



Adventure Kokoda

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Adventure Kokoda

Adventure Kokoda is a specialist Kokoda Trek Operator with 20 years experience on the Kokoda Trail. We do not trek to any other destination. The company was established by Charlie Lynn, a former army major who is the leading advocate for the establishment of the Kokoda Trail as a National Memorial Park. Charlie has trekked Kokoda more than **60** times and mapped the original wartime trail over this period. He also re-discovered many of the battlesites that had been reclaimed by the jungle over the years since the war. These include Brigade Hill, the Isurava battlesite, the 'golden staircase' on Imita Ridge and the wartime route taken by the 39th Militia Battalion as they marched towards Kokoda to meet the invading Japanese army.

"Dear Charlie,

*I have been profoundly moved and affected by the Kokoda experience. I went thinking it would be a physical challenge and a bit of an adventure . . . how wrong was I! A physical challenge it certainly was but this was a minor issue to what Anna and I experienced. **The history, the emotion, the Papuans . . . it will never leave me now . . .** I am still trying to put it all together in my mind . . . but at the same time, passionate to make a difference. You have touched Anna and I with your enthusiasm, passion and history . . . I will never forget your recital of WX Unknown on that misty night at Brigade Hill at 8.30 pm.*

"Charlie, thank you for such a splendid experience . . . one we shall both carry to the grave. You have empowered us to do something . . . correct a wrong perhaps . . . to facilitate the Kokoda story being told to our children and thereafter to all Australians and to have appropriate memorials to these diggers who all fought under such hardship for the freedom we enjoy today".

Dr David D

Our Mission

Our mission is to get you safely across the Kokoda Trail and ensure you have an unforgettable historical, cultural and environmental experience.

Our Trek Leaders

Our trek leaders are experienced and professional – many are former soldiers. They are expert in the wartime history of the Kokoda campaign and will bring their battlefield presentations to life with a mix of history, poetry and diggers' personal stories. They are trained in advanced First Aid and are equipped with a satellite phone, VHF radios, 24-hour emergency back-up in Port Moresby and a comprehensive medical kit for the group.

Our trek leaders have no equal on Kokoda – their job is to get you safely across the trail and ensure you get the maximum historical, cultural and environmental value from your experience. They are all Kokoda specialists and do not lead treks anywhere else. You are in safe hands.



"Chad and Bernie made a great team who led the trek with talent and empathy. Although I had not thought too much of its importance prior to the trek, I soon realised how lucky we were to have leaders

with significant military experience and knowledge. They were able to take us to places others would not see and to convey an authoritative insight into each of the battles so that a real appreciation (for a non military person) was gained of how the campaign unfolded and why. My highlight was the dawn service at Isurava. It was such a moving experience and will stay with me forever.”
Peter B

Our Niugini Guides and Carriers

Our Niugini guides and carriers are the grandsons of the legendary ‘fuzzy-wuzzy angels’ and come from the villages we trek through. They are just as dedicated to getting you safely across the trail as their grandfathers were to our diggers. They will proudly introduce you to their families as we pass through their villagers. They truly are masters of their environment and great company during our treks. They will discuss their cultural traditions with you around the campfire during the trek. They have no equal on the trail.



“I would like to thank Adventure Kokoda and their employees for the experience of a life time and the professional, enthusiastic and enjoyable manner in which the trek was conducted. The leaders knew their job and their subject. They instilled a sense of confidence in the trekkers that if a problem eventuated, they would know how to handle it with a minimum of fuss and stress. Their advice and support helped me finish the trek in a physical and mental condition that left me feeling and knowing I had achieved something very special”.

Glen C

Our PNG Logistic Support Base

Our logistic support base is located at the Sogeri Lodge located about half-way between Port Moresby and the start of the trail. They administer our trek guides and carriers; procure our food from supermarkets in Port Moresby; store, maintain and issue our camping gear; provide all our transport needs; and maintain a secure 24-hour listening watch for our trek groups in the event of an emergency.

Our Guided Battlefield Treks

Our Kokoda Campaign treks follow the original wartime trail and include all sites of military significance during the Kokoda campaign – battlesites, patrol tracks, major logistic areas Lake Myola and fire support bases. We allow 10 days for these treks because they are about 25 kilometers longer than the more popular eco-tourist route. They include a trek to the eastern side of the Owen Stanley Range where the 53rd Militia Battalion and 2/16th AIF Battalion fought in late August 1942. Our feedback indicates that it is the more rewarding experience.

