

The Kokoda Track Challenge



A journey into Australia's wartime history
Understand the sacrifice

Information Pack

Adventure Facts:



Best season: _____ June - October

Start & Finish at: _____ Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Duration: _____ 11 days

Hotels: _____ 2 nights twin share

Camping: _____ 8 nights

Meals provided: _____ ALL: 10 Breakfast, 10 Lunch, 10 Dinner

Group Size: _____ 8 to 12 (flexible for private groups)

Activity split: _____ 2 travel days, 1 prep day, 8 days on track

Price/dates _____ see website for latest prices and dates



Highlights

- Very small groups (max 12) - be aware that some operators take more than three times our maximum group size!
- Professional & experienced Australian leader with a wealth of knowledge about the **history of Kokoda**
- Medical wilderness trained leader on every trek, with 24hr phone access to Chessell Adventures Doctor's advice
- Fully catered, delicious fresh meals using a mix of imported and local foods including fresh vegetables
- Relaxing before and after the trek at the convenient and beautiful Loloata Island Resort
- You can walk at your own pace, so you can enjoy the pristine and tranquil jungle
- Private charter flight over your trek route through the spectacular mountainous country of the Owen Stanley Range
- Communicating with your own porter enables a genuine connection with PNG culture

About Chessell Adventures

Chessell Adventures' director Duncan Chessell, is a qualified climbing guide and veteran of more than 100 expeditions and adventures worldwide. Duncan is the only Australian to have guided the fabled "Seven Summits", the highest peak on each of the seven continents and has summited Mt Everest twice.

Duncan has extensive experience in leadership, expedition logistics and health. He is also extremely well versed in the history of the Kokoda Track. Over the years he has developed talented trek leaders that are the basis of Chessell Adventures' consistently high quality expeditions.

Our adventures are to mountainous destinations worldwide, including the seven summits. From ascending the slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro to the back blocks of Antarctica to the base camp or the summit of Mt Everest! We conduct a wide range of adventures in the Himalayas and arrange custom expeditions worldwide.

Our leaders for Kokoda include Major Zac Zaharias, Lt Col Warren Feakes, Lt Col Owen Richmond and other highly qualified Australian trek guides.



Call Adele@ Airport Travel Centre to book: +61 8 8234 3511

atc@chesselladventures.com

Attractions

The Kokoda Track stretches 96 km from Kokoda village south towards Papua New Guinea's capital, Port Moresby. The track traverses the Owen Stanley Range, the natural barrier that protects Port Moresby. The track has some of the steepest and most rugged terrain imaginable. The trek offers the opportunity to experience Papua New Guinea's pristine environment from lowland jungle to upper montane forest and back again with the gentle pace of the local culture. The Kokoda Track is a challenging hike in its own right. It is a journey every Australian should make.

Your journey with Chessell Adventures begins and ends in the capital, Port Moresby. On the track there is time to enjoy the scenery, culture, history and unique overall experience. We take the time to visit war relics in the jungle and the impressive Myola Lakes off the main trails. We aim to allow you to stretch your boundaries safely with excellent support systems in place.

Our clients say we provide the best quality Kokoda track experience available. We provide a full camping-style trek, sleeping in individual tents and eating nutritious meals prepared from local fresh foods by our talented cooking team.

Chessell Adventures exists to give you an excellent life experience that will leave you wanting to spend more time exploring the world.

Understand the history

A trek of the Kokoda Track is a journey into Australian history to understand the pivotal part Kokoda played in the formation of Australia as a nation. For the first time in 1942 Australian soldiers fought the Japanese army on (what was then) Australian soil – Kokoda. Walk in the steps of the stoic diggers.

Undefeated in six years of fighting, the Japanese army was a formidable force. In the bloody months that followed first contact in July 1942, just over 2,000 Australians were killed in Papua New Guinea, and over 14,000 Japanese were killed with only a few hundred escaping. The fighting was so close and vicious that not a single Australian prisoner of war was taken alive.

Initially it was the 'ordinary' soldiers of the 39th Militia Battalion of 850 men from the 3rd Division of the 'Australian Military Forces' who would stand in their way. Ill-prepared, out-numbered and out-gunned, they were sent to halt the undefeated Japanese. Of the few hundred who survived, it would never again be said they were ordinary.

Courage, endurance, mateship and sacrifice symbolise the unbreakable spirit of the Australian soldiers and the coming of age of Australia in its own right. Walking the Kokoda track with Chessell Adventures' will give you the opportunity to understand these symbolic words and to take your reflections back home with you.

During the Owen Stanley's campaign, 625 Australian diggers lost their lives in defence of their country. The historical



Isurava Memorial

Attractions continued...

background is an important part of the Chessell Adventures Kokoda experience and we aim to help you understand its' significance.

