



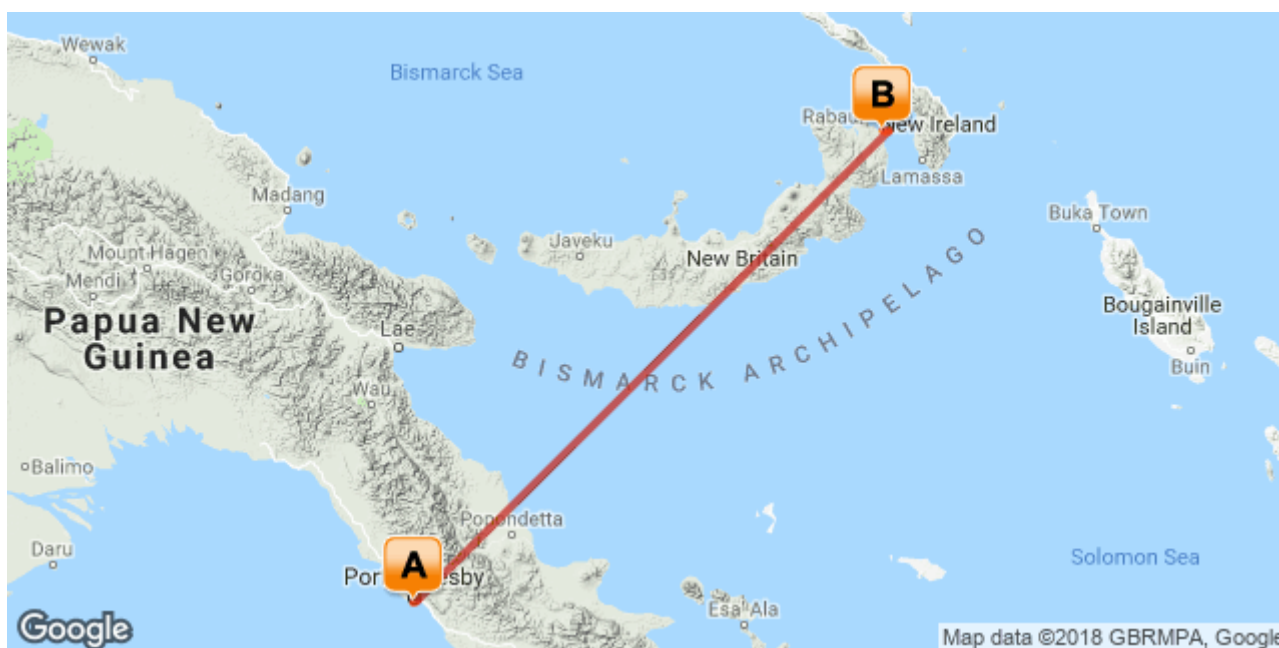
## Blue Grass Dive Club

### PNG dive week 2019

*Papua New Guinea*

*9 Days / 8 Nights*

September 04, 2019 - September 12, 2019



Accommodation	Destination	Start	End	Basis	Room Type	Duration
Ela Beach Hotel & Apartments	Papua New Guinea	Sep 4	Sep 5	B&B		1 Night
Rapopo Plantation Resort	Papua New Guinea	Sep 5	Sep 12	B&B	1x Bayside room	7 Nights

**Key**

B&amp;B: Bed and Breakfast

FB: Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

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**Included**

- 1 night accommodation with breakfast in Port Moresby at Ela Beach Hotel
- 7 nights' accommodation with breakfast in Kokopo at Rapopo Plantation Resort
- Return domestic flights and transfers
- 11 dives over five days
- Full day land tour covering historic WWII sites and the Mt Tarvurur Volcano and hot springs.
- Half-day tour to Port Moresby Orchid Gardens and Wildlife Sanctuary

**Excluded**

- Lunches and dinners
- Tips
- Travel insurance

**Day 1: Ela Beach Hotel & Apartments, Papua New Guinea (Wed, September 4)**

**Papua New Guinea**

Located only 100 miles north of Australia, this Melanesian nation shares the island of New Guinea with Papua, Indonesia's easternmost province. The island is blessed with a wealth of natural treasures including dense rainforests, idyllic islands, rich highlands, and volcanic sites. Visitors can look forward to diving along pristine coral reefs and World War II wrecks, observing the traditional culture of the local tribesmen in the Highlands, or exploring remote villages along the spectacular 550-mile Sepik River. Aside from the dizzying array of diverse ethnic groups,

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one of the prime attractions is the island's unique ecosystem which is home to some unusual wildlife such as tree-climbing kangaroos and the much celebrated birds of paradise. Still steeped in mysticism, Papua New Guinea remains one of the most remote and intriguing destinations in the world. It makes an ideal destination for intrepid travellers seeking a wild adventure into one of the world's final frontiers.

### Day Itinerary

Transfer from the airport to your hotel.

#### Overnight: Ela Beach Hotel & Apartments

Ela Beach Hotel & Apartments is situated in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, and features views of Ela Beach. The accommodation is equipped with Wi-Fi, cable TV, air-conditioning, coffee and tea making facilities, hairdryers and safes. For guests' enjoyment, there is an on-site restaurant, bar and lounge, 2 outdoor swimming pools, 2 outdoor spas, gym and a gaming room. For daily activities guests can visit Varirata National Park, Orchid Park, Rouna Falls or book a sightseeing tour.



### Basis

Bed & Breakfast

## Day 2: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Thu, September 5)

### Day Itinerary

Transfer from the hotel to the airport, flight to Rabaul, transfer to the hotel.

