

Sibonai Guest House

Sibonai Guest House is nestled in primary rainforest, with a cool stream flowing behind the accommodation. You will experience the sounds of the forest as you relax after a day of adventuring. There is an abundance of bird and insect life to watch, and some mammals in the nearby trees.

Sibonai Guest House was built to promote bird watching tourism. This Guest House is managed by a single family, and is therefore not embedded in a local village. Sibonai is a remote guest house and will appeal to those seeking nature's comforts and inspiration.



Accommodation

A single thatched hut with four separate rooms with bedding and mosquito netting provided. A comfortable thatched eating area is surrounded by trees and you can sit and sing all night long. There is a separate pit toilet and bucket showers. Or you can wash away the day in the cool flowing stream local style.

(Accommodation described from 2010.)



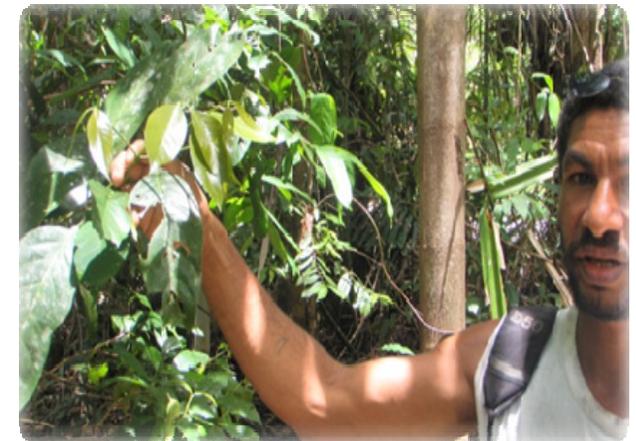
Experiences

This is the place for serious bird watchers. Forest hikes take you through exciting rainforest to the Goldie's Bird of Paradise. There are also many other species of endemic and rare birds to watch in the rainforest canopy. Along the way the excellent guides will point out the diversity of birds, plants, insects and all kinds of other creatures which will amaze you. Sacred Mountain of Bwebweso can be seen from Sibonai as can the endemic giant pitcher plant.

Or, take a day trip on a traditional canoe to a small island with excellent snorkelling.

Experiences include:

- ❖ Bird watching (endemic species)
- ❖ Rainforest Hikes
- ❖ Canoe trips
- ❖ Snorkelling (around a private island)
- ❖ Swimming in cool streams
- ❖ Coconut husking
- ❖ Hikes to cultural sites.





How to get there

1.5 hr PMV bus ride from Alotau to East Cape; 2 hr dingy ride to Sibonai. 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 Napatana Lodge or Milne Bay Tourism Bureau at least 2 days in advance.

What to bring

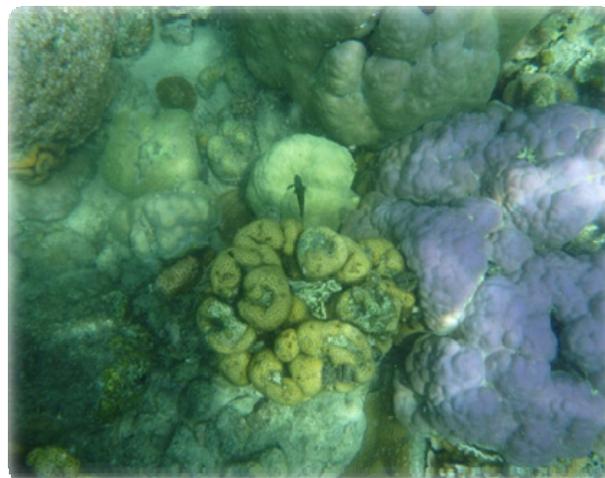
In addition to insect repellent, first aid and medical kit, don't forget toilet paper, tea bags, spices (salt, pepper), and waterproof bags for all of your gear! Epoxy resin and a small tool kit are also very useful.

