



Country Profile: Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea is a developing country in the Southwest Pacific. The capital is Port Moresby. Tourist facilities outside major towns are limited. Crime is a serious concern throughout Papua New Guinea (please see the section on crime below). Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Papua New Guinea for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Papua New Guinea
Continent:	Australia & Oceania
Capital City:	Port Moresby
Boundary Countries:	Indonesia
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	None at this time.
Main Cities:	Port Moresby, Lae, Daru, Wewak, Mount Hagen, Rabaul, Kieta, Madang, Goroka.
Country Size:	462,840 sq km
Population:	5,795,887

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Melanesian Pidgin serves as the lingua franca, English spoken by 1%-2%, Motu spoken in Papua region note: 820 indigenous languages spoken (over one-tenth of the world's total)
Currency:	kina (PGK)
Predominant Religions:	Roman Catholic 22%, Lutheran 16%, Presbyterian/Methodist/London Missionary Society 8%, Anglican 5%, Evangelical Alliance 4%, Seventh-Day Adventist 1%, other Protestant 10%, indigenous beliefs 34%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 16 September (1975)
Economic Status:	Papua New Guinea is richly endowed with natural resources, but exploitation has been hampered by rugged terrain and the high cost of developing infrastructure. Agriculture provides a subsistence livelihood for 85% of the population.
Security:	Papua New Guinea Defense Force (PNGDF; includes Maritime Operations Element, Air Operations Element).
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Port Moresby Embassy of the United States of America P.O. Box 1492 Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
Major Airports:	Airports: 578, Airports w/paved runways: 21 Port Moresby – Jacksons International Airport (POM/AYPY) Port Moresby Airport, Papua New Guinea, PO Box 684, Boroko NCD, PAPUA NEW GUINEA Port Moresby Airport, Papua New Guinea, Civil Aviation Authority, Port Moresby, PAPUA NEW GUINEA Tel: +675 324 4400, +675 324 4755 Fax: +675 325 0833 Customs, hours: 08:30-12:00 & 13:00-16:00

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