

*Birding in Paradise 2019*

**Essential Papua New Guinea**



# Papua New Guinea

Birds of Paradises and More.....

## BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR

June 28 - July 4 ( 7 Days ) 2019

**Varirata National Park | PAU | Mt Hagen | Enga**

Amongst all birding destinations in the World, Papua New Guinea surely ranks as the topmost, extraordinary, rewarding and exotic. It is one of the least explored parts of the World, where rules of evolutions have gone wild. Papua New Guinea , Popularly knows as “PNG” is home for celestial Birds of Paradises, “poisonous “ Pitohuis, amazing Fruit Doves, unbelievable Kingfishers, Satin birds and many more . We are expected to see displaying Raggiana Bird of Paradise and Growling Riffle Bird in Varirata national Park and Lesser, Blue , Superb, King of Saxony, Sicklebills , Ribbon-tailed Astrapia BOPs in Mt Hagen area.



Our 6 nights -7 days long, non-stop Bird Photography tour will surely push the photographer in you to the next level. We will be staying 3 nights in the famous Kumul Lodge, located in the mountainous Enga province - probably the only place in the World, where one can photograph Bird of paradises on a feeding table while sipping your coffee at the comfort of your resor.



New Guinea's forest bird communities vary with elevations. Our tour will be covering both lowland and hill / montane forest areas. We have selected best birding locations in Eastern ranges and SE Peninsula to make sure that we spend maximum time in the field photographing birds rather than Criss-crossing the country.



### **Day 1 ( June 28 )**

Arrive in POM ( Port Moresby International Airport) from an International gateway, preferably Singapore or Manila, in time to board PX180 to Mt Hagen airport. You will be received by the tour operator and transferred to the Kumul Lodge. Lunch at the Kumul Lodge.

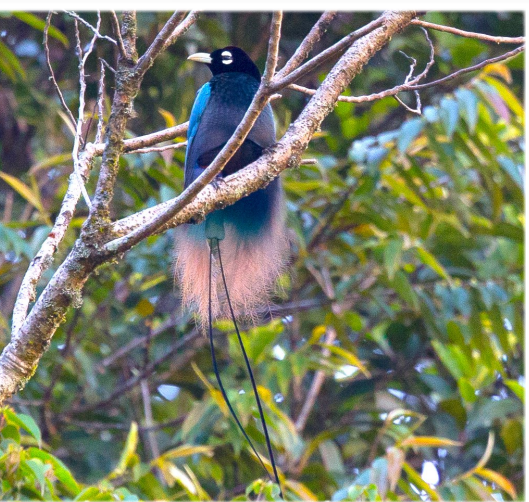
At Kumul Lodge you will be welcomed by Tiger parrots, Brown Sicklebill, Ribbon tailed Astrapia, Friendly Fantail, Common Smokey Honeyeater, Crested Berrypecker, Blue-capped Ifrit , Red collared Myzomela etc. You will photograph all these avian beauties in close range before you retire for a good night sleep.

Night : Kumul Lodge

### **Day 2 ( June 29 )**

Morning birding in Tonga area for the mystical Blue Bird Of Paradise. We will also search for species such as Papuan Mountain Pigeon, Forest Rail, Ornate Fruit Dove , Mountain Fruit Dove, Torrent Flycatcher etc .

We will spend the afternoon exploring the bird rich forest zones and gardens near the Kumul



lodge searching for species such as Crested Satin-bird, Wattled Ploughbill, Regent Whistler etc.

Night : Kumul Lodge

### **Day 3 ( June 30 )**

Full day birding at Kama / Lai / Mambis areas for Lesser BOP and local specialities.

Kama village is famous for its Lesser Bird of Paradise lek in the casuarina grove, and it is also a good area for species such as Mountain Myzomela, Ornate Melidectes, Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo and Black-headed Whistler etc. We will also search for Magnificent bird of paradise, Torrent lark and other regional specialities in this area.

