

IF YOU SEEK CULTURE & CUISINE



 Te Puia
Rotorua

One-of-a-kind experiences

Aotearoa New Zealand is a place of stunning landscapes, vibrant culture, world-class food and wine, and friendly locals who would love to show you around. Discover it for yourself on this 10-day North Island itinerary.

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Days 1-2: Bay of Islands/Far North

Your New Zealand experience starts north of Auckland in the beautiful Bay of Islands. Step into Aotearoa's past at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds and then explore historic Russell, the country's first European settlement.

Set sail to see dolphins and discover islands ringed with golden sand. Experience the thrill of a drive on 90-Mile Beach, then journey to Cape Reinga to stand at the very top of Aotearoa and learn about this sacred Māori site, Te Rerenga Wairua. Look north to see the Tasman and Pacific oceans collide in a crash of foam.

Head south again, for mighty Tāne Mahuta awaits you in his ancient forest home of Waipoua, where local Māori will tell you his story as dusk falls.

Days 3-5: Auckland

Discover the vibrant, multi-cultural city of Auckland, ringed by a wild side of beaches, bush and sparkling harbours.

Meet the locals as you explore the buzzing waterfront and linger over uniquely New Zealand cuisine in the bustling CBD, then take in a show or watch the city lights from a rooftop bar.

Sample the wares of world-renowned vineyards and emerging craft distilleries on Waiheke Island, just across the Waitematā Harbour. Answer the call of Rangitoto, the imposing volcanic peak that dominates its waters, beckoning you to explore lava caves and admire sweeping views from its summit.

Listen to birdsong echo in the native bush on Auckland's rugged west coast and feel the pounding waves crash onto black sand beaches that stretch off into the misty distance.

Days 6-7: Rotorua

Rotorua's veil of steam only hints at the wonder of this place. Experience the manaakitanga (hospitality) of the Māori people who have called this geothermal area home for generations.

Be welcomed onto their marae (meeting ground) and hear their stories and songs against the backdrop of bubbling mud and gushing geysers that have been part of life here for centuries. Talk to carvers as they etch tales of their whakapapa (family history) into wood, stone, and bone.

Marvel at the ever-shifting landscape from a helicopter or floatplane and then immerse yourself in the rejuvenating mineral waters of a lakeside pool and feel the healing properties of the geothermal mud.

Walk or bike the trails in the majestic Redwood Forest or get a new perspective high above the ground from artfully illuminated suspension bridges.

Days 8-10: Wellington

If you seek culture, coffee, and craft beer, then New Zealand's capital is where you will find it. Stroll the city laneways for artisan bakeries and baristas, chocolatiers, and craft breweries, and browse the galleries for local art, jewellery and ceramics for that special memento of your time here.

Learn about the taonga (treasures) of New Zealand with a tour of Te Papa Tongarewa Museum of New Zealand or visit the unique Beehive and Parliament Buildings. See history up close at the National Library where the original Treaty of Waitangi is on display.

Stay overnight on Kāpiti Island for a memorable eco-experience where kiwi and other native wildlife call to each other in the silence of this nature reserve.

