



# 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
- Depart Rotorua or Matamata

## tours run

November - April  
Starting in Rotorua or Matamata



## tour cost:

2025 / 2026  
NZD\$5850

Please note this itinerary may be modified. We like to keep the trip flexible to make the most of weather conditions, & tailor the trip to suit the group. To maximise your experience and minimise drive times we may shuttle the vehicle, so some sections of trail may be walked without a guide. We'll ensure you are well-prepared for this.

## options & supplements

Single Supplement:

NZD\$900

**This tour is operated by another operator.**



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### the tour

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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 dramatic coastlines of Coromandel. Soak up the scenery, and delight in the company, accommodation, meals and wine.



### 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

We'll collect you from your central Rotorua accommodation at around 8:30am or from your central Matamata accommodation around 9:30am.

First, we warm up with a 4km hike to the top of Wairere Falls, along an old Maori pack trail leading to the North Island's highest waterfall, where we can view the verdant Waikato basin from two lookouts over-hanging 153 metres of thunderous waterfall. Enjoy a good stretch of the legs through Nikau and kohekohe forest.

As we continue north, we'll pass over the Hauraki Plains before we reach Thames, the gold-mining gateway to the Peninsula. Sit back and enjoy views out over the mussel farms of the Hauraki Gulf from one of New Zealand's classic coastal drives, the Coromandel west coast. We arrive in Coromandel Town, a charming seaside settlement rich in pioneering history and a bustling wee village in the summer months. If time allows, we'll call in at Long Bay Scenic Reserve - this little-known trail circuits a grove of magnificent 330 year old Kauri trees – New Zealand's very own forest giants that grow up to 50 metres tall. At last we reach our lovely accommodation where we can watch the sunset from the verandah, graze over a platter of fresh fruits and cheese with a glass of wine or ice-cold brew before dinner.

*Accommodation: Hush Boutique Accommodation*

*Meals included: Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 3 - 4 hours or 5 kms (3 miles)*

*Driving time: 3 hours with breaks*

### Day 2 The Legendary Coromandel Coastal Walkway - 12kms

Start the day well with a hearty breakfast in the alfresco dining area of the lodge, surrounded by native manuka bush, Pohutukawa trees and abundant birdsong.

Today we head north to the tip of the Coromandel Peninsula to hike one of the best coastal walks in the country. This historic trail follows an old bridle path once used by gold miners who populated the Coromandel region in colonial times. Thanks to the joint efforts of DoC and Moehau Environmental Group, we are right in the heart of the largest predator-controlled Kiwi habitat in New Zealand with 30,000 hectares of stoat trapping, which has brought the number of kiwi back to pre-European levels! Keep an eye out for both the North Island Robin/toutouwai, a colony was translocated here in 2009 after 100 years of absence; and the Brown Teal/pāteke, another translocated colony which has gone on to be the worlds' most prolific recovery ever recorded for an endangered waterfowl species!

We begin our hike at Fletcher Bay, a picture-perfect isolated beach, flanked by green hills and white sand. The track hugs the coast line and gives us amazing views out over the Pacific Ocean towards Aotea/Great Barrier Island and Mt. Moehau so have your camera ready! The track is easy-going, with a short, steepish section heading down into and out of Poley Bay – a fantastic beach for a picnic! This stretch of coastline offers all the dramatic views that make coastal hiking such a wonderful experience.

*Accommodation: Hush Boutique Accommodation*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 6 - 7 hours or 12 kms (8 miles) Elevation gain: 177 metres*

*Driving time: 3 hours with breaks*

### Day 3 The 'Pinnacles' / Kauaeranga Kauri Trail - 16kms

This morning we head south and enter the hidden world of the Kauaeranga Valley, home to the majestic Pinnacles range. The entire length of the Coromandel Peninsula was once a chain of volcanic cones. This chain has since been eroded and weathered to form the spectacular series of outcrops you see today. The Pinnacles trail is a challenging walk, it climbs through re-generating kauri forest, passing one of NZ's best-preserved kauri dams, eventually cresting the top of the



# The Bucket List Walk



## itinerary continued

range to reach the Pinnacles Hut. From the hut a heart-pumping 30-minute walk, via a series of timber staircases and a network of steel rungs embedded in the rock face, leads us to the top of the Pinnacles rock formation rewarding you with 360° views of the entire Coromandel Peninsula and beyond.

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, colourful cafes, and Kiwi culture.

Tonight, we dine in an award-winning local restaurant, where we'll have a chance to sample some of the region's best local food and wine.

