



# Ecotourism Melanesia

Discover Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands

## EM7A EASY BIRDING TRIP WITH 4 STOPS FOR INDEPENDENT TRAVELLERS AND SMALL GROUPS 8 nights Tabubil, Mt Hagen, Madang, Port Moresby

*This hassle-free hotel-based tour is available year-round and offers easily accessible bird watching locations that do not require long road trips, jungle expeditions, swamp-stomping or sleeping in bush camps. Birding bliss without getting blisters and wet feet. Birding excursions include full catering, good quality vehicles and trained nature guides.*

### PACKAGE COST\*: (per person, twin share, does not include airfares)

	Group of 1	Group of 2	Group of 3	Group of 4	Group of 5-6	Group of 7-8	Group of 9-10
8 nights core package	PGK 29,000	PGK 21,100	PGK 17,000**	PGK 13,400**	PGK 12,900**	PGK 10,300**	PGK 9,000**
Extra night at any stop with extra full day birding trip	PGK 2500	PGK 1850	PGK 1450	PGK 1100	PGK 1000	PGK 900	PGK 800

\*rates are quoted in our local currency PNG Kina (PGK). To calculate quotes in other currencies, use the exchange rates shown on our website home page [www.em.com.pg](http://www.em.com.pg)

\*\*based on twin share plus one single for odd-numbered groups

Prices valid till end 2014

PACKAGE ADD-ONS (per person)	
Single supplement 8 nights	PGK 2800
Single supplement extra night	PGK 350
Hotel meal package 8 nights***	PGK 900
Hotel meal package extra night (dinner only)	PGK 75
Extra night Port Moresby (best available 3 or 4 star accommodation at time of booking) - room only	PGK 250 pp twin share PGK 450 pp single share

\*\*\*8 nights meal package includes 1 arrival breakfast, 5 hotel lunches and 8 hotel dinners marked as pay-as-you-go (PAYG) in the itinerary. Meal package lunch includes two courses (soup and mains or mains and dessert) with one beer or two soft drinks. Dinner includes 3 courses (soup or starter, mains and dessert) with one beer or one glass of wine or two soft drinks. Any food or drinks over and above these inclusions are to be settled by the consumer directly with the hotel. Spirits or mixed drinks are not included in the meal package. Meals and drinks are included in the package on a use-it-or-lose it basis - there is no refund for meals, parts of meals, or drinks not consumed.

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### **PACKAGE INCLUSIONS (8 nights core package):**

- meet and greet at Port Moresby airport, check-in assistance for Tabubil flight.
- information kit with local maps and tourist information
- arrival gift and souvenir PNG birding polo shirt
- all meet/greet/transfers at provincial airports
- 2 nights best available accommodation at the Hotel Cloudlands (3 star) in Tabubil, room only (or best available alternative)
- 2 nights premier room accommodation at the Highlander Hotel in Mt Hagen (3.5 star), room only (or best available alternative)
- 2 nights deluxe bungalow at the Jais Aben Beach Resort in Madang (3 star), room only (or best available alternative)
- 2 nights premier room accommodation at the Gateway Hotel in Port Moresby (4 star), room only (or best available alternative)
- daily birding excursions and touring as specified in itinerary, with trained nature guide assisted by driver and assistant guides as required, driving a late-model vehicle appropriate to the terrain. Catering for morning excursions includes packed breakfast, bottled water and fruit. Catering for full day excursions includes packed breakfast and packed or catered lunch as stated in itinerary plus bottled water, fresh fruit. Catering for afternoon excursions includes bottled water, fruit, tea/coffee flask and cookies, muffins or sandwiches and a bottle of wine if you are good ☺. A first aid kit and some wet weather gear is carried in the tour vehicle (rain ponchos, umbrellas, tarpaulins) but bring your own binoculars and bird books.
- Village tour and sing-sing performance at Mt Hagen and Madang
- Daily tour monitoring and reconfirmations from our Port Moresby office
- 24-hour telephone help (ph 7686 8917)

### **EXCLUSIONS:**

international airfares

tips (not essential, but appreciated for exceptional service)

souvenirs and items of a personal nature

bar drinks and between-meal snacks

any meals not specified as being included

domestic flights: Day 1 morning flight Port Moresby to Tabubil (PX or CG)

Day 3 morning flight Tabubil to Mt Hagen (CG)

Day 5 morning flight Mt Hagen to Madang (PX)

Day 7 morning flight Madang to Port Moresby (PX)

### **GENERIC ITINERARY:**

#### **DAY 1**

#### **PORT MORESBY / TABUBIL**

If you are arriving on an early morning international flight, Ecotourism Melanesia staff will meet you on arrival and take you for breakfast at the Airways Hotel (pay-as-you-go) then assist you to check in for your morning flight to Tabubil (Air Niugini or Airlines PNG). If you have already arrived in Port Moresby the day before, our staff will arrange to meet you at your hotel and transfer you to the airport to check in.

