

NORTH ISLAND

The North Island is home to vibrant cities, rolling hills, native forests and rich Maori influences to create a fascinating tapestry of landscape and culture. From the beaches and history of the Bay of Islands to the mudpools, geysers and rich Maori heritage of Rotorua; from the deserted beaches and Kauri forests of the Coromandel Peninsula to the world class wines of Hawke's Bay, accessed by the very different cities of Wellington and Auckland, you can't fail to be impressed with this rich and varied island.

TOP EXPERIENCES

Cruise along Auckland Harbour to Waiheke Island and discover its laid back approach to life.

Immerse yourself in a natural spa bath on Hot Water Beach and discover amazing secluded beaches on the Coromandel Peninsula.

Explore geothermal mud pools, geysers and volcanic crater lakes in Rotorua.

FACT FILE

Climate: The North Island enjoys a subtropical climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. Summer is from December to February and Winter is from June to August.

GMT: + 12 hours (Mar - Oct)
+ 13 hours (Oct - Mar)



AUCKLAND

Auckland is the kind of city where most of the population live within half an hour of beautiful beaches, hiking trails and holiday islands. Known as the 'City of Sails' for its love of the water, there's much more than the city centre, visit Waiheke Island for its excellent wineries and beaches or the Waitekere Ranges for its wilderness forests.

Wilderness Experience: Bush and Beach

Explore both the city and the countryside surrounding Auckland in just one day. Spend the morning visiting Auckland's most spectacular sights, before crossing the Harbour Bridge to Auckland's North Shore.

In the afternoon continue to the Waitakere Ranges, just 30km from downtown Auckland. At the Arataki Centre admire the magnificent Maori carvings, before exploring the rugged west coast, home to giant tree ferns and native birds.

FROM £71 PER ADULT

Day Tour



Day Tour

Bay of Islands Day Tour

Travel across Auckland Harbour Bridge via the Hibiscus Coast to beautiful uncrowded beaches and native forests

Including a cruise to Cape Brett to sail through the famous 'Hole in the Rock' natural stone archway. Ask your Travel Designer for prices to upgrade to swim with the dolphins.

FROM £144 PER ADULT

Wine on Waiheke

Head out of the city and cruise over to Waiheke Island where you will enjoy premium wine tastings.

Travel to Ridgeview Estate with breathtaking views across the harbour to Auckland city, before tasting at Te Whau vineyard with outstanding architecture. You may choose to extend your stay and take advantage of the complimentary all day bus pass, allowing you to discover the island further.

FROM £62 PER ADULT

Day Tour

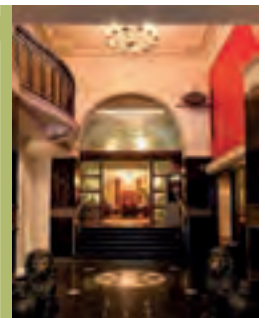


Mercure Auckland Windsor ★★☆☆☆

In the heart on central Queen Street, offering exceptional value just a short walk from Viaduct Harbour and ferry terminals.

FREE NIGHTS - Selected dates

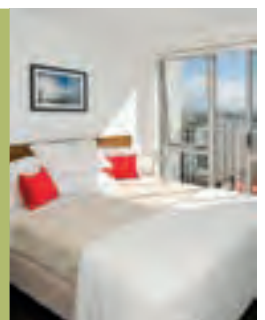
FROM £25 PER ADULT



Chifley Suites ★★☆☆☆

Only 100 metres from the shops of Queen St, perfectly positioned to take advantage of the hustle and bustle of the central city while providing a peaceful retreat.

FROM £38 PER ADULT



SKYCITY ★★★★★

Enjoy all the luxury and comfort of a first-class hotel with spacious rooms and all the facilities you'd expect of an international hotel.

FREE NIGHTS - Selected dates

FROM £50 PER ADULT



Pullman Auckland ★★★★★

A few minutes walk from the city centre close to bars and restaurants, all rooms are modern and offer city or harbour views.