It is possible to leave most Australian cities early morning on day one and arrive into Port Moresby that afternoon. On return you leave early morning from Port Moresby and via Cairns or Brisbane travel home that night. We usually begin on a Friday so you can be away from work for as few as seven business days.

We trek the track in both directions. Trekking to the North or to the South has its advantages, but the most important factors are common to both; time to experience the forest, absorb the history and visit both the major and lesser known historic sites. The historical narrative will be meaningful in either direction as the soldiers initially advanced to meet the Japanese near Kokoda, then retreated to the south before driving the battle back to the north. Both itineraries offer an opportunity to reflect on the historical significance of the Kokoda Track. Whether they trekked north or south, our past participants are pretty well convinced that the direction they trekked is best!

We generally trek the track in the South to North direction, starting at Owers Corner and finishing at Kokoda. This description is an example. Local factors including weather or track conditions may effect the actual itinerary.

The Journey

Day 1: Arrive in Port Moresby

Transfer to the resort and area familiarisation.

Day 2: Preparation day and drive to camp at Owers Corner, the start of the mighty track

A day to prepare for the trip - the tropical trade winds blowing, the coral reef and fish, warm water and great food in a friendly setting. There will be a pre-trek briefing, time to prepare yourself for the days ahead, and a visit to Bomana War Cemetery on the way to the campsite at Owers Corner, the start point of the track.

Day 3: First day of trekking; Owers to Iriobaiwa Ridge

Dropping down from the memorial arches at Owers corner into the Goldie river we finally begin one of the worlds toughest treks. After crossing the Goldie River and passing Dump 66 we start the first major climb of Imita Ridge. This is when your training and preparation will be tested and there are no short cuts to the top...

After crossing Imita Ridge we follow the Ua'ula Creek system for a couple of hours before a short steep section to half way up Iriobaiwa Ridge to our campsite for the night with views back to Port Moresby.

Day 4: Iriobaiwa Ridge to Trumpet camp (Aguro)

Setting out from our campsite we quickly come across the remnant gun pits of the furthest forward positions of the Japanese advance. From the southern slopes of the ridge we can see the coast line and pause to reflect on how tempting it must have been for the Japanese to make a dash for the coast. But they obeyed the orders they received here and retreated. We pause in Ofi Creek before tackling the biggest challenge of the southern section of track, Maguli Ridge, then dropping down through the village of Naro into camp on the banks of the Brown River.

Day 5: Trumpet camp to Efoji Village

An early rise and climb over the Menari Gap and down into the village, across the airfield, and into the beautiful creek for an early lunch and swim. After lunch a solid climb up to Brigade Hill where so many



Smiley local

The Journey continued...

died in the second major battle of the campaign. A time to reflect at the plague on the top on the sacrifices and bravery of the diggers and Japanese who fought here. One of the few places with sweeping views of the surrounding mountains we spend some time going over the battle that was fought. We wander down into the large village of Efogi which marks half way on our journey across the Owen Stanleys.

Day 6: Efogi Village to Tin Shed

We say good bye to some of the food porters here as they will walk back to Owers, their mission complete in getting us half way. We set off via Efogi #2 for Naduri via a very steep descent and climb out of Main creek up to the small village of Naduri. Another crazy looking airstrip services this village and we steadily climb all day into the higher area of the track into "THE GAP" area at about 2000m. The temperature drops and we pass an old coffee plantation on the way to Little Myola lake and the munitions pit before making camp at the crashed bombers site at about 1900m above sea level.



Myola Lakes

Day 7: Tin Shed Camp - Big Myola - Mt Belamy - Iora Creek

After a cool night and a great night's sleep we enjoy the relatively gentle climb to Big Myola, the scene of the aerial resupply project and follow a narrow track to the highpoint of the trek at 2230m near Mt Bellamy, then down to lunch at Templetons Crossing. A few hours, and more ups and downs, later we pull into camp at Iora Creek one of the most

amazing campsites on the track. Huge rushing streams of crystal clear water rush past our camp drowning out all other sounds. This was also the scene of the first serious defensive action of the Japanese on their way back to Tokyo.



Stunning flora and fauna

the Australian Government and when you first walk into the area you feel a chill as though you have walked onto sacred ground. The history of the track melded with your own exertions, the site of the famous words on the majestic stones Courage - Endurance - Mateship - Sacrifice all contribute to make this one of the most memorable campsites in which you will ever stay. We organise a dawn service and such is the power and emotion of the place when trekked in this direction that seldom is there a single person with a dry eye as the dawn cracks over the memorial and the first rays of light illuminate the Yodda Valley and the flats of the Kokoda plantation and airstrip below.

