

# GONDWANA CONNECTION

## WILDLIFE TOURS

GONDWANA CONNECTION Wildlife Tours

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## Birding East of the Webers's Line 2019

GONDWANA CONNECTION Wildlife Tours have developed this 14 day tour as an introduction to areas of the far western end of New Guinea.

This region is rapidly growing as a very desirable destination, not only for birders, but also by those wanting to experience a truly beautiful part of the world. Some of the islands of the Raja Ampat of the tip of the Vogelkop Peninsula and two of those within the Geelvink Bay will form a major part of this tour. We will also venture out onto a small area of the Vogelkop, an area known as the Klasow Valley.

This time of the year has been selected as it presents the Birds of Paradise at their best. We will have the opportunity to encounter seven BOP species, with two of these being endemic to the area we will visit.

Birding in New Guinea can be a bit of an expensive exercise at times and movement from one site to another certainly adds to this cost. What we have done is to centre our activities around three centres and work out into the surrounding areas. This will involve spending ten nights in village/homestays. At the same time putting you in the middle of what you have travelled to NG to see, wildlife and this absolutely incredible country.

These facilities are a little basic, but comfortable, the food wonderful and the people very friendly. Local guides will take us out and introduce you to what they know so very well.

By utilizing these facilities, we are able to offer a truly memorable experience, plenty of birdlife/wildlife and at the same time keep the price at a manageable level.

**Tour starts and finishes:** Perth, Western Australia

**Scheduled dates:** 22<sup>nd</sup> July – 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**Price:** AU\$4665 p/p twin share, all inclusive.  
Based on 4 participants

**Note:** Should you wish to join tour in Denpasar, Bali, the cost will be \$4440 p/p twin share.

**Tour Leader:** Des Hume

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## Birding East of the Weber's Line 2019

### Tour details

**Tour starts and finishes:** Perth, Western Australia

**Scheduled departure and return dates:** This tour will start with a 07.35 flight on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Please ensure that you are in Perth prior to this date. Tour will finish back in Perth on the 4<sup>th</sup> August. Further details in relation to flights are to be found in the itinerary attached. Should you wish to joint tour in Denpasar, Bali, you will need to be at Denpasar Airport by 15.20 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

**Tour leader:** Des Hume, with local guides at the respective sites.

**Difficulty:** A medium level of fitness is all that is required to participate in this tour. Most days will consist of relatively easy walking conditions, but there are a couple of sites that will require a little more exertion. Accessing Malagufuk Village in the Klasow Valley will require 1.5-2 hours walking, so this will probably be the most testing part of the trip.

Boating between Biak and Numfor Islands will take about four hours, so this will also test some. All being well, we should have good boating conditions at this time. There is also the return trip.

