



Te Puia, Rotorua



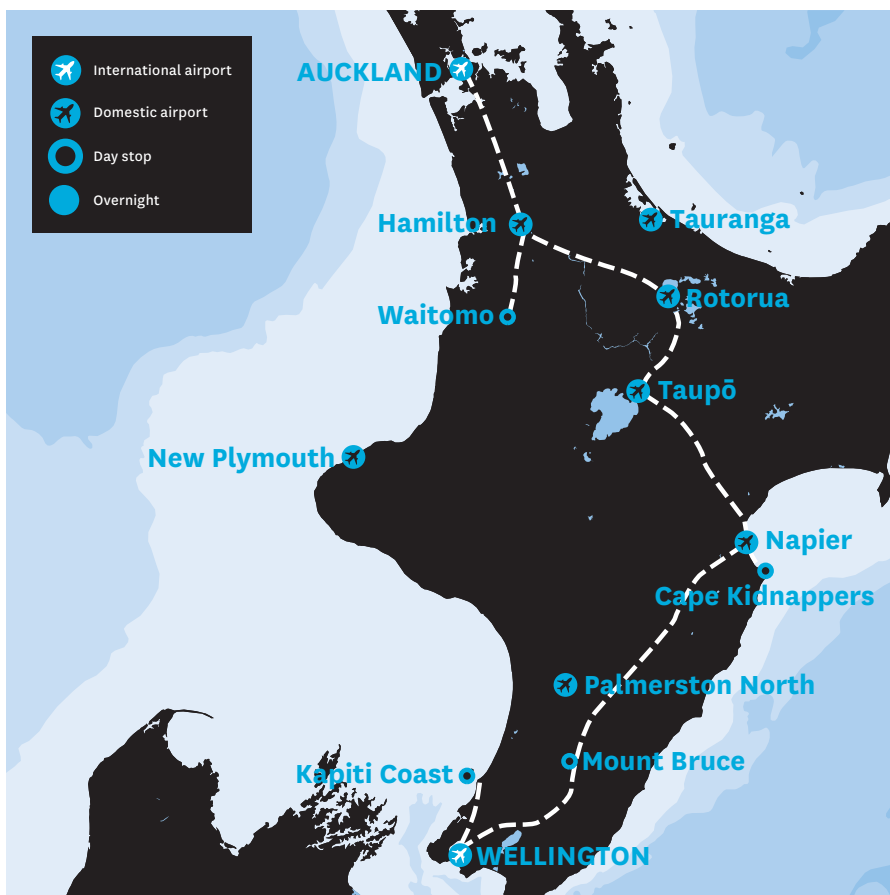
**100% PURE
NEW ZEALAND**

newzealand.com

NATURE & WILDLIFE

WELLINGTON, WAIRARAPA,
HAWKE'S BAY, ROTORUA, TAUPŌ,
WAIKATO, AUCKLAND

Experience natural spectacles and unique wildlife encounters on this journey around the North Island.



Active



Wildlife



Scenery

AT A GLANCE

- 11 days/ 10 nights
- See kiwi birds in their natural habitat
- Swim with sharks
- See bubbling geothermal action
- Spot whales, dolphins and seals



Redwoods Forest, Rotorua

DAY 1 | WELLINGTON

Arrive into Wellington International Airport, or transfer from Auckland or Christchurch. Collect your rental car and after check-in, visit Zealandia for a tour at dusk. Zealandia is a world-first conservation attraction, where a unique and natural area is being patiently restored. On your evening tour, see rare and endangered birds including the little spotted kiwi.

DAY 2 | WELLINGTON – KAPITI COAST

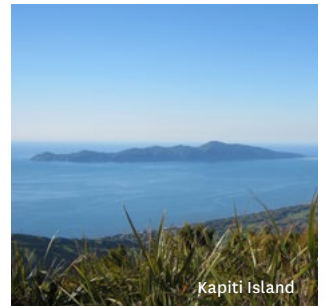
Wellington – Kapiti Coast 🚗 50 km / 31mi / 45 min

Spend the day touring Kapiti Island, a peaceful island bird sanctuary and one of New Zealand’s most accessible nature reserves. You can expect to see some of the country’s most beautiful and endangered birds up close and personal. Alternatively, explore Wellington’s wild south coast on a 4WD seal-spotting adventure.

Top Tip: Stay on the island with a glamping experience or live it up in luxury at Greenmantle Estate.



Kaka, Zealandia



Kapiti Island

DAY 3 | WELLINGTON – WAIRARAPA – NAPIER

Wellington – Mount Bruce 🚗 125km / 78mi / 1 hour 50 min

Mount Bruce – Napier 🚗 206 km / 128mi / 2 hours 32 min

Journey north over the Remutaka Range, before stopping at Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre, home to many endangered bird species. Learn about New Zealand’s efforts to protect and restore native wildlife, flora and fauna.

