

*Picture Perfect North Island Tour*



*8 Days - North Island*

*Absolute*  
NEW ZEALAND

# *Outline Itinerary*

## Day 1

Arrive Auckland  
Drive to the Bay of Islands  
Accommodation: Flagstaff Lodge

## Day 2

Day Sailing in the Bay of Islands  
Accommodation: Flagstaff Lodge

## Day 3

Drive to the Coromandel  
Accommodation: Colleith Lodge

## Day 4

Ancient Giant Kauri Rainforest Guided Walk  
Drive to Waitomo  
Accommodation: Kamahi Cottage

## Day 5

Waitomo Caves  
Drive to Rotorua  
Accommodation: A-Kahu House

## Day 6

Rotorua  
Drive to Taupo  
Accommodation: Chalet Eiger

## Day 7

Tongariro National Park  
Accommodation: Chalet Eiger

## Day 8

Homeward Bound or to the South Island!

*Featuring*

### Flagstaff Lodge - Bay of Islands

Flagstaff Lodge is a renovated and restored 1912 villa, one minute walk from Russell's cafes, restaurants and waterfront.

The Lodge has been stylishly designed with attention to detail and provides a welcoming and serene environment. Guests are assured personal attention and privacy. Each ensuite room has its own décor and private courtyard.

The adjoining day spa offer massages, facials and a range of body treatments along with outdoor baths. Enjoy this great opportunity to relax and rejuvenate mind and body.



### Colleith Lodge - Coromandel Peninsula

Colleith Lodge is boutique luxury five star property in a unique breathtaking location situated on the east Coast of the Coromandel Peninsula.

Set on 1.5 acres amid native bush, the lodge was built in tune with the natural environment for your relaxation, privacy and comfort.

The spectacular panoramic views encompass Tairua Estuary, Pauanui, Slipper Island and the Pacific Ocean and can be viewed from all rooms. Colleith

Lodge offers a spa and swimming pool for your enjoyment. Golf Courses, bush walks, Hot Water Beach and Cathedral Cove are all nearby.



*Featuring*

## Kamahi Cottage - Waitomo

Kamahi Cottage is a boutique country cottage located an easy 30 minute drive to the world famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves. It offers luxury country Bed & Breakfast accommodation in a tranquil setting.

Enjoy stunning sunsets, panoramic uninterrupted views, a stress free setting and warm hospitality. Tastefully designed and decorated, Kamahi Cottage is ideal as a romantic retreat or a place to unwind. It's a charming haven where you can relax on the veranda in hammock chairs; take an invigorating walk over the farm or a farm tour in the comfort of our own 4 Wheel Drive vehicle. Enjoy a gourmet breakfast and delicious home-cooked meals with fresh seasonal produce.

Sophisticated finishing touches and attention to detail make this spacious handcrafted cottage the perfect place to relax and unwind.



## A-Kahu House- Rotorua

A-Kahu House is as much an encounter with Te Arawa Maori people and culture as it is an intimate haven from which to explore Rotorua.

Situated at Kawaha Point on the edge of Lake Rotorua this is lake edge luxury with the relaxed vibe of a B & B.

The guest rooms are large, beautifully appointed and flooded with lake views. There are just four guest suites, so it is not a huge property but it seems to be just the way our guests like it. A total of four large en suited guest rooms - comprise A-Kahu. Each guest room is beautifully appointed with LCD television, luxurious linens and furnishings, handmade Maori herb and oil infused soaps as well as stunning examples of both contemporary and traditional Maori art work.

Views of historic Lake Rotorua, Ohinemutu Village, Rotorua Township and Mt Tarawera pour in the windows of each guest room.



*Featuring*

## Chalet Eiger - Taupo

Situated above picturesque Acacia Bay overlooking Lake Taupo, in the Central North Island, Chalet Eiger's 5-Star boutique luxury lodge accommodation is set in a tranquil environment where each guest room has full views of the magnificent lake, Mount Tauhara and Taupo town.

Chalet Eiger luxury lodge is without question one of the Lake Taupo area's best kept secrets where you can experience a unique international blend of Kiwi hospitality, European tradition and Asian charm.

With only four luxury suites, your hosts have created a private boutique retreat where you can enjoy luxury accommodation and all the spectacular outdoor activities this unique volcanic region has to offer.

The great lake is one of New Zealand's recreational and cultural hotspots and an ideal base for your North Island holiday..



