



# Mount Wilhelm

# Rock Climbs

• Papua New Guinea •

Kai Maluck

# Mount Wilhelm

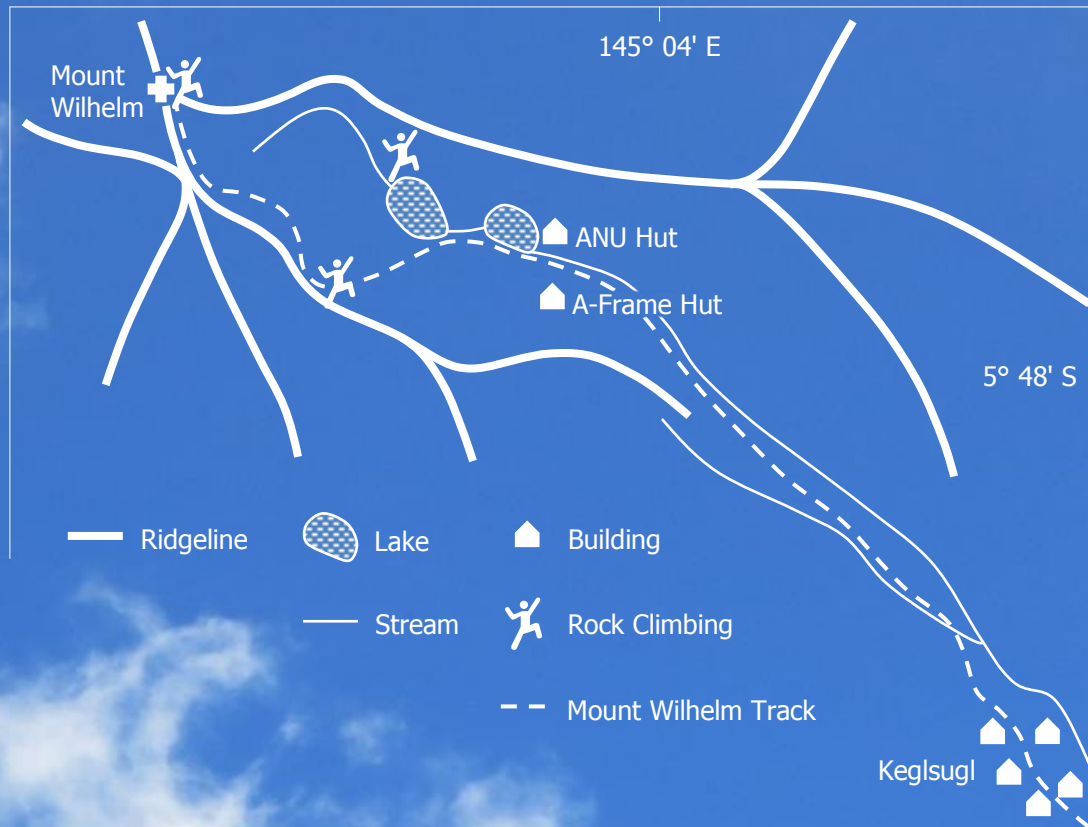
Towering at 4509 metres above the rain forests of the world's second biggest island, Mt. Wilhelm offers excellent trekking and rock climbing for those seeking the extraordinary: vivid village life at its base, dense forests along the mountain slopes, and finally breathtaking views from the summit, often even to both the Bismarck and Coral Seas in the distance!

Fly in to Goroka or Hagen, take a 4WD up to the village of Keglsugl and stay for 2 nights for acclimatisation and forest hikes. Ascend to the beautiful Pindaunde Lakes, sleep at one of the mountaineering huts and rock climb *Muglo dude po* onto your first 4000er. After 2-3 nights at the lakes, follow *Kammoro dumara* to the very top of Papua New Guinea. With Carstensz Pyramid being in the Asian country of Indonesia, Mount Wilhelm is sometimes even considered Oceania's highest peak!

This brochure is available printed and online at [www.kai-maluck.de/papua.htm](http://www.kai-maluck.de/papua.htm) . + Photographs: Gaby Lappe, Clemens Pischel, Kai Maluck. + Disclaimer: All reasonable care has been taken in preparing this



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Rock climbers are very much welcome at **Mount Wilhelm!** Aware of their mountain's cliffs, people have long been literally waiting for climbers to arrive. According to the locals at Keglsugl, the first real rock climbing took place in 2016, except for one unsuccessful attempt in 1999 (see over-leaf). However, it seems quite probable that many of the easy ridge scrambles have already been scaled long ago.

**Mt. Wilhelm's climbing (= dry) season is May-September.** It is mandatory throughout the year to hire a local - preferably at Keglsugl - to accompany you at the mountain. He will ease orientation, know other people you'll meet along the way and offer a much more personal Mt. Wilhelm experience. Furthermore, there is also a fee intending to help the village community and the landowners. All of this can be arranged after arrival at Keglsugl, or in advance e.g. by local Betty Higgins (email [bhiggins905\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:bhiggins905[at]gmail.com) or phone +675 7116 8969), who offers complete holiday packages including airport transfers, accommodation in Hagen and Keglsugl, booking of mountaineering huts, etc. Information as of 2016.

# Mount Wilhelm, 4509m



Mount Wilhelm Track

55m, UIAA IV

25m, UIAA VI+

30m, UIAA III+/IV-

30m, UIAA IV

## »Kammoro dumara«

Kai Maluck and Clemens Pischel, July 18th, 2016

**Protection:** Route fully bolted, all belays equipped with two bolts. Bolt type: Stubai/Fischer anchor FBN II 12/10 A4 with Stubai Protect 12mm hanger (suitable for emergency abseils).

**Gear:** 60m single rope, 9 quickdraws. A few friends and nuts in case of bolt theft.

**Access:** Detour from Mount Wilhelm Track

**Descent:** Mount Wilhelm Track



### »Muglo dude po«

Gaby Lappe, Kai Maluck and Clemens Pischel, July 10th, 2016

**Protection:** Pitches 1-3 fully bolted, all belays equipped with two bolts. No bolts in pitch 4. Bolt type: Stubai/Fischer anchor FBN II 12/10 A4 with Stubai Protect 12mm hanger (suitable for emergency abseils).

**Gear:** 60m single rope, 8 quickdraws. A few friends and nuts in case of bolt theft and/or for pitch 4.

**Access and route:** From the ANU or A-Frame Huts (which are not at 3480m as shown in some of the older maps) follow the Mount Wilhelm Track to the foot of a prominent rock face, where a short detour leads to the start of the climbing route at 3954m. The route itself leads for 3 pitches along rather clearly visible bolts, in pitch 4 climb 50m a little right of the ridge and then up through a 10m gully to Point 4054m. From there, continue for 30-40 minutes along the ridge to Peak 4155m, return to a prominent, sharp saddle and descend over scree slopes to the Mount Wilhelm Track to hike back to the huts. Alternatively, follow the ridge from Point 4054m for only 5 minutes and then turn right to hike down to the track. Both alternatives lead along the debris of a WWII US warplane that crashed into the mountain. Both wings, landing gear, cartridge cases and a lot of other parts are spread all over the slopes.





In 1999, Yoriko Tagaia, Makato Tagaia and ANU Hut warden David Umba climbed to the top of a ramp underneath the vertical wall overlooking Lake Aunde, where they turned back in deteriorating weather.

**Access:** Follow the Mount Wilhelm Track past Lake Piunde (the lower of the two lakes) and up to Lake Aunde. Hike clockwise along its steep shores to reach its northern end.