One of the most culturally diverse countries on the planet, Papua New Guinea is home to more than 850 known languages. With a rich living culture that is almost as diverse as its languages, the majority of its population continue to live and practice the rural traditions of their ancestors. One of the least explored countries anywhere in the world, both culturally and geographically, Papua New Guinea has adventure written all over it! This stunning journey takes us deep into the heart of its natural and cultural landscapes, affording an opportunity to experience the full gamut of its astonishingly rich cultural traditions. First we’ll travel down the Sepik River to visit the fascinating crocodile people, before venturing up into the highlands to spend two days living with the colourful Huli tribes. There will also be time to enjoy some nature trails and bird watching, before we enjoy the privilege of witnessing the spectacular Goroka Festival, one of Papua New Guinea’s most celebrated events. Ending the journey along the golden beaches of the Pacific coastline, we’ll then take some time out to enjoy the azure waters of the Pacific, before making our way back to Port Moresby and, eventually, home.

Tribal Lands of Papua New Guinea (Recce Tour)
Goroka Festival Departure

Duration: 16 Days
Average group size: 5 - 10
Start: Weds 05 Sep 18
Finish: Thur 20 Sep 2018

Looking for alternative dates? Check the website or give us a call.
TOUR DETAILS

TOUR CODE: PNG/A

HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the spectacular culture and landscapes of the Sepik River.
- Enjoy exceptional birdwatching opportunities amongst the Western Highlands.
- Spend two days enjoying the hospitality of the Huli people of Hela Province.
- Visit the famous Goroka Show, one of the highlights of the PNG cultural calendar.
- Snorkel in the azure waters of the South Pacific.

The Goroka Festival: This is the longest running annual tribal gathering and cultural festival in Papua New Guinea hosted in Goroka, Capital of the Eastern Highlands Province. More than 100 tribes participate in the event performing extraordinary displays of 'singsings' - traditional songs, dances and ritual performances providing a dazzling array of color and energy that showcases the diversity of this fabulous island.

Accommodation: As an overall ethos, wherever possible we aim to use characterful accommodation that enhances the overall travel experience, not just offers a bed for the night. This can obviously vary dramatically from country to country and from trip to trip. On this particular trip we will be in hotels, homestays in the Sepik River region, community owned guesthouses and , a jungle lodge. Please note that conditions in the Sepik River region will be very primitive with shared long houses and river washing or bucket style washing. In the Huli Village at the community owned guesthouse there will be shared showers and toilets The guesthouse is charming but basic. Please note that the accommodation mentioned in the itinerary is intended as a guide only and is always subject to availability.

Transport: On this tour we will use minibuses, motorised canoe, and domestic flights.

Climate: Papua New Guinea boasts a warm to hot and humid climate throughout the year. Temperatures generally average 25°C to 32 °C, with the higher mountain regions being a little cooler at 23 °C. Relative humidity is high and ranges between 70 to 90 percent. Each province experiences a rainy season in the summer months but the driest time is from May to November. Typhoons can hit Papua New Guinea from December to mid-March, and can sometimes cause heavy damage, flooding and erosion.

Is this trip for me? It may sound obvious but Wild Frontiers tours are not always for everyone and it is important to us that the tour you choose is the most suitable. Please therefore take time to read the dossier carefully. All our tours are graded to give an overall picture of the trip but these are only guidelines and you should check the daily itinerary. Should you have any concerns about your ability to partake in any aspect of the tour then please contact the office.

Key Aspects to Consider: This is an adventurous trip in an undeveloped country so a sense of humour and flexibility are a pre-requisite. If you are in a reasonable state of health and fitness you should be able to cope with this tour. However, please note that the conditions in the Sepik River are extremely basic with few frills, and the accommodation is shared and rustic at best. The roads and infrastructure are poor and drives can be long and tiring even though distances are short. Some food in the most remote regions may be limited in terms of variety. You will have a couple of days sitting in motorised canoes. If you are up for the challenge you will be hugely rewarded!

