication and respect he gives. With each stroke of the brush, an intricate detail is formed. The rich colours give his paintings a strong physical presence.

He draws his inspiration from culture, not only his (from Western Highlands Province and Denmark), but also from indigenous Australian art.

"I admire Indigenous Australian art storytelling, fitting so much history passed down from generation to generation on a single canvas



PICTURES: SUPPLIED BY JORDAN MORRIS

**Jordan Morris, making a social commentary through his art work.**

is incredible. Many similarities can be drawn with PNG tradition and cultural beliefs, and this art of storytelling is something I aim to pass down to the next generation of PNG artists."

As a business student at the University of Queensland, tuition can be expensive, but Morris has managed to combine his talent with his business acumen and sell some of his paintings to pay his fees.

Morris is based in Brisbane, Australia. Looking at the future, he aims to complete his studies and give back to his people and community.

"In the short term, I'm aiming to finish my Masters of Business. But for the long term, I would like to take my entrepreneurial and innovation skills and look at ways to give back to my village, the land, and its people – this would really be a full circle moment for me."

His artwork is being exhibited at the Crowne Plaza Residences and at the Port Terrace Restaurant & Bar in Port Moresby for 12 months. Each painting in his 'Grim Jordan' exhibition is for sale and has a unique tale based on the personal experiences and memories of his life in PNG. ■



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## GRAND BRASSERIE, GRAND PAPUA HOTEL PNG REVIEW

Stepping into the Grand Brasserie on the ground floor of the Grand Papua Hotel is like stepping back in time. This elegant dining room has dark-stained wood, black-and-white tiled floors, plantation shutters and a great outlook towards the hotel's swimming pool.

It's very welcoming and charming, and the staff that greet me for lunch are courteous and attentive.

For lunch, the restaurant offers a la carte, as well as a PGK65 buffet.

I order the Mount Wilhelm trout (PGK85). The fish is served with fries, lime butter sauce and salad. It's cooked very well and delicious, the fries are crispy, but the lime butter sauce is a little bland. Overall, a great meal.

Among the other mains available are a tomahawk steak (PGK159), pad thai (PGK65) and nasi goreng (PGK59).

The creme brulee (PGK35) is one of the restaurant's best-selling desserts, but the fish portion is enough for me for lunch.

The wine list is adequate without being extensive. ■



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**OPEN:**

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**STYLE:**

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**TYPICAL PRICE:**

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**OUR FAVOURITE DISH:**

Mount Wilhelm trout with lime butter sauce

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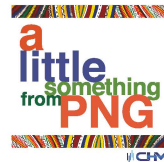
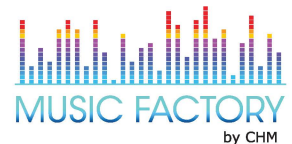
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## WINE GURU

**Q:** Is it ok to refrigerate red wine?

**A:** White wine is drunk cold, red wine is drunk at room temperature. This seems like one of the simplest rules of the wine-drinking world. But the confusing thing about wine is that most rules are made to be broken. Think of them more as guidelines.

We consulted professional wine connoisseur Leanne Altmann on whether she would consider chilling her red wines.

“A lot of the time, you read that red wine is best consumed at room temperature,” says Altmann. “But room temperature in, say, Bordeaux in France, is very different from room temperature in Papua New Guinea.”

Altmann suggests giving fuller bodied red wines such as cabernet sauvignon a head start in the fridge to get the best out of them.

She suggests putting robust reds in the fridge for 30 to 45 minutes to bring them down to 16 or 18 degrees Celsius before drinking.

“You’ll find that the wine has more freshness and more precision, it’s more fragrant and if you serve it too warm it will feel flabby,

and you’ll notice the alcohol a lot more.”

“If you are a lover of gamay or some fruity pinot noirs or ripe, light fruit-forward wines without too much tannin they can be served at a similar temperature to, say, chardonnay, closer to 12 or 14 degrees. But you must choose the right sort of wine, those wines need to be fruity and lower in tannin, the classic style of wine you would do that for is Beaujolais.”

So, in short, yes chill your red wine in hot climates like PNG. ■

**Do you have a wine question? Email us at [paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com](mailto:paradise@businessadvantageinternational.com).**



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# Big medal haul for PNG

*Lemach Lavari* reports that PNG won the most medals of any country at the Pacific Mini Games earlier this year.

**P**apua New Guinea topped the medal tally at the 11th Pacific Mini Games in Saipan in the Northern Marianas in June.

The team of 85 athletes, supported by 34 officials, bagged 33 gold medals, 28 silver and 19 bronze, competing in athletics, golf, tennis, va'a and weightlifting.

Tahiti finished second on the medal table, followed by the hosts Northern Marianas.

The Mini Games are a smaller version of the Pacific Games and are held every four years, in between the main games.

Most of PNG's medals were won in athletics and weightlifting.

PNG's Chef de Mission, Kila Dick, attributed PNG's dominance in those sports to the athletes being able to train and compete internationally, especially in the US and Australia.

Some of the highlights for PNG included PNG weightlifters Dika Toua and Morea Baru being judged by the Pacific Games Council as the best female and male athletes at the Mini Games, as well as Baru breaking the Pacific Games weightlifting record for clean and jerk, lifting 151 kilograms.

Toua became the first female weightlifter in the region to be inducted into the International Weightlifting Hall of Fame.

PNG athletes also won all medals in the women's 100- and 200-metre events, and the men's 3000-metre steeplechase.

In total, 1300 athletes from 20 countries competed at the Mini Games.

The next Mini Games will be in Palau in 2025. PNG is yet to host the games. ■

**PNG weightlifters Dika Toua and Morea Baru, named the best female and male athletes at the Mini Games.**



PICTURES: TEAM PNG MEDIA, PETER SEVARA JR

“

PNG weightlifters Dika Toua and Morea Baru were judged as the best athletes at the Mini Games.

”








(Clockwise from left) PNG golfer Xavier Slater Ishmael; the PNG 4x100-metre relay team Leonie Beu, Toea Wisil, PNG Olympic Committee President Sir John Dawanicura, Isila Apkup and Adrine Monagi; gold for PNG's 800-metre runner Adolf Kauba.





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### All-in-one travel adaptor

Even the most seasoned traveller can forget a travel adaptor for charging devices or have to sort through a drawer of different options to find the right one. But the Uppel universal travel adaptor offers an all-in-one solution with a smart chip that helps regulate and distribute current to protect devices. PGK268; amazon.com.au.



### Bag tracker

As airports continue to iron out some post-pandemic kinks, it is good to know where your luggage is at all times. With Apple Airtag GPS trackers you can attach one to your bag and then download the app; and you will be able to see where your bag is anywhere in the world. You can also use it for pets, family members and bicycles. PGK112; apple.com.



### Shrinking water bottle

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### Top-of-the-range headphones

Touted as the high-end audio company's best noise-cancelling headphones, the Bose QuietComfort 45 is lightweight for travelling, and extremely comfortable. They have 24 hours of battery life and a deep, clear audio system for great sound. Hear what you want to hear. PGK1195; bose.com.au.



### Tech organiser

This stylish, generously sized carry bag will stop you reaching into your bag and pulling out a pile of cord spaghetti. Designed by Bellroy, it zips out flat, has a magnetic slip pocket for a power bank and is optimised for larger accessories. PGK212; bellroy.com.

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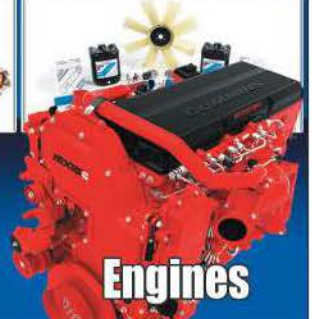
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# COLOURFUL AND CURIOUS PORT MORESBY

*John Brooksbank* has released *Eda Moresby*, a fascinating historical compilation about Port Moresby. Here, we republish some edited extracts from the book.

## POM'S FIRST BUILDING

The first building erected in West Granville, the name originally assigned to downtown Port Moresby, was a prison cell, built above the intersection of Hunter Street and Port Road. As the town grew, this was moved to the junction of Ela Beach Road and Musgrave Street, and then to Koki, before its final move, this time to Bomana, where the prison is still located.

The first building in the country with elevators installed was ANG House, which was also the town's first tower block when built in 1968. The first escalators were those installed in Brian Bell Plaza in Boroko.

