



Ecotourism Melanesia

Discover Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands

EM203A 2012 ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION - DAY TOUR

Wednesday 25 April 2012

Attending the Anzac Day dawn service at Bomana War Cemetery outside Port Moresby is one of those things to do before you die. It is one of the most emotionally moving experiences you will have in your life. There before you, as you recite the Ode and sing Abide With Me in the semi-darkness, lie the graves of 3800 men (and women) who gave their lives for Australia, Britain and Papua New Guinea in wartime.

This is an open sign-up day tour that is guaranteed to operate - no minimum numbers required. Maximum 15 people will be allocated per 25-seater bus or 10 people per 15-seater bus (ie no sitting on folding seats). Guide ratio: 1 guide per 6 tour participants.

TOUR COST:

Full day tour PGK600 = AUD300 per person

Dawn service and Gunfire Breakfast only PGK300 = AUD150 per person

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- 04:00 pickup at hotel
- Orange juice and fruit on board the bus
- English speaking guides
- Printed information pamphlet on the Kokoda Campaign, Bomana War Cemetery and Owers Corner
- 04:45 seated at reserved sitting area in the war cemetery
- 05:00 - 06:00 Dawn service (candles and programs are supplied by the event organisers)
- 06:00 - 07:00 Time to wander among the graves and reflect
- 07:00 - Tour bus departs cemetery for Australian High Commission
- 07:30 - Attend "Gunfire Breakfast" (bangers and beer) in the grounds of the Australian High Commission sponsored by the RSL and attended by a broad cross section of Australian expats and PNG locals
- 09:00 Depart for Schwimmer Drome
- 09:30 Visit Schwimmer Drome war relics display at Laloki
- 10:30 Depart Schwimmer Drome for Owers Corner
- 11:30 Arrive Owers Corner memorial park (southern end of the Kokoda Track). View display boards and Howitzer gun. Walk with our guide down to the Goldie River and back (1 hour round trip) to be able to say that you have walked the first part of the Kokoda Track (it is a steep descent to the river and a steep climb back up - the rest of us mere mortals will wait at the picnic area...)
- 13:00 Picnic lunch at Owers Corner
- 13:30 Depart Owers Corner for Varirata National Park
- 14:30 Arrive at scenic lookout at Varirata National Park - panoramic views of the Papuan coastline
- 15:00 Stop at Raggiana bird of paradise nesting trees to see if anybody is at home
- 16:30 Drop off at hotel.