

FACT SHEETS PNG



MAP AND OVERVIEW

Made up of the Eastern half of New Guinea, and multiple islands, located in the Pacific Ocean.

Papua New Guinea is a mountainous country, and much of it is covered with tropical rainforest.

The highest areas receive snow, which is rare in the tropics.



RUGBY LEAGUE IN PNG

Rugby league was introduced to the country during the 1930s by Australian miners and played by soldiers stationed there during and after World War II.

Papua New Guinea is the only country in the world to have rugby league as their national sport.

The men's national team are known as The Kumuls (birds of paradise).

The women's national team are known as The Orchids.



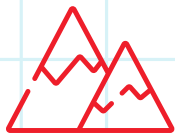
Edene Gebbie of PNG

PNG IS FAMOUS FOR ...

Having one of the highest diversities of languages in the world – there are 851 spoken languages amongst its population of 7.6 million!

The New Guinea Highlands – a chain of mountain ranges and river valleys - run the length of the island of New Guinea.

Researchers believe there are many undiscovered species of plants and animals in the interior.



HIGHEST MOUNTAINS

MOUNT WILHELM
MOUNT GILUWE
MOUNT KUBOR

4,509M
4,376M
4,359M



LONGEST RIVERS

SEPIK RIVER
FLY RIVER
RAMU RIVER

1,126KM
1,050KM
640KM

A BRIEF HISTORY OF PNG

The first people in PNG crossed the Bering Straits from Asia.

The first Europeans to explore the country were Vikings but they left due to increasing conflicts with natives. In 1497, an Italian, John Cabot, led an expedition to Newfoundland in PNG and made claim to the land for King Henry VII of England.

Throughout the 1600s and 1700s, British and French settlers fought over land. Towards the end of this period, agreements were reached which began to settle these conflicts.

THE FLAG

It was adopted in 1965, after much debate.

Unofficially known as the Maple Leaf after the leaf which adorns its middle and was a popular food source to indigenous Canadians.

The colour red is symbolic of England and white was symbolic of France, both former rulers.



DID YOU KNOW...

PNG and Indonesia share the island of New Guinea which is one of the world's largest islands.

PNG WEATHER

RAINY
December - March

Average daytime temperature
26 - 30 °C

DRY
May - October

Average daytime temperature
26 - 30 °C