

PAPUA NEW GUINEA **AT A GLANCE**

Tami Island, Papua New Guinea



HOME TO OVER
9 MILLION
PEOPLE



CAPITAL
Port Moresby
EST. 1974

Port Moresby was made the capital city when PNG attained independence in 1975.

MAJOR INDUSTRIES



Agriculture
and livestock



Forestry



Mining and
petroleum

The minerals and energy extraction sector accounts for the majority of export earnings and GDP.

GEOGRAPHY

Papua New Guinea (PNG) features **4 distinct regions** – Southern, New Guinea Islands, Highlands and Momase – and **22 provinces**.



For detailed country map please visit: maps.google.com



CEREMONIES

Traditional ceremonies mainly include the exchange of currency, food crops and pigs between families during compensation and reconciliations, bride-price, before and after burial of a family member ('rausim haus krai').

In some parts of PNG, young boys and girls go through initiation ceremonies. Workers in Australia may need to be excused when a close family member passes on.

LANGUAGES

Tok Pisin,
Hiri Motu
and English



There are 800 distinct Indigenous languages across the 22 provinces. Tok Pisin is regarded as PNG's national language but English is the official language for both government and education.



DRESS

Dress is mostly casual. For men and women, shorts and t-shirt are common for casual or outdoor activities. For business or more formal meetings, men often wear more western-style dress and women will dress quite modestly with skirts below knee length and tops with sleeves.

For church, women will mostly wear the traditional Meri Blouse or Meri Dress and in some of the more traditional regions such as Island communities, the men wear a laplap (Sulu).



PASTIMES

Rugby league

Soccer, softball, rugby union, basketball, volleyball, and netball.

Sport is very popular in PNG and is an important part of national culture. Rugby league is PNG's leading sport.



A handshake is common for both men and women when greeting someone.

WORKPLACE CULTURE

Workplace relations are very respectful. It is considered rude to interrupt colleagues in conversation or interrupt a meeting. Workers will generally not approach managers (e.g., walk into their office or work area) unless they are asked to.

Swearing and blasphemy are not common and can be interpreted as offensive or aggressive behaviour.

RELIGION

Christian and
Indigenous



While PNG is primarily Christian, most Papua New Guineans practice the Christian belief and their Indigenous belief system side by side.

Prayer and church attendance is part of daily life. From individual households and communities to official government meetings and sessions, it is usual to begin and end these gatherings with a prayer.



PHRASES & GREETINGS

PHRASE — English	PNG (Tok Pisin)	PHRASE — English	PNG (Tok Pisin)
Hello	Gude, Hi	Goodbye	Gutbai, Lukim yu bihain
How are you?	Yu stap gut?	I'm sorry	Mi sori tru
Please	Plis	Do you speak English?	Yu save long tok inglis, a?
Thank you	Tenk yu tru		

For more common phrases and translations, refer to: <https://omniglot.com/language/phrases/tokpisin.php>



Floating fishing village in Papua New Guinea from the air