

The Abel Tasman 5 Day Walk



**Spectacular golden sands
and sparkling waters**

5 Days, 4 Nights

Mild Grade



Tour Cost (NZD)

2026 / 2027

Low Season (Sept, Oct, Apr): \$3,040

High Season (Nov to Mar): \$3,140

**Single Supplement: 30% of tour cost (low season)
50% of tour cost (high season)**

Tour Highlights

- Golden beaches, and native forest
- Scenic boat cruises
- World famous coastal track
- Tranquil and cosy lodges
- Great food and great company



Tuatara Tours NZ Ltd, PO Box 13544, Christchurch 8141, New Zealand



www.tuataratours.co.nz



info@tuataratours.co.nz

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+64 39623280

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The Tour at a Glance

The Abel Tasman Coast Track is one of New Zealand's legendary Great Walks—and it's easy to see why! With golden beaches, native forest, and a sunny, mild climate, it's a little slice of paradise on the South Island.

Our 5 Day Abel Tasman tour gives you the best of both worlds. 3 days of casual hiking along the stunning coastline, and 2 days relaxing at the homely lodges, where you can unwind, explore, or simply enjoy the view.

You'll travel by scenic boat cruise to Totaranui, then walk south to Marahau, discovering gems like Awaroa and Onetahuti along the way. It's the perfect way to enjoy nature at your own pace, with a touch of comfort, too!

Trip Grading: Mild

An average level of fitness required, you should be comfortable walking a minimum of 12km on formed tracks and roads with some average inclines at times.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1 Motueka to Awaroa via Totaranui **7km**

Day 2 Explore Awaroa

Day 3 Awaroa to Torrent Bay **17km**

Day 4 Explore Torrent Bay

Day 5 Torrent Bay to Kaiteriteri to Motueka/Nelson **13km**

Day 1 Motueka to Awaroa via Totaranui (7km)

Start the day with a welcome briefing at our Motueka office, with time to organise your gear before departure.

Then we're off on a scenic drive to beautiful Kaiteriteri (just 20 minutes from Motueka, or an hour from Nelson), where you'll hop aboard the Vista Cruise. Sit back, relax, and enjoy a stunning 1 hour 40 minute voyage along the dazzling Abel Tasman coastline. Grab a drink from the onboard café, head to the deck, and take in the incredible views.

Arriving at Totaranui, it's time to stretch your legs and dive into nature with a spectacular 2.5-hour (7km) walk through lush native forest and across golden-sand beaches, leading you to the jaw-dropping Awaroa Inlet. Depending on the tide, you'll either wade across or catch a quick boat ride to complete this unforgettable journey!

End at Meadowbank Homestead, charmingly set on the edge of the inlet.

MEALS INCLUDED: L D



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Day 2 Explore Awaroa

Savor a relaxed breakfast with views across the glistening expanse of Abel Tasman's tidal estuary. The day is yours to shape, whether you seek adventure or relaxation—your guide will help you craft the perfect experience.

Explore the Awaroa estuary on foot (up to 4hrs) or kayak (up to 2hrs, tide permitting). Dive into history by visiting early European and pre-European sites, or unwind on the golden beach.

Alternatively, relax and enjoy the comfort and charm of Meadowbank Homestead. Whatever you choose, today is all about soaking in the beauty and tranquility of this special place.

MEALS INCLUDED: B L D

Day 3 Awaroa to Torrent Bay (17km)

Fuel up with a relaxed breakfast, then hit the coastal track for a day of discovery! Walk as much or as little as you like; your guide will arrange water taxis to suit.

Venture up to six hours through lush native forest and along golden beaches. Start at Awaroa and make your way to Onetahuti, crossing a unique boardwalk and bridge crafted by local Māori iwi.

Take a break at Bark Bay for a laid-back picnic lunch, with time to swim, stretch out, or simply soak up the views, before continuing through lush forest and coastal groves to Torrent Bay.

End your day at Torrent Bay Lodge, where a well-earned dinner awaits.