Day 8: Iora Creek to Isurava Battlefield

We have two options here for our path to Isurava battlefield. The trek leader will assess conditions and fitness of the group, and choose either a) the more eastern route via the seldom visited village of Abuari then the very steep drop and climb back across to the western Isurava/Alola side or b) direct past the Japanese defence positions and onto Alola, before making camp at Isruava.

The Isurava battlefield memorial site was purchased by the Australian Government and when you first walk into the area you feel a chill as though you have walked onto sacred ground. The history of the track melded with your own exertions, the site of the famous words on the majestic stones Courage - Endurance - Mateship - Sacrifice all contribute to make this one of the most memorable campsites in which you will ever stay. We organise a dawn service and such is the power and emotion of the place when trekked in this direction that seldom is there a single person with a dry eye as the dawn cracks over the memorial and the first rays of light illuminate the Yodda Valley and the flats of the Kokoda plantation and airstrip below.

Day 9: Isurava - Hoi - Kokoda

After our dawn service and a good breakfast of pancakes, coffee and tea, we saunter down into Kokoda, veterans of "a crossing", past the odd group of fresh trekkers on their first day, heading uphill still smelling of soap from Australia and not knowing what trials lie ahead of them. We assemble for a group photo at the Kokoda memorial before our last night's

The Journey continued...

camp in the township of Kokoda and, if the electricity is working, a cold beer and a shower. Not that anyone minds at this point, as we have just completed one of the world's toughest treks.

Day 10: Fly to Port Moresby

20-minute private charter flight from Kokoda to Port Moresby, transfer back to Loloata Island Resort (with luck by lunch time) and enjoy the rest of the day on the Island. Hot showers, swim, a relaxing beer and celebration dinner beckon!

Day 11: Port Moresby – (Cairns / Brisbane) – home

Transfer to the airport and depart Port Moresby, usually via Brisbane, Sydney or Cairns, for home.

Why go with Chessell Adventures

Chessell Adventures has an impressive track record in providing safe, professional and successful adventures worldwide. Our dedicated team members, quality equipment and attention to logistical detail, result in many of our participants returning for more Chessell Adventures. All of this enables Chessell Adventures to run the most enjoyable adventure experience available on the Kokoda Track.

Group Size

The culture of Chessell Adventures as well as our small group size (max 12) contributes to a very friendly environment with an open and engaging group dynamic. The end result is more enjoyable and personal interaction with your fellow trekkers.



Majestic trees in endless jungle

Leadership

Our leaders for Kokoda include Major Zac Zaharius (Australian Army Major and climber), Colonel Warren Feakes, Colonel Owen Richmond, Colonel Frank Marchetti and other highly qualified Australian trek guides with an in depth historical knowledge of Kokoda and a wealth of trek guiding experience. Our leaders are backed up by a second trek guide, who is capable of leading the rest of the trip should one leader be required to stay back or depart with an injured or unwell group member. This guarantees you will not be left without an experienced guide. Whilst many of our leaders have a military background they are relaxed, approachable and easy to get along with as well.

Our personable, capable and knowledgeable leaders have a very flexible approach to trekking and adventure. We are not as rigid in the way we run our trips when compared to some trekking companies. Others have a more military approach where the group is more important than the individual. We accept individual differences and realise that some trekkers will be slower than others. Where appropriate, we allow the group to spread out so everyone can experience the wilderness feel of the track.

Medical training & emergency backup

Safety of the entire group is our first priority. Our leaders are Wilderness First Aiders, trained to deal with remote wilderness medical issues and are well versed in our comprehensive emergency and rescue procedures including helicopter evacuations. In the past our experienced team members have come to the rescue of other less prepared trekkers.

Our high level of safety continues with Doctor David Tingay, an experienced adventurer and physician. He advises us and our clients on medical issues. We carry satellite telephones and have 24hr access to our Doctor in the event of a medical problem or injury arising on the track.

An all inclusive time saving package

The package minimises the pre trip organisation and personal equipment required on your part. We can also arrange custom dates or durations for your private group - feel free to ask us for details.

Local staff and environment

In line with Chessell Adventures practices worldwide we carry out our rubbish and educate our local team in minimal impact trekking principles. The health and wellbeing of our whole team is paramount so we provide our porters with shelter, sleeping bags, food and transport after the trek. We also regularly contribute to the International Porter Protection Group (IPPG) and abide by it's principles as part of our commitment to porters' welfare.

Food

Our clients are often surprised at the quality of food served on our trips. We prepare our meals from fresh local and imported foods. Meals include fresh vegetables and we serve fresh brewed local coffee and other hot drinks at every meal.

