

INDONESIA ● PAPUA NEW GUINEA ● SOLOMON ISLANDS

# The Offer

Experience an unbelievable expedition cruise to tropical locations throughout the Solomon Sea. Expect crystal-clear lagoons, thrilling Zodiac rides and profound cultural insights on a holiday like no other.

Arrive in Brisbane ready to embark on SH Minerva, your luxurious home away from home. Onboard you'll find 5-star facilities including a Stargazing Deck, Expedition Lab and Observation Lounge. Enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi, dining alfresco at the Pool Grill & Bar or unwinding in the sauna with a view. Chart your course to the Solomon Islands where the war relics of Honiara and the Florida (Nggela) Islands await. Keep an eye out for Solomon Island flying foxes on Kasolo Island and explore the unspoilt coves of Njari Island.

Voyage to Papua New Guinea for dramatic volcanic landscapes in Rabaul, rejuvenating thermal waters in Kimbe Bay and rich marine biodiversity around Garove Island. Catch renowned artisans at work on the Tami Islands, walk rugged jungle trails on Crown Island and browse WWII artefacts while visiting Madang. Look for tiger sharks in the emerald waters surrounding Manam Island, visit traditional tribal villages along the Sepik River and more.

Discover the unseen with return international full-service flights, a 13-night Swan Hellenic cruise, 4-star hotel accommodation and more.

Want more? Book a Balcony Stateroom before 23 September 2025 to receive \$250 USD per person in onboard credit and a Wi-Fi gold package upgrade.

Offer available for a limited time or until sold out. TRIP A DEAL PTY LTD: 50149240433





16-DAY CRUISE PACKAGE | SOLOMON ISLANDS & NEW GUINEA VOYAGE

# The Map



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# The Itinerary

# Day 1 Arrive Brisbane, Australia

Today, make your own way to the airport for your domestic flight to Brisbane. Upon arrival, a Swan Hellenic transfer is provided to your hotel.

The remainder of your day is at leisure before enjoying an overnight stay in Brisbane.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic hotel or similar, Brisbane, Queensland Meals included: In-Flight

### Day 2 Brisbane, Australia - Honiara, Solomon Islands

This morning after check out, a Swan Hellenic transfer is provided to the airport for your charter flight to Honiara. Upon arrival, a Swan Hellenic transfer is provided to the port for your embarkation on SH Minerva.

The capital of the Solomon Islands, Honiara, sits on the northeastern coast of Guadalcanal at the mouth of the Mataniko River. A relatively new city, it grew up around a U.S. military base during and after WWII. In 1952, it superseded Tulagi as the premier city of these islands. Honiara's U.S. War Memorial provides a comprehensive war-history lesson of the area. Today, the town is laidback and relatively tourist free with a real-life atmosphere.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Dinner

Day 3 Florida Islands, Tulgai Islands, Roderick Bay, Solomon Islands

Arrives: 07:00 Departs: 12:00 Tulagi Islands

Arrives: 14:30 Departs: 18:00

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Roderick Bay

The Florida (Nggela) Islands, in the Central Province of the Solomon Islands, blends natural beauty and rich history. Once the capital of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Tulagi Island, off the south coast, was devastated during fierce 1942 fighting after Japanese occupation. Today, it's a peaceful town known for WWII relics, sunken warships and wreck diving.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 4 Cruising Kasolo Island (Kennedy Island) & Njari Island, Solomon Islands

Arrives: 13:00
Departs: 13:30
Kennedy Island

Kasolo (or Plum Pudding Island) is a tiny forested islet named after John F. Kennedy. In August 1943, after their craft was rammed by a Japanese destroyer, the crew of PT-109, led by Lieutenant Kennedy, abandoned ship and swam ashore before making their way to nearby Olasana Island.

Kasolo Island's lush rainforests are home to the Solomon Islands fruit dove, the Solomon Islands honeyeater and the Solomon Islands flying fox. They say good things come in small packages.

