Papua New Guinea is vastly untouched by the modern world and remains one of the last, true frontiers for eco-warriors, culture enthusiasts and scuba diving enthusiasts.

Spectacular landscapes of pristine, jungle-like rainforests, high rugged mountains, active volcanoes, deep cave systems, extensive river systems and the many unique species of flora and fauna, birds and butterflies have given Papua New Guinea international recognition as being one of the world’s best diving locations. Numerous wrecks of ships, aircraft and submarines scattered around the region are the legacy of the fierce battles that occurred during “The Pacific Campaign” of WWII. Nature and the passage of time has transformed these former “machines of destruction” into beautiful coral gardens providing shelter to an array of exotic, tropical marine life.

The People:
The population of over six million people is predominately Melanesian. The official language is English or Pidgin, with more than 800, individual language groupings identified. The majority of people live in small, tribal villages scattered throughout the provinces. They have retained many ancient customs and mostly live a subsistent lifestyle by growing crops, fishing and hand making many of the things they require. A guided village visit is the best way to experience the local, indigenous culture, learn about ancient customs and rituals, purchase intricate art work and carvings and witness the many celebrations and festivals that take place throughout the year.

General Information:
Passport: Travelers must hold a current passport with a minimum 6 months validity as well as a return or onward travel ticket.
Visa: A 60 day tourist visa is required. Australian citizens must obtain their visa prior to arrival at Port Moresby's Jackson Airport.
Climate: Tropical, with average temperatures of 30-40 degrees C. The dry season is May to October. The wet season is November to April.
Health: As with many tropical areas, Malaria is endemic. It is highly recommended you visit your doctor for appropriate medications before leaving home. Always use a good insect repellant particularly in the evenings. Hospitals are available in Port Moresby, Lae and Rabaul.
Language: English is the official language and widely spoken, along with Pidgin, which is a combination of English and local languages.

Culture: Customs and cultures vary between the provinces. Enquire about appropriate behavior and always ask permission before taking any photos of people or places.
Electricity: 240 volts - AC50Hz - 3 pin power outlet (where available)
Communications: ISD and STD dialing. Email and internet services are available at most of the major hotels and resorts.
Currency: The PNG Kina. Major credit cards are accepted at most major hotels and resorts. Banking hours are 9am-3pm, Monday-Friday.
Access and Guides: Most of the land, beaches, lagoons, bays and islands are owned by a family or a village. You must always seek the owners permission for access and a small entry fee may apply. We advise the use of local guides when exploring villages and towns.
Packing hints: Lightweight, casual clothing, not too brief. Comfortable shoes, hat, sweater, torch, sunscreen and insect repellant. Long sleeves and long pants are recommended for the evenings.
Note: By western world standards PNG is relatively undeveloped. Away from towns and main centres services become very limited. Many properties are powered by solar or generator and do not have running hot water.
Port Moresby is the capital and main commercial centre of Papua New Guinea. Situated on a scenic harbour, Port Moresby is the gateway to your adventure holiday. It is also the central meeting place for people from the various provinces who come to town to purchase supplies and exchange news items. Due to domestic flight schedules an overnight stopover in Port Moresby may be required. A number of accommodation options are available. Places of interest in Port Moresby include The National Museum and The National Parliament Building, artifact shops and market places. For divers wanting to explore the waters surrounding Port Moresby, Loloata Island in Bootless Bay, is a 30 minute boat ride from Port Moresby.

Diving: Loloata Island provides immediate access to The Papuan Barrier Reef with over 30 dive sites to explore. These include walls, drop offs, reef channels, drifts, coral bommies as well as 3 wrecks and the wreck of a WWII Boston Bomber. The surrounding reefs and islands provide a perfect nature study environment for marine biologists and those with an interest in the rarer marine creatures. Dive Loloata operates trips to Horseshoe Reef Marine Park. The purpose built dive boat and her crew will cater for all your diving needs.

Port Moresby

Madang Province is located on the north coast of the main island. It comprises mountain ranges, reef fringed lowlands and a spectacular coastline of volcanic islands and coral atolls. The area is world renowned for its coral reefs and great, year round visibility. The township of Madang has been described as one of the prettiest in the South Pacific with modern, urban facilities including hotels, banks, restaurants, supermarkets, a golf course and market places where you can purchase traditional hand made jewellery, carvings and pottery.

Diving: Madang has a variety of easily accessible dive sites. These include coral walls with drop offs, gardens of soft corals, gorgonian fans, a variety of pelagics and reef fish as well as a selection of interesting wrecks. Niugini Diving Adventures will cater for all your diving needs.