Loloata Island Resort

The beautiful Loloata Island Resort* in Bootless Bay is our base near Port Moresby and a perfect place to unwind before and after the trip.

Yellow Tick Accreditation & Insurance

We are to our knowledge, the only Kokoda Track operator to be accredited with the 'Yellow Tick', as an Australian Accredited Tourism Business and we are one of the few Kokoda tour operators to hold full Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. Rather than just keeping up with trekking industry best practice, we constantly work to set new standards.

* In extenuating circumstances we will select alternative accommodation of an equal standard.



Is it right for me?

This challenge offers many opportunities to add to your life's tapestry. The physical challenge of the trek will be rewarded by an enormous sense of achievement. The exposure to sights, sounds and experiences outside your usual life will stretch your perspective. Many participants on previous Chessell Adventures highly value the opportunity to step away from normal life and the perspective that experience allows has resulted in great inspiration being brought home. The on-going commitment to physical activity (making time to get that all important fresh air) is a habit that many past participants report as an important outcome. When you return home healthier than ever, you can work, play (run, ride, ski, surf, golf) and live with more ease and enjoyment.

Experience required

The level of support provided on this Gold Level adventure means that even those with little prior experience can enjoy walking with only a daypack, sitting down to good meals prepared by your leader and staff, and settling down in your individual tent in the quiet of the forest or a small village. Pack your spirit of adventure, a positive attitude and a willingness to embrace the entire Kokoda wilderness experience!

Fitness required

As you are probably aware, the Kokoda track is physically challenging! Once in Papua New Guinea you will need to quickly switch modes from your usual activities to the rigors of trekking for 6-8 hours per day. The track is often rough, steep, slippery in places and you can expect to be tired on more than one day.

In order to get the most from this experience you will need to be in good physical condition so we suggest investing in physical training. Chessell Adventures has a comprehensive training package we will send you after you book. For private groups we can also arrange fitness assessments and training sessions led by Chessell Adventures team members.

When to go

The climate in Papua New Guinea is tropical, and much of it is hot and humid with heavy seasonal precipitation. The 'wet' occurs during the Australian summer (November through early March), with a drier period during our winter (May to October). The best time to trek in PNG is June to October when the coastal areas are warm but the higher elevations are cooler and importantly, drier. Our scheduled departures are of 11 days duration which includes travel to and from PNG.

People are often interested in commencing their trip to Kokoda on Anzac Day. Be warned however, that not only is the condition of the track more challenging but it can be extremely crowded. If you go at this time we suggest a trek program which finished on the 23rd April and then attending the service at Bomana War Cemetery on 25th April. This does not avoid the crowds completely but it will usually be a little quieter.

Personal Porters

The trip price includes a full personal porter, which enables you to trek each day carrying only a day pack. Your day pack would contain water, snacks, camera, maybe a spare layer of clothing and would generally weigh around 4-6kgs. For very fit and strong participants, there is an option to opt out completely from having a personal porter this will reduce the trip cost by \$700

if you nominate to carry all of your personal gear (tent, chair, sleeping gear, clothes, toiletries etc). Your pack will then end up weighing around 12-16kg, depending on how much personal gear you bring. Not many choose these options as they do add substantially to the difficulty of the trek. However food porters still carry your food and cooking gear.

*Note that all group equipment will still be carried by porters. The group porters will carry all non-personal equipment such as cooking equipment and food for the trekking party.



Lending a hand

What's included

The package is designed to minimise the purchase of personal equipment and organisation required for participants. Bring your shorts and boots and we will look after the rest (well almost). Your trek cost includes the following:

Very small groups – 8 to 12 participants (negotiable for private groups)

- Professional, experienced Australian leader with a wealth of knowledge about the history of Kokoda and an excellent local guide trained in Chessell Adventures procedures.
- The leader carries a comprehensive medical kit as well as equipment for emergency communications.
- A full personal porter (1:1) to carry your gear and a large back pack with a waterproof liner to keep your clothes dry.
- All meals in PNG for the duration of the trip, good quality meals at the resort and fresh, nutritious and plentiful meals on the track prepared by your expedition leader and the Chessell Adventures team.
- Two nights hotel accommodation on twin share basis (1 at the start of the trip and 1 at the end)
- Fresh brewed local coffee and other hot drinks at all meals on track.
- Group camping and dining equipment. Table, chair, cooking and all eating equipment while trekking.
- Group porters for food and cooking equipment
- An individual tent on trek with both an inflatable sleeping mat and a foam sleeping mat as well as a sleeping bag and a silky sleeping bag liner
- Water purification system e.g. purification tablets
- A poncho to keep the rain off your shoulders
- Private charter flights between Port Moresby and Kokoda
- Training guidance and support including a training booklet (special programs for private groups)
- History briefing in Port Moresby and on the track
- A certificate of completion and a group photograph
- **Chessell Adventures Kokoda survival pack, which is yours to keep includes:** Two trek shirts, 3 litre nal-gene® drink bladder, insect repellent, sunscreen, antibacterial hand wash gel and biodegradable wilderness wash.



