



The Bucket List Walk



Walking Holiday of a Lifetime!

12 Days, 11 Nights

Moderate to Challenging Grade



tour highlights

- Join a small group & expert NZ walking guide
- 12 days / 11 nights NZ Walking Tour (11 days walking, 1 rest day)
- 4-7 hours walking each day over varied terrain on formed trails
- Carry a daypack only
- 100 - 120km (62 - 74 miles)
- Depart Rotorua or Matamata

tours run

November - April
Starting in Rotorua or Matamata



tour cost:

2024 / 2025

NZD\$5850

options & supplements

Single Supplement:

NZD\$900

Tuatara Tours NZ Ltd, PO Box 13544, Christchurch 8141, New Zealand
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The Bucket List Walk



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the tour

12 Days, 11 Nights

Moderate to Challenging Grade

100 - 120km (62 - 74 miles)

If there's one walking holiday to put on your Bucket List, this is it!

Explore the very best of the North Island's diverse and visually spectacular regions in comfort and style on this unforgettable 12-day guided hiking tour.

From the majestic mountains of Tongariro, to the lush forests of Lake Waikaremoana, and the dramatic coastlines of Coromandel. Soak up the scenery, and delight in the company, accommodation, meals and wine.

at a glance

- Day 1 Arrive, Hike Wairere Falls
- Day 2 Coromandel Coastal Walkway
- Day 3 Hike the Pinnacles
- Day 4 Eastern Epic
- Day 5 Hike Whirinaki Forest
- Day 6 Hike Panekire Bluffs
- Day 7 Hike to Lake Waikareiti
- Day 8 Waterfalls and Whistling Ducks
- Day 9 Rotorua to Tongariro National Park
- Day 10 The Tongariro Alpine Crossing
- Day 11 The Old Coach Road, Ohakune
- Day 12 Rainforest and Waterfalls

trip grading

To determine the grade of a particular adventure we consider a number of factors. These include the condition of the terrain, the altitude, the number of pass crossings and the length of the trip.

The Bucket List Walk is graded Moderate to Challenging: Moderate: An above average level of fitness, Walk 20km, with some average to steep inclines at times.

Challenging: An above average level of fitness, Walk 20+km, on formed tracks and roads with some average to steep inclines at times.



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The Bucket List Walk



itinerary

Walking Holiday of a Lifetime!

Day 1 Arrive, Hike Wairere Falls - 5kms - 3 to 4 hours

Graduate to Challenging Grade

We'll pick you up from your accommodation in central Rotorua between 8:00am and 8:30am, or Matamata at 9:30am. We'll warm up with a 4km hike to the top of Wairere Falls, the North Islands tallest waterfall, and view the verdant Waikato Basin from two lookouts over hanging 153 metres of thunderous waterfall.

As we continue north, enjoy views out over the mussel farms of the Hauraki Gulf from one of New Zealand's classic coastal drives, the Coromandel West Coast. Make a brief stop at Waiomu for refreshments before exploring the Waiomu Kauri Grove – this little known trail heads deep into a protected ecological reserve scattered with majestic Kauri trees – New Zealand's very own forest giants that grow up to 50 metres tall.

Drive further up the Coromandel Peninsula in the late afternoon to reach your peaceful accommodation set amongst lush native bush, and watch the sunset from the verandah with a glass of wine or ice cold brew.

Day 2 The Coromandel Coastal Walkway - 12kms - 6 hours

NOTE: Due to damage during Cyclone Gabrielle in February 2023, the Coastal Walkway is currently under repair. Until it's completed, we'll have plenty of alternative tracks to hike and these won't be more strenuous than the Coastal Walkway.

If there's one hike in New Zealand that has it all, it's this one – the incredible Coromandel Coastal Walkway. After a short drive north from Coromandel township we'll arrive at the trail head and begin our hike at Stony Bay, a picture perfect isolated beach flanked by green hills and white sand. This historic trail follows an old bridle path once used by gold miners who populated the Coromandel region in colonial times.

Tracing the north eastern tip of the Coromandel Peninsula, we walk through native bush and over high cliff tops with views of Great Barrier Island, Cuvier Island and the Mercury Islands.