*Accommodation: Hush Boutique Accommodation*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 6 - 7 hours or 16 kms (10 miles) Elevation gain: 680 metres*

*Driving time: 3 hours*

## Day 4 Epic East Coast! - 5kms

This morning, we'll pack up our kit, farewell our lodge hosts and head east to one of the top twenty beaches in the world, New Chums Beach. An unforgettable white sand, crescent moon-shaped beach, fringed by pohutukawa and nikau palms. Finding a secluded beach with no signs of man is an experience not to be missed! (Please note that this walk is dependent on tides)

After a restorative café pitstop nearby, we'll carry on around for a refreshing lunch looking out over Buffalo Beach in sunny, vibrant Whitianga. Continuing around the East Coast we'll visit the 309 Kauri walk, a 30-minute stroll to a beautiful grove of majestic kauri trees.

We'll have you safely back to our tour hotel in central Rotorua. Your evening meal tonight is outside your tour package, so enjoy maximum flexibility to go wherever your tastebuds take you. Perhaps try one of the many delicious dinner options nearby in Rotorua's dining precinct, EAT Street. Enjoy a restful night in the excellent care of our Rotorua Hotel partners

*Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch (Dinner by own arrangements)*

*Accommodation: Rotorua Hotel*

*Hiking time: 3 - 4 hours or 5 kms (3 miles)*

*Elevation gain: 255 metres*

*Driving time: 4 hours.*

## Day 5 Rotorua to Whirinaki Forest Park / Te-Pua-a-Tāne - 8 to 10kms

We'll pick you up from your Rotorua accommodation between 8:30 am and 9:00am. As we head east, we'll follow ancient Māori trails into the remote and breathtaking Whirinaki Forest, home to one of the last remaining giant podocarp forests in the world.

Step into a primeval world as we hike through this untouched wilderness, where only 5% of this ancient forest type remains globally. Towering native trees—including giant tōtara, kahikatea, and mataī—create a stunning canopy, while the forest floor is alive with rich biodiversity. This is not only a place of immense natural beauty but also the site of New







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Zealand's first environmental protest, supported by well-known conservationists.

Keep an eye out for the elusive kākā (large forest parrot) and the rare whio (blue duck), both of which thrive in Whirinaki's pristine ecosystem. The hike passes close to the moss-lined Te Whaiti-Nui-a-Toi canyon, one of New Zealand's best-kept secrets and a truly breathtaking sight.

After immersing ourselves in this extraordinary landscape, we'll journey back to Rotorua, where you'll be seen safely back to our Rotorua accommodation. We will finish the day with a restorative two-course meal at one of our favourite local spots.

*Accommodation: Rotorua accommodation*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 4 hours or 8 - 10 kms (5 - 6 miles)*

*Driving time: 3 hours, with breaks*

### Day 6 Tarawera Falls: A Journey Through Ancient Forests & Cascading Waters - 8kms

This morning, we set off on an unforgettable adventure to Tarawera Falls, a hidden gem deep within lush native forest. Our journey follows the Tarawera River, where crystal-clear waters weave through the landscape before mysteriously disappearing underground, only to re-emerge spectacularly through the falls.

The trail winds beneath towering rimu, kahikatea, and tawa trees. The calls of tūi and bellbirds echo through the canopy, while the rare whio (blue duck) may be spotted in the river's untouched waters.

Then, as we round a final bend, Tarawera Falls reveals itself in all its power. Unlike any other waterfall in New Zealand, it surges through narrow fissures in a fractured rhyolite lava cliff, tumbling 35 meters down sheer rock faces. The sight of water bursting from stone is breathtaking, a reminder of the volcanic forces that shaped this land.

Back at our Rotorua accommodation, you can relax in your ensuite room and unwind before gathering for pre-dinner drinks and a delicious two-course meal at another popular local spot.

*Accommodation: Rotorua Accommodation*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 3 hours or 7 - 8 kms (4 miles)*

*Driving time: 2 hours, with breaks*

### Day 7 Pureora Forest Park & Rainbow Mountain / Maunga Kakaramea - 10kms

Today we will be heading south-west alongside the Waikato River and into the heart of the North Island's mighty King Country.

Next, we step into the ancient embrace of Pureora Forest Park, a globally significant environmental area and a habitat for rare native bats. Walking part of the Timber Trail cycleway, we'll experience a forest that has remained untouched for over 2,000 years. Towering tōtara trees dominate the canopy, hosting fragile ecosystems and providing a home for kōkako, kākāriki (green forest parrot), and kākā (brown forest parrot). Immersed in this primordial landscape, we'll reflect on what New Zealand's forests were like before human settlement.