Scenic lunch spot

What's not included

- International and Australian domestic airfares (unless otherwise arranged)
- Personal travel insurance (REQUIRED)
- Visas, transfer fees en route, departure taxes, excess baggage charges
- Personal expenses such as gifts, phone calls, laundry, soft drinks and all alcoholic drinks
- Meals and accommodation other than those specified
- Personal clothing and some personal equipment
- Tips for crew - allow AUD \$120 (PGK \$240) (PGK100 for your personal porter and PGK140 for the local guides, cooks and group porters pool)
- Medical evacuation costs, extra accommodation or any other fees associated with early departure, change of itinerary, or breaking from the group due to illness or otherwise. The cost may need to be paid by you at the time and may be able to be claimed back from your travel insurance company.

Extra nights at Loloata Island Resort



Loloata Island Resort

A great way to unwind before and/or after your trek is to extend your trip and relax at the Loloata Island Resort for an extra night or two. The Island is surrounded by warm waters that make for very pleasant swimming, and there is an abundance of colourful tropical marine life.

The resort operates regular snorkeling outings for guests and is host to some world-class dive sites. They have PADI accredited dive instructors. The diving sites (more than 20) include reefs, wrecks and stunning marine biodiversity.

The Island is also a great place to catch up on some quiet time and simply relax, maybe finish that book or catch a nap in the afternoon as the ocean breeze passes by. Its about 20minutes drive from the airport to the wharf.

Prices per room per night with full board * Note prices are subject to change and are based on 2009 costs.

Single occupancy room AUD \$ 225 per person

Double / twin occupancy room AUD \$ 380 per room (i.e. \$190 per person)

Mountain Designs Equipment - VIP privileges

Members of Chessell Adventures receive a Mountain Designs VIP discount card valid from the time your deposit is received to the start of the expedition. This entitles you to a 15-20% discount on Mountain Designs exclusive lines and 15% on all other gear in store. Mountain Designs reserves the right to change the discount levels without notice.

Mountain Designs manufactures quality outdoor equipment and clothing suitable for your expedition. You can visit any one of Mountain Designs' 38 outlets in Australia and New Zealand. See www.mountaindesigns.com for store locations.

Travel Insurance

We recommend cancellation insurance to protect your investment and we require participants to have travel insurance that covers medical evacuation expenses and repatriation. For examples: Covermore <http://covermore.com.au>

Please note, which ever insurance company you decide to go with we suggest reading the relevant policy details in full ensuring that your chosen policy provides cover for the activities (trekking) and in the localities in which you will travel (Papua New Guinea and The Kokoda Track).

Travel vaccinations

A detailed list of recommended vaccinations will be included on the dossier, which you receive once you book, or you can use our website to access specific activity and country "Fact Sheets" addressing these issues written by TMVC Australia. Also see links to Centre for Disease Control - travelers info, via our website. Our sales staff/travel agents can assist with locating this information for you also.

Visas

Visas are required and our sales staff/travel agents can arrange these for you ahead of time. There is more detailed information in the expedition dossier available once you have booked or ask our sales staff/ travel agents to help you locate it. Visa on arrival is available for Australian and NZ passport holders into PNG (current at January 2010).

Flights

Return flights are available with Virgin and Qantas/Air Nuigini code share from Cairns, Brisbane and Sydney to Port Moresby every dat. Expect to pay \$650 to \$900 return. These can easily be arranged with our sales staff/ agents at Airport Travel Centre., who can provide a one stop shop for all your travel needs.

Kokoda personal and group gear checklist

✓ Personal Clothing

- Tropical climate travel clothes (can be stored at the hotel)
- Trekking shorts
- Sock protectors (keeps mud and seeds out of socks, cotton is best)
- Several pairs socks and underwear
- Sturdy trekking boots (eg Raichle Mt Trails)
- 1 x T-shirt/long-sleeved shirt
(e.g. polypropylene thermal for night time)
- Very light fleece top (for stops during days up on the range)
- Warm jacket (thick polar fleece or similar for night time)
- Light trekking pants (for night time)
- Sarong for women (very useful when bathing or washing)
- Adventure sandals/light shoes/sneakers for camp
- Beanie (woollen or fleece) for those chilly nights
- (Optional) lycra shorts (to avoid chaffing)
- CA Rain poncho
- CA Inner sheet for sleeping bag