We'll have a picnic lunch at beautiful Poley Bay (a great spot for a swim if you're keen!) before returning to Stony Bay.
Accommodation: Coromandel Lodgel- (B,L,D)

Day 3 Hike The Pinnacles - 16kms - 5 to 7 hours

After a delicious fresh breakfast we head south to the start of the Kauaeranga Kauri Trail, also known as The Pinnacles. We'll make our way up through kauri, rimu and kahikatea forests to the Pinnacles that are perched high above the forest canopy. The 360 degree views of bush, mountains and 2 coastlines are simply off the charts, and well worth the effort up the steep trail – don't forget your camera!

The Kauaeranga Valley is home to forest bird such as tui, bellbird, tomtit, grey warbler, shining cuckoo, north island brown kiwi and kaka, so keep your eyes peeled here as many of them are frequent visitors on the trail.

Option – If the Pinnacles isn't your style and you would prefer a more relaxing day you have the option of staying in and exploring Coromandel Township. Highlights include the Driving Creek Railway, local artisan workshops, short walks, cafes, and culture. Take the time to relax in paradise.

A fabulous day is topped off with a celebratory meal at one of Coromandel town's fine restaurants.
Accommodation: Coromandel Lodgel- (B,L,D)



The Bucket List Walk



itinerary continued

Day 4 Eastern Epic - 5kms - 2 to 4 hours

Travel east around the Peninsula towards Whitianga. Hike to the golden sand beaches and azure green waters of one of the top 20 best beaches in the world, New Chums Beach. Relax and absorb the natural beauty amidst the bird and marine life that thrives within this precious ecosystem.

Enjoy a short, scenic ferry ride across the Whitianga harbour and a relaxing stroll up to Shakespeares Cliff overlooking Mercury Bay and the beach where Cook set foot on kiwi soil. Stop for a refreshing lunch looking out over the marine reserve and take the well-graded track down to the iconic Cathedral Cove, a natural volcanic archway – a must-see of the Coromandel!

Continuing around the East Coast we'll complete a loop of the Coromandel Peninsula, then have you safely back to a 4.5 star hotel in Rotorua, where you can enjoy a self-catered dinner at any local establishment that takes your fancy! This evening meal is not included in your tour package, so you have maximum flexibility to follow your nose. Accommodation: Rotorua Hotel - (B,L)

Day 5 Hike Whirinaki Forest - 8 to 10kms - 3 to 4 hours

After a cooked breakfast at your Rotorua Hotel we'll pick you up and head east, past Mount Tarawera and into the heart of Te Urewera. Our first stop is the Whirinaki Forest, where we'll walk through one of New Zealand's most pristine Podocarp forests with towering trees including giant totara, kahikatea, rimu and matai. Keep an eye out for kaka (a large forest parrot) & whio (blue duck) along the way. This hiking trail also skirts the moss-lined Whirinaki River canyon and waterfall – one of the most picturesque rivers in New Zealand. Don't forget your camera!

We then journey deeper into the remote Te Urewera area to reach Lake Waikaremoana, where we'll settle in at our cozy lodge with pre-dinner drinks and nibbles on the lake shore.
Accommodation: Waikaremoana Lake Lodge - (B,L,D)

Day 6 Hike Panekire Bluffs - 9kms - 3 to 6 hours

This morning we'll hike to the spectacular Panekire Bluffs that are a highlight of the Lake Waikaremoana Great Walk. As we climb higher we'll see the lush podocarp forest change into cloud forest with trees covered in eerie hanging moss. Arriving at the Panekire Bluffs, we'll be greeted with jaw-dropping views over Lake Waikaremoana and the Te Urewera forest. There are not many better places in the world to sit back, relax and have lunch! If you're looking for a challenge, there's an option to continue hiking higher for a further 2 hours to reach the highest point of the Great Walk track to get views over not only the Lake, but out to the Pacific Coast.

We'll share a delicious, informal dinner together, prepared by your guides and watch the sun set over the lake.
Accommodation: Waikaremoana Lakeside Chalets - (B,L,D)





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Day 7 Hike to Lake Waikareiti - 4 to 6kms 3 to 5 hours

This morning we explore a very special area – the pristine Lake Waikareiti, which lies a further 300 metres in elevation above Lake Waikaremoana. Free of aquatic weeds and motorised boats, this picture perfect lake has astonishingly clear water and is blissfully peaceful! If conditions allow, we can take a dip (optional) in the crystal clear water, or rest up on the lake shore.

