



FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL
Premiere Experiential Tourism



Papua New Guinea



Dive Highlights

- An underwater photographer's paradise—discover what professional photographers kept secret for years
- Walindi will have you buzzing. This is how diving was in the old days—so many fish, so many different species, so much big coral—wow
- This is a place to treasure and to be treasured. No where else will you find such diversity of diving
- Repeatedly voted best land diving resort anywhere in the world by reader surveys



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Wonderful Walindi



Papua New Guinea (PNG) is a vibrant and adventurous destination. With over 1000 different tribes and 700 languages, it is a land of diversity and richness of culture. The rainforest drenched mountains and 600 islands provide an exotic backdrop for some of the world's finest diving.

PNG has always been a hot dive destination for those in the know, and it just keeps getting hotter. For years Walindi has been a favoured haunt of underwater photographers, who in the early days booked it out years in advance. More world championship photos have been taken in the waters around Walindi than anywhere else in the world.

The sheltered bays and rich volcanic nutrients at Walindi allow the coral to reach their maximum growth potential. You will find over half the known varieties of coral in this one area, and over 900 species of fish. The corals and fans seem to be in a competition to find the most vibrant colours, and are all shouting out 'look at me'.

There are 25 dive sites within a five to 75 minute boat ride from shore. Every dive is exceptional. You might even spot the resident dolphins or visiting whales. Below is a taster of dive sites, although words cannot do them justice:



Hanging Gardens—a vertical wall to a depth of 27m with a garden of enormous rope sponges hanging off it. Here there are caverns, overhangs, and ledges offering shelter to crinoids, invertebrates, goby and wrasse. A perfect spot for night diving.

Otto's Reef—a large reef with lots of fish, big and small. When the current is right there will be plenty of big fish action. Black coral, clams, and sponges nestle amongst caverns, ledges, and overhangs.

Kimbe Island—out of the shelter of the bay, the fringing reef drops away into the ocean, attracting oceanic fish and different types of reef fish.



SPECIAL OFFER: 10% discount in our dive shop when booking travel

PRICE per person AU\$	7 nights 10 dives	10 nights 14 dives
Walindi - Plantation	AU\$1543	AU\$2162
Febrina (unlimited dives)	AU\$2520 to AU\$2730	AU\$3600 to AU\$3900

Package includes

Walindi rate includes: meals, accommodation in Plantation room, airport transfers, laundry. Can upgrade to beachfront bungalows.

Walindi off season rates: during the months of December to March rates may be cheaper. Please ask for a quote.

Packages are fully customisable, just let us know your requirements.

Prices are subject to change until paid in full. Cancellation policy applies.

Flights

We will quote for airfares separate to the package price, allowing us to secure you cheaper flights if available.

Travel insurance

Insurance: evacuation insurance compulsory, comprehensive insurance strongly recommended

When to Travel

Best time: Sept to Dec and Apr to June. From Jan to Mar it does rain a lot, but the diving is still great. August has the trade winds.

Visibility: 50 metres

Water temp: 27-30°C

Experience: diving best suited to intermediate or advanced divers

Vaccinations: malaria prophylaxis

Language: English and Pidgin

Departure tax: K30

Visa: purchased on arrival for K100 (only PNG currency accepted) or beforehand for K75



South Emma Reef—you will find the top of a bommie at 12 metres, and at 33 metres there is a swim through. In between the two is a profusion of coral, sponges, fans, red sea whips, butterflyfish, anemonefish, leatherjackets, firefish, super friendly batfish... the list goes on. South Emma has it all.

Vanessa's reef—Vanessa must have liked sea fans, as she has grown a forest of enormous gorgonian fans in shades of orange, pink, and red.

Christine's reef—a semi-circular reef, with some of the best diving in the first 20m. A great place for photos of anemonefish, coral or lionfish due to the high light levels. If you look carefully enough you are bound to uncover the elusive mandarin fish.

North Bay reef—this reef is more exposed, with caves and swimthroughs, and schools of barracuda. If you go deep enough, you might even find hammerhead sharks.

Restorf Island—the shallow fringing reef is perfect for those who like the small stuff. Otherwise, check out the black coral, sea fans, lionfish and hawkfish.

The Cathedral—nice and close to shore and a great spot for night diving, with its large staghorn and gorgonian coral and spiral whips.



Accommodation:

The place to stay is Walindi Plantation Resort in Kimbe Bay. Voted the worlds best land based dive resort, it offers 12 self-contained bures along the beachfront, surrounded by tropical rainforest, or four rooms in the Plantation House. Restaurant, bar, swimming pool, and tennis courts. Child minding services available.

If you prefer a liveaboard, the legendary MV Febrina or Star Dancer offer 6-10 day luxury trips around Kimbe Bay, Kavieng, and the Bismarck Sea. Very knowledgeable and fun staff, who will give you total flexibility in your diving. Nitrox available on the Star Dancer. Maximum of 12 or 16 divers.



Other activities:

- What a place to learn underwater photography. Take a photography course, and no matter how well you do, with subjects like this, they can't help but turn out amazingly
- Take a day trip to the Talasea Thermal area and indulge yourself in a hot pool. Nearby, look out for old overgrown WWII aircraft
- Embark on a guided walk through the rainforest and to the crater of Gabuna Volcano
- Visit the Garu Hot River for a volcanically heated river spa in the middle of the jungle
- Or take some time to live in a traditional subsistence village at Muligani Island

