

Pure Indulgence Tour



14 Days - North and South Islands

Absolute
NEW ZEALAND

Outline Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive Auckland, and Fly to Kerikeri
Drive to Karikari Peninsula
Accommodation: Carrington Resort

Day 2

Wine Tasting at Karikari Estate
Drive to Pahia
Accommodation: Paihia Beach Resort & Spa

Day 3

Private Day Sailing in the Bay of Islands
Accommodation: Paihia Beach Resort & Spa

Day 4

Waipoua Forest Walk
Drive to Matakana
Accommodation: Takatu Lodge & Vineyard

Day 5

The Brick Bay Sculpture Trail
Accommodation: Takatu Lodge & Vineyard

Day 6

Drive to Auckland
Deluxe Waiheke Island Vineyard Tour
Accommodation: Hilton Auckland

Day 7

Fly Auckland to Napier
4WD Gannet Safari at Cape Kidnappers
Accommodation: Millar Road

Day 8

Heli Lunch & Wine Tour over Hawke's Bay
Accommodation: Millar Road

Day 9

Drive to the Wairapara Wine Region
Accommodation: Wharekauhau Country Estate

Day 10

Drive to Wellington
Evening Boutique Beer Tasting Experience
Accommodation: The Ohtel

Day 11

Guided Sight city Tour and Nocturnal Tour at Zealandia
Accommodation: The Ohtel

Day 12

Ferry Crossing to Picton, and transfer to Blenheim
Accommodation: Straw Lodge

Day 13

Icons of Marlborough's Wineries Tour
Accommodation: Straw Lodge

Day 14

Fly Home or Extend your Trip

Featuring

Carrington Resort - Karikari Peninsula

Carrington Resort is a 3000 acre hotel with four spectacular kilometres of secluded white sand coastline, incorporating a Matt Dye designed tournament-standard 18 hole golf course, an acclaimed Northland vineyard and winery, a working Black Angus beef stud farm, and 900 acres of restored wetlands on site.

Located in Northland's Karikari Peninsula, Carrington Resort's world class facilities include an infinity swimming pool and spa pool, Carrington Restaurant & Bar, two championship tennis courts, Olympic standard clay and skeet target shooting range and a gymnasium. The Hotel rooms provide both lodge and villa accommodation. Each Lodge room opens onto a wide verandah with views to the ocean, golf course or native bush and vineyard.

This golf hotel also offers a wide range of other leisure activities including horse riding, fishing and scuba diving, easily arranged for guests.



Paihia Beach Resort & Spa - Bay of Islands

Located in a superb beach position overlooking the Bay of Islands, The Paihia Beach Resort & Spa offers stunning ocean views from every balcony and patio.

All of the accommodation are spacious and stylishly furnished, featuring floor to ceiling panoramic ocean views, private balconies, remote controlled air-conditioning, DVD players, Hi Fi systems and 6ft spa baths.

The award winning day spa 'La Spa Naturale' is situated in the resort and offers international standard spa treatments, including water treatments with the Vichy & Fusion showers. Other facilities include a 20 metre heated saltwater pool, a large Jacuzzi, private steam and sauna rooms. The poolside, sea view restaurant, "Pure Tastes" is headed up by executive chef, Paul Jobin, who has won numerous culinary competitions and food awards.



Featuring

Takatu Lodge & Vineyard - Matakana

Takatu Lodge offers a unique experience and opportunity to stay on a working vineyard where guests may enjoy the highest standards of elegance and comfort.

High vaulted macrocarpa ceilings, open log fires inside and out, a cosy library and outside landscaped rooms are a few of the many architectural features.

Relax in one of the especially designed lodge suites, the areas are spacious and optimise the spectacular surrounding views and countryside.

The meals served are a celebration of seasonal home-grown and local produce.



Hilton - Auckland

Hilton Auckland, a boutique-style deluxe hotel, located 300 metres out to sea on Princes Wharf, is a welcoming haven within 5 minutes' walk from the city's main shopping precinct, the ferry terminal, the Viaduct Basin (Auckland's main tourist and entertainment stretch) and within a stone's throw of more amenities.

The rooms are stylish and contemporary, with chic furnishings and custom woven carpets. Local timber finishes are a feature, as are the spacious bathrooms. Each room has a walk-out balcony, in-room safe, coffee and tea making facilities, mini bar, satellite television, pay movies, a working desk with data points, two voice lines, one data and high-speed internet connection.



