

Discover Downunder®



PO Box 29879
Denver CO 80229 USA
303 3000 148

fax: (720) 528 7670

1 (888) 8-DOWNUNDER

Email: mail@discoverdownunder.com

Website: discoverdownunder.com

— Don't just DREAM it...SEE it!®

Prices are not guaranteed and are subject to change until paid in full

New Zealand Classic Wine Trail

12 Day Self Drive

2010-2011



Day 1

Arrive Auckland

After clearing customs you will be met and transferred to your accommodation.

Auckland



beaches and vineyards.

The main gateway city to New Zealand, Auckland is home to over one million people, more than one third of the country's population. Auckland sprawls for 30 miles over the narrow isthmus that separates its two harbors - the Waitemata to the east and the Manukau to the west. Auckland offers both sheltered and rugged surf beaches, a harbor dotted with islands, large farm-like parks, reserves, bush-clad ranges and a skyline clearly showing the remains of many of the 48 extinct volcanoes on which the city is built. Highlights include sailing, hiking, Sky Tower, western

Accom: Auckland

Int

Afternoon: **NZL 40 America's Cup Sailing**

Depart from our berth, inside Auckland's Viaduct Harbour at the end of Quay St, situated outside the Loaded Hog bar. You will need to report to the boat 20 minutes prior to departure.

The America's Cup is the world's oldest and most prestigious sporting trophy and ultimate yachting regatta. Usually the domain of billionaires and elite professional yachties, NZL 40 and NZL 41 offer the unique opportunity for everyone to participate in sailing on these grand prix racing machines.

Passengers become the crew and are encouraged to take the helm, exert energy on the grinders or simply sit back and enjoy the action as we sail down the Auckland Harbour. The trip suits people of all experiences and abilities and is the perfect activity in Auckland, 'City of Sails'.



Option:

Wilderness Experience Waitakere Rainforest and West Coast beaches

Only 30 kilometers from downtown Auckland are the Waitakere Ranges. Visit the Arataki Centre perched high on the ridge of the Ranges with views of both coasts and magnificent Maori carvings. We continue to KareKare beach, the location for the award winning movie "the Piano". where our guide will explain all about the fascinating local history, flora and fauna of the region and you get the opportunity to stroll on an unspoiled black sand beach. Our journey then takes us into dense rainforest, giant Tree Ferns and New Zealand's famous Kauri trees. Along the walk native birds and magnificent Waterfalls give our visitors a true insight and feel for our unspoiled native bush - a classic kiwi experience.



Day 2 *Pick up your Rental Car*

Don't just DREAM it...SEE it!

Car Rental - Intermediate Car

11 Days

Drive south to Waikato

The Black Labyrinth

Approximately three hours with one hour underground involving a combination of walking and floating on an inner tube through a unique underground river system. Your professional guide will ensure you are properly equipped and teach you some fun techniques before you climb down into nature's underground network for an enjoyable cave tubing experience of a lifetime.

Streams spill, twist, turn and join to build a river canyon. Glide with the water as it drops down the 'hidden' waterfall and tumbles down rocky chutes before sliding through vaulted limestone galleries to finally emerge into the dazzling green forest.

View naturally occurring features within the cave including stalactites, stalagmites and glowworms. Your guide will happily share their knowledge on all aspects concerning Cave Formations and cave life.



Drive to Rotorua.

Rotorua



Rotorua is the cultural center for the native Maori population and offers a chance to visit with and experience some of this culture first hand. It is also the in the heart of a geothermal region, site of several thermal reserves allowing for close up viewing of geysers, boiling water and mud pools. Rotorua is also home to many activities such as grade 5 white water rafting, zorbing, lugging mountain biking, hiking and fishing.

Located in a rich volcanic soil region, Rotorua provides opportunities to see a number of farming activities – The Agrodome - an entertaining show learning about sheep (you will see a few as

your travel throughout the country), watch sheep dogs demonstrate their skills and view the many unique native species of birds and animals for which New Zealand is so well known. This region is dotted with beautiful lakes, rugged volcanoes and lush rainforest.

