

Food, Art, and Nature North Island Tour

Your journey sets off from Auckland, the City of Sails. Explore the abundant offerings of the city at your leisure after arrival, or opt for a guided half-day wine tour. The following morning, embark on an adventurous day, journeying to Rotorua via magical Hobbiton and the famous Waitomo Glow Worm Caves. The morning of day three brings you an experience at Mountain Jade, learning about the history and cultural significance of New Zealand Greenstone with a live carving example, before departing for Napier aboard a coach. In Napier, taste the very best the region has to offer on a tour with Hunter Gatherer. The following day sees you off on a coach to New Zealand's windy capital city of Wellington, where you'll experience the charming Cable Car, as well as a Twilight Tour at Zealandia Wildlife Ecosanctuary, spotting native and endemic species. On day six, board the famous Northern Explorer Train for a scenic journey through the heart of the North Island back to where it all began in Auckland. Spend the final morning of your tour exploring before your private transfer to the airport to depart.

Starts in: Auckland
 Finishes in: Auckland
 Length: 7days / 6nights
 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: Afterhours emergency support while touring
 Included activity: Auckland to Rotorua with Hobbiton & Waitomo Glow Worms Tour with FlexiTours - Lunch Included
 Included activity: Rotorua to Napier by InterCity Coach
 Included activity: Napier to Wellington by InterCity Coach
 Included activity: Zealandia Twilight Wildlife Sanctuary Tour
 Included activity: The Northern Explorer Scenic Train: Wellington to Auckland
 Included activity: Private Transfer Auckland Hotel to Auckland Airport with Black Pearl

Includes: All pick ups/drop offs at destinations
 Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course
 Included activity: Mountain Jade - Highlights Tour
 Included activity: Classic Food & Wine Tour with Hunter Gatherer Tours with lunch
 Included activity: Wellington Cable Car
 Included activity: Private Transfer from Wellington Hotel to Train Station with In Style Executive
 Included activity: Private Transfer Auckland Train Station to Auckland accommodation with Tourcorp
 : 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches

Day 1



Welcome to Auckland

Welcome to Auckland, known in Māori as Tāmaki Makaurau. Auckland is New Zealand's vibrant "City of Sails," and the country's largest metropolitan area. Nestled between the Pacific Ocean and the Tasman Sea. Surrounded by native bush, lush rainforests, and pristine beaches, Auckland is a haven for both adventurers and urban explorers. Wander through world-class museums and galleries in the city centre or enjoy a peaceful retreat at the Auckland Gardens, where stunning landscapes showcase New Zealand's diverse flora. Stroll along the lively waterfront to savour fresh seafood and international cuisine at Viaduct restaurants. For an unforgettable perspective, ascend the iconic SkyTower, New Zealand's tallest structure, and take in panoramic views of the city and its picturesque islands.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - All Blacks Experience

See what it takes to make, shape and be an All Black. Experience first-hand the excitement and emotion of game day. Discover the stories behind some of world rugby's most famous players, moments, and matches.

This guided experience introduces you to the game of rugby including state-of-the-art displays combining sound, images, interactive technology, and hands-on activities. Discover New Zealand's deep passion for our national sport, experience the full force of the All Blacks haka, and tackle interactive zones where you can try out your kicking, catching, line-out, and accuracy skills against legendary All Blacks.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Wētā Workshop Unleashed

A jaw-dropping, senses-shattering, awe-inspiring adventure into the heart of movie magic! Get hands-on and immerse yourself in an extraordinary world of practical effects, props and larger-than-life sets. On this award-winning tour, you can explore three movie projects imagined by the Weta crew and uncover how they bring big screen concepts to life. Discover a mind-blowing world of robots, monsters, dinosaurs and more - step right into the action to see, play and experience movie-making up close.

Your accommodation: Oaks Auckland Hotel

Oaks Auckland Hotel offers a comfortable self-contained apartment in downtown Auckland. Located a short walk from Britomart Transport and the Viaduct. Enjoy your stay in central Auckland surrounded by delicious eateries or use your in-house kitchenette to dine in!