FREE NIGHTS - Selected dates

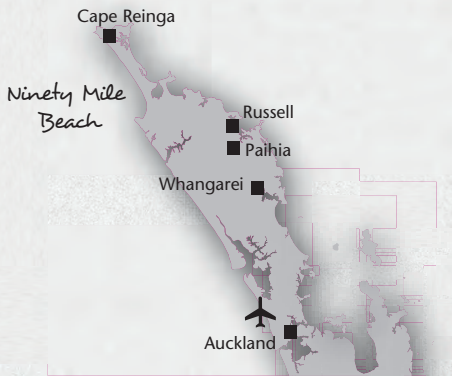
FROM £47 PER ADULT



ALL PRICES ARE A GUIDE. PRICES AND SUPPLEMENTS CAN INCREASE OR DECREASE. Prices in £ per person per night based on 2 adults sharing a room or per person for day tours where shown. Prices shown are a starting price and will vary according to departure date and time of booking. Package prices do not include international flights unless stated. Accommodation prices will be dependant on date of occupancy and not date of departure. Hotel and peak supplements may apply. Important: See the back of the brochure for terms and conditions - a full version can be found on our website and must be read prior to booking.

BAY OF ISLANDS

To the north of Auckland lies the Bay of Islands - an aquatic playground for adventure activities. With over 140 beautiful islands and countless bays and coves, much of its extensive coastline remains untouched. Waitangi is the seat of Maori culture where New Zealand's founding document was signed. Head over to the west, stand in awe at the majestic Kauri trees and rugged coastline.



Day Tour

Copthorne Hotel & Resort ★★★★★

This waterfront hotel is situated in the Waitangi National Trust Reserve and shares sixty acres of sub-tropical parkland with the historic Waitangi Treaty House.

FREE UPGRADE - Selected dates

FROM £33 PER ADULT



Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands ★★★★★

A short stroll from the main wharf at Paihia, this resort-style retreat is the ideal base from which to explore the area.

FROM £38 PER ADULT



Cape Reinga and 90 Mile Beach

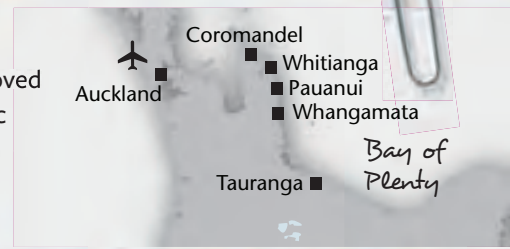
Wander the boardwalks through the Puketi Kauri Forest, head to the magnificent Ninety Mile Beach, and explore the famous lighthouse. With the opportunity to sledge or board down the dunes, take a dip in the ocean, or dig for shellfish, you'll soon build up an appetite in time for an exclusive BBQ lunch overlooking the stunning Houhora Harbour.

FROM £68 PER ADULT



COROMANDEL PENINSULA

The Coromandel Peninsula is one of New Zealand's best-loved holiday destinations and is a mixture of rainforest, volcanic hills and beaches, whilst further down the coast the Bay of Plenty is home to beautiful harbours, excellent surf and an easy going lifestyle.



Marina Park Apartments ★★★★★

All 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments are of a modern design and are perfect for a luxury stay in the Coromandel region.

FREE NIGHTS - Selected dates

FROM £57 PER ADULT



Pauanui Pines Motor Lodge ★★★★★

Within easy walking distance of the beach, and spread amongst trees, gardens and open spaces, this is a lovely destination to relax and unwind.

FROM £45 PER ADULT



Grand Mercure Puka Park ★★★★★

Guests are accommodated in elegant and luxurious chalets, each with private balcony. Superb dining and a spectacular beach all add up to a very special experience.