In the of this lake is an island, Rahui Island, which has it's own lake. That's a lake, on an island, on a lake!

The Department of Conservation, and now local iwi, have worked tirelessly for years to eradicate this area of introduced predators, allowing native birds here to thrive!

Later, we'll return to Waikaremoana where there's an option to walk to a dazzling fresh-water spring, and see the impressive hydro-electric power generation system nearby.

Accommodation: Waikaremoana Lake Lodge - (B,L,D)

Day 8 Waterfalls and Whistling Ducks - 5kms - 2 to 3 hours

This morning, we share our final lakeside breakfast in the dining room. Then we'll take a gentle walk along the Black Beech track, a beautiful scenic trail linking our accommodation to Aniwaniwa, with views out over Te Karetū/Home Bay and Lake Waikaremoana.

A visit to Lake Waikaremoana wouldn't be complete without a short, 60 minute stroll to the beautiful Aniwaniwa Falls, which means 'Rainbow' and Papakorito Falls, a wide, thunderous explosion of water falling down a smooth, sloping rock wall. From two lookout points, we'll be able to view the falls from an upper and lower perspective and give you a chance to spot the rare fleshy-lipped whistling duck or whio bobbing about on the river-side.

We'll make a quick stop at Mokau Landing for a picnic lunch while we enjoy views of the impressive Panekire Bluff to reflect on our achievements over the past 4 days. We say a fond farewell to the serenity of Te Urewera and make our way out back to civilisation, stopping for a dip in a natural hot spring under a canopy of native trees. We'll cap things off with a hot soak, a perfect way to finish off a fantastic walking holiday in New Zealand's last, true wilderness area. We'll return you safely to the Princes Gate Hotel in Rotorua between 5 – 6pm.

Enjoy another night of culinary freedom in Rotorua, with a self-directed dinner wherever takes your fancy. Your guides will be happy to suggest great local places for you to try.

Accommodation: Rotorua Hotel - (B,L,)

Day 9 Rotorua to Tongariro National Park - 6kms - 2 hours

We'll pick you up from central Rotorua City or the Rotorua Airport between 8.30am and 9.00am, or central Taupō at 10.00am, before heading south through the North Island's geothermal heartland. We'll skirt around the beautiful shores of Lake Taupō, the North Island's largest lake, and then drive up through stunning native forest onto the mighty central plateau. We can also meet you in Tongariro National Park if you prefer, please just ask us for driving directions.



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We'll get our first taste of the topography and natural character of the Tongariro National Park with a 2-hour loop walk to Taranaki Falls, which is part of the Tongariro Northern Circuit Great Walk track. These falls tumble 20 metres over the edge of an old andesite lava flow, erupted from Mt Ruapehu 15,000 years ago, into a boulder-ringed pool. You'll see a fascinating range of beech forest, alpine meadows full of red tussock, five-finger, umbrella ferns and mountain toatoa. This is a great chance to orient ourselves amongst spectacular views of the Tongariro volcanic massif.

We'll continue to warm-up and stretch out the legs with an easy, 20 minute walk in to see Tawhai Falls, better known as 'Gollum's Pool.' If you're a Lord of the Rings fan, you'll recognise this picturesque, 13 metre-high waterfall, where Faramir and his archers watch Gollum fish.

After settling into our cozy lodgings, we'll share a hearty, 2-course Kiwi-style meal and a cold glass of something to toast the beginning of our Tongariro adventure as we watch the sun set over the magnificent volcanic skyline. Have a soak in the hot tub, nurse an after-dinner tippie at the on-site bar, or just put your feet up and prepare for exciting adventures that await us tomorrow!
Accommodation: The Park Hotel - (B,D)

Day 10 The Tongariro Alpine Crossing - 19.5kms - 6 to 8 hours

This morning we'll set off on one of the world's greatest one-day hikes, the Tongariro Alpine Crossing. This trail leads us through an incredible variety of ethereal landscapes – lava fields, emerald coloured crater lakes, steaming vents, alpine meadows, over an alpine pass, amidst the stunning mountain peaks – there's nothing like it anywhere else on the planet! The views across to Mt Ngauruhoe, Mt Ruapehu and the central plateau of the North Island are simply spectacular and worth every step!