On arrival at Tabubil airport you will be met at the small terminal by our local birding guide (details supplied upon confirmation of your tour) and transferred to the Hotel Cloudlands in time for lunch (pay-as-you-go or

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PAYG).

1400 Afternoon birding around Tabubil, includes afternoon tea.

*Hotel Cloudlands is a 2.5 star hotel located within Tabubil township, adjacent to the bowls club and recreation centre. Rooms are both cooled and heated to accommodate the daily fluctuations in temperature. The restaurant serves a variety of western, Asian and PNG-style cuisine.*

*Tabubil is a neat and tidy mining town where everything runs like clockwork due to the pervasive influence of Ok Tedi Mining Limited (OTML), the company that employs most of the wage earners in the town and owns most of the houses and office buildings. The company runs the airport, maintains the roads and coordinates town services including electricity, water and garbage collection. Without OTML, Tabubil would be a ghost town.*

*The open cut mine itself is located on Mt Fubilan about an hour's drive (steep climb) to the north west of Tabubil, at such a high altitude of 6600 metres that it is usually covered in cloud and cannot be seen from the town.*

*Although the copper mine has a limited life span, OTML is very involved in helping local people to develop alternative economic activities towards the goal of sustaining the community after the closure of the mine. Apart from the obvious huge open pit created by the decapping of Mt Fubilan, the rest of the Star Mountains area is largely virgin forest and populations of native birds thrive in the area, making bird watching and other nature-based activities ideal attractions for tourists. Local nature guides have been assisted by OTML to receive training in bird guiding and the best birding spots have been surveyed.*

*Tabubil is a high rainfall area so be prepared for one or more of your birding excursions to be modified or abandoned.*

***Bird list for Tabubil (Star Mountains and Ok Tedi River Valley):***

*Intermediate Egret, Long-tailed Buzzard, Brahminy Kite, Whistling Kite, Bat Hawk, Great Cuckoo Dove, Victoria's Crowned Pigeon, Blue Eyed Cockatoo, Southern Cassowary, Black Billed Brush Turkey, Common Scrub Fowl, Darter, Little Black Cormorant, Black Bittern, Forest Bittern, Rufous Night Heron, Striated Heron, Cattle Egret, Little Egret, Great Billed Heron, Green Pygmy Goose, Wandering Whistling Duck, Brown Goshawk, Coloured Sparrow Hawk, Grey Heated Goshawk, Grey Goshawk, Black Winged Kite, Australian Kestrel, Crested Hawk, Long tailed Buzzard, Doria's Hawk, Little Eagle, Gurney's Eagle, White Billed Sea Eagle, New Guinea Harpy Eagle, Oriental Hobby, Red Necked Rail, Bare Eyed Rail, New Guinea Flightless*

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*Rail, Bush hen, Common Sandpiper, Common Tern, New Guinea Bronzewing, Thick Billed Ground Pigeon, Emerald Ground Dove, Stephan's Ground Dove, Bar shouldered Dove, Southern Crowned Pigeon, Pheasant Pigeon, Cinnamon Ground Dove, White Billed Ground Dove, Great Cuckoo Dove, Black Billed Cuckoo Dove, Brown Cuckoo Dove, Beautiful Fruit Dove, Ornate Fruit Dove, Wompoo Fruit Dove, Pink-spotted Fruit Dove, Orange Bellied Fruit Dove, Superb Fruit Dove, Dwarf Fruit Dove, Zoe Imperial Pigeon, Purple Tailed Imperial Pigeon, Papua Mountain Pigeon, Collard Imperial Pigeon, White Throated Pigeon, Red Flanked Lorikeet, Western Black Capped Lory, Dusky Lory, Rainbow Lorikeet, Papuan King Parrot, Eclectus Parrot, Greater Streaked Lorry, Red Cheeked Parrot, Vulturine Parrot, Sulphur crested cockatoo, Palm Cockatoo, Yellow Capped Pygmy Parrot, Large Fig Parrot, Double Eyed Fig Parrot, White caned Bronze Cuckoo, Malay Bronzed Cuckoo, Chestnut Breasted Cuckoo, Brush Cuckoo, Long Billed Cuckoo, Dwarf Koel, Common Koel, Oriental Cuckoo, White Crown Koel, Channel Billed Cuckoo, Lesser Black Coucal, Greater Black Coucal, Little Paradise Kingfisher, Common Paradise Kingfisher.*