✓ ChAdv Kokoda survival pack (yours to keep)

- CA 2 Cool short-sleeved trek shirts
- CA 3L Nalgene® Drinking bladder
- CA Water container: 1L e.g. Nalgene wide mouth bottle
- CA Sunscreen, Insect repellent
- CA Anti-bacterial hand wash gel, bio-degradable wilderness wash
- CA Kokoda Track Map

✓ ChAdv supplied group equipment

- CA Tents, dining shelter, all cooking & eating equipment & food on trek
- CA Table and chairs for dining
- CA Group medical kit
- CA Satellite phone for emergency communications

NOTES:

- CA = Chessell Adventures provides this item
- For your health and safety you must have all of the above personal gear, clothing and equipment, except those marked (Optional).
- On occasion, we will send gear to your home address for you to carry to Port Moresby (this will include a "Kokoda survival pack" for your personal use and may also include 4-5kgs of other equipment, such as a new tent).
- Your porter carries a maximum of 15kg. Please be considerate with your extra gear and minimize luxuries!
- **Non cotton wicking fabric:** Examples include Repel™ and CoolMax®, others are available. They spread the moisture (e.g. sweat) across the garment and as a result they don't feel as wet. They also dry quicker than cotton, which saturates quickly and does not dry in the humid jungles of PNG.
- **Blister treatment:** Blisters are a burn caused by friction, treat them early to stop continued burning. See "Other Personal Gear" for blister kit contents. For a hot spot or redness: Air the skin for a couple of minutes, dry thoroughly, then apply zinc oxide tape (1 inch tape is a good width). If fluid buildup occurs: Use gauze padding to support the blister (cut the shape of the blister out of the middle of the gauze) and stick it in place with zinc oxide tape. (Leave a layer of gauze over the blister so the tape doesn't stick to the sore skin). If the swollen area is painful, pierce the skin with a sterile needle and treat with betadine (swabsticks or gel are great) before applying gauze and tape.

✓ Personal Equipment

- Day pack 30L, waterproof liner and cover
- Head torch, spare batteries (e.g. LED type Black Diamond or Petzl)
- Stuff sacs or bags for keeping inside your pack organised
- 1 Adjustable trekking pole (highly recommend)
- (Optional) Small pillow or pillow case (e.g. MD's Inflatable pillow)
- (Optional) Camera, film or memory cards and spare batteries
- (Optional) Sealable bag to protect camera from water
- (Optional) Zip-lock plastic bags (for wet or dry clothes, etc)
- (Optional) Anti fog spray for your spectacles
- CA Large pack 60-70L for your porter to carry
- CA Waterproof liner for large pack
- CA Individual tent on trek (share available on request)
- CA Sleeping bag
- CA 2 sleeping mats (1 foam mat, 1 inflatable air mattress)
- CA Water purification tablets
- CA Toilet paper (or bring your preferred brand from home)

✓ Other Personal Gear

- Your favourite snacks - you only need around 200 grams per day (e.g. nuts, dried fruit, snakes & jubes, muesli bars, Anzac biscuits, or salty snacks). Also popular with the porters!
- Wash kit (small personal toiletries, nail clippers and small towel)
- First aid kit (bandages, band aids, alcohol wipes etc)
- Foot care & blister kit
(Antifungal foot powder, 1" zinc oxide tape e.g. Elastoplast - or moleskin, pack of 5 x 5cm sterile gauze dressings, betadine & needle)
- Personal medicines including your usual medicines
AND one course each of:
 - Gastrointestinal antibiotic (e.g. Noroxin, see your doctor)
 - Gastrointestinal treatment (e.g. Imodium)
 - Mild pain killers (e.g. Aspirin/paracetamol/ibuprofen)
 - Malaria prophylaxis (see your doctor)

Airport Travel Centre, who are they?

Airport Travel Centre is a corporate travel agency who takes all our reservations in Australia for PNG

They have a high level of service with access to airfares online and can offer an excellent all-in-one booking service for your Chessell Adventure. Chessell Adventures looks after the adventure on the ground, ATC makes sure you get there!

ATC will also handle any extras outside of the included land package, such as onward travel, extra nights etc

ATC handle all bookings for the land component of Chessell Adventures PNG programs and thus collect the deposit and final payments. They can also assist with plane tickets, travel insurance, visas. If you choose to use a different travel agent ATC will ask you for your travel details to advise our operations team of the pertinent information.

ATC staff are trained up by our guides and field staff to answer your enquiries and will be supported by a "dial/email an expert" service from Chessell Adventures field guides.

