
Bay of Islands Encounter

This 2-day tour includes transfer from Auckland to Paihia, visit of Waitangi Treaty Grounds and a mini tour of historic Russell township.

Starts in: Auckland
Finishes in: Auckland
Length: 2days / 1nights
Accommodation: Motels
Can be customised: Yes

This itinerary can be customised to suit you perfectly. We can add more days, remove days, change accommodations, mix it up, add activities to suit your interests or simply design and create something from scratch. Call us today to get your custom New Zealand itinerary underway.



Inclusions:

Includes: All coach transport

Includes: All pick ups/drop offs at destinations

Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring

Included activity: Auckland to Paihia by InterCity Coach

Included activity: Waitangi Treaty Grounds: Guided Tour, Cultural Performance & Return Shuttle

Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course

Included activity: Russell Mini Tour with Fullers Bay of Islands

Included activity: Paihia, Bay of Islands to Auckland with InterCity Coach

Day 1



Auckland to Paihia by InterCity Coach

Leave the urban skyline of Auckland behind for the coastal roads of the North, traveling past the seaside villages of the Hibiscus Coast and through the rolling hills of Whangarei. Your journey follows a historic trail through unique rural townships and farmland before descending into the subtropical Bay of Islands. You'll be greeted by the sparkling turquoise waters and golden sands of Paihia, a vibrant seaside village that serves as your gateway to this paradise.

Waitangi Treaty Grounds: Guided Tour, Cultural Performance & Return Shuttle

Waitangi is one of New Zealand's most historic sites where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840 between 43 Māori chiefs and the British Government. This two-day pass allows you access to the Treaty of Waitangi Grounds and includes admission to the Te Kōngahu Museum and Te Rau Aroha Museum and a Māori Cultural performance. During your guided tour, you'll learn about the history of the treaty and discover the stories and events that shaped New Zealand. The cultural performance inside the carved meeting house includes waiata (singing), poi, a display of Māori weaponry and the haka - a war dance New Zealand is well known for.

Your accommodation: Admirals View Lodge & Motel

Admirals View Lodge & Motel offers a range of quality self-contained accommodations. Relax in this peaceful location in central Paihia and enjoy the sunny terraces and sea spray from the nearby ocean. You can easily meander along to the beach, restaurants and cafes from your luxurious accommodation.



Day 2



Russell Mini Tour with Fullers GreatSights

Step back in time with a relaxed one-hour guided coach tour through the charming streets of Russell, New Zealand's first sea port and oldest European settlement. You'll visit significant heritage sites including the musket-scarred Christ Church and the historic Pompallier Mission, while enjoying panoramic 360-degree views of the Bay of Islands from atop Flagstaff Hill. Led by a local expert who brings early colonial history to life with engaging stories, this seamless experience offers a perfect overview of the town's rowdy past and picturesque present without the need to navigate its steep hills on foot.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Land on the Hole in the Rock - Heli Scenic Flight & Landing Time Away: 35 minutes

For many years visitors have come to the Bay of Islands to venture through this top New Zealand icon the Hole in the Rock on boats, we have flown them over it thousands of times, and it has been admired by many for its unique appearance and history. Now you can experience it up close and on foot, landing by helicopter on our newly built helipad on top of the island. You will have a brief stop on the island helipad and viewing platform for those unique photos to be taken! Very few people in history, including Maori, have ever ventured on the island in this way before. Being surrounded by steep cliffs (over 150 metres high) and stunning scenery looking towards Cape Brett and its surrounds, this unique landing location will no doubt appeal to the adventurous.

Paihia, Bay of Islands to Auckland with InterCity Coach

Leaving the magical Bay of Islands behind you head south on State Highway 1 back towards Auckland, the "City of Sails". The route takes you through Kawakawa, affectionately known as 'train town'. The farming regions of Wellsford and Warkworth accompany you the rest of the journey before passing through the suburbs of the North Shore and crossing the harbour bridge and into the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau-Auckland City.

Tour details

Departures: Daily
Tour type: Independant Bus & Coach
Starts: Auckland
Finishes: Auckland
Tour length: 2
Accommodation: Motels
Car/transport type:

Accommodation summary

Day 1 Admirals View Lodge & Motel