We also conduct 9-day Militia treks which follow the original route of the 39th Battalion over the Owen Stanley Ranges as they marched to confront the Japanese at Kokoda. Our 9-day treks do not include the battlesites associated with the 53rd Militia Battalion on the eastern side of the range around Abuari.

All of our guided treks include a solemn Dawn Service involving trekkers and our PNG Guides and Carriers at the Isurava Memorial. This service is regarded as the highlight of the Kokoda trek experience.

Our Modus Operandi

We meet you on arrival in Port Moresby, provide you with accommodation, meals and pre-trek briefings; guide you safely across the Owen Stanley Range via the wartime Kokoda Trail; accompany you to Bomana War Cemetery; and farewell you from the airport. We are with you the whole time you are in Papua New Guinea.

On the trail we are conscious of the need for you to enjoy the experience to the max. Our daily routine includes a daily briefing to your group each morning in regard to the day ahead. Your trek leader will advise where the group will break for meals and the location of each battlesite where briefings will be conducted. You are then free to head off at your own pace – our PNG guides will fall in behind you to keep you company, keep on track, and keep an eye on your safety. They will even teach you a bit of Pidgin English if you want to learn as you trek. They also arrange for village sing-sings, traditional dances and share a lot of laughs with you along the way.

Our Kokoda Trail Campsites

Over the years we have worked with local landowners to establish dedicated campsites for our treks. Each day a team of our PNG guides dismantle our tents and move directly to our next campsite. Here they re-erect your tent and set up the camp for our arrival. Many of these sites are located near pristine mountain creeks with bathing areas, toilets, drying huts and communal eating areas.

Our Meals

Our meals on the trail are a major feature of our treks – and the envy of others. We purchase all of our food for our treks from supermarkets in Port Moresby – we do use ration packs (ugh!) - or rely on village food (risky!).

We prepare, cook and serve fresh meals for our trekkers. We also provide fresh food for our PNG guides and carriers which makes them very happy.



Our feedback from trekkers rates this initiative very highly. You might like to bring some of your favourite snacks to munch on between meals (biscuits, jelly beans, etc) but keep it light – no more than 150 grams per day as our cooks usually call for ‘seconds’ after our main meals.

We can cater for most types of special dietary requirements as long as we know in advance.

Our Credibility

We are proud of the fact that the Lonely Planet guide on Papua New Guinea describes us as **‘one of the best operators’ on Kokoda.** Our treks have featured on all major television networks and national newspapers and magazines. We are the company of choice for those who wish to experience the total Kokoda experience with expert trek leaders.

Adventure Kokoda Television Features: See <http://www.youtube.com/adventurekokoda>

“Dear Charlie,

‘Having spoken to many others who have gone on treks with other companies I am just so glad that we had the opportunity to travel with such a professional group and one with such a strong knowledge of the historical aspects of the campaign as well as all the little treasures on the tracks. The relationship with the locals was wonderful to see. Everything was extremely well organised and planned and I have been singing the praises of what you offer since my return. For me it was meant to be the trip of a lifetime and you guys made it more than I could have wished for. Both Chad and Rowan were fantastic ambassadors for your group and it was a privilege to trek with them and learn from them. I am definitely coming back to walk the other way in a couple of years’.

Clive B

Dear Charlie,

“This was my first solo trip overseas and safety & support were my priorities when choosing a group to trek with followed by information on WW2. Can I just say that I was impressed with all aspects of Adventure Kokoda, especially the leadership and knowledge shown by John Nalder.

I always felt in safe hands even though I felt ill for a few days and the river crossings and steep cliff walks involved more ‘danger’ than I was expecting. *The complexities of leading such a physically demanding adventure containing a group of people who’ve never met cannot be underestimated but let me say you’ve got a terrific person leading the groups.*

I will try my best to retain learnings from this experience and somehow make a difference to my life and others. I just have to work out how...

“Well done on operating a great adventure – good things obviously result from people’s passion rather than from their ‘work’.”

Melissa R.

Letter from the The Hon Arthur Somare, PNG Minister for Planning

“Dear Mr. Lynn,

“I write to personally thank you for arranging to meet the members of the PNG Parliamentary Select Committee on the Pacific Economic Community in Sydney last week. We are very grateful for you hosting lunch for us at your beautiful parliament setting.

“Your tireless work over the years in promoting Papua New Guinea in Australia and the world is something we are very grateful for and will do everything possible to compliment your efforts in the future. *I am pleased that the PNG Tourism Authority has been working closely with you on issues of interest concerning the Kokoda Trail and the promotion of tourism as a vibrant industry in PNG.*

“I will shortly be bringing to the attention of the Ministry for Works the urgency to upgrade the road leading to Owers Corner in Sogeri area.