Health, safety & cultural tips

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, time frames will be different to what you are used to and the general amenities more sparse. Sundays are 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

Sibonai is located about a 45 min traditional canoe ride from Saidowai Village. The two villages are very different and hence offer a complementary experience: rainforest (Sibonai) and culture (Saidowai).



Booking details and contacts

Managers

Waiyaki and Fred

Napatana Lodge (Gretta Kwasnicka, Owner)

www.napatanalodge.com

Phone: (+675) 6410588

Email: info@napatanalodge.com

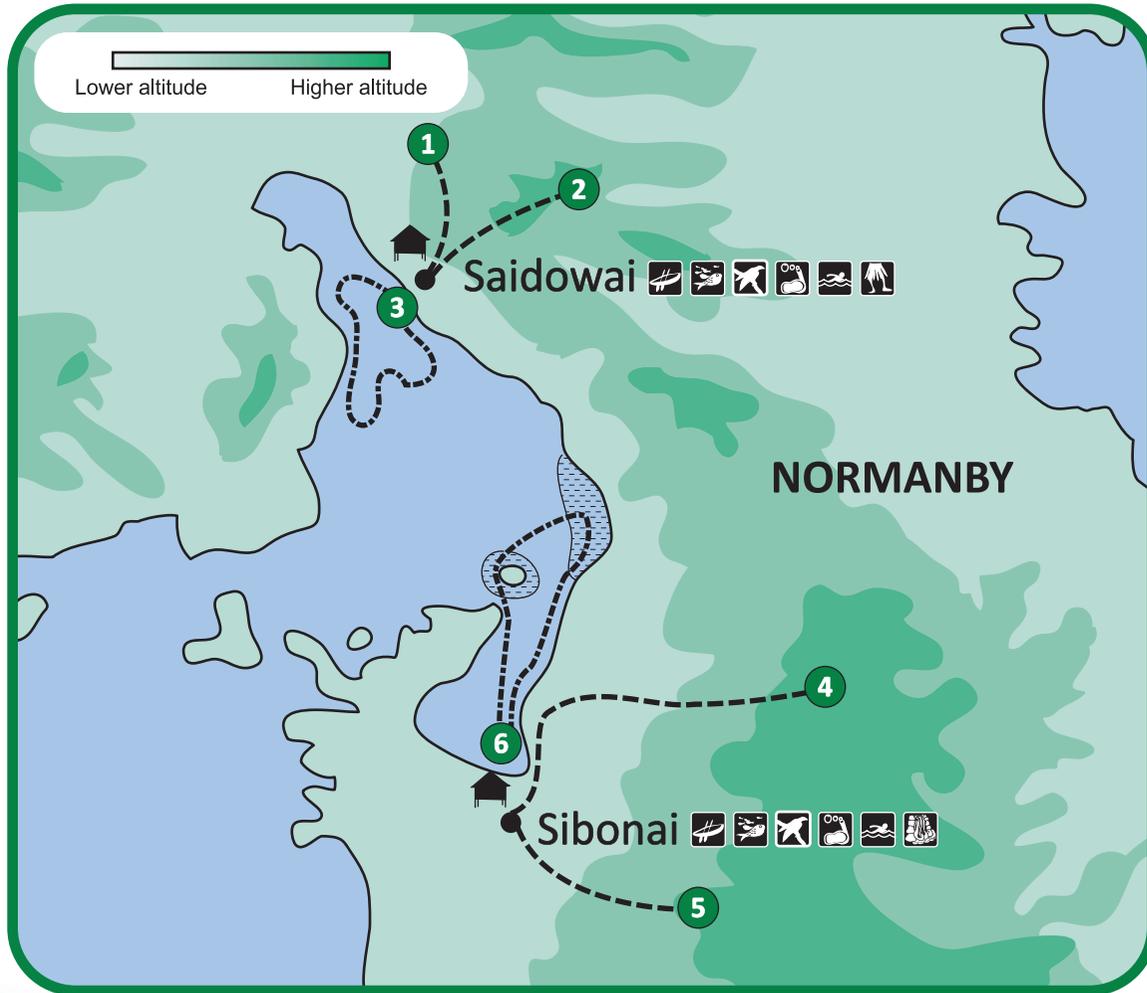
[cc:gretta@daltron.com](mailto:gretta@daltron.com)

