



After picking you up at your door, we enjoy a leisurely day getting to know each other as we make our way to Auckland – the City of Sails. Enjoy the scenery as we take our time, allowing a little time to perhaps try some of the new shopping centres in our biggest city. Tonight we enjoy a lovely dinner together before the early start at the train station in the morning.

Get ready for a day of scenery you will never forget. An early start after breakfast at The Strand station in the heart of Auckland city, before taking off on our all day ride through the stunning North Island. The Northern Explorer train is fitted with panoramic windows and spacious comfortable seating to make the trip extra special.

Once out of the city enjoy the lush pastures of the South Auckland and the Waikato, before the train starts to climb through the rugged back-blocks of the King Country. Further on, the sheep and beef farms give way to native bush, the Whanganui River is crossed and the famous Raurimu Spiral is navigated.

The 'piece de resistance' for many is the section skirting the Tongariro National Park. Here you can admire the 3 active volcanic cones of Tongariro, Ngauruhoe and Ruapehu, as well as the clear streams and dense forest that caused Tongariro to become the world's 6th national park and a UNESCO World Heritage area. Enjoy the snow capped peaks as lunch is served on board, or try the open-air carriage for some fresh air and fantastic photo opportunities.

Descending down through the Manawatu along the Rangitikei River, the train crosses numerous viaducts before hitting the Kapiti Coast for panoramic views out over Kapiti Island. Upon arrival in Wellington city we are picked up and taken to one of the city's top hotels for a fabulous dinner where we can all share memories from the day.

The next day it is home to Tauranga, but not before a morning visit to New Zealand's national museum – Te Papa Tongarewa. Here we will enjoy a private guided tour to learn more about the unique and interesting displays. There is also time to view the much-awarded Gallipoli exhibition – put together by the team from Weta Workshop.

En-route to the airport we will enjoy sights of our nation's often windy capital, before boarding our plane mid afternoon to have you home at your door in good time. We drop you off with a smile on your face having enjoyed a few wonderful days on tour.

* Please note, that unless specified in the itinerary we do not usually include the cost of lunches or morning and afternoon tea stops in the tour cost, but we always make stops where there are a range of options available so you can choose what you want, and have flexibility to do things on your own if you wish.

North Island Train Tour

Auckland, Waikato countryside, Central North Island forests, Raurimu Spiral, Tongariro National Park and volcanoes, Manawatu viaducts, Kapiti Coast, Wellington city, Te Papa & more...

This short getaway packs a lot of wonderful sights into our three days. The highlight is the chance to experience the entire length of the North Island Main Trunk Line as we traverse the North Island back country from the comfort of the Northern Explorer train. Coupled with some sightseeing in Wellington (including a tour of Te Papa museum), this is a tour not to miss. Overnight stays at great hotels in Auckland and Wellington, with an afternoon flight home to Tauranga.

SEP 2020 tbc - HT2020/02 - \$1495pp

29 NOV 2020 - HT2020/08 - \$1495pp

MAR 2021 tbc - HT2021/02 - \$1495pp

Whats Included:

- 3 days of touring
- 2 nights at 4 star plus accommodation
- Door to door service [home pickups]
- Quality Air-conditioned vehicle
- Fully guided with commentary
- All breakfasts and dinners
- Northern Explorer train to Wellington
- Lunch aboard the train
- Guided tour of Te Papa museum
- Wellington City sightseeing tour
- Afternoon flight back to Tauranga
- Plenty of stops along the way

You will see:

- Stunning scenery throughout
- Raurimu Spiral, an engineering marvel
- Tongariro National Park
- Breathtaking viaducts
- The Gallipoli exhibition at Te Papa

Not included:

- Any lunches unless specified*
- Morning/afternoon tea stops*
- Any alcoholic beverages with meals

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