

Visit Rabaul

KEY SITES – Site fees may apply and these fees may change from time to time.

2/22nd MEMORIAL & MONTE VIDEO MARU MEMORIAL
Memorial for the 2/22nd Battalion and for all those who perished with the sinking of the “Monte Video Maru” - WWII. Rabaul foreshore.



NEW GUINEA CLUB & RABAUL MUSEUM

This is the last standing bastion of Colonial Rule in the Islands. The New Guinea Club was a businessmen's club with strict guidelines to Membership. It was destroyed in both World Wars and was rebuilt in the 1950's to its former glory only to be destroyed again by fire in 1994. Further damaged was caused by the '94 volcanic eruptions. It has since been partly restored by a few hard working and loyal members and is now the home of the Rabaul Historical Society. The Society has turned this icon into The Rabaul Museum. Admission is K5 per person and a MUST SEE, whilst visiting Rabaul. Rabaul Hotel acts as custodian to this special site, so you must register at the Rabaul Hotel Reception to gain entry. The Key must be returned.



YAMAMOTO'S BUNKER.

Admiral of the Japanese Imperial Navy Fleet - Isoroku Yamamoto as Commander-in-chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet, planned the attack on Pearl Harbour. In reference to that attack he is believed to have said that “he feared he had awakened a sleeping Giant”. From this bunker he ran the South West Pacific Operations WWII. Check at Reception for the Key



JAPANESE PEACE MEMORIAL

Approximately 20 minutes walking distance or 4 minutes by car from the Club, continue down Mango Avenue, turn left at Kaivuna Hotel and up Namanula Road. This Memorial was built to pay respects to all those who lost their lives in WWII.



GERMAN'S GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE

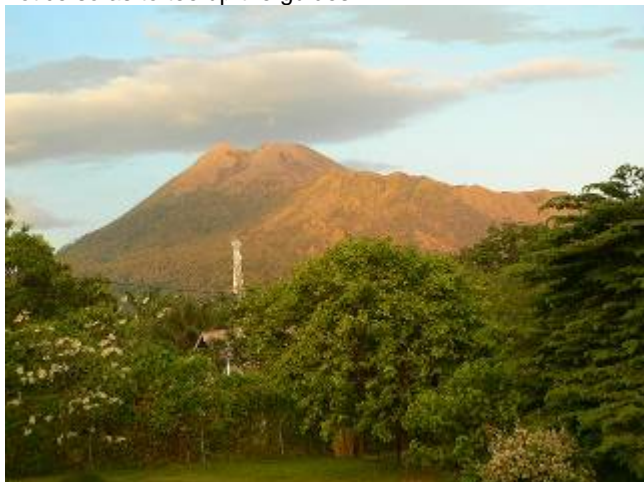
Namanula Hill. Continue up from the Japanese Peace Memorial to the top of Namanula Hill where the only remains of this once most beautiful mansion, are the concrete pylons and steps where the residence once stood.

NAMANULA JAPANESE WWII TUNNELS – Rabaul

There are several tunnels sites around Rabaul. The best ones are by foot and you will require guides. Please contact reception to organise this at least a days notice to tee up a some local guides. These are a must, but be warned they can be treacherous, dirty and not for the unfit and if you dislike flying foxes. You will be required to pay the guides and local land holders approx. K5.00 – K7.00 per person. Good walking shoes, torch and water are recommended.

MOTHER VOLCANO

If you are a keen trekker, this is a must. Contact Reception for a guide. This walk takes approx. 4 hours, or less if you are super fit. The summit is approx. 2000 feet. One should be reasonably fit and have good shoes. A hat and water is also a must and long light trousers to protect your legs from Kunai Grass. The guides usually expects approx. K10 -K15 per person. It can get very hot so Departure Time is early, approx. 5.30 a.m and a fee of K40 for the Hotel car & driver to and from the trek is expected. We require at least 24 hour notice so as to tee up the guides.