Adventure Rating ★★★★★★★★★
Comfort Grade ★★★★★★★★★
Fitness Level ★★★★★★★★★
Cultural Interest ★★★★★★★★★
Day 1: Arrive Port Moresby, fly to Wewak: Flying into the country’s capital early this morning we will be met at the airport and have a chance to enjoy a reviving breakfast, before flying on to Wewak on the northern coast of New Guinea. The capital of the East Sepik province, Wewak provides the gateway into the swamplands and tropical rainforests of the Sepik River, New Guinea’s longest river. On arrival we will be transferred to our comfortable boutique hotel, where the rest of the day is free to relax from the long journey.

Wewak Boutique Hotel or similar (B,L,D)

Day 2: Wewak - Sepik River: After meeting up with our local guides this morning, we then embark on a three-hour drive to Pagwi, on the Sepik River. From here we travel down river by motor canoe, a journey of some two hours that brings us to the village of Kanganamun, in the heart of the Middle Sepik. This region is home to the famous crocodile-men of Yatmoul, who’s rituals include marking the skin in deep cuts to resemble the teeth marks of the great crocodile spirit. Their immense Spirit Houses are considered cathedrals of primitive art and on arrival we will be settled with our hosts in basic homestay accommodation.

Homestay (B,L,D)

Day 3: Sepik River Journey: Spending the day exploring the Middle Sepik region, today we have an opportunity to visit at least a couple of traditional dance ceremonies, as well as a number of different spirit houses and villages. Travelling by motorised canoe, we pay a visit to the tribes around the Chambri Lakes and the potters of Albom, before continuing on to Palembe. Please be aware that the course and content of today’s visits are very much dependant on the safety conditions and water levels along the river.

Homestay (B,L,D)

Day 4: Sepik River - Mount Hagen: Leaving early this morning we head back to Pagwi, from where we take a flight on to Hagen, in the heart of the Western Highlands. Located amongst the fertile landscapes of the Wahgi Valley, the city is named after the eroded volcanic peak of Mount Hagen and, on arrival, we will be met and driven on to the our lodge, where we will be spending the next two nights. Arriving late in the afternoon, there will be time to relax and perhaps observe some of the birdlife for which this area is famed before dinner.

Kumul Lodge or similar (B,L,D)

Day 5: Kumul Lodge and Birdwatching: Considered one of the finest eco-lodges in Papua New Guinea, the Kumul Lodge is entirely owned and managed by the local people. Home to some of the most beautiful and unusual birds in the world, the lodge’s myriad of nature trails and tracks provide ideal settings along which to discover birds, orchids and other resident wildlife. This region is the only
spot in New Guinea where Birds of Paradise make a regular appearance, whilst other visitors include Brehm’s tiger parrot, smoky honeyeaters and crested berry-peckers. We enjoy a day observing and photographing these colourful characters today in the company of expert guides.

Kumul Lodge or similar (B,L,D)

Day 6: Kumul Lodge - Huli Village: Departing the lodge this morning we have a long day ahead of us, as we make our way by road toward Hela Province, in the Southern Highlands. Traditional homeland of the fascinating Huli people, the largest of the indigenous tribes living in Papua New Guinea, Hela Province is particularly rich in tribal culture. The Huli themselves are renowned for the beauty of their intricately decorated wigs, made from their own hair in elaborate initiation rites. Fully immersing ourselves in the culture of these people, we spend the next three days enjoying the simple hospitality of local guesthouses.

Kobe Tumbiali Guesthouse or similar (B,L,D)

Days 7 & 8: Huli Village: Over the next two days we get a chance to share in the daily life of the village, passing the time discovering a wealth of cultural traditions and strolling through the surrounding countryside in search of local warrior rituals. Unmarried Huli men prepare for adulthood by spending anything from 18 months to three years living separate from the women of the village, in a special school for bachelors. Here they receive instruction on the biological and ritual process of masculinisation and during this period are forbidden from any sort of physical contact with any female.

