

The Rotorua Collection

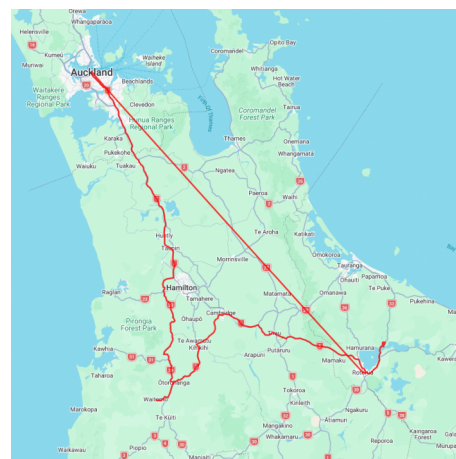
Feel the excitement as you journey from the twinkling beauty of the Waitomo Glowworm Caves to the stunning geothermal landscape of Rotorua. Over the coming days, you'll feel the thrill of hiking across a volcano's crater and experiencing a scree run, taking to the skies in a helicopter for a bird's-eye view of volcanic landscapes. You'll also experience the ancient beauty of the native forest as you glide on a zipline or walk through the tree-tops.

Beyond the thrills, you'll be able to reconnect and unwind. Take to the serene waters of Lake Rotoiti on a private cruise, soak in rejuvenating thermal springs, and experience the warmth and richness of Māori culture at a spectacular evening performance and feast.

The Rotorua Collection is a luxury tour designed for those who want a deeper, more refined experience of New Zealand.

Starts in: Auckland
Finishes in: Auckland
Length: 11days / 10nights
Accommodation: Luxury Lodges
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: Ultimate Ziplining Experience with Rotorua Canopy Tours

Included activity: Okohua Glowworm Cave Tour with The Waitomo Experience

Included activity: Guided Cultural Eco-Tour with Whirinaki Forest Footsteps - Lunch Included

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

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

Included activity: Volcanic Extremes including Whakaari/White Island & Mount Tarawera landing by Helicopter with Volcanic Air

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

Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring

Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course

Included activity: Private Heli Transfer from Rotorua to Auckland with Heletranz

Included activity: Private Mt Tarawera Volcanic Crater Half Day Experience with Kaitiaki Adventures - Lunch Included

Included activity: Lake Rotoiti's Best-Kept Secrets with Pure Cruise

Included activity: Behind The Scenes Exclusive Tour with National Kiwi Hatchery

Included activity: Redwoods Nightlights and Glowworms Fast Pass

: 10 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 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.

Your accommodation: The Hotel Britomart Auckland

Set within a historic nine-block precinct near the waterfront, The Hotel Britomart brings calm to central Auckland. Rooms pair minimal timber detailing with rich natural textures, creating a peaceful space above the harbour district. Surrounded by restored brick warehouses, local design shops, and dining, it provides an effortless, comfortable anchor for any New Zealand journey.



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 Waitomo

The drive south from Auckland takes you into the rolling farmland and rich dairy pastures of the Waikato, before arriving in the limestone hills of the Waitomo countryside, which is home to a huge underground network of caves.

Okohua Glowworm Cave Tour with The Waitomo Experience

Embark on a unique 3 hour adventure into the Okohua Glowworm Cave, a hidden world of natural beauty and exhilarating fun. Discover thousands of glowworms, stunning limestone formations, and fresh underground springs as you float through the cave by tube. This is a small group tour, ensuring an intimate and personalized experience. Your adventure is catered to you, with thrilling rock jumps and swim-throughs or a more relaxed exploration of the main route. After emerging from the cave, unwind with hot showers and a cedar hot tub. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information please see [here](#).

Waitomo to Rotorua

Today cross the lush farmland of the Waikato as you make your way inland to Rotorua. Pass through several small farming towns such as Otorohanga and Putaruru, before the region's geothermal activity signals your arrival into the city of Rotorua.