Night : Kumul Lodge



### **Day 4 ( July 1 )**

After an early morning breakfast, we will say good bye to the Kumul lodge and drive down to Murmurpas for King of Saxony bird of Paradise and lesser Melampitta before traveling to the airport to catch midday flight to POM.

You will be transferred to Dixis Bungalow on arrival. Afternoon birding in the PAU campus.

Pacific Adventist University ( PAU ) campus is known for its beautiful gardens and rich avian life. It is a very safe and productive birding location for birders. We are likely to see many Australasian species in the campus especially water birds. The line up includes Pied Cormorant, Purple Swamp-hen,





Eurasian Coot, Masked Lapwing, Comb crested Jacana, Raja Shelduck, Various fruit Doves and Parrots, amazing Papuan Frogmouth, Friarbirds, Butcherbirds etc.

Night at Dixie's Bungalow.

### **Day 5 ( July 2 )**

Today we will have an early B/F before driving up to the only National Park in Papua New Guinea, the Varirata National Park. The park offers different altitude forests and chances of seeing and photographing rare varieties of Papuan species are excellent out here.

Full day birding and bird photography at The Varirata National Park.

Target species include, displaying Ragging Bird of Paradise ( National bird of Papua New Guinea ) , Trumpet Manucode, Brown Oriole , a collection of Birds of Preys, Great Cuckoo Dove, Fruit Doves, Parrots , Parakeets, Lorikeets, Blyth's Hornbill, Marbled Frogmouth, Common Paradise Kingfisher, Yellow billed Kingfisher, Owlet Nightjars, Brown Headed paradise Kingfisher, Kookaburras, Jewel Babblers, Pitohuis , Riffle Bird , Pheasant Coucal and many more.



### Day 6 ( July 3 )

We will explore some other trails in the Varirata National park targeting more difficult species. We will go back to the Raggiana BOP lek if any one of you need to take better shots.

We will continue our search for specialities such as Variable Goshawk, Coronated Fruit-Dove, Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove, Pied Imperial Pigeon,, Greater Streaked Lory, Eclectus Parrot, Red-cheeked Parrot, Orange-breasted Fig-parrot, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Rufous-bellied Kookaburra, Blue Jewel-babbler, White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike, Fairy-wrens, Shining Flycatcher, Northern Fantail, Little Shrike-thrush, Rusty Pitohui, Papuan Flowerpecker, Tawny-breasted Honeyeater, Black Sunbird, Grey Headed Mannikin, Yellow-faced Mynah, King Bird of Paradise, Spangled Drongo, Metallic Starling, Torresian Crow etc.

### Day 7 ( July 4 )

After breakfast you will be transferred to Airport for return international flights.

#### Tour Ends

|                         |                                                 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Guides                  | : Experienced local guides with Security staffs |
| Accommodation           | : Safe, basic to modern                         |
| Difficulty Level        | : Moderate                                      |
| Photography Opportunity | : Excellent                                     |
| Team Size               | : 6-7 + Guide / Team Leader                     |

**Tour Cost (Per Person) : USD 2050 ( twin share basis )\***

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Single Supplement | : Kumul Lodge @USD 150 |
|                   | : Dixie's @ USD 150    |



## Inclusions

Accommodations, meals, guide fees , security staff fees , ground transportation, entry fees etc.

## Exclusions

International and Domestic air tickets, Insurances, Extra food and beverages, extra visits ( visit to a private orchard garden for USD 25 ) Tips and other incidental expenses .



\* Subject to the availability of a suitable room mate. If not single supplement rate apply.

\* \* No refund : but space exchange is allowed

\* Disclaimer

*This is an indicative itinerary. The Ground Operators have the right and freedom to make necessary changes in the itinerary if they feel the same is required to have a productive tour. No parties involved in this offer /tour guarantee sighting of any birds named in this itinerary. Participants are solely responsible for their health, personal safety, and belongings.*

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