

TARANAKI DISCOVERER

HOME – NEW PLYMOUTH – STRATFORD –
WHANGAMOMONA – WHANGANUI - HOME

6th September 2023

5 Day Fully Hosted Tour

Pickups from Manawatu, Horowhenua, Kapiti and Wellington



TARANAKI DISCOVERER

6th to 10th September 2023

WED 06 Home – New Plymouth

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Departing Kapiti Coast, we travel along the west coast of the North Island before passing through Whanganui. Here we continue our journey north as we reach the start of the **Surf Highway 45**, passing through the “Bread Capital” Mania, before we stop at Opunake and allow time for a lunch stop (own cost).

The surf coast that gives the highway its name leads to dozens of surf breaks including the ‘Kumera Patch’, ‘Stent Road’ and ‘Rocky Rights’. We will stop for a stretch and sea air at the small coastal town of Oakura with its eclectic mix of stress-free baches, million-dollar beach houses and a wide black-sand beach before reaching New Plymouth. Tonight, we dine together in the centrally located hotel.



THU 07 New Plymouth

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This morning we take a drive out to one of New Plymouths most striking landmarks, **Te Rewa Rewa Bridge** is reminiscent of a breaking wave or a whale skeleton and on a clear day, the arches of the bridge frame Mount Taranaki spectacularly in the distance. For those who would like to stretch their legs this morning, take a walk back to **The Wind Wand**, along part of the Coastal Walkway which is a 4.5-km walk (approximately 55-minutes). This expansive sea-edge promenade boasts dramatic views at each turn.

Time at leisure in the city centre has been allowed for. Whilst here you many want to visit the Len Lye Centre or Puke Ariki (own cost). If you are wanting to visit Puke Ariki, the highlights include the interactive boat experience of Reef Life! a walk-in replica pioneering hut from the early 1900s, and a captivating 12-minute multi-media theatre show that celebrates all things Taranaki. *Admission is free, although there may be a charge for special exhibitions.*

Later this afternoon we visit **Pukekura Park**, often described as the jewel in New Plymouth’s crown. We stop here for a **guided walk and buggy tour** through the gardens which feature the iconic red Poet’s Bridge, Fountain Lake, the Waterfall and Band Rotunda. After our guided tour we **visit the Tea House on the Lake** for a light Devonshire afternoon tea. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant.



Meals included.

ⓑ Breakfast

Ⓛ Lunch

ⓓ Dinner

Trip Highlights

- TE REWA REWA BRIDGE
- LEN LYE WIND WAND
- PUKEKURA PARK "A GARDEN OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE"
- TAWHITI MUSEUM
- GLOCKENSPIEL OF STRATFORD
- TRAVEL THE FORGOTTEN WORLD HIGHWAY TO THE REPUBLIC OF WHANGAMOMONA
- LUNCH AT WHANGAMOMONA HOTEL
- TARANAKI PIONEER VILLAGE
- GOVETT-BREWSTER & LEN LYE CENTRE
- THE SURF HIGHWAY
- WAVERLEY GLASS STUDIOS
- PALOMA GARDENS

New Plymouth – Stratford –

FRI 08 Whangamomona – New Plymouth (B)(L)(D)

Today we head out of town to some of the smaller communities of the region. Our first stop is at the closest main centre to **Egmont National Park**, Stratford. This is the gateway to Mount Taranaki, Dawson Falls, and the Forgotten World Highway. It is a vibrant farming community with a focus on dairy farming. We'll see the **Stratford Glockenspiel** which plays a delightfully romantic scene from Shakespeare's 'Romeo & Juliet'. Interestingly all streets in Stratford are named after Shakespearean plays and characters!

After our short visit to Stratford, we continue our travels through the small settlements of Toko, Douglas and Te Wera before arriving at famously known "**Republic of Whangamomona**". Upon arrival in Whangamomona, take time to stroll around the wee township, before heading to the charismatic pub, where we enjoy lunch together.

Heading back to Stratford, no journey is complete without a visit to **Taranaki Pioneer Village**. Here we take a nostalgic stroll through yesteryear as we go through their outdoor museum which presents the life of Taranaki pioneers in the 19th and 20th centuries. The village features 40 authentic historic structures dating back to 1853 and many exhibits and museum artifacts are in working condition.

After our visit here we head back to New Plymouth and dine at our hotel restaurant.

Taranaki Discoverer

Discover the attraction of New Zealand's Taranaki Region during this spectacular 5-day hosted tour, embarking on a journey around the symmetrical volcanic cone of Mt Egmont/Taranaki to the rugged and wild coastline of New Plymouth.

From the beauty of Pukekura Park, to the coastal walkway, we see Te Rewa Rewa Bridge and the Wind Wand, conceived by the pioneering kinetic artist, Len Lye, along with the Govett Brewster & Len Lye Centre. From museums to art and history to nature and modern culture and not forgetting the Forgotten World Highway and quirky Whangamomona, we cover it all on our fascinating discoverer tour.