## EVER WONDERED WHERE THE STREET NAMES CAME FROM?

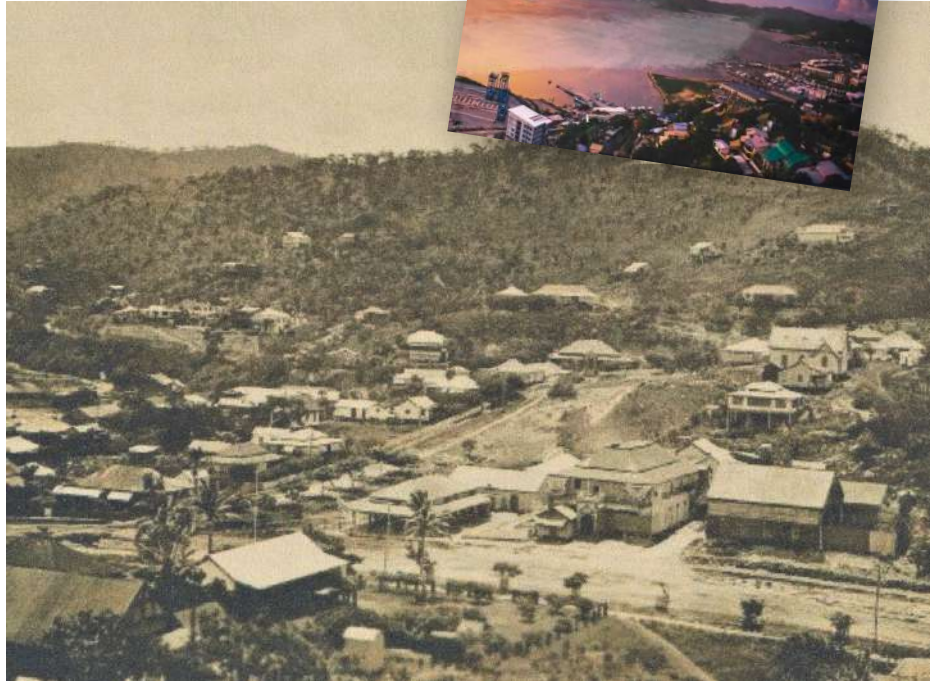
Airvos Avenue, on the slopes of Touaguba Hill has swanky, high-cost homes overlooking the harbour and downtown Port Moresby. The Australasian Petroleum Company (APC) wanted access to undeveloped and inaccessible land on the hill and paid for its construction. In recognition, the thoroughfare was named Airvos, an acronym of oil exploration company partners in APC – Anglo-Iranian (which became British Petroleum or BP); Vacuum Oil (evolved into Mobil, now ExxonMobil); and finally, Shell.

## THE EVOLUTION OF WAIGANI

Large parts of the once swampy and mosquito-infested Vaigana Valley, purchased from Baruni villagers by Administrator Sir William MacGregor in 1891, lay unused for many years until a Walter Gors bought a tractor and tried, unsuccessfully, to grow cotton there in 1923.

The area was once planned to be the city cemetery, then a horse-racing track, but when World War 2 erupted land was needed for airstrips.

The large flat valley, by then known as Waigani, was an ideal location for construction of an airstrip, initially called 5-Mile Drome until being named Wards Strip



Port Moresby in the 1920s (above) and the cover of the coffee-table book *Eda Moresby* (top).

after Lieutenant-Colonel Ward, commanding officer of 53rd Battalion AIF, who was killed in the Kokoda area.

Wards Strip was just one of the seven airstrips that were constructed around Port Moresby during the war years and at the time it was possible for aircraft to taxi on the ground from there to the 7-Mile Drome – now known as Jacksons International Airport.

## A FAMOUS WRITER AND A MOVIE STAR

In 1907, Irish travel writer and novelist Beatrice Grimshaw arrived in town intending to visit for a couple of months – she ended up staying for 27 years.

Grimshaw published illustrated articles and serialised stories in a variety of journals including *National Geographic*, *Wide World Magazine*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

She wrote 37 novels in the style of Mills and Boon, 16 of which were set in PNG.

Her novels contained suspense, danger, and excitement. The characters and incidents she described were drawn from real life and included pious missionaries, crooked island traders, despotic ship's captains, local mistresses, and half-caste beauties. Although populist fiction, Beatrice's tales exemplify the values and fantasies of Europeans living in the region at the time.

Grimshaw and her brother, Ramsay, purchased a tobacco farm on the Laloki River just outside town from Errol Flynn, who was leaving to try his hand at acting. ■

**Extracted from *Eda Moresby* (PGK250), Paradise Publishing, by John Brooksbank, [facebook.com/EdaMoresby](https://www.facebook.com/EdaMoresby).**





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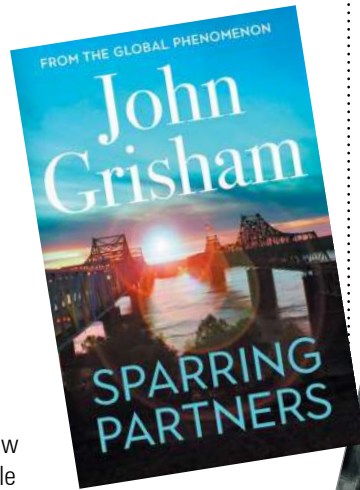
## FICTION

***Sparring Partners***

By John Grisham (Hachette Australia)

**Available as an audio book**

The master of the legal thriller is back with *Sparring Partners*, a collection of three stories, one of which sees the return of Jack Brigrance, the hero of Grisham's best-selling novel *A Time for Mercy*. In the story *Homecoming*, Brigrance helps a former lawyer and old friend return home to Ford County, the fictional southern land where most of Grisham's stories take place. The second story, *Strawberry Moon*, tells the story of Cody Wallace, a death row inmate with one final request. The title story, *Sparring Partners*, introduces us to brothers Kirk and Rusty, two lawyers who despise each other but still must deal with their once-prosperous firm.



## WAR

***Australia's Secret Army***

By Michael Veitch (Hachette Australia)

**Available as an audio book**

In his new book, Australia writer and broadcaster, Michael Veitch, tells the story of the Coast Watchers, a civilian organisation established shortly after World War 1 by the Royal Australian Navy to help them observe and report foreign shipping and aeroplane movements in the South Pacific. Formed mostly by European settlers, missionaries and patrol officers, the Coast Watchers' role evolved during World War 2, inadvertently elevating its status to secret army. These unsung heroes weren't expected to fight, but they did and without them the war could have turned out differently.



## SCIENCE

***Future Superhuman***

By Elise Bohan (New South Books)

With climate change, new pathogens, nuclear weapons and the rise of artificial intelligence, what does the future hold for us? *Future Superhuman* is Bohan's attempt to answer how rapid technological shifts will affect the way we interact with others,

ourselves and artificial intelligence. She

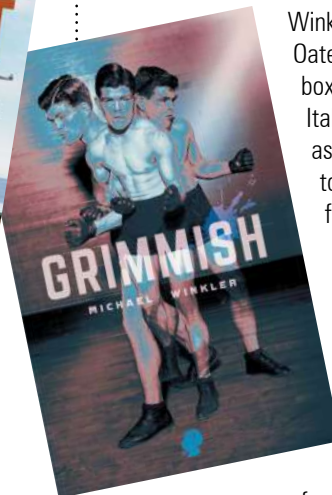
argues humans are in a state of flux that could lead to a 'transhuman era'. By now, much has been said about transhumanism, the belief that humans can evolve beyond physical and mental limitations by means of technology. Here, the researcher from the Future of Humanity Institute at the University of Oxford provides a glimpse into what the not-so-distant future for work and relationships could look like. Based on scientific research, this book offers challenging speculation without sounding like over-the-top science-fiction.



## BOXING

***Grimmish***

By Michael Winkler (Puncher &amp; Wattmann)



Winkler joins Norman Mailer and Joyce Carol Oates in the list of authors who have used the boxing world as a literary canvas. In 1908, Italian-American boxer Joe Grim, better known as 'Iron Man' or 'The Human Punching Bag', toured Australia. Crowds gathered to see him fight not because of his knockout power or dazzling footwork, but because he could take brutal punishment without showing signs of pain. Legend goes it was almost impossible to knock him out. Grim fought in Sydney, Melbourne, Ballarat and Tasmania, but when he toured Australia's west coast, he was temporarily admitted to the Claremont Asylum in Perth. Juxtaposing facts and fiction, Winkler explores the life of Grim, particularly his time in Australia. The result is an inventive book that questions pain, masculinity and the abuse of the human body as a spectacle. *Grimmish* is short-listed for the Miles Franklin Award. ■





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# AT THE MOVIES

What's happening in the world of cinema



## TOP GUN HITS THE BILLION-DOLLAR MARK

Released 36 years after the 1986 original, *Top Gun: Maverick* has become one of the highest grossing movies of all time at the international box office.

Tom Cruise stars as Peter 'Maverick' Mitchell alongside Miles Teller and a new batch of daring aviators to teach them a thing or two about fighting an enemy in the sky.

The movie was originally due for release in 2020, but Cruise fought hard to ensure that *Top Gun: Maverick* wasn't released onto streaming services during the pandemic and that audiences could instead experience it on the big screen. Grossing over a billion American dollars so far, it was apparently well worth the wait.

Elsewhere at the international box office, the industry has been relieved by the success of movies without superheroes and expensive visual effect budgets.

