

# **MOTORCYCLE TOUR** 22 NIGHT NEW ZEALAND MOTORCYCLE TOUR



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Silver Fern Holidays





# NIGHTS NEW ZEALAND MOTORCYCLE TOUR



There's something quite unforgettable about riding through New Zealand's stunning landscapes and countryside with the wind in your hair and your hands tightly gripping the handlebars of a classic Harley Davidson Motorbike.

This self drive tour gives you the freedom to explore New Zealand independently. We'll take care of the route and your accommodation, so all you have to think about is enjoying the ride!

# Day 1 Auckland – Hokianga

Head off through Auckland (the City of Sails) via Helensville, and then onto The Twin Coast Discovery Highway, stopping at the well-known Matakohe Kauri museum. After lunch continue through the grandeur of the Waipoua Forest to Tane Mahuta the oldest and largest surviving native Kauri tree in New Zealand. Follow the western coastline along to Omapere to overnight on the edge of the beautiful Hokianga Harbour, overlooking the massive sand dunes on the other side of the harbour. Distance: 300 kms

# Day 2 Hokianga via Cape Reinga to Paihia

A big day of riding today! This morning you catch the ferry across the Hokianga Harbour and head north following the Twin Coast Discovery Trail through the wonderful forests of Northland to Cape Reinga to see the northern most point of New Zealand. Later make your way back down to Paihia in the magnificent Bay of Islands.

Distance: 402 kms

# Day 3 Paihia to Tairua

Start the day with a high speed boat trip out to see the famous hole in the Rock and enjoy the beauty of the Bay of Islands. Back on dry land head back down to Auckland. Distance: 228 kms

# Day 4 Tairua to Rotorua via Hobbiton movie set at Matamata

Back in the saddle so to speak with a steady ride to Rotorua, stopping off at the Hobbition movie set in Matamata for a guided tour of the Lord of the Rings setting. Later arrive in Rotorua to explore the fascinating geothermal wonderland it's famous for. Distance: 196 kms

# Day 5 Rotorua to Gisborne

A three hour drive today takes you from Rotorua up to Gisborne passing beautiful Lake Rotoiti and leading you through some beautiful country to arrive in Gisborne, a city well known for its surf beaches and sunshine. Distance: 274 kms

# Day 6 Gisborne to Taupo

The ride today takes you on a coastal ride through the wine growing region of Hawkes Bay and along the coast and through vineyards. Stop for lunch in the art deco town of Napier, before turning inland and heading towards the Central Plateau of the North Island - an afternoon ride across a remote New Zealand road, before dropping in to the busy town of Taupo for a 2 night rest here.

Distance: 328 kms

# Day 7 Taupo or day ride to Waitomo Caves

Today you have an opportunity to rest and experience what Taupo has to offer with the Huka Falls, Geothermal Parks, Boat Trips, Sky Dives and Bungee Jumps to name but a few. However if you prefer to have a day of riding then there are wonderful day rides around Lake Taupo itself that can be done easily in a day.



## Day 8 Taupo to Wellington

A long day of riding today as you head down through Tongariro National Park with its 3 very distinctive volcanoes. Then it's on towards the southern tip of the North Island, cruising on relatively straight roads through the farmlands of the bottom half of the North Island, with its rolling countryside and lush green fields. Distance: 378 km

#### **Day 9** Wellington to Nelson

Spend the morning exploring Wellington before taking the Interislander ferry across the Cook Straight to Picton and riding across the top of the South Island to the sunny town of Nelson for your overnight. Distance: 110 kms

#### Day 10 Day ride up Abel Tasman Park

Visit Abel Tasman National Park one of our favourite National Parks in New Zealand, and explore the area. Consider leaving the bikes for a while to walk some of the Abel Tasman Coastal Path or take to the water and try your hand at kayaking. Ride back to Nelson for your overnight.

Distance: 316 kms

#### Day 11 Nelson to Punakaiki

Todays ride takes you through the Buller Gorge - a wonderful route of many more twists and turns as you follow the Buller River through the Gorge. You then head out to the coast and start down the West Coast of the South Island - first stop being the stunning rock formation at Punakaki.

Distance: 265 kms

#### **Day 12 Punakaiki to Hanmer Springs**

Zig zag across the South Island taking in the magnificent Southern Alp Mountain passes that this country offers – and cruise through the Lewis Pass. The Pass follows a meandering course along a succession of rivers so you are almost constantly in a valley looking up.

