

Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea is one of the world's most culturally varied nations. It is also the most rural, with only 13.25 percent of the population living in cities as of 2019. In the country, there are 851 recognized languages, 11 of which have no known speakers. The majority of the country's population of almost 8,000,000 people lives in traditional communities, which are as diverse as the languages. Culturally and geographically, the country is one of the least explored in the globe. It is known to have numerous uncontacted peoples, and researchers believe the interior contains many unexplored plant and animal species.

What makes Papua New Guinea Unique?

1. 5% of the global biodiversity is in Papua New Guinea.

Even though it just spans 1% of the Earth's total surface area, Papua New Guinea contains 5% of the world's biodiversity. It boasts around 20,000 plant species, 800 coral species, 600 fish species, and 750 bird species. Because the country has been less explored and exploited than other locations, much of its richness has been preserved.

2. One of the largest Rainforests in the world.

In fact, after the Amazon and the Congo, the island of New Guinea is home to the world's third biggest rainforest. From Papua New Guinea to West Papua in Indonesia, this rainforest occupies over 288 000 square kilometers of the island's total mass.



3. One of the most heterogeneous countries

Hundreds of ethnic groupings make up Papua New Guinea. Many of the residents can trace their roots back thousands of years. Many tribes of Papua New Guinea have ties to other parts of the world, including China, Europe, Australia, the Philippines, and Micronesia. These people are known as Austronesians in the country, indicating that their ancestors arrived fewer than 4000 years ago.

4. Over 80% of its population lives in rural areas.

This means that the majority of the population lacks access to contemporary amenities such as healthcare and education. This ancient tribal way of life stands in stark contrast to the modern world.



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