Kobe Tumbiali Guesthouse or similar (B,L,D)

Day 9: Huli Village - Mount Hagen - Banz: Today we depart the Southern Highlands and take a private flight back to Mount Hagen where, on arrival, we will then drive on to our comfortable lodge in nearby Banz. Situated along the road to Goroka, the capital of the neighbouring Eastern Highlands, the short journey to our next accommodation will be broken up with a number of stops en route.

Jiwaka Mission Resort or similar (B,L,D)

Day 10: On the road to Goroka: Considered one of PNG’s most attractive towns, Goroka lies some five hours by road from Banz. Each year, around the country’s independence celebrations (16 September), the town hosts the famous Goroka Show, a two-day cultural event that sees tribes from all across the region gather to take part in one of the most colourful festivals in the country. The journey across the mountains of the Central Highlands provides ample opportunities to stop and enjoy the landscapes, before we finally arrive in Goroka later this afternoon.

Pacific Garden Hotel or similar (B,L,D)

Days 11 & 12: The Goroka Festival: With a whole weekend to enjoy this spectacular festival, we’ll have an opportunity to watch some 1,000 men and women partake in one of Papua New Guinea’s most celebrated events. Over 100 different tribes are represented, in a dazzling display of colour, songs and energy that perfectly encapsulates the rich cultural ethnicity of this remarkable island. Departing Goroka later on Sunday we then head back to Port Moresby, arriving back in the capital later that same evening.

Pacific Garden Hotel (B,L,D)

Day 13: Port Moresby - Tufi: We take a morning flight to Tufi today, situated on the south-eastern peninsula of Cape Nelson, in Oro Province. Lying along PNG’s northeastern coastline, this idyllic spot offers up all the best that the South Pacific can provide. Transferring to our beachside resort from the small airstrip, we are greeted with a traditional welcoming ceremony, before enjoying an opportunity to take to the azure waters on a half-day snorkelling excursion.

Tufi Resort (B,L,D)

Day 14: Tufi Village: We have a full day today to make the most of this breathtaking location, with a chance to head out and explore the local villages. Traditions here continue much as they have for generations, with local villagers still building their houses and canoes from sago palms and making clothes from the tapa cloth that they process from the various trees around the area. Stopping to enjoy a beach barbecue lunch along the
way, we then return to the resort for dinner later this afternoon.  
*Tuﬁ Resort (B,L,D)*

**Day 15: Tuﬁ - Port Moresby:** After a ﬁnal morning in the village, we head back to the airstrip to catch the afternoon ﬂight back to Port Moresby, transferring to our hotel on arrival for a ﬁnal night in the capital, before tomorrow’s departure.  
*Gateway Hotel or similar (B,L,D)*

**Day 16: Depart Port Moresby:** The traditional home of the Motuan people, the area around Port Moresby was a busy trading centre even before the arrival of the British in 1873. During the Second World War it was targeted by the Japanese as a staging post and air base, in order to cut off Australia from SE Asia and the Americas. This morning we take a tour of the city, before heading to the airport where the tour ends.  
*(B)*

**Extensions:** If you have more time available, why not arrive early to adjust to a new time zone or just to get a feel for the country before your tour starts? Or alternatively you might choose to allow a few extra days after the tour to relax or to undertake some further exploration.

The choice is completely yours and we can usually arrange anything from simply additional accommodation and transfers to full tailor-made itineraries.

Here is just a small sample of what you could do:-

Rauba: Why not extend your trip with a couple of days in Rauba located in East New Britain. Here you can visit the hot springs, and Mt Tarvuvur volcano crater, along with Admiral Yamamoto’s Bunker, and the museum of WW2 relics  
*Allow approximately 2-3 days.*

Please contact the ofﬁce for more details and to discuss your individual requirements.

