

Scottsdale Tours Limited

P O Box 383 ♦ Katikati 3166 ♦ New Zealand ♦

PERUSING THE PACIFIC COAST

February 7 – 16, 2011 10 days – 9 nights



This tour will give you a unique opportunity to view many many miles of coastal vistas around the Coromandel, Bay of Plenty and East Coast areas. Other highlights are the Driving Creek Railway, Matakana Island, the Arboretum at Eastwoodhill and some lovely gardens.

Day 1 Monday, February 7 D

We start our tour this morning heading north to our morning tea stop in historic Clevedon. From here we meet the sea at the Firth of Thames to begin our coastal exploration. We have a visit to the bird centre at Miranda before making our way to Thames for lunch and a local tour. Later we travel up the very scenic eastern side of the Firth to Coromandel where a full day is completed with a ride on the unique Driving Creek Railway. We overnight at Coromandel.

Day 2 Tuesday, February 8 BD

This morning we continue up the coast through rustic Colville and on to the tip of the peninsula at Fletcher's Bay. Returning to Coromandel for lunch, we then cross the ranges and head down the eastern side visiting Whangapoua, Matarangi, Kuaotunu, and over the Blackjack Hill to Whitianga for the night.

Day 3 Wednesday, February 9 BD

Those who wish will take the ferry across the inlet this morning and we will collect you on the other side. We then continue the journey down the eastern coast visiting Cook's Beach, Hahei, Hot Water Beach and on to Tairua and Pauanui. Following lunch we continue on to Whangamata for a local tour and overnight stop.

Day 4 Thursday, February 10 BD

This morning we head up over the hill to Waihi where we will get a bird's eye view of the huge Martha Hill mining project and visit the very good museum. From there we cruise around Waihi Beach and Bowentown and stop for lunch in the mural town of Katikati. We visit Te Puna Quarry on the way to Tauranga where we will stop for the next two nights.

Day 5 Friday, February 11 BLD

We put the coach on the ferry this morning and travel across to Matakana Island for a guided tour. This is a fabulous day out and includes a ride down the beach on a horse and wagon followed by a full tour of the island and lunch. Our day ends with another ferry ride back to Omokoroa before we return to our overnight accommodation in Tauranga.



Day 6 Saturday, February 12 BD

We head on down the coast through the rapidly growing area of Papamoa to Whakatane where we have a local tour and a lunch break. On through Opotiki we then start our journey around the East Cape with some of the most fabulous coastal views anywhere in New Zealand. Our over-night stop is at Hicks Bay Motel perched high on a hill with a breathtaking panorama over the Pacific Ocean.

Day 7 Sunday, February 13 BD

This morning we travel on around the East Cape and visit the beautifully carved Church at Tikitiki and on through Ruatoria and Tokomaru Bay to our lunch stop in Tolaga Bay. From here we venture off the main highway to visit a lovely station homestead and garden. The day is completed at our hotel in Gisborne.

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Day 8 Monday, February 14

BD

An interesting day as we are taken on a guided tour of the district and then after lunch we visit some of the other local highlights of Gisborne including a trip up Kaiti Hill with its 360o views. Our last stop is at a local winery, where you can sample some of their fine products We spend another night in Gisborne.



Day 9 Tuesday, February 15

BD

Today we travel to the "Jewel of Eastland", the Eastwoodhill Arboretum which contains the largest collection of Northern Hemisphere temperate-zone trees in New Zealand on its 65 Hectares. We will have a guided tour through this attraction. After lunch in Gisborne, we set off for Wairoa, stopping at Nuhaka to visit Bremdale, a romantic rustic cottage garden with its attached organic horticultural area. This garden features Anne-Marie's Flower Barn with dried flowers, crafts and handmade rustic furniture also in abundance. We take a quick run down the Mahia Peninsula to visit one of my favourite little corners and finish our day at our motel in Wairoa.

Day 10 Wednesday, February 16

BL

An 8.00 start this morning sees us on our way to a morning tea stop at Forestry Headquarters on the beautiful slopes of Lake Waikaremoana. We then journey on through the awesome majesty of the Urawera National Park to a lunch break at Murapara. Our last visit on the way home is to the Garden Art Gallery in Rotorua where the husband and wife team of Graeme and Jeanette Blackburn maintain a lovely and interesting garden and Jeanette also produces original wildlife, landscape and floral paintings which are well sought after by collectors world-wide.

Cost \$1995,
\$100 deposit on booking
Balance of \$1895 by January 7, 2011
Single Supplement \$600
Late bookings welcome subject to availability

