

THEMED HIGHWAYS - NORTH ISLAND

Twin Coast Discovery Highway: Recon

This route begins in Auckland and travels north, tracing both coasts to Cape Reinga and back. Driving is easy and interesting. Highlights include a procession of beautiful beaches, opportunities for fishing, surfing, diving and dolphin encounters; cultural experiences at Waitangi; Forest hikes and craft shopping.

Pacific Coast Highway: Recommend 7 Days
Linking the Coromandel, Bay of Plenty and Eastland with Auckland in the north and Hawke's Bay in the south, the Pacific Coast Highway takes you to spectacular coastal scenery and beaches, forest wilderness and grape growing districts. This route should go down the Pōhutakawa Coast, through Clevedon and around the Firth of Thames. The cities of Tauranga, Gisborne, Napier and Hastings will satisfy your urge to wine, dine and shop.

Thermal Explorer Highway: Recommend 6 days This route runs between Auckland and Hawke's Bay, travelling through the volcanic centre of the island. You'll have the chance to discover the caves around Waitomo in the Hamilton & Waikato region, geothermal areas in Rotorua and Lake Taupō, the amazing Tongariro National Park and Hawke's Bay Wine Country. Expect equal quantities of relaxation and adventure. When combined, the Pacific Coast Highway and Thermal Explorer are known as The Great New Zealand Touring Route.

Forgotten World Highway: Recommend 2 Days
The 150km Forgotten World Highway (State Highway 43) is a memorable driving journey through stunningly scenic untouched landscapes. Following ancient Māori trade routes and 19th century bridle paths, the highway connects Taumarunui to Stratford. The route wriggles its way over four mountain saddles, through an eerie one-way tunnel and along a sinuous river gorge, passing through the unique Republic of

From the trout town of Turangi, you can circle the volcanoes of Tongariro National Park by following state highways 47, 4, 49 and 1. On a clear day, you'll enjoy spectacular views of the mountains and the volcanic terrain that surrounds them. The stretch known as the 'Desert Road', which cuts across the desolate Rangipo Desert, is particularly memorable.

Surf Highway 45: Red

The 105km highway that traces the Taranaki coast is known as Surf Highway 45 for the countless surf breaks that can be found at the end of almost every road that leads to the coast. The top spots have fascinating names - the Kumara Patch, Graveyards, Secret Spot, and Green Meadows to mention a few, and they are handily punctuated by cosy cafés feeding surfers and adventurers alike.

A scenic alternative to State Highway One, this route

takes you on journeys between the highways through rural landscapes. Discover hidden places and tucked away treasures ranging from country cafés and pubs; heritage sites, galleries and gardens, to scenic reserves, day walks, swimming holes, glow-worm caves, picnic areas, and camping spots. Meet the locals and enjoy world-class scenery from

Classic New Zealand Wine Trail: Recommo

SOUTH ISLAND / TE WAIPOUNAMU

Okarito

Whataroa

Franz Josef Glacier

ox Glacier

Aoraki/

Mount Cook

Charleston

Moana

Castle Hill

Rollesto

shburton

Darfield

(aiapoi

CHRISTCHURCH

Punakaiki

Greymouth

Hokitika

Mt Somers

Weaving through three major wine regions, the Classic New Zealand Wine Trail serves up unforgettable wine and food experiences along the 380km route, spanning the North and South Islands. This self-guided drive takes visitors through Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa, and Marlborough, home to some 230 wineries. At the heart of the trail lies Wellington, New Zealand's capital, the perfect place for a culinary and cultural stopover



Auckland

State Highway

Main Road

Ferry Route

Kilometres