“It is my hope that our meeting in Sydney has set the foundation for further enhancement of relations at a personal level between our two countries. I very much look forward to meeting you and your co-workers again when you next visit Port Moresby.

“Yours sincerely,

***Arthur T. Somare MP
Minister for Planning
Parliament of Papua New Guinea”***



Our Generic 10-Day Kokoda Campaign Trek Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Port Moresby. Our PNG staff meet you at the airport and accompany you to your accommodation. Your Trek Leader will provide a briefing on all matters relating to your trek, issue you with your backpacks and assist you in fitting them properly. Introductions are made over dinner then a further briefing is given on the strategic significance of the Kokoda campaign.

Day 2: Private charter flight over the spectacular Owen /Stanley Ranges to Kokoda. Meet up with your PNG Guides and Carriers and move to the Kokoda plateau for your first briefing on the battle for Kokoda and inspect the monuments and local museum. Short one hour trek through rubber plantations to your campsite at Hoi.

Day 3: Begin your climb towards Deniki then up to your campsite at the Isurava battlesite. A steep but steady climb with lots of breaks to assist you to acclimatise to the tropical conditions. The Isurava battlesite was rediscovered by Charlie Lynn in 1996. Prime Ministers' Sir Michael Somare and John Howard dedicated a solemn memorial at the site on the 60th anniversary of the battle on 26 August 2002.

Day 4: Attend the Dawn Service at the Isurava Memorial and receive a detailed briefing on 'the battle that saved Australia'. Trek to the mountain village of Alola for lunch then cross to the Eastern side of the range which was defended by the 53rd Battalion. Visit a spectacular waterfall where Australian troops were captured by the Japanese before climbing to your campsite at the remote village of Abuari. This is a special night because very few people trek across to this side of the range.

Day 5: Trek via 'Japs track' to the abandoned village site of Eora Creek. This is a pristine section of the Kokoda Trail because very few take this option – a little longer but the place to be if you want to be at one with nature. Eora Creek was a significant battlesite as the Australians fought a brave delaying defensive action during the withdrawal phase of the Kokoda campaign in September 1942. It was also the scene of a major battle during our advance the following month. You will receive a detailed briefing on both battles and inspect the main Japanese defensive position that dominated the area. War relics – rusted armaments and unused ammunition still litter the site. We later inspect a major Australian delaying position at the top of the ridge then trek along the mountain parallel to Eora Creek to our campsite at Templeton's Crossing.

Day 6: We leave the eco-track and follow the wartime trail along Hagava Ridge towards the crest of Mt Bellamy at 2325 metres then onto the Kokoda Gap. Here you will enjoy a spectacular view down the Yodda Valley towards Kokoda. Your trek leader will provide a briefing on the wartime significance of the Kokoda Gap. We proceed along the eco track for a short distance then go via the original wartime track blazed by Captain Bert Kienzle towards Lake Myola. At this stage we enter the moss forest – this is as close to Mother Nature's wonderland as you will get. Palms, ferns, fungi, orchids, giant moss covered trees and crystal clear streams are in abundance. We camp at the site where an American Bomber was discovered about 15 years ago. The bodies of the aircrew were



repatriated to the United States. The landowner has developed it into one of the best campsites along the trail.

Day 7: Trek to Tovovo Ridge which has sweeping views over the Mountain Koiari villages of Naduri, Kagi and Efogi. Trek down to Naduri which has been established since the war then across to Kagi then onto our campsite at Efogi Village. This is the biggest village along the trail. We have provided a great deal of support to the village over the years and the children always greet us with a 'sing-sing' after dinner.

Day 8: We leave the eco track at the bottom of the village and proceed to the wartime trail which follows the footsteps of the Japanese as they attacked up Mission Ridge on 7 September 1942. It is hard to imagine how soldiers of either army fought in these conditions. We proceed through the wartime village of Efogi (now abandoned) and up the ridge to main defensive position occupied by the Australian 31st Brigade. The site of Brigade Headquarters was

rediscovered by Charlie Lynn in 1992. Your trek leader will provide you with a detailed briefing of the epic battle which the Australians refer to as 'the battle for Brigade Hill' - the Japanese call it 'the battle for the Owen Stanley Ranges'. We then trek down the mountain to the village of Menari. This is the site where Lieutenant Ralph Honner, Commanding Officer of the 39th Militia Battalion addressed his 'ragged bloody heroes' after the gallant battle for Isurava. We then climb through the Ladavi Saddle to our campsite at Agulogo on the banks of Nauro River.

