

Alotau, Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea

Capital of Milne Bay Province and site of the first Allied land victory over Japan in WWII, Alotau greets cruise visitors with vivid sing-sing performances, a bustling market, and some of the friendliest communities in the Pacific.

Docked (commercial wharf) Typical call: 6-8 hrs Papua New Guinean Kina (PGK) Tok Pisin & English

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships dock at Sanderson Bay wharf — no tendering required

Walk to center: ~15-20 min walk or short taxi ride to Alotau Market

Best For: WWII history, traditional sing-sing performances, local markets

Don't Miss: Alotau War Memorial Park and a dockside sing-sing welcome dance

Getting around: **Taxi** ~PGK 10 / AUD \$5 each way to town; negotiate longer trips

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Traditional Sing-Sing Performance** — Watch elaborately costumed village groups perform traditional dances, drumming, and chanting — one of the most striking cultural displays in the...
- **Alotau War Memorial Park & WWII Sites** — The Battle of Milne Bay in 1942 was the first Allied land defeat of Japanese forces in WWII.
- **Alotau Market & Town Walk** — Dive into daily life at the bustling Alotau Market near the pier — fresh tropical fruit, seafood, carved wooden masks, bilum string bags, and woven...
- **Snorkeling in Milne Bay** — Milne Bay's warm, calm waters shelter over 850 fish species and healthy coral reefs.
- **Milne Bay Village Life Visit** — Small-group tours to nearby villages offer clay-pot cooking demonstrations, traditional craft making, and a genuine window into Milne Bay community...

BEST WALKS

- **Wharf to Alotau Market Loop** 1.5 km one-way · 20 min · Easy — Walk from the Sanderson Bay wharf through the commercial strip to the Alotau Town Main Market.
- **War Memorial Park Stroll** ~2 km round trip · 30-40 min · Easy — From the town center, walk to the Alotau War Memorial Park with its black granite monument commemorating the Battle of Milne Bay.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:02AM–5:54PM · Jun 6:13AM–5:44PM · Aug 6:09AM–5:55PM · Sep 5:52AM–5:54PM · Oct 5:34AM–5:53PM	
Apr	85°	76°	25d		
Jun	82°	75°	25d		
Aug	82°	73°	22d		
Sep	82°	74°	23d		
Oct	84°	75°	24d		

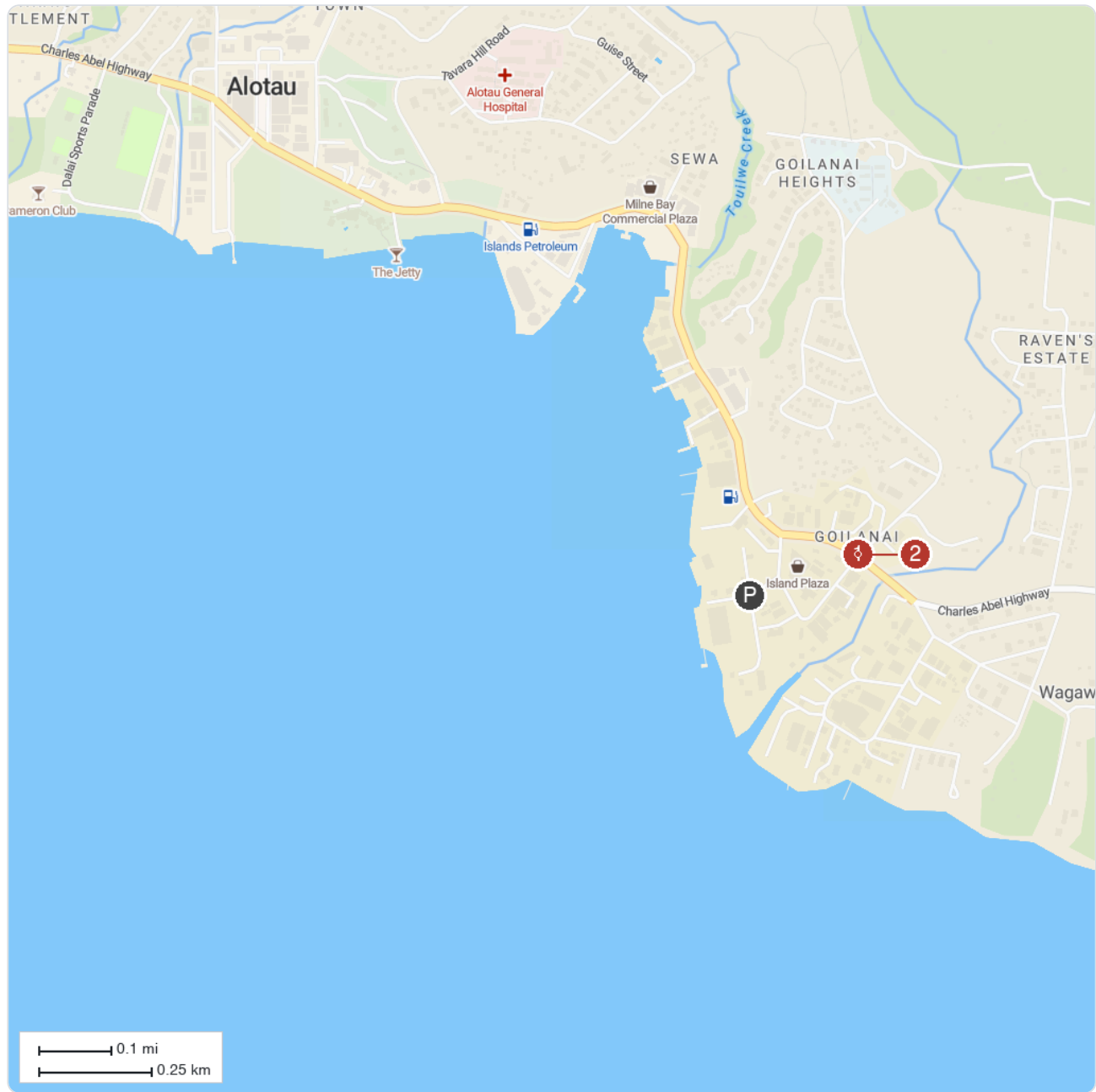
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring Kina: The Papua New Guinean Kina is the only reliable currency. Some vendors take AUD or USD but at poor rates. Draw cash from the port ATM early — it can run dry on cruise days.
- Dress modestly: Shoulders and knees covered are expected, especially in villages. Light, loose-fitting clothes are both culturally respectful and practical in the heat.
- It's hot and humid: Alotau is tropical year-round. Bring sunscreen, a hat, and a full water bottle from the ship — dehydration is a real risk after even a short walk in midday sun.
- Ask before photographing: Many locals welcome it but some do not — always ask first. Buying a small item from a vendor is a good way to build rapport before reaching for the camera.
- Mosquito repellent: Bring it from the ship. Malaria is present in Papua New Guinea — consult your doctor about prophylactics well before the cruise.
- Guided tours for distant sites: The market is safe to explore solo, but for WWII memorials, villages, or East Cape, stick with ship excursions or a reputable local guide for safety and context.

Alotau, Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 Alotau Colorful local produce and betel-nut market by the harbor.

2 Milne Bay War Memorial

Commemorates the WWII Battle of Milne Bay, Japan's first land defeat.

P Cruise port / terminal