



MOUNT HAGEN SHOW 2024 **15th to 19th August**

Port Moresby, Mt. Hagen, Port Moresby - 5 days 4 nights.

\$2000 USD per person sharing in the original rooms

\$2215 USD per person sharing in the new rooms

Single supplement is \$240 / \$420

Includes domestic flights

The Mt. Hagen show runs for two days on the 17th and 18th August 2024. More than 70 different cultural/ethnic groups perform at the show, exposing diversities of cultures with costumes, songs and dances. On the day before the show, there is the excellent Paiya village mini show, with a dozen groups that you can watch prepare and take photos of the entire preparation process.

Day one – Thursday 15th August 2024 (Meals: Dinner on arrival)

Meet on arrival at Mt. Hagen airport and transfer to the lodge and check in. After check in, brief tour of Mt. Hagen market, coffee and tea plantations and retire to the lodge. Continue with dinner and overnight. Overnight: **Traveler's Hut**

The lodge has two floors. Its features include: private toilet and shower, multi-channel TV, twin share beds – 1x big and a single bed, coffee-making facilities, coffee table and a lounge chair, fridge and a veranda at the rear overlooking Mt. Hagen town.

Day two – Friday 16th August 2024 (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & dinner)

Early breakfast and transfer to Paiya village for the Paiya mini show. Paiya village is about 20kms - 45 minutes' drive from Mt. Hagen town. Welcome by young girls (in traditional attire) on arrival, then explore village life and watch the performers who are carefully getting ready for the festival/dance. You are free to take photos from the preparations to rehearsal and actual dance in the main arena.

The Paiya pre-show involves diverse groups from different parts of the province/country, and expect to see 12 groups. Performers decorated with head dress/ wig, plumes of bird of paradise, body ornaments and grass skirts, face decorations with clay, charcoal and other traditional paints.

An opportunity to see them from preparation to the actual show in the main arena, followed by mock fighting using shields, bows and arrows, traditional marriage - exchanging pigs, money and other valuables. The day ends with local cuisine called "Mumu" prepared in an underground oven covered with hot stones, leaves and veggies. The Paiya mini show has been highly commended because of the village setting that perfectly blends with the environment and friendly people. In the afternoon, retire to the lodge.

Day three & four – Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th August 2024 (Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner)

Early breakfast and transfer to Mt. Hagen showgrounds for the Mt. Hagen cultural show. This festival ordinarily involves more than 70 dancing groups from the Highlands and coastal PNG. Transfer early in order to see the preparations before the performance. You will be allowed to enter the main arena with VIP badges.

You are free to take photos, watch the groups perform, shoot videos, mingle with performers and learn about different cultures. In the afternoon retire to the lodge and refresh for a few minutes and then continue to the Waghi Valley for coffee and tea plantation visits and Mt. Hagen market, one of the best markets in PNG that sells mostly vegetables and fruits.

Note: the same performers/dancers will appear on the next day – Sunday 18th.

Day five – Monday 19th August 2024 (Meals: Breakfast)

Breakfast and transfer to the airport for your flight to Port Moresby.

Inclusions

Domestic flights, accommodation, meals, and transfers, show entry fees local guide, tours including the Paiya Show and the Mt. Hagen Show, driver allowance.

Exclusions

Cost does not include items of personal nature such as phone calls, purchase of artifacts, drinks.

Domestic flights

Port Moresby to Mt Hagen Thursday lunchtime

Mt Hagen to Port Moresby Monday morning

Exact flight times will be available mid-September

Accommodation

Travelers Hut is a locally run lodge in Mt Hagen town. It is a basic but clean, safe, and functional place and provides good meals in a communal dining room. All the rooms have en suite bathrooms. Your hosts are friendly and caring, and we have had an excellent relationship with them ever since we started working with them.



Original rooms



New Rooms



BOOKING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES

To secure space, a 50% non-refundable deposit per person is required to confirm the booking.

Full payment is due on 6 June, 2024. We will confirm booking only on receipt of payment.

Payments are to be sent by bank transfer (A.K.A. wire transfer or EFT), Zellepay or ACH if you are in the US. We also take card payments, through a third-party secure payment portal, subject to a 2.9% processing fee. If you bank in GBP, EUR, AUD, or NZD, we can convert the payment amounts into your currency so you can make a domestic payment as we bank in those currencies too.

POLICY ON EXCHANGE OF SERVICES & SERVICES NOT TAKEN

Please note that Best of PNG is unable to refund any services which appear in the main itinerary, but are not taken. Please also note that Best of PNG is unable to exchange services which are not taken in the main itinerary for other services. Services must be taken on the day that they appear in the main itinerary, and cannot be transferred to a different day.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations received before 6th June 2024 will attract a 50% fee unless we find someone to take your place, in which case a \$200 cancellation fee will be deducted from your refund. For cancellation after 6th June, no refund can be given.

CLIENT INFORMATION

Upon receipt of deposits, you will be sent a confirmation packet and a PNG travel guide. We cannot stress enough the importance of reading this information prior to your arrival in Papua New Guinea. The guide has been designed to give you useful information to help you prepare for your adventure.

INSURANCE

Travel insurance is mandatory. We advise that you take out travel insurance to cover you in the event of inability to commence travel due to health reasons and medical insurance whilst abroad.

VISAS

You currently must apply for a visa in advance at this link, choose Visitor and the appropriate type of visitor visa for your nationality, Easy Visitor 30 or 60. <https://evisa.ica.gov.pg/evisa/account/Apply>.

MALARIA

Malaria is transmitted by a night biting mosquito. Insect avoidance measures should be followed throughout the trip. Medication for the prevention of malaria is crucial for the Papua New Guinea. Which drug is recommended depends on individual circumstances & needs to be discussed with an experienced travel physician. It is also vital to continue with the medication for the recommended interval on return to Australia. Upon return, any flu like illnesses should be investigated by a travel health specialist.

<http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations/australasia--pacific/papua-new-guinea/papua-new-guinea-malaria-map.aspx>

Major plasmodium species: *P. falciparum* (89%), *P. vivax* (11%)

Major anopheles species: *An. punctulatus*, *farauti*, *koliensis*

COMMUNICATIONS:

Digicel has decent coverage and a shop at the airport in the arrivals area. You can get a local SIM card and buy airtime. Airtime can be converted to data packages quite cheaply for smartphones and iphones.



Christopher Bartlett. Managing Director, Indigo Safaris Ltd, owner of Best of PNG.