Accom: Rotorua

2 nts

Day 3 Free Morning

Evening: **Maori Hangi and Concert**

An evening combination featuring Rainbow Springs Night Tour and Mitai Maori Cultural Experience

Experience a night time product combining two iconic attractions. Featuring the Mitai Maori Cultural Experience, including a hangi Dinner, Maori Concert and night bush walk & glow worm tour followed by a spectacularly lit night tour through Rainbow Springs Nature Park.

Following your transfer from local accommodation to Mitai, you will visit Wai-o-whiro Stream to witness a pass by of Maori warriors arriving on an ancient war canoe, a truly unique encounter. This will be followed by an informative and entertaining concert performance and delicious traditional ground cooked meal. Your evening at Mitai will conclude with a bush walk to Fairy Spring where you will hear stories of the land and catch a glimpse of the glow worms.

You then visit Rainbow Springs, for your Beauty by Night experience to view Native bush and wildlife at night under an array of spectacularly colored lights, including the newly built walk-through Kiwi night time enclosure before being transferred back to your accommodation.

Included: Hangi Dinner

Day 4 *Drive to Taupo*

Huka Jet Boat

Huka Falls Jet in Taupo, offers a unique combination of excitement and natural beauty. A 30-minute thrilling jet boat ride in the hands of a professional Jetboat driver.

The half hour of thrills, fun and excitement takes you along a beautiful river environment, lined with native bush, sheer rock cliff face and natural hot springs.

Combine 360° spins and passing nature by incredibly close at disorientating speeds for an amazing must-do visitor experience, before even reaching the majesty that is the Huka Falls. Witness Huka Falls from water level. Your



incredible journey will also take you past the Wairakei Thermal Power Station, Huka Prawn Park and the Aratiatia Dam. Maybe add a helicopter ride over the area – The perfect combo!

Drive to Napier/Hastings



Napier



Viewing the Norfolk pine-lined Marine parade, it's hard to believe that this elegant city was completely destroyed in Hawke's Bay earthquake of 1931. Although there was a great loss of life and almost all the brick buildings of the city collapsed, the earthquake gave the survivors an extra 10,000 acres of land, and now the airport and a large section of Napier stand on what used to be the sea floor. One of the highlights of this area it's wines. Careful vineyard selection and skilled viticulture results in Hawke's Bay producing magnificent grapes. Red wine production is pre-dominantly centered on Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon together with Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Pinot Noir and Malbec. Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc are the main white varietals grown here. These are complemented by Semillon Riesling, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris, Methode Traditionelle and dessert wines.

Accom: Napier

2 nts

Day 5 Free Day

Hawkes Bay Wine Region

Hawke's Bay in many ways has a similarity to the great French wine region of Bordeaux, certainly supporting the massive plantings of recent years of Bordeaux Red varieties, particularly Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. (*The Australian and New Zealand Wine & Food Pictorial Atlas* by Thomas K. Hardy)

A selection of Wineries:

- [Mission Estates](#)
- [Sileni Estates](#)
- [Te Awa Farm Winery](#)
- [Craggy Range Winery](#)

Day 6 *Drive to Wairarapa*

Accom: Martinborough

2 nts

Wairarapa



The Wairarapa is a lush, green and unique region located in the south east corner of the North Island of New Zealand. Wairarapa is just over an hour's drive the capital of New Zealand, Wellington. The first vineyard was planted in 1978. A year later a report was released showing the similarities between Martinborough's soils and climate and some premium French wine regions. It was only a matter of time before this region would begin to produce award winning wines. There are now over 40 wineries with many more vineyards growing grapes for sale. Many are open for tastings and sales throughout the year and several also have restaurant or café facilities.

Martinborough is renowned for its Pinot Noir but Martinborough wineries have received international awards for many varieties including Riesling, Gewürztraminer and Pinot Gris., . Martinborough even has its own unidentified grape variety which continues to baffle the experts.