Day 9: We trek through the Nauro swamp area, cross the Brown River and climb the Maguli Range to Nauro which was recently relocated from the wartime village and airfield in the swamplands

below. We continue the grueling climb to the crest of the range at Mogolonumi then proceed via Japs Ladder and Engineers Ridge to our campsite at Ofi Creek.

Day 10: We climb to the crest of Ioribaiwa Ridge then follow the wartime trail across the ridge. This was as close as the Japanese got to

their objective of Port Moresby. Your trek leader will provide you with a briefing on the strategic situation in Japan and Australia at the time and the tactical situation on the ground between Ioribaiwa and Imita Ridges. We will then inspect the Japanese weapon pits along the ridge and follow the wartime trail down to Imita Creek via Va Ule Creek. We

then climb Imita Ridge, the last line of defence for the Australians in their quest to repel the advancing Japanese army. Your trek leader will provide a briefing on the significance of Imita Gap before leading you to your campsite near

the Goldie River.

Day 11: Trek via the abandoned village site of Uberi then onto the Goldie River for our last river crossing. We then climb to the finish of our trek at Owers Corner. This a significant location as our 25 pounder artillery guns were able to provide heavy fire support to our diggers for the first time in the



Kokoda campaign by firing directly onto the Japanese positions on Ioribaiwa Ridge. *'It was music to our ears'*, remarked one veteran. After cold drinks, fresh sandwiches and mutual congratulations we board our bus and proceed back to our accommodation at Sogeri Lodge for hot showers, clean clothes, cold beer and a sumptuous meal. You will be presented with your Kokoda Certificate of Achievement at a special ceremony after dinner.



Day 12: Visit Bomana War Cemetery for our final ceremony and to pay our respects to the 3,798 diggers who sacrificed their lives in the campaigns in Papua and New Guinea. *'When you go home, tell them of us. Tell them that for your today, we gave our tomorrow...'*

We then visit a PNG traditional artifacts warehouse and have a short tour of Port Moresby before checking in for your flight back to Australia.

Our Trek Prices:

Our trek prices are listed at <http://www.kokodatreks.com/kokodatreks/trekprices.cfm>

Our prices for wartime history treks include:

- Experienced Australian Expedition Leader as your wartime historical guide
- Experienced Niugini Trek Leader to manage our PNG Guides and Carriers, and to liaise with villagers and campsites
- Return International economy class ticket to Port Moresby (if you book ex Cairns, Brisbane or Sydney)
- Public Liability Insurance protection (A\$10 million with Lloyds of London)
- **Follows original wartime track** as mapped by Major Charlie Lynn over the past 20 years
- Detailed battlesite briefings at each location (Australian & Japanese strategy and tactics)
- **Dawn Service at Isurava Memorial**
- Village 'sing-sings' from the families of our Koiari and Orokaiva trek guides
- Private charter flight between Port Moresby and Kokoda
- All vehicle transport in Port Moresby
- Official Trek Permit from the PNG Kokoda Track Authority
- Twin-share hotel accommodation and meals in Port Moresby
- Emergency Communications – satellite phone, two VHF Radios, 24-hour real link to Port Moresby
- Group 1st Aid Kit
- Group trekking gear – ropes, machetes, entrenching tools
- **Personal tent for each trekker** (carried, erected and dismantled by our trek guides each day)
- **Backpack** for each trekker (if you engage a Personal Carrier you will need to bring your own daypack).
- All trek and village campsite fees
- **Fresh meals on the trail (prepared, cooked and served by our PNG Boss Cook)**
- Dedicated Adventure Kokoda campsites along the trail
- PNG Environment Guide to carry our rubbish off the trail
- Return charter flight for our PNG Guides and Carriers
- Visit to Bomana War Cemetery
- Tour of Port Moresby
- **1:50 000 Kokoda Topographical Map**
- Adventure Kokoda polo shirt with embroided logo
- Kokoda Certificate of completion
- Travel Compensation Fund coverage via Certified Travel Agent (Travelscene Twin Towns)

Our prices do not include the cost of your visa to enter PNG, your travel insurance or your personal clothing and equipment (we provide a detailed list of all items you will require after we receive your

booking).

Our Kokoda Self-Guided Treks

Our Kokoda Self-Guided Treks are led by PNG Trek Leaders who have been specially selected and trained by Adventure Kokoda over the past 20 years.