Arrive in Hanmer Springs with time for a dip in the hot pools to ease off aching muscles. Distance: 257kms

#### **Day 13 Hanmer Springs to Kaikoura**

Ride to Kaikoura this morning to sample the amazing seafood and take a whale watch tour to see giant sperm whales. Stretch your legs along the Kaikoura Peninsula Walkway if you feel like an afternoon stroll. Distance: 136 kms

#### **Day 14 Kaikoura to Arthurs Pass**

Drive back down the coast and across the Canterbury Plains before heading inland through the majestic mountain pass known as Arthurs Pass which is all about massive mountains and going up, up, up ...then down, down, down. You spend the night in the Arthurs Pass. Distance: 304 kms

#### **Day 15 Arthurs Pass to Franz Josef**

Ride out of Arthurs Pass and down the stunning West Coast of the South Island, a beautiful coastal ride with high mountain ranges on your left and the ocean on your right. Arrive in Franz Josef with enough time to take a helicopter flight to see the glaciers and Mount Cook from the air.

Distance: 236 kms

## Day 16 Fox Glacier via Gates of Haast to Queenstown

Today take the road further south, heading through more dramatic scenery of dense native bush and glacial valleys as you ride through the Haast Pass, and on past the stunning town of Wanaka on the shores of this huge lake. Continue on to Queenstown – New Zealand's adventure capital. Distance: 306 kms

#### Day 17 Queenstown to Te Anau

Spend the morning in Queenstown exploring and experiencing the adventure activities of this wonderful town. Early afternoon head off for an afternoon ride to the town of Te Anau - there is a wonderful evening glow worm tour here. Settle for the night on the shores of the lake at Te Anau.

Distance: 173 kms



#### Day 18 Te Anau to Milford Sound to Te Anau

This morning begins with a memorable ride to Milford Sound - it is the same road in and out including a one kilometre one way tunnel. The ride has stunning mountains, glaciers, native bush and snow clad mountain tips. Once at Milford Sound take a 2 hour boat trip out onto the Sound - a truly spectacular cruise. Later head back for another night on the shores of the lake at Te Anau.

Distance: 236 kms

#### Day 19 Te Anau to Invercargill

Have a lie in and a late start today, before heading off on the Southern Scenic Route to the town of Invercargill. If you choose, ride further ride out to Bluff the southernmost point of New Zealand. Also in this town is the Burt Munro museum which is definitely worth a visit! Distance: 242 kms

#### Day 20 Invercargill to Dunedin

Today head out back towards the East Coast of the South Island, with a beautiful ride through the stunning Caitlin's region of Southland, a place of hidden waterfalls, river valleys and picturesque rocky bays where the Pacific Ocean bites into the land. Visit the Petrified Forest. 180 million years old, it is revealed at low tide at Curio Bay this Jurassic forest, of petrified tree stumps and logs is amazing! Later head up to Dunedin for your overnight. Distance: 244 kms

#### Day 21 Dunedin to Mount Cook Village

Leaving the town of Dunedin behind you head up the coast to Oamaru with time to visit the penguin colony, before heading inland to the stunning lakes in the centre of the Southern Alps and the South Island - Lake Tekapo and Lake Pukaki. Both of these lakes have Mount Cook as a stunning back drop. Tonight spend the night on the shores of Lake Tekapo.

Distance: 317 kms

# Day 22 Lake Tekapo to Christchurch

Today your ride takes you back to Christchurch - head off from Tekapo across the Canterbury Plains and through the stunning area of the Rakaia Gorge, to arrive back in the Garden City - a day of relatively straight road riding after the twists and turns encountered in the last 21 days - just plain cruising home! Distance: 360 kms

#### **Day 23 Depart Christchurch**

Return your rental bike and transfer to Christchurch International Airport to board your flight home.

#### ALL SELF-GUIDED TOURS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Late Model Harley Davidson

Unlimited kilometres

Nightly accommodation - breakfast included on 4 star and 5 star accommodation packages

GPS Garmin Zumo 550 unit with route pre-planned and mount on Harley

Ferry crossings as required

Helmet, jacket, gloves and wet weather gear for rider and pillion passenger

Full itinerary provided prior to arrival in New Zealand 24 hour a day Freephone number for any assistance required at any time