Overnight Hotel Cloudlands, Tabubil (room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks, cash or card)

**DAY 2:**

**TABUBIL**

0400 Depart for an early morning birding excursion around Tabubil with packed breakfast.

0900 Return to hotel for rest. It often rains at this time of the day and is a good time to lie low.

1300 After lunch (PAYG), a full afternoon birding excursion a little further afield into the Star Mountains (highland species) OR Ok Tedi River Valley (lowland species).

Overnight Hotel Cloudlands, Tabubil (room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks, cash or card)

**DAY 3:**

**TABUBIL / MT HAGEN**

0400 Depart for an early morning birding excursion around Tabubil with packed breakfast, then transfer to the airport in time for your late morning flight from Tabubil to Mt Hagen (exact flight times vary with the day of the week).

Our local guide will meet you on arrival and transfer you to the Highlander Hotel in time for lunch (PAYG).

Afternoon birding excursion with local bird guide around Mt Hagen.

***Bird list for Mt Hagen area (incomplete):***

*Long-tailed Buzzard, Brahminy Kite, Whistling Kite, Papuan Harrier, Wattled Bush Turkey, Pheasant Pigeon, Victoria's Crowned Pigeon, Dusky Lory, Goldie's Lorikeet, Dwarf*

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*Cassowary, New Guinea Tiger Heron, Papuan King Parrot, Blue Collared Parrot, Pesquet's Parrot, Sooty Owl, Long Tailed Shrike, Pale Billed Scrub Wren, Willie Wagtail, Wattled Ploughbill, Long Bearded Honeyeater, Mountain Red Headed Honeyeater, Hooded Butcherbird, Archbold's Bowerbird, Crested Bird of Paradise, Ribbon Tailed Astrapia, Brown Sicklebill, Lawes Parotia, Superb Bird of Paradise, Lesser Bird of Paradise, Raggiana Bird of Paradise, Blue Bird of Paradise, Bar Eyed Crow, Peregrine Falcon, Pacific Swallow.*

Overnight Highlander Hotel, Mt Hagen (room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks, cash or card)

**DAY 4:**

**MT HAGEN**

0400 Depart on a full day birding excursion with packed breakfast. Our local bird guide will take you to one or more birding spots around Kumul Lodge, Magic Mountain, Baiyer River, Rondon Ridge or other locations depending on species of interest to you.

Mid-morning, transfer to a local village for a village tour, colourful sing-sing performance and traditional style lunch, then resume birding in the afternoon until sundown.

Overnight Highlander Hotel, Mt Hagen (room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks, cash or card)

**DAY 5:**

**MT HAGEN / MADANG**

0400 Early morning birding excursion around Mt Hagen with packed breakfast, then transfer to Mt Hagen airport to check in for your morning flight from Mt Hagen to Madang (either direct or via Port Moresby depending on the day of the week).

Our local guide will meet you on arrival in Madang and transfer you to the Jais Aben Beach Resort to check in and have lunch (PAYG).

If time allows in the afternoon, enjoy the beach and water activities at the resort and informal bird watching (without guide) in the mangroves and coconut plantation around the resort. Parrots are plentiful in the plantation.