Top Tip: Take a short detour to Martinborough, for lunch at one of the town’s many scenic eateries. Stay the night amongst the vines, or continue on to Napier.



Tuatara, Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre

DAY 4 | NAPIER – CAPE KIDNAPPERS – NAPIER

Napier – Cape Kidnappers 🚗 22km / 13.7mi / 30 min

Marvel at the country’s largest display of aquatic life at the National Aquarium, the only place in New Zealand you can free swim with sharks. Take a trip to Cape Kidnappers and witness the spectacular gannet colony. Get within just a few feet of adults and chicks and see them nesting, preening and performing their courtship dance.

Top Tip: Explore Napier’s famous Art Deco architecture from the comfort of a restored 1930s vintage car.



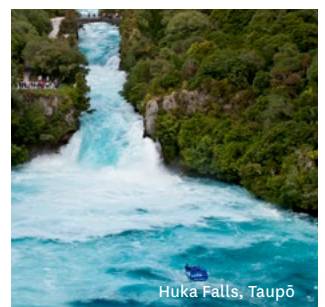
Gannet Colony, Cape Kidnappers

DAY 5 | NAPIER – TAUPŌ

Napier – Taupō 🚗 141km / 87mi / 1 hour 50 min

On the edge of the southern hemisphere’s largest lake, Taupō is an all-seasons holiday hot spot for trout fishing, water activities and numerous outdoor pursuits. Take a thrilling jet boat ride to the raging waters of the Huka Falls. Then relax and look into the past with a cruise around Lake Taupō’s bays, viewing the impressive Māori rock carvings.

Top Tip: The 5km trail from the town centre to Huka Falls offers a scenic walk along the clear Waikato River. Stop off for a dip in a natural hot creek along the way!



Huka Falls, Taupō

DAY 6 | TAUPŌ – ROTORUA

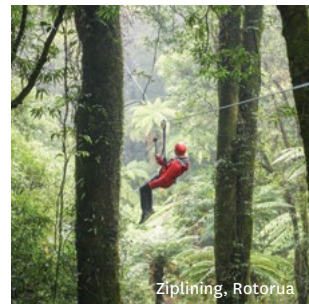
Taupō – Rotorua 🚗 80km / 50mi / 1 hour 5 min

Rotorua is alive with geothermal activity. Experience what lies beneath on a nature walk through a volcanic valley, home to bubbling mud pools and spouting geysers. This evening, enjoy an authentic cultural performance, followed by a sumptuous hāngi (earth oven) dinner and the chance to see a geothermal valley pulsing and bubbling under a starry sky.



DAY 7 | ROTORUA

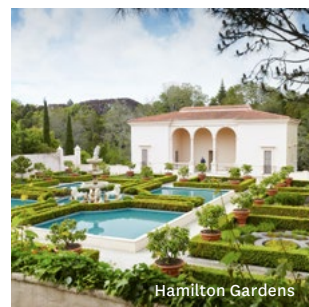
Zipline through the native forest – a novel way to see New Zealand’s magnificent primeval forests the way the birds do. Soar through the forest along zip lines and hear about how this forest is being restored to a flourishing native eco-system. After lunch, walk on majestic Mount Tarawera with a local guide. With unmatched scenic vistas and 360 panoramic views this experience is ideal for all ages and includes an optional run into the heart of the volcanic crater.



DAY 8 | ROTORUA – HAMILTON

Rotorua – Hamilton 🚗 106km / 66mi / 1 hour 25 min

Drive through the rolling hills of the Waikato, with a stop at Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari – an ecological ‘island’ where you’ll find native wildlife, plants and great walking trails. Stretch your legs in Hamilton Gardens – named 2014 International Garden of the Year, the 58 hectares of themed green spaces are a must-see for nature lovers. Guided tours, mobility scooters and bike hire make getting around easy.



DAY 9 | HAMILTON – WAITOMO – AUCKLAND

Hamilton – Waitomo 🚗 75km / 47mi / 1 hour

Waitomo – Auckland 🚗 195km / 121mi / 2 hours 45 mins

Visit New Zealand’s only tea plantation, Zealong Tea Estate, and indulge in a delicious high tea experience. Drive through farmland and forests before entering the ancient limestone region of Waitomo, where you will discover vast cave systems decorated with glowworms. Drive to Auckland, where you will spend the night.



Top Tip: See kiwis at their most active at Otorohanga Kiwi House & Native Bird Park.

DAYS 10 & 11 | AUCKLAND

Day 10: Start your day by escaping the hustle and bustle of the city on a whale and dolphin spotting tour. Departing from Auckland’s Viaduct, the boat takes you out on the beautiful Hauraki Gulf Marine Park which is considered one of the most biologically and geographically diverse in the world. Spend your last afternoon in New Zealand on a gentle cycle around Auckland’s sparkling bays.

Day 11: Fly out from Auckland International Airport.

Top Tip: Climb to the top of a dormant volcano on the Rangitoto Summit Track and experience awesome views of the city.