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If time allows, we'll tackle the stunning Rainbow Mountain, where steaming vents, crystalline crater lakes and mineral-streaked cliffs, and regenerating native forest create an otherworldly landscape. From the summit, we'll be rewarded with panoramic views stretching across to Mt Tarawera, the Rotorua lakes, and the distant peaks of Tongariro National Park.

As the day comes to a close, we'll head back to our accommodation to unwind and enjoy another delicious two-course meal, paired with a refreshing drink to toast the day's adventures.

*Accommodation: Rotorua accommodation*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 4 hours or 10 kms (6 miles) Elevation gain: 450 metres*

*Driving time: 2 hours*

## Day 8 Eastern Shores; forest giants, bird-watching and Hinemoa's Steps - 14kms

We'll pick you up from our Rotorua accommodation between 8:30am - 9:00, before heading to the heart of eastern Rotorua's natural wonders. Our first stop is the tranquil Blue Lake, where we'll take a scenic loop around its calm waters, surrounded by lush forest and mountain views. From here, we'll make our way to Lake Okareka, a breeding ground for rare dabchicks, where you'll be immersed in the peaceful atmosphere of this beautiful lake as we enjoy a short walk along its shores.

Next, we head to Tutea Falls, where the powerful waters of the Kaituna River cascade over rocky cliffs in a dramatic display. This iconic waterfall is one of the most impressive in Rotorua, and the highest commercially rafted waterfall in the world. We'll take the time to explore the rock-hewn Hinemoa's Steps that lead us down to the eerie Tutea Caves. Finally, we'll venture into the towering ancient forests of the Redwoods where giant trees, ranging from 117 to 2,000 years old, stand as silent guardians of the forest creating a truly magical environment.

After exploring these stunning landscapes, we'll return you safely to our Rotorua accommodation between 5.00pm and 6.00pm. Dinner this evening is outside your tour package, our guide will be happy to recommend great local eateries to try.

Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch (Dinner by own arrangements)

Accommodation: Rotorua Hotel

Hiking time: 5 hours or 14 kms (9 miles)

Driving time: 1 hour

## Day 9 Rotorua to Tongariro National Park - 6kms

We'll pick you up from our central Rotorua hotel between 8.30am and 9.00am, 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'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.





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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, National Park Village*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 2 hours or 6 kms (4 miles)*

*Driving time: 2.5 hours*

### Day 10 The Tongariro Alpine Crossing - 20.2kms

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, National Park Village*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 6 - 8 hours or 20.2 kms (12 miles)*

*Driving Time: 1 hour*

*Elevation gain: 900m*

### Day 11 The Old Coach Road, Ohakune - 15kms

Today we 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, and is steeped in interesting pioneering stories from the early days of New Zealand industry.

Heritage features on the trail include a unique cobbled stone road, massive steel viaducts, a curved tunnel, railway bridge remnants and old, workers campsites. The 15km walk takes around 5 hours and passes through some beautiful stands of native forest with sweeping views across the Ohakune district, known for its' fertile soils and market gardens.

In consultation with the group, and if conditions allow, we can squeeze in some extra trails near by or head up Bruce Road to explore the dramatic, rock-strewn landscapes higher up on Mt Ruapehu. At 2797 metres above sea level, the North Island's highest mountain offers jaw-dropping views over the National Park with various hiking options.



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Tonight we enjoy a final celebration dinner, glasses raised, to cap off an excellent walking adventure.

*Accommodation: The Park Hotel, National Park Village*

*Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

*Hiking time: 5 hours or 15 kms (9.5 miles)*

*Driving time: 1 – 1.5 hours*

### Day 12 Rain Forest and Waterfalls - 7kms

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.

*Meals included: Breakfast & Lunch*

*Hiking time: 3 -4 hours or 7 kms (4.5 miles)*

*Driving time: 2.5 hours*

### What else do you need to know?

- Each of the 3 legs of the 12-day Bucket List Walk may have a different group of walkers, you'll be joined by adventure buddies who are just completing perhaps 4 or 8 days of the walk. Our guides are area-specialists, so you'll have different guides for each of the 3 legs as well.
- There are drying rooms available in some areas but plenty of wide, covered verandahs for drying wet gear in each location.
- Specialty diets; we can cater for a wide range of food allergies and specialty diets with sufficient advance notice. Please let us know at the time of booking if you have specific dietary needs and we'll make sure you're well taken care of!
- Accommodation is based on a twin-share arrangement; if you'd rather have a private room, a single supplement fee of \$900 NZD applies, this covers all 11 nights.
- Your cabins have power outlets next to all beds so CPAP machines are easily accommodated
- Sorry, the use of drones is not permitted
- You are welcome to bring your own alcohol if you wish; we ask that you drink responsibly
- Non-walkers are more than welcome to join us! There are plenty of activities to be done that don't involve walking, please enquire with our friendly reservations team for more information



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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.





