

PIONEER EXPEDITIONS

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Do something extraordinary.....

Tigak Sea-Kayaker • Papua New Guinea 9 Days • 8 Nights • Various Dates • £1,995

There are few places on earth left to explore, however Papua New Guinea in many respects is an adventurers final frontier.

On this 9 day sea kayaking expedition in the the Tigak area of North West New Ireland – we can explore the remote islands and communities, snorkel in pristine waters and feel the true remoteness of one of the most fascinating nations on earth.

Highlights

- **Sea Kayak** some of the most pristine and remote waters on earth
- Visit **remote and untouched villages**
- **Snorkel** abundant reef eco systems
- Feast on **delicious seafood** freshly caught every day

Overview

With its hundreds of islands and thousands of kilometers of coastline, to this day Papua New Guinea has so many destinations ripe for exploration.

One such place is the Tigak area of north west New Ireland. 1.5 hours flight from Port Moresby, The Tigak area is famous for its surf and SCUBA Diving. A long chain of islands stretches out from New Ireland and skirts the east coast of New Hanover. These islands are surrounded by pristine clear water and untouched coral reefs, home to a plethora of sea life.

Inhabiting these islands are small villages that live off the sea. Some live on islands as small as a football fields while others live on large islands that produce fruit and vegetable.

This sea kayaking expedition will explore this area, paddling from one small island to the next. We will visit people that have rarely seen outsiders, snorkel beautiful reefs and sample delicious sea food.

This 9 day expedition is for those that want to explore new areas, meet new people and discover the wonders that Papua New Guinea has to offer.



Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Port Moresby and transfer to hotel. Free time to relax.

Hotel

Day 2 Fly Port Moresby - Kavieng

You will be met at the airport by one of our team members and taken to the Nusa Island Retreat. This afternoon you will meet with your local Guide. We will check out our kayaks and go for a short practice paddle around Nusa Island. That night we will have our expedition briefing.

B, L, D, Overnight in Retreat.

Day 3 Nusa Island Retreat - Kabotteron Island

Today we start paddling. But before we start our Guide will go through some safety issues. After breakfast, we set out for our first destination, Kabotteron Island approximately 2 hrs from the Retreat. On the way we will stop at Nago Island (30 minutes away). Nago is a turtle nesting site so the chances of seeing turtles is very good. We will do some snorkelling there, before we head off for Eruk Island. Eruk is a beautiful island, split by a narrow channel. Here we will have lunch and explore the island, escorted by one of the local villages.

From Eruk we head for Kabotteron and its southern tip. There we will set up camp and depending on the time of day, snorkel the reef just down from the village.

B, L, D, Overnight Masat Village.

Day 4: Kabotteron - Nusakelo

After breakfast we will start NW towards Bangatang towards Nusaum. We will stop at Nusaum for a snorkel of the excellent reef.

From there we head another 30 minutes to the southern tip of Lemus Island. Here we will have the chance to snorkel one of the best beach reefs in the region. After some morning tea we will head off to our days final destination.

From Lemus, we will paddle on the outer reef towards Nusakelo. Depending on the tide, we may be able to cross into the inner reef along the coast of Bangatang.

Finally, we will reach Nusakelo, a small village on the southern tip of the Tsoi group of islands. This is a great place to rest under some enormous trees and explore the rocky coast.

After lunch, we can hop into the support boat and head back towards Patio Island and Nup for a snorkel in what we consider some of the best reefs in the world.

B, L, D, Overnight in tents overlooking the bay.

Day 5: Nusakelo - Lamalangit

Today we paddle from Nusan Kelo to Lamalangit. This will be a relatively easy day, with a gentle paddle along the coast of the Tsoi group. We will have great views of the coast of New Hanover.

We will arrive in Lamalangit to a traditional greeting. In the afternoon, we may have a chance to take a traditional outrigger canoe into the channel with a local guide showing us some of the more interesting aspects of living in such a remote community.

B, L, D,

Day 6: Lamalangit - Tsoilik

Today we track the west coast of the Tsoi group of islands. Just south of Mansava Village is a great snorkelling reef, which if the tide is right, we will explore. From there we will paddle to Tsoilik and a superb

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guest house area on the far north tip of the island with views over New Hanover and beyond. We will have a Village presentation that night. We will also have the chance to explore Tsoiliks lagoon and Bird Island where birds from all over the region come to nest.

B, L, D, Overnight in very nice Bungalows.

