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# A TASTE OF NEW GUINEA

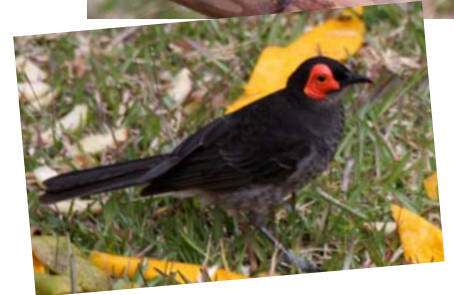
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## BIRDS OF PARADISE AND MUCH MORE

A short introductory tour to New Guinea visiting the Varirata National Park on the Sogeri Plateau above Port Moresby and Kumul Lodge near Mt Hagen. While we will be concentrating on getting as many species of Birds of Paradise as possible, we will also be looking for other New Guinea specialities particularly the brighter and more colourful parrots, pigeons and kingfishers. There are excellent photographic opportunities at Kumul Lodge where Birds of Paradise come to the feeders in the Lodge grounds, and at the PAU in Port Moresby where the ponds allow us a good view of waterbirds.

### Key Species

Pink-spotted Fruit-Dove, Papuan Lorikeet, Red-cheeked Parrot, Black-capped Lory, Brown-headed Paradise & Yellow-billed Kingfishers, Blue, King of Saxony, Lesser, Raggiana and Superb BoP, Brown Sicklebill, Ribbon-tailed & Princess Stephanie's Astrapia



Ribbon-tailed Astrapia, Brehm's Tiger-Parrot and Smoky Honeyeater  
Photo: Phil Gregory

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### COUNTRY INFORMATION

#### Difficulty

Participants need to be in good health and of a reasonable fitness level. Although this is a short tour Papua New Guinea is a country of steep, rainforest clad mountainsides and, while we try to keep them at a minimum, there can be steep muddy trails to be negotiated somewhere during the trip.

Expect rain somewhere and while the area around Kumul at 2600m will be quite cool and

even cold at night. Around Port Moresby it may be hot and humid.

#### Accommodation

In Port Moresby accommodation is in comfortable western style hotels. Kumul Lodge is a well appointed westernised landowner lodge made of bush materials.

*Please contact us for further information.*

*This tour can be customised.*

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## Itinerary 2011

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This is a short tour designed for people with limited time who would nevertheless like a New Guinea experience. It can be run consecutively with other Taste of Tours with a slight modification to allow for a longer more thorough exploration of this fascinating country.

Day 1 - Arrive in Port Moresby. A short tour of the Port Moresby area is arranged for those who arrive in time to take advantage of it.

Day 2 - Full day guided birding at Varirata National Park. Located on the Sogeri Plateau above Port Moresby this is a great birding spot. The Raggiana Bird-of-Paradise have a lek tree here, there are 6+ species of kingfisher inc. Brown-headed Paradise-K and Yellow-billed Kingfisher, plus at least 7 species of dove plus Red-cheeked Parrots, Barred Owlet-nightjar and perhaps a Chestnut-backed Jewel-babbler or Painted Quail-Thrush.

Day 3 - A second morning up at Varirata should prove very rewarding with a n afternoon visit to the PAU ponds, where Wandering and Spotted Whistling Ducks, Papuan Frogmouth and Fawn-breasted Bowerbird are amongst the species which can be seen.

Day 4 - Taking the early flight up to Mt Hagen we will spend the next 3 nights at Kumul Lodge, a photographer's dream where birds of paradise are amongst the visitors to the feeder. Brown Sicklebill, Ribbon-tailed Astrapia, Archbold's Bowerbird, Brehm's Tiger Parrot and Smoky Honeyeater can all be seen in the vicinity of the Lodge.

Day 5 - Full day birding the Kumul area. Superb and Lesser Bird-of-Paradise likely.

Day 6 - Morning birding the Kumul area, checking a site for the rare Blue BoP and another trail for the spectacular King-of-Saxony BoP, with the afternoon option of a cultural tour to the local village birding on the way.

Day 7 - Leaving Mt. Hagen on the morning flight, we return to Port Moresby in time for our late afternoon onward connections.

### Cost:

Ex Cairns 2010 costs  
AU\$3500.00pp (twin share)

This includes: Flights ex Cairns, accommodation, food, transport, guides and site fees. as per itinerary

It does not include: visas, drinks and snacks, laundry, personal items.

We can arrange international flights entering New Guinea from other destinations on request.



Male Brown Sicklebill, Barred Owlet  
Nightjar

Photos: Phil Gregory