

Shaggy Ridge



Battle for the north of PNG

Information Pack

Adventure Facts:



Best season: _____ June - October

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

Duration: _____ 10 days

Hotels: _____ 3 nights twin share

Camping: _____ 6 nights

Meals provided: ___ 9 Breakfast, 8 lunch and 8 dinner

Group Size: _____ 8 to 15

Activity split: _____ 4 travel days (2 international, 2 domestic),
6 trekking days



Highlights

- Follow the SA battalion's 2/27th fight for the North of PNG through 'Operation Cutthroat'.
- Relaxing before and after the trek at the convenient and beautiful Loloata Island Resort and a night at Madang
- Each day has a different challenge - hills, ridge line and a magnificent gorge
- No crowds
- A small group to share the adventure with - 8 to 15 participants
- Fully catered, delicious fresh meals using a mix of imported and local foods including fresh fruit and vegetables
- You can walk at your own pace, so you can enjoy the pristine and tranquil jungle
- A remote journey. Few have visited and seen the historical sites where the history comes alive.

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 of leadership, expedition logistics and health. 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 and the base camp or the summit of Mt Everest! We conduct a wide range of adventures in the Himalayas and arrange custom expeditions worldwide including on Shaggy Ridge.



Call Adele@ Airport Travel Centre to book: +61 8 8234 3511
atc@chesselladventures.com

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History

Shaggy Ridge is a sawline geographical feature in the Ramu Valley, north eastern Papua New Guinea. This impressive six and a half kilometre ridgeline is located in the Finisterre Mountains. The ridge encompasses three outcrops with the most famous being 'The Pimple'. Shaggy Ridge was named after Australian soldier Captain Robert Clampett (nicknamed Shaggy Bob), who was the commanding officer of 'A' company, 2/27th Battalion.

In 1943 the Japanese harnessed Shaggy Ridge as their main position of defence. This meant access to the roads leading to the north coast via Ramu Valley were blocked.

The Japanese were forced northward after fighting the Australians in the Finschafen area for 65 days. The 9th Division were moving along the coast pursuing the Japanese while the 7th Division were getting ready to assault Shaggy Ridge from the other side of the Finisterre Range.

In the early hours of December 27th 1943, Shaggy Ridge was struck with around 35,000 25 pounder shells and Japanese posts were invaded with a squadron of American-manned Kittyhawks and Australian built aircrafts known as Boomerangs. This attack helped to reduce the Australian casualties of the ground troops who were making their way across the ridgeline towards The Pimple. A Japanese pillbox on the Pimple halted the Australian attack. By morning of 28th December, the pillbox was blasted by explosives making way for the Australians to pass.

On the 19th January, the 18th Brigade commenced 'Operation Cutthroat'. The brigade's three battalions captured Shaggy Ridge and the Kankiry Saddle from different directions with artillery and allied aircraft support. The 2/12th Battalion moved towards the knolls Prothero I and II, while the 2/9th Battalion attacked to clear McCaughey's Knoll and the 2/10th Battalion advanced along Faria Ridge. After scrambling up slopes some would have considered impassable, walking on tracks that in places were so narrow soldiers could not walk side by side and days of fighting, Shaggy Ridge was occupied by Australians, destroying the domination the Japanese held over the Ramu Valley.

Shaggy Ridge saw many savage battles and the strategies put in place played a role in setting the bench mark for future campaigns. On the 10th February 1944 at Saidor, the Australian soldiers met up with the American troops signifying the finish of the Huon Peninsula campaign.



Historical relics



Lae cemetery

The Journey

Day 1: Arrive Port Moresby

Arrive into Port Moresby. At the airport you will be greeted by a Chessell Adventures representative who will take you to your accommodation where your guide will provide a trip briefing.

Day 2: Port Moresby to Lae and on to Dumpu

We get an early start for our flight to Lae. We meet with our ground transport and make our way up the Markham Valley and enter the Ramu Valley en route to Dumpu. We camp at the foot of the imposing Shaggy Ridge and ponder the exhausting proposition of fighting in this rugged landscape.



Day 3 to Day 8: Dumpu to Madang

Our trek begins!

We start the day with a hearty breakfast to store energy for the trip ahead. We make our way straight up and onto Shaggy Ridge. There will be time to explore the many sites of interest along the way such as the Australian 'posts' and Japanese and Australian weapons pits.

As we travel along the top of Shaggy Ridge we take time to absorb the atmosphere and history of the area and we camp on the ridge to get the most out of our time there. Expect to negotiate some tough terrain that at times will require some scrambling through the jungle.

We descend from the ridge and move towards Kankiryo. There will be an opportunity for the fitter members of the group to explore the Kankiryo Saddle and Crater Hill areas before we push on to Saipa.

As we head along the flatter section of the route there are plenty of river crossings to negotiate. We gradually continue to Daumoina and on towards Mabelebu.

As we near the end of our trek and meet our transport to Madang we feel a great sense of accomplishment for what we have achieved but our hearts and minds will remember the price that was paid by the stoic men who fought on the same terrain we have just trekked.

If time permits, you can choose to relax or explore Madang before we enjoy a nice meal amid the beautiful surrounds of the hotel.