Your accommodation: On the Point

Positioned on the green contours of Kawaha Point, On the Point brings a quiet estate feel to Lake Rotorua's edge. Broad windows look out over open water, where days transition between fly fishing from the private beach, boating, or spa time. Supported by local seasonal dining and wines, it serves as a peaceful lakefront sanctuary just ten minutes from central Rotorua.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 3



Private Mt Tarawera Volcanic Crater Half Day Experience with Kaitiaki Adventures - Lunch Included

Experience the unique landscape and history of Mt Tarawera in this exclusive adventure with Kaitiaki Adventures. Infamous for its eruption on June 10th, 1886, Mt Tarawera created the world's youngest geothermal valley of Waimangu, at the same time destroying the legendary Pink and White Terraces. This fully guided hiking experience encompasses the unique landscape and history of the area and requires a moderate level of fitness. Your journey begins with an off road 4x4 experience through native New Zealand bush, transporting you to the crater's edge. With spectacular scenic vistas, 360 panoramic views and a run into the heart of the volcanic crater, this experience is guaranteed to make your trip to Rotorua memorable. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information please see [here](#)

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Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



Day 4



Guided Cultural Eco-Tour with Whirinaki Forest Footsteps - Lunch Included

Step into the ancient and enchanting Whirinaki Forest for a guided cultural walking tour just under an hour from Rotorua. Explore towering 1,000-year-old trees, discover the healing properties of native plants, and connect with Māori heritage through traditional welcomes and stories. Along the way, take time to slow down, breathe in the fresh air, and soak in the sights, sounds, and scents of the forest, spot native birds, and savour a picnic lunch with kawakawa tea. Perfect for nature lovers and culture seekers alike, this immersive experience blends New Zealand's rich natural and cultural history for an unforgettable day in the heart of one of the country's most sacred forests.

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Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



Day 5



Rotorua to Rotoiti and return

Just a short drive northeast of Rotorua, Lake Rotoiti offers the perfect half-day escape. Wind your way through native bush and geothermal landscapes to reach this peaceful lake, known for its hidden hot springs, clear waters, and stunning forest-clad shores.

Soak in the natural hot pools at Manupirua Springs, accessible only by boat or kayak, or enjoy a picnic by the lake's edge at Okere Falls, where the Kaituna River crashes through a lush gorge - popular with white-water rafters. After your lakeside adventure, cruise on back to Rotorua at your leisure.

Lake Rotoiti's Best-Kept Secrets with Pure Cruise

Indulge in a unique cruise on Lake Rotoiti aboard The Airstream Project, a bespoke, hand-built vessel that draws inspiration from classic trailers and vintage aircraft. This isn't just a boat; it's a floating work of art designed to connect you intimately with your surroundings. Glide effortlessly into hidden geothermal bays, wade into warm sand beaches, and peer into historic Māori caves carved into the cliffs. Enjoy complimentary morning tea as you immerse yourself in a spectacular, unhurried journey through New Zealand's natural beauty.

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 6



Behind The Scenes Exclusive Tour with National Kiwi Hatchery

This exclusive guided experience is a truly unique opportunity to learn about the world-renowned kiwi hatchery conservation program. You are invited to step ‘behind the glass’ for an immersive experience to join the hatchery team in a staff-only area to learn about the incubation and chick rearing techniques from global experts. Learn all about New Zealand’s intriguing national icon and the efforts of the kiwi husbandry team, see and discover what it takes to hatch and rare chicks, and if you’re lucky, see baby chicks in person! Afterwards, take more time to learn in the interactive kiwi burrow and see adult kiwi roam and forage in our purpose-built Nocturnal house.

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.

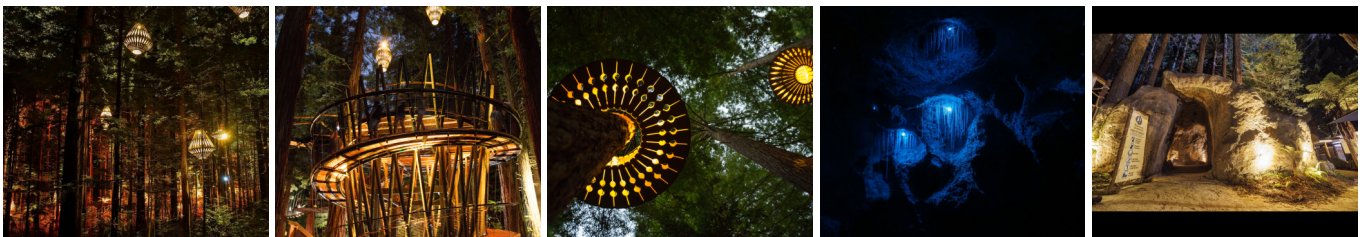
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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 7



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!