Some of the more popular dive sites:
Planet Rock: The volcanic sea mountain located 3 km off-shore rises from great depths to within 4 metres of the surface. The site is prolific in a variety of small and pelagic marine life.
Magic Passage: The 30 metre deep channel runs through the outer barrier reef and features soft corals, gorgonian fans and schools of reef fish.
Banana Rock: Starting at 7metres this small sea mount has rocky outcrops covered in gorgonians fans, barrel sponges and reef fish.
Le Jean Point: A coral wall with drop offs, pelagics and reef fish.
The Bomber: The B25 Mitchell Bomber with its guns and ammunition intact lies at a depth of 12metres.
M.V. Henry Leith: The 40m long freighter is covered in prolific soft corals and lies at a depth of 20 metres.
Walindi (Kimbe Bay) is located on the north coast of New Britain. The area is renowned for having almost everything associated with the living marine eco-system in its waters. Photo-journalists world wide are attracted to Walindi with many, award-winning, underwater shots attributed to the region.

Walindi Plantation Resort is a 45 minute drive from Hoskins Airport. The private, intimate resort has celebrated over 30 years of operation.

Diving: Walindi offers spectacular pinnacle diving. The region boasts over 190 reefs with 70% of all coral species indigenous to the Indo-Pacific present. The diversity of marine habitat is amazing with over 900 fish species identified. Killer whales, dolphins and dugongs down to the rarest nudibranch and tiny decorator crab and most of the critters in between can be found. Walindi Dive has 3 well equipped dive boats offering 2-3 dives per day. Nitrox is available.

Some of the more popular dive sites:
- **Rainbow Ridge**: Huge barrel sponges loom out from the reef and attract a host of multi-coloured feather stars.
- **Vanessa’s Reef**: Giant fans dominate the sea-scape. This natural wonder is known as the “Amphitheatre”. Barrel sponges and white trailing seawhips are also abundant.
- **The Cathedral**: The outside is draped in staghorn and gorgonian corals. Huge spiral whips extend out 10 metres from the reef face. This site is great for a night dive.
- **Bradford Shoals**: A volcanic pinnacle rising up from over 650 metres. Schools of big eyed jacks, barracuda, sea perch and surgeon fish dominate this dive.

Walindi Plantation Resort

The 12 well appointed, individual Bungalows are set along the beachfront and are equipped with an en-suite bathroom, verandah, kitchenette with fridge and tea/coffee making facilities, queen and single bed, ceiling fans and insect screens. The 8 recently renovated Plantation House rooms offer lodge-style accommodations with queen bed or 2 single beds, ceiling fan, tea and coffee making facilities and share a common verandah. All meals are included during your stay. The resort has a dining room, lounge and bar area, laundry services, swimming pool, sundeck, library and tennis court. Snorkelling gear and comprehensive diving equipment is available for hire as well as photographic rentals, processing and instruction.

Activities: diving, snorkelling, swimming, bush walks, tennis, bird watching.

Rabaul

Rabaul is located in East New Britain Province, a 90 minute flight from Port Moresby. Rabaul Harbour was formed when an ancient volcanic caldera partially collapsed thousands of years ago allowing the sea to enter. The harbour is ringed by several smaller volcanoes, most of which are dormant or extinct. However, in September 1994, two of the volcanoes simultaneously erupted covering the town in layers of thick, grey ash. Following the eruptions the airport and local businesses were relocated to Kokopo some 20 kilometres south-east of Rabaul. The township of Rabaul is slowly recovering from the devastation and life is gradually returning to normal. At night you can witness the fantastic sunsets and glowing lava of Mount Tarvuvur in the distance.

During WWII, Rabaul was occupied by the Japanese who transformed the area into their South Pacific Naval Headquarters. They built hundreds of kilometres of underground tunnels that are still in existence today. Many war wrecks from this period litter the landscape and surrounding reef systems. Numerous documentaries re-creating the history of strategic WWII battle plans and various volcanic eruptions have been filmed in and around Rabaul.
Diving: Following the volcanic eruption many of the wrecks in Rabaul Harbour were covered under tons of ash. This is now clearing in places and diving on some of the wrecks has resumed (weather conditions permitting). Outside the harbour there are other accessible wrecks to explore while the reefs and surrounding islands were left untouched.

Some of the more popular dive sites:

Italy Maru: The 5,859 ton transport ship was built in 1919 in the Kawasaki shipyard. She was sunk by U.S. Navy aircraft on 27 December 1942 and lies on her starboard side in 54 metres of water.

Yamato Maru: The 4,395 ton cargo carrier was sunk on 18 April 1943.

The Lighthouse: A huge coral bommie 6-7m tall with swim throughs, giant sponges, sea whips and schools of reef fish.

