

Papua New Guinea

A MILLION DIFFERENT JOURNEYS

Tourism Promotion Authority

international Visitor Arrival

SUMMARY



March 2021

Arrival Summary

Papua New Guinea received 1,159 international visitors in March this year. This is about 4,686 fewer or **80% drop** compared to the 5,845 international arrivals record in the same month last year. As many countries around the world continue to place strict restrictions on travelers at the international borders, arrivals from our key source markets are affected and you can see the big drop during the first three months of this year.

Business, MICE, VFR and Holiday arrivals to PNG declined by almost 100% in March, and this downward trend is expected to continue throughout the year. Major cruise lines have also suspended sailings in 2021 as the second wave of COVID-19 infections in destinations around the world continue to rise.

Refer to the table below for detailed breakdown of international arrivals to the country in March this year.

Visitor Arrival Summary Table

Visitors Arrival Analysis										March 2021			
Country	Busins	MICE	VFR	Holiday	Emplynt	Educatn	Sports	Other	Mar-21	Mar-20	Change	% (+/-)	
Australia	34	0	4	0	133	2	0	8	181	2700	-2519	-93	
New Zealand	5	0	1	1	21	0	0	0	28	363	-335	-92	
Oceania	1	0	0	0	8	0	2	0	11	260	-249	-96	
China	8	0	1	0	198	1	0	1	209	66	143	217	
Japan	5	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	15	62	-47	-76	
Korea	3	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	7	19	-12	-63	
Malaysia	1	0	0	1	101	0	0	0	103	207	-104	-50	
Singapore	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	48	-46	-96	
Philippines	1	0	8	1	236	1	0	3	250	646	-396	-61	
Indonesia	5	0	1	0	94	3	0	7	110	155	-45	-29	
India	4	0	3	0	65	1	0	9	82	259	-177	-68	
Other Asia	4	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	10	108	-98	-91	
United Kingdom	2	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	19	165	-146	-88	
Germany	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	47	-43	-91	
France	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	40	-36	-90	
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	28	-26	-93	
Other Europe	1	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	15	126	-111	-88	
USA	7	0	2	1	23	1	0	8	42	266	-224	-84	
Canada	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	1	18	62	-44	-71	
Other America	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	2	9	32	-23	-72	
Africa	4	0	1	0	20	2	1	2	30	122	-92	-75	
Russia	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	18	-14	-78	
Italy	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	14	-12	-86	
Scandinavia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	-21	-100	
Chile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-1	-100	
Israel	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	10	-8	-80	
Total 2021	89	0	21	4	988	12	3	42	1159	5845	-4686	-80	
Total 2020	1653	78	346	530	3094	78	3	65					
Change	-1564	-78	-325	-526	-2106	-66	0	-23					
% (+/-)	-95	-100	-94	-99	-68	-85	0	-35					

International arrivals to PNG from all other segments have also dropped by big margin in March 2021:

- Business (95% Drop)
- MICE (100% Drop)
- VFR (94% Drop)
- Holiday (99% Drop)
- Employment (68% Drop)
- Other (35% Drop)

Visitor Arrival Trend by Purpose



Visitor Arrival by Province

International arrivals to all the provinces in the country also declined by big margin in March and in the whole of the first quarter this year. The higher visitation to NCD, Morobe, Central, NIP and ENBP was attributed by the increased business and mining activities in these areas.

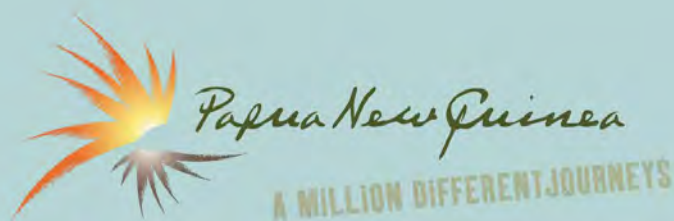
Main Areas Visited & Purpose of Visit - March 2021

Province	Purpose of Visit										Total 2021	Total 2020	% (+/-)
	Business	MICE	Holiday	VFR	Emplynt	Eductn	Medical	Sports	Church	Other			
Central Prov	1	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	62	32	93.8
EHP	5	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	6	24	121	-80.2
ENBP	1	0	0	1	42	0	0	0	0	5	49	119	-58.8
Enga Prov	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	186	-98.4
ESP	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	17	59	-71.2
Gulf Prov	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	17	-94.1
Hela Prov	5	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	36	171	-78.9
Jiwaka Prov	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	-50.0
Madang Prov	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	120	-88.3
Manus Prov	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	-100.0
Milne Bay Prov	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	40	-90.0
Morobe Prov	2	0	2	1	49	2	0	1	0	1	58	434	-86.6
NCD(POM)	59	0	1	19	620	10	0	2	2	27	740	3,258	-77.3
NIP	6	0	0	0	51	0	0	0	0	0	57	594	-90.4
NSP Buka	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	19	-89.5
Oro Prov	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	52	-96.2
SHP	3	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	26	206	-87.4
Simbu Province	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	-83.3
Western Prov	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	12	219	-94.5
WHP	4	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	23	87	-73.6
WNBP	2	0	1	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	15	51	-70.6
WSP	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	1	0	10	41	-75.6
Total	89	0	4	21	988	12	0	3	3	39	1,159	5,847	-80.2

Conclusion

- * While growth in international visitor arrivals into and across Asia Pacific remains difficult in 2021, there are promising signs for 2022 and 2023.
- * COVID-19 is still ongoing and the forecasts are likely to change
 - * The recovery pattern is unknown as COVID-19 differs from other pandemics
 - * International travel will not be the same after the COVID-19 pandemic due to health concerns
 - * Aircraft seating design; strict airport control, visitor flow management; accommodation and restaurant hygiene requirements; visa restrictions...etc.
- * As predicted earlier, we expect inbound tourism to remain at a very low level in the early months of the year and pick up slowly in 2022 and 2023.
- * There are a number of assumptions behind and significant risks to this prediction. The most crucial drivers will be the progression of COVID-19 and any new variants and vaccinations in our key inbound markets. It is assumed that in the most advanced markets, the majority of the adult population will be vaccinated in 2021 and by the end of the year COVID-19 will be controlled and international arrivals to destinations is expected to rebound.
- * However, due to the evolving nature of the pandemic, many countries are now **reintroducing stricter travel restrictions**. These include mandatory testing, quarantines and in some cases a complete closure of borders, all weighing on the resumption of international travel. At the same time, the gradual rollout of a COVID-19 vaccine is expected to help **restore consumer confidence**, contribute to the easing travel restrictions and slowly normalize travel during the year ahead.
- * All in all, we've again experienced significant drop in our arrivals in the first quarter compared to last year. Covid-19 has brought great disruption and uncertainties in our visitor arrival numbers whilst international borders remain close in the first quarter of this year. However, we will remain optimistic that the pandemic will soon subside and borders will open again for international tourism to rebound.

...Thank you and please do let us know if further information is required...



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