

READ ABOUT OUR KOKODA TRIP IN 2024

My involvement is mainly as a trekker (this is a trek that I have wanted to do for a long time), but also will provide support and any advice, both up to the trek and on the trek, to anyone that is a bit concerned of their ability, or simply just want to talk about what to expect - both fundraising and physically.

In 2019 I guided the trek to Everest Base Camp with 20 people who were mainly not adventurers or at their physical peak and we had a great time, everyone made it and for some it was a bit life changing. Some of these trekkers are also accompanying us on this trip also. I have plenty of trekking and climbing experience so I hope to be able to share this with others to make them feel comfortable in committing to this adventure. So far we have people 30 to 73 signed up.

One of the main stumbling blocks is the requirement to fundraise but I tell people the fundraising target is that only, a target. I will also be organising some fundraising events through Berry Rotary Club and the proceeds spread amongst our team. Berry Rotary Club is also contributing to all our trekkers. The Inspired Adventures team also assist greatly with fundraising with ideas and platforms to make it much easier.

I'm very keen to do the trek as it is iconic Australian history, also seeing another culture without being a tourist.

Any questions please ask or even ring me on 0418 205 225

The attached flyer also has a link to Inspired adventures website which has a lot of information.

Also the links below may assist

<https://inspiredadventures.com.au/event/shelterbox-kokoda-2024/>

<https://shelterbox.org/about/how-we-work/partnerships/rotary/>

Includes: Transfers as per itinerary • Accommodation in 3-Star hotels and village huts or camping • Meals as per itinerary • Personal porter • Large back pack and day pack hire, sleeping mat and poles • Water on trekking days • Local English-speaking guide • Entrance fees as per itinerary

Doesn't include: International Flights • Airport Transfers • Travel insurance (compulsory) • Visas • Lightweight sleeping bag • Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages • Personal expenses • Tips and gratuities

Please note that you will not have to carry a heavy backpack
Food is generally supplied with a couple of exemptions

Please let me know if I can assist in any way and I hope you can join us.

Kind regards

Ken

A bit about the Trek

1942 saw the Kokoda Track as a scene of bitter fighting when the Australian Army fought to defend Port Moresby from advancing Japanese forces. Today, walking that same track has become an iconic pilgrimage for those wanting to honour the ANZAC spirit.

Regarded as one of the world's great treks, the Kokoda Track links the south and north coast of Papua New Guinea across 96 kilometres of rocky mountain terrain, tropical rainforest and pristine villages.

On this inspiring adventure, you will trek the track by day, open to the unforgiving and inspiring beauty of Papua New Guinea's tropical rainforest. At night, you will stay in isolated camps, swapping stories with local Koiari and Orokaiva people and falling asleep to the nocturnal sounds of the jungle.

Not for the faint-hearted but certainly for the big-hearted, this really is a once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

The hike is single file through 96km of muddy, undulating terrain in Papua New Guinea (PNG), exploring some of the harshest environments that Australian soldiers ever fought in. You'll hike across 9 days, persevering through 6000m of elevation in the humid jungle climate, and experience the beauty and history of the staggering Owen Stanley ranges. The 'Four Pillars of Kokoda' - "Mateship, Sacrifice, Courage and Endurance" celebrate the Australian and Papuan people in 1942, and that notion still inspires thousands from all over the world to make the pilgrimage and honour the soldiers and wonderful people who live there today.

Where is Kokoda?

The beautiful island of Papua New Guinea is Australia's closest neighbour, and unknown to many, houses some of the most remote and untouched rural landscapes in the world. The vibrant colours, tropical traditions and diverse wildlife make the country an obvious vacation spot, but the country's rich history in World War 2 (WW2) and connection to Australia is what makes the Kokoda Track so significant.

Only an hour and a half flight from Cairns, Port Moresby, PNG's capital city, is where your journey begins. You'll then fly to the town of Kokoda, where a 96km track cuts halfway across the jungle and spectacular mountain ranges. The incredible track starts from there, as you head south towards Owers Corner and through every extreme that the lush rainforest has to offer.

Why is Kokoda so famous?

The track gained infamy as an incredibly tough fought battle between the Japanese and the allied forces in WW2. In an attempt to take Port Moresby, the Japanese soldiers travelled South towards the town of Kokoda, the only town with an airstrip. Meanwhile the Australian soldiers and Papuan people travelled North, as a last line of defence, single file and through the monsoon rains. The fighting lasted over 5 months in 1942 and left many casualties, ultimately driving the Japanese soldiers out, and preserving the last line of defence between them and the Australian mainland.

On this inspiring adventure, you will trek the track by day, open to the unforgiving and inspiring beauty of Papua New Guinea's tropical rainforest. As night falls, you will rest in isolated camps, swapping stories with local Koiari and Orokaiva people and falling asleep to the nocturnal sounds of the jungle.

On day 2 of your trek, you'll travel 8.5km to the town of Hoi. After exploring the War Memorial and battleground, we continue onto another campsite. Breathtakingly beautiful landscapes frame every step, as you hike over 10km a day for days 3, 4 and 5, before our rest day in Nanduri Village. A culturally enriching experience of village life, provides some well deserved physical rest and a great chance to wash clothes in the river and learn from the locals who call this dense jungle home.

13 km on day 7 takes us to our halfway point, and the summit of our climb. A small ceremony pays tribute to the memory and bravery of the soldiers who fought here, and we begin the descent down to Menari village. Your final two days of trekking take you through varying terrain, from swampy flatlands and creeks to the steep ascent of the Maguli Range, and with Port Moresby in sight, you'll sleep your final night amongst the trees and star-filled sky. Upon completion of the trek, you'll undoubtedly be filled with an overwhelming sense of accomplishment at what you, as an individual, and as a team have achieved.

A bit as to why Shelter Box is so important and why walk for Shelterbox Fundraising

ShelterBox is a charity that delivers aid to families devastated by conflict or disaster, to give them durable shelter and the tools to rebuild communities.

Our global network of supporters, staff and volunteers make it possible to deliver aid to some of the most remote communities in the world.

We deliver the essentials families need to begin rebuilding their lives after disaster. Each disaster is different, and so is every community. We don't believe that one size fits all, so we spend time talking to affected families to make sure we provide the right support at the right time.

For some disaster-hit communities, our family-sized tents are the best solution until they are able to start rebuilding their homes. In other disasters, heavy duty tarpaulins, ropes and nails are needed to create emergency shelter or to patch-up damaged buildings.

We know that a home is much more than bricks and mortar or tarpaulin and tent pegs. That's why we also offer other disaster relief items that are essential for survival and can help to turn a shelter into a home. [Explore our ShelterBox aid in depth.](#)

Rotary International and Rotary Clubs around the world support Shelterbox and it is a very important part of our work at the Berry Rotary Club. It is a direct way of assisting families around the world in desperate need when they have lost everything due to a natural or man caused disaster. A good part of our yearly fundraising dollars is committed to Shelter Box and with our Kokoda Trek in 2023, it is a great way of increasing the awareness and financial contribution to this charity.

Ken Hutt
International Director
Rotary Club of Berry