Baz Luhrmann's candy-coloured *Elvis* biopic solidified itself as an Oscar front-runner thanks largely to the performance of breakout star Austin Butler in the title role. The kung-fu drama *Everything Everywhere All At Once* has proven a huge surprise hit, a rare success for a film starring a predominantly Asian cast including Malaysian legend Michelle Yeoh.

Elsewhere, the big screen adaptation of *Where the Crawdads Sing* (featuring an original song by Taylor Swift) has exceeded expectations in a genre that has predominantly been overtaken by prestige television.

Have you returned to the cinema?

## ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU SCREAM

What's your favourite scary movie? The latest instalment of the *Scream* franchise isn't set for release until March next year, but on-set photographs have revealed the mysterious Ghostface killer will be haunting the streets of New York.

It isn't known yet whether five-time heroine Sidney Prescott (Neve Campbell) will return, but it has been confirmed that intrepid reporter Gale Weathers (Courteney Cox) will be back to face off with another masked killer alongside other survivors from the hit sequel from 2022 (including Jenna Ortega and Melissa Barrera) and a cast of new victims.



## WHAT TO WATCH IN CINEMAS

### September

*Three Thousand Years of Longing* Idris Elba stars as a genie in this sci-fi adventure from director George Miller (*Mad Max: Fury Road*).

### October

*Halloween Ends* The final instalment of this horror reboot sees Jamie Lee Curtis fight one last time (apparently).

### November

*Black Panther: Wakanda Forever* Another entry into the expanding Marvel universe, but how will they deal with the off-screen death of actor Chadwick Boseman?



## PREVIEW

### *Nope*

**Cast:** Daniel Kaluuya, Kiki Palmer, Steven Yeun

Filmmaker Jordan Peele is back after his huge hits *Get Out* (for which he won an Academy Award) and *Us*. The former sketch comedy star has become the face of elevated horror movies – tackling big themes while also trying to scare the pants off audiences.

In his latest film *Nope*, Daniel Kaluuya and Kiki Palmer (are siblings who own and operate a cattle ranch in the California desert. But when they both claim to witness a UFO descend from the sky, they turn to their connections in Hollywood to get to the truth. Funny and frightening, *Nope* will have you guessing until the very end.

## PNG'S OSCARS ACCEPTANCE

Papua New Guinea has been accepted as one of the countries that can nominate films for consideration in the Academy Awards.

PNG applied to the Academy to be included more than two years ago and was accepted earlier this year.

The affiliation means PNG can submit films in various categories, including international feature film.

**Port Moresby's Paradise Cinema screens many of the movies mentioned in Screen Grabs. For screening dates and session times see [paradisecinemaspng.com](http://paradisecinemaspng.com).**





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## Net gains

# A new plan for PNG fishing industry

**Better infrastructure and a higher volume of onshore processing are the key tenets of PNG's new Fisheries Strategic Plan, which aims to transform the industry over the coming decade. Paul Chai reports.**

Ocean fishing contributes half a billion US dollars every year to Pacific countries.

This crucial industry has become even more important as mainstays like tourism have been battered by the global pandemic but, while Papua New Guinea is the biggest tuna processing country in the region – marine product exports were valued at PGK325 million in 2021 – it is still missing a big opportunity.

Ango Wangatau, Chairman of PNG's National Fisheries Authority, says that the new Fisheries Strategic Plan 2021–2030 will help PNG “change from a highland country to a fishing nation.”

While PNG already has tariff-free access to the European Union market and an abundance of tuna to sell, Wangatau notes that it is missing the infrastructure to process its tuna catch onshore. Therefore, much of the processing still heads offshore to the Philippines and Thailand.

In 2020, 70 per cent of tuna was processed offshore, with that figure dropping to 51 per cent in 2021, but there are ways of improving this outcome.

“If the government puts money into developing the infrastructure, like a dedicated fishing wharf in Madang with cold stores and 10 different processing plants, we can lure not only the catches in PNG to process here but the catches all over the Pacific,” he says.



“At the Pacific Islands Leaders Forum, they decided PNG should take the lead in the fishing industry because the other island countries don't have the land, they don't have the population. With the right infrastructure, we can control the world tuna price.”

PNG currently has six onshore fish-processing plants. Modelling for the strategic plan projects the creation of between four and 14 new plants over the coming decade. The construction of new wharves, jetties and slipways would support these new facilities.

The plan establishes 11 priorities, including expanding market access to fisheries products; increasing government presence in the industry; promoting locally owned small business; and strengthening research development and training in the industry.

The report also recommends encouraging more foreign direct investment, which has largely driven the sector so far.

Wangatau says that they are ideally seeking local owners, too, ahead of foreign investment.

“The super funds have got money; landowner companies are ready to come in, but we have to develop the infrastructure first,” he says.

A hurdle to consider is the cost of starting up in PNG.

“Our labour is competitive, but we have to deal with other costs like electricity, which is quite expensive in PNG,” he says.

Wangatau says that it can be tricky to get government buy-in, as infrastructure does not always offer immediate returns. But he believes it will make a big difference to the fishing industry.

“We have 12,000 to 13,000 people employed in the industry right now. If we can increase that to 30 or 40,000, then that is a reason why the government should do it,” he says. ■

**The stories in our 'Strictly Business' section were first published in PNG's online business magazine, [businessadvantagepng.com](http://businessadvantagepng.com), and are re-published by arrangement with Business Advantage International.**



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# MINUTE EXPERT

## PNG's BIG GAS FUTURE

In the time it takes you to read this page, you'll become an expert on PNG's liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects.

We support Sports Development

We support Infrastructure Development in PNG

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We support Rural Development

“Education is a shared responsibility and NGCB is pleased to support this particular sector and we are committed to providing funding support for quality education throughout Papua New Guinea”

Imelda Agon – CEO | NGCB

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**P**NG has two major LNG projects planned for this decade: Papua LNG, which is being led by France's TotalEnergies, and P'nyang, which is being led by ExxonMobil (the developer of PNG's only existing gas project, PNG LNG, which commenced production in 2014).

### WHEN WILL THE GAS PROJECTS START?

The plan is for Papua LNG to start construction first, in 2024, and take four years. P'nyang will follow once Papua LNG is completed, and will also take four years to complete. This phased approach will hopefully ensure that PNG's economy doesn't get overheated, as happened when the PNG LNG project was constructed.

### WHO IS INVOLVED?

Papua LNG will be run by TotalEnergies, in partnership with ExxonMobil and Santos. P'nyang is being developed by ExxonMobil in partnership with Santos and Japan's JX Nippon. PNG's Kumul Petroleum will have a stake in both projects.

### WHERE ARE THE PROJECTS?

Papua LNG is based on the Elk/Antelope gas fields in PNG's Gulf Province. P'nyang's gas reserves are based in Western Province. Both projects aim to bring gas from those fields to ExxonMobil's LNG plant at Caution Bay outside Port Moresby, where the gas will be processed for export.

### HOW MUCH MONEY WILL THESE PROJECTS BRING INTO PNG?

Over US\$20 billion (PGK70 billion) will be invested in PNG by the developers and their venture partners during the eight years of construction. Once gas exports start,

revenues are expected to flow for up to 30 years.

### HOW CERTAIN ARE THE TWO PROJECTS TO GO AHEAD?

Gas agreements between PNG's government and the developers are in place for both projects and there should be a ready market for the gas once the projects go into production.

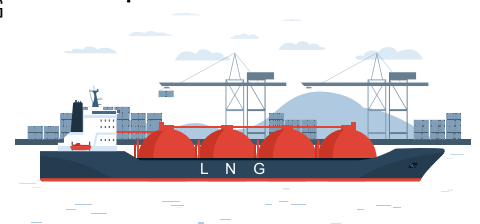
However, nothing is certain until a final investment decision (FID) is made on both projects. The FID for Papua LNG, currently in its design phase, is due to be made at the end of 2023. The FID for P'nyang will take place some time before 2028.

### WHAT WILL PNG GET OUT OF THESE PROJECTS?

PNG will receive benefits in a number of ways. Firstly, the PNG State will have a direct share of both projects: 22.5 per cent of Papua LNG and 34.5 per cent of P'nyang. PNG will also receive a production levy and royalties. Indirectly, there will be employment opportunities and work for local contractors, while some of the gas will be reserved for domestic use. Both projects are also expected to trigger development in their host provinces.

### ARE THERE OTHER GAS PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE?

Yes, but none of the size of Papua LNG and P'nyang. Two smaller projects, Pasca A and Stanley, are also reportedly close to being given the go-ahead. ■



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# 5 QUESTIONS FOR PAUL ABBOT GENERAL MANAGER COMMERCIAL AT AIR NIUGINI

**Q: You joined Air Niugini in June. What does your new role involve?**

A: I'm essentially responsible for the commercial performance of all passenger sales-based aspects of Air Niugini's operations, including managing all domestic and offshore sales offices and agencies, plus the Destinations Loyalty program. In addition, I'm looking after the marketing and PR activities for the airline.

