



Jackson's Airport, Port Moresby
PO Box 170, **BOROKO**, Papua New
Guinea
Phone (675) 325 2011 Fax (675) 325 2219

PRESS RELEASE

PNG Air Welcomes Third New ATR 'KIETA' Aircraft, Strengthening Reliability Across the Domestic Network

Port Moresby, 8 December 2025 – PNG Air today announced the arrival of its latest ATR 72-600 aircraft, proudly named “**Kieta**,” marking the third of four new aircraft set to join the fleet by the end of 2025. The new aircraft represents a major step in PNG Air's plan to deliver more reliable, resilient and comfortable air services across Papua New Guinea.

Named in honor of **Kieta**, a key town in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, the aircraft reflects PNG Air's continued commitment to celebrating the regions and communities that form the backbone of the nation's economy, culture and identity.

“With the arrival of Kieta, we are not just adding another aircraft—we are building a stronger, more dependable schedule for our customers,” said **Brian Fraser, Chief Executive Officer of PNG Air**. “A modern, efficient fleet means fewer disruptions, more seats available when people need them most, and better on-time performance across our network. This is about giving Papua New Guineans an airline they can truly rely on.”

The addition of Kieta allows PNG Air to:

- Increase operational resilience by providing greater backup capacity when weather or technical issues arise.
- Add flights and optimize schedules on high-demand routes, particularly during peak travel periods.
- Support more training and development opportunities for Papua New Guinean pilots, cabin crew and engineers as the fleet grows.

Fraser added: “Every new ATR that joins PNG Air supports jobs and skills in PNG—from our crew and engineers to airport teams right across the country. We are investing in aircraft that are built for our terrain and in people who are proudly serving our communities.”

As Kieta enters service, PNG Air will progressively introduce schedule enhancements and additional frequencies on key routes, improving travel options for business travelers, government and resource sector workers, as well as families travelling for education, health care and important life events.

“For nearly four decades, PNG Air has been flying Papua New Guineans where they need to go,” Fraser said. “The arrival of Kieta is another promise kept: that we will keep investing, keep improving and keep putting PNG first. We are The People's Choice—built for PNG, and here for the long term.”

About PNG Air

For nearly four decades, PNG Air has proudly connected the people of Papua New Guinea with safe, reliable, and affordable air services. Listed on the Port Moresby Stock Exchange since 2008, the airline is majority-owned by Papua New Guinean institutions — including the MRDC Group and NasFund — and supported by approximately 2,900 local shareholders.

PNG Air currently operates more than 460 flights each week across 22 destinations, providing essential passenger and cargo services that support economic development, community connectivity,

and national unity. In 2024, the airline carried over 150,000 passengers, underscoring its pivotal role as a true national connector.

Media Contact – PNG Air

Ms. Kimberly Bernard and Ms. Wendy Igara

Email: media.relations@pngair.com.pg



Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Brian Fraser