

Birding in Paradise 2019

Best of Papua New Guinea



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Birds of Paradises and More

BIRDING / PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR

June 27 - July 6 (10 days) 2019

Varirata National Park | PAU | Mt Hagen | Enga | Kinuga |
Elevala River

Amongst all birding destinations in the World, Papua New Guinea surely ranks as the topmost, extraordinary, rewarding and exotic. It is one of the least explored parts of the World, where rules of evolutions have gone wild. Papua New Guinea, Popularly knows as “PNG” is home for many a celestial Birds of Paradises, “poisonous” Pitohuis , amazing Fruit Doves , unbelievable Kingfishers, Satin birds and many more. We are expected to see displaying



Raggiana Bird of Paradise and Growling Riffle Bird in Varirata national Park and Lesser, Blue, Superb, King of Saxony, Sicklebills, Ribbon-tailed Astrapia BOPs in Mt Hagen area. We will also explore the endemic rich , seldom birded Kiunga areas and also do river cruises in fly and elevala rivers to search for species such as 12 wired bird of paradise, King Bird of Paradise, Greater Bird of Paradise, Flame bower bird, Paradise Kingfishers , Southern Crown Pigeon, Blue Jewel Babbler etc.

Our 9 nights -10 days long PNG Birding tour, will surely push the birder in you to the next level. We will be staying 3 nights at the famous Kumul Lodge, located in the mountainous Enga province - probably the only place on earth, where one can photograph Bird of paradises on a feeding table while sipping your coffee at the comfort of your lodge.



New Guinea's forest bird communities vary with elevations. Our tour will be covering both lowland and hill / montane forest areas. We have selected best birding locations in Eastern ranges, Southern Lowland and SE Peninsula to make sure that we spend maximum time in the field watching and photographing birds rather than Criss-crossing the country.

Day 1 (June 27)

Arrive in POM (Port Moresby International Airport) from an International gateway, preferably Singapore or Manila, well in advance to board PX180 to Mt Hagen airport. You will be received by the tour operator and transferred to the Kumul Lodge. Lunch at the Kumul Lodge.



At the Kumul Lodge you will be welcomed by Tiger parrots, Brown Sicklebill, Ribbon tailed Astrapia, Friendly Fantail, Common Smokey Honeyeater, Crested Berrypecker, Blue-capped Ifrit, Red collared Myzomela

etc. You will photograph all these avian beauties in close range before you retire for a good night sleep.

Night : Kumul Lodge.



Day 2 (June 28)

We will spend full day in Kama / Lai / Mambis area searching for Lesser Bird of Paradise and other montane species such as Papuan Mountain Pigeon, Forest Rail, Ornate Fruit Dove, Mountain Fruit Dove etc.

In the afternoon we will go down the road to a stream to locate Torrent Flycatcher and later come back to the

lodge garden to search for species such as Crested Satin bird, Wattled Plough-bill, Regent Whistler etc.

Night : Kumul Lodge

Day 3 (June 29)

Today we will take a half day birding excursion to the Enge Mountain ranges early in the morning to search for the mystical Blue Bird of Paradise, probably the most sought after BOP in the World.

Post Lunch, We will continue birding at Murrumbidgee area for species such as King of Saxony bird of Paradise, Lesser Melampitta, Parrot Finch, Ashy Robin etc.



Night : Kumul Lodge .

Day 4 (June 30)

After an early morning breakfast, we will say good bye to our friendly host at the Kumul lodge and drive down to Mt. Hagen airport to take the first flight to Kiunga. (1 hour)



On arrival, we will be transferred to the Kiunga guest house for lunch and then without losing precious birding time we will head to the famous Kilometer 17, a birding spot located 17 KM away from Kiunga town to witness the magical display of Greater Bird of Paradise and King Bird of Paradise.

Night at the Guest House.

Day 5 -6 (July 1 & 2)

We will have an early breakfast before boarding our boat to explore the famous Fly and Enevala rivers and near by forest trails to see mouth watering species such as Flame Bower bird, 12 wired Bird of Paradise, King Bird of Paradise, New Guinea Flightless rail, Magnificent Rifle bird, Obscured berry pecker, Greater bird of paradise, Western Crown Pigeon , Blue Jewel Babbler etc.

Packed Lunch.



Day 7 (July 3)



After an early breakfast, we will be transferred to the airport to take our flight to Port Moresby. We will check in at Dixis Bungalows on arrival before heading for PAU for birding.

Pacific Adventist University (PAU) campus is home for many species of water birds, Parrots, fruit Doves nightjars, catbirds, parrots etc. Papuan Frogmouth is the other famous resident of PAU campus.

Night at Dixis.

Day 8 (July 4 & 5)

We will spend next two full days birding in the only National Park of Papua New Guinea- the Varirata National Park, home of Raggiana Bird of Paradise, celebrated National Bird of PNG.

Target species include, displaying Raggiana Bird of Paradise (National bird of Papua New Guinea), Trumpet Manucode, Brown Oriole, a collection of Birds of Preys, Great Cuckoo Dove, Fruit Doves, Parrots, Parakeets, Lorikeets, and other regional species such as Blyth's Hornbill, Marbled Frogmouth, Common Paradise Kingfisher, Yellow billed Kingfisher, Owlet Nightjars, Brown Headed paradise Kingfisher, Kookaburras, Jewel Babblers, Pitohuis, Riffle Bird, Pheasant Coucal and many more.

Nights at Dixies.

Day 10 (July 6)

After breakfast you will be transferred to POM Airport for departure.

**Tour Ends****Tour Highlights**

Guides	: Experienced local guides
Accommodation	: Safe, basic to modern,
Difficulty Level	: Moderate
Photography Opportunity	: Excellent
Team Size	: 6 -7 + Team leader / Guide
Tour Starts	: June 27th at Mt Hagen, PNG.
Tour Ends	: July 6th at POM International Airport.

Tour Cost (Per Person)

PNG Main Tour	USD 3700 (twin share basis)*
Single Supplement**	: Kumul Lodge @ USD 150
	: Dixie's @ USD 150

**Cancellation Policy : No refund , But seat transfer possible if we / participants manage to find a SUITABLE replacement.*

**Twin-share : subject to the availability of a suitable participant . Or Single supplement applicable*

Inclusions

Accommodations, meals , guide fees , security staff fees , ground transportation, entry fees etc.

Exclusions

International and Domestic air tickets, Insurances , Extra food and beverages , (Afternoon Birding at a Private Orchard in near Kumul Lodge USD 15-20 per head- Optional) Tips and other incidental expenses .

Domestic Flights

June 27 : Port Moresby (POM) to Mt Hagen (HGU)

June 30 : Mt Hagen (HGU) to Kiunga (UNG)

July 3 : Kiunga (UNG) to Port Moresby (POM)

* Subject to the availability of a suitable room mate. If not single supplement rate apply.

* Disclaimer

This is an indicative itinerary. The Ground Operators have the right and freedom to make necessary changes in the itinerary if they feel the same is required to have a productive tour. No parties involved in this offer /tour guarantee sighting of any birds named in this itinerary. Participants are solely responsible for their health, personal safety, and belongings.