But the most important aspect is to be the voice of the customer within Air Niugini and ensure product, service and operations take a customer-centred approach.

**Paul Abbot, says Air Niugini is emerging from the COVID-19 period in "remarkably good shape".**



**Q: What are you looking forward to in the role?**

A: I'm looking forward to the challenge of helping re-establish the airline after two years of disruption caused by COVID-19. There has also been a wide range of new initiatives started over the past 12 months and bringing those to market will be exciting and will be great from a customer perspective as the airline is taking big steps to improve its product offering.

Air Niugini plays a vital role in the development of the country, both domestically and internationally, and as a management team we are committed to driving change in the airline to help ensure the country has a national airline that it can truly be proud of.

**Q: Are there new services being planned?**

A: In short yes, there are, and these will be revealed closer to the date.

**Q: How has aviation changed in the past few years with the onset of COVID-19?**

A: We are now only just starting to see a return

to pre-COVID-19 travelling conditions, but still have a few hurdles to climb before we are truly travelling freely again.

Some of the major issues that airlines are facing include staff shortages where staff left during COVID-19 and the ability to recruit and train replacement staff, especially in specialist or technical areas, is a real challenge and not a quick solution. This puts pressure on airlines to support schedules and network demand brought on by people once again looking to travel.

Other issues are lack of investment in fleet and facilities as the business has just not been there over the past two years to fund that investment. Airlines are notoriously a low-margin business and consequently the ability to maintain operations over a sustained period of low-volume traffic has been a major concern for many airlines.

Air Niugini is emerging from the COVID-19 period in remarkably good shape and in far better condition than many of our competitors in the region. The return to normal, especially in domestic travel, has happened far quicker than anticipated and while the international routes are relatively quiet, they too are starting to pick up now with many countries removing travel restrictions.

**Q: What executive positions have you previously held?**

A: Senior management positions with Air New Zealand, primarily in the sales and marketing division, and Chief Executive for Bay of Plenty Rugby Union, Destination Queenstown, and PNG Air. ■



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**iPhone**

**Apple goes green**

Apple recently announced two new colours for its most recent iteration of the iPhone 13 and iPhone 13 Pro. The phone now comes in green and alpine green with a durable ceramic shield front to stave off cracked screens. It also has a new camera upgrade featuring cinematic mode for video where you can adjust focus while filming, and a boost in battery life. From PGK3529; apple.com.



**Gin**

**Crafty flavours**

The Australian Distilling Co aims to capture the tastes of Australia in its bottles. This flagship gin adds coriander and cardamom to the flavour mix, but for interesting options check out the 'city range' of gins, which aim to reflect the flavours of Australian destinations like Darwin, Bondi and Melbourne. Look out for the gin from this craft distiller at airport duty free shops. PGK180; australiandistillingco.com.au.



**EXPERIENCE**



**Music**

**Hong Kong chic**

The Music Room, Potato Head Hong Kong is accessed via a hidden corridor behind Kaum restaurant. This listening space for fans of vinyl has state-of-the-art JBL Pro speakers and a custom-made rotary mixer from Japan. Chill out on the retro lounges after work and listen to one of the 8000 records that have been hand-picked by German DJ and producer Johnny Hiller. Paradise for audiophiles. potatohead.co/hong-kong.



**Timeless quality**

**For her**

Omega's Seamaster Aqua Terra Co-Axial Master Chronometer watch is all about the maritime world with the dial design inspired by the teak patten on luxury yachts. An anti-reflective treatment means the sun won't hamper your ability to tell the time. PGK32,596; luxeitfwd.com.au.

**Timeless quality**

**For him**

Business travellers will appreciate that this iconic Breitling Navitimer Chronograph watch was crafted for pilots to make flight calculations. Short for 'navigation timer', it is now the official timepiece of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; looks great too. PGK10,140; luxeitfwd.com.au.



**Card holder**

**A snappy organiser**

This double-sided card wallet is stylish and opens via two metallic trapdoors to provide quick and easy access. It will certainly leave an impression when you are handing out business cards at a meeting. PGK240; bellroy.com.







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## **Understanding the key changes to the Motor Vehicles Insurance Limited's (MVIL) enabling legislations**

The amendments to the Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance) Act (Chapter 295) and the Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance) (Basic Protection Compensation) Act (Chapter 296) came into effect on 22 September 2021.

The amendments include *Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance) (Amendment) Act 2021* and the *Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance) (Basic Protection Compensation) (Amendment) Act 2021*.

### **The key amendments under the *Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance) (Amendment) Act 2021* are threefold:**

- 1. A change in the definition of the words “motor vehicle” extends to and covers all vehicle types including trucks and equipment used in the extractive, logging and agriculture industries;**
- 2. A change in the definition of the word “street” to include all streets or roads, either public or private, including the streets in the extractive, logging and agriculture project sites, and in the private property estates; and,**
- 3. No compensation or claims payment for uninsured and unregistered motor vehicles, equipment and trucks; and where the identity of the motor vehicle cannot be established after due inquiry.**

### **As for the *Motor Vehicles (Third Party Insurance) (Basic Protection Compensation) (Amendment) Act 2021*:**

**The change involves the increase of the compensation payment awarded in respect of the death of any person from K5,000 for males and K2,500 for females and minors to K10,000, irrespective of gender and age.**

It is important to take note that compensation is only awarded after a thorough assessment and determination is completed.

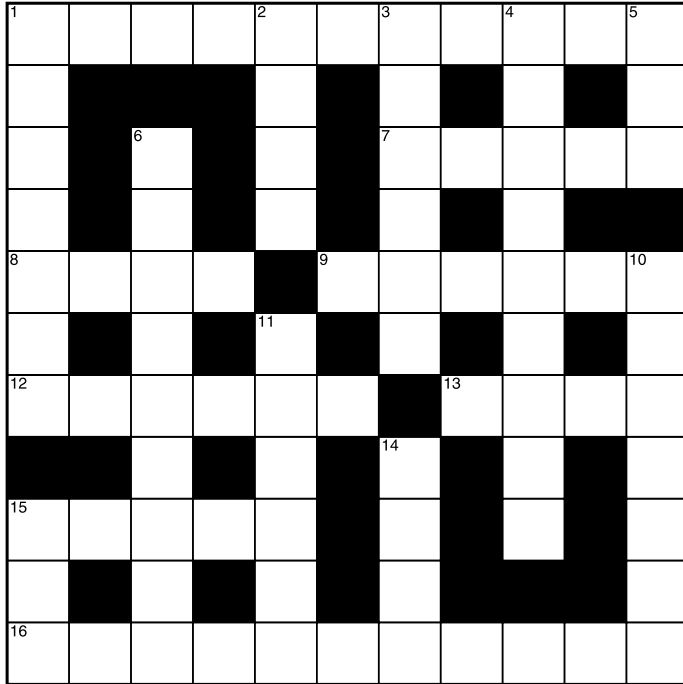
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### DoubleTake

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. They're skilfully mounted for the show (11)
7. Book leaves boys at weddings (5)
8. Location could even assist me (4)
9. Surface layer taipan disturbed (6)
12. Daily drama sounds like a breakfast favourite (6)
13. Edna, district attorney and myself (4)
15. Rugby players with curls? (5)
16. Are they the very best at their jobs or do they just get others to work harder? (11)

##### DOWN

1. Signs up enrolled nurse initially and keels over (7)
2. Cereal grown outside San Diego (4)
3. Mention again about bog fuel (6)
4. Nag about fifty-one cans found by church members (9)

5. Spots odd distress signal (1,1,1)

6. Water falls with this optical ailment (9)

10. Silver sedan spoilt plans (7)

11. In Tehran, some pay money to buy freedom (6)

14. Use noisy sheep (4)

15. Portion in car park or in life (3)

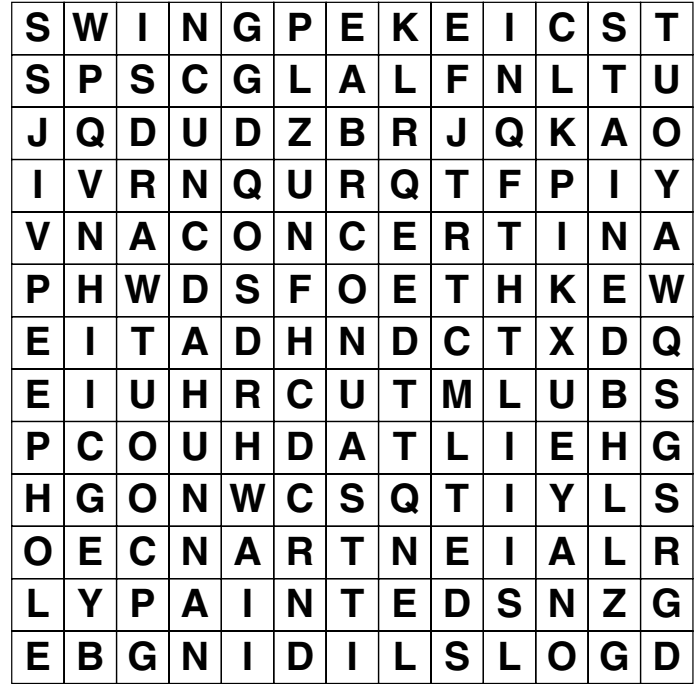
#### STRAIGHT CLUES

##### ACROSS

1. Riders (11)
7. Summons on bleeper (5)
8. Place (4)
9. Green sheen on copper (6)
12. Story in instalments (6)
13. Cathedral, Notre ... (4)
15. Fastens with key (5)
16. Harsh bosses (11)

### Wordsearch

Find all the words listed hidden in the grid of letters. They can be found in straight lines up, down, forwards, backwards or even diagonally.