**Recce Tours:** As we all know, the world is a constantly changing place - destinations & routes that were once cutting-edge now regularly ﬁnd themselves appearing in mainstream brochures. Coming up with truly original tour ideas is a constant challenge but at Wild Frontiers we are committed to offering you a real alternative to the mainstream and each year we run a handful of new and original adventures. These are our so-called Recce Tours and since the very beginning have proven incredibly popular with those of you who like to act as our “guinea pigs” and join us on these tours. Fantastic fun and highly rewarding, Recce Tours will assuredly not go 100% to plan and it is not uncommon for clients to take an active role in tweaking the itineraries along the way. More challenging than our normal tours, these will often require a greater degree of ﬂexibility...they will not be for everyone.

**PRICING**

**Tour price:** All our tours are priced on a land-only basis, giving you maximum ﬂexibility when deciding how to get to and from your tour. For the latest prices, please refer to our website or contact the ofﬁce.

**Travelling Solo & Single Supplements:** As a company approximately 70% of our clients are solo travellers, so it’s very unlikely you’ll be alone!

Our prices are typically based on twin-share accommodation but single supplements are not compulsory for any Wild Frontiers tour. If you prefer not to pay a single supplement we’ll pair you with someone else of the same sex for you to share with throughout the trip.

On this trip, if you do opt to pay for a single supplement then please note that it will cover you for all nights of the tour except for the nights in the Sepik River and Huli Village.

**Flights:** If you would like us to send you a quote for the suggested tour ﬂight (see GETTING THERE) or on any alternative ﬂight that may suit you better, please let us know although it should be noted that in most cases we are only able to quote on ﬂights originating in the UK.
Please remember that all Wild Frontiers tour prices mean NO hidden extras, NO local payments and NO compulsory single supplements.

**WHAT IS INCLUDED?**

- Full services of a Wild Frontiers Tour Leader with local guides and drivers
- Meal plan as detailed in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner) with drinking water as required with the majority of meals being taken in local restaurants where viable
- All transport as outlined in the itinerary.
- All accommodation
- All entrance fees, as per itinerary
- A carbon-offsetting contribution to Carbon Clear (if booking international flights through WF office)

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- Visas (if applicable)
- Local airport taxes
- Tips (always optional, but some guidance will be given in the pre-departure information pack you’ll receive after booking)
- Beverages other than drinking water & any costs of a personal nature
- International flights to/from the start/finish of the trip
- Airport transfers (unless booking suggested flights through WF office)

**GETTING THERE**

For this trip our suggested flights from the UK (subject to change) are:

- 03SEP SQ321 LHR-SIN 22:05/18:10+1
- 04SEP PX393 SIN-POM 20:15/04:50+1
- 20SEP PX392 POM-SIN 15:00/19:20
- 20SEP SQ322 SIN-LHR 23:30/05:55+1

Key:
- LHR - London Heathrow
- SIN - Singapore
- POM - Port Moresby

- SQ - Singapore Airlines
- PX - Air Nuigini

**NB** If you wish to arrange your own flights you are completely free to do so and in this case we can arrange any transfers or supplementary accommodation that you may require.

Please note that if you are planning on making your own flight arrangements, we recommend that you first check with us to see if the trip is guaranteed. We then suggest that you purchase flights that are flexible and ideally refundable as due to the nature of adventure travel, itineraries and destination accessibility can change at any time. For more information, please refer to our booking conditions.

**Insurance:** Insurance that provides cover for emergency repatriation in case of a medical emergency is compulsory for all tours. You should be aware that due to some of the geographical areas visited and some of the activities included on certain of our trips some standard insurance policies may not always provide adequate cover. As such we strongly recommend that you purchase a policy that adequately covers your trip.

Travel & General offer a tailor-made policy that provides cover for all Wild Frontiers trips. Under this policy there are two different levels of cover available - Standard and Elite.

**Cover explained:**

**Standard policy:** a comprehensive travel insurance policy that provides cover for all Wild Frontiers activities, including trekking up to 6,000m. This policy does not provide cover for travel to areas where the FCO is advising against all or all but essential travel except in the case of terrorism, the policy will not provide cover for any claims arising from or relating to the reasons why the FCO is advising against travel.