Lonely Planet recommends a walk amidst the Tongariro Volcanoes as "a life-changing experience not to be missed!" Your guides make this incredible hike even more memorable by sharing local stories and legends and bringing the extraordinary geological history to life. Fair weather and a good level of fitness are required to undertake this hike.

After a well-deserved trailend celebration, we'll return to The Park and revive your weary muscles in the outdoor spa pool, before meeting in the cosy lounge for pre-dinner drinks and nibbles. Tonight we head out to a lively local restaurant and bar for a casual meal with the locals.

Accommodation: The Park Hotel - (B,L,D)

Day 11 The Old Coach Road, Ohakune - 12kms - 5 hours

Travel around the southern side of Mt Ruapehu to experience some of New Zealand's rail history on the Old Coach Road trail. Between 1906 to 1908 the road was used to carry passengers and goods by horse and coach, between two railheads on the main trunk line.

Heritage features on the trail include a unique cobbled road of stone "setts", massive steel viaducts, a curved tunnel, railway bridge remains, and old campsites. The 15km walk takes around 5 hours, and also passes through some beautiful stands of native forest with sweeping views across the district.

In consultation with the group, and if local conditions allow, we will explore the dramatic, rock-strewn landscapes higher up Mt Ruapehu. At 2,797 metres above sea level, the North Island's highest mountain offers jaw-dropping views over the National Park.

Tonight we enjoy a final celebration dinner together .

Accommodation: The Park Hotel - (B,L,D)





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Day 12 Rain Forest and Waterfalls - 5kms - 3 to 4 hours

After a final hearty breakfast, we pack up our kit and farewell the National Park and its majestic mountains. If the legs are feeling fresh, we'll begin our day with one of the many short walks nearby. Our experienced, local guides love the chance to select a trail from their catalogue of personal favourites to make this particular trip a unique experience for everyone.

On our journey out of the park, we'll finish things off with a rejuvenating hike around the glistening Lake Rotopounamu (Greenstone Lake) nestled in the side of beautiful Mt. Pihanga, a mountain maiden central to the Māori legend that describes how this area was formed. From the carpark, we'll make our way up a small incline to reach the lake level itself, where the track evens out to circumvent the lakeshore. We'll enjoy our final picnic lunch on Five Minute Beach in the peace and serenity of lush, native forest. Walking Legends supports Project Tongariro, an eco-trust that are working to restore the native birdlife to this special area, by sponsoring the care of hectare #189. Let us all enjoy time amongst the abundant native birdlife that our conservation efforts have helped to revive.

We'll have you safely back in Taupo between 3-4 pm or Rotorua around 5-6pm to meet your onward travel arrangements. (B,L)



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what is included

Accommodation

We'll stay in a variety of boutique and character lodges & hotels, which have been chosen for their amazing location & atmosphere. Rooms are twin-share with comfy beds & crisp linen. You'll have an ensuite room for each of the 11 nights of the trip. All our lodges are in stunning, picturesque settings.

The trip includes 2 nights in a studio room at a 4.5 star historic hotel in central Rotorua on nights 4 and 8 between each 'leg' of the journey.

Food

Our meals are every bit as nourishing and restorative as the scenery you'll experience. This is a catered trip where the meals are planned, prepared and served to you. All breakfasts, trail snacks, hot drinks, and most dinners are included. There are two self-catered dinners on night 4 and night 8, before we begin our Tongariro leg of the journey, where you'll be able to sample some of Rotorua's local flavours or just go where your tastebuds take you!

Breakfasts have both cooked and continental options. Healthy packed lunches are made fresh daily with plenty of nutritious goodies to keep you going. We also provide plenty of snacks and hot drinks on the trail.

You'll enjoy 2-course, and sometimes 3-course, Kiwi-style meals, with plenty of fresh veggies, crisp salads, and decadent desserts prepared by our lodge hosts, our restaurant partners and your talented guides. We provide a complimentary glass of wine, beer or non-alcoholic option with pre-dinner nibbles and you're welcome to purchase extra drinks during dinner.

Luggage

This is a lodge-based tour so we'll return to our walk lodges each night. You're welcome to bring a suitcase, we have plenty of space. All you'll carry on the track is a day pack with your lunch, water, raincoat, hat, sunscreen and camera.