Arrives: 15:00

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# The Itinerary

Departs: 18:00

Njari Island

Njari is a tiny island located between the Wilson Strait and Vella Gulf in the Solomon Islands' north region. An idyllic speck in the ocean, it's almost entirely covered in trees. With hardly any infrastructure to speak of, the coves and bays remain unspoilt. Thousands of species of fish, rays, turtles, dolphins and sharks swim around the colourful coral.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast: Lunch: Dinner

#### **Day 5 Cruising**

Sea days are rarely dull so take the time to sit back and let the world go by. Head to the ship's observation decks for stunning views of the passing ocean or meander to the library which is stocked full of reference books.

A day at sea also gives you the opportunity to mingle with other passengers and share your experiences of this incredible trip. Want more? Get an expert's view at one of the onboard lectures or perhaps perfect your photography skills with invaluable advice from an onboard professional photographer.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 6 Rabaul, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 07:00 Departs: 19:00 Welcome to Rabaul, the former capital of Papua New Guinea's New Britain island. Located inside a flooded caldera, the town's proximity to a volatile volcano (plus aerial bombardment during World War II) has forced it to rise from the ashes more than once. Most recently the town was rebuilt after widespread destruction caused when Mount Tayuryur erupted in 1994. Thanks to its impressive harbour, buzzing markets and fascinating wartime past, Rabaul is an exciting place to visit.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 7 Kimbe Bay, Papua New Guinea Arrives: 12:00

**Departs: 19:00** 

The island of New Britain features the secluded volcanic Kimbe Bay, renowned for its diverse marine ecosystem. The crystalline waters host coral reefs teeming with colourful tropical fish, WWII wrecks and coral-capped seamounts.

Inland, treks lead to an active volcano and the rejuvenating thermal waters of the jungle-clad Garu Hot River. The bay's rainforest is home to Blyth's hornbills, eclectus parrots and redknobbed imperial pigeons.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 8 Garove Island, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 08:00 Departs: 16:00





# The Itinerary

Tiny, far-flung Garove is part of the Vitu Islands in the Bismarck Sea and is defined by its rich marine biodiversity. The island wraps around a massive, horseshoe-shaped flooded caldera. Nearby dive sites reveal multi-hued fish darting among sea fans and anemones while reef sharks, schooling jacks and barracuda patrol the deep. Back on dry land, tiny villages nestle amid towering coconut palms.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 9 Tami Islands, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 08:00 Departs: 18:00

The inhabited Tami Islands, a four-island archipelago south of Finschhafen in the Huon Gulf, are home to skilled carvers. These islanders craft intricate hardwood bowls, particularly the renowned 'Tami bowls' for ceremonial use. These bowls, featuring spirit faces with a distinctive three-peaked headdress (oa balan), are highly valued with some found in New York's Metropolitan Museum and the British Museum.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 10 Crown Island, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 08:00 Departs: 19:00 Characterised by dense rainforest, the miniscule volcanic island of Crown Island is barely five kilometres from end to end. Rugged jungle trails offer glimpses of birds of paradise, doves and pigeons, while sapphire waters hide colourful coral reefs beneath the surface.

Nearby Kar Kar Island is home to one of the country's most active volcanoes, sprawling cocoa plantations and traditional villages dotted among imposing coconut palms.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 11 Madang, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 08:00 Departs: 22:00

Madang, a laidback port town exuding a village vibe, presents a captivating blend of Pacific war history and natural beauty. At the Visitors and Cultural Bureau, WWII artefacts and exhibits recount the battles for this strategic outpost. The surrounding waters host coral reefs teeming with marine life. Rocky hiking trails traverse Mount Wilhelm, offering panoramic views.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 12 Manam Island, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 08:00 Departs: 19:00

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# The Itinerary

Manam Island is marked by an active stratovolcano, occasionally emitting ash plumes. The island's rugged valleys, forested crags, villages and cultures coexist in the shadow of this natural colossus. The area boasts numerous coral reefs while Hansa Bay holds sunken American and Japanese ships, along with bombers and fighter planes. These waters have also witnessed sightings of hammerheads and tiger sharks.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 13 Sepik River, Kopar Village, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 07:00 Departs: 19:00

The Sepik River gracefully winds through rainforest and swampland, revealing tribal villages and stilt structures on muddy banks. In these homesteads, traditional ways of life persist with tribal ceremonies, spirit houses, and stories behind intricately carved masks and totems. Crocodiles, symbols of power, coexist with revered birds of paradise like Goldie's and sicklebills, punctuating the landscape with bursts of bright plumage.