**Elite policy:** provides the same comprehensive level of cover as the standard policy. In addition the Elite policy also provides cover for travel to areas where the FCO is advising against all or all but essential travel. Except in the case of terrorism, the policy will not provide cover for any claims arising from or relating to the reasons why the FCO is advising against travel.

For this trip the minimum requirement would be the **Standard policy.**
These policies are only available to those travelling on a Wild Frontiers holiday and can be purchased on a trip-specific basis or annual cover. For more information please refer to the details on our website www.wildfrontierstravel.com/insurance or by calling Travel & General direct on +44 (0) 20 3794 2954. This insurance is available to EEA residents (i.e. EU countries as well as Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway) up to the age of 78. It covers horse riding, mountain walking, trekking, white-water rafting and all other activities we offer as part of our tours.

If you are over 78 then you may still be able to get your insurance arranged by Travel & General Insurance Services Limited. Please contact us for assistance with this.

If you do decide to purchase alternative insurance, then you must ensure that it covers you for every aspect of this trip.

Wild Frontiers Limited is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Travel & General Insurance Services Ltd, details of which can be found at the website of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) www.fca.org.uk

Please note that no insurance policy will cover every eventuality and terms and conditions will apply in the event of any claim. Both the Standard & Elite policies provide cancellation cover up to a maximum of £5000pp. Should you require additional cover it is available on request.

Visas: Visas are necessary for many of the destinations we travel to and while we aim to provide you with the most up-to-date information, requirements frequently change and as such for the latest advice we advise that you check with the relevant embassies or contact our recommended visa agency for this trip, details of which are below:

Travcour
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8543 1846
www.travcour.com

For this tour, UK passport holders currently require a visa for Papua New Guinea but this can be applied for on arrival and is currently free of charge. (This info is subject to change)

Non-UK passport holders or non-UK residents should contact the relevant embassies for individual requirements.

Further details will be sent out to you on booking, however ensuring that correct and valid visas are obtained remains the sole responsibility of the client.

Responsible Travel: Responsible travel and sustainable tourism are fundamental ideas that Wild Frontiers has been committed to since our birth. It is our strong belief that these words should not be simply ‘tagged on’ to dossiers and websites but should be at the very core of each trip, and our adventures are therefore designed with the local people, culture and eco-system in mind. We believe that a successful trip not only delivers a unique and unsurpassable journey for our clients, but that it also benefits the peoples whose lands we are privileged to visit.

In 2012 we were delighted to be awarded the Guardian Observer Best Ethical Travel Award.

The Wild Frontiers Foundation: Supporting communities has always played a huge part of the Wild Frontiers’ ethos and from the outset we have contributed to projects in many of the places we visit. However in 2009 we decided to take things a step further by setting up our own charitable foundation. Through the Wild Frontiers Foundation, we have not only developed our own community projects but also - by working closely with certain carefully selected charity partners - helped fund the invaluable work they do throughout the developing world. With our mandate firmly based on education and sustainability we established our first
project in 2010 in the remote Northern Pakistan village of Baleygon, where around 100 children are now being educated in a school built and maintained by the Foundation.

Working with charity partners we have also established a number of e-learning centres in schools across Ethiopia, sponsored an English class in rural Northern Laos and funded hospitality traineeships for a number of young people from the Kolkata slums in India. Where practicable, Wild Frontiers clients will have the opportunity to visit our projects whilst on tour.

Visit www.wildfrontiersfoundation.org to see details of all our projects, along with ways you can get involved by taking on the challenge of a charity trek, attending our fundraising events or simply giving what you can. Other ongoing fundraising schemes include:-

Go Paperless: For UK-based clients who are happy for all their final travel documents to be sent by email rather than through the post, Wild Frontiers will donate £5 from each booking to the Foundation.