An experienced and fully qualified guide

All transport

Access and Concession fees paid to the Department of Conservation

NZ Goods and Service Tax (GST)

Safety and Risk Management

To ensure maximum safety for all, our guides are certified first aiders and fully qualified drivers. Tuatara Tours operate under a Safety and Risk Management Plan which is regularly audited and approved by a qualified and independent auditor.

This tour is operated in conjunction with another operator.

what is not included

- pre and post tour accommodation
- alcoholic drinks
- personal expenses
- gratuities, tipping is not expected in NZ but gratefully received. It is at your discretion whether or not to reward for excellent service



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pre tour checklist

Please ensure you have the following items for your walking tour.

Essential Items

- Day pack
- Warm hat & gloves
- Drink bottle or camel bak – 2 litre capacity
- Personal toiletries, shampoo, and any essential medications
- Sunscreen, sunglasses & sunhat
- Camera & charger

Clothing

- Hiking Boots (sturdy boots, preferably with ankle support, worn in please!)
- Waterproof rain coat with hood (we lend raincoats by prior arrangement)
- Socks (about 3 pairs, wool is best)
- Shorts or light weight trousers for walking
- Thermal leggings or long-johns to wear while walking (these are essential for walking in an alpine environment)
- Thermal long sleeved shirt (polypro or wool)
- Short-sleeved shirts (preferably polypropylene or wool: merino wool is ideal)
- Long-sleeved shirt or light sweater
- Warm wool or polar fleece jersey
- Smart/Casual clothes for the evenings
- PJ's / sleepwear

Optional Items, these are highly recommended but not essential

- Swimsuit & towel (river and hot-pool swimming opportunities may exist)
- Walking poles (highly recommended)
- Light running/walking shoes or sandals for easy walks
- Mobile phone
- Book, trip journal etc
- Water-proof over trousers
- Down or windproof jacket
- Blister kit
- Head torch or small hand held torch

We Supply

- Most meals, snacks, hot & cold drinks
- Linen & bath towels
- Toilet paper & soap

Please Ensure....

- Ensure you have plenty of warm clothing - be prepared for cold mountain weather.
- To prevent the spread of noxious weeds and plant diseases, please clean your boots and walking poles thoroughly before the hike.

We do not recommend you walk in cotton garments, jeans or silk. These fabrics take much longer to dry after perspiration or wet weather and you may feel damp and cold, even inside the best raincoat.

Plan around three layers of clothing, your inner or core layer which should be wool (merino) or polypropylene to trap warmth against the skin, a middle layer, and a top waterproof layer to protect from rain and wind.





The Bucket List Walk



FAQ's - frequently asked questions

How do we book a tour? The deposit is \$300 per person to confirm your place and can be paid with a credit card through our website at <https://www.tuataratours.co.nz/make-a-payment/> (we accept Visa or Mastercard with no card surcharges) or by internet banking or bank transfer (New Zealand bank account holders only) to Tuatara Tours NZ Ltd account: 01 0797 0308837 00. Please use your surname or tour booking number as a reference when making a payment so we can identify it as yours.

When is the balance due? Your final balance is due 90 days prior to departure. We will email you a reminder when this is due. You are welcome to pay in instalments as long as your tour is paid in full by the due date. Please email us each time you make a payment so we can confirm receipt.

What if I need to cancel? Please see our Terms and conditions for our cancellation policy: <https://www.tuataratours.co.nz/terms-conditions/>. We do recommend you purchase travel insurance to cover you in the case that something unexpected happens and you cannot proceed with your tour.

How big are the groups? Normally we take a maximum of 12 people on a tour but are happy to cater to larger groups on request if you are planning to get a group together.

Do I have to share a room? The tours are priced on a twin share basis (2 people to a room), please let us know at the time of booking if you prefer a queen room (one queen bed) or a twin room (2 separate beds). If you are a solo traveller we will room you with another single person of the same gender, or you may wish to pay an additional single supplement to reserve a private room to yourself.

Am I fit enough? As a general guideline we suggest the following activity level guide for our tours:

Walking Tours:

Easy/Mild: An average level of fitness, you should be comfortable walking 12km on well-formed tracks and roads with a small amount of incline.

Moderate: An above average level of fitness, you should be comfortable walking 20km, on formed tracks and roads with some average to steep inclines at times.

Challenging: An above average level of fitness, you should be comfortable walking 20+ km, on partially formed tracks and roads, some steep inclines, some easy river and creek crossings.

