



DAY ONE. Upon arrival at the airport we will be transferred to the Kokoda Trail Hotel on the picturesque Sogeri Plateau, just outside of Port Moresby. A trek briefing will take place before a group dinner.

DAY TWO. We make an early start and travel by bus to Owers' Corner, the start point of the trek. Here we meet the porters who will accompany the group for the first time. We descend to the Goldie River and then climb Imita, the first ridgeline of the Range. It was at this point where the Australians, camped on the ridge, turned the tide in the battle and forced the Japanese, on the opposing ridgeline at Ioribaiwa, to retreat. We descend into the Ua-Ule creek valley and make camp for the night.

DAY THREE. We climb to the top of Ioribaiwa Ridge. It was here that the Japanese were forced to retreat through exhaustion and starvation, despite being within sight of the ocean and the lights of Port Moresby, their ultimate goal. After crossing Ofi Creek we make camp at the village of Nauro, perched on a hillside in the Maguli Range.

DAY FOUR. We make our way through the Brown River valley, where the main crossing provides the most pleasant swimming hole on the track. We then climb up and over 'the Wall' to Menari, one of the largest villages in the Range. In Menari we will visit the Community School, funded and supported by KTF. We will have the chance to meet with the teachers and students at the school.

DAY FIVE. We ascend Brigade Hill, the site of one of the most famous battles of the campaign. It was here that a night-time Japanese flanking manoeuvre saw Brigadier Potts cut off from the three Battalions under his command. The 2/14th and 2/16th Battalions managed to regain the Australian lines, but the 2/27th Battalion, having been in the battle for only one day, became lost in the jungle for three arduous weeks before finally re-emerging in the foothills near Port Moresby. We pass through the village of Efogi before making camp at Naduri. We will meet with Sullivan, a dedicated teacher with KTF at Naduri Elementary School and hear how KTF is making positive change in the village of Naduri.

DAY SIX. We make our way up and over Mount Bellamy, the highest part of the track with an altitude of 2100 meters. In this area we see some of the track's more interesting geographical features: the high altitude 'moss forests' and the Myola Lakes, huge dry lakebeds that served as important dropping grounds for Australian supplies. We make camp at Templeton's Crossing, named after 'Uncle' Sam Templeton, Captain of B Company 39th Battalion, a popular and courageous officer who lost his life in the early stages of the battle.

DAY SEVEN. We pass through Eora Creek village. Now abandoned, the wartime village was a regimental aid post during the Australian withdrawal, made famous by footage from Damien Parer's Academy-Award winning documentary 'Kokoda Front Line'. Several months later, during the Australian advance, Eora Creek was the site of a fierce battle that marked the Japanese last stand in the ranges. In the afternoon we cross Eora Creek, pass through the village of Alola and make camp at the Isurava Memorial Site.

DAY EIGHT. Dawn service at the Isurava Memorial. At Isurava we will hear how the 2/14th Infantry Battalion of the AIF joined the beleaguered 39th in the fight against the Japanese, just at the point when all hope seemed lost. Bruce Kingsbury won his Victoria Cross in this battle. The breathtaking Isurava Memorial is testament to the courage, endurance, mateship and sacrifice of the diggers. We then descend the western ridge of the Eora Creek valley, passing through the fields of choko vines to the village of Deniki. From here it is just a short descent into the Yodda Valley, through the rubber plantations to the village of Kokoda and the end of the track. Kokoda station is the site of the heroic stand of the 39th Battalion, the 'Ragged Bloody Heroes,' several hundred young and exhausted soldiers who faced the initial brunt of the powerful Japanese South Seas force. Once settled in Kokoda, we will take a side trip to visit the Kokoda College, a state of the art training facility constructed and operated by KTF, training critically needed teachers and community health workers. We will hear from the teacher and CHW trainees first hand about their experience at the college and what their ambitious plans for the future are. We spend the night at Kokoda.

DAY NINE. We fly back to Port Moresby on a morning charter flight from Kokoda. We visit the Bomana War Cemetery and have a final group dinner at our hotel in the Port Moresby CBD.

DAY TEN. International flight from Port Moresby to Australia.