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Orakei Korako Hidden Valley

Orakei Korako is situated on the Waikato River at Lake Ohakuri, which is a Hydro-Electric power plant. The name Orakei Korako can be interpreted as 'Place of Adorning'. Maori women used the pool to bath and beautify themselves for ceremonies. The Silica Terraces that form the base of Orakei-Korako Geyserland and Thermal Park are believed to be the largest of its kind since the destruction of the famous Pink and White Terraces in 1886 on the edge of Lake Rotomahana beneath Mount Tarawera. At present, there are up to 23 active natural geysers that play freely throughout the area. One geothermal consultant stated that Orakei Korako has the greatest number of active geysers of any geothermal field in New Zealand, with the most variable and most interesting changes. There is a vast number of boiling hot springs to view at Orakei Korako as well as mud pools and there are extensive bush walks to enjoy through areas of native flora and fauna. The highlight for many visitors on the walk through the valley is the thermal Ruatapu Cave (sacred hole). The cave extends 120 ft down to a hot pool at the bottom named 'Waiwhakaata', which means 'pool of mirrors'.

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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 8



Uncover Rotorua's magic in your own time

With so much to do in Rotorua, you really need this second day to fit in all the sights and activities on offer. If you missed out on an encounter with New Zealand's unique Maori culture, be sure to add this into today's itinerary. Staring down the challenge of a Maori warrior's haka is spine tingling and the soulful melodies of ancient Maori waiata are mesmerising. If you're after adrenaline rushes, then consider one of the many thrills on offer, from white water rafting to luging to zorbing, there's something to exhilarate young and old alike. The Rotorua Lakes are worth exploring if you have the time and are a must if you want to try your hand at fly fishing. Rotorua is surrounded by sixteen lakes and eleven of these can be fished. The major fishing lakes are Rotorua, Rotoiti, Tarawera, Okataina and Rotoma. Lake Okataina also has the attraction of sandy shores and clear water making it a great picnic and swimming spot. If all of this just sounds like hard work you can always spend the day soaking in one of the many geothermal pools that are scattered across the city.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Half Day E-Bike Hire with Mountain Bike Rotorua

Experience the thrill of Rotorua's world-renowned mountain biking trails with a half-day full suspension e-bike hire. Perfect for adventure seekers of all skill levels, the top-of-the-line full-suspension e-bikes provide the ultimate in comfort, control, and power, ensuring you can tackle any terrain with ease. Each rental includes a premium full-suspension e-bike featuring the latest technology, a high-quality helmet and protective gear, detailed trail maps, and expert recommendations to help you make the most of your ride. The friendly staff will ensure your e-bike is perfectly adjusted to your size and riding style, with on-call support available for any issues during your ride. Rotorua is a mountain biker's paradise, boasting a diverse range of trails that cater to all levels of experience, from the adrenaline-pumping descents of the Redwoods Forest to scenic routes winding through geothermal landscapes. The region's unique combination of natural beauty and challenging terrain makes it a must-visit destination for mountain biking enthusiasts. Bring comfortable riding attire, water, snacks, sunscreen, sunglasses, and a sense of adventure. Book your half-day full suspension e-bike hire today and discover why Rotorua is a global hotspot for mountain biking, offering an unforgettable experience whether you're seeking a heart-pounding adventure or a leisurely ride through stunning scenery.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Hot Tub Session with Secret Spot Hot Tubs

Indulge in tranquillity with a soak in private cedar hot tubs nestled among ferns, overlooking the serene Whakarewarewa Forest and Puarenga Stream. Perfect for unwinding with family or friends, these 39.9°C non-geothermal tubs offer 45 minutes of pure relaxation, with drinks just a button away. By day, enjoy the natural beauty of ancient trees, and by night, marvel at the forest illuminated by colourful lights. After your soak, treat yourself to a complimentary "shinny dip" foot tub at the Basecamp cafe; while sipping a beverage or enjoying a delicious bite to eat.