Featuring

Millar Road - Hawke's Bay

Millar Road is a slice of heaven. Set on a stunning vineyard nestled in the northern end of the Tuki Tuki Hills. With panoramic views over vineyards, orchards and farmland out to sea, Millar Road is the ultimate place to unwind.

Each cottage has two double bedrooms and can therefore accommodate up to four people. The cottages are completely self-contained, with furniture from New Zealand designers including fully-equipped kitchens and gas barbeques.

All bedrooms have their own ensuite bathroom and each cottage has a separate "bathing room" containing a luxurious cradle bath.

Guests are welcome to roam around the entire 20 hectare vineyard property. Three fantastic winery restaurants are close at hand: Terrôir at Craggy Range, Black Barn Bistro, Clearview Estate and Elephant Hill. Napier is a mere 20 minute drive away.



Wharekauhau Country Estate - Martinborough

Anything is possible whether it be an insight into New Zealand farming, a tour of the lodge's historic coastline, or even something as simple as enjoying a walk through the 5,500 acre haven that is Wharekauhau.

From Guest Cottages that are ideal for a romantic weekend get-away through to the self-contained 3-bedroom Chateau Wellington, we have everything for the discerning traveller.

The Wairarapa is world-renowned for its artisan foods and boutique wines, Wharekauhau's chefs have prepared a menu that focuses on local seasonal produce, the finest cuts of New Zealand lamb and beef. The selection is second-to-none.



Featuring

The Ohtel - Wellington

Located in the Capital city's exclusive seaside neighbourhood of Oriental Bay, is a brand new 10 room boutique Hotel.

The Ohtel building itself is a stunning, contemporary 4 storey concrete structure, embedded into the base of a steep coastal cliff face.

While modern urban boutique hotels aren't unique, the 'Mid-Century' furnishings that adorn the interior spaces of Ohtel certainly are. From chairs to ceramics, tables to clocks - these are all statements within the hotel.

Ohtel provides true international class Urban Chic.



Straw Lodge Vineyard - Blenheim

5 Star Boutique B&B, Straw Lodge is a unique eco-friendly straw-bale building nestled amongst the Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir vines.

Situated on the world renowned wine producing river flats of the Wairau Valley, it provides stylish B&B and self catering accommodation on a working vineyard, with home-cooked and fresh home-grown produce.

All three exquisite suites have vineyard settings with extensive mountain views and the guest kitchen and dining room are fully equipped should you be in the mood to prepare your own evening meal with produce from the onsite vegetable garden.



Pure Indulgence Itinerary

Day 1

Auckland to Karikari Peninsula

HELICOPTER FLIGHT TO KERIKERI

DRIVE TO KARIKARI PENINSULA

ACCOMMODATION Carrington Resort Lodge Room

MEALS 5 Course Dinner

Fly into Auckland - 'The City of Sails'; a title gained from the view of yachts seen against the cityscape. Pass through Customs and board a short flight to Kerikeri; the largest town in the Bay of Islands.

This sub-tropical region has the finest maritime park in New Zealand with 144 islands, secluded bays, and an abundance of marine life. One of the most picturesque and popular holiday sites, it combines great fishing, diving, sailing with some of New Zealand's most significant historic sites.

Once landed, collect your rental vehicle and drive for one hour to the Carrington Resort. This lodge, golf club and vineyard is situated on a 3000 acre Black Angus stud farm on the Karikari Peninsula. Relax or take in some of the activities on offer; skeet and trap (clay targets) shooting range, tennis courts, heated swimming pool and spa looking out over the Pacific Ocean, not to forget 4km of secluded white sand coastline.



Day 2

Wine, Bay of Islands and Indulgence

WINE TESTING - KARIKARI ESTATE WINERY

ACCOMMODATION Paihia Beach Resort & Spa Superior Suite

MEALS Full Breakfast

ACTIVITY OPTION Spa Treatment at the Resort

After a leisurely breakfast, enjoy touring and tasting the wines at Karikari Estate Winery; located on the beautiful Karikari Peninsula it overlooks the blue Pacific Ocean towards North Cape. Karikari Estate's philosophy is to produce the highest quality wine by using the highest quality grapes that can be grown. The first vines were planted in 1998 and production commenced with its first vintage in 2003 and now boasts some 40 hectares of Syrah, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Franc, Malbec, Pinotage, Chardonnay and Viognier.