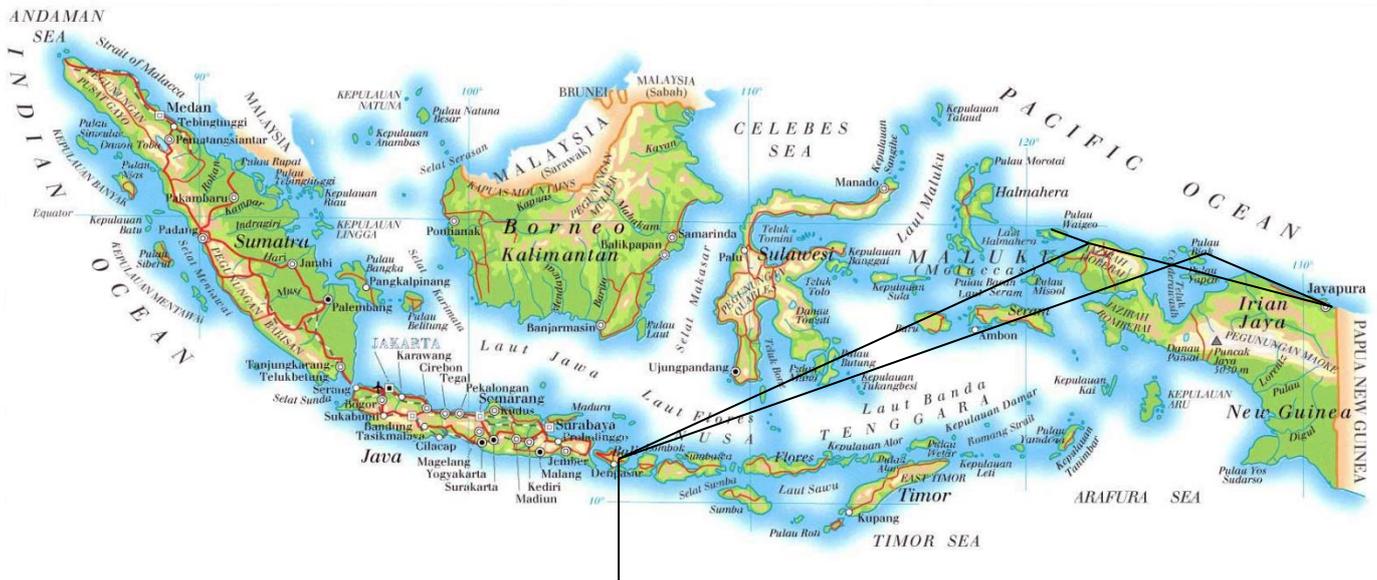
**What to bring:** We ask for participants to travel relatively light on this trip. This is particularly important due to the limited space available when travelling in the boats and vehicles at the respective sites.

Items like binoculars, camera, mobile phone, chargers, British style power adaptors, strong insect repellent, sunscreen, personal medications, water bottle and hand sanitizer are necessary.

**Clothing:** July/August generally offers good weather conditions in the areas to be visited, so clothing taken should allow for this. Lightweight long pants, long-sleeved shirts and t-shirts will be most suitable. A warmer jumper/jacket for evenings and a showerproof jacket should also be included in your kit to play it safe. Don't forget a hat and sturdy boots as well. There will also be the opportunity to go swimming and snorkelling at various locations, so a pair of bathers will not go astray.

**Group size:** A maximum group of four participants is required.

**Cost:** AU\$4665 p/p twin share. See inclusion/exclusions and terms/conditions for additional details.



## GONDWANA CONNECTION

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### Itinerary

#### Day 1 (22<sup>nd</sup> July):

Our Garuda Indonesia flight will depart Perth Airport at 07.35 and arrive in Denpasar, Bali at 11.00. Given the long stop-over in Denpasar, there will be about four hours free time to do a little local around town birding or just enjoy the sites.

Flight departs for Makassar at 17.20. On arrival, we will have access to motel rooms so that participants can freshen up and have a rest before the 01.15 flight the following morning.

#### Day 2 (23<sup>rd</sup> July):

Our flight departs Makassar at 01.25 and arrives on Biak at 05.10. Motel rooms will have been reserved for this night, so we will have access at this early hour.

After breakfast, we will head out to bird the areas to the east of town. Given that we will have the greater part of the day to do this, we should pick up a lot of the islands endemics. Main target species will include the **Black-winged Lory**, **Geelvink Pygmy Parrot** and **Biak Paradise Kingfisher**.

For the herpers, we will be keeping an eye open for **Varanus kordensis**.

Overnight at Hotel Basana Inn. Meals included B,L,D

#### Day 3 (24<sup>th</sup> July):

After an early breakfast, we will board a high speed boat for a 4 hour boat ride to Numfor Island.

Our main targets on the small island are the **Biak Megapode**, **Hooded Pitta** and **Numfor Paradise Kingfisher**.

Overnight at Meals included B,L,D

#### **Day 4 (25<sup>th</sup> July):**

An early breakfast and back out there, is the plan. We will have until about midday available for birding and then we need to boat back to Biak.

Overnight at Hotel Basana Inn. Meals included B,L,D

#### **Day 5 (26<sup>th</sup> July):**

Again we will need to rise early for our 05.55 flight to Sorong, via Jayapura and Manokwari. Finally arriving in Sorong at 14.15.

