

Fergusson Island

DeiDei Guest House

DeiDei offers a wild beauty of scorched barren landscape, gushing geysers, hot streams beneath rainforest canopy, and an idyllic bay. DeiDei Guest House looks across a bay to Fergusson Island where children paddle on canoes, and fisherman spear for fish before your eyes. A very different environment awaits you a short walk behind DeiDei Guest House. The volcanic nature of the island shows itself in spouting hot geysers, springs and streams. Women cook local foods in the boiling geysers by immersing woven baskets held in place by stones.



Accommodation

DeiDei accommodation is traditional with a few modern amenities, including a small library and a generator for use at night. The housing consists of a single thatched hut with three rooms, Mosquito netting and mattresses are provided. There is a covered outdoor eating area and separate bucket shower room for washing. The walk to the toilet is an adventure on a bridge, but other facilities are under construction. The Guest House can cater to larger groups for day trips. Overnight maximum Group Size: 10.

(Accommodation described from 2010.)



Experiences

Without a doubt the key attractions are the hot springs!!

Just a 30 minute flat and easy walk from the Guest House brings you to the hot springs. Make sure that you take a guide and follow their advice because of the conditions; what looks like a flat pool of clear water could be at boiling temperature. Enjoy a cooked meal from the hot springs; bathe in hot streams under the canopy of primary rainforest; canoe in the bay.

Experiences include:

- ❖ Viewing hot springs
- ❖ Bathing in hot stream
- ❖ Fishing
- ❖ Budoya Saturday market
- ❖ Basket weaving
- ❖ Swimming
- ❖ Story telling

How to get there

1.5 hr PMV bus ride from Alotau to East Cape; 3 hr dingy ride to DeiDei. You should book your dingy travel two days in advance. It is also advisable to bring 60 litres of petrol for your return trip.

Refer to the 'Visitor Information Guide' for more information about travel in remote areas, what to bring, and how to organise your trip.

It is best to have a booking through Mack (DeiDei Guest House Alotau contact), Napatana Lodge or Milne Bay Tourism Bureau at least 2 days in advance.



What to bring

In addition to insect repellent, first aid and medical kit, don't forget toilet paper, tea bags, spices (salt, pepper), and waterproof bags for all of your gear! Epoxy resin and a small tool kit are also very useful.



Health, safety & cultural tips

Check with your physician before travelling. These village experiences are authentic and therefore can be a bit challenging for people used to a sedentary lifestyle. Milne Bay Province is safe for tourists due to the mainly matrilineal culture. The culture is very polite to guests and you will be well cared for. However, timeframes will probably be different to what you are used to and the general amenities more sparse. Sundays are considered a day of rest so travel and activities are restricted.

Remember that your financial contribution will protect biodiversity and support local conservation and local values, but not western style accommodation.

Make sure to ask how much your stay will cost you so that there are no surprises (each activity has a cost). Although prices are standardised, managers feel it is rude to mention money upon your arrival.

Travel combinations with other villages

DeiDei Guest House is close to Gomwa Guest House and Waluma Guest House. The three village experiences can be easily combined. It is recommended that you first travel by boat to Waluma Village; walk from Waluma to DeiDei Village; then organise a canoe from DeiDei to Gomwa Village. It is an easy one hour walk on flat terrain from Waluma to DeiDei Guest House. We suggest this route because Waluma Village is the most remote location, and it is easier to organise return travel from Gomwa to Alotau.



Managers

Jennifer and Francis

Booking details and contacts

DeiDei Guest House (Mack, Alotau contact)
Phone: (+675) 72075011

Napatana Lodge (Gretta Kwasnicka, Owner)
www.napatanalodge.com
Phone: (+675) 6410588
Email: info@napatanalodge.com
cc: grettak@daltron.com

Milne Bay Tourism Bureau
Phone: (675) 641 1503
Fax: (675) 641 0132
Email: infotourism@milnebay.gov.pg



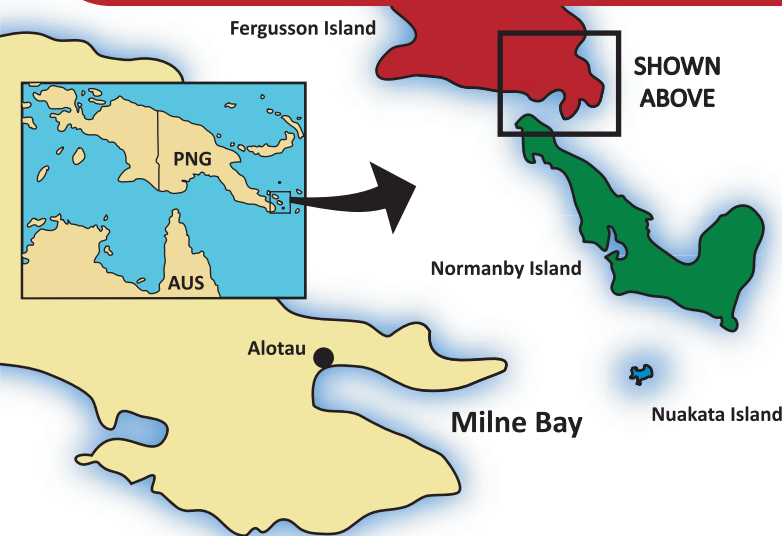
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KEY ATTRACTIONS

All attractions and activities must be carried out with local guides. This can be arranged through your Guest House.

- 1 Elagege:** 6 hr return; challenging mountain hike from Gomwa Guest House. Very steep inclines and dense jungle. Stunning views of surrounding areas from the top with a cool sea breeze.
- 2 Galubwa:** 7 hr return; moderate to strenuous walk from Gomwa Guest House. The terrain is mostly flat with some undulation and some steep inclines. You will journey through jungle, cross cool streams, and walk past local villages and gardens. The walk to Galubwa village is only moderately difficult; enjoy lunch at Galubwa village. From Galubwa, hike through rainforest to the waterfall (steep ascent) to jump from 6-12m into a cool and deep pool below.
- 3 Hot Springs:** 1hr return; easy and flat walk from DeiDei Guest House through scrub to spurting geysers, hot springs, boiling mud pools and thermal stream. Bathe in the thermal stream and cook food in the hot springs.
- 4 Budoya Market:** 2hr return; easy and flat walk from DeiDei Guest House to Budoya Market. You will pass local villages, schools, and churches and arrive at the local market. A good variety of fresh produce and a great cultural experience.
- 5 DeiDei to Waluma:** 1hr (one way); easy and flat walk from DeiDei Guest House to Waluma Guest House past local villages and gardens.
- 6 Swimming:** Swim from Waluma Guest House along the coast and experience underwater thermal vents and the mouth of a thermal stream coming out to sea. A unique swimming experience in hot sea water.
- 7 Snorkelling:** 3 hr return; travel by traditional war canoe from Waluma Guest House to Elvis Island and Guiya. Jump off the canoe into crystal clear blue waters to snorkel over reefs and around Elvis Island. You will come ashore at Guiya village with stunning white sand beach. Strong current and some wave action.
- 8 Steam vents:** 3hr scenic; moderate to strenuous hike from the Waluma beach to mountain ridge. A few steep inclines followed by a flat walk past hot steam vents and great views. Steep descent back to the beach followed by a canoe ride back to Waluma Guest House.



LEGEND:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Guesthouse | Market | Hot springs |
| Hiking trail | Snorkelling | Swimming |
| Canoe trail | Fishing | Thermal vents |
| Reef | | |
| Mangrove | | |
| Canoeing | | |
| Waterfall | | |
| Crocodiles | | |
| Traditional entertainment | | |