Mother at sunset

SULPHAR CREEK GUN

Japanese Gun aimed toward the harbour to keep allied forces away and to protect Japanese Fleet. This is a little off the beaten track & can only be accessed on foot, so ask Reception for further directions.

BETTY BOMBER

Japanese Betty Bomber – Matupit Island, just after the old airport. This aeroplane is situated on a WWII Japanese Mechanic's Station and has been uncovered. This was heavily bombed by the allies. Before the 1994 eruption you could see the bomb pits surrounding the planes and this area. Naturally everything has grown over & around it. K5.00 entry fee per person



MATUPIT ISLAND FIRST LANDING of MISSIONARIES

On the left of Matupit (ask for directions) is the site & a memorial stone, where the first Sacred Heart Missionaries landed in Rabaul circa 1875

OLD RABAU AIRPORT - LAKUNAI AIRPORT

Situated at the entrance to Matupit Island, this was Rabaul's main airport since the 1930's. It was completely destroyed during the 1994 Volcanic Eruptions, but you can still sense aeroplanes bounding down the runway about to ascend.

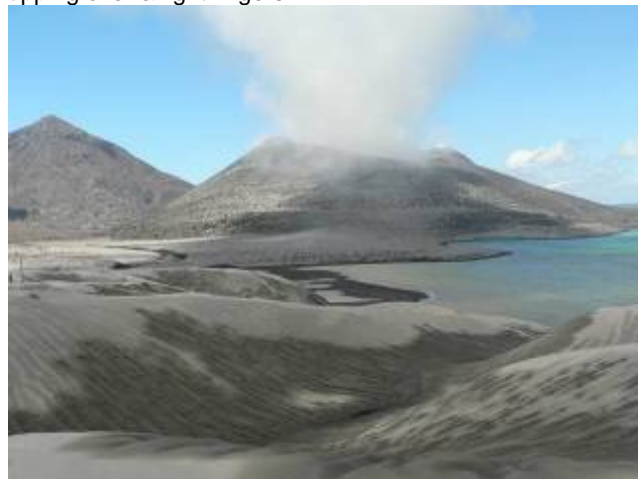
HOT SPRINGS – LAKUNAI AIRPORT / RAPINDIK

Visit the Volcanic Hot Springs situated to the left (approx. 300 metres) of Tavurvur at the end of the Lakunai airstrip. It is advisable that if you wish to swim, you should check the water temp. first. Do not enter at the hot parts, enter with cold water and slowly make your way to the hot water waving your hands through the water so that the two temps mixes and does not hit you all at once. The springs can cause serious burning. You may be charged an entry – approx. K5 per person entry.



MT TAVURVUR VOLCANO

It is not advisable to walk up to the crater as *the Volcano is still erupting at unexpected intervals*. **BEWARE : The Hotel will not accept responsibility for any injuries incurred by the visitor.** The most scenic way to visit the Volcano is by canoe from Matupit Island. We suggest you talk to Reception, so that we may tee up some guides for this. The canoe skippers expect approx. K10 – K20 per person for their services and if you require, the Hotel car and driver can take you to Matupit Island. A transfer fee of K40.00 for the use of the vehicle is expected. You may wish to settle the whole amount at the reception or charge it to your room, and the Hotel can pay the skippers. A hat and water is a must or you can purchase Kulaus (young juicy coconuts) from the villagers. Do not take any other cargo with you, as there is a threat to the canoe tipping over & light fingers.



MEGA PODE BIRDS

The megapodes farm is very near Tavurvur Volcano and is another canoe ride across Greet Harbour, the local Matupit villagers dig this area for Mega Pode eggs. Megapode Birds bury their eggs sometimes 6 feet under the ground in very hot temperatures. The Matupit Islanders dig down often endangering their lives to get them. They then sell these eggs at the Market for a very worthwhile price. There is a time for visiting this area and only after the Matupits have harvested the eggs. Otherwise visitors could disturb their digging and the villagers can get a little perturbed. See Reception for your guide - poa.