MEALS INCLUDED: B L D

Day 4 Explore Torrent Bay

Today is yours to enjoy, with your guide ready to help you plan the perfect mix of activity and relaxation.

Walk through virgin forest to Falls River's waterfalls, or kayak or stroll to Cleopatra's Pool. Explore Anchorage Beach and Te Pukatea Cove, with a stop at historic Māori sites on Pitt Head.

Or simply unwind on Torrent Bay's golden sands and enjoy the comfort of the lodge.

MEALS INCLUDED: B L D

Day 5 Torrent Bay to Kaiteriteri to Motueka/Nelson (13km)

Wake to golden light over the water and enjoy coffee on the deck before breakfast. Today's easy walk from Torrent Bay to Marahau offers stunning views over Tasman Bay, with stories from your guide about early explorers along the way.

Depending on the tide, either walk around Anchorage Inlet or take a fun shortcut across it. Stop for lunch at a sheltered beach overlooking Adele Island.

After 4–5 hours of walking (13–16km), arrive in Marahau, where a driver meets you for the return trip via Kaiteriteri to collect your gear. You'll reach Nelson between 5:30pm and 6pm.

MEALS INCLUDED : B L



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What's Included



All Accommodation in comfortable lodges, rooms with ensuite facilities



Water taxi transfers



DOC concession fees for the Abel Tasman National Park



All meals during the tour—great local cuisine



Fully qualified, knowledgeable guide



Pre Tour

The night before your tour, we'll drop off a black gear bag at your hotel or motel reception. Use it for your overnight items—it's yours to keep! Pack only what you need each night; extra luggage can be stored at our walk office on departure day. If we are not able to get the bag to you the night prior, don't worry, you will still have plenty of time to pack on the morning of your tour, once you arrive at the walk office.

On day one, we'll pick you up or direct you to safe parking if you're driving. Day packs are available to borrow, and valuables can be securely stored at the office.

Our tours are flexible to suit weather and walking comfort. The route may run in reverse, with earlier pick-ups in Nelson or Motueka. Daily walking is optional—water taxis are available. Just check in with your guide each morning to plan your day.

Please Note:

Rooms are double or twin, either one queen bed or two separate beds. If you have a preference for a twin room please let us know when you make your booking. Solo travellers can choose to share or pay a single supplement for a private room

Dietary needs? We're happy to cater for gluten free, dairy free and vegetarian diets—just let us know at time of booking.

What's Not Included

Alcohol is not provided. However, you're welcome to purchase drinks at the lodges, which run a tab system where you can settle any drink costs at the end of the tour.

Pre- and post-tour accommodation



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Your travel check list:

The following is a list of recommended items. Please also use your own experience to supplement this list. If you're unsure about anything, feel free to contact us.



Avoid walking in cotton, jeans, or silk — they dry slowly and can leave you feeling damp and cold. Instead, dress in three layers: a moisture-wicking base (merino or polypropylene), an insulating middle layer, and a waterproof outer layer for wind and rain protection. Handwashing can be done at your accommodation if necessary.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterproof rain jacket with hood (a must) and waterproof over trousers (if you have them)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Boots or sturdy walking shoes with ankle support, spare laces. Shoes for tidal crossings or kayaking, fixed at the heel
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thermals (top and bottom) merino or polypropylene are recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Polar fleece jacket or top (mid layer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gloves, warm hat
<input type="checkbox"/>	Woolen or thermal hikers socks 3-4 pair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hiking shorts or zip off long trousers (quick-dry fabric-no jeans). Gaiters, if you have them.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drink bottle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium size (35-40l) day pack with waterproof liner. (Available to borrow)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Camera/ phone and charger/ torch
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sun hat , sun glasses sun block,
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swimsuit and small towel
<input type="checkbox"/>	One set of casual wear for the evening, including casual shoes or sandals
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal toiletries and essential medications, a small personal first aid kit, insect repellent
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walking poles (available for hire or purchase)

Please do not bring tissues or paper towels (they add to litter in the park), we suggest cotton handkerchiefs. No Hairdryers please—the generated electricity cannot power them (battery chargers and electric razors are ok). Any valuable items such as jewellery, passports etc can be left in safe storage in the office. Lodges operate on a tab system so any payments for drinks etc are settled at the end of the tour. Cellphones: coverage is intermittent south of Awaroa, there is no coverage north of Awaroa Bay.