##### DOWN

1. Joins army (7)
2. Pudding starch (4)
3. TV encore presentation (6)
4. Church of England congregation (9)
5. Mayday call (1,1,1)
6. Cloudy eye condition (9)
10. Schedules (7)
11. Kidnap demand (6)
14. Lambs' mothers (4)
15. Item bid for in auction (3)

Theme: DOORS

- CATCH
- CONCERTINA
- DOUBLE
- ENTRANCE
- FRENCH
- GLASS
- HANDLE
- INWARDS
- OUTWARDS
- PAINTED
- PEEPHOLE
- SHUTTER
- SHUTTING
- SLIDING
- STAINED
- SWING
- TRAP
- WAYOUT



# The Paradise Quiz

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE REGION?

1. Which famous PNG landmark is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year?
2. What's further south, the Trobriand Islands or Alotau?
3. What is the highest mountain in the Finisterre Range in Madang Province?
4. What is a *dukduk*?
5. What is the official currency of Pohnpei?
6. Where is the famous surf spot Cloudbreak?
7. China has established a controversial security pact with which country neighbouring PNG?
8. Which capital city flown to by Air Niugini is known as the 'Pearl of the Orient'?

9. Would you rather have US\$10 or PGK50 in your pocket?
10. Can you name the capital of Indonesia?
11. What is the main newspaper in Singapore?
12. Which player has won the most Dally M Medals for best player in the NRL?
13. Who is Australia's new Prime Minister?
14. Can you name the former Japanese Prime Minister who was assassinated in July?
15. Whose flag is pictured?



# Sudoku

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

Rating: ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

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

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# Solutions

## CROSSWORD

E	Q	U	E	S	T	R	I	A	N	S
N				A		E				O
L		C		G		P	A	G	E	S
I		A		O		E		L		
S	I	T	E		P	A	T	I	N	A
T		A		R		T		C		G
S	E	R	I	A	L		D	A	M	E
		A		N		E		N		N
L	O	C	K	S		W		S		D
O		T		O		E				A
T	A	S	K	M	A	S	T	E	R	S

## WORDSEARCH

S	W	I	N	G	R	E	K	E	I	C	S	T
S	P	S	C	G	L	A	L	F	N	L	T	U
J	Q	D	U	D	Z	B	R	J	Q	K	A	O
I	V	R	N	Q	U	R	Q	T	F	P	I	Y
V	N	A	G	O	N	C	E	R	T	I	N	A
P	H	W	D	S	F	O	E	T	H	K	E	W
E	I	T	A	D	H	N	D	C	T	X	D	Q
E	I	U	H	R	C	U	T	M	L	U	B	S
P	C	O	U	H	D	A	T	L	I	E	H	G
H	G	O	N	W	C	S	Q	T	I	Y	L	S
O	E	C	N	A	R	T	N	E	I	A	L	R
L	Y	P	A	I	N	T	E	D	S	N	Z	G
E	B	G	N	I	D	I	L	S	L	O	G	D

## SUDOKU

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

### The Paradise Quiz

1. Kokoda Trail
2. Alotau
3. Mount Boising (4150m)
4. A Tolai man in costume and mask representing a male spirit.
5. US dollar
6. Fiji
7. Solomon Islands
8. Manila
9. PGK50 is worth more.
10. Jakarta
11. *The Straits Times*
12. Johnathan Thurston (4)
13. Anthony Albanese
14. Shinzo Abe
15. Singapore.



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# Out and about

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



PICTURE: DAVID KIRKLAND

Port Moresby from the air ... the capital city has a population of almost 365,000 people.

### CLIMATE

With the exception of the Highlands, Papua New Guinea 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. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available at hotels and at Jacksons International Airport.

**Phone:** International phone roaming is possible in PNG, but it can be costly. A cheaper option is to buy a local SIM card and pre-paid credit (including data packs for smartphones). Mobile data is available in cities and towns but may not be available in rural areas.

### ELECTRICITY

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

### GETTING AROUND

**Airport transfers:** For arrival/ departure in Port Moresby, hotels provide a complimentary transfer.

**Car hire:** Deal with one of the international names and ask them to provide a driver (PGK450+ per day). With the poor state of roads, especially in Lae, 4WDs/SUVs are recommended.

**Taxis:** Recommended firms are City Loop (70124400) and Comfort

(325 3046). Expedient Limited (7232 9990) provides shuttle services. ODESH is Port Moresby's first taxi and chauffeur on-demand booking service. See [odesh.net](http://odesh.net).

**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 for some flights, also to check in) online, but make sure



you print out a copy of your receipt to show at check-in. Aircraft and helicopter charters are available for travel to remote locations.

## HEALTH

Serious medical conditions can be treated in Port Moresby at Pacific International Hospital, Paradise Private Hospital and Port Moresby General Hospital, which have emergency services. Some conditions may require treatment outside the country. Travellers should ensure they have adequate health cover. The cost of medical evacuation can be high. Visitors should also note that malaria is prevalent in PNG and there have been cases of measles and tuberculosis.

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

For St John Ambulance phone 111 or 7111 1234. St John provides a 24-hour ambulance service in Port Moresby.

## MONEY

PNG's currency is the kina (PGK). Banks and ATMs are located around Port Moresby, Lae and almost all urban centres.

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

PNG observes a number of public holidays, including Independence Day on September 16.

## TIME ZONE

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

## EATING OUT

### 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 to Deli KC. The Vue

Restaurant has a buffet each morning and evening, as well as an a la carte menu, and stunning views. See [airways.com.pg](http://airways.com.pg).

**Akura:** A new elegant dining and lounge bar at Harbourside. Tel. 7320 7777, [Instagram.com/akurapng](https://www.instagram.com/akurapng).

**Anna's Kitchen:** Vietnamese cuisine and French pastries. Tel. 7068 1766.

**Asia Aromas:** Offering Chinese and Thai food by the water at Harbourside, this eatery has consistently good reviews on social media. Outdoor seating is available. A good spot for sunset drinks. Tel. +675 321 4780.

**Aviat Port Moresby Club:** The club is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Home-style meals include stir-fries, toasted sandwiches and salt-and-pepper prawns. This is a great spot to sit at lunchtime under the shady mango trees, or in the air-conditioned bar. See [facebook.com/Aviat-Club](https://www.facebook.com/Aviat-Club).

**Daikoku:** The extensive Japanese menu has teppanyaki, donburi bowls and a large range of sushi. See [daikokupng.com](http://daikokupng.com).

**Duffy Cafe:** Known for excellent coffee and homemade cafe-style food and bakery items, Duffy has three locations – at Harbourside, Gordons and Jacksons International Airport. See [duffypng.com](http://duffypng.com).

**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. See [facebook.com/100064086213057](https://www.facebook.com/100064086213057).

**Edge by the Sea:** The 'Edge' cafe has alfresco dining with a wonderful marina outlook from the ground floor at the Edge Apartments in Harbour City. Eggs benedict, burrito bowls, pork burgers and grilled snapper are among the breakfast and lunch menu favourites. There's a mist water system in the alfresco area that can reduce the ambient air temperature by up to 10 degrees ... perfect for those blistering-hot days. Tel. +675 7995 5263.

**Ela Beach Hotel:** Drop in to Salt Restaurant for casual all-day dining, including curry, burgers and wok dishes, or pizza at Enzo's. See [coralseahotels.com.pg](http://coralseahotels.com.pg).

**Element Bar and Restaurant:** Element offers Asian fusion with excellent service. On Champion Parade, on the first level of MRDC Haus, it has modern decor and a huge balcony. Tel. +675 7252 8778.

**Fusion:** A fusion of flavours from China, Thailand and Vietnam. Takeaway available. There's also a sister restaurant, Fusion 2, in the far corner of the ANZ Bank Compound in Waigani. Tel. +675 7196 6666.

**Gateway Hotel:** The hotel's dining options include The Wild Orchard for breakfast and dinner buffet daily, Jackson's Gaming–Restaurant–Bar, which has a rooftop bar with views of the airport, as well as claims to the best lamb rack in town, Sizzler's Family Restaurant for value dining, while Enzo's Express does quick lunches, coffee and pizza. See [coralseahotels.com.pg](http://coralseahotels.com.pg).