Kit Out for Kids: Nomad Travel Stores generously donates 5% of purchases by Wild Frontiers’ clients to the Foundation. Quote WF1000 either online or in store when purchasing clothing and kit and Nomad will give you 20% off full priced clothing and kit, plus the charitable donation. Visit www.nomadtravel.co.uk

WILD FRONTIERS Foundation

The Environment: Trying to do our bit for the environment, in 2005 we were among the first UK-based travel companies to automatically offset every client’s international flight (if booked with us) with a payment to Carbon Clear to help promote sustainable energy. To read more about the work of Carbon Clear, please follow this link:- www.carbon-clear.com

AITO Membership: Wild Frontiers is a member of AITO, the Association of Independent Tour Operators. AITO’s charter states that its exclusive members strive to create overseas holidays with high levels of professionalism and a shared concern for quality and personal service. The Association encourages the highest standards in all aspects of tour operating. AITO sets criteria regarding ownership, finance and quality which must be satisfied before new companies are admitted to membership. All members are required to adhere to a Code of Business Practice which encourages high operational standards and conduct.

British Foreign & Commonwealth Office: The travel advice of the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) highlights potential hazards people might experience when travelling abroad and as an advocate of their “Know Before You Go” campaign we strongly suggest that you refer to it before booking and contact us if you have any queries or concerns. Details can be found on the website below.

Non-UK citizens should consult the travel advice of their respective governments.
Wild Frontiers Community

If you’re still not sure if this trip is right or just want to see get some different perspectives, then why not have a look at the wide variety of resources we have on our website?

Clients’ Views: See what other travellers have said about our trips - www.wildfrontiertravel.com/views

Blogs: See what our tour-leaders, staff and clients have posted from the road - www.wildfrontiertravel.com/blog

Videos: They may not find their way on the list for Oscars nominations but we have an extensive (and growing) collection of short videos giving you an insight in many of our destinations - www.wildfrontiertravel.com/video

Photos: Our popular “Photo of the month” competition has added to the vast gallery of photos we already have from around the world. See them here - www.wildfrontiertravel.com/photos

Events: From time to time we hold informal presentations, photo exhibitions and dinner evenings mainly in the London area. To find out more see here - www.wildfrontiertravel.com/events

Wild Miles Club: Everyone that has booked a trip directly with us will become an automatic member of the Wild Miles Club gaining instant access to a range of exclusive discounts from a variety of travel partners from bookshops to outdoor clothing shops. In addition, regular direct bookers will earn “Wild Miles” which can earn you up to 10% in discounts off of all tours. For more information visit this page - www.wildfrontiertravel.com/wild-miles

Facebook: Keep up to date with the latest news and special offers by liking our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/wildfrontiers

PAPUA NEW GUINEA - THE FACTS

Sitting amongst the South Pacific islands of Oceania, Papua New Guinea is home to one of the most culturally diverse landscapes on earth. Boasting hundreds of ethnic groups and no fewer than 852 languages, it can justifiably claim to be one of the most heterogenous countries anywhere in the world. Occupying the eastern half of the island of New Guinea, its cultural traditions can trace their ancestry back to one of the earliest waves of human migration, when the original settlers arrived from Africa some 45,000 years ago. It is estimated today that more than a thousand cultural groups exist in PNG, each cultivating its own expressive forms of dance, art and costume.

Aside from its remarkable human diversity, PNG and its offshore islands are also home to an incredible richness of animal life. Occupying the northern extension of the Indo-Australian tectonic plate, its resident wildlife have close genetic links with its larger neighbour to the south, with several species of marsupial mammals such as kangaroos and possums being found here and nowhere else. Many of the outlying islands are also abundant in indigenous flora and fauna unseen on the larger landmasses. Rich in rainforests, mangroves and swampland, the region also supports an incredible population of bird species, with over 780 recorded, of which 76 are endemic to the islands.

One the last great adventures, Papua New Guinea takes you back to the golden age of exploration, where new discoveries are still waiting to be made.

