

Luxury North Island Honeymoon Package

Arriving in Auckland and then road-tripping to Northland. Famous for its beaches and connection to Māori culture, you will explore the area by air and by sea before departing west indulging in Ngawha Springs and hearing the stories of Māori connection to the ancient Kauri forests. Your next destination treats you to a boutique lodge near Wharehine. Venturing South passing through Auckland you will make way for Rotorua, home to geothermal wonders and Māori culture. Experience a thrilling jetboat ride in Taupō on the way to Hawkes Bay where you will spend the day with a cheesemonger and learn about the area's famous wines. Your honeymoon comes to an end in the capital city, Wellington.

Starts in: Auckland
Finishes in: Wellington
Length: 11days / 10nights
Accommodation: Boutique Lodges & Hotels
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: Late model rental cars

Includes: Unlimited kms

Included activity: Electronic Travel Guide and In-Country Support App

Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course

Included activity: Ngawha Springs

Included activity: Redwoods Nightlights and Glowworms Fast Pass

Included activity: Te Pā Tū Evening Māori Cultural Experience - Dinner Included

Included activity: An Insider's Taste of the Bay with Hunter Gatherer Tours

Includes: Fully inclusive rental car insurance (excess may apply)

Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring

Included activity: Private Transfer Auckland Airport to your Auckland Accommodation with Tourcorp

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

Included activity: Twilight Waipoua Encounter

Included activity: Restorative Journey with Wai Ariki Hot Springs and Spa

Included activity: Huka Falls Jet Boat Ride

: 11 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners, 1 special dinner

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.

Private Transfer Auckland Airport to your Auckland Accommodation with Tourcorp

You will be met at the Auckland airport by your private driver and be transferred to your Auckland accommodation.

Auckland

Auckland, or Tāmaki Makaurau in Māori, is a city that effortlessly blends vibrant urban life with stunning natural beauty. Take a ferry to Waiheke Island for award-winning wineries, olive groves, and pristine beaches, or explore Devonport, a charming seaside suburb with historic streets and cafés; culture. Climb One Tree Hill or the volcanic Mt Eden for panoramic views of the city and harbour. Shop and dine in Ponsonby's stylish boutiques and eateries, or experience the eclectic energy of K Road, once a red-light district and now the world's sixth coolest street. Nature enthusiasts can wander the Auckland Botanic Gardens, hike the scenic Waitākere Ranges, or surf the rugged west coast beaches like Piha and Muriwai. Art lovers can visit the Auckland Art Gallery, while adventure seekers can sail the Waitematā Harbour or take in the city skyline from the iconic Sky Tower. With its mix of culture, cuisine, and outdoor escapes, Auckland promises unforgettable experiences for every traveller.

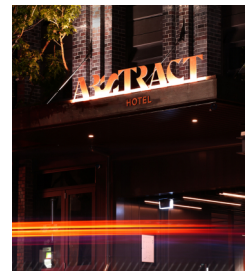
SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Dinner at the Sky Tower Orbit Restaurant

Soaring high above Auckland you'll discover Orbit, a truly iconic New Zealand brasserie offering diners sensational views - and food to match. Situated at the top of Auckland's Sky Tower, the dining room rotates once every hour, providing a truly unique experience with amazing 360-degree panoramas of the city, the Hauraki Gulf and beyond. Orbit offers a modern dining experience in a relaxed, open atmosphere with a delicious kiwi-inspired à la carte menu that features the best local and seasonal produce. As New Zealand's only rotating restaurant offering 360-degree views, it's an unforgettable experience that never ceases to delight.

Your accommodation: Abstract Hotel & Residences

Abstract is Auckland's freshest new vibe, blending hotel and residences for urban adventurers. Whether for work, family vacation or romantic escape, come and relax in a comfortable and stylish room. A guest lounge, co-working spaces, library, bar, a restaurant, gym, and a luxury spa are available on site.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 2



Collect Rental Car

This tour's from price includes an intermediate-sized vehicle, setting you up for comfortable travels. Yet, we understand every adventure is unique! Feel free to select the perfect wheels from our incredible collection of rental cars, spanning from economy hatchbacks to premium SUVs.