**Grand Papua Hotel:** The elegant Grand Brasserie has an a la carte menu of modern European cuisine, as well as buffet options. The

Grand Cafe, on Douglas Street, has barista-made Goroka coffee, fruit juices, freshly made salads and sandwiches. The Grand Bar – with stylish marble, high ceilings, timber floors and window shutters – has a light menu and is a popular place to wind down after work. See [coralseahotels.com.pg/grand-papua-hotel](http://coralseahotels.com.pg/grand-papua-hotel).

**Hilton Port Moresby:** The hotel has five eating areas including Mumu, which is named after the traditional earthen oven of PNG and serves traditionally inspired dishes. There's also a top-floor lounge bar called Summit, cafe-style dining in Copper on the lobby level, all-day dining and a breakfast buffet at Feast, and quick bites, such as sandwiches and coffee, at Halo in the convention centre foyer. See [www3.hilton.com](http://www3.hilton.com). Tel. +675 750 1800.

**Hosi Ramen:** As the name suggests, this Japanese restaurant at Vision City specialises in ramen (noodles served in broth with meat and vegetables). See [facebook.com/pages/Hosi-Ramen/565779996932557](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hosi-Ramen/565779996932557).

**Korean Garden:** An affordable menu at Vision City that includes a do-it-yourself barbecue, as well as traditional favourites such as kimchi and gimhap. See [facebook.com/koreangardenpng](https://www.facebook.com/koreangardenpng).

**Lamana Hotel:** Choose from options including Spices Restaurant (Indian), the Italian Restaurant, Cafe Palazzo, and PNG's biggest nightclub, The Gold Club. See [lamanahotel.com.pg](http://lamanahotel.com.pg).

**Magi Seafood Restaurant:** A local secret on Spring Garden Road (same side as SP Brewery) with excellent Asian food, but ➤



specifically the best mud crab in town, which needs to be ordered 24 hours in advance. Tel. +675 323 3918.

**Mojo Social:** This casual Mediterranean-inspired bar and restaurant is on the ground floor of PWC Haus at Harbour City. Tapas-style dishes, risotto and pizza are among the offerings. See [mojofood.co](http://mojofood.co).

**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. See [rpyc.com.pg](http://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.

**Shady Rest Hotel:** The Indian dishes at the hotel's Cellar Restaurant draw high praise from reviewers on TripAdvisor. The restaurant also prides itself in its steaks. Mr Mike's Pizza Company is a takeaway located at the hotel and has classic pizzas, such as Hawaiian and margarita, as well as gourmet pizzas such as the Mediterranean, which is packed with feta, olives, mushrooms and more. See [shadyrest.com.pg](http://shadyrest.com.pg). Tel +675 323 0000.

**Stanley Hotel and Suites:** This Waigani hotel has several restaurant choices, including the fine-dining Silver Leaf and the chic tapas-style Monsoon Lounge.

Green Haus restaurant has all-day dining, including buffet dinners with live cooking stations. See [thestanleypng.com](http://thestanleypng.com).

**Tandoor on the Harbour:** Come here for a curry with great bay views. See [facebook.com/tandoorontheharbour](http://facebook.com/tandoorontheharbour).

**Tasty Bites:** This Indian restaurant is tucked away in the town centre in Hunter Street near Crowne Plaza. Bookings recommended. Tel. +675 321 2222.

**HOTELS**

**PORT MORESBY**

**Airways Hotel:** Airways is within a large, secure compound next to Jacksons International Airport. An inspiring setting, luxurious rooms, excellent service and very good food options. See [airways.com.pg](http://airways.com.pg). Tel. +675 324 5200.

**Citi Boutique Hotel:** The Citi Boutique Hotel is a three-star property in Boroko. It has 60 deluxe queen and twin rooms, a business centre, cable TV and free Wi-Fi. There's also a day spa and beauty salon, restaurant, bar, karaoke room, and a rooftop terrace. The hotel provides free airport transfers. See [citiboutiquehotel.com](http://citiboutiquehotel.com). Tel. +675 300 1300.

**Citi Serviced Apartments and Motel:** There are two Citi Serviced Apartments and Motel properties, one block located at East Boroko and the other at Manu. They are set in safe and secure grounds. The apartments are fully kitted out. They include cable TV, free Wi-Fi, washing machines, dryers, fridges, fans and air conditioning. Housekeeping is also provided. See [citiboutiquehotel.com](http://citiboutiquehotel.com). Tel. +675 300 1300.

**Crown Hotel:** Upmarket rooms and suites in the heart of the CBD. Decent gym, business centre, undercover parking, thriving cafe and Mediterranean restaurant. See [ihg.com](http://ihg.com). Tel. +675 309 3329.

**Ela Beach Hotel and Apartments:** On the fringe of the CBD, this constantly expanding hotel/apartment complex is part of the Coral Sea Hotels group. See [coralseahotels.com.pg](http://coralseahotels.com.pg). Tel. +675 321 2100.

**Gateway Hotel:** Conveniently located just minutes from Jacksons International Airport, the hotel has a range of dining options, conference facilities, modern gym and two swimming pools. Free airport shuttles are available for guests. See [coralseahotels.com.pg](http://coralseahotels.com.pg). Tel. +675 327 8100.

**Grand Papua:** This premium hotel is now part of the Raddison group and features 156 suite rooms (short and long stay), an executive floor, gym and conference facilities. The separate restaurant and bar areas are popular for business meetings. Centrally located. See [coralseahotels.com.pg/grand-papua-hotel](http://coralseahotels.com.pg/grand-papua-hotel). Tel. +675 304 0000.

**Hilton Port Moresby:** The capital city's newest luxury hotel opened in late 2018 and is in the government district 10 minutes from the airport. There are five restaurants, an executive lounge, six meeting rooms, a convention centre, swimming pool and fitness centre. All rooms in the 15-storey hotel include floor-to-ceiling windows. The accommodation includes standard rooms, executive rooms and suites. See [www3.hilton.com](http://www3.hilton.com). Tel. +675 304 0000. ➤

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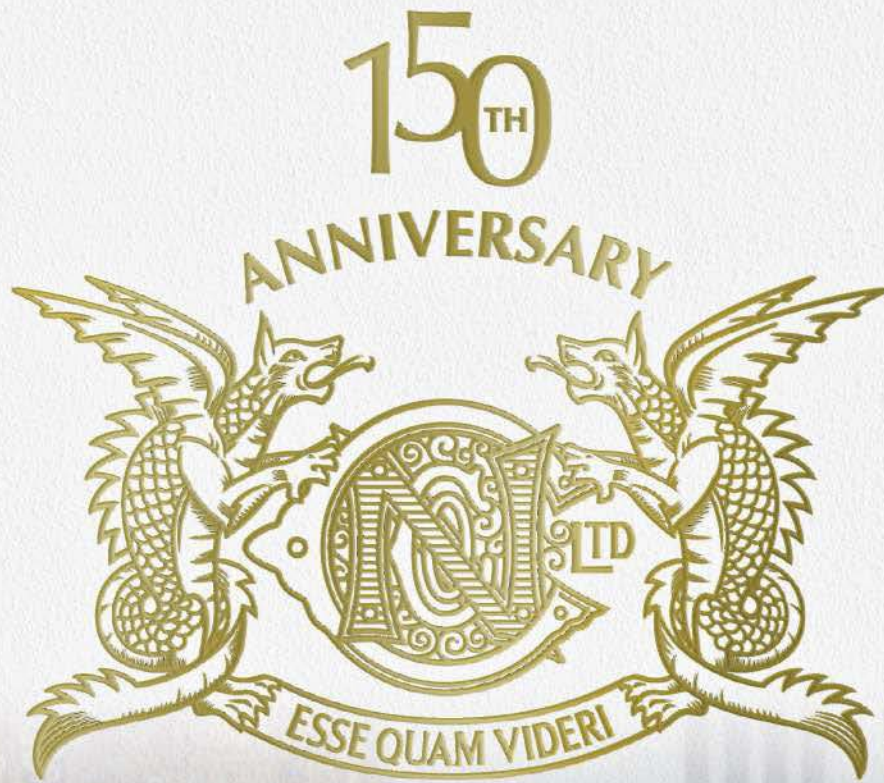
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**Holiday Inn:** Located in Waigani, the large grounds include a walking track in a tropical garden setting, outdoor restaurant and bar area, business centre and gym. Includes three-star Holiday Inn Express hotel. See [ihg.com](http://ihg.com). Tel. +675 303 2000.

**Laguna Hotel:** 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 Wi-Fi and free buffet breakfast. See [lagunahotelpng.com](http://lagunahotelpng.com). Tel. +675 323 9333.

**Lamana Hotel:** In Waigani, the hotel has 24-hour free airport transfers, free in-room Wi-Fi, a conference centre, restaurants, and the famous Gold Club. See

[lamanahotel.com.pg](http://lamanahotel.com.pg). Tel. +675 323 2333.