Cycle Tours:

Previous cycling experience is necessary to comfortably complete a multi-day cycle tour.

Easy/Mild: An average level of fitness, you should be comfortable biking 25km on well-formed tracks and roads with a small amount of incline.

Moderate: An above average level of fitness, you should be comfortable biking 45km on formed tracks and roads with some average to steep inclines at times.

Challenging: An above average level of fitness, you should be comfortable biking 50+km on partially formed tracks and roads, some off-road, some steep inclines, some easy river and creek crossings.

If you have any concerns about your fitness level, or ability to complete a tour, please call our office staff and we can discuss this further with you.

Can you pick me up for the tour? Yes, if your tour starts in Nelson, Christchurch, Queenstown or Rotorua pickups and drop offs are available at most central city hotels and motels. Pick-ups are not possible at Airbnb properties or in residential suburbs. Please check with our office before you book accommodation if you are not sure about the location of your stay. If your tour departs from Picton we ask you to make your own way to the meeting point on the wharf for the tour departure.





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FAQ's - frequently asked questions - continued

Can you pick me up for the tour?

Yes, if your tour starts in Nelson, Christchurch, Queenstown or Rotorua pickups and drop offs are available at most central city hotels and motels. Pick-ups are not possible at Airbnb properties or in residential suburbs. If your tour departs from Picton we ask you to make your own way to the meeting point on the wharf for the tour departure.

Do I have breakfast on the first day or is this included?

Your tour starts after we pick you up on the first day so please come having had breakfast. After this all meals on tour are included for you as per the trip inclusions in your itinerary.

What sort of food do you provide?

We provide continental breakfasts, either café or packed lunches, and an evening meal either in-house at your accommodation, or dining out at a local restaurant. We can cater for most dietary requests however these need to be advised at the time of booking.

Do you provide alcohol?

No but this can be purchased each evening with your meal, or you are welcome to bring a small amount for your own personal consumption. BYO is not available when dining at licensed premises.

Do I need to come ready to walk or cycle?

Yes, please come dressed ready to walk or cycle with your overnight bag packed ready for the transport. During the day you will not have access to your overnight bag so please make sure to have all the items you require for use during the day packed separately. For some of the tours there is a ride of up to several hours in the bus to get to your start location, if you are not comfortable travelling in full walk or cycle gear, please have this readily available to change into before the walk /ride starts.

Can I fly in/fly out the same day?

Ideally, we recommend you arrive the day prior to your tour and depart the morning after the tour finishes just in case there are any unexpected delays or cancellations to your flights.

Can I bring my own bike for the cycle tours?

Yes, please make sure it has been serviced and is fit for purpose for the trail you are undertaking. If you are not sure, please check with our office staff on booking.

What comes with the hire bikes?

Our hire E bikes, and standard bikes all come with a comfortable gel-tech saddle and a rack bag for carrying your jacket, phone, and a drink bottle. Helmets and hi-vis garments are issued with each bike, and as helmets are required by law in New Zealand, we ask riders to wear these at all times while riding. The support vehicle is never far away if you need access to other items of your clothing or equipment.

How much luggage can I bring on tour?

Space is limited so we would appreciate if you could please keep your luggage to one hand carry and one overnight bag or suitcase. On some of the tour's luggage is transported by boat for you and there are restrictions on the size and weight of bags that can be transported, please check your trip notes for details if you are on the Abel Tasman or Queen Charlotte tours. On some of the hiking tours you may be required to carry your own pack, this is specified in the packing list for your trip.

Are all your tours guided?

Our walking tours, with the exception of the Queen Charlotte Boat stay tour, are all guided by a knowledgeable local guide, they provide information on the terrain you are passing through as well as logistical support.

On a cycle tour you do not bike with a guide but there is a support vehicle and Tuatara staff with you throughout to help with any bike issues, first aid, trail instructions and to set up for meal breaks. On occasion they will bike part of the trail 'with you to highlight places of interest or point out directions. If anyone needs to take a break from the riding, you are welcome to make use of the vehicle at any stage.

If there is something we have not covered in these FAQ's please feel free to call **0800 377 378** or email our office team for further assistance.



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making an enquiry

Go to www.tuataratours.co.nz, click the make an enquiry button and submit your enquiry using the form provided.

We enjoy talking to people about their travel interests. So feel free to contact us directly if you'd rather not fill out a form.