Reimers Wall: Overhangs, swim throughs and canyons around the open side of the reef. The wall drops to 50m before easing away.

Submarine Base: A sheer drop-off (250m plus) close to shore. The natural, sheer wall covered in soft corals is the edge of a vast caldera. Barrel sponges, sea-fans and whips decorate the wall.

Rapopo Plantation Resort

Rapopo Plantation Resort is situated near the township of Kokopo, a 20 minute drive from Rabaul. The traditional, colonial-style property, overlooks Simpson Harbour, Pigeon Island and Mount Tarvuvur. The resort offers accommodation in Deluxe Garden and Bayside rooms, Premier Harbour View rooms and Executive Suites all have air conditioning, private bathroom facilities, TV, telephone and internet connection.

Activities: Diving, snorkelling from the private beach, deep sea fishing, local cultural, historical or volcano tours.

Kabaira Beach Hideaway

Kabaira Beach Hideaway is located 45 minutes from Rabaul. The family owned and operated property has views across Atalikilikun Bay. The property was originally a stopover point for local plantation owners when transporting their cocoa and copra produce to Rabaul. Catering for up to 15 guests, the main building is a simple lodge-style guesthouse with 4 rooms sharing bathroom facilities and a common verandah. 2 Oceanview Bungalows have en-suite facilities and nice balconies. All meals are provided during your stay. Facilities include a dining area, bar and beach lounge.

Activities: The reef in front of Kabaira is ideal for snorkelling and shore dives. A variety of tours include treks to WWII relics, caves and waterfalls, island picnics, plantation tours, fishing and island camping.

Kavieng

Kavieng lies just 2 degrees south of the equator on the northern tip of New Ireland Province. During WWII, the region was a major Japanese Pacific military base and reminders of that period in history are still visible. Kavieng is the capital and administrative centre for the province, providing the region with a range of essential services such as an airport, shipping wharves, banks, post office, trade stores, a hospital, golf course, club, restaurants and a range of accommodation options. The main township overlooks Nusa Harbour and is surrounded by stunning scenery. Offshore, mountainous islands drop sharply into the sea, while the low-lying coral islands are encircled by beautiful fringing reefs and golden sandy beaches. The Malagan people of New Ireland Province produce traditional, highly decorative masks that are a popular collectors item.

Diving: Kavieng is world renowned for its current-swept passages that attract a variety of pelagic fish action. Visibility is often between 20-40 metres with water temperatures of around 29°C. Drift dive along reef walls covered in fans, sponges and brightly coloured hard corals. The walls drop away to great depths and provide the perfect hiding place for small critters like the pygmy seahorse and nudibranchs. A number of WWII wrecks lie in and around Kavieng Harbour. These include a Japanese merchant ship and many float planes.

Scuba Ventures located on Kavieng Harbour operate 3 well equipped dive boats. Dorian and Cara provide professional and personalised service, ensuring your diving holiday is a memorable one.

Some popular dive sites:

Albatross Passage: A narrow channel between New Ireland and Baudissin. As the tide rushes in and out the passage sucks reef fish and pelagics into its narrow flanks. Big eye trevally, Spanish mackerel, tuna, barracuda, reef sharks, turtles and rays are often spotted here.

Echuca Patch: The large coral ridge rises to within 15 metres of the surface and slopes down to 50 metres in open water. The site is only minutes away from Scuba Ventures Jetty.

Wreck of The Der Yang: A Taiwanese fishing vessel scuttled by fisheries in 1988. She rests starboard side on top of the ridge and is covered in colourful soft corals.

The Stubborn Hellion: Sitting upright in 12 metres of water close to Albatross Passage. The history of Stubborn Hellion is well documented and is a great dive for wreck enthusiasts.
Kavieng

Tufi is located at the tip of Cape Nelson in Oro Province. This remote, pristine region is a 60 minute flight from Port Moresby that features a spectacular crossing of the Owen Stanley Ranges. Often described as the “Scandinavia of the tropics” Tufi’s breathtaking “fjords” were not carved out by glaciers but were created by the eruption of 3 ancient volcanoes.

Diving:
Tufi is great for photo enthusiasts offering a variety of diving experiences. The crystal clear, protected waters of the fjords has produced spectacular coral and sponge growth with an amazing array of critter life inside the fjord and on the house reef. Pelagics such as dog fin tuna, turtles and manta rays are also present inside the fjord. A 20-50 minute boat ride brings you to a string of reefs with bommies that come up from a depth of 50 to 600 metres. Visibility exceeds 30 metres with year-round water temperatures of 26°C to 30°C. On the reefs, spot barracuda, Spanish mackerel, tuna, white tip and black tip reef sharks as well as the rare, white hammerhead, mantas, eagle rays and turtles.