As there will be about four hours stop-over in Jayapura, we can have a quick look around town and get our Raja Ampat Marine Park Permit.

The balance of the afternoon will be available to have a look around town, if so desired.

Overnight at Je Meridian Hotel in en-suite rooms. Meals included B,L,D.

#### **Day 6 (27<sup>th</sup> July):**

Relaxed breakfast will be the go this morning, after which we will head down to the ferry terminal. Our ferry to Biak will depart at 09.00 and will arrive at our destination two hours later. Will be keeping an eye open for the **Red-footed Boobies**. We will then transfer to our accommodation for the next couple of days at Yenkangkanes Homestay.

Afternoon available to bird areas out to the **Red Bird of Paradise** lek. Included in our target species are the **Brown-headed Crow, Palm Cockatoo, Common Paradise Kingfisher** and **Great Cuckoo Dove**.

There is a very good chance that we may get to share our evening meal with the endemic **Waigeo Cuscus** that like around the homestay.

Night at Yenkangkanes Homestay in rustic, over-water bungalows with shared basic facilities. Meals included B,L,D.

#### **Day 7 (28<sup>th</sup> July):**

Today will start with an early start to allow for us to get to the **Wilson's Bird of Paradise** lek as soon as possible. The more time spent observing the remarkable bird the better. In addition to the species mentioned above, will also be pursuing **Twelve-wired Bird of Paradise, White-eared Catbirds, Pheasant Pigeons** and the totally awesome **Western Crowned Pigeons**.

For those with herping interests, we will be watching out for **Varanus boehmei** and the local form of **Amethystine Python**.

Night at Yenkangkanes Homestay in rustic, over-water bungalows with shared basic facilities. Meals included B,L,D.

#### **Day 8 (29<sup>th</sup> July):**

After ware-welling our hosts, will take a fairly easy boating ride to Gam Island and our nest temporary home at Nudibranch Homestay.

Afternoon is available to start hunting for our birding targets, which include the **Dusky Megapode, Great-billed Parrot** and **Great-billed Heron**.

Night at Nudibranch Homestay with shared basic facilities. Meals included B-L-D

### **Day 9 (30<sup>th</sup> July):**

The whole of today is available to bird Gam Island.

Night at Nudibranch Homestay with shared basic facilities. Meals included B,L,D.

### **Day 10 (31<sup>st</sup> July):**

After an early breakfast, we will boat back to Waigeo and then hop onto our ferry for Sorong.

We will then have an early lunch and head off again for our next village stay. This will require a two hour drive and then a relatively easy 1.5 hour walk. I assume there will be various avian distractions along the way.

Night at Malagufuk Village Stay with shared basic facilities. Meals included B,L,D

### **Day 11 (1<sup>st</sup> August):**

As we have two full days to bird this area, we should pick up a rather nice list. Species to be targeted will include the **Black Lory, Moluccan King Parrot, Large Fig-parrot, Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot, Western Crowned Pigeon, Red-breasted Paradise Kingfisher** and a new **BOP, the Lesser Bird of Paradise**.

Night at Malagufuk Village Stay with shared basic facilities. Meals included B,L,D

### **Day 12 (2<sup>nd</sup> August):**

Today we carry on with the pursuit of the species listed above and any other delights that may turn up. We must be forever vigilant and watch for the ultimate ticks, the **Northern and Dwarf Cassowary**.

Night at Malagufuk Village Stay with shared basic facilities. Meals included B,L,D

### **Day 13 (3<sup>rd</sup> August):**

This morning we say farewell and walk back to the head of the road and our awaiting vehicle to be returned to Sorong. With lunch under our belts, we then pop out for the afternoon to a protected area called Taman Wisata Alam Sorong "Hutong Lindi". This will hopefully produce **Red-breasted Paradise Kingfishers, Black Lory, Thick-billed Ground Pigeon, Lesser and King Birds of Paradise**.

Overnight at Je Meridian Hotel in en-suite rooms. Meals included B,L,D.

### **Day 14 (4<sup>th</sup> August):**

Today we head home to Aussie.