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### Fitness

The walking trails on the 12-day Bucket List Walk are of easy to moderate difficulty and range from well-formed paths to tracks broken with tree roots, rocks and mud. Your guides will choose the best walks to suit the weather conditions and the group's interests and abilities. Walking times can vary between 2 to 10 hours per day. You will only need to carry a daypack with your lunch, water, raincoat and warm clothing, the rest of your luggage can remain at the lodge while we're out for the day. We like to take our time on the trails, no one will be chasing you up the hill. For any walkers who like to go fast, you'll be able to go ahead of the group and meet up with us further on. For any leisurely walkers, you're welcome to take your time and we'll always have a tail-guide at the back for safety.

### Training Tips

Being well prepared for this hike will increase your enjoyment of the experience. Your pre-trip training should consist of several walks per week of 1-2 hours, with at least 1 longer walk per week (3-6 hours). Make sure you include some hilly terrain or stairs and carry a daypack.

Comfortable gear means you'll be able to focus on enjoying yourself. Train in the clothing and footwear you intend to wear during the trip and choose a variety of weather conditions in which to test your gear.

### Complimentary Hiking Gear Hireage

We have hiking equipment available for your use at no extra cost. We have good quality raincoats in small, medium, large, extra large and double extra large sizing. These are long in the body, with long sleeves and a hood. Our day packs are 40 litre, soft frame hiking back packs, and our pairs of walking poles are light, carbon fibre with cushioned hand grips and wrist straps. If you'd like to borrow any gear, please let us know before departure and we'll have it ready for you on Day One. You can either send us an email to ask, or just pop in your request into your pre-departure form.

### Specialty Diets

We are happy to accommodate guests with specialty diets, we appreciate as much advance notice as possible. If we don't receive adequate advanced notice, we may not be able to fully cater for dietary needs as we operate in an extremely isolated environment and it is not always possible to access specialty foods. Please ensure you advise us as early as possible if you have dietary requirements.

### First Aid and Medical Support

All of our guides are trained in First Aid and carry comprehensive first aid kits in their packs. Any personal medications must be carried on your person and declared within your pre-departure information form. In the event of an emergency they will take steps to stabilise injured parties and get them to the nearest medical facility quickly. We look forward to hosting you on a memorable, safe outdoor experience.

### Getting Here Is Easy

The 12-day Bucket List Walk departs from and returns to Rotorua.

Rotorua Domestic Airport is easily reached from all major cities. We can collect you either from the airport, or from your central Rotorua accommodation. We can also collect you from Matamata. There are a few options for parking vehicles in Rotorua while we're out on the trails, please enquire with our friendly reservations team for the best option to suit you.



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Email: [info@tuataratours.co.nz](mailto:info@tuataratours.co.nz), Web: [www.tuataratours.co.nz](http://www.tuataratours.co.nz)





# 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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# The Bucket List Walk



## 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.





# The Bucket List Walk



## Walking Holiday of a Lifetime!

12 Days, 11 Nights

Moderate to Challenging Grade

### making an enquiry

Go to [www.tuataratours.co.nz](http://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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- World: +64 3 962 3280
- Email: [info@tuataratours.co.nz](mailto:info@tuataratours.co.nz)
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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.



### subscribe to our newsletter

Our newsletter will be emailed to you monthly on the first working day of every month.

- latest trips
- travel advice
- events & attractions
- and more!

Go to [www.tuataratours.co.nz](http://www.tuataratours.co.nz) and go to the newsletter sign up in the footer of any page.



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# The Bucket List Walk



## 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)

Non refundable deposit

Outside 60 days, date changes are possible but deposits are non-refundable

31-60 days, 30% cancellation fee

Within 30 days 100% cancellation fee

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 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  
The Best of the West Cycle Tour

## Overseas Tours

Bhutan Tours  
Japan Walking Tours

All of these tours and more available at  
[www.tuataratours.co.nz](http://www.tuataratours.co.nz)