Some of the more popular dive sites:
Mulloway: Strong currents bring plankton and food for thousands of fish. This site comes alive as hammerheads, reef sharks, rays and schools of pelagic frantically search for food.
Minor’s Reef: The walls are covered with large minor nudibranchs. The yellow ‘rose’ shaped eggs and tiny, translucent shrimps hiding amongst the eggs make for great macro shots. See Tufi’s giant manta and a large school of big hump-headed parrot.

Lissenung Island Resort
Lissenung Island Resort is a 20 minute boat ride from Kavieng. Set along a white sand beach and surrounded by tall palm trees, tropical vegetation and coral reefs, this private island retreat caters for a maximum of 14 guests. Accommodation consists of 7 comfortable, timber bungalows. 6 have private bathroom facilities, 1 has use of facilities located close-by. All bungalows are furnished with a desk, wardrobe, ceiling fan, fly screens and mosquito netting. There is 24 hour electricity supply, although the water is not heated. All meals are included in your stay and can be enjoyed in the restaurant and bar area with its natural sand floor. The resident dive operator has 3 well equipped dive boats and experienced dive guides. Lissenung’s House Reef offers good snorkelling and shore diving.

Nusa Island Retreat
Nusa Island Retreat is located just off the coast of Kavieng, on a white sandy point of Nusa Island. The eco-sensitive resort has relaxed charm and offers a range of traditional bungalow accommodation. Each bungalow is supplied with rain water, 24 hour power, ceiling fans, lights and security box. The Premium Overwater Bungalows have private bathroom facilities whilst the Beachside Bungalows share bathroom facilities located nearby. The 2 Storey House, suitable for small groups, and has its own bathroom. Rooms are serviced daily and the beach bar and dining area offers spectacular views.

Lissenung Island Resort

Activities: Diving, snorkelling, surfing, swimming, fishing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, cycling tours, trekking and cultural tours.

Tufi Dive Resort
Tufi Dive Resort is perched on the slopes of Mt Trafalgar surrounded by tropical rain-forest and overlooking a picturesque fjord. Accommodation consists of 23 air conditioned units constructed from local timbers with traditional woven matting lining. Each unit has a queen or queen plus single bed, en-suite bathroom, hot water, hairdryer, fridge, tea / coffee making facilities and insect screens. Most units have a balcony with views overlooking the ocean or the majestic fjords. All meals are included in your stay.

Resort facilities include; dining room, bar, lounge area, library, gift shop, laundry, office, BBQ facilities and swimming pool.

Tufi Dive operate 30 foot, well equipped dive boats as well as smaller, multi-purpose boats for diving, fishing or sight seeing.

Activities: Diving, snorkeling, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, catamaran sailing, windsurfing, caving, bushwalking and village visits.

Nusa Island Retreat

Activities: Diving, snorkelling, surfing, fishing, village and island tours.

Tufi Dive Resort

Activities: Diving, snorkeling, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, catamaran sailing, windsurfing, caving, bushwalking and village visits.

Nusa Island Retreat

Activities: Diving, snorkelling, surfing, swimming, fishing, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, cycling tours, trekking and cultural tours.

Tufi Dive Resort

Activities: Diving, snorkeling, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, catamaran sailing, windsurfing, caving, bushwalking and village visits.
Tawali lies nestled in a secluded area of Milne Bay, amongst local fishing villages. A lotau is a short 50 minute flight from Port Moresby, where you will be met and escorted by bus (90 minutes) and by boat (15 minutes) to Tawali Dive Resort.

Diving Tawali: Only minutes away from Milne Bay, Tawali offers a variety of dive sites. Walls covered in soft corals and large sea-fans, anemones with resident clown fish, a variety of pelagics such as whale sharks and hammerheads, as well as muck sites.

Some of the more popular dive sites:
- Tania's Reef: A large coral mount coming from 45 metres up to within 2 metres of the surface. The south side of the reef is covered with soft corals and hosts large schools of fish, giant clams and turtles.
- Wahoo Point: A shelf from 4-16 metres deep with a sheer wall dropping down to 60+ metres. Hammerheads, mantas and barracuda are all present. The occasional whale shark, Minke whale and rare Orca have been sighted.
- Lauadi: This is a critter dive at 8m featuring sea horses, frog fish, lion fish, mantis shrimps, ghost pipe, blue ribbon eels, cuttlefish and more.