FREE NIGHTS - Selected dates

FROM £67 PER ADULT



Day Tour

Glass Bottom Boat Whitianga

Explore the breathtaking volcanic coastline of the Coromandel and watch the amazing marine life up close as your skipper takes you on an adventure through the Marine Reserve. Including a fun commentary enriched with local history and culture, spot dolphins, seals and penguins – with equipment provided if you fancy snorkelling!

FROM £50 PER ADULT

Kiwi Dundee - Nature & Coast Full Day Walk

Highlights of your day will be a leisurely walk through beautiful regenerating Kauri forest.

Full of fern trees, glowworms in an old gold cave, a visit to Hotwater beach (tide permitting) or depending on fitness a walk down in to the famous Cathedral Cove.

FROM £130 PER ADULT



Day Tour

ROTORUA

Rotorua is the heartland of New Zealand's Maori Culture and is an astonishing land of spouting geysers, bubbling mud pools and steam vents. With a backdrop of volcanic mountains and crater lakes, there is so much to see and do. Take part in a traditional Maori Hangi and dance, or enjoy a soothing mud bath.



Day Tour

Tamaki Tours Hangi & Concert

Enjoy a night of truly authentic, traditional Maori culture and entertainment, where you'll be introduced to a world of ancient Maori and proud warriors. Journey back in time through the Maori village of 'Te Tawa Ngahere Pa' and experience pre-European lifestyle and customs with tribal songs, dances and activities. As the night unfolds share a Hangi feast, cooked the traditional way on hot stones in an earthen oven.

FROM £54 PER ADULT



Day Tour

Floatplane to Mt Tarawera Volcano

From Lake Rotorua take to the skies in a floatplane and see the area from a different perspective.

Head towards the Crater Lakes district, and wonder at Mount Tarawera, where a massive volcanic eruption changed the landscape in 1886. Continue south past the steaming cliffs and hot lakes of the Waimangu Volcanic Valley, before returning to Rotorua over the Blue and Green Lakes and the geysers of Whakarewarewa.

FROM £113 PER ADULT

Rydges Rotorua

★★★★☆

Located on the edge of Rotorua's Arawa Racecourse, the hotel offers spacious accommodation and a wide range of facilities.

FREE BREAKFAST - Selected dates

FROM £38 PER ADULT



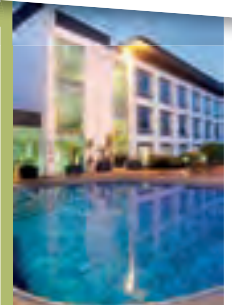
Holiday Inn Rotorua

★★★★☆

In walking distance of the Whakarewarewa Thermal area and Te Puia. Accommodation is founded on luxury and comfort, with a heated outdoor pool and spa.

HONEYMOON OFFER - Selected dates

FROM £40 PER ADULT



Millennium Hotel Rotorua

★★★★☆

Ideally situated to enjoy the many activities in this region including the Polynesian Spa. This impressive deluxe lakeside hotel offers well-appointed rooms and comfortable accommodation.

FREE UPGRADE - Selected dates

FROM £41 PER ADULT



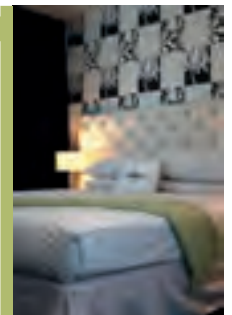
Regents of Rotorua

★★★★☆

Close to the lakefront in the heart of town, this designer boutique hotel offers stylish and luxury accommodation.

FREE NIGHTS - Selected dates

FROM £50 PER ADULT



TAUPO AND TONGARIRO

Located in the centre of the North Island, Lake Taupo is the hub of many diverse activities, from trout fishing to sky diving and geothermal hikes to kayak expeditions where ancient rock carvings can be seen. World Heritage-listed Tongariro National Park is home to three volcanoes and has one of the finest day walks in the world.



Beechtree Motel, Taupo ★★★★★

Situated within the heart of Taupo, with a choice of studio, one and two bedroom apartments, this is the perfect choice for a family stay.