HAUS GURIA - RABAU VOLCANO OBSERVATORY

Top of Tunnel Hill. Tunnel Hill was a Tunnel that had the top removed by the Administration after WWII. The Observatory lookout provides a magnificent vista of Rabaul, the harbour, volcanos and surrounds. With a prior appointment, you may be allowed to have a quick look into the Office where the Volcanic surveillance equipment is located. However the Staff are busy people and may not be able to give a personal tour. A donation box is available and any contribution appreciated. **BRING YOUR CAMERA.**



RABAU YACHT CLUB

To wash down the dust, drop in at the restored RYC and watch the ships go by. All welcome. Very reasonable priced meals are available on Friday evenings.

MALAGUNA GUNS

A 30-60 minute trek to WWII Japanese Guns set in the hills of Malaguna. Situated opposite CPL –Toboi visitors must have local Malaguna guide Cost Approx. K10.00 per person

SUBMARINE BASE – Tavui Point

For a picnic lunch, snorkelling and a look at some old WWII Japanese Guns on surveillance duty, Submarine Base is a great morning or afternoon activity. Take your snorkelling gear, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, hat etc and Relax. Cost of Entry is approx. K5 – K15 per person, depending on what you want to see etc - your host MR GEORGE. Should you require a picnic Lunch please let us know the night before.



KULAU LODGE

Kulau Lodge is further around on Talili Bay. Situated on the beach this Hotel has a restaurant and bar open by arrangement only. Please make a reservation first. It is worth it visiting this romantic spot, but you will require private transport., Your host Ms AILEEN & Miss LEILANI LEGGETT.



PROPOSED KOKOPO DAY ITINERY

FLOATING CRANE

On your left towards Kokopo – approaching Blue Lagoon, is the Japanese Crane. This crane was newly built and on route toward Rabaul when the allies bombed it. The allies knew when it was built in Singapore it was destined for Rabaul but they allowed it to almost reach it's destination before bombing it dead in the water. This was said to cause anti-moral amongst the Japanese Troops .



KARAVIA BAY TUNNELS and JAPANESE BARGE TUNNELS

Situated ten minutes on the Kokopo side of Vulcan Volcano is the WWII Japanese Hospital Tunnels. These were set up to take Japanese wounded and once inside you would wonder how they could ever fit in stretches let alone walking wounded. Also situated here is the decapitation area and the Chinese Graves dedicated to the captured Chinese officers. Entry Fee Approx. K5.00 per person.

Just walking distance from the above tunnels is the Japanese Barge Tunnels. These tunnels were built to hold the barges out of site from the allies. The prisoners of war built these tunnels and when the cargo ships came in the POW would manually drag the barges out 500metres to the water to start off loading the Japanese cargo to take back to the base. You will notice many of these tunnels on your way to Kokopo , however, these tunnels are the only

tunnels left where barges remain. Entry Fee K5.00 per person.approx



KOKOPO WAR MUSEUM

The Museum is situated in Kokopo just back from the Kokopo Golf Course. It has some very unique WWII items and also hosts a couple of crocodiles and birds. Entry Fee approx. K3 per person. Just up the road at the Ralum Club is the remnants of Queen Emmas House . if you look down towards the 3 hole you will see magnificent concrete steps heading down toward the ocean. It must have been some house !!

KOKOPO SHOPS & VUNAPOPE MISSION & HOSPITAL

Take a browse at some of the shops. Tropicana is a favourite with visitors and almost anything is available at Tropicana. Quite a few knick-knacks's to take home perhaps. Take a look at Mr Lau's wine cellar , it is the owners pride and joy and so it should be as some of the most well respected Australian wines are stocked here.