For optional kayaking: Bring a spare set of clothing including a warm layer to be stored in the kayak so you can change into dry gear if necessary.



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Frequently asked questions:

How do I book a tour?

A deposit of \$300 per person confirms your place and can be paid via credit card (Visa or Mastercard, no surcharge) through our website: <https://www.tuataratours.co.nz/make-a-payment/>, or by bank transfer to Tuatara Tours NZ Ltd: 01 0797 0308837 00.

When is the balance due?

The final balance is due 90 days prior to departure. A reminder will be sent via email. You're welcome to pay in instalments, as long as the full amount is received by the due date.

What if I need to cancel?

Our cancellation policy for **the Abel Tasman 5 Day Walk** is:

- 90+ days prior to departure: Cancellation fee of \$200 per person, or change travel date for no additional cost (please note there are likely to be seasonal rate increases if you change to a future season.)
- 89 to 60 days prior to departure: 50% refund
- 59 to 0 days prior to departure: no refund

We operate this tour in partnership with another local operator, and cancellation fees are non-negotiable. Our partners in the Abel Tasman National Park are Wilsons Abel Tasman.

How big are the groups?

Our tours typically accommodate up to 12 people, though we can cater to larger groups on request.

Do I have to share a room? Tours are priced on a twin-share basis (two people per room). Let us know if you prefer a queen bed or two singles. Solo travelers will be paired with another solo of the same gender, or you can opt to pay a single supplement for your own room.

Am I fit enough?

The Abel Tasman 5 Day Walk is graded mild, suited to walkers with an average fitness level. You should feel confident walking 12km on well formed tracks with some average inclines at times. Not sure if it's right for you? Just give our team a call — we're happy to chat.

When is the best time to do the tour?

The best time to visit Abel Tasman National Park is generally from October to April. During these months, the weather is warmer and more settled.

What time does the tour finish on the last day?

After collecting your luggage from the boat at Kaiteriteri, your driver will drop guests off in Motueka around 4 pm, then continue on to Nelson arriving between 5:30 and 6 pm.

Can you pick me up for the tour?

Yes, pickups and drop offs are available at several Nelson and Motueka locations. Pick-ups are not possible at Airbnb properties or private homes in residential suburbs. Please check with our office before you book accommodation if you are not sure about the location of your stay.



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Frequently asked questions:

Is there parking at your office?

If you're self-driving, there is free parking available at our Motueka Walk Office. Alternatively, we recommend using the long-stay car park at Nelson Airport, or you can check with your pre-tour accommodation to see if they can accommodate parking for the duration of your tour.

Can you hire poles?

Walking poles are available to hire for \$20 per single pole, or you can purchase them for \$35 each, or \$100 for a pair of carbon fibre poles.

How do you choose the activity option for each day?

Walking each day is optional and you are welcome to make use of the scheduled water taxis instead. On the rest days, your guide will suggest activities you might like to choose from as to how to spend your day. Options may include walking, kayaking, or simply relaxing at the lodges.

Can you go kayaking during downtime at the lodges?

Yes, kayaking is available in the calm estuary waters at the lodges.

Is alcohol included? Alcohol is not provided. However, you're welcome to purchase drinks at the lodges, which run a tab system where you can settle any drink costs at the end of the tour.

What facilities are available at the lodge? The lodges come with free WiFi, bath towels, toiletries, and hairdryers (available on request). There's also a drying room to use. The only extra cost on the trip is from the in-house bar, which serves alcohol and fizzy drinks.