Your main contact in ATC is **Adele Nugent**

In all circumstances a sales and reservations staff member from our agents in Australia, Airport Travel Centre (ATC), will be your personal point of contact for all Kokoda trips with Chessell Adventures. Travel Agent's Licence # TTA 192806.

How do I book?

Step One: secure a position by making a booking reservation

You can book using one of three methods:

Online via the website (fastest way)

Phone, email or drop in to see our reservations staff @ the Airport Travel Centre in Adelaide

Paper forms - fill out a paper booking form then post, scan or fax it to us

Step 2: pay your deposit of AUD\$ 1,500

Once we have a deposit (non-refundable) and booking information from you, your place is confirmed. Final payment is due in full 60 days before the start date. We require a Doctor's Certificate to be completed and returned and that you obtain travel insurance for the activity. It is also a great idea to make sure we know when you arrive into PNG so we can pick you up at the airport! More info in the dossier which you receive via email upon booking.

How to pay us

Payment options include direct EFT payments, cheque or credit card, all to our agent Airport Travel Centre.

For direct payment at a branch or internet transfer:

Bank:	Westpac
Account Name:	Airport Travel Centre
BSB:	035212
Account Number:	188009

Please tag your payment with **your name**, and inform us you have paid (atc@chesselladventures.com)

Cheques should be made out to Airport Travel Centre, and mailed: Att: Adele, PO Box 189, Export Park SA 5950

Credit card payments: please call Airport Travel Centre with your payment details.

Personal details & trip details

Name as on passport: First name(s): _____ Last name: _____

Home address: _____

Postal address: _____

Phone number: AH: _____ BH: _____

Mobile phone: _____ Which is your preferred phone number: Home Work or Mobile

Email address: _____

Date of birth: (dd/mm/yyyy) _____ Nationality: _____

Shirt size: XS S M L XL XXL

Trip applied for: _____

Start date: _____ Finish date: _____

How did you hear about the trip: _____

Previous Experience: _____

Extra Comments or requests: _____

Special Dietary Requirement: _____

Emergency contact details (next of kin)

Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____

Phone number (preferred): _____ Mobile ph: _____

Email: _____

Residential Address: _____

Self assessed fitness / readiness for trip

Height (cm): _____ Weight (kg): _____ Resting heart rate: _____

Evaluate your general health: poor average good excellent

Evaluate your fitness: poor average good excellent

Please NOTE that you will on most trips be required to have your Doctor fill out a medical clearance certificate in addition to this information

Self assessed questions	Yes	No	Details
Do you feel you are physically prepared (or will be before commencement) for the trip that you are planning to undertake?			
Do you have any medical illnesses, infirmities, disabilities that require the regular care of a doctor?			
Do you have allergies, to food, bites, stings, drugs?			
Are you allergic to penicillin?			
List all the medications you are taking currently and the dosages			
Have you been hospitalised or had surgery in the last five years?			
Do you have any heart or respiratory problems?			
Are you a diabetic?			
Do you suffer from epilepsy or seizures of any kind?			
Do you have any physical or mental limitations that might preclude you from this trip?			
Are you pregnant?			

Booking conditions, waiver, pricing policy

Name as on passport: First name(s): _____ Last name: _____

Trip Name: _____ Start Date: _____

Total Trip cost: _____ Currency (listed on website): USDS or AU\$ or other _____

Deposit due: _____ Currency (listed on website): USDS or AU\$ or other _____

Base Currency price policy

Each trip has a "base currency" as listed on the website. The currency converter is indicative of a "mid rate" and the actual FX rates vary widely from bank to bank.

The base currency is often US\$ for the Himalayas/Africa, AU\$ for PNG. However check the listed currency against your trip on the website.

We require payment in this currency to be able to stabilise the price. Our agents and offices hold multi-currency bank accounts to facilitate this process, speak to your booking agent who will invoice you in the appropriate currency and assist with payment either by credit card, Pay Pal, EFT, telegraphic transfer, cheque or cash as appropriate. If you pay by prior arrangement with your agent in another currency be advised a FX surcharge may apply. Merchant (credit card) fees are charged on credit cards, rates vary, ask the agent.

Agents

Our agents handle all our reservations, bookings and will invoice you for your trip.

In Australia you can book with Airport Travel Centre in Adelaide who is our sole agent for Australia, t/a licence number TTA 192806. Airport Travel is also our sole agent for all PNG adventures.

You can also book with our Kathmandu office for Himalayan adventures. See our website for a complete list of contact details and agents to book with. You can also book online at www.chesselladventures.com and the closest agent will make contact to finalise your booking arrangements with you.

