

New Zealand Guided Tours

North and South Island Tour

Operator: Grand Pacific Tours

Days: 11

Start: Auckland

Finish: Christchurch

Our price: Check www.experiencenz.com

Enquiries: Email travel@experiencenz.com



Overview

This tour provides excellent coverage of the North Island and part of the South Island. Even though it covers a large amount of territory in a relatively short period of time, the tour is well-paced with two-night stays in the Bay of Islands and Rotorua.

The itinerary takes you from Auckland, north to the Bay of Islands, then south to Rotorua, Napier, Martinborough and Wellington. You will then cross the Cook Strait to the South Island where you will visit Picton, Blenheim, Kaikoura and finally the beautiful 'garden city' of Christchurch.

Highlights

- Kauri Museum
- Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Hole in the Rock cruise
- Longlands Dairy Farm and Paradise Valley Springs wildlife park
- Rotorua Skyline Gondola, luge ride, Agrodome, thermal mud pools and geysers
- Volcanic Activity Centre
- Wairarapa Wine and Cheese Experience
- Cruise on the Interislander ferry across Cook Strait
- City sights tour of Auckland, Napier, Wellington, and Christchurch

Tour itinerary

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

Day 1: Auckland

Fly into Auckland where you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel.

Accommodation: Mercure Auckland

Day 2: Auckland – Bay of Islands

Depart Auckland and travel to the Parry Kauri Park to see a magnificent example of a Kauri Tree. Enjoy a visit and informative talk at the Kauri Museum in Matakoho, then travel via Whangarei to Paihia, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands. Explore a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Maori tribes and the British. **B, D**

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands (1st of 2 nights)

Day 3: Bay of Islands

Today is a free day. Choose from the many optional activities available. The choice is yours and your Coach Captain will be available to assist. **B, D**

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands (2nd of 2 nights)

Day 4: Bay of Islands – Auckland

This morning travel aboard a luxury catamaran to Cape Brett and the famous Hole in the Rock. Stopover at Otehei Bay before returning to Paihia. Travel south via Whangarei to Auckland. **B, D**

Accommodation: Mercure Auckland

Day 5: Auckland – Kaiaua – Rotorua

Travel to Kaiaua, where you enjoy an unforgettable entertainment experience at Banner's Theatre. Continue via Cambridge to Matamata and Longlands Dairy Farm. Enjoy a farm tour followed by a delicious home cooked lunch. This afternoon travel to Rotorua and visit Paradise Valley Springs, a superb wildlife park where you can hand feed rainbow trout. **B, L, D**

Accommodation: Sudima Hotel (1st of 2 nights)

Day 6: Rotorua

Today begins with a Gondola ride to Skyrides Restaurant where a buffet breakfast and spectacular views are on offer. Travel to the Agrodome where you see performing sheep, a shearing display and sheep dog trial. Enjoy some free time this afternoon before travelling out to see the boiling mud pools and awesome Geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening you will experience an entertaining Maori Hangi and Concert. **B, D**

Accommodation: Sudima Hotel (2nd of 2 nights)

Day 7: Rotorua – Napier – Masterton

Depart Rotorua and travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to visit Huka Falls and Lake Taupo. Continue to Napier, our 'Art Deco Capital' for a city tour. Enjoy some free time to explore the fascinating architecture before travelling through the Wairarapa wine region. At the hotel this evening a pre-dinner wine and cheese experience will be presented. **B, D**

Accommodation: Copthorne Hotel and Resort Solway Park

Day 8: Masterton – Martinborough – Wellington

Today travel through the quaint townships of Carterton and Greytown to Martinborough, home to family owned boutique wineries and olive groves. Enjoy time to explore this delightful wine village where the streets have been laid out in the shape of the Union Jack.

Travel through the picturesque Rimutaka Mountain Range to New Zealand's capital, Wellington. Enjoy an extensive city tour which will highlight the history and culture on show here. **B, D**

Accommodation: James Cook Grand Chancellor

Day 9: Wellington – Picton – Blenheim

Enjoy free time this morning to explore Wellington at leisure. Suggested options include a visit to Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum or a tour through the Parliament Buildings. This afternoon board the Interislander ferry for your Cook Strait crossing and on, through the Marlborough Sounds to Picton where you board your coach for the short journey to Blenheim. **B, D**

Accommodation: Heartland Hotel Marlborough

Day 10: Blenheim – Kaikoura – Christchurch

Tour through Marlborough Country, famous for its food and wine then travel to the quaint fishing village of Kaikoura. Continue onto the garden city of Christchurch. A city sights tour will showcase the grand architecture, historic homesteads, immaculate parks and the picturesque Avon River. **B, D**

Accommodation: Copthorne Durham Street or Heartland Hotel Cotswold

Day 11: Christchurch

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a great holiday. **B**

[Click here](#) to return to the Experience New Zealand web site.