

Ports & Excursions



Rabaul, Papua New Guinea

The former capital of New Britain has a history of destruction and resurrection - the city rebuilt after a massive 1937 volcanic eruption only to be destroyed by Allied bombing in World War II. In 1994, the eruption of Mt. Tavurvur dropped hot ash and rock on Rabaul, leading to its partial abandonment. Since that cataclysm, the city has slowly returned to life - hotels have resumed operating, the market continues to trade, and the harbor remains one of the most impressive in the entire Pacific basin.

During World War II, Rabaul served as a forward operating base for the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy. Allied bombing forced the Japanese defenders underground, into a complex system of bunkers and tunnels on the Gazelle Peninsula.

Points of Interest

1 Volcanic Observatory

Journey to Mt. Tovanumbatir to visit the Volcanological Observatory, which monitors 14 active and 23 dormant volcanoes in Papua New Guinea. Established after a 1937 eruption, the center offers breathtaking views of Simpson Harbor.

2 Kokopo War & Cultural Museum

Take in Japanese vehicles, weapons, photos and WWII relics gathered during Japan's occupation of Rabaul from 1942 to 1945 at this engaging museum, which also features compelling aircraft wreckage discovered in the last 60 years.

3 Japanese Tunnels

During occupation, the Japanese built over 300 miles of tunnels to conceal ammunition, hospitals, pathways connecting barracks with Japanese headquarters and more. At the main tunnel, marvel at several rusty barges that still remain.

Special Child Pricing Available!

Children age 12 and younger, savings up to 50%. For actual pricing information, click on tour title or Reserve button.

Sightseeing & City Tours

Image not available	Bitu Paka War Cemetery, Kokopo War & Cultural Museum RAB-200 Rabaul, Papua New Guinea	You will visit: 2	You will see: 3	E	3.5 hours	from \$119.95 (AUD)
	Experience the island's beauty and tumultuous WWII-tinged past on this incredible journey to Bitu Paka War Cemetery, site of over 1,000 Allied graves, and the captivating Kokopo War & Cultural Museum. Snap photos of the renowned homestead known as Queen Emma's Steps and an impressive Japanese barge tunnel from WWII.					

Nature & Wildlife

Image not available	Most Popular Volcanological Observatory & North Coast RAB-210 Rabaul, Papua New Guinea	You will visit: 1	E	3.25 hours	from \$129.95 (AUD)
	Travel along the island's dramatic north coast and the slopes of Tovanumbatir Volcano to reach the country's impressive Volcanological Observatory. Take pictures of Simpson Harbor and active Mt. Tavurvur with its geothermally heated bubbling beach below. At old Rabaul Airport, view Japanese warplanes buried in ash from the '94 eruption.				