Our PNG Trek Leaders are from Koiari and Orokaiva clans along the trail and are highly respected by their own people. They are trained in expedition leadership, First Aid and communications and will get you safely across the Kokoda Trail. They are aware of the wartime battlesites but are not yet capable of providing meaningful battlesite presentations.

We issue each trekker on our Kokoda Self-Guided Treks with an e-trek guide and diary which allows them to read about the significance of each battlesite and plot each days trek according to the specific details of the day ahead (elevation, distance between features and estimated timings).

Private Treks

We can arrange private treks (minimum of 10 trekkers) as required. Our prices and conditions for these will depend on the number of trekkers in your group and the amount of time you want to spend on the trail.

Trek Dates

Our current trek dates for 2011 and 2012 are listed at <http://www.kokodatreks.com/kokodatreks/trekdates.cfm>

“Thank you Adventure Kokoda for making my visit and trek such an enjoyable and emotional experience. There were many highlights eg. First night in Hoi, Dawn service Isurava, Chad’s storytelling, briefings and poetry, Bernie’s care of all trekkers, the wonderful porters and carriers, the moss rain forest, the mud, creek crossings, and the steep inclines, Myola, the camaraderie among the trekkers, the trek food, the villagers and children, the sing sings, Bomana War Cemetery and of course the mighty Owen Stanley Range. I was grateful to get to Owers Corner in one piece, I was proud to walk in the footsteps of the incredibly courageous and enduring soldiers of the 39th battalion and the 2/14th, 2/16th and 53rd. Thank you again for running an excellent adventure in such a professional manner”. Rod L

Our Philanthropy

We provide scholarships to PNG students at Port Moresby Grammar School and sponsor health and education initiatives in villages along the trail. Charlie Lynn is the leading advocate for Kokoda – he successfully lobbied the Australian Government to issue a medal to the famous ‘fuzzy-wuzzy angels’ and the PNG Government to proclaim Kokoda Day in honour the wartime carriers. Charlie recently established Network Kokoda to provide more substantial philanthropic support in Papua New Guinea; to lobby for the inclusion of our wartime history and Melanesian studies in our education systems; and to provide post-graduate studies in Australian wartime leadership.



Letter from Founder and Chairman of the Port Moresby Grammar School:

“Good morning Mr. Lynn,

“Years ago, we first met in the dining room of the Parliament of New South Wales when you invited Dame Carol Kidu and myself to a dinner. The occasion then was about assisting Papua New Guinea students, especially those from villages along the Kokoda track.

“Little did I know then, how much Port Moresby Grammar School is now in your debt for the support you have given the school.

“Among other things, this support consists of:

- *four Adventure Kokoda bursaries*
- *your kindness in sponsoring Margaret Aitsi and Alfreda Nakue on the trip of a lifetime to Australia*
- *over 2500 books received for the library and classrooms*
- *a plethora of stationery supplies*
- *medical equipment and supplies*
- *a wide variety of sports gear*
- *K3500 in cash for special needs aspects in the school*
- *Exposure of our students to wonderful ordinary Australians who come to PNG....and reciprocally for Aussies to see and bond with Papua New Guineans within the school environment.*

“On behalf of the Board of Directors of the School, please accept our sincere and grateful thanks for all that you have done and we hope this special bond between POM Grammar and Kokoda will continue and strengthen.

“Sincerely

*“DONALD DANIELS MBE
Chairman and Founder
Port Moresby Grammar School”*



GENERAL INFORMATION

Although our treks are all-inclusive there are some additional items you need to budget for.