Drive south to Paihia. Check into Paihia Beach Resort & Spa, located in a superb beach position overlooking the Bay of Islands. Enjoy a treatment at the award winning day spa 'La Spa Naturale' or simply relax in the 20 metre heated saltwater pool or large Jacuzzi.

Bonus: Receive a complimentary one hour Sauna Steam Room at La Spa Naturale for two people, and also either a 30 minute facial or traditional Indian head massage for two people.



Day 3

Private Day Sailing in the Bay of Islands

PRIVATE DAY SAILING - BAY OF ISLANDS

ACCOMMODATION

Paihia Beach Resort & Spa
Superior Suite

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Lunch

ACTIVITY OPTION

Spa Treatment, at the
Resort

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.

Then, drive back to your accommodation where you will have time to relax and have a Spa Treatment and/or enjoy the saltwater pool and Jacuzzi. Dine at "Pure Tastes" restaurant which is headed up by executive chef, Paul Jobin, who has won numerous culinary competitions and food awards.



Day 4

Waipoua Forest Walk, Takatu Lodge & Vineyard

LORD OF THE FOREST TANE MAHUTA WAIPOUA FOREST TOUR

ACCOMMODATION

Takatu Lodge
Suite

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Pre-Dinner
Wine Tasting & Antipasti
Platter

Drive south, break your journey with a walk through the Waipoua Forest. This is one of Northland's great treasures and is one of the best examples of kauri forest in New Zealand. Famous also for having the two largest living kauris: Tane Mahuta and Te Matua Ngahere. The ring counts confirm that these are two of the largest existing trees, over 2000 years old. The beauty, unique character, and significance of this forest will inspire those who visit. We propose you to have an historic walk with some Maori guides through the Waipoua Forest.

Continue your drive to the lively village of Matakana. You will be staying at Takatu Lodge for two nights and have a unique experience of staying on a working vineyard.

The pre-dinner wine tasting will give you an opportunity to sample wines from their own renowned boutique vineyard, with hors d'oeuvres or antipasti platter.

Bonus: Receive a bottle of the award winning Takatu Estate 'Kawau Bay' 06 and two tickets the local Brick Bay Sculpture Trail – where you can explore and view renowned New Zealand sculptors works.



Day 5

The Brick Bay Sculpture Trail & Surrounds

BRICK BAY SCULPTURE TRAIL

Spend the morning walking The Brick Bay Sculpture Trail which showcases contemporary sculpture by established and emerging artists.

ACCOMMODATION

Takatu Lodge Suite

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Pre-Dinner Wine Tasting & Antipasti Platter

Walk through a remarkable landscape framed by towering native trees and majestic palms, abundant birdlife, and green pastures all overlooking the celebrated vineyard. The 2km track is an easy one-hour walk suitable for most ages and abilities.

Spend the afternoon exploring the area, whether it be walking along the beach at Omaha, visiting local artisans in Matakana or catching the ferry to Kawau Island, the afternoon and evening is yours to explore.



Day 6

Waiheke Vineyard Tour

WAIHEKE ISLAND VINEYARD TOUR

Drive to into Auckland City, catch the ferry to Waiheke Island; just 35 minutes across the Hauraki Gulf. You will feel a million miles away in pace and beauty as Waiheke has a special charm and seaside holiday atmosphere.

ACCOMMODATION

Hilton Auckland Deluxe Harbour View Plus

MEALS

Full Breakfast

Join a deluxe vineyard tour and be transported by luxury coach to three of Waiheke's finest vineyards. First stop is the stunning Mudbrick Vineyard; enjoy your first tasting experience whilst overlooking the sparkling waters of the Hauraki Gulf. Followed by Ridgeview Estate; the newest winery on Waiheke. Last stop is the exquisite acclaimed Te Whau vineyard and restaurant and their wine tasting are definitely worth the wait!

Return by ferry to Auckland, check into the Hilton Auckland, a boutique-style deluxe hotel, located on Princes Wharf. A mere 5 minutes walk from the city's main shopping precinct, the ferry terminal and the Viaduct Basin (Auckland's main tourist and entertainment stretch).