What kind of meals are provided? Enjoy delicious fresh meals prepared by the Lodges from lunch on day one to lunch on your last day. You'll get 3-course dinners, cooked or continental breakfasts, picnic lunches, plus hot drinks, fruit juice, snacks, and fresh fruit throughout the day

How much luggage can I bring?

Space is limited, so please bring one small day pack and one overnight bag (max 40 litres). You'll be given a black gear bag, either dropped at your pre tour accommodation or provided at the Motueka Walk Office. This is the bag you'll use for your overnight gear in the national park. Pack it with everything you'll need on the tour. Any extra luggage can be safely stored at the Walk Office.

Do I need hiking boots?

We strongly recommend well-fitting walking boots with good tread and ankle support. The track is mostly clay and can be slippery when wet, with some tree roots and hills. Please break in your boots before you come for the walk. It is recommended you have shoes fixed at the heel for the tidal crossings or any kayaking as your feet will get wet, jandals not recommended for this.

Are the tours guided?

Yes, the Abel Tasman 5 Day Walk is a fully guided experience. Your guide will bring local knowledge to enhance your journey, and ensure your safety and comfort along the way. During any down time, your guide will make suggestions for activities you might like to do in the area considering the weather and tide.



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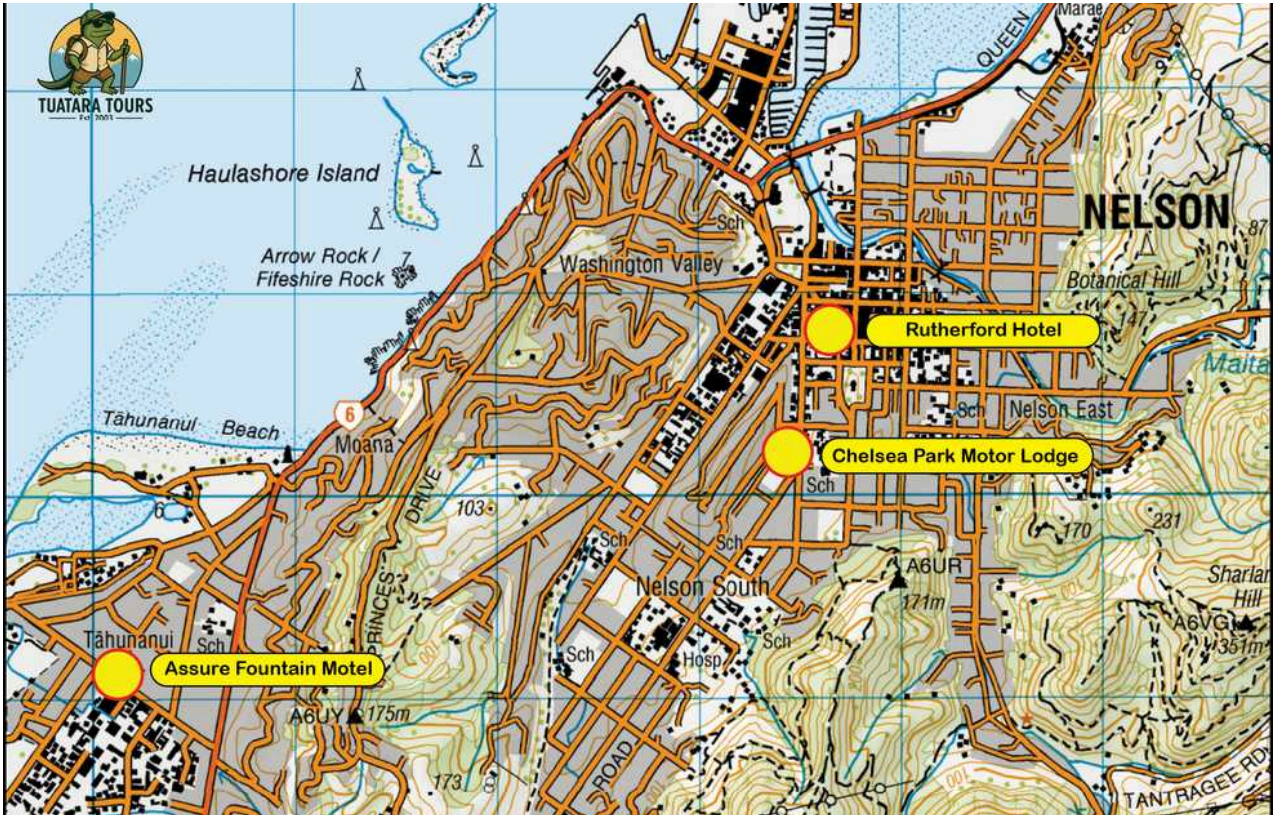