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 14 Wewak, Papua New Guinea

Arrives: 08:00 Departs: 14:00 Sepik River which winds through lush sago swamps, nipa palms and tranquil lagoons. Along its banks, stilted villages uphold vibrant traditions from canoe travel to crafting intricate masks, wood carvings and towering Haus Tambaran spirit houses. Wewak also holds echoes of WWII history with relics and the Cape Wom Memorial marking Japan's surrender in Papua New Guinea.

Wewak, East Sepik's capital, is your coastal gateway to the vast

Overnight: Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner

Day 15 Jayapura, Indonesia - Australia

Arrives: 07:00

Jayapura, Papua's provincial capital, serves as a base to explore the rugged Baliem Valley. After breakfast this morning, its time to disembark the SH Minerva where a Swan Hellenic transfer is arranged for your charter flight to Denpasar, Bali. At the appropriate time board your connecting international fight to Australia.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 16 Arrive Australia

Welcome home.

Meals included: None





# **Tour Inclusions**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Experience a luxury expedition cruise to tropical locations

Voyage through Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands

Enjoy some of the most remote and culturally-rich regions on Earth

Cruise to the Bismarck Sea where volcanic islands rise from emerald waters

See lush rainforests, pristine beaches and coral reefs

Snorkel in crystal-clear lagoons, brimming with life

Enjoy guided rainforest walks with expert naturalists

Experience rare encounters and profound cultural insights

Visit traditional villages where ancestral customs are celebrated through dances and rituals

Explore World War II relics scattered across jungle-clad islands

Uncover rare bird species and exotic flora alongside expert guides and naturalists

Enjoy a cruise filled with discovery, comfort and authenticity

Go off-the-beaten-path in untamed Melanesia

#### **FLIGHTS**

Return international full-service flights (economy class), surcharges may apply

#### **CRUISE**

13-night luxury expedition cruise

Sail from Guadalcanal Island to Papua New Guinea

One shore excursion or expedition activity per port of call (kayak not included, bookable for a fee on board)

Lecture programs by an experienced expedition team and guest speakers

Ride 12-person hard-hulled Zodiacs to get up close with your surroundings

Waterproof backpack and refillable water bottle, yours to keep

Gratuities included for the ship's crew

Self-service laundry

Standard Wi-Fi

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

1-night of 4-star hotel accommodation in Brisbane

### **BALCONY BONUS**

Book a Balcony Stateroom before 23 September 2025 and receive \$250 USD per person onboard credit and a Wi-Fi gold package upgrade

# DINING

38 meals including all while cruising

# **ESSENTIALS**

Port charges and taxes

Airline taxes and surcharges

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# **Tour Inclusions**

# **TRANSPORT**

Transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles

# **TRANSFERS**

Day 1: Airport to hotel

Day 2: Hotel to airport

Day 2: Airport to port

Day 15: Port to airport



\*Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

# **Booking Information**

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. You must complete the Passenger Information Form within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

Please note: All countries and territories have different entry requirements in relation to vaccinations, quarantine/isolation periods and travel restrictions. Due to the evolving nature, we would ask all of our customers to monitor, meet and adhere to the specific requirements of their intended destination(s) in the lead-up to and immediately before travel, as well as any requirements post-travel upon their return.

### **Our Policies**

#### **Cancellation & Refund Policy**

By placing a booking with us, you acknowledge the following important information:

# we act as your booking agent;

TripADeal is a booking services provider, and curates the Travel Offers available on our website. We act as your booking agent, and we receive payment for the Booking Services as part of the booking price, however, we do not provide any of the Travel Services (flights, accommodation, tours or other products or services) included in your booking the Travel Services are provided by a number of third party Travel Suppliers.

