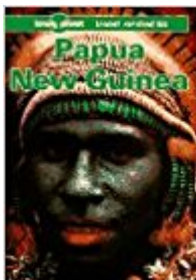


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# Lonely Planet Papua, New Guinea



## Synopsis

Lonely Planet's "Travel Survival Kits" cover one country, or a small group of countries, in depth, with travel and accommodation options to suit a range of budgets. These guides are designed to be easy to use, providing practical travel information in a lively, entertaining style. Features of this series include: cultural and historical background; detailed maps of cities, towns and rural areas; information on getting there and getting around; practical information on every aspect of travel; health and safety advice; information on local cuisine; advice on customs and etiquette; key words, phrases and basic grammar of local languages; and names of places, restaurants and hotels in foreign script where applicable. Papua New Guinea was one of the last inhabited places on earth to be explored by Europeans. This guide, rewritten in this edition by a new author, offers advice for all travellers wanting to explore the landscapes and cultures of this island nation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Papua New Guinea seems like the last place on Earth. Its terrain is so rugged, its jungles so impenetrable, that even at the end of the 20th century it remains largely unknown by the West. As late as 1993, new tribes were still being discovered in this land of more than 700 languages and as many cultural and racial groups. Travel there is neither particularly easy nor particularly safe, yet--more and more--intrepid travelers are making their way to the island's shores. Lonely Planet has produced a guidebook to help visitors get the most out of their time and money. Papua New Guinea, by Tony Wheeler and Jon Murray, pulls no punches; it is up-front about the potential for

trouble on the island--everything from crime to insurgency. But while the authors acknowledge the possibilities, they are hardly alarmists, noting that a lot of trouble can be avoided if you "listen to local advice, and above all, make friends with people who live in the area you are visiting." Good advice, no matter what your destination. Color photographs; sidebars containing fascinating tidbits of history, culture, language, and more; and plenty of detailed maps make Lonely Planet's Papua New Guinea a good read and a great guidebook. So, if you're thinking of stepping off the beaten path on your next trip, consider Papua New Guinea--and Lonely Planet's excellent guide.

Before you go clubbin' in Port Moresby with some good Rascal mates, or go pig-tipping in a highland village, this is a must read. I'm really into Papua women, I'm all about lip-disks, pig-herders, and women with foot infections. And thanks to this book, I've fallen in love with the finest highland lady in all the land. Thanks lonely planet!!!!

An excellent resource and coffee table book

Because of making a quick decision to travel to Papua New Guinea, I ordered the Lonely Planet Papua New Guinea Book from you and payed to have it ovenighted. Although I wasn't leaving until 5 days later, the book never arrived. Upon returning from the trip, I found the book had arrived while I was gone. Although asking for overnight shipping, it had been shipped 4 days after the order date, and by ground. But the best part of it was that the book was the 1993 version!!!! An information travel book 17 years old! I don't know if I should call it a joke or just the total rip off that it is. Will I use your services again? I'm not so stupid! Anthony Falcone Key West, Florida

And the only one worth carrying for independent, budget travellers, I might add. While this book was never perfect, and I would only have rated it 4 stars even when it was brand new (because its coverage of certain areas is really sketchy, and it curiously ignores some long-established budget places to stay), the new "PNG & Solomon Islands" guide that was published in 2005 to replace it is so much worse that it makes this guide seem 5\*+ in comparison. While the new guide is almost totally written for those going to PNG to stay in ultra-expensive resorts and see the country on guided tours, this 1998 edition still has the usual, more backpacker-oriented style many readers expect from LP guides. It will tell you about budget places to stay, remote areas to explore, and in general give you ideas on getting off the beaten track and experience some of the best PNG has to offer on your own. Of course you will find that prices have risen considerably in the past years, but

once in PNG, you will quickly figure out quite how much (they are up 2-3 times in Kina terms, which means much less an increase in foreign currency). There are also a few new (mostly upmarket) places to stay now, and some shipping routes have changed (even since the 2005 edition!). So if you are obsessed with having the latest available information in your guide, you may also want to buy the new edition in addition to this one. I have both, but if I had to pick only one to carry along on my next trip to PNG, I would definitely take this one.

We traveled to Mt. Hagen and Port Moresby last March for the first time. What a great and beautiful country, and what a perfect travel guide to orient you. While this book is nice enough to have on the shelf, ours is worn from use... and usefulness. As a bonus, it's also well-written and a great book to read! Lonely Planet has again done a superb job combining art, graphics, maps and information in exactly the right proportions. There are a collection of excellent color and black & white photos and graphics. The history and cultural background is extensive owing to the three experienced traveler-writers. They make great use of side-bars to highlight special features and information (a trade mark of most Lonely Planet materials). All the regions are treated pretty equally and include useful maps that otherwise would be tough to find anywhere. If you could only buy one book in preparation for your trip, you would not have any problem making this your "Bible". It is also a great size at 5 x 7.25 x 5/8's inches and printed on high quality paper. I will always look to Lonely Planet as my first choice in travel books.

Having been a collector, affectionate reader, and on-the-field user of Lonely Planet guidebooks during my numberless and continuous travels, I can indeed witness that this one is one of the best. Some guidebooks try to cover too much, e.g. all of West Africa or all of Central Asia, and don't do the job so well (inevitable and still better than carrying one book for each country, but to the detriment of the quality). Another common problem, is the author's favourable bias towards the country she or he is covering, as if it were the most marvelous place on Earth - I think here of the LP guidebook to Libya. In other books still, some regions are covered more in-depth than others: the Indonesia guidebook only has seven pages on East Timor, which would in fact deserve a whole chapter if not a whole book on its own! Instead, in covering the fascinating land of Papua New Guinea, this author has done an excellent job, and not much else really needs to be added: this is indeed the Lonely Planet standard, that is to say, an excellent standard. For those who may not be familiar with it, this means excellent, up-to-date, accurate coverage of all areas of the country, with information (primary basic facts as well as further data for perfectionists) about accommodation,

getting around, eating, entertainment, etc. Despite the vastity of this land and the difficulty of getting to the most remote areas, the author has managed it. The chapters on history and culture, especially in this guidebook, I find to be extremely well-written and researched. This one is indeed an excellent tool not only for the traveller but also for the armchair traveller who may wish to know more about PNG without necessarily going. It is extremely enjoyable and pleasant to read, thus combining the unrivalled qualities of a guidebook from Lonely Planet, with great information and facts about the mysterious land of Papua New Guinea.

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