Auckland to Russell

The drive from Auckland to the Bay of Islands normally takes around three and a half hours, but plan to take a little longer for there are many things to see along the way. Stretch your legs in Puhoi, New Zealand's only Bohemian settlement. Go through Warkworth, and Whangarei and see the world famous hundredwasser toilets in Kawakawa. Arriving into Russell via the Opuia Ferry, you'll be greeted by lush bush-clad hillsides dropping to golden sandy beaches.

Explore Russell

Experience the timeless charm of Russell, a historic village accessible by a quick ferry ride from Paihia or a scenic coastal drive. Once a notorious whaling hub, New Zealand's first European settlement, and briefly the country's first capital, Russell now offers a tranquil escape with a rich past. You'll love exploring historical sites like the bullet-scarred Christ Church, New Zealand's oldest church, or the historic Marlborough Hotel, which holds the country's oldest liquor license. For breathtaking views of the Bay and its islands, a short walk up Flagstaff Hill is a must. This historic site tells the story of Māori chief Hone Heke's famous protests. Russell is the perfect place to step back in time while enjoying the stunning beauty of the Bay of Islands

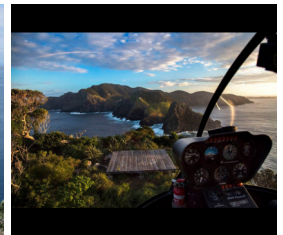
Your accommodation: Duke of Marlborough Hotel, Russell

The historic Duke of Marlborough Hotel is located on the waterfront in the charming village of Russell. Choose from a range of rooms including the Waterfront rooms with their spectacular views across to Paihia or the family rooms for those needing extra space. The onsite restaurant and bar is also a great place to relax and take in the views.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 3



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.

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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 4



Russell to Ngawha Springs

Depart Russell and the Bay of Islands via the Okiato vehicle ferry to Ōpua (shuttles run every 10 minutes, payable on board via card), then head west through the quirky township of Kawakawa to see the famous Hundertwasser public toilets. Continue through the rolling rural landscape of Northland until you reach Kaikohe, the gateway to Ngāwhā Springs. Here, you can finish your journey by soaking in the therapeutic, mineral-rich geothermal pools that are world-renowned for their healing properties.

Ngawha Springs

Bathe in the healing waters at Ngawha Springs and let the ancient energy revitalise your senses while the minerals from deep in the earth permeate your body. The mineral-rich hot waters of Ngawha Springs bubble up from deep within the Earth. Nestled in the heart of Te Tai Tokerau, Northland, the springs have a long history of being a restorative and healing place to visit. The people of Ngāpuhi have attended the natural springs to replenish wairua (spirit), alleviate the sensation of pain, and repair common ailments.

Ngawha Springs to Hokianga

Headed west through rural Northland and the ancient forests you soon arrive into the Hokianga Region and the wilder seas of the Tasman. The small townships of Omapere and Opononi have a great seaside feel and the perfect place to stop for an ice cream.

Hokianga region

Just a three-hour drive north of Auckland lies the Hokianga, a breathtaking estuarine harbour on the North Island's west coast, also known as the Hokianga River. This captivating region is steeped in history, having been inhabited by the Ngāpuhi for centuries before European arrival in the early 19th century. Despite a colourful past of early, often reluctant, settlers, Hokianga holds the distinction of hosting New Zealand's first Catholic mass.

While its impressive sandbar restricts access to small boats, this fourth-largest harbour in New Zealand opens up to 20 kilometres of navigable waters inland. On the northern shore, colossal, ever-shifting sand dunes, reaching up to 200 metres, invite adventurous spirits for thrilling descents.

The charming seaside towns of Omapere and Opononi offer a relaxed escape with holiday homes, craft shops, cafes, and local pubs. Further inland, the historic town of Rawene, with its unique cantilevered wooden buildings over the harbour, serves as a vital ferry point. Catching the Rawene ferry saves approximately an hour on your journey north to Kaitia, allowing you more time to immerse yourself in the Hokianga's rich tapestry of culture, history, and stunning natural beauty.