#### Overnight: Rapopo Plantation Resort

Rapopo Plantation Resort is situated along the Gazelle Peninsula on the Island of New Britain, boasting landscaped gardens and views over Simpson Harbour. The suites are all air-conditioned and equipped with private bathrooms, cable TV, Wi-Fi, mini fridges and coffee/tea making facilities. For guests' enjoyment, there is an on-site restaurant, bar, outdoor swimming pool and massage services. For daily activities guests can go diving to explore the coral gardens, marine life, and the relics of 65 Japanese war ships or book a tour of the local area.



**Basis**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 3: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Fri, September 6)**

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**Activities**

2 dives

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**Basis**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 4: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Sat, September 7)**

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**Activities**

2 dives

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**Basis**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 5: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Sun, September 8)**

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**Activities**

3 dives

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**Basis**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 6: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Mon, September 9)**

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**Activities**

2 dives

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**Basis**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 7: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Tue, September 10)**

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**Activities**

2 dives

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**Basis**

Bed & Breakfast

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**Day 8: Rapopo Plantation Resort, Papua New Guinea (Wed, September 11)****Day Itinerary**

Mt Tarvuvur Volcano, Hot Springs, Admiral Yamamoto's Bunker, Niugini Club, Governor's Lookout (lunch break), Volcano Observatory, Japanese Barge Tunnel, Submarine Base, Hospital Tunnels.

**Activities**

Full day land tour

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***Rabaul***

Rabaul was planned and built around the harbor area known as **Simpsonhafen** (Simpson Harbour) during the German New Guinea administration which controlled the region between 1884 and formally through 1919. From 1910 Rabaul was the headquarters of German New Guinea until captured by the British Empire during the early days of World War I. It became the capital of the Australian mandated Territory of New Guinea until 1937 when it was first destroyed by volcano.

During World War II it was captured by the Japanese in 1942, and it became the main base of Japanese military and naval activity in the South Pacific. Settlements and military installations around the edge of the caldera are often collectively referred to as *Rabaul* despite the old town of Rabaul itself being reduced to practical insignificance by the volcanic eruption in 1937.

As a tourist destination, Rabaul is popular for its volcanoes, scuba diving and for snorkelling sites, spectacular harbour and other scenery, World War II history, flora and fauna, and, of course, the fascinating and colourful cultural life of the Tolai people.

The history of Rabaul is one of wreckage and re-growth and modern historians will find a treasure trove of World War Two relics, tunnels and caverns to explore within driving distance of Rabaul. Close to the now thriving centre of Kokopo, are the remnants of Gunantambu mansion, built in the 1880s by the legendary Queen Emma. After the eruption of Tavurvur and Vulcan in September 1994, most Rabaul services were relocated in Kokopo, which is strung along the edge of Blanche Bay. The town has grown rapidly and the busy market, selling fresh produce, local cigars and betel nut, is located on the main road from Tokua Airport near Supabake Bakery. The waterfront is the place to find boats for travel to the outer islands or for a spot of fishing.

The drive from the airport, located at Tokua, about an hour from Rabaul, is along a narrow road, winding its way around the glittering waters of the Gazelle Peninsula. Through the coconut trees villages of thatched huts surrounded by colourful flowerbeds and tropical fruit trees look out over calm waters. East New Britain has a fascinating World War 2 history and visitors can explore Japanese caved systems, barged tunnels, aircraft wrecks and submarines.

## Culture

The people of East New Britain are culturally diversified, with rich and unique traditions. The "tumbuan", featured in many cultural dress costumers, signifies spiritual dancers and traditional ceremonies. The Tolai people of the Gazelle Peninsula have continued to use the traditional shell money called "tabu". They use the tabu as a contribution to the Tolai male secret society of tumbuan and dukduk, for distribution to people at death ceremonies, as payment of a bride price, for settling disputes, to purchase land or even garden food from local markets.

## Flora and Fauna

The tropical nature of the province, with its evergreen rainforest vegetation, rugged mountain ranges, and imposing volcanoes, have made East New Britain an attractive and adventurous place to visit. The marine resources are diverse and the tropical environment provides opportunities for bush trekking, mountain trekking, mountain climbing and cave exploration.

## Attractions

War wrecks also litter the reefs surrounding the East New Britain Province. The excellent visibility makes this an exciting dive spot all year round. Dive trips, day tours as well as charter boats for fishing can be organised through any of the accommodations or tour operators. Forty five minutes by boat from Kokopo are the Duke of York Islands, which offer sport diving, snorkelling and picnics under the coconut trees.




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## Basis

Bed & Breakfast

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## Day 9: End of Itinerary (Thu, September 12)

## Activities

Half-day tour to the Orchid Gardens and Wildlife Sanctuary

## Port Moresby

Also known as Pom Town, Port Moresby is the capital and largest city of Papua New Guinea. The city is comprised of a diverse collection of spread-out neighbourhoods from modern office buildings and a glitzy marina full of yachts, to sprawling shanty towns. Popular attractions include the National Museum and Art Gallery, home to one of the world's best primitive art collections, and the Orchid Gardens and Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Nature Park. teeming with wildlife such as birds of paradise, cassowaries and tree kangaroos.

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## Basis

Full Board

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## Transport

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### Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
05 Sep	Scheduled	Air Niugini	Jacksons International Airport [POM]	09:35	Rabaul Airport [RAB]	11:45		
12 Sep	Scheduled		Rabaul Airport [RAB]	06:50	Jacksons International Airport [POM]	08:10		

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### Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
04 Sep		Jacksons International Airport [POM]	Ela Beach Hotel & Apartments		Transfer
05 Sep		Ela Beach Hotel & Apartments	Jacksons International Airport [POM]		Transfer
05 Sep		Rabaul Airport [RAB]	Rapopo Plantation Resort		Transfer
12 Sep		Rapopo Plantation Resort	Rabaul Airport [RAB]		Transfer

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