



Wow!

Wonders of the Wairarapa

27 September 2020

The Wairarapa is a region of spectacular coastlines, wide valleys and small towns. It's known for its vineyards, gourmet food, walking and cycling trails - and a vibrant arts scene. About an hour's drive or train ride from Wellington, the Wairarapa was first settled by Maori in the 1300s. With the arrival of European settlers in the 1800's, the Wairarapa became a farming area known for its meat and butter. Farming is still important, but so is forestry, fishing and horticulture. Today the Wairarapa is popular with holidaymakers - but also with young families who are moving here to enjoy a slower pace of life and a strong sense of community. When you visit, you're sure of a warm welcome.

Sunday 27th Auckland to Taupo Lunch, Dinner

This morning you will be collected from your Auckland address and transferred to the coach departure point. Departing Auckland we head to Gordonton where we visit **Zealong Tea Estate**. The tea estate, a Waikato icon, is the only commercial tea estate in New Zealand, producing 100% organic tea. Our tour guide will lead us along the tea trail through the history of tea as we learn how it is picked & processed. Enjoy a tea tasting with a **High Tea** lunch, before continuing on our way to Taupo for our overnight stay. Enjoy the resort's geothermally heated pools & hot tubs.

Wairakei Resort, Taupo 1 night

Monday 28th Taupo to Palmerston North Breakfast, Dinner

After a leisurely start this morning, we board the **Ernest Kemp**, a beautiful replica of a 1920's steamboat for a trip on Lake Taupo. Cruising across the lake we visit the famous **Maori Rock Carvings**, accessible only by boat. Following lunch in Taupo (own expense) we travel around the lake to Turangi and then skirt the Tongariro National Park as we head south through the central North Island to Palmerston North.

Copthorne Hotel, Palmerston North 1 night

Tuesday 29th Palmerston North to Wairarapa Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we make our way over the Saddle Road stopping at the Te Apiti Wind Farm lookout, before continuing to Woodville and the Wairarapa. A light lunch is enjoyed at **Gladstone Vineyard** whilst sampling a selection of locally produced wines. This afternoon we visit **Stonehenge**, a working replica of the mysterious 4,000 year old monument on the Salisbury Plains of England. Specifically designed for the southern hemisphere we discover, on a fascinating guided tour and informative talk, how ancient cultures used the sun, moon and stars to work out the seasons for planting and hunting as well as navigation.

Copthorne Hotel, Masterton 2 nights

Wednesday 30th Wairarapa Sightseeing Breakfast, Dinner

Travelling to Greytown we visit the **Cobblestones Museum** & view their collection of Victorian buildings housing fabulous displays of artifacts, photographs and information from the days of the early settlers. Be sure to check out the print shop and try your hand at printing. Time for a quick visit to **Schoc Chocolate Shop** before we visit **Juno Olives** for an tour and informative talk on growing and producing olives. Free time to enjoy lunch (own expense) in Greytown.

This afternoon we take a tour of **Brancepeth**, one of the Wairarapa's grandest & most treasured historic sites. The colonial homestead and gardens are still owned by the Beetham family, who settled on the land in 1856.

Thursday 1st Wairarapa to Wellington Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we travel to the southern end of the Wairarapa through quaint and delightful townships. Enjoy morning tea (own expense) in Martinborough, browse the delightful shops or visit the museum.

We join the wine maker at a boutique vineyard **Julicher Wines**, for a wine tasting before enjoying lunch at the **Lake Ferry Hotel** famous for its fresh fish and chips. Situated on the shores of Lake Onoke, overlooking Palliser Bay, the Lake Ferry Hotel is one of the oldest licensed hotels in New Zealand. Leaving the Wairarapa we head over the Rimutaka Ranges and into Wellington.

West Plaza Hotel, Wellington 1 night

Friday 2nd Wellington to Auckland Breakfast

This morning you have free time for shopping or visiting Te Papa Museum before you are transferred to Wellington airport for your flight home.

TOUR INCLUDES

- * Home collection & drop off within Auckland (metropolitan areas: Orewa - Papakura) & Tauranga
- * Coach transport
- * One way flight Wellington to Auckland or Tauranga
- * Professional Tour Leader
- * 5 nights accommodation
- * Daily buffet breakfast & 3 course/buffet dinner
- * 3 lunches
- * Zealong Tea Estate - tour with High Tea & tea tastings
- * Lake Taupo Cruise
- * Cobblestones Museum & Brancepeth Homestead
- * Stonehenge Aotearoa - exclusive tour
- * Wairarapa sightseeing as per the itinerary

TOUR DATES

27th September - 2nd October 2020

TOUR COSTS

Ex Auckland	\$2080.00 pp twin share
Ex Tauranga/Hamilton	\$2160.00 pp twin share
Single room supplement	\$440.00
Prices from other towns/cities on application	

GENERAL INFORMATION

- * The tour of Zealong Tea Estate is 60 - 90 minutes duration and will involve walking.
- * Brancepeth is a walking tour of the grounds and around the buildings. The tour takes up to two hours and will conclude in the homestead with afternoon tea.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Twilight Travel & Tours recommend a policy that covers cancellation and travel delay due to unforeseen circumstances. Premiums for 6 days travel:

Under 70 years	\$56.00 per person
70 - 79 years	\$89.00 per person
80+ years	\$132.00 per person

Policy covers cancellation or amendments and travel delay. Refer to the Cover More booklet for full policy details. It is recommended that insurance be purchased when paying your deposit. Please contact us for further information, application forms and medical assessments.

Booking Terms & Conditions

- * Prices are per person, twin share in NZ\$. A deposit of \$250.00 per person is required to secure booking. Deposit is refundable less \$100.00 per person up to 60 days prior to travel. Balance is due 45 days prior to travel. Within 60 days cancellation charges apply. Full cancellation policy is available on request. Travel insurance is recommended.
- * All costs are based on prices as known at time of printing and are subject to change should there be unavoidable changes in service costs, fuel prices, exchange rates and/or taxes. Price is inclusive of 15% GST.
- * Tour operates subject to minimum numbers. In the event Twilight Travel cancels the tour, all monies paid will be refunded in full.
- * Tours & sightseeing may be rescheduled or substituted at any time by the service provider due to operational requirements.
- * Tours & sightseeing may involve walks over uneven ground and steps. This tour is not suitable for wheelchairs. For your safety and enjoyment, and safety of other travellers, you should be in good physical condition to partake in the tour unassisted.
- * Twilight Travel personnel and other service providers cannot provide special assistance to passengers with disabilities.
- * No passenger will be permitted to embark or continue on tour while their mental or physical condition, or health, is in the opinion of any representative of Twilight Travel, such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves, or whereby they become objectionable to other passengers, or they become a hazard to themselves or other passengers. Twilight Travel will not be responsible for expenses resulting in such persons being precluded from completing the tour.
- * Payment of deposit and/or full tour price represents acceptance of the terms and conditions.



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