# Picture Perfect North Island Itinerary

## Day 1

### Auckland to Karikari Peninsula

#### DRIVE TO THE BAY OF ISLANDS

ACCOMMODATION  
Flagstaff Lodge  
Super King Room

MEALS  
Full Breakfast, Pre-dinner  
Tasting's of NZ Wine and Local Delicacies

Welcome to Auckland "The City of Sails". After clearing customs and immigration you can refresh, take a shower, have a meal before collecting your car. Your Picture Perfect Tour will show you to the most breathtaking places in New Zealand. Let your Journey begin!

The Bay of Islands is situated only three and a half hours drive north of Auckland. Made up of 144 islands this picturesque region is the finest maritime park of New Zealand and is a world class playground for numerous outdoor activities. The Bay has an abundance of marine life, including the big marlin, whales, penguins, dolphins, gannets and many other species. Known as the 'birthplace' of the nation, the Bay of Islands is rich in diverse culture and history and is the perfect starting point for your New Zealand tour.

In the Bay of Islands you can find perfect peace. The unbelievable natural beauty, amazing beaches and a host of islands make for an idyllic aquatic playground and ultimate retreat.



## Day 2

### Sailing the Bay of Islands

#### PRIVATE DAY SAILING BAY OF ISLANDS

ACCOMMODATION  
Boathouse Apartments  
The Bridge Apartment

MEALS  
Full Breakfast, Lunch, Pre-dinner  
Tasting's of NZ Wine and Local Delicacies

Sailing is by far the best way to experience the Bay of Islands. The Bay with its pristine natural environment is the gathering place in the South Pacific for overseas sailing yachts on world cruises, international sport fishermen, golfers and marine enthusiasts.

Sail offshore from Russell, the most historic town in New Zealand and explore the beautiful bays and sights of Northland.

Swim and snorkel in crystal clear waters, take a walk or relax on white sandy beaches, see dolphins, seabirds and penguins and even learn to sail.

During the tour, you will be provided with delicious home-made muffins and a lunch with fresh Northland products. So the only thing you will have to do is feel the gentle breeze in your hair and the warm sun on your back.



## Day 3

### Scenic West Coast Drive to the Beautiful Coromandel

#### DRIVE TO THE COROMANDEL PENINSULA

ACCOMMODATION  
Colleith Lodge  
Super King Room

MEALS  
Full Breakfast, Pre-Dinner  
Drinks

The spectacular rugged West coast on the Tasman Sea is a wonderful contrast to the Pacific splendour of the East coast you have just experienced. The whole region boasts wild surf beaches, lakes, ancient native Kauri forest and wildlife like the Gannet colony Muriwai beach.

The Coromandel Peninsula lies east of Auckland, on the other side of the Hauraki Gulf. An impressive, heavily forested mountain range runs right up the middle of this peninsula - it's bordered on each side by kilometres of spectacular coastline. On the west coast, there's a never-ending parade of beaches, coves and harbours lined with Pohutukawa trees. The eastern side is furnished with an amazing collection of white sand and surf beaches.

The coastal nature of the Coromandel makes it a brilliant choice if you like to fish, surf, dive, snorkelling, swim or wander along beaches. For contrast you can head for the hills and hike the trails in the-forest. Soak at Hot Water Beach the natural upwelling of geothermal hot water rising from deep below the sand makes Hot Water Beach famous. Dig a hole in the sand when the tide is low, then allow the hot springs to work their limb-soothing magic while the cool waves of the Pacific Ocean invigorate you. A quick shovel in the sand provides you with your own geothermal heated spa pool. Why not enjoy it with a glass of wine as the sunsets on the horizon!



## Day 4

### Guided Ancient Kauri Rainforest Walk

#### GUIDED RAINFOREST WALK - COROMANDEL

#### DRIVE TO WAITOMO

ACCOMMODATION  
Kamahi Cottage  
The Cottage

MEALS  
Full Breakfast

Let us take you to one of the most special places on The Coromandel. A place where our mighty Kauri tree is still the king. This magnificent stand of Kauri is located on the side of an ancient volcano some of them being up to 2000 years old. Kauri are among the world's mightiest trees, growing to more than 50 metres tall, with trunk girths of up to 16 metres.

Just being in their presence will leave you feeling humbled and exhilarated as you feel the energy that they willingly give to you. This is a truly amazing hike through primeval rainforest, which at times will be on 100yr old logging roads which are now reclaimed by the bush.

Then drive to Waitomo and Kamahi Cottage where you will spend the next night.