FROM £42 PER ADULT



Millennium Hotel ★★★★★

Located on the shores of Lake Taupo, offering views of the lake and mountains. The lakefront rooms are tastefully decorated in French provincial style.

FROM £50 PER ADULT



Hilton Lake Taupo ★★★★★

With sweeping views out over the lake, the original hotel dates back to 1889; Heritage Wing rooms feature private balconies, or upgrade to a spacious apartment.

FROM £50 PER ADULT



Chateau Tongariro Hotel ★★★★★

Situated at the foot of Mount Ruapehu, retaining many original features dating back to 1929, this is a perfect retreat following a day in the Tongariro National Park.

FROM £47 PER ADULT



Lake Taupo

Tongariro Crossing Day Walk

The Tongariro Crossing is renowned as one of the world's finest day walks and, although steep in places, it is well worth the effort.

The trail leads you past volcanic craters, lava flows, thermal vents and colourful lakes, offering unsurpassable views over central North Island.

FROM £111 PER ADULT

Day Tour



Huka Falls Jet Boat & Heli Flight

Perfect for thrillseekers – combine the exhilaration of a jetboat ride with a breathtaking flight over stunning countryside.

Hold on tight and get ready for a 360 degree spin! Your ride takes you along a beautiful river environment, to the very base of the Huka Falls, before boarding a helicopter for a 10 minute flight over spectacular scenery.

FROM £183 PER ADULT

Day Tour



NAPIER & HAWKE'S BAY

Napier's main claim to fame is that it has an outstanding collection of 1930's architecture. Other special attractions include the gannet colony at Cape Kidnappers and the many vineyards. Hawke's Bay is one of New Zealand's premier wine regions and has character and Art Deco architecture in abundance. Take time to savour the lifestyle in one of the unique accommodations in and around Napier and explore the wineries.



Day Tour

Twilight Odyssey Tour

Experience Hawke's Bay at its best with this progressive three course meal across some of New Zealand's top winery restaurants. Start your evening at a boutique brewery before participating in a wine tasting, indulge in gourmet platters and enjoy a Champagne sunset on Te Mata Peak. Complete your meal at New Zealand's oldest winery, the Mission Estate.

WINE AND GOURMET ODYSSEY FROM £47 PER ADULT
 V.I.P. PLATINUM TWILIGHT ODYSSEY FROM £146 PER ADULT



Scenic Hotel

Te Pania ★★★★★

The hotel enjoys a desirable, central waterfront location on Marine Parade, just two minutes from Napier's famous art deco style main street.

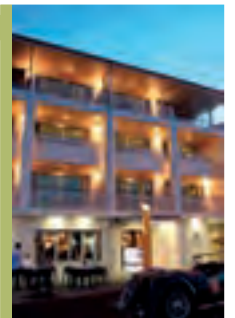
FROM £46 PER ADULT



The Crown Hotel, Napier ★★★★★

Overlooking the waterfront in the village of Ahuriri, the hotel offers luxury boutique accommodation. The hotel has 43 stylish and unique guest suites.

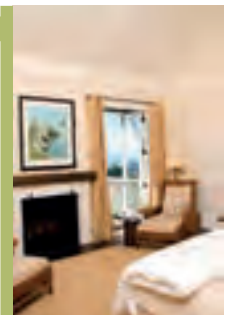
FROM £54 PER ADULT



The Farm at Cape Kidnappers ★★★★★

The boutique luxury lodge is a combination of rustic materials and luxurious style. Located on the breathtaking coastline of Hawke's Bay.

FROM £441 PER ADULT



Day Tour

On Yer Bike Wine Tour

With routes catering for all levels of fitness.

Pick up a bicycle, map, and packed lunch and head off to taste wines in the Hawke's Bay wine region.

FROM £34 PER ADULT





Day Tour

Zealandia by night

As dusk falls the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary comes alive with birdsong, join your guide as you endeavour to seek out the elusive New Zealand mascot, the kiwi.