**Loloata Island Resort:** This island resort, 40 minutes from Port Moresby, opened in late 2019. There are 68 rooms (including some overwater suites and villas), a day spa and two restaurants. Day passes are available for visitors who aren't staying overnight, and shuttles are provided from Port Moresby. The island is perfect for swimming, snorkelling, diving, walking or just lounging beside the pool. See [loloataislandresort.com](http://loloataislandresort.com). Tel. +675 7108 8000.

**Sanctuary Hotel Resort & Spa:** The hotel is an oasis in the city, located 10 minutes from the airport in North Waigani. There

is a lot of greenery in the hotel grounds and a large aviary, which includes the bird of paradise. The hotel, close to government offices, has a business centre, a day spa, swimming pool and a restaurant with a traditional PNG menu with a contemporary edge. It also has rooms and facilities with ramps for people with disabilities. Tel. +675 303 7400.

**Shady Rest Hotel:** Located at Three Mile, seven minutes from the airport, this affordable hotel has 74 rooms, including newly built executive rooms, conference facilities, a day spa and salon, a small gaming lounge, a tapas lounge, the Indian-inspired Cellar Restaurant and Mr Mike's Pizza Company. See [shadyrest.com.pg](http://shadyrest.com.pg). Tel. +675 323 0000.



Gourmet offering... a Mr Mike's Pizza at Shady Rest Hotel.

**Stanley Hotel and Suites:** One of Port Moresby's newest hotels, this is a luxurious 429-room property in Waigani, close to government offices and embassies. It has 95 long-stay apartments, gym, pool, cafe, restaurants and an executive lounge. Connected to Vision City Mega Mall. See [thestanleypng.com](http://thestanleypng.com). Tel. + 675 302 8888. ■

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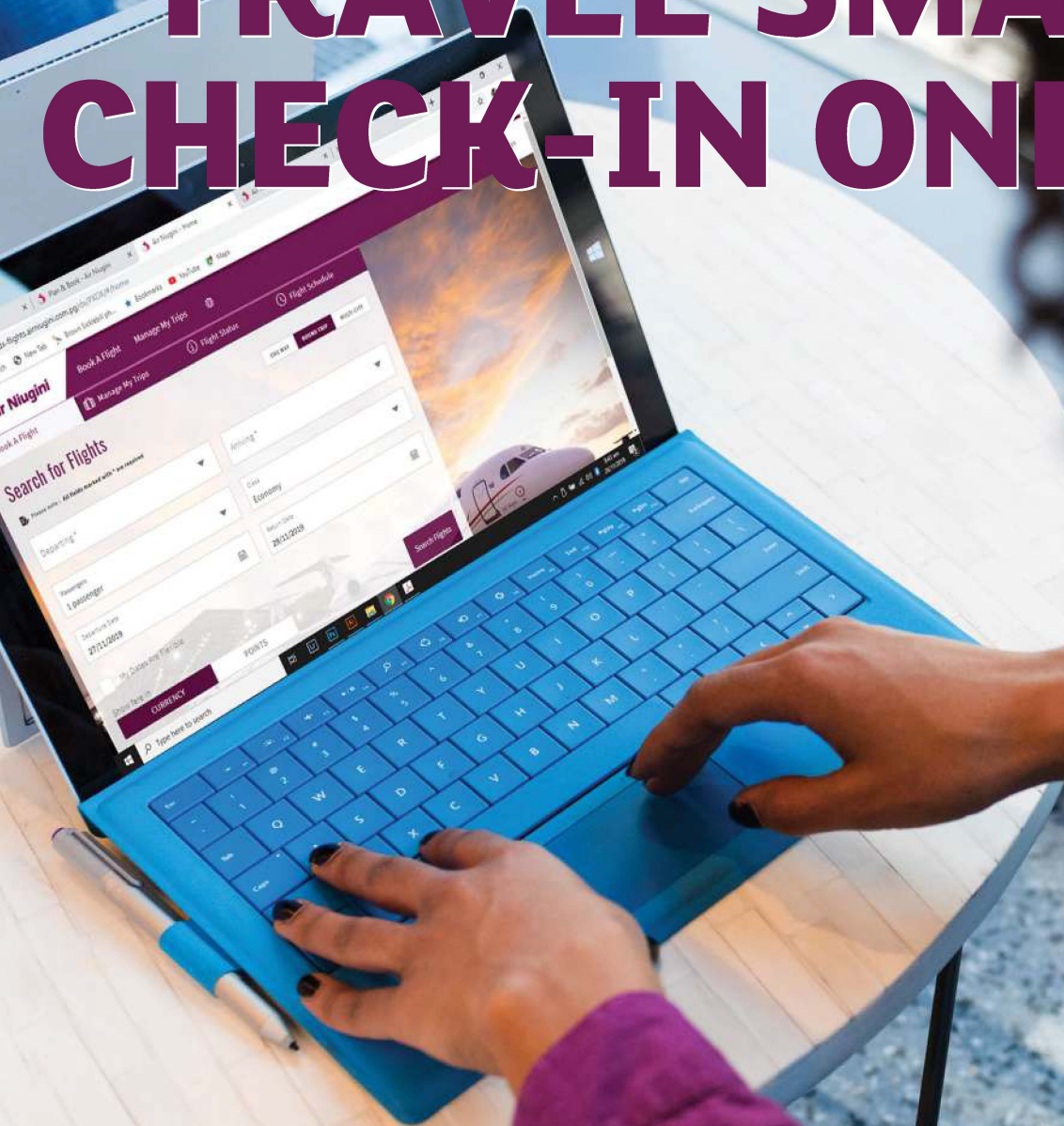
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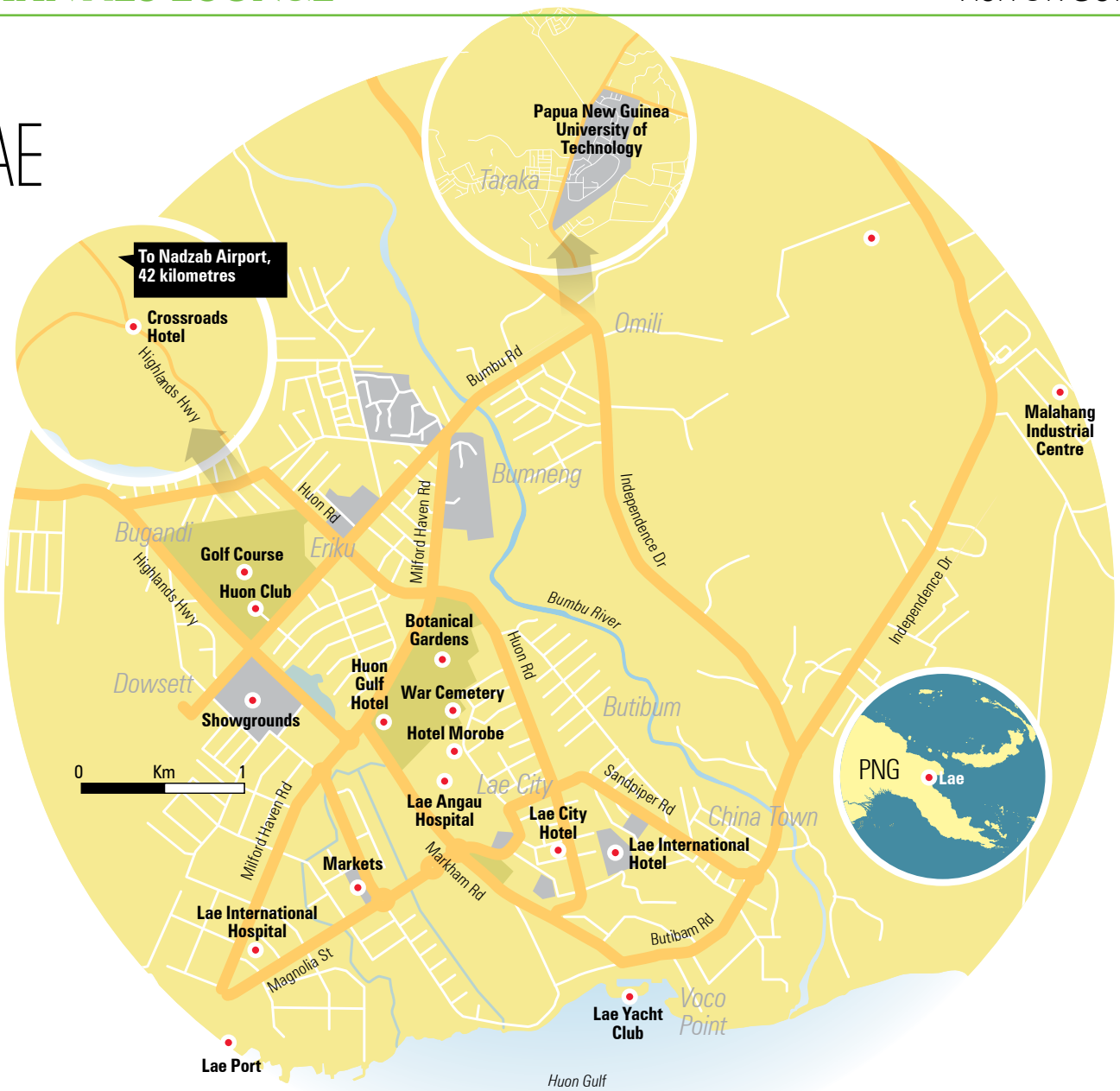
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**MINI GUIDE TO TOK PISIN WORDS/PHRASES**

