

North Island Circuit

Journey through the heart of the North Island on this tour from Auckland to the capital city of Wellington, and catch the Northern Explorer Scenic Train back to Auckland. Along the way, enjoy such highlights as Waitomo Caves, unique Maori cultural experiences, and the art deco city of Napier.

Starts in: Auckland
Finishes in: Auckland
Length: 4days / 3nights
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: Rotorua and Waitomo Caves Tour and Te Puia with FlexiTours - Lunch Included
Included activity: Te Pā Tū Evening Māori Cultural Experience - Dinner Included
Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course
Included activity: Rotorua to Napier by InterCity Coach
Included activity: Napier Coach Depot to Accommodation - 1 hour tour with Tailored Travel
Included activity: Art Deco Trust Vintage Car Tour
Included activity: Napier to Wellington by InterCity Coach
Included activity: Private Transfer from Wellington Hotel to Train Station with In Style Executive
Included activity: The Northern Explorer Scenic Train: Wellington to Auckland
1 lunch, 1 special dinner

Day 1



Rotorua and Waitomo Caves Tour and Te Puia with FlexiTours - Lunch Included

Travel from Auckland to Rotorua and visit the famous Waitomo Caves along the way. This tour showcases some of the most iconic destinations on North Island. Discover Rotorua, renowned for its geothermal activity and rich Māori heritage. Enjoy a guided tour of the world-famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves and explore the geothermal wonderland of Te Puia. Your journey concludes in Rotorua.

Te Pā Tū Evening Māori Cultural Experience - Dinner Included

New Zealand's Most Awarded Cultural Attraction, presenting Te Pā Tū. Feast on song, drama, tradition, and divine seasonal kai (cuisine) within the forest Pā (village) blanketed by towering Tawa trees, blazing bonfires, and a forest-formed amphitheatre. Te Pā Tū shares Māori history, traditions, and cultural aspirations across 4-hours of celebration and feasting. These events change with each season of the Maramataka, the Māori lunar calendar.

Your accommodation: Asure Rotorua International Motor Inn

Beautifully appointed and comfortable motel accommodation just a short drive from central Rotorua - the cultural hub of New Zealand!

Meals included: Lunch, Speciality Dinner



Day 2



Taxi in Rotorua - Own Arrangements

Please arrange your own taxi transport at your convenience. We suggest booking ahead for early morning or peak-hour travel to ensure timely arrival.

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.

Walking tracks in and around Hawkes Bay

Hawke's Bay offers a variety of scenic walks, from coastal paths to forest trails, perfect for exploring the region's natural beauty. Whether you're looking for a short stroll or a more challenging hike, there's something for everyone. Be sure to check with the Department of Conservation for current conditions before heading out.

Napier coach depot to Napier Accommodation

You will be collected from Napier Coach Depot and transferred to your accommodation. On the way to your accommodation, you will be taken on a one-hour tour of Napier

Your accommodation: Bella Vista Napier

Bella Vista Motel Napier invites you to experience its friendly service and modern motel units. Located close to shops, restaurants and the renowned Marine Parade with its majestic Norfolk pines.



Day 3



Art Deco Trust Vintage Car Tour

Discover Napier's Art Deco heritage in style in a luxurious 1930s vintage car. Your journey will take in Napier's famous Art Deco Quarter, historic Port Ahuriri and a delightfully quaint Art Deco residential suburb.

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.

Taxi in Wellington - Own Arrangements

Please arrange your own taxi transport at your convenience. We suggest booking ahead for early morning or peak-hour travel to ensure timely arrival.

Your accommodation: Adina CityLife Wellington

Adina CityLife Wellington is a suite style hotel with every amenity required for a comfortable stay, as well as being in a superb location to explore the compact city centre. Situated on Lambton Quay, you'll find the best shopping, tourist attractions and cultural landmarks all within easy walking distance.



Day 4



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 carriages feature large panoramic windows giving sweeping views of the magnificent North Island. or enjoy the open air viewing deck of the Observation Carriage.

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.

Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Independant Bus & Coach
Starts:	Auckland
Finishes:	Auckland
Tour length:	4
Accommodation:	Motels
Car/transport type:	

Accommodation summary

Day 1	Asure Rotorua International Motor Inn
Day 2	Bella Vista Napier
Day 3	Adina CityLife Wellington