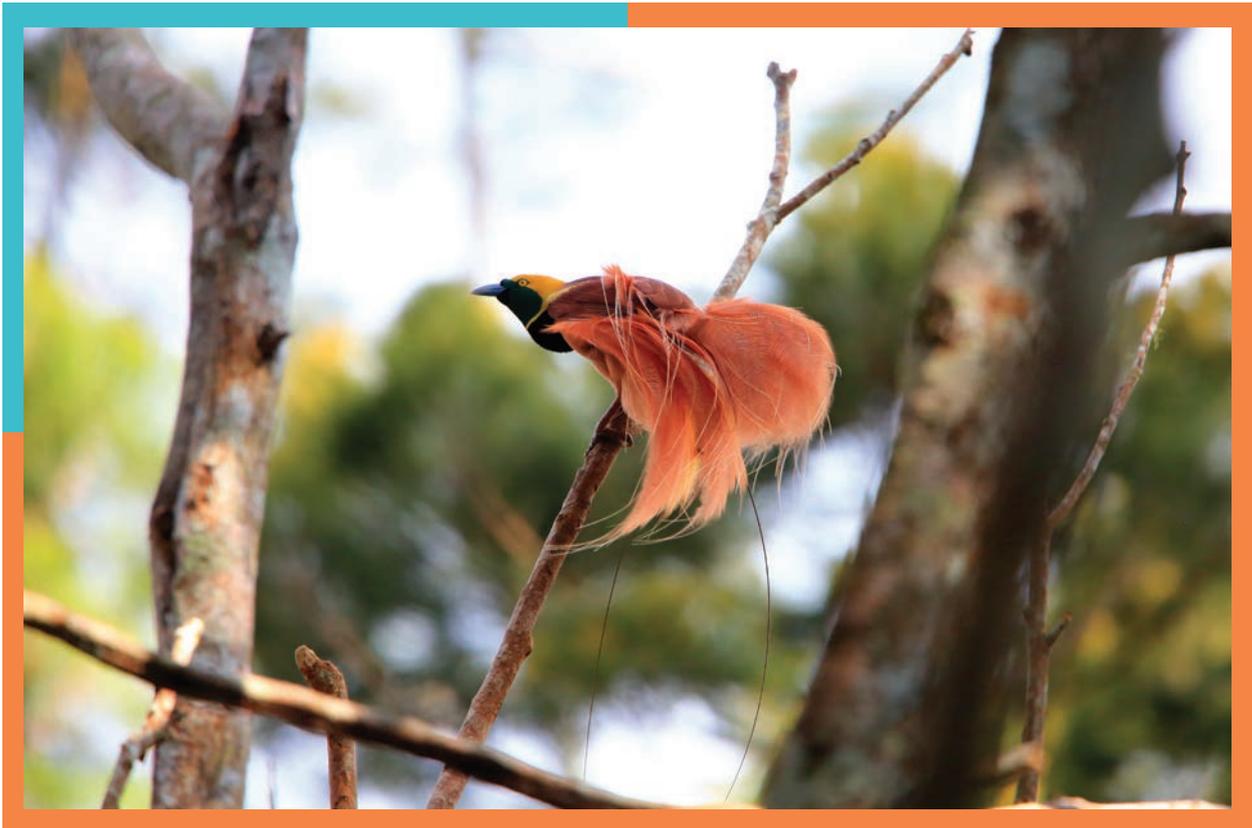


Country Guide

Papua New Guinea



Overview

The Independent State of Papua New Guinea (PNG), is an Oceanian country that occupies the eastern half of the island of New Guinea and its offshore islands in Melanesia, a region of the southwestern Pacific Ocean, north of Australia. The country is also one of the world's least explored, culturally and geographically. It is also one of the most rural locations, with only 18% of its 8+ million people living in urban centres.

Port Moresby is the capital of PNG and is developing rapidly. There are several quality hotels offering excellent restaurants and entertainment. As a result of hosting the 2015 South Pacific Games and the 2018 APEC Summit, the number of hotels, restaurants, shopping centres and sporting facilities has expanded rapidly. The social life revolves around dining out and the sporting clubs that are available. Water sports are particularly popular at the RPYC including game fishing, sailing and scuba diving. Excellent dive sites can be found within half an hour of Port Moresby.

Area:
462,840 sq. km

Currency:
Kina

Language(s):
English / Tok Pisin / Hiri Motu

Capital City:
Port Moresby

Government:
Constitutional Parliamentary
Democracy

Population:
8.3 million





Banking

The local currency used in PNG is Kina (k) and toea (t) with 1 Kina equivalent to 100 toea. There are a number of banks and branches in Port Moresby where money can be exchanged but we recommend exchanging your money prior to arrival.

Climate

PNG's climate is tropical. December to March is the wet season as monsoons occur occasionally in the north-west of the country, although occasional rain falls year-round. While Port Moresby, the capital, and other towns on the coast are quite hot in the summer months, temperatures are considerably cooler in the Highlands.