Day 2



Auckland to Rotorua with Hobbiton & Waitomo Glow Worms Tour with Flexi Tours - Lunch Included

Travel from Auckland to Rotorua with unforgettable stops at Hobbiton and the Waitomo Caves. Immerse yourself in the magic of The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit as you visit the iconic Hobbiton movie set. During this 2.5-hour guided tour, explore Hobbit Holes, sip a complimentary drink at The Green Dragon Inn, and see The Mill and the Party Tree while your guide shares behind-the-scenes stories and fascinating insights into the making of the films. At Waitomo, delve into a stunning 30-million-year-old cave network spread across three levels. Journey deep underground to marvel at intricate limestone formations, learn about the caves' geological and historical significance, and glide silently by boat through the glowworm grotto, where thousands of tiny living lights create a mesmerizing galaxy-like experience.

Your accommodation: Robertson House

Base yourself in the historic Robertson House Villa for your Rotorua adventure. Just a 10 minute walk from the city centre this charming home retains the character of yesteryear and is a joy to visit.

Meals included: Lunch



Day 3



Mountain Jade - Highlights Tour

This 30-minute highlights tour is a rare opportunity to spend time with New Zealand Jade artists. New Zealand Jade known as Greenstone, but more commonly known in New Zealand as Pounamu has a rich history within Maori culture. The expert guide will show you the intricate process of Pounamu carving firsthand in the Mountain Jade studio. The local artist will be there to personally demonstrate the carving process and share their stories and knowledge with you. To top off the tour, you will get to select your very own piece of Pounamu and learn to string it yourself so you can take it home.

Rotorua to Napier by InterCity Coach

From Rotorua you travel along the geothermal highway and past the edge of the largest man-made radiate pine forest in the world - the Kaingaroa Forest towards Taupō. Your coach travels past Taupō which sits on the shores of New Zealand's largest lake, Lake Taupō. From Taupō you'll travel over the Ahiminawa Ranges to Napier. Napier has the highest concentrations of Striped Classical, Spanish Mission and Art Deco building styles in the world. The commercial centre was completely rebuilt following a catastrophic earthquake in 1931. Napier is also at the centre of one of the largest and most vibrant wine-producing areas in New Zealand.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Restorative Journey Package with Wai Ariki Hot Springs and Spa

Indulge your senses in a Restorative Journey (Wai Whakaora), a thoughtfully designed therapeutic experience inspired by the practices and culture of Ngāti Whakaue. Embrace the healing power of the natural environment as your senses awaken through a series of hot and cold therapies. Your journey begins beneath a cascading waterfall, cleansing your body and mind. Transition to Te Ahi Tupua, where a sequence of hot and cold immersions invigorates and rejuvenates. Relax in the soothing waters of the Geothermal Pool, sourced from the renowned Rachel Spring. Follow this with a refreshing cold plunge, easing muscle tension and reducing inflammation. Conclude your experience in the Kohu Wai Arik steam room, where heated stones create a serene space for reflection and relaxation, leaving you revitalized and restored.

Your accommodation: Quality Inn Napier

Quality Inn Napier is centrally located on Marine Parade. Comfortable rooms make for a relaxing stay and the heated swimming pool will be a treat after a long day of exploring.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 4



Classic Food & Wine Tour with Hunter Gatherer Tours

During this tour, you will taste your way through the region, discover local artists, Kiwi architecture, and what makes Hawke's Bay food and wine unique. You will meet local New Zealanders doing everyday things and have a home-made lunch with the Cheese & Wine Experience.

Your accommodation: Quality Inn Napier

Quality Inn Napier is centrally located on Marine Parade. Comfortable rooms make for a relaxing stay and the heated swimming pool will be a treat after a long day of exploring.

Meals included: Lunch



Day 5



Napier to Wellington by InterCity Coach

Leaving the 1930's inspired city of Napier you will travel through the countryside of the Hawke's Bay and Manawatu. Travelling along the Kāpiti Coast line into the capital city of Wellington. Wellington sits on a wonderful deep natural harbour and is surrounded by bush clad hills. The city centre itself is quite compact (only around 1 square kilometre) and exploring on foot is relatively easy. You can easily stroll the famous cafes and restaurants within the city and New Zealand's national museum, Te Papa, is also close by.

Wellington Cable Car

Take a ride on the historic Wellington Cable Car and enjoy stunning views of the city and harbour, Te Whanganui-a-Tara, as you ascend Kelburn Hill in just five minutes. At the top, visit the Cable Car Museum to see the original machinery and watch a short film about its history, or browse the gift shop. Just a short walk away, Space Place at Carter Observatory offers interactive exhibits and a digital planetarium exploring the Southern skies. If you have time, stroll back down through the scenic Wellington Botanic Garden.