Day 9: Madang to Port Moresby

We fly from Madang to Port Moresby and sort out all our gear, returning what was borrowed to the PNG Chessell Adventures base. Back at Loloata Island Resort there is the possibility for some local snorkeling or a cool drink before heading to a delicious dinner.

Day 10: Port Moresby – (Cairns / Brisbane) – home

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

NB The itinerary provided is intended as a guide. Local factors including weather or track conditions may affect the actual itinerary.

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.

Group Size

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

Leadership

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 and safe to do so, 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.

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.*



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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 Shaggy Ridge trek is off the beaten track and a grand adventure awaits those who are well experienced in trekking. If you have successfully completed the Kokoda Track, Shaggy Ridge is a great trek to plan next. We follow a track known to locals and in many places it requires concentration on foot placements. There are many picturesque places to stop and take photos of your trek.



Tour of Madang

Fitness required

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 and slippery in places and you can expect to be tired on more than one day. You need to be prepared to push yourself on the longer days so the more training you do before the trek the more you will enjoy it.

Chessell Adventures has a comprehensive training package we can provide for 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. Much of it is hot and humid with heavy seasonal precipitation. The 'wet season' 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 treks are of 10 days duration which includes travel to and from PNG.

Personal Porters

The trip price includes a 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 either share, or opt out completely from having a personal porter. Sharing a porter between two trekkers will reduce the trip cost by \$350 per person, or 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 15-20kg, depending on how much personal gear you bring. Not many choose these options as they do add substantially to the difficulty of the trek.

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.



Extra nights

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.



Loloata Island Resort

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.

As the Island is a short ride from Port Moresby, city tours and cultural shopping trips can also be organised (at an extra cost).

Prices per room per night with full board

Single occupancy room AUD \$ 225 per person

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

* Note these prices are subject to change at late notice and are based on 2009 costs

Madang Resort

Let the adventure continue at Madang Resort where you can paddle in traditional canoes, go diving, jet skiing go Game fishing or shop at the local market. Or you can sit back by the quiet pool edge or wonder through the gardens listening to the birds and photographing the rare native orchids. Ask us for prices.

What's included

The package is designed to minimise the purchase of personal equipment and organisation required for you. 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 15 participants (negotiable for private groups)

- Professional and experienced leader with good knowledge about the history of Shaggy Ridge plus excellent local guides.
- Group porters for food and cooking equipment
- The leader carries a comprehensive medical kit as well as equipment for emergency communications
- Full personal porter (ratio 1:1) to carry your gear and a large backpack with waterproof liner to keep your clothes dry
- All meals on the trek and at Loloata Island Resort. Good quality meals at the hotel and fresh, nutritious and plentiful meals on the track prepared by your expedition leader and the Chessell Adventures team.
- 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.
- 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
- Airport transfers in Port Moresby, Lae and Madang
- Flights between Port Moresby & Lae and Madang & Port Moresby
- Three nights hotel accommodation (2 at Loloata Island Resort and 1 at Madang Resort) on twin share basis
- Water purification system e.g. purification tablets
- A poncho to keep the rain off your shoulders
- Training guidance and support programs via our web downloads section of the 'Client info zone' (special programs for groups are available)
- History briefing in Port Moresby and on the track
- A certificate of completion and a group photograph
- **Chessell Adventures survival pack, which is yours to keep includes:**

Two trek shirts, 3 litre Nalgene® drink bladder, insect repellent, sunscreen, antibacterial hand wash gel and biodegradable wilderness wash

What's not included

- Meals and drinks at Madang
- 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
- Tips for crew (PGK 200-300 = AUD 100-150, depending on group size)
- 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.
- Personal clothing and some personal equipment for the trek

Shaggy Ridge 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

✓ Chessell Adventures 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

✓ Chessell Adventures 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

✓ 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 Steripen® ultraviolet water purification system or 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)

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 "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.

Testimonials

"I wanted to have another trekking experience which had some similarity to Kokoda and related to WWII. I also had the opportunity to trek Shaggy Ridge with one of my daughters, which was very special." Judith Botha

"Shaggy Ridge is a great adjunct to Kokoda. If you want another adventure in an even more remote and raw environment then Shaggy Ridge will provide it! Every day on our trek we were surprised by the challenges, the changing environments and even the friendliness of the local indigenous people living in the jungle. Our first day on the track we were welcomed into Guy's Post by the villagers providing a raucous welcoming ceremony in full dress, singing and chanting as we followed them into their village!



Exquisite flora

The Ridge itself is nothing short of spectacular. A narrow razorback for 6.5km with views in all directions. How you could fight a war up there defies belief! Once down in the jungle the track is very indistinct and you could be excused for thinking that no one had been there before.

The Mindjim River Gorge is quite a challenge with fast flowing water and slippery rocks. As usual the porters were very sure footed and we all managed to stay on our feet. There are more crossings than we cared to count and you can expect to live in wet boots and clothes for a few days.....thank goodness it's not cold! After walking through the gorge we trekked out through the wide Mindjim Valley and after a well earned rest at the President's Village we made our way to Madang for an idealic bit of R & R at the Madang Resort. What a great Trip!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Lindsay Ames

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.mountainsdesigns.com for 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.

Here are some examples:

World Nomads <http://www.worldnomads.com>

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 Shaggy Ridge).



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 in a paper booking form then post, scan or fax it to us

Step 2: pay your deposit

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.