- each booking is unique; our Travel Offers are made up of a variety of different components and are, during the booking process, uniquely tailored to suit your requirements, for example, departure dates and ports, flight and room upgrades, tour inclusions, etc.
- changes/modifications to your booking may not be possible; once your booking has been made, changes or modifications may not be possible, and where possible, may incur a fee. It is important to ensure that the information you provide during the booking process is accurate and up to date, and that you read the Travel Offer carefully before placing your order.
- Travel Offers are a package; our Travel Offers have been curated into package offerings and must be used as a package individual components cannot be used independently of the full package offering.
- our Travel Offers are generally non**refundable**; in order to provide great value Travel Offers, we work with a variety of Travel Suppliers to find the best deals - this often means the Travel Suppliers' offerings are non-refundable to ensure the best price. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance as soon as you make a booking with us.

To read more about our Cancellation and Refund Policy, please click here.

#### **General Terms & Conditions**

By placing your booking with us, you acknowledge and agree to our Terms & Conditions, Privacy Policy and Cancellation Policy.

#### Offer Essentials

This Travel Offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 4th April 2026. This Travel Offer is priced per person based on a twin share.

### **Departure Dates & Surcharges**

See checkout for live dates and availability.

## **Single Traveller Supplement**

For solo travellers, a mandatory single

supplement applies.

Oceanview Stateroom: \$14,500

• Balcony Stateroom: \$15,500

Please note: Accommodation for single customers who are travelling on a tour or cruise package may be in a single room, depending on availability.

#### **Child Policy**

- No child discounts are offered. The full price applies to all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for children 8 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 21 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors are allowed.

# **Flights**

#### **Departure Cities**

\*Sydney, \*Melbourne, Brisbane, \*Adelaide, \*Perth or \*Auckland

#### **Departure City Surcharges**

• Sydney: \$400 per person Melbourne: \$350 per person • Adelaide: \$400 per person • Perth: \$950 per person • Auckland: \$350 per person

#### International Flight(s)

• Cabin Class: Economy Class

Please note: We cannot accommodate oneway flights. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.

#### Flight(s) Used

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Route: Brisbane Honiara, Solomon Islands
- Route: Jayapura, Papua New Guinea -Denpasar, Bali

#### **Internal Flight Information**

Baggage allowance per person:

- 1 x 20kg of checked baggage
- 1 x 7kg of carry on baggage



#### **Preferred Airline Surcharge**

- Cabin Class: Economy Class
- Not available

### **Arrive Early & Stay Behind Options**

### Stay Behind

Denpasar, Bali - From \$300 per person, subject to availability.

#### Please note:

- This fee does not include extra nights' accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- Flight booking changes or cancellations after air tickets have been issued are not guaranteed and may incur additional fees and fare difference, subject to the airline cancellation and change policies.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.
- A high-season Arrive Early or Stay Behind can be purchased for an additional charge, subject to availability. For pricing, please refer to the cart.
- You can arrive early, up to 60 days before your package's start date, and/or stay behind until 60 days after your package's end date. Should you wish to arrive earlier or stay behind for more than 60 days, please contact us to request availability. Additional costs may apply.
- High season surcharges apply to flights departing between the below date ranges:

15th September 2025 - 12th October 2025

1st December 2025 - 19th December 2025

20th December 2025 - 4th January 2026 5th January 2026 - 31st January 2026 3rd April 2026 - 20th April 2026 26th June 2026 - 17th July 2026 18th September 2026 - 9th October 2026 12th December 2026 - 18th December 2026

19th December 2026 - 3rd January 2027 4th January 2027 - 26th January 2027

### **Stopover Packages**

Not available.

### Flight Class Upgrades

Business Class: For pricing, please refer to the payment cart at checkout.

#### Please note:

- Flight upgrades are subject to availability and pricing changes (if we cannot fulfil your request, the upgrade cost will be refunded).
- On any upgrade purchase, short-haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed, subject to aircraft configuration.

### **Outbound Flights**

Please note: Due to flight scheduling and availability, some departures may occur on Day 0. Affected customers must be available to depart the day before. Flight times will be indicated on your final documents, issued 4-6 weeks before departure.

# **Missed Flights**

If you fail to arrive for your outbound flight, you risk all flight and land arrangements in your destination being automatically cancelled by the airlines and land operator, respectively. Additional fees may apply to reinstate these services. If you miss your flight for whatever reason, please contact us as soon as possible to make arrangements.