[Wairarapa Wine Trail](#)

A selection of Wineries:

- [Palliser Estate](#)
- [Te Kairanga](#)
- [NgaWaka](#)
- [Alana Estate](#)



Day 7 Free Day

Day 8 *Drive to Wellington.*

Wellington



New Zealand's capital city (pop. 380,000) is located at the southern tip of the North Island. It is much like San Francisco with its steep hills, (it even has a cable car!), and is characterized by steep hills, wooden Victorian houses and a picturesque harbor. Here you can visit New Zealand's Parliament and meander through the many museums and art galleries. A view from the top of Mt. Victoria will give you a wonderful orientation to the layout of the city. Try to make time for a visit to Te Papa Museum.

Accom: Wellington

1 nt

Day 9 *Return your rental car before boarding the InterIsland Ferry*

Inter Island Ferry

On arrival in Picton pick up your rental car and drive to Blenheim.

Accom: Marlborough

2 nts

Marlborough Wine Region

The Marlborough wine region only came to life in 1973 when Montana Wines planted the first vines. The real boom in planting started after Cloudy Bay released their first Sauvignon Blanc in 1985 and began making a real statement on world wine markets. The region is much like California's Napa Valley, with its elongated valley surrounded by mountains on three sides and a wide shallow bay on the other. It also has its share of mists in autumn that contribute to botrytised wines of exceptional quality. (*The Australian and New Zealand Wine & Food Pictorial Atlas* by Thomas K. Hardy)

A selection of the Wineries:

- [Montana](#) (Brancott for US markets)
- [Allan Scott Wines](#)
- [Cloudy Bay](#)
- [Hunter Wines](#)



Day 10 Free Day

Day 11 *Drive to Christchurch*

Christchurch



Christchurch is the South Island's largest city with a population of just over 360,000. It is situated on the east coast of the flat Canterbury Plains with views to the often snowy peaks of the Southern Alps.

The River Avon flows through this "most English city". Enjoy the gothic architecture of Cathedral Square and stroll along the beautiful river walk, or sit in a café and watch the world go by. There are many things to see and do while in Christchurch including the botanic gardens, bike riding, punting, golfing, swim with Dolphins,

Hot Air Ballooning or take a chocolate tour.

Accom: Christchurch

1 nt

Day 12 *Return your rental car – same time as pick up in Auckland*

Price includes cash/cheque discount. Please add back in 3% if paying by credit card.

Please ensure payment is made by due date to avoid cancellation and additional fees

Price is subject to change including fluctuations in the US\$ until paid in full

Included:

New Zealand: Auckland airport private transfer to accommodation, Sailing, Auckland Int, Car Rental includes unlimited kilometers, GST (12.5%), intermediate auto, Auckland to Christchurch 11 days, Black Labyrinth, Rotorua 2nts, Maori Hangi and Concert, Huka Jet, Napier 2nts, Martinborough 2nts, Wellington Int, Inter Island Ferry, Marlborough 2nts, Christchurch 1 nt.

— Don't just DREAM it...SEE it!

*** It may be necessary on certain dates to substitute similar type activities and accommodations*

Additional:

- **Flights**

Notes:

(OA) = own arrangements

First Class: (example)

- Auckland: Skycity
- Rotorua: Novotel
- Napier: The Crown
- Martinborough: Briarwood
- Wellington: Holiday Inn
- Marlborough: Chateau Marlborough
- Christchurch: Eliza's Manor

Boutique: (example)

- Auckland: Skycity Grand
- Rotorua: **Wildwood (Incl gourmet dinner)**
- Napier: **Breckenridge (Incl gourmet dinner)**
- Martinborough: Peppers
- Wellington: Holiday Inn HV
- Marlborough: Marlborough Vintners
- Christchurch: The George

Price is subject to change including fluctuations in the US\$ until paid in full

Traveler name (First and Last) on passport **must match** the name on tickets. Name variations will require re-ticketing and penalties can be significant, please confirm correct name with your agent **BEFORE** ticketing

We strongly advise Travel Insurance

Note: Most travel insurance options include additional benefits when purchasing within 7days of deposit.