Credit cards can be used for AU\$ price trips + credit card fee (varies on agent, ask your agent)

Credit card type (circle): Visa Mastercard Amex Diners

Cardholder number:

Card Holder Name: _____

Card Security Code: last 3 digits on back of card (CSC)

Signature: _____ Expiry date /

Travel insurance & Doctors certificate

As a pre-condition for delivery of service you agree to return 60 days ahead of the start date of your trip, a Doctors certificate (that we will supply) stating you are fit for your intended journey and hold valid travel insurance appropriate to the journey intended that covers medical expenses and evacuation, i.e. climbing coverage for expeditions.

Booking Conditions

Risk Awareness / Liability Waiver

I have been advised by Chessell Adventures of the following matters in relation to my upcoming trip with Chessell Adventures. I have been advised that travel, trekking, climbing and especially mountaineering are inherently dangerous activities. I may be killed, injured, incapacitated and experience pain, illness and suffering. I may experience loss, damage or theft of my property. Any of the above may not be Chessell Adventures' fault or the fault of anyone. These incidents may be caused by others in my party, employees or directors of Chessell Adventures, their subcontractors or even my guide, may be caused by environmental factors, or even just physical or mental exhaustion which can happen at any time on my trip. There is no way of predicting all the hazards I may face. While Chessell Adventures will take reasonable precautions to minimise the risks, there is no way Chessell Adventures can guarantee my safety on this trip 100%.

I acknowledge that often the areas of operation are remote with little or no immediate medical support. In some remote areas self-rescue is the only option. My guide may need to begin first aid appropriate to the remoteness of the area and the nature of my ailment. By signing this document I certify that I have read and understood these risks and they are acceptable to me.

I also agree not to seek compensation, financial or otherwise from any incident that might occur during or associated with the trip, from Chessell Adventures, its directors, officers, employees, agents, partners or subcontractors.

Chessell Adventures and its agents including employees, guides, leaders, subcontractors and porters shall not be liable for loss, death or injury, to any of its clients or loss or damage or delay to their baggage, personal effects or other property arising from the following:

1. Acts of God including but not limited to Landslides, Ice Cliff Collapse, Avalanche, Earthquakes, Flooding and Fire;
2. Civil disturbances of any nature including but not limited to War, Revolution, Riots, Strikes or Labour Shortages;
3. Environmental Factors such as changes to trails rivers and valleys, loose rocks, unstable snow, unstable ground, bad weather;
4. Any other circumstance beyond our control and responsibility.

Acceptance

I have read and understood, and accept, the Risk Awareness / Liability Waiver, Cancellation Policy and the Trip Price Policy.

I understand and accept the risks that have been explained to me, I hereby waive my right to bring any legal claim against Chessell Adventures even where Chessell Adventures and its Employees, Agents or Contractors would otherwise be deemed liable due to Gross Negligence, Breach of Contract or otherwise.

Signed: Date: Name:

If under the age of 18 please have a parent or guardian sign for you.

Cancellation Policy

Your non-refundable deposit amount is specific to each trip and listed on the Chessell Adventures website or trip documentation. If you cancel you lose your deposit.

Payment in full is normally due 60 days ahead of departure date, if you don't pay by this date you can lose your place on the trip and your deposit is forfeit. In rare cases earlier payment will be required.

Normal Policy Is:

If you cancel 60-31 days before departure date you lose 50% of your payments.

If you cancel less than 31 days before departure date you lose 100% of your payments.

If you cancel and we are able to fill your place on the trip we may refund your money at our discretion. This would normally be subject to an administration fee. We may also choose to offer you another trip (transferable) at our discretion. Chessell Adventures reserves the right to vary or cancel a trip or a specific departure and will endeavour to advise you of cancellations not less than 42 days before departure. In the event of Chessell Adventures cancelling a trip, we would work with all the members of the trip to try to provide an alternative venue. If you do not accept alternative arrangements we will refund all payments you have made to Chessell Adventures, less any unrecoverable costs. Chessell Adventures will not be liable for any additional costs incurred by you such as airticket cancellation fees or changes. We advise you to have a travel insurance policy that covers cancellation.

Itinerary Policy

Chessell Adventures will make every effort to achieve the objectives of the given trip/expedition. By signing below I understand that variations may be necessary for reasons including but not limited to: safety, interruptions to transportation, political unrest, prevailing weather conditions and the needs of the group.

Trip Price Policy

The trip price may change at any stage. Changes might be due to international currency fluctuations, inflation, fuel prices, conditions, fees or other changes. Once your full payment has cleared into our account, we would normally not vary the price. If the trip price were to vary considerably (>10%) after you had paid your non-refundable deposit and you decided to cancel we would likely allow a full refund or transfer to another trip.

For included/excluded items and any special conditions, see the Info Pack for each specific expedition.