Day 7

Napier, Art Deco & Wineries

FLY TO NAPIER

4WD GANNET SAFARI

ACCOMMODATION

Millar Road
One Bedroom Cottage

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Bottle of
Millar Road Hawke's Bay
Wine on Arrival

Transfer to Auckland Airport before flying to Napier, the Art Deco capital of New Zealand. Napier is renowned for a beautiful coastline, a multitude of nearby wineries and 1930's art deco architecture. Today eighteen wine producers produce one third of the national grape harvest and many are open for wine tasting and lunch.

Visit the largest mainland Gannet colony at Cape Kidnappers before dining for example at Clearview Estate and have the opportunity of tasting their range of hand crafted single vineyard wines.

Stay at Millar Road, this luxury self catered apartment is tucked away in the Tuki Tuki Hills, overlooking the vineyard, Te Awanga and the coast from Cape Kidnappers to Mahia. Relax and take a soak in the separate "bathing room" which contains a luxurious cradle bath. Facilities are endless. Some fantastic winery restaurants are close at hand: Terrôir at Craggy Range, Black Barn Bistro, Clearview Estate and Elephant Hill.

Bonus: Receive a bottle of Millar Road Sauvignon Blanc and also two tickets to 'Big Picture Wine' a virtual wine tour, aroma room and tasting experience in one of Napier's famed Art deco buildings.



Day 8

Heli-Wine Tour over Hawke's Bay

HELI WINE AND LUNCH TOUR - HAWKE'S BAY

ACCOMMODATION

Millar Road
One Bedroom Cottage

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Lunch

Enjoy an exciting helicopter tour of the Hawke's Bay region with full commentary by your pilot.

Fly over Te Mata Peak and on to the Gimblett Gravels grape growing district before ending your flight at the prestigious Sileni Estate for a 2 course lunch with matching wines.

During the afternoon you'll learn about the regions many different grape varieties and a little bit of local history. You will taste classic red European varieties such as Syrah/Shiraz, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, and Pinot Noir.

The area is also famous for the white varieties, Chardonnay, Sauvignon, Semillon, Pinot Gris and Viognier. Four wineries will be visited during the tour with time taken to enjoy various cheeses from around New Zealand.

At the end of your tour you will be dropped off at your accommodation.



Day 9

Napier to Wairarapa Wine Region

DRIVE TO HAWKES BAY

HELI WINE AND DINE TOUR

ACCOMMODATION

Wharekauhau Country Estate
Cottage Suite

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Pre-Dinner Drinks & Canapes, Dinner

Drive through Tararua and take in the relaxed country atmosphere and warm hospitality. Break your journey in the colonial village of Greytown; located in the Martinborough wine region you will find plenty of antique stores to explore.

From here take the loop road to Martinborough; you will see plenty of small family run vineyards to stop at for gourmet lunch and of course the opportunity to taste local wines. If you can't find the time or energy to wander from vineyard to vineyard, there's a wine centre where you can sample many wines under one roof.

When ready drive to Featherstone; home of Wharekauhau Country Estate. Built along the lines of an Edwardian country mansion this Country Estate has an awe inspiring view over Palliser Bay.

Bonus: Enjoy a complimentary bottle of the Gold Medal Winning Te Kairanga Pinot Noir 06 or Johner Estate 08 Sauvignon Blanc.



Day 10

Wellington - The Nation's Vibrant Capital City

BOUTIQUE BEER TASTING EXPERIENCE

ACCOMMODATION

The Ohtel Suite

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Gourmet Platter the Evening on Arrival

Only a short drive today to Wellington; this city is compact, cultured and full of character. Nestled between the harbour and the hills, the downtown area is ideal for exploring on foot - shopping, cafes and the city's major attractions are all central. Visit Te Papa, New Zealand's national museum, which provides a unique insight into New Zealand, with exhibitions that embrace both Maori and European perspectives on our land, environment and people.

Are you ready to sample something other than wine? Then take the evening Boutique Beer Tasting Experience. Over three hours you will be led by an expert who will provide the history, production information and a myriad of stories. Visit a working brewery and a selection of favourite bars where you sample matched food with a wide array of beer types. You are guaranteed an entertaining evening!

Overnight at Ohtel; located in the exclusive seaside neighbourhood of Oriental Bay, this is a brand new 10 room boutique Hotel. A stunning, contemporary 4 storey concrete structure, embedded into the base of a steep coastal cliff face with unique Mid-Century furnishings.