PRICES FROM £146 PER ADULT



WELLINGTON

Wellington is New Zealand's capital city, with a laid back atmosphere and a vibrant café culture along with great shopping and live entertainment. Head to Mount Victoria for stunning views over the city and harbour. Within easy reach of the city you'll find Martinborough, home to numerous vineyards and Palliser Bay – an area of beautiful wild coastline.

Ibis Wellington

★★★★☆

In the heart of the city near the bustle of Lambton Quay, a fantastic value hotel with comfortable, spacious rooms and a popular restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

FREE BREAKFAST - Selected dates

FROM £30 PER ADULT



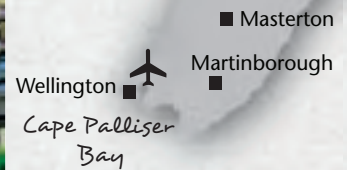
Peppers Parea Estate, Wairarapa

★★★★★

Little more than an hour by road from Wellington, past scenic vineyard vistas, is this grand estate on the outskirts of this historic village.

FREE BREAKFAST - Selected dates

FROM £61 PER ADULT



Copthorne Hotel Oriental Bay

★★★★★

Situated in an enviable position right on the waterfront, only two minutes walk from Te Papa Museum.

FREE UPGRADE - Selected dates

FROM £52 PER ADULT



Martinborough Wines

Step onboard a 90 minute train journey to the world-class wine region, Wairarapa.

Lunch is included at one of the delightful cafés, before continuing to the remainder of the days selected wineries.

FROM £108 PER ADULT

Day Tour



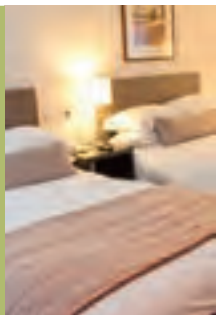
Intercontinental Wellington

★★★★★

Take a dip in the heated indoor swimming pool or relax in the spa, if you are looking for something more upbeat, take advantage of the gym.

HONEYMOON OFFER - Selected dates

FROM £75 PER ADULT



Cape Palliser Bay

Visit Cape Palliser Bay to spot the largest fur seal colony on the North Island – a truly unique experience.

Join a tour which also takes in the highlights of 'Middle Earth' from the Lord of the Rings trilogy.

FROM £108 PER ADULT

Day Tour



North Island Wanderer

9 Day Self Drive from £552 per adult



AVIS

DAY 1: AUCKLAND – COROMANDEL PENINSULA

Head south following the Seabird Coast, before arriving in Thames. Explore the dramatic coast before a stay in Pauanui or Whitianga.

DAY 2: COROMANDEL

Enjoy the day at your leisure visiting the area's attractions, such as Hot Water Beach and Cathedral Cove. One option is to take a guided Nature & Coastal tour, which includes walks through Kauri forests.

DAY 3: COROMANDEL (VIA TAURANGA) – ROTORUA

In the Bay of Plenty there is chance to see, or even swim with dolphins. The evening is spent in Rotorua, where you will enjoy a traditional Maori concert and Hangi meal.

DAY 4: ROTORUA – LAKE TAUPO

Spend the morning in Rotorua before travelling to Lake Taupo. Stop at Orakei Korako thermal area, before continuing on to Taupo.

DAY 5: LAKE TAUPO - NAPIER

Depart Taupo and head for the Hawke's Bay region, famous for its wine, food and scenery.

DAY 6: NAPIER

Today is free to enjoy this Art Deco and wine region – why not sample the delights of the region on the Twilight Odyssey tour?

DAY 7: NAPIER – MARTINBOROUGH

Head south and onwards to Martinborough, well known for its vineyards. Spend the afternoon on a wine trail, either by foot or bicycle.