Vunapope Hospital and Mission is the headquarters for one of the oldest Sacred Heart Mission centres in PNG. Here is where the German Catholic Missionaries set up a Hospital, School, Port /Wharf, Timber Yards, Bakery, Dressmaking etc., etc., Vunapope Mission has educated thousands of people , providing the community with Nurses, Carpenters, Bakers, Dress makers, Skippers etc. You can still see the German Colonial influence with the buildings boasting wide verandas and high ceilings. VUNA – means in Kuanua “place of” and of course we all know what “Pope” means.

RABAU & KOKOPO MARKETs

For a look at local produce and culture, the Market is great. Try the local cuisine of “karamaps” – Rabaul's version of takeaway lunch. AND WHY NOT BUAI (betelnut) Ask the locals what to do !!! They will be thrilled to assist. Not recommended if you have a weak constitution

MALMALUAN LOOKOUT.

Another great lookout with some history. This was another surveillance point used during the war. This may be overgrown so you may have to ask the Locals where it is.

TOMA LOOKOUT

Another great lookout. This was also the place where Europeans would go for weekend retreats – looking forward to cool evenings and sleeping under blankets.

PETER TO'ROT CHURCH – RAKUNAI

The birthplace of Peter To'Rot who was beatified by Pope John Paul in 1995. Visit this beautiful Church named after Peter To'Rot who despite horrific punishment during the War, did not abandon his followers. Follow his story via the stained glass windows and paintings around the Church.



BITAPAKA ALLIED WAR CEMETRY

Bitapaka is situated in rural tranquillity, 15 minutes drive off the airport road.

Bitapaka is where the first Australians in WW I were slain. These young men were radio operators who were sent in to set up a radio site so as to report on the German enemy. This is the site to commemorate these heroes as well as thousands of allied forces who are buried here. **A MUST SEE.** You will need to change buses, so make sure you communicate with your bus driver so he is aware of where you want to go and takes you on to the right road. This should not be left until late in the day, as it is quite out of the way of normal bus routes.



NORDUP BEACH

The memorial for the first Methodist Missionary to land from the Duke Of York Islands.

From here they continued to set up Mission posts throughout Rabaul & the Gazelle.

OTHER GAZELLE SITES....

OISCA FARM

Oisca is an organization for "INDUSTRIAL, SPIRITUAL, AND CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT – INTERNATIONAL" Oisca Farm is an Eco-Tech Training Centre and is run by very dedicated Japanese Volunteers and their staff. Their aim is to promote eco-tourism, particularly Butterfly farming, Crocodile Farming, Inland Fisheries as well as home to cassowaries, a tree kangaroo and other interesting creatures. This is a 1 – 2 hour journey, so best to put time aside. Entry fee is K20 per person. They can also provide lunch but require at least 4 people and 24 hours notice @K25 per person. This lunch features local cuisine including crocodile. PH: 983 9290 Mr. Michikatsu Ehara.



DUKE OF YORK ISLANDS

This is a beautiful collection of Islands to the East of Rabaul. It was the initial landing of Queen Emma. It has a large population with many Cocoa and Copra Plantations. We can organise village stays – this requires a 2-3 hour banana boat ride from Kokopo, to the Island and then a stay with a local family in the village. Cost on application. Because there are no telephones, we require at least 2-3 days organising this adventure. Or hop on a banana boat from Kokopo Beach where Islanders visit for their shopping outings.

PIGEON ISLANDS

A uninhabited Island closely situated to the Duke of York Islands. (approx. 1-2 hour banana boat ride from Rabaul or Kokopo) It is very beautiful, peaceful and a great snorkelling /diving area. Cost on application.

SONOMA COLLEGE

A Seven Day Adventist Technical College situated off the Gela Gela Road, Gazelle Open, it is worth a visit just to see the gardens.

UNIVERSITY OF PNG

Previously called Vudal University, PNG University is on the Kerevat Road and is home to 500 students. The campus offers a large portfolio of courses and students from all over PNG attend this successful facility.