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Pickup Points

Please contact us to confirm the nearest pick-up location to your accommodation. Unfortunately, we are unable to collect guests from Airbnb properties, private residences, or hill suburbs due to restrictions on access.



Rutherford Hotel
Central Nelson



Chelsea Park Motor Lodge
Waimea Road vicinity



Asure Fountain Motel
Tahunanui Beach vicinity

Tuatara Conservation

We're proud supporters of tuatara conservation. We've adopted ""BP"—a juvenile tuatara at Orana Park in Christchurch, helping ensure the future of this amazing native species.



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TERMS & CONDITIONS

Tuatara Tours NZ Limited accepts bookings subject to the following terms:

Contract

This contract is between Tuatara Tours and you, the client—defined as any person travelling or intending to travel on a tour operated by Tuatara Tours. The contract, including all matters arising from it, is governed by New Zealand law and subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the New Zealand courts. Only employees or directors of Tuatara Tours have the authority to vary or omit any of the terms stated herein.

Cancellation Policy Due to Travel Restrictions

If your trip is impacted by travel restrictions imposed by the New Zealand government or any other government, Tuatara Tours will either work with you to transfer your trip to a future date at no additional cost, or provide a full refund.

Price

All prices are quoted in New Zealand dollars and include 15% GST. Prices are based on rates current at the time of publishing. Tuatara Tours reserves the right to modify prices without notice if deemed necessary or appropriate.

Accommodation on organised tours is based on twin or double share. Solo travellers will be paired with another traveller of the same sex. A single supplement is available upon request.

Confirmation of Booking

Bookings are confirmed upon receipt of the full tour price, which is due 90 days prior to the start of the tour. Tuatara Tours and its agents reserve the right to decline any booking at their discretion.

Cancellation

If a client cancels a tour, the following charges apply (unless otherwise stated):

- 90+ days prior to departure: Refund less \$200 per person, or change travel date for no additional cost (please note there are likely to be seasonal rate increases if you change to a future season.)
- 89 to 60 days prior to departure: 50% refund
- 59 to 0 days prior to departure: no refund*
- After tour commencement – no refund available

These cancellation fees are non-negotiable. We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance.

Travel Insurance

Tuatara Tours strongly recommends that clients take out travel insurance, including tour cancellation cover and any other relevant insurances. It is the client's responsibility to ensure adequate coverage. Tuatara Tours cannot be held liable for any failure to obtain appropriate insurance.

Medical Conditions

You must inform us at the time of booking of any medical condition, history, or medication you are currently taking.

Changes to Tours

Tuatara Tours will make every effort to operate all tours as advertised. However, reasonable changes to the itinerary may be made if deemed necessary or advisable. Clients will be informed of any changes as soon as reasonably possible. Where a tour service must be substituted, a service of similar quality and standard will be provided.

Weather

Adverse weather may prevent planned activities from proceeding as scheduled. The tour guide may decide to alter the itinerary based on weather conditions, prioritising group safety. Tuatara Tours and its contracted suppliers are not responsible for changes resulting from weather-related circumstances.



