



Ecotourism Melanesia

Promoting sustainable community-based tourism in the South West Pacific

DETAILED ITINERARY FOR:

MADANG WILDLIFE TOUR - 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS (TOUR CODE EM04)

Tour departs Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday. Includes all meals.

With two nights in Madang town and two nights in local villages, this tour includes visits to sanctuaries and open forest.

Day 1

You will depart Port Moresby at 3.40pm on Air Niugini flight PX126 to Madang arriving at 4.40pm. You will be met at Madang airport by the Madang Lodge courtesy bus and transferred to Madang Lodge, a cosy little hotel on the waterfront with excellent sea breezes. After settling in you may wish to take a late afternoon stroll along the waterfront. Madang is a safe town where visitors can wander around freely. Back at the Lodge, a set-menu dinner is included in your tour. Overnight Madang Lodge.

Day 2

At 8.00am a vehicle with local tour guide Mr Hais Wasel will call for you. You will spend the day exploring Madang town and district, beginning with a drive to nearby Ohu Village, the site of the Ohu Butterfly Conservation Area where huge birdwing butterflies will alight on your hands and head and a large variety of bird life can be observed at close range. From Ohu you will walk between village houses and through light rainforest to reach the 100m Dumei waterfall where you can stand under the sparkling forest water to cool off. After a village-style lunch at Ohu you will be driven back through Madang town and out to the Bilbil pottery village and the Balek Wildlife Sanctuary and sulfur caves, followed by a visit to Krangket Island in Madang harbour by motorised dinghy. At sundown you will view the daily flying fox migration before returning to your hotel. Overnight Madang Lodge.

Day 3

At 9am your next tour guide Francis Dedmai will meet you at Madang Lodge and transport you by road to Wasab Ecotourism Village, on the north coast road about one hour out of Madang town. Wasab is surrounded by large areas of lowland alluvial rainforest hosting hundreds of plant and animals species and the villagers here have been trained in nature tour guiding. On arrival at Wasab, have your camera ready for a traditional welcome in dance and song. After settling in at the village guest house you will be taken on a tour of the village and shown how the people live their daily lives in accordance with their culture. Wasab villagers have been trained in tour guiding and they know the importance of preserving their culture. There is even a small cultural museum in the village. After lunch you will be able to choose from a variety of activities including river rafting, rainforest hiking, wildlife watching and observing daily village activities such as cooking, gardening and weaving bilums and mats. Late in the afternoon you will be taken to a birding area where you will be able to witness the sundown chorus. In the evening you will enjoy a *mumu* meal of foods wrapped in leaves and cooked under hot stones and you will be entertained by some comedy drama and singing from the village youth. Later at night your guide will take you to view nocturnal wildlife in the forest. Animals present in the Wasab area include many bird species, flying foxes, bats, cuscus and other tree-dwelling mammals, wild pigs, a variety of reptiles and amphibians, butterflies and a multitude of other insects. Overnight Wasab Village Guest House. (improved village guest house)

Day 4

Today will be a full day of guided wildlife observation activities. Before daybreak you will rise and go with your guide to the rainforest to view the morning wakeup and possible bird of paradise displays. After breakfast and again after lunch you will be able to undertake forays into the surrounding natural environments (rainforest, savannah, tundra, swamp) or otherwise stay in the village and observe the daily goings-on. River rafting, hiking

ECOTOURISM MELANESIA LTD

Unit 1 Lot 3 Section 444, Ranu Place • Four Mile Hill, National Capital District, Papua New Guinea

Postal address: PO Box 24 Waigani NCD • Phone/Fax (675) 323 4518 or 325 4860

E-mail ecomel@online.net.pg • Website www.em.com.pg

and photography are alternative activities. Nocturnal wildlife viewing in the evening subject to weather conditions. Overnight Wasab Village Guest House.

Day 5

Further wildlife observation activities in the morning. After lunch you will be transferred back to Madang town to meet your afternoon flight PX111 to Port Moresby, departing 4.45pm and arriving 5.45pm.

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS:

- o extra nights in Wasab village
- o overnights in other villages, eg Barem, Udisis, Ohu
- o scuba diving at Jais Aben Resort
- o game fishing with Reel Fish Charters
- o Sepik River cruising on the MV Melanesian Discoverer
- o relaxing at Malolo Plantation Resort

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