Tawali Dive Resort
Tawali Dive Resort sits on a limestone bluff surrounded by tropical vegetation, overlooking the fringing reefs and deep blue water of Hoia Bay. The private retreat was built by local craftsmen using local timbers and features beautiful, hand carved totems. Spacious, air conditioned bungalows have a private balcony and modern bathroom with solar heated water, 2 queen size beds, table and chairs, lounge area, ceiling fans, fridge, tea and coffee making facilities and an in-room safe. Covered walk-ways connect guests bungalows to the dining room and reception hall. Included in your stay are three buffet style meals, snacks, juices, tea and coffee. Relax by the swimming pool and poolside bar.

Activities: Scuba diving, kayaking, hiking, local tours and walks.

Dive Charter Vessels
Liveaboard Vessels
The ultimate way to experience the diverse diving that Papua New Guinea has on offer is onboard one of the well appointed dive charter vessels. Not only will you get to explore spectacular dive sites, you will have the opportunity to visit remote villages and meet local residents.

M.V. FeBrina
M.V. FeBrina operates scheduled departures from Walindi Plantation Resort for up to 12 divers. The superb liveaboard dive vessel has been fitted out to access the reefs surrounding West New Britain and New Ireland. Cruising and diving areas include Kimbe Bay, the Witu Islands, Fathers Reef, Rabaul and South Coast New Britain. Environmentally conscious, permanent moorings limit the damage to the delicate reef structures. The onboard service is of a high standard and the skipper ensures every trip is a unique and wonderful experience.

Specifications: 73 feet long, 1 x double berth, 2 x single berth and 4 x twin berth air conditioned cabins, shower heads 4/4, large sundeck, TV, Video, Lounge, Bar, Voltage 240v 50 hz. Nitrox available.

M.V. Golden Dawn
M.V. Golden Dawn offers flexible itineraries of 10-14 nights duration. The 2 main itineraries are: The Eastern Fields / Coral Sea trip departing from Port Moresby and the Milne Bay and Louisade Archipelago departs from A lotau to dive with the Giant Mantas. MV Golden Dawn can cater for Nitrox, technical and rebreather divers and is a recognised IANTD training facility. Courses can be arranged onboard, on request. A maximum 10 divers makes this live-aboard suitable for small charter groups.

Specifications: 24 metre yacht, 5 x double/ twin air-conditioned cabins (3 with private bathroom), main saloon with TV, video, stereo, library, sundeck, small dive deck, camera tables, 2 x rigid hull inflatable's.
Navigation Aids: VHF, HF, SSB radar, autopilot, GPS, satellite telephone.
Surfing Adventures

Surfing season around Kavieng, New Ireland province, extends from November through to late April. North Pacific Ocean swells of 3-5 foot, up to 6-8 foot and if you’re lucky, sometimes bigger, are consistent. Surfing here is governed by various Surf Management Planning using a quota system that limits the number of visiting surfers to only 15-20 per day. Combined with the small number of local surfers, you are guaranteed good access to uncrowded waves during your stay. Nusa Island Retreat and Lissenung Island Resort operate surf boat transfers to the best breaks of the day. It is necessary to book into the surf quota in advance and you should bring your own surf boards, reef booties, wax, spare fins and leg ropes, service / repair kits and sun protection. Left and right reef breaks can be surfed on most tides, with the set up varying dependant on conditions. Conditions are better suited to short board riders with only some breaks suitable for long boarders.

Some of the surf breaks:

Pikini: Extremely fast, heavy barrelling, very shallow right-hand coral reef break. Given the right conditions and swell direction waves can peel for up to 200m. A mini Kirra. Reef boots are a must. Long Longs: A more forgiving right hander, good on a big swell. The water is deeper and long rides with a nice wall ending with a hollow bowl section can be had. Good for long boards, mid size fun fish boards and twin fins. Ral Island: A swell magnet. A great spot when all else is flat. Can break left or right, in deeper water so it is safer for newer reef surfers. Senta Pass: A left hander at the end of the island that breaks into the passage. Can be a very long, fast breaking wave, tubing in sections!

Trekking Adventures

The Kokoda Track (also known as Kokoda Trail) is one of the world’s great historical treks. The trek follows the footsteps of WWII soldiers, who had to endure the walk under horrendous conditions. While the 96km trek can be quite challenging, both physically and emotionally, en-route you will witness spectacular scenery, exotic birdlife, butterflies, flora and fauna. Accommodation is in village guest huts or camping and food (ration packs), equipment, guides and porters are inclusive. The experienced guides have a great understanding of conditions and local customs and regard your safety and comfort as paramount. Dive Adventures strongly advises you to have a complete medical check-up and embark on a suitable fitness programme prior to the trek.

Reservations

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