Twilight Waipoua Encounter

Experience the Waipoua Forest at night on this spectacular 4 hour tour. Learn about the rich birdlife and fauna that inhabit the forest, including the carnivorous kauri snail. You'll also get to experience the deep spiritual respect the Maori people have for this place. Your Maori guide will brief you on the protocols for your visit and you once formal greetings have been made you will be allowed to meet the giant Tane Mahuta, or Lord of the Forest - the oldest Kauri tree in the world.

Your accommodation: The Sands Hotel & Resort Hokianga

Just 3.5 hours from Auckland, get away from the hustle and bustle of the city life at the Sands Hotel, a four star accommodation with world-wide service, overlooking the Hokianga Harbour. Enjoy a relaxing and comfortable stay by the quiet water's edge of the harbour and explore the beautiful surrounding nature with the Waipoua Forest and its famous ancient Kauri tree in the area.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 5



Hokianga to Wharehine

As you leave the Hokianga region make sure you stop at the mouth of the Hokianga Harbour, where you can walk to the heads and admire the views which are simply stunning. From there head south and into the Waipoua Forest, home to the massive Kauri trees. Waipoua Forest covers around 15,000 hectares and is the last remaining substantial volume of the magnificent kauri forests that once covered much of the North Island. Today there are many walks and paths to explore, the most visited tree in the park is Tane Mahuta or the lord of the forest. This gigantic tree is just a 5 minute walk from the road and is over 1000 years old. Continuing south along the West Coast you'll reach one of the world's largest natural harbours, Kaipara Harbour. The region was worked by immigrant Dalmatians who toiled to make a living from the gum fields. A visit to the Matakoho Kauri Museum tells the story of the hardships and pioneering spirit during the early days and of the remarkable impact the kauri tree had on the region and the wider world - don't miss it. The final leg of the journey takes you back along State Highway 1 turning off at Te Hana to arrive in Wharehine.

Your accommodation: Woodhouse Mountain Lodge Warkworth

Set high on a coastal ridge, these contemporary villas look directly across the wide waters of the Hauraki Gulf. The elevated position affords exceptional privacy, where open grounds fall away to the countryside. Days revolve around a calm rhythm, with time by the pool, quiet sessions in the spa, and evenings at the lounge bar. It is an effortless, self-contained sanctuary on the coast.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 6



Wharehine to Rotorua

Make way back to State Highway 1 passing through Auckland into rolling green farmland and the rich dairy pasture of the Waikato. The Bombay Hills mark the outer boundary of great Auckland and it's here you turn inland to central Waikato. This is hobbit country and the route takes you through the town of Matamata where you can still visit the film locations made famous in the Lord of the Rings trilogy at Hobbiton Movie Set and Farm Tours.

Rotorua

Discover the geothermal, adventure, and cultural wonderland of Rotorua. As you explore, you may see steam rising from cracks in the road, bubbling and hissing water in pools along the lake's edge, and the unmistakable smell of Sulfur. Rotorua is rich in Māori culture and history, with many Māori inhabitants recognising the great potential of the volcanic land. For an outdoor adventure, head to The Redwoods and experience the rainforest treetops from high up. There are a few accessible trails for disabled hikers and great biking trails as well. If you're lucky, you might spot some of New Zealand's native birds, such as the Pīwakawaka (Fantail) and the Tūī. Alternatively, enjoy the Lake Tikitapu Blue Lake Walk or explore Kuirau Park, where you'll find bubbling mud pools and steaming lakes. Don't miss the private thermal reserves such as Te Puia and Wai-O-Tapu, where you can walk among bubbling mud pools, spouting geysers, and Sulfur ponds. Just a few minutes from the town centre, the Agrodome and National Kiwi Hatchery offer an insight into nature. Rotorua's rich Māori culture is a must-see. Spend an evening with Te Pā Tū, complete with a traditional-style dinner or stroll along the lake edge to reach one of the country's oldest Māori villages at Ohinemutu. When hunger strikes, visit Eat Street in Rotorua CBD, a vibrant street lined with delicious eateries and restaurants to satisfy any craving. No visit to Rotorua would be complete without experiencing Rotorua's original tourist attraction - a relaxing spa treatment. This town boasts an array of wellness experiences to unwind in. Whether you are seeking adventure, culture, or relaxation, Rotorua offers an unforgettable experience.