Day 7: Tsoilik - Nusa Island Retreat

Today we transfer back to Nusa Island Retreat. If we leave early enough we will be back there by lunch. For those who wish to surf, there should be time in the afternoon.

B, L, D, Overnight in Retreat

Day 8: Nusa Island Retreat - Port Moresby

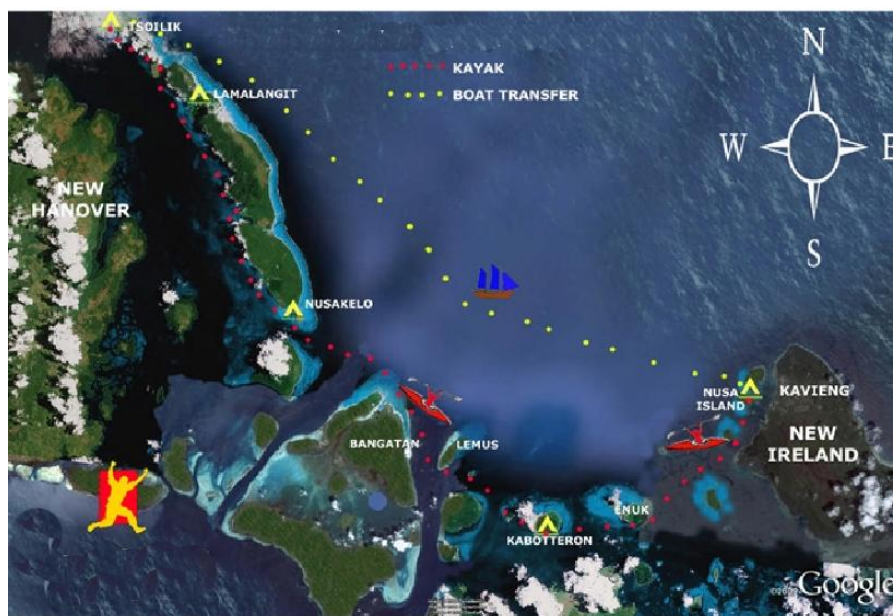
After breakfast we will transfer to the mainland for our flight back to Port Moresby. There we will rest and celebrate our trip again.

B, Hotel

Day 9: Fly home.

Expedition Ends

For those that wish to do some SCUBA Diving (highly recommended) we can add a couple of days to the end of the trip for this. SCUBA Diving trips are best organized through the Ecolodge you will be staying at.



Expedition Grade

Moderate

This expedition is considered moderate as there are no long walks and our paddling days of 4 hours are broken up by lunch and swims. Accommodation will vary from comfortable eco lodges to tents on the beach. While temperatures can be high (mid 30's), crystal clear water and pristine coral reefs will be more than enough to keep you cool.

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INCLUSIONS

- Kayak use with all safety gear including vest, paddle, decks etc
- Accommodation throughout trip including 2 nights at Holiday Inn Port Moresby and 2 nights at Nusa Island Retreat
- All kayaking permits, National Park and Conservation Fees are included
- Support boat throughout
- Radio contact between Kayakers, Support Boat and Kavieng
- All domestic flights
- National park fees
- Professional guide throughout expedition
- Local tours
- Airport transfers
- Ranger and local guide fees
- All meals as indicated in itinerary
- Cultural displays
- Snorkel and Flippers

EXCLUSIONS

- Airport taxes
- Visa to PNG
- Personal expenses
- Beverages
- Extra meals not mentioned in inclusions such as the eco-lodge
- Tips to guides and other staff (optional)

Expedition Schedule

This expedition is open between March and December for group sizes 2 - 10. If there are 4 or more of you, you can tell us when you want to go. We also have the following scheduled trips:

2012

01 Apr - 09 Apr 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

01 May - 09 May 2012

29 May - 06 Jun 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

29 Jun - 07 Jul 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

29 Jul - 06 Aug 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

26 Aug - 03 Sep 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

25 Sep - 03 Oct 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

24 Oct - 01 Nov 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*

22 Nov - 30 Nov 2012 *Full Moon Expedition*



USEFUL INFORMATION

INDONESIAN TOURIST VISA

To enter PNG, you will require a Tourist Visa. This can be purchased on arrival for 100K

PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Once your expedition is confirmed we will send you detailed Pre Departure Information which includes a list of recommended clothing and personal equipment, along with other relevant information to help you prepare for your trip.