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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 9



Volcanic Extremes including Whakaari/White Island & Mount Tarawera landing by Helicopter with Volcanic Air

Experience the thrill of "Volcanic Extremes" as you soar above the active crater of Whakaari/White Island, where its landscape changes daily, before descending onto the majestic summit of Mount Tarawera, which once unleashed a massive eruption in 1886. While Whakaari is a dynamic marine volcano, Mount Tarawera stands proudly amidst the serene central North Island scenery, offering panoramic views of lakes, forests, and distant national parks. From the summit, marvel at the vibrant craters and sweeping vistas, while aerial glimpses reveal the Tarawera Falls, Waimangu Volcanic Valley, and picturesque crater lakes. Immerse yourself in the rich history and cultural heritage of Rotorua as you embark on this unforgettable journey, showcasing unparalleled scenery diversity and captivating commentary.

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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 10



Ultimate Ziplining Experience with Rotorua Canopy Tours

Embark on a three and a half hour adventure through native New Zealand forest. Journey through the beautiful forest canopy via an incredible network of trails, tree platforms, Ziplines and swing bridges, journey deeper into natural New Zealand than ever before with the Ultimate Canopy Tour. See breathtaking views of the woodland valleys and hills as you fly through tight openings in the trees. In between the thrill of the ziplines and suspended tree bridges, your guides will share their passion and knowledge for the forest and the conservation challenges to preserve it. The tour will conclude with a thrilling 16-meter controlled descent back to the beautiful forest ground. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information see [here](#).

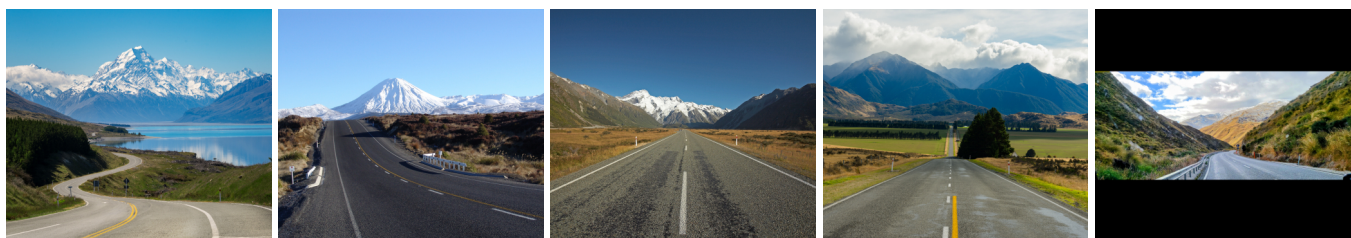
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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 11



Return your rental car

Return your rental vehicle to your designated depot before your next adventure.

Private Heli Transfer from Rotorua to Auckland with Heletranz

Experience the ultimate journey with a helicopter flight from Rotorua to Auckland. Your adventure begins with a private helicopter pickup, soaring above the stunning landscapes of the North Island. Witness the geothermal wonders of Rotorua from a bird's-eye view before making your way north. As you approach the city of sails, you'll be treated to a breathtaking fly-around, getting a privileged perspective of Auckland's iconic skyline, harbour, and volcanic cones. This is more than just a transfer; it's a scenic spectacle that will leave you with lasting memories.

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:	Auckland
Tour length:	11
Accommodation:	Luxury Lodges
Car/transport type:	

Accommodation summary

Day 1	The Hotel Britomart Auckland
Day 2	On the Point
Day 3	On the Point
Day 4	On the Point
Day 5	On the Point
Day 6	On the Point
Day 7	On the Point
Day 8	On the Point
Day 9	On the Point
Day 10	On the Point