



# 9-Day New Zealand North Island Tour

Wellington • Napier • Rotorua • Waitomo • Auckland



New Zealand, known as the youngest country on earth, is the last land mass to be discovered. The first inhabitants are the Maoris who migrated from the Polynesian Islands. Follow by extensive European migration in the mid-19th century and Asian and Pacific Islanders in the 20th century, help shape New Zealand into a vibrant and diverse multi-cultural society. It is also known for its natural beauty with stunning landscapes, lush vegetation and unique wildlife.



Auckland, the largest and most cosmopolitan of New Zealand's cities, is a many-layered amalgam of Maori, European and Polynesian influences. Just over a million people live here, roughly one-third of New Zealand's population. New immigrants have traditionally favored Auckland, most visibly those from the Pacific island nations of Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, the Cook Island and Niue. Today, it is the world's largest Polynesian city. A mixture of new settlers, including many from Hong Kong and Taiwan, some from Europe and former Yugoslavia and, recently, from South Africa, continue to add to the cultural melting pot. New Zealand has perfected the style of cuisine called "Pacific Rim", blending Asian and Pacific flavors. Feature prominently on restaurant menus are seafood and local favorites such as New Zealand green-lipped mussels, succulent Clevedon Coast oysters or the local lamb or venison. Its unique and diverse varieties of cuisines make dining in New Zealand an enjoyable experience.

Wellington, the capital city of the country, stretches out around a sparkling blue harbour at the southern tip of the North Island. Surrounded by hills dotted with houses with colonial era architecture on narrow zigzag streets, making comparison with San Francisco inevitable. During the last decade, Wellington emerged as New Zealand's most dynamic and vibrant cities, and home to most national theatre, national museum and archives and library. This city

is also famous for its food scene and culinary varieties, with more than 300 restaurants, cafes and pubs, it is paradise for culinary adventurers.



Napier is a port city located on the east coast of the North Island. Most of the city was destroyed in an earthquake in 1931; the town center was rebuilt in the Art Deco style of the time. The inner city is ideal for exploring on foot, walk about and admire the unique architecture which range from stripped classical to Spanish Mission and, most of all, jazz-age art deco.



Rotorua, located in the Bay of Plenty region of the North Island, sits on the southern shore of a massive lake of the same name, is surrounded by countryside filled with geyser-filled geothermal valleys and slumbering volcanoes. The city is deeply rooted in Maori tradition. Home to almost one-third of New Zealand's Maori population, it is an excellent place to learn about Maori culture, art and architecture.



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## Tour Itinerary:

**Day 01:** U.S.—Wellington  
Depart U.S. for Wellington.

**Day 02:** Wellington  
Arrive Wellington, capital of New Zealand. Transfer to your hotel.  
Accommodation: Copthorne Oriental Bay Hotel.

**Day 03:** Wellington  
A half day tour will take you to visit Wellington’s famous Beehive & Parliament Buildings, Old St. Paul’s Cathedral, Lady Norwood Rose Gardens, Mount Victoria and Wellington Harbour. Afternoon at your leisure. (B)

**Day 04:** Wellington-Napier  
Transfer to Intercity Coach Depot, travel to the art deco city of Napier via Palmerston North and Hastings. (B)  
Accommodation: Te Pania Hotel.

**Day 05:** Napier  
Tour and explore Napier and its unique architecture. Visit some boutique wineries and test some premium, award-winning wines. (B)

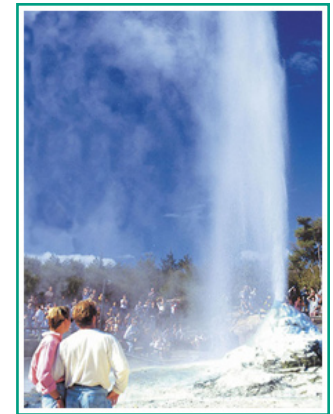
**Day 06:** Napier-Rotorua  
Depart Napier and travel to Rotorua via the beautiful Lake Taupo.  
Accommodation: Rydges Rotorua.

**Day 07:** Rotorua  
Tour the Te Puia Thermal Reserve to see boiling mud pools and roaring geysers; visit the Agrodome for a New Zealand farm show with sheep dog demonstrations, cow milking and introduction to the local sheep industry. In the evening, enjoy an authentic Maori dinner and concert.

**Day 08:** Rotorua-Waitomo-Auckland  
Travel north to Waitomo and tour the famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves and continue on to Auckland, the largest city in the country. (B).  
Accommodation: Duxton Hotel.

**Day 09:** Auckland  
A half day tour will take you to explore Auckland, the ‘city-of-sails’; visiting Victoria Park Market, Westhaven Drive, Mount Eden, War Memorial Museum, Parnell Village and Kelly Tarlton’s Underwater World. (B)

**Day 10:** Auckland-U.S.  
Transfer to Auckland airport for departure. (B)



### 2009 Departure Tour Cost:

Tour cost per person Based on double occupancy	\$2,575
Single room supplement	\$612

Tour cost does not include international air transportation taxes and fuel surcharge, and subject to change without notice.