Our Garuda flight departs at 08.25 and arrives in Denpasar at 14.35. For those heading off to other destinations, other than Perth, we say farewell. Those going back to WA, then your flight is leaving at 19.10 and will touch down in Perth at 22.50.

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#### Price inclusion and exclusions

##### Included:

- ❖ International airfares ex Perth, Western Australia, unless joining from outside Australia or otherwise arranged.
- ❖ Indonesian/West Papua domestic airfares and taxes.
- ❖ All accommodation as indicated in itinerary, including taxes. **Price based on twin share.** Single accommodation is not always available, for those having this requirement.
- ❖ All breakfasts, lunches and evening meals. Non-alcoholic beverages included.
- ❖ English speaking guides during entire tour.
- ❖ All guiding, land access fees and associated costs.
- ❖ All road transport with drivers and fuel. This includes airport transfers.
- ❖ Boat transfers to Numfor, Weigeo and Gam Islands.

##### Excluded:

- ❖ Travel insurance
- ❖ Papua New Guinea Tourist Visa.
- ❖ All alcoholic drinks.
- ❖ Personal effects, including toiletries, medications such as malaria prophylactics and the like.
- ❖ Souvenirs.
- ❖ Anything not shown as included

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[des@gondconnect.com.au](mailto:des@gondconnect.com.au)



## Birding east of the Weber's Line 2019 22<sup>nd</sup> July to the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019 Booking Form

Please print out (Two pages) and complete booking form, one per participant.

Once signed, scan and email it back to [des@gondconnect.com.au](mailto:des@gondconnect.com.au) or post, with payment to address shown above,

Name (As shown on passport): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Blood Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Next of kin, in-case of emergency: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical: Doctor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor's Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

I am aware of the need for precaution against Malaria (confirm with a yes): \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary requirements: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Accommodation:** Given the remote nature and limited accommodation at some sites visited, we cannot always offer single accommodation, but will endeavour to accommodate participants with this request where possible. Please indicate with a tick your preferred arrangement.

- Double room. Two people with one bed  
 Twin room. Two people with two beds  
 Single room.

If wanting to share with a particular person, please insert their name here. \_\_\_\_\_

## Terms and Conditions

**Itinerary Notes:** Our itinerary can change with the schedules and availability of domestic flights. Accommodation listed may also change due to availability and if so similar standards of accommodation will be utilized. Although we will do our very best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as shown, it may be subject to change for numerous reasons beyond our control. If elements of the trip are delayed due to bad weather, cancelled or delayed flights or delays with other forms of transport and other situations for which GONDWANA CONNECTION Wildlife Tours or our agents cannot make provisions, the cost of these delays are not included. This is why we insist on Travellers Insurance.

**Cancellation Policy: More than 60 days prior to departure:** Once flights are booked, cancellations will incur the necessary fees as stipulated by the airlines. The balance will then be returned in full.

**Between 60 and 30 days prior to departure:** Cancellation fees as required by airlines, accommodation and service suppliers will be deducted. The balance will then be refunded.

**Less than 30 days from departure:** Any refund would be at the sole discretion of the management of GONDWANA CONNECTION Wildlife Tours.

I agree to book this tour. I have read and understood all terms and conditions outlined.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tour payments:** To secure your position on this tour, we will require a AU\$2000 deposit and the balance will need to be paid 60 days prior to departure. Payments can be made using the options outlined below. Please tick your preferred payment option.

**Bank or personal Cheque:** Please make cheques payable to Gondwana Connection.

**Paypal:** If you use this method, please let us know and we will forward a secure Paypal invoice. We will be required to add an additional fee of between 2.6-3.6%.

**Bank Wire Transfer:** If making a payment from outside of Australia, please ensure that you are to incur any fees at both ends and payment is in AU\$.

Westpac Bank

T6 Stockland Baldivis Shopping Centre

Baldivis

Western Australia 6171

Account name: Mr Desmond John Hume & Mrs Anita Marjan Hume

T/AS Gondwana Connection

BSB - 036092 Account No - 126253

Swift code: WPACAU2S (If 11 characters are required WPACAU2SXXX)