Milne Bay Tourism Bureau

Phone: (675) 641 1503

Fax: (675) 641 0132

Email: infotourism@milnebay.gov.pg



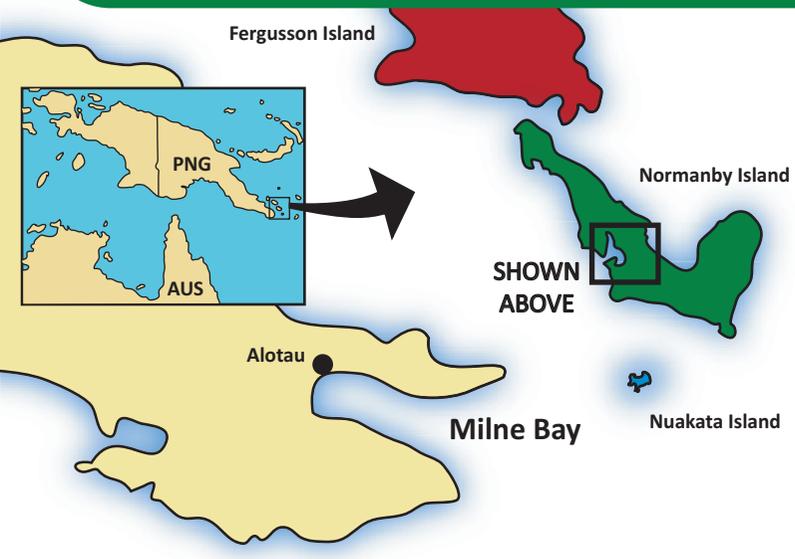
Normanby Island

KEY ATTRACTIONS



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

- 1 Welala:** 4hr return; easy/intermediate hike through dense jungle with some inclines from Saidowai Guest House to a rest house with scenic views. Significant opportunity for wildlife watching and possible Goldie's Bird of Paradise spotting.
- 2 Magic Stone (Oilage):** 4hr return; intermediate hike from Saidowai Guest House to the mountain of Oilage. Learn about the cultural significance of the magic stone. A scenic hike with excellent bird watching opportunities.
- 3 Traditional Canoe:** Paddle a handmade traditional canoe from Saidowai Guest House around the peaceful and calm waters of Sewa Bay. Fantastic bird and dolphin watching opportunities. Visit other villages, go fishing or snorkelling in the warm and bright azure tropical waters.
- 4 Buyeti:** 6 hr return; challenging hike from Sibonai Guest House to Buyeti. Hike through dense primary jungle to a reliable Goldie's Bird of Paradise site for bird watching. Also home to endemic and rare orchid species.
- 5 Freshwater pools:** 3hr return; easy hike. Mostly flat from Sibonai Guest House to cool fresh water streams and pools. Walk through dry creek beds and primary jungle to a chain of natural fresh water pools to swim and enjoy small waterfalls.
- 6 Snorkelling:** Paddle out to an uninhabited island in Sewa Bay in a traditional canoe from Sibonai Guest House. Snorkel around pristine and biodiverse reefs. Waters in Sewa Bay are warm, calm and clear. Opportunities for traditional fishing as well.



LEGEND:

- Guesthouse
- Hiking trail
- Canoe trail
- Reef
- Mangrove
- Canoeing
- Waterfall
- Fishing
- Traditional entertainment

- Goldie's Bird of Paradise
- Snorkelling
- Swimming