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 we?**
- *One coffee with milk, please.*  
**Wanpela kap kopi wantaim milk plis.**
- *Where is the toilet?*  
**Toilet istap we?**
- *How much is this?*  
**Hamas long dispela?**
- *Thank you very much.*  
**Tenkiu tru.**
- *You understand English?*  
**Yu save long tok Inglis?**
- *Where is my bag?*  
**Bag bilong mi istap we?**
- *Where can I change my money?*  
**Wanem hap bai mi ken senisim moni bilong mi?**
- *One beer, please.*  
**Wanpela bia plis.**
- *Why? Bilong wanem?*
- *How many children do you have? Yu gat hamaspla 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 kaikai**
- *Goodbye* **Gutbai**
- *Hello* **Halo**
- *Water* **Wara**
- *Baggage* **Kago**
- *Airport* **Ples balus**
- *Place* **Ples**
- *Fish* **Pis**

**NUMBERS**

- |                 |                |                 |                 |                  |                   |                   |                |                  |                  |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>Wan | <b>2</b><br>Tu | <b>3</b><br>Tri | <b>4</b><br>Foa | <b>5</b><br>Faiv | <b>6</b><br>Sikis | <b>7</b><br>Seven | <b>8</b><br>Et | <b>9</b><br>Nain | <b>10</b><br>Ten |
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## ENJOY OUR BIRD OF PARADISE IN-FLIGHT SERVICE

### **Please ask us**

If there is anything our cabin crew can assist you with during your flight, please do not hesitate to ask them.

### **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.

### **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  
**Wing span:** 47.57m  
**Range:** 8100km  
**Cruising speed:** 857kph  
**Power plant:** 2 x PW4000  
**Normal altitude:** 11000 - 12000m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 188  
**Business class:** 28  
**Economy class:** 160  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 2



### B737-800 - Boeing

**Length:** 39.5m  
**Wing span:** 35.79m  
**Range:** 5000-5500km  
**Cruising speed:** 810-850kph  
**Power plant:** 2 x CFM56 - 7B26  
**Normal altitude:** 11300m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 144  
**Business class:** 16  
**Economy class:** 128  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 1



### F100 - Fokker

**Length:** 35.53m  
**Wing span:** 22.08m  
**Range:** 3000km  
**Cruising speed:** 780kph  
**Power plant:** 2 x Rolls Royce Tay 650-15 turbo engines  
**Normal altitude:** 11000m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 101  
**Business class:** 8  
**Economy class:** 93  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 6



### DHC8 - 400 - Bombardier

**Length:** 32.8m  
**Wing span:** 28.4m  
**Range:** 3000km  
**Cruising speed:** 670kph  
**Power plant:** 02 x Pratt & Whitney PW150A  
**Normal Altitude:** 7600m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 76  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 3



### F70 - Fokker

**Length:** 30.91m  
**Wing span:** 28.08m  
**Range:** 3410km  
**Cruising speed:** 743kph  
**Power plant:** 2 x Rolls Royce Tay 620-15 turbo-fan engines  
**Normal altitude:** 11000m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 73  
**Business class:** 08  
**Economy class:** 65  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 4



### DHC8-Q315 - Bombardier

**Length:** 25.7m  
**Wing span:** 27.4m  
**Range:** 1700km  
**Cruising speed:** 510kph  
**Power plant:** 02 x Pratt & Whitney PW123E  
**Normal Altitude:** 6100m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 50  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 5



### DHC8-202 - Bombardier

**Length:** 22.25m  
**Wing span:** 25.89m  
**Range:** 1800km  
**Cruising speed:** 550kph  
**Power plant:** 02 x Pratt & Whitney PW123D  
**Normal Altitude:** 7600m  
**Standard seating capacity:** 36  
**Number of aircraft in fleet:** 2



### Falcon 900EX - Dassault

**Length:** 20.21m  
**Wing span:** 19.33m  
**Range:** 4500nm  
**Cruising speed:** 650mph  
**Power plant:** 3 x Honeywell TFE731  
**Maximum altitude:** 51000ft  
**Standard seating capacity:** 12  
**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 acts 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 acts 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

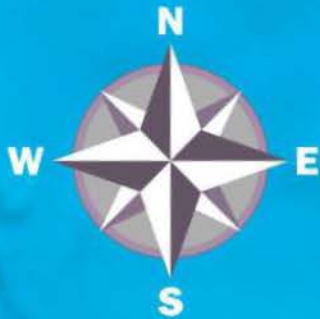
This ailment is caused by a conflict between the body's sense of vision and its sense of equilibrium. Air turbulence increases its likelihood because it can cause movement of the fluid in the vestibular apparatus of the inner ear. If you have good visual cues (keeping your eyes fixed on non-moving object),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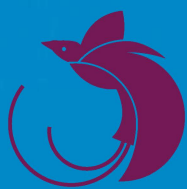


Bismarck Sea

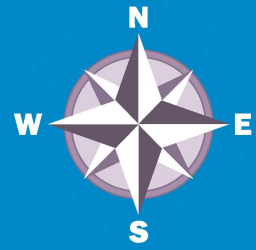
Solomon Sea

-  Air Niugini routes
-  LinkPNG routes
-  Charter services

**Domestic route map**



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TARAWA

TUVALU

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AUCKLAND

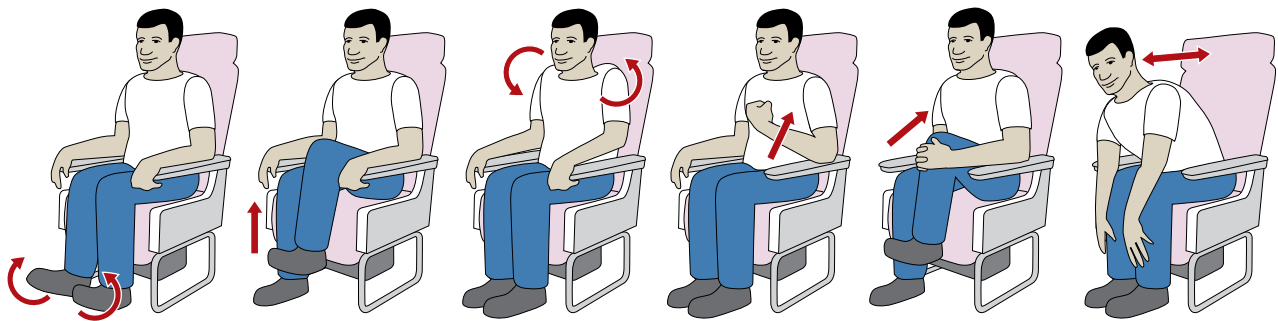
**INTERNATIONAL ROUTE MAP**

# 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

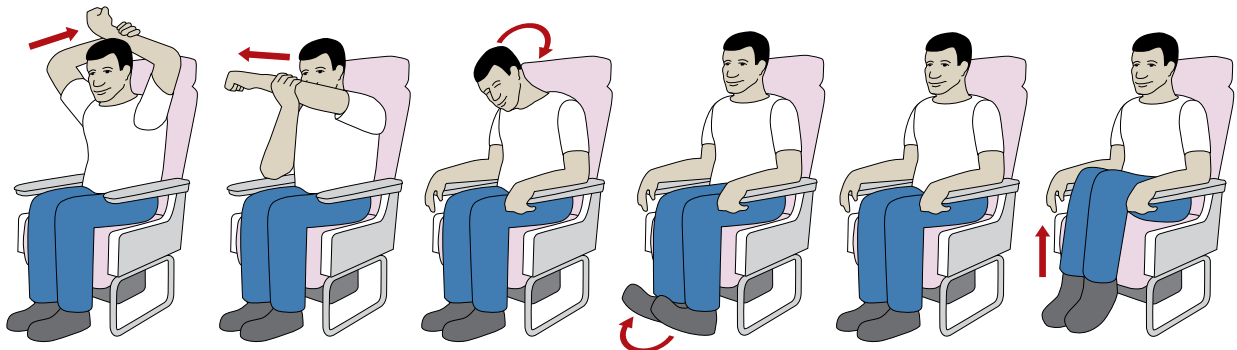
Start with arms held high at 90° angle - elbows down, hands out in front. Raise hands up to chest and back down alternating arms. Do these exercises in 30 second intervals.

## 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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