## Cruise

#### Swan Hellenic's SH Minerva

The SH Minerva, launched in 2021, is the first of Swan Hellenic's new-generation expedition ships. This 10,600 GT vessel is designed for cultural expedition cruising, offering an intimate and luxurious experience for up to 152 guests across 76 staterooms. With a PC5 ice-strengthened hull and advanced stabilisation systems, SH Minerva is purpose-built for exploring remote polar regions and off-the-beatenpath destinations.

Onboard, guests can indulge in a variety of dining options. The main venue, The Swan Restaurant, offers international and regional cuisine focused on quality, creativity and flavours, with an open seating policy allowing guests to dine at their leisure. Additionally, the Club Lounge provides a relaxed atmosphere for lighter

fare and beverages, while the Pool Bar & Grill offers al fresco dining with stunning views

Accommodations on SH Minerva are thoughtfully designed, featuring Scandinavian-inspired interiors that blend elegance with comfort. All 76 staterooms are double-occupancy, with most offering private balconies. Guests can expect modern amenities, including en-suite bathrooms, ample storage, and seating areas, ensuring a restful retreat after a day of exploration.

The ship's facilities are tailored to enhance the expedition experience. Guests can unwind in the panoramic sauna, stay active in the well-equipped gym, or relax in the spa (charges apply for spa treatments). The heated outdoor pool and adjacent bar provide a perfect spot for leisure while taking in the surrounding landscapes. For enrichment, SH Minerva offers a well-stocked library and lecture theatre, hosting expert-led talks and briefings that delve into the regions visited.

Entertainment on SH Minerva is designed to complement the expeditionary nature of the voyages. Evenings may include informative lectures, documentary screenings, or live music in the lounge, fostering a sense of community among guests. The ship's small size allows for a more personalised experience, with a high crew-to-guest ratio ensuring attentive service throughout the journey. In summary, SH Minerva combines modern luxury with expedition cruising, offering guests an immersive and comfortable way to explore some of the world's most remote and captivating destinations.

#### **Onboard Currency**

\$ USD

# Cabins/Staterooms

Oceanview Staterooms: 19m<sup>2</sup> - 20m<sup>2</sup>

Light, bright and crafted from natural materials, Oceanview staterooms feature 2 single beds in a bedroom, living room and a luxurious ensuite bathroom. All feature panoramic sea views, plush couches,



premium pocket-sprung mattresses, ensuite bathrooms with glass-enclosed rain showers, and Egyptian cotton towels, bathrobes, and sheets. A pillow menu offers customised head and neck comfort during rest. At the same time, a large flat-screen TV, an espresso machine with Illy premium coffee, tea-making facilities with the finest Kusmi teas, and a minibar with refreshments enhance relaxation at any time. In-room dining is, of course, available at all hours.

# Balcony Staterooms: 25m<sup>2</sup> (including balcony)

Staterooms feature 2 single beds in a bedroom, living room, luxurious bathroom and your own 5m<sup>2</sup> balcony. All feature panoramic sea views, plush couches, premium pocket-sprung mattresses, ensuite bathrooms with glass-enclosed rain showers, and Egyptian cotton towels, bathrobes, and sheets. A pillow menu offers customised head and neck comfort during rest. At the same time, a large flatscreen TV, an espresso machine with Illy premium coffee, tea-making facilities with the finest Kusmi teas, and a minibar with refreshments enhance relaxation at any time. In-room dining is, of course, available at all hours.

#### Please note:

- All cabins are subject to availability; some cabins may have restricted views.
- Cruise cabins are booked on a guaranteed basis and are assigned by the cruise line prior to departure.

#### **Cruise Arrival & Departure Times**

Please keep in mind that the provided cruise arrival and departure times are an approximate and will be finalised upon receipt of your cruise tickets.

#### Accommodation

#### **Accommodation Used**

4-Star Properties (Self-Rated)

Brisbane, Australia : Hotel to be arranged by Swan Hellenic

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type and are subject to availability based on seasonality. In the instance a property is not available, a similar standard of accommodation will be provided. Properties will be confirmed and included in your travel pack, which you will receive 4-6 weeks before travel.

#### **Extra Nights**

Not available.

Please note: If you are interested in booking additional nights of accommodation pre or post-tour, please wait until you receive your travel documentation approximately 4-6 weeks before departure for the confirmed list of hotels. If booking your own additional accommodation directly with the hotel, please be aware that you may be required to change rooms at the start/end of your tour.