Redwoods Nightlights and Glowworms Fast Pass

Discover the magic of the Redwoods with this unforgettable eco-tourism experience. Venture into a breathtaking 70-metre eco cave at Redwoods Glowworms, filled with dramatic rock formations and a dazzling display of over 5,000 glowworms, then continue the magic with Redwoods Nightlights, a 700-metre award-winning treetop walk featuring 34 exquisite lanterns by renowned designer David Trubridge, suspended 9–20 metres above the forest floor. Perfect for nature lovers and night-time explorers alike. With the fast pass, you will be able to skip lines and get straight into the fun!

Your accommodation: Treetops Lodge & Estate

Set within native forest and open valleys, Treetops Lodge combines heavy native timber, local stone, and roaring hearths. High ceilings and broad glass frame views of the surrounding tree canopy, grounding you in the quiet countryside. With private forest trails and clear streams on the doorstep, it serves as an atmospheric anchor for exploring Rotorua at an effortless pace.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner



Day 7



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.

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.

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Meals included: Breakfast, Speciality Dinner



Day 8



Rotorua to Taupo

Today drive through the heart of the Central North Island volcanic plateau. Visit the geothermal regions Wai O Tapu Thermal Wonderland and Waimangu Volcanic Valley, before arriving into the town of Taupo, which sits on New Zealand's largest lake - Lake Taupo. Just north of the town are the Huka Falls and a short detour to view is highly recommended, as is a visit to the nearby Craters of the Moon geothermal reserve.

Huka Falls Jet Boat Ride

The Huka Jet is 30 minutes of pure fun and exhilaration, skimming close to cliffs, sliding past trees, feeling the adrenalin of full 360 degree spins. The excitement continues right up to the base of the foaming Huka Falls, where you get a spectacular water level view to New Zealand's most visited natural attraction. Nothing compares to watching 220,000 litres per second tumbling over the cliff face towards you. The water from the mighty Huka Falls runs down the Waikato River through a series of Hydro Power Stations. You'll get a view of the Wairakei Geothermal Power Station in the comfort of a powerful Chevrolet V8 jet boat. This unique Geothermal Power Station uses underground geothermal activity to produce hot steamy water. The Waikato Rivers beautiful environment is varied and unique and is New Zealand's longest river flowing north from our largest lake, Lake Taupō. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information please see [here](#).

Taupo to Hastings

The road from Taupo climbs high onto the plateau crossing the Ahiminawa Range before arriving to the Pacific Coast. Passing through the Art Deco township of Napier and through the region's infamous wineries you will soon arrive in Hastings.

Hawkes Bay

Hawke's Bay Wine Country is New Zealand's leading food and wine region, and with over 2200 hours of sunshine, the region is a year-round holiday destination. Located on the east coast of the North Island, the landscapes of Hawke's Bay begin with the high, forested Ruahine and Kawkeka Ranges. From the mountains the land sweeps down towards the coast, flattening out to become the Heretaunga Plains. A number of wide rivers, excellent for fishing, run swiftly to meet the blue Pacific Ocean and glorious beaches which stretch from Mahia in the north to Porangahau in the south.

Hawke's Bay is the country's oldest winemaking region and is New Zealand's leading producer of award-winning red wines. Hawke's Bay is also home to a world-class concentration of Art Deco architecture, fresh local produce and artisan food producers complemented by a vibrant arts scene and a rich Maori culture.

The region offers a diverse range of things to see and do from families enjoying the sun on the golden sand beaches, crystal clear rivers to explore, swimming with dolphins and the largest most accessible mainland Gannet colony in the world to name just a few. There's also hunting and fishing, 20 local golf courses to challenge you and 17 heritage trails to explore.

