



AAT Kings: Iconic North 25/26

Explore the best of New Zealand's North Island cities and regional areas. Experience New Zealand Maritime Museum, the cultural mecca of Rotorua including a visit to New Zealand's most awarded cultural attraction, Tamaki Maori Village. Immerse yourself in rich cultural history and be comfortable every step of the way. As always with an AAT Kings tour, you'll be guided by a wealth of knowledge making sure you get the best out of your New Zealand vacation.

Starts in: Auckland
 Finishes in: Wellington
 Length: 7days / 6nights
 Accommodation: Hotel 4 star
 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: Auckland City Tour
 Included: Be My Guest experience in the Red Barn
 Included: Huka Falls
 Included: Maritime Museum Visit with a Local Specialist
 Included: Te Pa Tu - Māori cultural & culinary experience
 Included: Te Puia geothermal valley
 Included: Te Puia Maori Arts & Crafts Institute
 Included: Wellington City Tour
 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners

Day 1

New Zealand's largest city is blessed when it comes to water views – on one side of the isthmus is Manukau Harbour; on the other, Waitemata. Exploring pretty precincts at your leisure, gazing out over a flurry of yachts, you'll begin to understand why Auckland is fondly known as the 'City of Sails'. Come evening, meet your fellow NZ holiday travel companions for dinner at The Grill, and share stories of your day-one wanderings. Staying in:

- Horizon by SkyCity Auckland (1 night)

Day 2

Remember all those sails you spotted on Auckland's harbour yesterday? They come from a long and fascinating history of boat-building and sailing, as you'll discover on an America's Cup tour at the New Zealand Maritime Museum. This is a story of migration, innovation, team-building and skill. Plus, you get to glimpse one of the few existing replicas of the America's Cup. The water is your backdrop as you skirt the harbour toward dreamy Mission Bay, onward to Bastion Point and the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial. This is the place to get some perspective. Yes, of Auckland and its improbable location, but also of life in general. There's nothing like an epic view to set your soul soaring. If you want tips on how to spend your afternoon post Auckland tour, we have a few ideas. Perhaps a behind-the-scenes All Blacks experience, revealing insights into this record-breaking rugby team or a cruise on Auckland Harbour (both own expense).

Staying in:

- Horizon by SkyCity Auckland (1 night)

Day 3

Leave Auckland behind and journey into the countryside for an exclusive family-style Be My Guest lunch in the Red Barn on a working dairy farm. Over your farm to table lunch prepared by the onsite chef, get a feel for country life as you're invited to roll up your sleeves and make your own butter - butter churners, tiny mason jars and all! The next hot-spot – in every sense of the word – on your NZ holiday is Rotorua. Visit Te Puia for a guided tour of the New Zealand Maori Arts & Crafts Institute and the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staggering valley where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skywards.

Staying in:

- Millennium Hotel Rotorua (1 night)

Day 4

Today, choose your own adventure. We have plenty of ideas for the paths you might follow. Optional Rotorua tour sightseeing experiences include relieving NZ holiday-weary limbs in the thermal waters of the Wai Ariki Hot Springs & Spa or perhaps you'd prefer to zip across Rotorua's three lakes in an amphibious WWII-era Duck (both own expense). The decision is yours. Tonight, dive deep into Indigenous culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Hear about Māori history, traditions, and future aspirations across an evening of celebration and feasting. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and chef choice aperitif, followed by a three-course dinner.

Staying in:

- Millennium Hotel Rotorua (1 night)

Day 5

You'll hear Huka Falls well before you see it – at this natural wonder, a staggering 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11-metre-high waterfall every second. Photos just don't do it justice; this is an every-sense-heightened experience. The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupo, its waters so vivid and blue you'll think someone has taken the glasses off your nose and cleaned them for the first time. The surrounding countryside is one of ridiculous contrast: snow-blanketed mountains and alpine deserts, ancient forests and trout-filled rivers. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington.

Staying in:

- Rydges Wellington (1 night)

Day 6

Your day in Wellington should – must – begin with a coffee. The city is known for its uber-cool cafes and with coffee in hand you will head out on a city sights tour to take in highlights such as its iconic cable car, parliament and Mt. Victoria. This afternoon is yours to discover Wellington.

Your city tour ends at Te Papa Museum of New Zealand, so perhaps call in for a visit (entrance fee applies). Or visit the first urban completely fenced ecosanctuary of Zealandia Te Māra a Tāne, where the biodiversity of 225 hectares of forest is being restored. Or Lord of the Rings Movie Locations, including the famous Weta Workshop (both own expense). Tonight, there are so many restaurants and bars to choose from, you'll need a guidebook. Ask us for recommendations or explore at your leisure. Because every NZ holiday needs a little down time.

Staying in:

- Rydges Wellington (1 night)

Day 7

It's been a week of epic sights and adventures in the North Island. All good things must come to an end, but there's time to enjoy one last breakfast with your travel companions.

Tour details

Departures: Daily
Tour type: Guided Coach Tour
Starts: Auckland
Finishes: Wellington
Tour length: 7
Accommodation: Hotel 4 star
Car/transport type:

Accommodation summary