#### **Maximum Room Capacity**

2 people.

#### **Triple Share**

Not available.

# **Bedding Configuration**

Twin or double (subject to availability).

### **Optional Tours/activities**

# Please note:

- Some tours or shore excursions require minimum numbers to operate.
- Shore excursions can be booked/reserved directly with the cruise line before travel (subject to availability)
- Shore excursions can also be booked whilst onboard (subject to availability).
- Shore excursion programmes and itineraries may vary depending on local conditions and/or any unforeseen events concerning the timing on the day of the tour. Some excursions are very popular, and therefore availability cannot always be guaranteed, it is advisable to book in advance to avoid disappointment.

# **Exclusions**

Visa fees and requirements

- Domestic transfers and flights not stated in the deal offer
- Meals/beverages not stated in the deal offer
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance
- Any costs associated with an interruption to your tour as a result of an airline schedule change or cancellation
- Mandatory city tax

# **Gratuities/tipping**

Please note: Tipping for services provided is always a matter of personal discretion; however, please be aware that many locals consider tipping part of their normal remuneration, and they may approach you for payment; there's no need to be intimidated by the request.

#### Cruise

Gratuities (tips) are included for the cruise staff's services throughout this tour's cruise component.

# Other Important Information

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

### **Tour Guide**

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on the history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction where they are guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves it at the end of the tour; they do not travel with the group.

#### **Tour Leader**

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour

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guides at each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village and offer information on the place visited on the bus. However, they are not required to have specific art, architecture, or historical knowledge. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and, if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

**CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES** 

#### Solomon Islands

In April, the Solomon Islands experience consistently hot and humid weather as the wet season comes to an end. Daytime temperatures typically reach an average high of around 30°C, while nights remain warm and sticky, with lows of approximately 22°C. Rainfall is a defining feature of the month, with frequent heavy showers and thunderstorms expected, contributing to a high average of 215 mm of precipitation over about 17 rainy days. The sea remains very warm and inviting for swimming, with an average temperature of around 29°C.

#### **Papua New Guinea**

The weather in Papua New Guinea in April is typically hot, humid, and rainy, as the country is transitioning out of its wet season. Average daytime temperatures on the coast generally reach around 28°C, with nights remaining warm at approximately 21°C. However, it's important to note that the weather varies significantly across the country's diverse geography. While coastal regions are consistently hot and humid, the higher altitudes of the central highlands are much cooler. Rain is a frequent occurrence throughout April, with a high average rainfall of over 250 mm for the month, contributing to a humid atmosphere.

Weather

We always suggest referring to an online source for the most up-to-date weather information for your destination/s.

#### **FLIGHTS**

# **Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points**

We do not arrange seat selection. It is essential to highlight that some airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the airline directly with seating allocation requirements and/or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the airline once you have your flight information.

#### **Passport Validity**

Customers must provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase or no later than 90 days before the departure date. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of the booking. Customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred in this instance.

#### **CRUISE**

#### **Embarkation/Disembarkation**

- Begins approximately 2 hours after docking.
- Due to security reasons, all guests must be on board 2 hours before sailing.
- Itineraries are subject to change at any time without notice.
- Check your specific sailing for exact departure and arrival times. All times are local to the port.

Please note: Strict Covid-19 terms may also apply regarding proof of insurance covering Covid-19 and/or vaccination. Please refer to the cruise lines' terms and conditions for further information before boarding.

#### **Cruise Loyalty Discounts**

Please note: Travellers must contact the cruise line directly upon receiving their travel documents in order to request any membership benefits they may be entitled to.

#### Meals

For meals not included, the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify us of any dietary requests/requirements.

Please note: We will do our best to meet your requests/requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

#### Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on tour. You must carry your own luggage from the vehicle to the hotel room and back to the vehicle. The driver will assist with the uploading and unloading of bags from the vehicle.

#### OTHER

### Mobility

If you require wheelchair access please contact our friendly sales and service team to inquire on your behalf.

#### **Fitness Level Required**

Adventure (and spontaneity) create some of the best travel memories. Bear in mind, your home schedules and timings might not be adhered to on tour - it's all part of the fun!