Day 11

Wellington Sights and Nocturnal Tour of Zealandia

GUIDED HALF DAY CITY TOUR

NOCTURNAL TOUR AT ZEALANDIA

ACCOMMODATION

The Ohtel Suite

MEALS

Full Breakfast

Visit Wellington's sights on a ½ day Tour. From the dramatic, unearthly south coast to the bizarre central Beehive, the contrasts and quirks of Wellington's wonders are unequalled anywhere on earth.

See the ruins of the Wahine ferry disaster, take a trip on the cable car, and enjoy the views from Mt Victoria. In Thorndon, New Zealand's oldest suburb, visit the magnificent Parliament buildings and gorgeous Old St Paul's cathedral, an example of 19th-century Gothic Revival architecture adapted to colonial conditions. See the famous Beehive, our seat of government. It really is shaped like one!

During the evening join a Nocturnal Tour at 'Zealandia'. Your tour begins at the unique predator-proof fence, kitted out with red-light torches that don't disturb the locals, your guide will lead you this wildlife safe haven. As dusk falls, you will hear native parrots squabble in the trees, and tuatara, our unique 'living fossil', heading out to hunt. When darkness has settled, your guide will start looking for our elusive national mascot – the kiwi. Over 100 call this valley home, so there's a good chance of spotting one, foraging in the leaf litter! Often, the glow-worms are so bright you won't even need your torch!



Day 12

Ferry to Picton & Blenheim

COOK STRAIGHT FERRY CROSSING

ACCOMMODATION

Straw Lodge Double Room

MEALS

Full Breakfast, Complimentary Tasting of The Vineyard's Wine

Have a relaxing breakfast before boarding the ferry for a 3 hour scenic cruise across Cook Strait to the Marlborough region renowned for herbaceous Sauvignon Blanc. For one third of the crossing you cruise through the majestic Marlborough Sounds a haven of sheltered inlets, coves and crystal clear waters. For visitors and locals alike cruising into the Sounds is a breathtaking introduction to the South Island's beauty that lies ahead.

You will arrive in Blenheim, the largest town in the Marlborough region in the heart of this premier wine making district making it a very popular visitor destination. The Marlborough region is New Zealand's largest producer of wine and is particularly famous for its Sauvignon Blanc.

Of the numerous vineyards in the area, about 30 are open to visitors, offering tastings and tours of the property. The region boasts one of the most stable climates in the country and experiences and above average sunshine record.

Spend two nights at Straw Lodge; a unique eco-friendly straw-bale building that is nestled amongst the Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir vines. This is a working vineyard, with home-cooked and fresh home-grown produce.



Day 13

Icons of Marlborough Tour

**ICONS OF MARLBOROUGH
TOUR: WINE TASTING,
CRUISE & GREEN MUSSEL
FARM**

ACCOMMODATION

Straw Lodge
Double Room

MEALS

Full Breakfast,
Complimentary Tasting of
The Vineyard's Wine

Start this exciting day with two fine wine experiences including Marlborough's Iconic winery, Cloudy Bay.

Continue to Havelock; gateway to the Pelorus and Kenepuru Sounds and which also has the official title of Greenshell Mussel Capital of the World. Then enjoy a nice lunch right on the waterfront (own cost lunch).

Then board a launch and take in the natural beauty of the native bush and the tranquility of the Sounds. Learn from your experienced Skipper the history of the Marlborough Sounds and the history of the pioneering families who have settled in the Sounds over 6 generations.

Visit a Greenshell Mussel farm and learn why this delicacy grows so well in the Marlborough Sounds. Taste a local favourite - freshly steamed Mussels matched perfectly to a complimentary glass of Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc..

Day 14

E Noho Ra (Good Bye) Fly Home or Extend your Trip!

**FLIGHT CONNECTION
FROM BLENHEIM
AIRPORT**

MEALS

Full Breakfast

Depart Blenheim to connect with your international flight or extend your stay and experience some of the South Islands highlights.

Less than 2 hours drive south of Blenheim is Kaikoura, the perfect place for whale watching before continuing onto Christchurch or perhaps cross the island to the Wild West Coast.

There are so many activities and sights for you to explore...

Do not hesitate to contact us for more information on extending your holidays.

- Absolute New Zealand Arrangements End -



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