***Bird list for Madang area (incomplete):***

*Intermediate Egret, Long-tailed Buzzard, Brahminy Kite, Whistling Kite, Red Legged Brush Turkey, Great Cuckoo Dove, Victoria's Crowned Pigeon, Peaceful Dove, Zoe Imperial Pigeon, Palm Cockatoo, Blue Eyed Cockatoo, Biak Rd Lory, Pied Heron, Blue Collared Parrot, Eclectus Parrot, Sooty Owl, Forest Kingfisher, Blue Black Kingfisher, Rainbow Bee Eater, Blyth's Hornbill, Long Tailed Shrike, Brown Capped Jewel Babbler, Island Leaf Warbler, Willie Wagtail, Ochre Collared Monarch, Streak Headed Mannikin, Northern Cassowary, Brown Falcon, Brown Lory, Buff Faced Pygmy Parrot*

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Overnight Jais Aben Beach Resort, Madang (deluxe bungalow, room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks)

**DAY 6:**

**MADANG**

0400 Depart on a full day birding excursion along the Madang North Coast Road - a selection of locations including Kau Wildlife Management Area, Wasab River and Udisis/Barem village forest. Includes packed breakfast. Mid-morning, transfer to a local village for a village tour and sing-sing performance with traditional-style lunch. In the afternoon, continue birding until sundown then return to hotel.

Overnight Jais Aben Beach Resort, Madang (deluxe bungalow, room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks)

**DAY 7:**

**MADANG / PORT MORESBY**

0400 Early morning birding trip with packed breakfast - revisit your choice of location from yesterday's excursion.

Mid-morning, transfer to Madang airport to check in for your flight to Port Moresby (time varies with day of the week).

Ecotourism Melanesia staff will meet you on arrival in Port Moresby and assist you to check in at the Gateway Hotel in time for lunch (PAYG).

1300 Afternoon birding trip to Laloki River and Pacific Adventist University campus area OR botanical gardens bird aviary (closes at 1630).

***Bird list for Port Moresby area:***

*Intermediate Egret, Long-tailed Buzzard, Brahminy Kite, Whistling Kite, Papuan Harrier, Variable Goshawk, New Guinea Eagle, Yellow Legged Bush Turkey (Riverine areas), Red Necked Crake (riverine areas), Bare Eyed Rail, Buff Banded Rail, Purple Swamp hen, Comb Crested Jacana, Beach Stone Curlew, Little Ringed Plover, Swinhoe's Snipe, Sandpiper group, Whiskered Tern, Common Tern, Bridled Tern, Brown Noddy, Stephen's Dove (riverine areas), Emerald Dove (riverine areas), New Guinea Bronzewing (riverine areas), Cinnamon Ground Dove (riverine areas), Thick Billed Ground Dove (riverine areas), Orange Bellied Fruit Dove, Buff Faced Pygmy Parrot, Large Fig Parrot (upper riverine areas), Streaked Shearwater, Brown Bobby, Dartar, Little Black Cormorant, Pied Heron, Rufous Night Heron, Black Bitten, Spotted Whistling Duck, Green Pygmy Goose, Red Checked Parrot, Blue Collared Parrot, Eclectus Parrot, Shinning Bronze Cuckoo, Papuan Hawk Owl, Marbled Frogmouth, Barred Owllet Night Jar, Uniform Saiftlet (riverine areas), Papuan Spine Tailed Swift (riverine areas), Variable Dwarf Kingfisher (riverine areas), White Throated Needletail, Little Kingfisher (riverine areas), Azure Kingfisher (riverine areas), Blue winged Kookaburra (riverine areas), Rufous Bellied Kookaburra (riverine areas), Hooked Billed Kingfisher, Brown*

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*Headed Paradise Kingfisher, Common Paradise Kingfisher, Common Dollarbird (riverine areas), Rainbow Bee Eater, Noisy Pitta, Hooded Pitta, White Bellied Cuckoo Shrike, Golden Cockoo Shrike, Chestnut Backed Jewel Babbler, Brown Capped Jewel Babbler, Blue Jewel Babbler, Painted Quail Thrush, Rufous Babbler, White Shouldered Fairy Wren (riverine areas), Emperor Fairy Wren (riverine), Yellow Bellied Gerygone (riverine areas), Australian Reed Warbler, Golden Headed Cisticola, Sooty Thicket Fantail, Rufous Backed Fantail, Rufous Fantail, Willie Wagtail, Spangled Drongo (riverine areas), Golden Monarch (riverine areas), Black Faced Monarch, Spot Winged Monarch (riverine areas), Frilled Monarch (riverine areas), Frilled Monarch (riverine areas), Yellow Breasted Boatbill (riverine areas), Shinning Flycatcher (riverine areas), River Flycatcher, Lemon Bellied Flycatcher (riverine areas), Olive Flycatcher, Black Sided Robin (riverine areas), Banded Robin (riverine areas), White Faced Robin, White Rumped Robin, Mangrove Golden Whistler, Grey Whistler (riverine areas), Crested Pitohui, Rusty Pitohui, Helmeted Friarbird, Plain Honeyeater (riverine areas), Tawny Breasted Honeyeater, Puff Backed Honeyeater (riverine areas), Yellow Gaped Honeyeater (riverine areas), Silver Eared Honeyeater, Green Backed Honeyeater (riverine areas), Tawny Straightbill (riverine areas), Black Berry Packer (riverine areas), Grey Headed Mannikin, Hooded Mannikin, Grand Mannikin, Brown Oriole, Green Figbird, Singing Starling, Metallic Starling, Yellow Faced Myna, New Guinea Wood Swallow, Black Butcherbird (riverine areas), Fawn Breasted Bowerbird, Crinkle Collared Manucode, Magnificent Rifflebird, Magnificent Bird of Paradise, King Bird of Paradise (riverine areas), Raggiana Bird of Paradise, Orange Footed Scrubfowl, Japanese Snipe.*