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custom tours

We Can Customise Existing Tours - You may want to spend an extra day or you may want to add an element to your tour!

We Can Design A New Tour Just For You.

We have years of experience in creating custom-made tours for groups, so if you are planning a tour for your friends, family, club, corporate workplace.... contact us now.



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- latest trips
- travel advice
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TERMS & CONDITIONS

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

Contract

This contract is between Tuatara Tours and you the client being any person travelling or intending to travel on a tour supplied by Tuatara Tours as the operator. The contract, including all matters arising from it, is subject to New Zealand law and the exclusive jurisdiction of the New Zealand courts. Only Employees and Directors of Tuatara Tours have authority to vary or omit any of the terms.

Cancellation Policy due to travel restriction that is imposed by either the New Zealand government or any other government.

Should your trip be impacted by a travel restriction that is imposed by either the New Zealand government or any other government, we will either work with you to transfer your trip to a future date at no additional cost, or provide you with a full refund.

Price

The price is quoted in New Zealand dollars and includes GST of 15%. The price is based on prices at time of publishing and Tuatara Tours hereby reserves to modify without notice those prices in any way considered necessary or desirable.

Organised tour accommodations are based on a twin/double share accommodation. Individual travellers will be placed in rooms together with other individual travellers of the same sex. A single supplement is available on request.

Confirmation of Booking

Bookings are confirmed upon receipt of the full tour price which is payable 90 days prior to the commencement of the tour. Tuatara Tours or their agents reserve their right to decline any booking at their discretion.

Cancellation

If a client wishes to cancel a Tour the following charges will be applied: (Unless stated otherwise)

1. 91+ days prior to departure – no fee
2. 90-60 days prior to departure – NZD\$300.00 per person applies
3. 59-30 days prior to departure – 30% of total package cost applies
4. 29-0 days prior to departure – 100% of total package cost applies
5. After tour commencement – no refund available.

These cancellation fees are not negotiable, therefore we strongly recommend that you purchase travel insurance.

Travel Insurance

Tuatara Tours recommends that the client take out tour cancellation insurance together with all other necessary travel insurances. Obtaining all necessary insurances is the responsibility of you the client and Tuatara Tours can not held liable for any failure on your part to get insurance.

Medical conditions

When you book you must notify us of any medical condition, medical history or medication that you are on.

Changes to Tours

Tuatara Tours will use its best endeavours to ensure that all tours are operated as advertised. It may be that reasonable changes in the itinerary may need to be made where is deemed necessary or advisable by Tuatara Tours. Changes will be advised to the client as soon as is reasonably possible. Where a tour service needs to be changed, a substitute or similar quality or standard will be provided.

Weather

Adverse weather conditions may mean that planned activities cannot proceed as intended. A decision to change an advertised tour based on the weather conditions will be made by a tour guide at the time and is made in the best interest of the group and their safety. Tuatara Tours and or their contracted suppliers can not be held responsible to any changes as a result of the weather.

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 or two or more people then each participant in the group must be made aware of and accept these terms and conditions.





The Bucket List Walk



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.

Tongariro National Park is an active volcanic area, and eruptions from any of the volcanoes can happen at any time. Early warning systems and alarms are in place that indicate times of increased volcanic activity, however events can occur without any warning.

The staff and management of TuataraTours 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. You shall indemnify the Operator in relation to such costs.

NZ Walking Tours

The Akaroa Walk
The Queenstown Ben Lomond Walk
The Queen Charlotte Walk
The West Coast Trail
The Hump Ridge Track Walk
The Coromandel Explorer Walk
The Tongariro Crossing Walk
The Waikaremoana Discovery
Great Barrier Island Escape
The Abel Tasman Walk - 3 Days
The Abel Tasman Walk - 5 Days
The Abel Tasman Walk/Kayak - 3 Days
The Abel Tasman Walk/Kayak - 5 Days
Bucket List Walk

NZ Cycling Tours

Around The Mountains Cycle Trail
The Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail
The West Coast Wilderness Cycle Trail
The Queenstown Cycle Trail
The Otago Rail Trail
The Tasman Great Taste Trail and Golden Bay Explorer

Overseas Tours

Bhutan Tours
Japan Walking Tours
Australia Walking Tours

All of these tours and more available at
www.tuataratours.co.nz