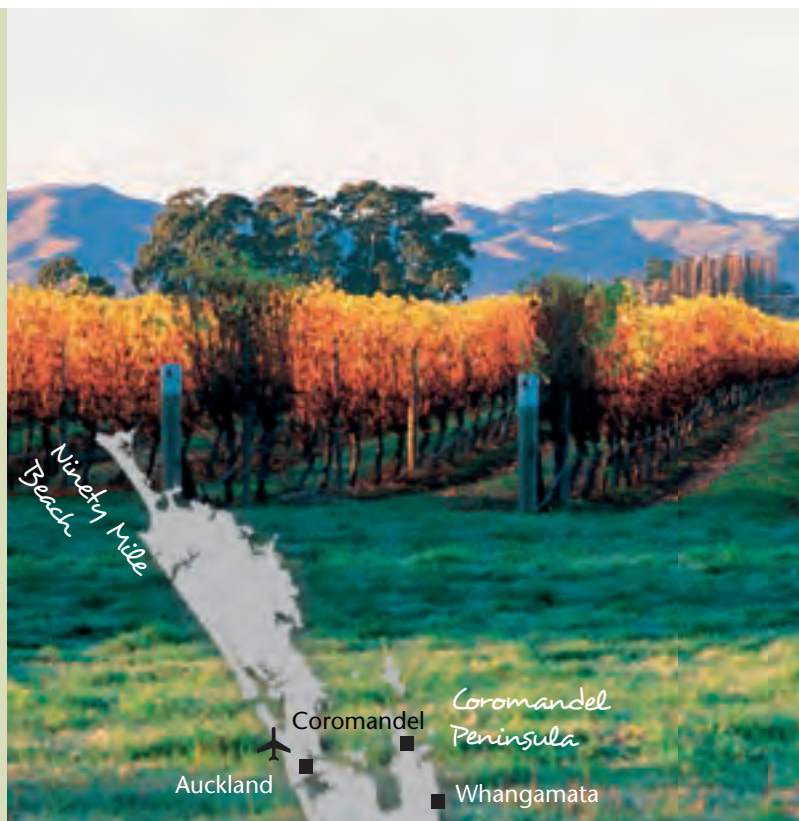
DAY 8: MARTINBOROUGH – WELLINGTON

Drive over the beautiful Rimutaka Hills to Wellington, the nation's capital - don't miss Te Papa, the interactive Museum of New Zealand.

DAY 9: WELLINGTON

Today is time to return your hire car and continue on your journey. Austravel recommends spending an extra couple of nights in the nation's capital, why not participate in a food lovers walking tour.

Please Note: Itinerary valid from 1st April 2014 and may alter prior to this. Prices are per person and include eight nights twin share accommodation, an information pack and are based on a Group B car hire. Accommodation, board basis and prices are subject to change with availability. Minimum nights and surcharges apply on some properties on certain dates. Driving times and distances are approximate. (AK7)



Follow The Grapevine

6 Day Self Drive from £483 per adult



AVIS

DAY 1: AUCKLAND - TAUPO

Drive via the geothermal region of Rotorua, famous for its mud pools and geysers before arriving at Taupo, the main centre of the region.

DAY 2: TAUPO – NAPIER

Continue on your gourmet trail to the Hawke's Bay region, renowned for its vineyards and orchards.

DAY 3: NAPIER

Spend the day at leisure in Napier enjoying the many vineyards and wonderful restaurants in the area.

DAY 4: NAPIER – MARTINBOROUGH

Travel south to the picturesque village of Martinborough, via the small country towns of Carterton, Greytown and Featherston. Here you can walk or cycle to the numerous vineyards nearby and enjoy fine dining in what has become an increasingly popular gourmet destination.

DAY 5: MARTINBOROUGH AT LEISURE

With a day free why not join a Gourmet Wine Escape Tour, where you can enjoy tastings at four Martinborough vineyards and lunch in a vineyard café, with sample tastings of the world famous Pinot Noir.