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General conditions

Tuatara Tours, its agents, contractors and guides do not accept responsibility or liability for loss, damage to, or theft of personal belongings (owners risk) or for any expenses, including medical and transport expenses arising from a personal accident, injury, illness, or hospitalisation. Tuatara Tours and their guides reserve the right to make any alterations to the itinerary in the interest of safety, or unforeseen circumstances due to causes such as weather, illness or misadventure. Every reasonable endeavour will be made to keep to published schedules but no guarantee is given. Tuatara Tours will not be held liable for costs incurred by change, delay or the missing of connecting services. Tuatara Tours reserves the right to exclude a person from a tour at any time, if in the opinion of the guide or operator, that person may be likely to risk the health, safety or comfort (including unsociable behaviour) of other clients, him or herself or the environment. In such circumstances, Tuatara Tours will not be obliged to offer any refund or transfer ticket. These terms and conditions apply to each participant including in a group booking. Where a booking is made on behalf of a group of two or more people then each participant in the group must be made aware of and accept these terms and conditions.

RISK DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In any adventure activity, there is an element of risk involved. Risks in undertaking this activity include (but are not limited to): hypothermia, heat exhaustion, physical injury caused by environment i.e. rock falls, and physical injury caused by self, i.e. falling over.

The staff and management of Tuatara Tours and any of its agency partners take all practicable steps to identify and minimise potential dangers. The Operator makes all arrangements for all tours on the condition that it shall not be liable for any sickness, injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned, either directly or indirectly, by reason of any defect in any vehicle, vessel or aircraft, by weather, by any other cause, or through acts of default of a company or person engaged in conveying the passengers, or in carrying out arrangements for these activities.

We strongly recommend that you purchase travel insurance prior to your trip.

By participating in this activity, you are expressly assuming those risks and responsibilities and are, to the maximum extent permitted by law releasing the Operator, its officers, employees, directors, agents and any other person associated with us, from any liability, claims, loss, damages or expenses (whatsoever and irrespective of whether direct, indirect or consequential) caused by any event including but not limited to: personal injury or death; property loss or damage; acts which may be construed as negligible or accidental; any other loss, damage, suffering, emotional or nervous disorder suffered by you or any other person in relation to this activity. You accept that you have been advised to obtain adequate travel insurance for all persons named on the booking.

In participating in the activity, the customer agrees to be bound by the following conditions:

- My successors, executors and administrators are bound by the Terms and Conditions;
- I agree not to commence any litigation proceedings in any country in relation to the risks and liabilities set out above and to indemnify the Operator against any claims;
- I confirm and warrant I am physically fit and suffer no medical conditions, which may affect my ability to participate in the activity;
- I confirm I am aware that professional medical assistance may be difficult and/or take some time to access due to the remote areas in which we are travelling;
- I consent to receive medical treatment in the case of injury, accident or illness during the activity and to indemnify the Operator against any claims, costs or expenses in respect of the treatment;
- I agree that any film, sound, video or other recordings taken of or during the activity will not be used in any production, or advertising without prior consent of the Operator, however the Operator may use such recordings itself at its complete discretion without any prior approval; and
- I agree to listen to my driver/guide/host, follow their instructions and make sure any children in my care do the same. Furthermore, the Operator will not be responsible for any personal injury and or property damage caused by you and any costs for such injury / damage will be your responsibility.



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Custom Tours Available

Want to change the itinerary or create something entirely new? We enjoy designing custom adventures for friends, families, work groups and clubs. Get in touch!

Keen to join a tour? Enquire now



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Australia free dial 1800 044 633

World +64 3 962 3280



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Web: www.tuataratours.co.nz

You might also like....

Abel Tasman 5 Day Walk & Kayak

Abel Tasman 3 Day Walk & Kayak

Abel Tasman 3 Day Walk



Official Partner

Tuatarata Tours is proud to be in an official partnership with Ngā Haerenga The New Zealand Cycle Trail.

The objective of the partnership is to create a nationwide network of cycle trails that connect the Great Rides with the rest of New Zealand.



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Space for your own notes:



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