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Port Moresby

POP 364,000 / AREA 240 SQ KM

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Best Places to Eat

- Rapala (p52)
- Seoul House (p52)
- Fusion Bistro (p55)
- → Duffy's (p54)
- Cellar (p52)

Best Places to Stay

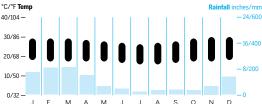
- Airways Hotel & Apartments (p51)
- Raintree Lodge (p50)
- → Mapang Missionary Home (p49)
- → Loloata Island Resort (p60)
- Ela Beach Hotel (p51)

Squeezed between the dusty hills and the deep blue sea, gritty Port Moresby is unlikely to be most travellers' idea of an enchanting capital. A spread-out collection of neighbourhoods, the city illustrates the stark divide between PNG's haves and have-nots. Modern office buildings in Town and Waigani and a glitzy marina full of yachts contrast with squatter shantytowns, without electricity or running water, that cling to the hillsides and scruffy marketplaces where barefoot higglers from nearby villages sell their modest wares.

Expensive, dangerous (or so many expats will tell you) and not easily walkable...it's easy to see why many visitors are tempted to spend as little time here as possible. But as Moresby's charms reveal themselves – a superb museum, a beautiful green space in the corner of the city, friendly locals, a gournet meal after weeks in the provinces – the city may well grow on you.

When to Go

Port Moresby



Year-round Hot year-round; average highs between 28°C and 32°C.

Dec-May Wet season with hotter, rainier days.

Jun-Nov Dry season, with slightly lower temperatures.