

9 Day Northern Wanderer

Auckland, Paihia, Waitomo, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington

TOURING MAP:



TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- ◆ Meet and Greet on arrival in New Zealand
- ◆ New Zealand Airport Transfers
- ◆ Quality hotel accommodation, twin/double rooms, (single rooms available with single supplement) all with private facilities
- ◆ Cooked Breakfasts (B) and Dinners (D) where indicated on the itinerary, including a special dinner: Maori Hangi and Concert – Rotorua
- ◆ Tour Admissions as per itinerary, including a Scenic Boat Cruises in the Bay of Islands - The Hole in the Rock cruise
- ◆ Touring in a modern air conditioned coach and where possible we will provide a complimentary Roadside Morning Tea from the coach
- ◆ Complimentary Travel Kit including, Travel Bag, Travel Wallet, Name Bar, Luggage Labels, and New Zealand Map

2014/15 GUARANTEED DEPARTURE DATES:

03 September, 17 September, 03 October,
19 October, 05 November, 21 November,
18 January, 08 February, 20 February, 06 March,
25 March, 08 April, 24 April

PER PERSON TOUR PRICES (NZD):

Land Only Share Twin	\$NZ2,890.00
Single Supplement Extra	\$NZ895.00
Deposit due at time of booking	\$NZ500.00
Balance of tour payment due 6 weeks prior to tour commencement	

DAILY ITINERARY:

Day 1 ARRIVE AUCKLAND (D)
Welcome to New Zealand! *You are met on arrival at the Auckland International Airport* before being transferred to your hotel.
Rendezvous Grand Hotel, Auckland

Day 2 AUCKLAND – BAY OF ISLANDS (BD)
Departing Auckland we travel north over the *Auckland Harbour Bridge* to first *visit the Parry Kauri Park*. Here we will view some fine examples of Giant Kauri Trees. Continuing we then *visit the Matakohu Kauri Museum*, at Otamatea. Here we gain an insight to the early New Zealand pioneer history, which helped form the New Zealand that we see today. Continuing our journey we reach Paihia in the beautiful Bay of Islands, where you'll



take a *guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty House* where New Zealand's history began.

Scenic Bay of Islands Hotel, Paihia – 2 nights

Day 3 BAY OF ISLANDS (B)
Today is a day of leisure. The Bay of Islands has so many options for you to discover - perhaps a day trip to the light house at Cape Reinga the most northern tip of New Zealand, followed by a safari along 90 Mile Beach on the way home. Maybe try your luck at deep-sea fishing, or take the plunge swimming with the dolphins or just take time out to relax within Paihia or Russell - New Zealand's first capital.

Day 4 BAY OF ISLANDS – AUCKLAND (BD)
This morning board a luxury catamaran to cruise the Bay of Islands to Cape Brett before making a passage through *the Hole in the Rock*. After your cruise we travel south following the Twin Coast Discovery Highway to arrive in Auckland, where on arrival we experience a *highlights tour of Auckland*, the 'City of Sails', exploring the lively waterfront area and the base of New Zealand's America's Cup Challenge. Enjoy the relaxing views along Tamaki Drive, which runs east past peaceful sheltered bays to Auckland's most expensive real estate.
Rendezvous Grand Hotel, Auckland

Day 5 AUCKLAND – WAITOMO – ROTORUA (BD)
This morning we *visit the Auckland Sky Tower* – at 328m tall it is one of the tallest buildings in the Southern Hemisphere offering you outstanding views of the Auckland CBD and the surrounding region. Departing Auckland we travel south crossing the Bombay Hills through the dairy rich Waikato countryside we arrive at the *famous Waitomo Caves*. Here a guide will take you underground to *view the amazing limestone caves featuring stalagmites and stalactites, which have taken centuries to form*. Continue to walk down to an underground stream to board a small boat to *view the glow-worm grotto – an underground cavern featuring millions of glow-worms*. From Waitomo we travel to the thermal wonderland of Rotorua, the Sulphur City. Rotorua has the most energetic thermal activity in the country with bubbling mud pools, gushing geysers, beautiful coloured hot springs and terrace formations created by mineral water. Rotorua also has a large Maori population whose cultural activities are interesting and accessible as will be witnessed tomorrow evening. This afternoon we enjoy a relaxing guided walk through *Rainbow Springs, a specialist garden featuring spring fed pools full of Rainbow & Brown Trout and New Zealand native flora and fauna including the iconic New Zealand Native Kiwi Bird*.
Distinction Hotel, Rotorua – 2 nights

Day 6 ROTORUA (BD)
Today is at your leisure. Your Optional Touring Booklet will give you plenty of options on how to spend your time. *This evening you will be treated to a traditional Hangi (feast) and Maori Concert. We are transferred from our hotel to visit Tamaki Maori Village for a Cultural Experience and Hangi Dinner.* Experience the warmth of the Maori people during an evening of ceremonial rituals, powerful cultural performance, storytelling & hangi feasting. Enter the pre-European Maori village, witness the earth being scraped carefully away from the hangi pit and enter their ancestral Meeting House to relax as their family entertain you with a powerful cultural performance before dining on the traditional *hangi buffet dinner* (Maori feast) cooked the traditional Maori way in an earth oven.

Day 7 ROTORUA – NAPIER (BD)
This morning *visit Te Puia – The New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley featuring the famous Pohutu Geyser*. Departing Rotorua we travel via New Zealand's largest pine tree forests to Taupo. En-route, we make a *visit to the Wairakei Geothermal Steam Field*. This was a world-first, generating electricity by tapping a natural steam field then channelling the steam to a nearby power generation plant. Continuing *we view the mighty Huka Falls*. Huka in Maori translates to "snow" as the water here has the appearance of snow falling as it is forced along from Lake Taupo through the falls on its journey along the Waikato River. This afternoon we continue to the 'Fruit Bowl' of New Zealand, Hawkes Bay – Napier.
Scenic Te Pania Hotel, Napier

Day 8 NAPIER – WELLINGTON (BD)
Before we depart *Napier we take a city sights tour, featuring beautiful Art Deco buildings* to give us an insight of why Napier is known as the Art Deco capital of the world. This afternoon we continue south to Wellington where we spend the rest of the day enjoying an informative sightseeing tour, including a *visit to Te Papa, (Our Place) New Zealand's national museum*.
James Cook Grand Chancellor Hotel, Wellington

Day 9 WELLINGTON – HOME PORT (B)
Farewell from New Zealand. After breakfast you will be *transferred from the hotel to Wellington International Airport* for your flight back home.