- **YOUR VISA FOR PNG**, You can obtain a Visa on arrival in Port Moresby for 100 PNG Kina (around \$50) or you can apply to the PNG High Commission, PO Box E 432, Ki8ngston, ACT 2604. You can get more information on this link: <http://www.pngcanberra.org/visas/index.htm> or download an application form on this link <http://www.pngcanberra.org/pdf/application.PDF> or call them directly on (02) 6273 3322.
- **PERSONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE** is mandatory. Your policy must cover emergency evacuation by helicopter from along the Kokoda Trail and evacuation back to Australia if necessary. You will be required to provide us with the name of your insurance company, their 24-hour contact details and your policy number. You can obtain a suitable policy from our Travel Agent by calling them on 07 5599 4088 or office@twintownstravel.com.au
- **PERSONAL CLOTHING, EQUIPMENT AND FIRST AID** We provide a recommended itemised list of clothing, toiletries, personal equipment (backpack, trekking poles, water bladders, etc) and personal first-aid items when we receive your booking - we provide your own mosquito proof tent and a backpack to help keep your costs down (if you engage a Personal Carrier you should bring a daypack with you).
- **PERSONAL CARRIER** You should be able to keep your pack weight to around 12 –15 kilograms because you are not required to carry your tent (we have a special team that erect and dismantle your tent at each of our campsites). If you have any doubts about your ability to carry this weight across the trail you can engage your own Personal Carrier for an additional fee of \$690 (this includes his wages, campsite fees, meals, trek uniform and return charter flight).
- **GRATUITY FOR OUR PNG GUIDES AND CARRIERS** It is customary to pay a gratuity of \$50 each to your PNG Trek Leader to distribute amongst our trek guides and a further \$50 if you engage a personal carrier – you will see that they will go to extraordinary lengths to get you safely across the trail and their gratuity is well worth the gesture. You will need to carry \$100 in small denominations of local currency (PNG Kina) which you can obtain on arrival in Port Moresby. This will allow you to pay for local offerings of fruit, photos and local ‘sing-sings’ during your trek.
- **SOUVENIRS** We visit a traditional PNG warehouse with an extensive range of artifacts. They accept all major credit cards. Along the trail you can purchase a trekking pole that our guides will carve for you for around A\$20. You can also purchase some traditional PNG bilum bags in villages for between A\$25 - \$A60. We have some Kokoda merchandise which you can purchase on-line at <http://www.kokodatreks.com/merchandise/index.cfm>
- **PORT MORESBY** We provide all of your meals in Port Moresby but you should budget around A\$100 for drinks, laundry and personal phone calls.

OUR BOOKING SYSTEM

You can book online through our website by clicking on <https://www.kokodatreks.com/booknow/index.cfm> Out Terms and Conditions are detailed on the Booking Form.

Alternatively you can call Adventure Kokoda on 1800 783 303 and request a Booking Form together with our Terms and Conditions and Medical Clearance Certificate to be mailed directly to you.

OUR TERMS AND CONDITIONS

You can view our Terms and Conditions for the trek at <https://www.kokodatreks.com/booknow/index.cfm> or call our Kokoda Info Line at 1300 783 303 for them to be sent to you.

OUR LEGAL OBLIGATIONS TO YOU

All Adventure Kokoda Bookings are processed through Travelscene at Twin Towns 2nd Floor, Twin Towns Services Club, Tweed Heads, NSW (TA Licence: 2TA001054 - IATA: 02 308541).

We are a licensed trek operator with the PNG Kokoda Track Authority. Our License No is 019.

We have completed a detailed risk assessment for our treks and obtained Public Liability Insurance to the value of A\$10 million per claim. Our Policy Number with Altiora Insurance Solutions on behalf of Lloyds of London is BG 001 40D-09-636.

To Book your trek go to www.kokodatreks.com and click on the BOOK NOW tab

**Adventure Kokoda PO Box 303 Camden NSW 2570
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info@kokodatreks.com www.kokodatreks.com**

"Without Charlie Lynn's dedication to the people of the Kokoda Trail, and Papua New Guinea in general, and his assistance in early negotiations in the establishment of the Authority, the establishment of the Kokoda Track Foundation and its future plans for assisting the sustainability of the Kokoda Track Tourism Strategy and its heritage, there would be no special purposes authority - it would still be sitting in limbo."

*Chief Executive Officer
Kokoda Track Special Purpose Authority
(Letter to Sir Peter Barter, PNG Minister for Intergovernment Relations)*

The Kokoda Trail Topographical Map

Over the past four years Charlie Lynn, who has been trekking Kokoda for the past 20 years has led special mapping expeditions with local PNG landowners and trek guides to find the original wartime routes identified on the old 1:100,000 Army Survey maps. These were eventually located and recorded. These expeditions also identified the wartime locations of villages and the exact location of the various battlesites.

Charlie engaged a cartographer to plot his recordings using sophisticated mapping software. He equipped each of his trek leaders from Adventure Kokoda with a Garmin GPSMAPS 60 and obtained wartime maps from the Australian War Memorial and the National Library in Canberra. Information was gathered from more than 30 crossings of the Kokoda Trail during this period and consolidated by Laurie Whiddon of Map Illustrations

The map identifies all airfields and helicopter landing zones along the trail and will be made available to all airlines and helicopter companies in PNG for use in emergency situations.

The map has a comprehensive narrative of the Kokoda campaign which allows trekkers to follow the wartime history of the trail.