A relaxed level of fitness will be required. Expect a comfortable pace of touring with a focus on leisure time and gentle activity. This may include city tours, the ability to walk up and down small flights of stairs and gentle slopes. You will be responsible for your own luggage and have the ability to board all modes of transport without assistance.

#### Please note:

 Some areas may be inaccessible to wheelchairs or mobility scooters, with personal walking sticks and other aids required should they be needed. Although some assistance may be available, every traveller should be self-reliant during all aspects of their travel.





- It is expected that every traveller must be self-reliant and able to undertake all aspects of their own travel. Please speak to your booking agent about your personal circumstances and any assistance requirements to ensure this tour is right for you.
- If you have any concerns, please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/ travel.

#### **Yellow Fever**

A valid international certificate of vaccination against Yellow Fever is required in many countries. You may need to present this on arrival at the airport or border crossing. Some countries will refuse entry if you are unable to present your certificate. It's also common for your home country to request a Yellow Fever certificate upon arrival. You must check with your doctor well before leaving home about the Yellow Fever requirements for the countries you'll be visiting.

#### Sightseeing

Please note: If entry to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary, where possible, may be adjusted, or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).

#### **Shopping**

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all your receipts. Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader. Please refer to our Terms and Conditions regarding shopping for further information.

### **Visas**

## Solomon Islands

For Australian passport holders, a visitor visa for a stay of up to 90 days may be issued upon arrival. The traveller must hold a passport valid at least six months on entry with two blank visa pages

#### **Papua New Guinea**

You need a visa to enter PNG and must apply for a visa before travel. Australian citizens cannot obtain a visa on arrival. You can apply for certain visas online, such as eVisas. eVisas are available through the PNG eVisa portal.

#### Indonesia

# All Indonesia Arrival Card

As of 1 September 2025 passengers must complete the All Indonesia Arrival Card. This is free of charge and can be completed online within 72 hours of your departure date. This is in addition to the e-VOA and the Bali Tourism Levy.

# e-VOA

A tourist visa will be issued upon arrival if staying less than 30 days if travelling on an Australian passport. A visa fee of IDR 500,000 (approximately AUD \$50, subject to change) and it is best to have this amount in cash upon arrival to ensure smooth entry. To avoid the queues at the airport, you can apply in advance (no later than 48 hours prior to travelling to Indonesia). You can apply for an e-Visa on Arrival (e-VOA). Check the e-VOA requirements from Indonesian Immigration before applying.

### Bali Tourism Levy

The Bali Provincial Government has introduced a new tourist levy of IDR 150,000 per person to foreign tourists entering Bali. The tourist levy is separate from the e-Visa on Arrival or the Visa on Arrival. Cashless payments can be made online prior to travel or on arrival at designated payment counters at Bali's airport and seaport. Exemption from payment of the levy applies to transit passengers and certain visa holders. See the Bali Provincial Government's official

website.

#### Important:

- Please start arranging your visa three weeks before departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.
- Visa rules are subject to change. Please check with the nearest embassy, consulate or immigration department of the destination/s you are visiting once you receive your travel documentation to ensure you have the most up to date information.
- It is your responsibility to be travel-ready and ensure that you are aware and comply with any destination or travel requirements, including the validity of all required travel documents.
- Passengers who are not Australian citizens must also check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required.
- It is also important to note that some areas of employment, such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations, may have additional restrictions in applying for visas. This may, in turn, affect the type of application required.

### **Travel Insurance**

Embarking on your next trip is exciting, and while you hope the unexpected does not happen, it is best to be prepared. We strongly recommend you take out travel insurance when making your booking. Whether it's a potential medical emergency, a flight cancellation, a delayed suitcase, or an unforeseen event, it's important to ensure you're adequately protected. For more information or advice visit <a href="https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance">https://www.tripadeal.com.au/travel-insurance</a>

### **Schedule Of Fees**

## **Voluntary Changes**

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

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 Changes - \$100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

# Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

If the incorrect name has been provided, charges of \$100 per booking and any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

# **Supplier Fees**

In the event the tour package you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/or a Travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to nonrefundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/ accommodation partners. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event we are unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee.