Northern Hawke's Bay is a popular destination for outdoor adventure. The rivers and coastline offer well-recognised trout fishing and excellent seafood with whitebait spots, deep sea fishing, surfcasting and underwater fishing all available. Wairoa is the main town of Northern Hawke's Bay and is the gateway to Lake Waikaremoana, Mahia Peninsula and the wilderness of Te Urewera National Park. If you want to get close to nature without tramping visit Cape Kidnappers, home to one of the largest, most assessable mainland gannet colonies in the world.

Your accommodation: Rosewood Cape Kidnappers

Set across 6,000 acres of working station country, The Farm at Cape Kidnappers sits where rolling pastures meet 200-metre sea cliffs. Rustic timber, local stone, and open hearths give the lodge a warm, grounded composure. Days move between the championship golf course, guided sanctuary walks, and wine tastings, providing an expansive anchor on Hawke's Bay's coast.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner



Day 9



An Insider's Taste of the Bay 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.

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Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 10



Hawkes Bay (Hastings) to Wellington

The rolling countryside of the Hawke's Bay leads you into some of New Zealand's richest farmland, located around the Manawatu region. Passing along the Manawatu Gorge, the Wairarapa welcomes you. Masterton is home to the 'golden shears' sheep shearing competition while just further south Greytown boasts the largest concentration of historic wooden buildings in the country. Nearby Martinborough has dozens of boutique wineries. The route then takes you over the Remutaka Range and along the magnificent natural harbour that the capital city of Wellington sits upon.

Wellington

Wellington known in Māori as Te Whanganui-a-Tara is home to New Zealand's centre of government. Often referred to as 'mini Melbourne', this windy city is a melting pot of art, culture, food, and fashion. Quirky laneway bars, underground art shows, and hipster eateries make up its inner-city vibe, while a host of sandy beaches outside the urban bustle bring a cheerful holiday feel. Head to Te Papa Museum for a history lesson and a ticket to one of its many international exhibitions or jump aboard the Wellington Cable Car - the only running funicular railway in the country. For those with an eye for boutique, fashion wander through Cuba St to sample some of the city's best vintage stores. Break for coffee at a hipster cafe and be sure to snap a pic outside the 'Beehive', New Zealand's parliamentary debate chamber. Go behind the scenes at Weta Workshop Experience, the Oscar Award Winning design studio behind Lord Of The Rings, The Hobbit, and Avatar. If you're a foodie at heart, a two-hour round trip to Martinborough is a must-do. Take your time as you wind through spectacular wine country. For an educational day out, learn about New Zealand's native species at Zealandia, the world's first fully-fenced eco-sanctuary and home to over 40 types of endangered and native birds.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Zealandia Twilight Wildlife Sanctuary Tour

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.

Your accommodation: InterContinental Wellington

Set between Wellington's active waterfront and central precinct, this hotel pairs tailored city hospitality with harbour views. Contemporary, light-filled rooms offer a calm, composed sanctuary within the urban core. Home to three dining venues, including Chameleon, it sits steps from Te Papa and waterfront promenades, serving as an effortless urban anchor.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 11



Depart Wellington today

Choose to explore more of Wellington's sights before dropping your rental car at the airport depot and continuing your onward journey.

Farewell from Aotearoa / New Zealand

Bid farewell to Aotearoa / New Zealand, taking with you unforgettable memories of its breathtaking landscapes and incredible adventures. In Māori, it is said mā te wā, which is not goodbye, it is see you soon!

Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Self Drive Touring
Starts:	Auckland
Finishes:	Wellington
Tour length:	11
Accommodation:	Boutique Lodges & Hotels
Car/transport type:	

Accommodation summary

Day 1	Abstract Hotel & Residences
Day 2	Duke of Marlborough Hotel, Russell
Day 3	Duke of Marlborough Hotel, Russell
Day 4	The Sands Hotel & Resort Hokianga
Day 5	Woodhouse Mountain Lodge Warkworth
Day 6	Treetops Lodge & Estate
Day 7	Treetops Lodge & Estate
Day 8	Rosewood Cape Kidnappers
Day 9	Rosewood Cape Kidnappers
Day 10	InterContinental Wellington