DAY 6: MARTINBOROUGH – WELLINGTON

Drive to the capital city Wellington through beautiful rolling hills; head up to the botanical gardens via the cable car or join a Gourmet walking tour where you will visit a boutique coffee roaster and food stores.

Please Note: Itinerary valid from 1st April 2014 and may alter prior to this. Prices are per person and include five nights twin share accommodation, an information pack and are based on a Group B car hire. Accommodation, board basis and prices are subject to change with availability. Minimum nights and surcharges apply on some properties on certain dates. Driving times and distances are approximate. (AK16)

Please see austravel.com for full details of accommodation options.

Napier



Rotorua

Ultimate North Island



10 Day Escorted Tour
from £1,825 per adult

Travel with Kirra Tours to see all the highlights of the North Island, including the picturesque Bay of Islands, stunning Coromandel Peninsula and the bustling capital city of Wellington.

DAY 1: ARRIVE AUCKLAND

Welcome to New Zealand! Kirra Tours will greet you at the airport with transport waiting to take you to your hotel.

DAY 2: AUCKLAND - BAY OF ISLANDS

Drive north to Paihia in the Bay of Islands. Meet your local Maori guide who will provide an insight and history of the Bay of Islands before a visit to New Zealand's birthplace, Waitangi, with a self guided tour through the Treaty House, the Maori Meeting House and war canoe. This afternoon enjoy a cruise to the Cape Brett Lighthouse and "Hole in the Rock". (B, D)

DAY 3: BAY OF ISLANDS

Today is at your leisure. Why not try a full day tour to Cape Reinga, New Zealand's northern most point and enjoy a drive along Ninety Mile Beach. Enjoy amazing views and see where the Tasman Sea collides with the Pacific Ocean. (B, D)

DAY 4: BAY OF ISLANDS - AUCKLAND

Journey south through Whangarei and Warkworth and travel via Matakoho, home of the Kauri Museum. Learn about the Kauri tree and the history of the regions early settlement. Continuing on your journey, Auckland city and harbour will shortly come into view. (B, D)

DAY 5: AUCKLAND - WHANGAMATA

Today a city tour of Auckland and a visit to Skytower, at 328m the tallest building in the Southern Hemisphere, for superb city and harbour views. Afterwards, head to the Viaduct to board a 15m yacht on Auckland Harbour, all before heading south to the Coromandel Peninsula. (B, D)

DAY 6: COROMANDEL PENINSULA

Today, explore the Coromandel region and enjoy the flora & fauna of the semi-tropical rainforest with giant ferns, Kauri trees and crystal clear streams. Visit stunning coastal scenery with white sand beaches and magnificent cliffs decorated with ancient Pohutukawa trees. (B, D)

DAY 7: WHANGAMATA - ROTORUA

On to Rotorua today to visit the Agrodome, for its famous Sheep Show, and take a Gondola to Skyline Skyride for superb views. Once at the top, we treat you to a wine tasting and buffet lunch before the rest of the afternoon is free for you to enjoy. This evening take part in a Maori Hangi feast & concert featuring Maori songs, chants and the stirring haka. (B, L, D)

DAY 8: ROTORUA - TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK

Head south to the Wairakei Geothermal Valley, visiting Huka Falls and stopping at Lake Taupo for lunch before continuing on your journey to reach Tongariro National Park. (B, D)

DAY 9: TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK - WELLINGTON

As you travel south the volcanic mountains – Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngauruhoe dominate the view. Enjoy the scenery as you continue on, heading over the Rimutaka's before reaching Wellington. A city tour includes Mount Victoria, the Houses of Parliament, Wellington Cathedral and Oriental Bay, with time afterwards to explore the city as well as Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, set in a breathtaking location on Wellington's waterfront. (B, D)

DAY 10: WELLINGTON

Depart Wellington for your onward journey. (B)

Please Note: Prices are per person and include nine nights twin share accommodation, selected meals, and touring as mentioned. Accommodation, board bases and prices are subject to change with availability. (XP)

Please see austravel.com for full details of accommodation options.

