



PAPUA NEW GUINEA JOURNEY 2026

Papua New Guinea and its vast spectrum of tribes, languages, and landscapes makes it one of the most diverse countries in the world. *Papua New Guinea Journey* takes guests along a colorful journey that travels into some of PNG's most iconic places and offers guests the opportunity to experience some of its cultural diversity. Guests will stay at four of Trans Niugini Tours' renowned wilderness lodges; Rondon Ridge, Lake Murray Lodge, Ambua Lodge and Karawari Lodge. Explore the mysterious land of the Huli Wigmen and the hills and mist filled valleys of the Melpa people. Be welcomed into rarely visited Lake Murray villages. Spend time on the remote Karawari River, a source of fascinating legends and widely admired carvings. The final night of this eleven-day itinerary is in Port Moresby to facilitate connections to international flights on the following day. Note, Lake Murray charter flights require a minimum of 4pax to operate.

SUMMARY – 11 DAYS / 10 NIGHTS ITINERARY

2 nights Rondon Ridge, Mount Hagen
3 nights Lake Murray, Middle Fly
2 nights Karawari Lodge, Sepik Region
2 nights Ambua Lodge, Hela Province
1 nights Airways Hotel, Port Moresby

BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 1 Wednesday

Upon your arrival in Port Moresby, you will be met by Trans Niugini Tours staff and transferred to your flight to Mount Hagen; the heart of the PNG highlands. This area is famed for its fertile lands and stunning mountain ranges, as well as the complex and fascinating cultural traditions of the Melpa tribe. Upon arrival at the Mount Hagen airport, you will be driven up a picturesque road past highlands gardens and on to the lodge. Perched high above Mount Hagen, with mist filled views of the Wahgi Valley below, lays Rondon Ridge. From its location in the mountains on the edge of the valley, Rondon Ridge boasts panoramic views of the surrounding mountains and the city below.

Overnight: RONDON RIDGE (D)

Day 2 Thursday

Today's tour will take place in the gorgeous highlands area of Mount Hagen in the fertile Wahgi valley. The area surrounding the city of Mount Hagen consists of mountain ranges, covered with lush tropical rainforest, rugged limestone bluffs and small valleys dotted with small traditional farming communities.

A day of comprehensive touring will take you on a journey through the traditions and customs of the Melpa People. First contact with the Melpa was made in the mid-1930. The Melpa people are "true farmers" that still maintain traditional farming methods that can be traced back 9,000 years. The

tour will bring you to local villages where the villagers will share their fascinating tribal traditions; such as the rites of widowed women, the ceremonies surrounding marriage and/or funerals, the traditions of tribal warfare and the daily customs of the Melpa people. This area is also the home of the famous Pogla mudmen, famed for their unique bilas and the ancient story that surrounds it.

Overnight: RONDON RIDGE (BLD)

Day 3 Friday

This morning you will fly to the remote Lake Murray. Watch as the landscape below transforms to unveil the vast Lake Murray in the flat lands of Western Province. Nestled among the trees on an island spit, Lake Murray Lodge overlooks the beautiful lake. Here in the remote reaches of Papua New Guinea, one truly feels that they are on the edge of the earth. The almost unbroken quiet of the lake is barely disturbed by the gentle sounds of dugout canoes seamlessly gliding through the water. Settle in for a short rest on your own lake side veranda, taking in the silence of this steamy remote world. After lunch enjoy a walk around the island to acquaint yourself with the beautiful surroundings.

Overnight: LAKE MURRAY LODGE (BLD)

Day 4 Saturday & Day 5 Sunday

Spend two days in the local villages where you will experience the unique customs of the local tribes. The beliefs and customs of the Lake Murray tribes are centered around the lake and the rich food source that it offers. You will travel by boat to various villages to gain insight into the daily lives of the tribes, their ancient customs and the ways in which their traditional ways of life are evolved with influences from the western world. Experiences in the villages will give guests insight into village life which is, like many parts of PNG, a blend of contemporary culture and traditional customs. Villagers will share their unique tribal arts and traditional crafts, traditional face/body painting, tribal warriors dress and rituals. At the end of the day return to the lodge in time to relax on your private lake view veranda and enjoy the warm glow of the sun setting across the water.

Overnights: LAKE MURRAY LODGE (BLD)

Day 6 Monday

This morning fly by charter flight into the deep heart of the jungle where your wondrous journey continues at the Karawari Lodge in the Sepik region. Sitting on a ridge above the Karawari River, the lodge boasts a spectacular view of hundreds of kilometres of dense tropical jungle. Proceed with lunch, followed by an afternoon visit to a nearby village to learn about the customary process of harvesting and preparing the sago palm. Sago is the staple food for the Sepik tribes.

Overnight: KARAWARI LODGE (BLD)

Day 7 Tuesday

From the comfort of the lodge travel down the river to visit the small villages that line its shores. The villages provide a unique opportunity to visit traditional homes, witness ceremonial dances and celebrations and glimpse traditional village life. The Karawari tribes express their beliefs through their skillful and artistic expressions of sculpture and art. Enjoy this opportunity to admire or the beautifully woven baskets, carved masks, drums and sculptures. You will have an opportunity to buy art from the local villages.

Overnight: KARAWARI LODGE (BLD)

Day 8 Wednesday

Transfer to the airstrip for your flight across untouched rainforest and mountains to the Tari Valley. The Huli tribe that inhabit this area is the largest as well as one of the most colorful and iconic tribes of PNG. Once you arrive you will be transferred to Ambua Lodge; nestled at the edge of the lush green rainforest and overlooking the serene Tari valley below. Spend the afternoon enjoying Ambua's winding forest trails that take you through lush rainforest, past gushing waterfalls and over traditional vine bridges. While on the nature walk you may chance to observe up to 13 species of the birds of paradise alongside a wide variety of colorful flowers, exotic plants and insects.

Overnight: AMBUA LODGE (BLD)

Day 9 Thursday

Spend the day touring the villages and countryside of the iconic Huli tribe. The Hulis are famed for their colorful *bilas* (*traditional dress*) and unique traditions. The Huli men pride themselves on their beautiful bilas with its' elaborately constructed human hair headdress which they lavishly decorated with flowers, mosses and ornate bird feathers. Their *bilas* combined with their unique sing sing is intended both to enrapture their audience, as well as intimidate enemies. Visit the mens wig school and tour the local villages to experience how this proud mountain tribe has evolved in the modern age, while still maintaining the stories, beliefs and traditions of their ancestors.

Overnight: AMBUA LODGE (BLD)

Day 10 Friday

Fly from Tari to Port Moresby. Transfer to Airways Hotel before setting out on a half day tour of the city.

Overnight: AIRWAYS HOTEL (BLD)

Day 11 Saturday

This morning you depart for your outgoing international flight back home. **(B)**

End of Trans Niugini Tours Services