

# **Kapiti Island & Wellington**

FULLY ESCORTED TOUR PACKAGE

## **5 DAYS - 4 NIGHTS**

23rd November – 27th November 2018

### \$1,595

Per person, Double or Twin Share

## \$395

Single Supplement

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#### DEPOSIT

20% upon booking

## **PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

Balance due by 24th September 2018



## **TOUR DESCRIPTION**

We drive south, stopping in Taupo then continuing to the Kapiti Coast before arriving in Wellington where we stay for four nights.

We visit the breathtaking nature reserve on Kapiti Island which hosts some of New Zealand's most endangered birds and go to the Southward Car Museum and Wellington Tramway Museum.

In Wellington, we go on tours of the Gallipoli Exhibition at Te Papa plus the Beehive and Parliament Buildings.

We end with a wonderful, relaxing train journey home on the Northern Explorer, traversing Tongariro National Park and winding through the famous Raurimu Spiral.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

✓ Kapiti Island & Kapiti Coast

- ✓ Wellington
- ✓ Gallipoli Exhibition at Te Papa
- ✓ Beehive Tour
- ✓ Southward Car Museum
- ✓ Wellington Tramway Museum
- ✓ Northern Explorer Train
- 🗸 Raurimu Spiral

## **ITINERARY**

#### Day 1: Friday 23rd November | Dinner

An early morning start as we travel south and stop in Taupo for lunch. We continue through Manawatu to the untouched native forest and dramatic hillscapes of the Kapiti Coast before arriving in Wellington where we stay for four nights.

#### Day 2: Saturday 24th November | Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today, we take a short boat trip to Kapiti Island where we are given an informative talk by DOC Staff and have time to explore this delightful predator-free nature reserve. With its rich human and ecological history, Kapiti Island is one of New Zealand's oldest and most important nature reserves. We also have the chance to get up close and personal with some of the most magnificent and endangered New Zealand birds.

On our return, we have a free afternoon to relax or go for a wander around Wellington. Close to the hotel is the unique Wellington Cable Car and at the top is the Botanic Garden. There is Lambton Quay with its many shops or go to Zealandia which covers 225 hectares and is the world's first fully-fenced urban ecosanctuary.

#### Day 3: Sunday 25th November | Breakfast, Dinner

Our first visit today is the famous Southward Car Museum which houses some of the world's rarest and most valuable vehicles. Sir Len Southward, along with his wife Lady Vera, started to collect cars in 1956 after buying a Model T Ford for the sum of 40 pounds. As the collection grew, a permanent museum was founded.

We continue to the Wellington Tramway Museum where the trams date from the 1920s and 1930s and which were used in Wellington until their closure in the 1960s. These iconic trams are cared for and operated by volunteers of the museum. We will of course take a ride on one of the original Wellington Trams.





#### Day 4: Monday 26th November | Breakfast, Dinner

This morning, we are off to see the renowned Gallipoli Exhibition at Te Papa in central Wellington. Gallipoli immerses visitors in the eightmonth campaign and tells the story through the eyes and words of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances. They are captured frozen in a moment of time on an epic scale - 2.4 times human size.

Following lunch in the city, we head to the Beehive for a tour of the iconic Parliament building designed by Sir Basil Spence and was officially opened in 1979. Who knows, you may even catch a glimpse of your local Member of Parliament.

#### Day 5: Tuesday 27th November | Breakfast

Today, we make our way home on the Northern Explorer Train passing through Tongariro National Park and winding through the famous Raurimu Spiral which is regarded as an 'engineering masterpiece'.

The final destination is Auckland but you can be dropped off at other stations along the way by prior arrangement.

Images courtesy of TourismNZ © and Norm Heke, Te Papa ©