Please note: Reservations are on a reconfirmation basis and have NOT been requested. Good faith price quote is subject to change pending confirmation of reservations and until full payment is received in this office. Requests can begin once the deposit has been received.

Valid passport required for International Travel.
New Zealand departure tax nz\$25 required when leaving.

Significant penalties will be incurred for changes made once ticketed.

Thank you for traveling with

Discover Downunder®

We look forward to working with you again in the future.

Tahi Inc. acts as an agent in securing air and land arrangements and their liability is limited to the terms of the tickets. Tahi Inc. is not liable for expenses incurred due to delays or changes caused by weather or other acts of God, or in the event of strikes, quarantine, war, aircraft delays or mechanical failure. Tahi Inc. cannot assume any responsibility for flight, tour or activity delays, cancellations or missed connections and is not liable for any expenses or consequences resulting therefrom; such expenses shall be born by the passenger. The passage contract in use by the airlines or local operator concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airline or local operator and passenger. All services are subject to the laws of the countries in which these services are rendered.

RESERVATIONS AGREEMENT

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY - WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND TRAVEL INSURANCE

Deposit/Acceptance

A **non-refundable deposit of \$200 per person** is required within 7 days of reservation to begin requesting and holding bookings. Payment of the deposit constitutes acceptance of all terms listed in this agreement.

Please read carefully.

Final Payment

Full payment is due **no later than 45** days prior to departure. Some products may require earlier payment; you will be advised of this. **Prices are subject to change until full payment has been received by this office.** If payment has not been received 45 days prior to departure, booking will auto cancel and full cancellation charges will apply. When full payment has been received prior to 45 days, documents are scheduled to be sent out or ready for collection 30 days prior to departure. Documents will be expressed to clients (an additional **\$15** fee) unless prior arrangements have been made. Personal checks will not be accepted for payment within **16** days of departure. A **\$30** fee will be charged for returned checks. In the event of a late booking and hence late payment (within 45 days) – delivery of documents will also be delayed.

Rush Bookings

We are pleased to make client bookings at any time. However, a **\$30** levy will apply to bookings received **15** days or less prior to departure, additional fees may apply. Please note however, due to time constraints, a higher level of flexibility will be required as initial choices may be unavailable.

Amendments

An amendment is any change, addition or cancellation. After confirmation has been received, a **\$15** per item amendment fee applies each time an itinerary is amended. After documents have been prepared, and for amendments made within 30 days prior to departure, a minimum \$30 per item amendment fee applies.

Insurance

All passengers are **strongly urged** to take out adequate insurance coverage to protect themselves against cancellation/changes for whatever reason prior to or during travel. Please refer to the section: Cancellation.

Cancellation

A minimum \$200 charge per person **plus** any charges levied by airlines and suppliers, will be incurred if there is a cancellation after bookings have begun. Certain airfares and properties and operators have higher cancellation penalties; these will be assessed at the time of cancellation. Cancellations within **14 days of travel** through departure will incur a 100% cancellation fee. Cancellations after departure date, will incur a 100% cancellation fee. *Please refer to the section: Insurance, to avoid further disappointment.*

Pricing

Prices are contracted for in advance and are subject to currency fluctuations, changes in local taxes and increases by suppliers. While every effort is made to keep prices highly competitive; we have no control over local specials and in-country discounts that may be available for limited periods of time. We are **unable to reimburse for any price differences as a result. Itemization of costs cannot be given.**

Refund Policy

Notification of refunds, if relevant, must be received in this office within 1 month of returning to the USA. Request for refunds received after 1 month of returning to the USA will be considered invalid. Requests must be made in writing and be submitted with unused vouchers. A **US\$30 per person** handling fee will apply **in addition** to any cancellation fees plus penalties charged by the individual operators. There are no refunds for package tours. Please allow 4-6 weeks for refunds after **correct** documentation has been received by this office.

Please check documents carefully upon receiving them. It is much easier to make corrections, if necessary, before you have departed on your travels.