Port Moresby
Port Moresby: The capital and largest city in Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby lies along the shores of the Gulf of Papua, on the southeastern coast of the Papuan Peninsula. The first European to discover it was Captain John Moresby in 1873, who named the spot in honour of his father. Originally home to the Motuan peoples, it was from here that the Hiri voyages used to set out loaded down with thousands of clay pots that were traded further along the coast for sago, a tradition that continued well into the late 1950s. One of the city’s most prominent landmarks is its Parliament building, which features a towering facade of iconic Papua New Guinean artwork.

Sepik River Region: The Sepik River is the longest on the island of New Guinea, beginning amongst the central highlands and meandering its way down through tropical rainforests and swamps to end amongst the waters of the Bismarck Sea. Totalling some 1,126 kilometres in length, the river navigates its way through a land rich in tribal culture where, for many millennia, it has been a source of food, transport and culture. Ecologically diverse, this region is home to more than 250 languages and a tradition of tribal art exists here that can boast some of the finest pottery and wood carvings in the country.

The Huli People: Hela Province and the Southern Highlands of Papua New Guinea have been home to the Huli people for generations. Said to be descended from the first man to cultivate this rich landscape, the Huli are one of the most colourful of all the PNG tribes. Worshippers of the yellow clay that sets them apart from other tribes, the Huli adorn themselves in unique and colourful body decoration. The largest ethnic group in the Highlands, their most striking feature though are the richly decorated wigs that they wear as elaborate headdresses, expertly cultivated from their own hair.

Goroka: Home to one of the largest tribal gatherings on earth, Goroka is the capital of Papua’s Eastern Highlands Province. Over one particularly colourful weekend each year, this small town along the “Highlands Highway” becomes the focus for tourists and locals alike, as it hosts the longest running cultural event in the country. Over 100 different tribes are represented, from all across New Guinea, and the programme of events include some extraordinary displays of traditional ‘singsings’, involving songs, dances and ritual performances. First introduced by Australian patrol officers in 1957, it was
originally created as a means to try and quell tribal differences by bringing the tribes together for a weekend or friendly rivalry and entertainment.

**Tufi:** This is a town located on the southeastern peninsula of Cape Nelson, Oro Province, Papua New Guinea. Tufi is located on one of many rias, or drowned river valleys, locally referred to as 'fjords', on Cape Nelson surrounded by many uncharted reefs. It has a unique topography characterised by deep volcanic fjords. Geologists refer to them as rias, as a true fjord is created by glaciers while a ria is produced from volcanic activities. The lava flow from ancient eruptions of three volcanoes in Cape Nelson created these long and narrow rias many years ago. This quiet coastal area is said to be one of PNG’s best-kept secrets. Tracing its roots back to the eighteenth century, it was first used as an anchorage for British capital ships but later became a government station. The area is also famous for its production of tapa cloth.
How to book:

In order to confirm your booking we need to have a completed signed booking form for each client together with a £400 deposit per person*. You can either return your booking form to us by post or by booking online at www.wildfrontierstravel.com

You can contact the office by email to info@wildfrontierstravel.com or we are very happy to take your call on +44 (0) 20 8741 7390.

*Please note that due to the particular nature of this trip, we will also need to request an additional interim deposit of £1000 per person to be paid no more than 30 days after receiving confirmation from us that the trip is a guaranteed departure.

Protection for you money:

The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT) provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for Wild Frontiers, and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following:
1. non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK;
2. non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; and
3. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK, which are sold to customers outside of the UK.

1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with Wild Frontiers.

If you choose to book your international flights with us then you will also be ATOL protected as we hold an Air Travel Organiser’s Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). Our ATOL number is 5975. In the unlikely event of our insolvency, the CAA will arrange to refund any monies to you that you have paid for an advance booking and ensure that you are not stranded abroad. For further information visit www.atol.org.uk

We recommend that you take out adequate travel insurance at the time of booking in the event that you are no longer able to travel as all deposits are non-refundable - full booking conditions can be found on the booking form and online at our website.