Leaving this beautiful region behind we head to Whanganui for our final night followed by a relaxing morning at the Paloma Gardens the next day before we head home.

SAT 09 New Plymouth - Whanganui (B)(D)

This morning we say goodbye to New Plymouth as we travel to Hawera where we visit an impressive visual history of South Taranaki at the **Tawhiti Museum** is a truly unique enterprise.

The creation of artist Nigel Ogle, its attention to detail is simply stunning. Widely acclaimed as the best private museum in the country, the museum uses life size exhibits and scale models to present our heritage in a series of super realistic and engaging displays. All these displays are designed and built on the premises in the 'Body Shop' and accompanying studios, which can be viewed as part of a museum visit.

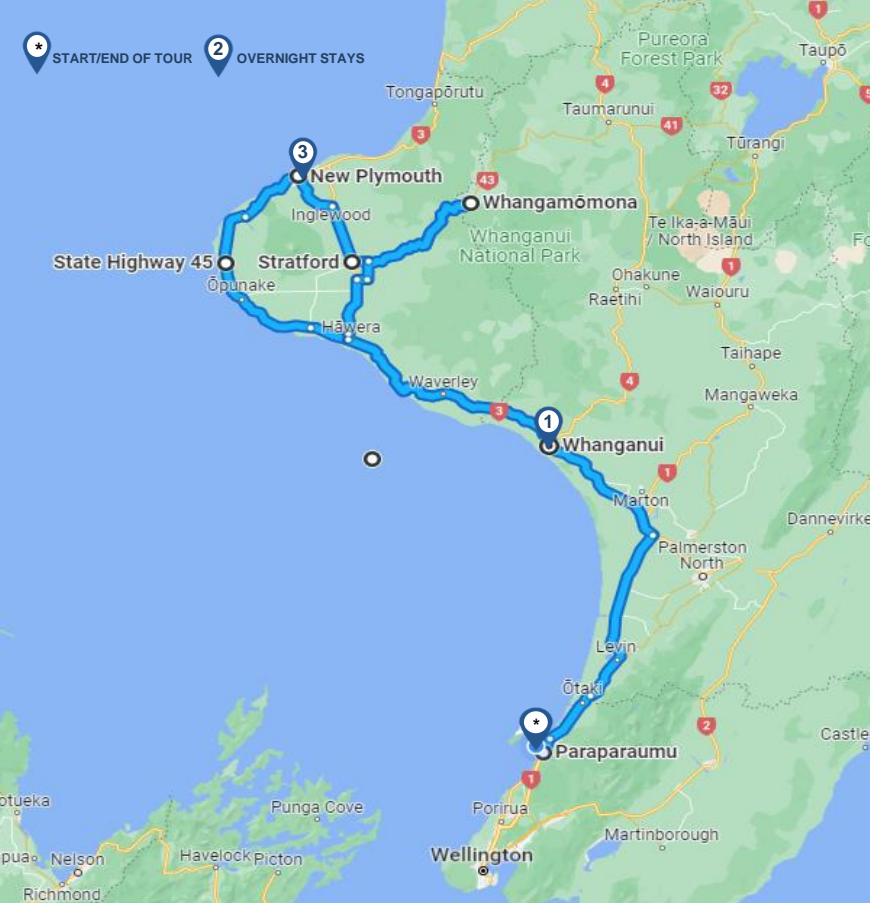
SUN 10 Whanganui – Home (B)

Our morning starts with a delicious breakfast at a local café, before we visit the exotic **Paloma Gardens**, which has four distinct areas with plants from the "jungles of Asia to the deserts of Africa and the Americas".

The first contains foliage, bamboos, palms, aloccasias, ferns and cycads. The second has many species of cyads as well as Pachypodiums (related to frangipani) with different species flowering most of the year. The third area is on the north-facing hillside and features succulents, cacti, palm forest and a giant African Lobelia tree. Finally, there is the Paloma Arboretum, with extensive tree plantings. Paloma is classified as a Garden of National Significance.

After our visit, we depart Whanganui, crossing the Manawatu Plains, travelling south towards Kapiti. We hope you leave with many happy memories of your tour.





TARANAKI DISCOVERER 5 Day Tour Includes

Fully hosted by a YOURTours Host

Quality Accommodation & Coach

Sightseeing and Entrance Fees as indicated
on itinerary

Meals as per itinerary

Departs 6th September 2023

Price \$2,995 pp twin share

Single Price \$3,455 pp

You are invited to join us on one of our fully hosted small group tours, with a maximum of 18 guests.

We are based on the beautiful Kapiti Coast with our guests joining us from all corners of New Zealand. We believe you'll be pleasantly surprised by just how much we include in our tour price.


You can be reassured that your Tour Host will always be one of our friendly well-experienced YOURTravel Team Members, ensuring you are looked after from start to finish.

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