OUR GUIDES AND TEAM

This expedition is led by No Roads Expeditions. All our guides have been carefully selected for their ability and temperament. Each guide has training and proven abilities in eco-friendly methods, safety and, careful trek operations, keeping the health and happiness of the paddlers as well his crew, uppermost. Our guides are committed to making sure that all our paddlers have an enjoyable time, comes back safe and are overwhelmed by their experience. Your guide will be a friend and companion, who takes pleasure in showing you his/her country's specialties and, perhaps, meet his/her home and family too.

TRANSPORT

We provide all domestic airfares as well as transportation to the expedition start point and transportation back to your guest house or hotel.

FAQs

Sea-kayaking... What's it like? Sea-kayaking is a most wonderful way to explore the world. It's inexpensive and environmentally-friendly, does not require months of training and superior strength, and is good for the body and soul. Sea-kayaking can take you beyond the reach of civilisation into the natural world, into the space between earth, sea and sky.

Is it easy to learn? Do I have to be fit? No prior experience is necessary. As long as you are in good health and have a sense of adventure, you will quickly master the skills needed to paddle and steer your kayak. Our experienced guides will give an introductory lesson at the beginning of the journey, and will be there to help and keep everyone happy and safe throughout.

Would the expedition be too hard/too easy for me? It does have some challenging sections but they are not beyond the person with general fitness. If you are physically fit and have a sense of adventure then these expeditions are for you.

Is it safe? It is safe. The Tigak region is a sheltered island group and as such large swells are uncommon. The sea-kayaks we use are sleek and very stable, and all are equipped with the usual safety features. The No Roads guides have kayaked, worked and adventured in wild places for many years, and are skilled in risk-management and emergency medical care. Finally, each expedition has a support boat that can help out anyone in trouble and we have radio contact with Nusa Island Retreat.

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Do I need to be able to swim? No. In the unlikely event that your sea-kayak should capsize, you will easily exit the boat and your high-buoyancy life-jacket will keep you afloat. Even snorkeling is possible for non-swimmers, with the help of your guide and your life-jacket.

What's our group size? We keep our groups small, a maximum of twelve on each, to minimize our impact on the places we pass through, and to maximize our enjoyment of each day.

Are the kayaks singles or doubles? We use double kayaks, which means you will be paddling with another person. You may like to book with a friend and paddle together, or you may be happy to get to know your fellow travelers by kayaking with them. For more experienced kayakers we can convert the kayakers into a single if you wish.

What about the sleeping arrangements? Nights are usually spent in small villages near the water. Back in Nusa Island we stay at the best eco-friendly lodge called Nusa Island Retreat. This lodge has been built with the environment in mind, so recycling is a major feature of the hotel. .

Is diving possible? The snorkeling and scuba-diving in the area is excellent, and are highly recommended activities. If you wish to SCUBA we suggest you extend your stay and organize a dive from the hotel in Nusa Island. All equipment is available for hire.

Apart from the sea-kayaking, snorkelling and scuba-diving, what else is there to do? Where do we start... there's lying in hammocks, reading books, going fishing, swimming, beach-combing, meeting the locals, walking through forests, bird-watching, taking photos, exploring, playing beach volleyball, and coconut petanque, dining with friends, sharing stories, watching the sun set, playing guitars, gazing at stars, sleeping soundly.... You'll love it!

THE KAYAKS

The kayaks used proper sit in expedition kayaks made by Dagger. They are comfortable and perfectly suited for this type of sea kayaking, made from durable roto mould plastic. They have adjustable seat and a rudder for easy control.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

New Ireland people had been so blessed with rich and varied cultural practices and values that blend well with the environment. The people of New Ireland are Melanesian and speak 22 local languages. Traditional clan power is wielded by chiefs, but clan rites and land claims are passed on in a matrilineal system.

The traditional art of calling sharks is practiced along the coasts of New Ireland, but particularly on the West Coast around Kontu and Tembin where certain men have the ability to call up sharks. The unfortunate shark swims up to the caller's boat where they can be speared and netted. Alternatively the shark propeller is used - a noose is hung with half coconut shells which make a rattling noise, attracting the shark up through the noose. A rope attached to the noose is connected to a wooden propeller which is spun round to tighten the noose and simultaneously pull in the rope. The shark, unable to keep moving, effectively drowns.

The people of New Ireland have three distinct culture or traditional practices: Malagan, Kabai and Tumbuan. While Malagan and Kabai are unique only to New Ireland including "traditional shark hunting", Tumbuan which is a men's sacred society and widely practiced by the Tolais in East New Britain Province, actually originated from the southern area of New Ireland in the Lak/Kandas area where it is mostly practiced. New Ireland's culture is rich, colourful and intricate.