## Day 5

### A Celebration of Nature's Work - Waitomo Caves

#### EXPLORE WAITOMO CAVES AND DRIVE TO ROTORUA

ACCOMMODATION  
A-Kahu House  
Super King Room

MEALS  
Full Breakfast

ACTIVITIES OPTIONS  
Spellbound Tour,  
Ruakuri Caves, Saint  
Benedict's Caverns,  
Black Water Rafting

The green rolling landscapes of the Waikato region that lies to the south of Auckland form some of the most fertile land in New Zealand, yet this is one region in particular which holds more than just surface appeal... literally. For Waikato also boasts an extensive labyrinth of underground caverns that formed millions of years.

The caves at Waitomo are one of New Zealand's most commanding wonders - a celebration of nature's work over the last one hundred thousand years.

Above ground, you would be forgiven for wondering what all the fuss is about, but this sleepy little town in the bush hides a labyrinth of over two thousand known caves, glow-worms, under ground lakes, stalactites and stalagmites, and all manner of limestone crustaceans - a lost world waiting to be discovered.

Then you drive to Rotorua. Your journey will take you through a mixture of farmland, lakeland and forest. You'll know you've arrived in the city of Rotorua when you see (and smell!) the geothermal steam plumes of Whakarewarewa. Rotorua sits squarely on the Pacific Ring of Fire, so there's evidence of volcanic activity everywhere you look.



## Day 6

### Rotorua - The Maori Cultural Center of New Zealand

#### DISCOVER ROTORUA AND DRIVE TO TAUPO

ACCOMMODATION  
Chalet Eiger  
Double Room

MEALS  
Full Breakfast

ACTIVITIES OPTIONS  
Scenic Floatplane over  
Geothermal Rotorua, Mud  
Bath & Spa, Polynesian  
Spa, JetBoat, Tamaki  
Maori Village, Guided  
Nature Walk

Rotorua, the heartland of New Zealand is the host to some of the world's most incredible earth forces. Surrounded by the unmistakable smell of bubbling sulphuric geysers, clouds of steam magically appear around the city giving it an incredible 'other worldly' feel. Here lives wonders like the Pohutu geyser, which erupts 20 times a day and can spout up to 100 feet.

All around this geothermal hotspot there are spouting geysers, acrid-smelling mud pools that bubble and belch, and warm geothermal pools and ponds and hot spring bath's that create a kaleidoscope of colour.

With a deep-rooted Maori cultural heritage spanning from the 14th century, Rotorua is still considered Maori cultural centre of New Zealand. The first Maori inhabitant's constructed villages and made use of the thermal areas boiling water.

This natural resource successfully aided them in the use of cooking and warmth for houses, eliminating the dependence of fire. Here you can explore the unique culture of New Zealand's Maori people.



## Day 7

### Tongariro National Park - Fancy a Walk on the Moon

#### TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK

#### ACCOMMODATION

Chalet Eiger  
Double Room

#### MEALS

Full Breakfast

#### ACTIVITIES OPTIONS

The Tongariro Crossing  
(freedom walk or guided),  
Fly Fishing Experience on  
The Tongariro River,  
Scenic Helicopter Tour

Untouched volcanic terrain offers a fascinating look at a very alien environment, complete with twisted lava formations, volcanic steam vents, vast craters, active volcanoes, boiling lakes, barren desert, lush forest, crystal-clear mountain streams, steaming geysers and emerald green lakes. Phew! The scenery is so otherworldly that Lord of the Rings was filmed there.

Experience a diversity of landscapes unlikely to be found together anywhere else in the world. Tongariro was New Zealand's first national park and is a World Heritage site in the Lake Taupo region. It was created in 1887 when the three magnificent volcanoes - Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngauruhoe - were offered to the people of New Zealand by the Tuwharetoa tribes. It now covers a total area of 78,651 ha.

This can either be done as a freedom walk (only in summer), or a guided trip including transfers, refreshments and lunch. If you prefer, you can enjoy a Fly-fishing session or have an amazing helicopter flight over the Tongariro National Park.



## Day 8

### Homeward Bound or Continue to the South Island

#### DRIVE TO TAUPO AIRPORT FOR YOUR FLIGHT CONNECTION

#### MEALS

Full Breakfast

Taupo is where this adventure itinerary ends. Depart Taupo to connect with your international flight, or extend your stay and experience some other New Zealand's highlights.

Those that wish to continue to the South Island and continue with the Picture Perfect South Island Tour, can fly from Taupo to Nelson.

You can also request a customized tour from us - there are plenty of possibilities we can put together for you! Just ask, after all it is your holiday...

- Absolute New Zealand Arrangements End -

  
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