

7 DAYS NORTH ISLAND TOUR (LORD OF THE RINGS)



Day-01 Arrive in Auckland (D)

Arrive at Auckland International Airport. Meet & greet on arrival and airport seat-in-coach transfer to your hotel for check in. Tonight, walk along to a buffet dinner at Fortuna Restaurant (inside Sky City Auckland). Enjoy free time on own leisure. Overnight at hotel.

Day-02: Auckland – Waitomo – Rotorua (B)

Enjoy a scenic tour from Auckland to Rotorua, including a guided tour of the Waitomo Glowworm Caves. Leaving Auckland in the morning we travel through the Waikato and King Country regions, passing by flourishing farmland and picturesque countryside. Your experienced local driver guide will provide entertaining commentary and point out highlights along the way, such as Rangiriri, where in 1863 a major battle was fought between colonial forces and those loyal to the Māori King. On arrival in the small town of Waitomo, take a trip underground with a 45-minute guided tour through the world famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves, a series of limestone caves formed over 30 million years ago. Learn all about stalagmites, stalactites and other intriguing rock formations as you walk through the caverns, and finish the tour with an enchanting boat ride through the Glowworm Grotto, illuminated by thousands of tiny glowworms.

Your journey to Rotorua continues, passing through the beautiful Fitzgerald Glade where trees arch over the road to form a tunnel of natural greenery. A delicious picnic-style lunch can be pre-booked (optional extra) and is served on board the coach. The tour concludes in Rotorua, a city where you can view geothermal activity, Māori culture, spectacular scenery and more.

Day-03: Rotorua Sights (B)

Discover three of Rotorua's best visitor attractions on this morning Rotorua sightseeing tour. Gain an insight into New Zealand's Māori culture at Te Puia, then experience Rotorua's famous geothermal activity with a tour of the neighbouring Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley - a place where mud pools bubble and boil and geysers shoot steam high into the air. You'll also see Te Puia's woodcarving and weaving schools and see how these ancient Māori art forms are being passed

Then see our agricultural industry in action at the Agrodome, a working organic farm where you can find out all about farming life in New Zealand, watch a sheep shearing display and see sheep dog trials where the hard-working farm dogs show off their amazing skills. New Zealand wildlife and natural scenery is on display at Rainbow Springs Nature Park, where you can get up close to all kinds of native flora and fauna including the famous kiwi, a flightless native bird. Wander through native forest and discover New Zealand birds, fish and lizards (including the ancient tuatara), as well as exotic animals from around the world.

Day-04: Rotorua-Hobbiton-Rotorua (B)

Take a half-day tour from Rotorua to the Hobbiton Movie Set and take a tour of the farm that was transformed into a Middle-earth filming location. Your Hobbiton tour starts with a scenic drive across the Kaimai Ranges to the small town of Matamata.

3 star4 star

Twin: US\$ 1,440.00

US\$ 1,650.00

Triple: US\$ 1,370.00

US\$ 1,520.00

Single: US\$ 1,910.00

US\$ 2,240.00

Valid: 01 Oct 2017 – 30 Apr 2018

Pax: 2 adults minimum

Note: Hotel is subject to availability. In case standard room is not available, an upgrade surcharge is additional fee or alternative hotel of the same category has to offer.

During your coach trip your local driver guide will entertain you with stories and information about the region and its history.

Just outside the town of Matamata is your destination: Middle-earth! Sir Peter Jackson and his team knew this private farm would make the perfect spot to build the village of Hobbiton for the award-winning The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit movie trilogies. Take a guided tour and see the picturesque village you saw on screen in living colour before you.

See the Hobbit holes, the Green Dragon Inn, the Party Tree, the Mill and many other structures from the movies, while learning about how the set was built. You might even hear a few secrets from behind the scenes!

After your Hobbiton movie set tour, return to Rotorua, arriving at 1pm.

Free time at own leisure.

Day-05: Rotorua - Auckland (B)

Leaving the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua in the morning, travel through lush farmland back to Auckland.

Upon arrival in Auckland, free time at own leisure.

Day-06: Auckland (B)

Discover first-hand why Auckland is regarded as one of the best places in the world to live, with a half-day tour of its scenic highlights.

Travel through the city centre, including Auckland's famous Queen Street, Karangahape Road with its chequered past and eclectic vibe and fashionable Ponsonby.

Cross over the Auckland Harbour Bridge, enjoying views of the Hauraki Gulf and city skyline, and visit the Viaduct Harbour and the revitalised Silo Park waterfront precinct. See historic buildings around the University of Auckland before continuing over Grafton Bridge to the Auckland Domain.

The Domain is the city's oldest park and, at 75 hectares, one of its largest. Developed around an extinct volcano, it features tropical gardens, duck ponds and public art, and is also home to the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

After visiting the Domain, the tour continues through the boutique shopping area of Parnell Village, where you will make a brief morning tea stop, and along the scenic waterfront route of Tamaki Drive. Just above Mission Bay is one of the scenic highlights of your tour: Michael Joseph Savage Memorial Park. Named after one of New Zealand's most revered Prime Ministers, the park, with its formal gardens and tranquil atmosphere, offers stunning views over the picturesque Eastern Bays, Auckland city and the Waitemata Harbour.

Your Auckland city tour ends with a trip back along the waterfront, finishing in downtown Auckland.

Day-07: Depart Auckland (B)

Free time until check out from your hotel and transfer to Auckland International Airport for your flight bound for home, taking with you the unforgettable and fond memories of a wonderful of New Zealand.

INCLUSIONS:

- New Zealand Good & Services Tax
- Accommodation with daily breakfast inside hotel
- Seat-in-touring coach with English speaking driver guide
- Meals as specified
- Round trip Airport Transfers based on seat-in-coach (In & Out AKL Apt)

EXCLUSIONS:

- All international air ticket
- Local guide(s)
- Any extra meals
- Drinks ordered during meals
- Optional tours and activities not mentioned on the brief itinerary.
- Australia Airport Departure Tax if any.
- Gratuities for drivers / guides / porters. (Min. of NZ\$ 5.00 per person per day depending on the level of satisfactions on the services rendered.)
- Items of a personal nature such as phone calls, pay movies, room services, mini bars laundries or other expenditures during the tour.

Hotel Selections

<u>3 Star</u>	<u>4 Star</u>
Auckland City Hotel or similar	Crowne Plaza Hotel or similar

Ibis Hotel Rotorua or similar	Millennium Hotel Rotorua or similar
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Please note: Information concerning tour inclusions and resort/hotel facilities has been compiled as accurately as possible. However there may be times when certain amenities, facilities and/or inclusions are not available. Such situations may be dictated by weather conditions, maintenance/refurbishment, local regulations and national or religious holidays. While we will endeavor to advise clients of any changes to itinerary inclusions, we cannot accept responsibility for any such situations which are outside our control.