Time

GMT + 10:00

Public holidays

- New Year's Day: 1st January
- Easter Friday: April
- Easter Saturday: April
- Easter Monday: April
- Queen's Birthday: 13th June
- Remembrance Day: 23rd July
- Independence Day: 16th September
- Christmas Day: 25th December
- Boxing Day: 26th December



Food + drink

In both of the major cities, Port Moresby and Lae, it is common for expatriates to join one of the many clubs where dining is combined with activities and sports. It is also popular to dine at one of the many 4-5 star hotels. There are a variety of restaurants available that offer local cuisine, Asian fusion, Indian and western food. Café options are also growing for breakfast and lunches or meetings.

Staples of the traditional PNG diet include fish, seafood, sago, sweet potato (kaukau), taro, taro leaf, cassava, cassava leaf, breadfruit, edible leafy greens (kumu), coconut and fruits.

Culture + lifestyle

Expat lifestyles in PNG revolve around the local arts and culture and include activities such as festivals, hiking historical trails, diving old WWII wrecks and the beautiful reefs. Other sporting activities include sailing, game fishing and kite surfing. There are plenty of remote island resorts to visit and become immersed in the culture and beauty.

Here are some useful websites:

www.greatexplorersgo.com/blog/top-10-things-to-do-in-papua-new-guinea

www.wanderlust.co.uk/discover/discover-papua-new-guinea/content/papua-new-guinea-festivals

www.rpyc.com.pg

Social networks + groups for expats

www.aboutpapuanewguinea.com

www.expatsblog.com/blogs/papua-new-guinea





School system

If you are relocating your family to PNG, it's important to thoroughly research the schooling options available and evaluate what works for you and your family. International schools, whether independent or run by the IEA, are often recommended options as their curriculum generally offers a range of pathways to internationally-recognised secondary education completion certificates in addition to the PNG School Certificates.

Social Etiquette

In PNG, upon greeting an acquaintance, or someone you don't know, it is acceptable to shake hands and address their title and full name. Communication is direct on general topics however a more indirect style is common when it comes to any criticism or sensitive issues. It is common to stop and have a chat when running into people you know or are acquainted with and some may take offence if you continue to walk by. Direct eye contact is appropriate in all situations and recommended.

Being on time is not as strict as it is in some other countries. In general, people are not offended if you are late and you will need to be aware of the fact that it is common for people to arrive late or early for appointments.

Security

The migration of the local population into Port Moresby can be linked to issues of petty crime as people struggle to survive in a big city with little means of support. The crime rate is considered high. Expatriates live in compounds and are usually provided with a security driver until comfortable driving a secure car. Expatriates are given advice on the safe places to go and recommended a curfew time. Port Moresby ranks quite low in global safety indexes, however most of the crime is committed within villages or not following common safety rules or advice.



Transport

Transport is heavily limited by the country's mountainous terrain. Port Moresby is not linked by road to any of the other major towns and many remote villages can only be reached by light aircraft. There is a local form of privately-owned buses called Public Motor Vehicles (PMVs). These are not policed well and their maintenance and safety standards are not guaranteed. There are numerous privately-owned taxis in varying degrees of conditions. Both buses and taxis throughout PNG are not recommended due to numerous security and safety concerns. Easy Skill will arrange security transport upon your arrival.

Carry your international drivers license with you and once you receive your work permit, you can obtain a PNG license. There are many roadblocks in PNG and it is common to get fined for using your international license. It is recommended to have a driver until you receive your PNG license.

Health

Healthcare in Papua New Guinea:

Easy Skill has a contract with Ambrelia Insurance which provides the following social protection coverage to our expatriate consultants:

- Health insurance (medical, surgical hospitalisation, outpatient, optical, dental)
- Public liability insurance
- Death + Disability
- Repatriation + Assistance



Health risks:

Malaria - HIV/AIDS

Recommended vaccinations:

- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)
- Hepatitis A/Hepatitis B
- Polio
- Pertussis
- Typhoid
- Japanese Encephalitis B
- Chickenpox
- Tetanus
- Influenza
- Pneumococcus
- Diphtheria

Work permit / Visa requirements

You are required to have a visa to work in PNG, this process will be coordinated by the Client company and/or Easy Skill. Costs incurred for visa purposes will be reimbursed by Easy Skill upon validation from your manager. You should always have a copy of your visa with you.

At the airport

Drugs, pornographic literature (deemed to include men's magazines such as FHM and Men's Lifestyle Magazines such as GQ, Maxim or Alpha) or video tapes/DVD's, firearms and weapons are prohibited. Food items, seeds, spices, live or dry plants, animals, animal products and biological specimens such as cultures and blood need special import approval.

**Build
your
teams.
Deliver
your
projects.
Shape
a better
future.**

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