As we’re sure you can appreciate, Wild Frontiers trips can be quite complex affairs to arrange and certain elements (such as permits, visa authorisations, trains and flights) may need to be requested several months in advance. As such, wherever possible, we would encourage you to plan ahead and book early to avoid disappointment. Moreover, by booking early you are much more likely to get the best price for your whole tour. For further details, please refer to www.wildfrontierstravel.com/book-early

Further information:
When you make a confirmed booking with Wild Frontiers we will send you a pre-departure information pack giving you details on visas, health and vaccinations, packing lists, suggested reading on the region, photography and other useful tips to make your trip more enjoyable.
Why Wild Frontiers?

Wild Frontiers is proud to have been regularly voted one of the top ten tour operators by readers of Wanderlust Travel Magazine over the last ten years. A number of our innovative itineraries have been included in National Geographic Traveller Magazine’s “Trips of a Lifetime”, and our acclaimed Tour Leaders regularly feature in the Wanderlust World Guide Awards, with Mark Steadman winning gold in 2015. Responsible travel has always been incredibly important to us, so we were delighted to be awarded Best Ethical Tour Operator by The Guardian/Observer in 2012.

We are frequently asked what makes Wild Frontiers different from other tour operators. Below are a few of the factors that we believe set us apart from our competitors and form the reasons as to why our clients travel with us again and again...

Personal Service & Expertise: Our London office is manned by experienced expedition leaders and most trips we run stem from our first-hand knowledge - in short, we run the kind of holidays that as passionate travellers, we like to do ourselves. When you ring our office, you can be guaranteed to chat to someone who knows the region and the terrain and is able to offer sound and practical advice.

Authentic, Cutting-Edge Experiences: Our unique, original itineraries allow you to take journeys that venture beneath the surface of the region. We rarely run any group tour more than a couple of times a year and they are typically on routes we have discovered for ourselves, meaning we are able to give a truly authentic, off-the-beaten-track experience.

Be the First: Our style of travel is all about exploration, and nothing excites us more than opening up new routes to genuine travellers, even if that makes our job harder at times! We keep abreast of new destinations and are often the first to return to places that have vanished from the tourist map. We were the first back into Pakistan after 9/11, the first to return to Kashmir after a decade of tourist isolation, and amongst the first to run a commercial travel trip to Afghanistan for almost 30 years. Since then we have helped bring Colombia, Iran, Georgia and Bangladesh back into the tourist fold, specialising in ground-breaking reconnaissance trips and imaginative expeditions.

Small Group Size: On our escorted tours, we believe it is imperative to keep the group sizes small. Most trips are limited to an average maximum of 12 travellers, thus giving you more access to fragile cultures, better opportunities to interact with local people, and the knowledge you are making less of an impact while there. “Having been a bit apprehensive about joining a group as a single traveller, I found myself surrounded by interesting, friendly, helpful people who I hope to catch up with again on future trips.” Angela Chick, Kashmir Group Tour

Cost of Group Tours: We believe in an honest, upfront pricing structure so you know exactly what the tour will cost before you book. On our group tours we avoid local payments, ‘optional extras’ or forcing our clients to go through the annoying procedure of splitting every meal bill. Our tours are provided on a predominantly full board basis, with drinking water, government permits, entrance fees and transport all included.

Our clients: Your companions can make or break a trip, and it’s lucky therefore that our clients are often our greatest asset. Travelling to remote regions is not for everyone, and as such we tend to attract open-minded travellers looking for genuine experiences, and a desire to reach those hard to get to places.

Responsible Travel: Awarded 5 star status by AITO (Association of Independent Tour operators), responsible tourism (RT) has always been an integral part of our company ethos and our adventures are designed with the local people, culture and eco-system in mind. In 2012 we were awarded the Guardian Observer Best Ethical Travel Award. For further details please refer to the RT section of our website - www.wildfrontierstravel.com/rt