Overnight Gateway Hotel, Port Moresby (room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks, cash or card)

**DAY 8:**

**PORT MORESBY (VARIARATA)**

0400 Depart on a full day birding excursion with local bird guide to Variarata National Park. Includes packed breakfast and picnic lunch.

*Variarata National Park is located on the Sogeri Plateau above Port Moresby. A 45 minute drive up the winding main road from the city brings you to the turnoff to the national park which is another 30 minutes along sealed feeder road. The park and the surrounding country is set on a region of uplifted igneous intrusive rock complexes which rises to an elevation of 800-1000m above sea-level, and is like a natural border marking where the dry savannah scrublands of coastal Port Moresby end, and the mid-montane forests and grasslands of the Sogeri plateau begin. Birdlife at Variarata is*

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*prolific. There is a mixture of upland as well as lowland species. There are side tracks that lead to particular spots where certain types of birds can be observed. The splendid Raggiana birds of paradise can be observed performing their conspicuous courtship dance from one of these side-tracks.*

***Bird list for Variarata National Park:***

*Beautiful Fruit Dove, Black Kite, Brahminy Kite, Whistling Kite, Variable Goshawk, New Guinea Eagle, Gurney's Eagle, Brown Falcon, Peregrine Falcon, Chestnut Forest Rail, Forbes's Forest Rail, Buff Banded Rail, Japanese Snipe, Great Cuckoo Dove, Brown Cuckoo Dove, Bar Tailed Cuckoo Dove, Stephen's Dove, New Guinea Bronzewing, Papuan Lorikeet, Whiskered Lorikeet, Yellow Billed Lorikeet, Brehm's Tiger Parrot, Papuan Boobook, Sooty Owl, Mountain Night Jar, Archbold's Owllet Night Jar, Mountain Owllet Night Jar, Glossy Swiftlet, Blue Winged Kookaburra, Marbled Frogmouth, Brown Headed Paradise Kingfisher, Lemon Bellied Flycatcher, Magnificent Bird of Paradise, Raggiana Bird of Paradise, Alpine Pipit, Spotted Jewel Bubbler, Painted Quail Thrush, Logrunner, Blue Capped Ifrita, White Shouldered Fairy Wren, Orange Crowned Fairy Wren, Mountain Mouse Warbler, Papuan Scrub Wren, Large Scrub Wren, New Guinea Thornbill, Brown Breasted Gerygone, Dimorphic Fantail, Spangled Drongo, Friendly Fantail, Black Monarch, Black Breasted Boatbill, Canary Flycatcher, Mountain Robin, Greater Ground Robin, White Faced Robin, Regent Whistler, Lorentz's Whistler, Rufous Naped Whistler, Crested Pitohui, Belford's Honeyeater, Sooty Honeyeater, Short Bearded Honeyeater, Orange Checked Honeyeater, Streaked Berrypecker, Tit Berrypecker, Hooded Mannikin, Metallic Starling, Mountain Firetail, Crested Bird of Paradise.*

Overnight Gateway Hotel, Port Moresby (room only - pay as you go for meals and drinks, cash or card)

**DAY 9:**

**PORT MORESBY / FLY OUT**

0400 Half day birding excursion with local bird guide to Goldie River or Brown River. Includes packed breakfast and picnic lunch with optional stops at the Bomana War Cemetery, Schwimmer Drome war relics display and the botanical gardens bird aviary if time allows before your flight.

Return to the city in time to check in for your international flight.

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