Zealandia Twilight Wildlife Sanctuary Tour

Welcome to the world's first fully-fenced urban ecosanctuary - a conservation success and safe haven for some of New Zealand's rarest native animals. Remarkable species of birds, reptiles, insects and more are living wild within a beautiful 225ha (one square mile) valley - just 10 minutes from central Wellington. Around 40 native and endemic species of birds can be found at Zealandia. Kākā - the playful forest parrots - have made an impressive comeback to the area and are lots of fun to watch at their feeder stations. Endangered hihi (stitchbird), tīeke (saddleback), kākāriki and kiwi are flourishing here and the pair of critically threatened takahē are often seen at the wetlands. Experience Zealandia as it transforms from daylight to twilight during this special guided experience. See birds returning to the sanctuary to settle into their nests, the sight of the evening sky, and hear the changing sounds of birds from day to night. Encounter unique species such as wētā, takahē, tuatara and more. You may even be lucky enough to experience the first sounds of the nocturnal birds as they wake.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Guided Tour of Te Papa The Museum of New Zealand

Beginning over one hundred million years ago, join your guide on a journey through New Zealand's rich history and cultures. Hear stories of our adaptive wildlife, the resilience of the Māori people, and artistic interpretations of life in the South Pacific. Whether you have limited time or here for an extended visit, this tour will give you a great opportunity to understand the vibrant landscapes and cultures you will encounter throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

Your accommodation: Booklovers B&B

Located just 10 minutes walk from Te Papa - The National Museum, dozens of cafes and restaurants, theatres and cinemas, and of course bookshops - Booklovers B&B offers the most comfort with the least fuss. A perfect place to relax after a busy day exploring the culture of Wellington, especially if you love a good book.



Day 6



Private Transfer from Wellington Hotel to Train Station with In Style Executive

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to Wellington train station to meet your train.

The Northern Explorer Scenic Train: Wellington to Auckland

The Northern Explorer is a journey through the heart of the North Island, travelling between Wellington, New Zealand's arts and culture capital and Auckland, New Zealand's largest city. Along the way you pass the Central North Island ski towns of National Park and Ohakune. You also see fantastic views of New Zealand farmland, the volcanic plateau, Mount Ruapehu, the world famous Raurimu Spiral, and stunning river gorges - all from panoramic windows or open air viewing decks. All carriages feature large panoramic windows giving sweeping views of the magnificent North Island. The Observation Carriage includes a mix of seating including lounge-style seating. The lounge-style seating is arranged at the very rear of this glass-backed carriage enabling you to enjoy a totally unique Northern Explorer experience.

Private Transfer Auckland Train Station to Auckland accommodation

You will be met at the Auckland Train Station and transferred to your Auckland accommodation.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Northern Explorer Scenic Plus Addon - KiwiRail

Elevate your North Island rail journey with the Scenic Plus add-on and experience true luxury on the rails! Enjoy inclusive, multi-course dining with fresh, regionally inspired cuisine and perfectly paired New Zealand wines and beverages, all delivered to your spacious, comfortable table seat. You'll receive dedicated personal service as you glide past the volcanic peaks and lush plains of the North Island. Feeling adventurous? Step out to the exclusive open-air viewing carriage to capture the Central Plateau's magnificent vistas and breathe in the great outdoors. This is a full sensory journey through the heart of the North Island.

Your accommodation: Oaks Auckland Hotel

Oaks Auckland Hotel offers a comfortable self-contained apartment in downtown Auckland. Located a short walk from Britomart Transport and the Viaduct. Enjoy your stay in central Auckland surrounded by delicious eateries or use your in-house kitchenette to dine in!

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 7



Private Transfer Auckland Hotel to Auckland Airport with Black Pearl

A private transfer will meet you at your accommodation and drive you to the airport.

Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Independant Bus & Coach
Starts:	Auckland
Finishes:	Auckland
Tour length:	7
Accommodation:	Motels
Car/transport type:	

Accommodation summary

Day 1	Oaks Auckland Hotel
Day 2	Robertson House
Day 3	Quality Inn Napier
Day 4	Quality Inn Napier
Day 5	Booklovers B&B
Day 6	Oaks Auckland Hotel