



Te Pukatea Bay,
Abel Tasman National Park

Top of the South Walking

tranzit
tours

New Zealand's
Senior Travel Club

Itinerary especially prepared for

Top of the South Walking Tour- Nov 21 - Enquiry

Travelling 28 November 2021 to 5 December 2021

Thank you for your enquiry into our Top of the South Walking tour for November-December 2021.

You have received this full itinerary because you contacted us by phone, email or website to express your interest. For your information this has been released to a large register of interest of like-minded travellers. The full itinerary follows.

Booking

To secure your place on this tour, please call us on 0800 471 227 Extn 2, or alternatively 370 6600, Extn 2.

Your place on this tour is confirmed only by ringing us and acknowledging that you have read the terms and conditions together with the travel agreement. Secondly, we require your full payment immediately (amounts shown in the Terms and Conditions). Please do not just send a booking form and payment by mail because we expect this to sell out quickly.

Tour Overview

We are pleased to be working with Active Adventures to bring you this little gem of a walking tour. Taking in the stunning scenery of the Queen Charlotte Sounds, Abel Tasman and Nelson Lakes National Parks, this 8-day walking adventure will have guests experiencing a variety of scenery! From sandy white beaches and crystal blue waters to natural gas flames, snowy mountain peaks and native beech forest, this week of walking gets you off the beaten track to some best kept secret areas, ensuring a week of lasting memories for all!

Highlights

- Walk on the Queen Charlotte Track.
- Experience native birdlife on Motuara Island.
- Walk in Abel Tasman National Park.
- See the crystal clear waters of Pupu springs and hike the hydro walk.
- Experience the Ngarua caves.
- Bush walk to see natural gas flames coming out of the earth.
- Hike around Lake Rotoiti in Nelson Lakes National Park.
- Wine tasting at Forrest Estate winery.

Group Size

This is a small group tour, with a maximum of 14 guests, plus two experienced guides and a Tranzit driver. The tour requires a minimum of 8 paying guests to go ahead.

Fitness

As an activity level 3 trip, guests will need a reasonable level of fitness for this itinerary. You will get to experience walking in coastal, forest and varying terrain, and will have experienced guides to help along the way. Typically hikes on this trip range from 1 to 3 hours, and sometimes more. We do recommend that guests prepare and do some training, so you get the most out of your adventure. The attached Travel Agreement and booking information sheets will need to be completed when confirming your booking.

Travel Insurance

A number of the components of this tour package are non-refundable. For this reason, we strongly recommend that you take out some form of travel insurance for your protection and peace of mind. Our travel insurance provider is Helloworld Travel, Masterton. They offer both cancellation and full cover for domestic and international travel. Please don't hesitate to call them direct on 06 378 2454 and ask for Laura, or email her at laura.dawes@helloworld.co.nz; she will be only too happy to answer your questions or provide you with a quote.

Should there be any part of the itinerary you wish to discuss, please give us a call, as we want your decision to join us to be as fully informed as possible.

Ali, Kath, and Robin - your Tranzit Tours team

Trip Details

Day 1 Sunday, 28 November 2021

Tour Travel to Picton and Boat to Portage Bay

Up with the larks, we begin our journey south from all destinations today as we are transferred to Wellington and meet at the Interislander ferry terminal for a morning sailing to the South Island. Our adventure starts in the sunny port of Picton, where our guides will meet the group off the Interislander Ferry. From there we will be catching a boat over to Portage Bay in Kenepuru Sound, our home for the next couple of nights. This evening we'll have a welcome dinner as we get to know each other and prepare for the adventures of the week to come.

Stay: Portage Resort, Queen Charlotte (L,D)



Day 2 Monday, 29 November 2021

Tour Walk the Queen Charlotte Track

After breakfast we'll head off for our first walk on the Queen Charlotte track. We'll start just a short distance from our accommodation and walk to Mistletoe Bay. To get there we'll walk along a stunning ridgeline through lush coastal forest, with intermittent views out to the dazzling blue sounds below. We'll stop for our picnic lunch at the lookout at the top, at 407m above sea level, you'll have unsurpassed views across the sounds. In the afternoon we descend down along the ridge to Mistletoe Bay, where we can be rewarded with a dip in the clear waters and a beverage before transferring back to Portage Resort for the evening.

Stay: Portage Resort, Queen Charlotte (B, L, D)

Hiking: 7 kilometres, 4-5 hours, elevation gain 350m (we take this at a very leisurely pace)



Day 3 Tuesday, 30 November 2021

Tour Island Sanctuary and Queen Charlotte

This morning we'll nip over to Torea Bay to be picked up by boat and taken to Motuara Island Bird Sanctuary. This Island sanctuary has been eradicated of pests since the early 1990s, so now has an abundance of native birdlife including saddleback (tieke), NZ robin (toutouwai), bellbird (korimako), tui, grey warbler (riroriro), NZ pigeon (kereru), silver eye (tauhou) and fantail (piwakawaka). We'll walk a moderate gradient track around the hill with several lookout points along the way before reaching the highest point of the island (128m) where we'll get fantastic views across to Ship Cove. Afterwards we'll get the boat back to Portage Resort for lunch before heading west over the hill to Nelson for the night.

Stay: Hotel Nelson (B, L, D)

Hiking: 2km, about 1 hour



Day 4**Wednesday, 1 December 2021**

Tour **Walk Abel Tasman Coastal Track**

Today we will experience another famous hike, and our first great walk - the Abel Tasman Coastal track. To get there we drive to the picturesque Kaiteriteri beach before taking a water taxi to Medlands Beach to start our walk. A short walk through the bush takes us to a picnic lunch spot in the beautiful Bark Bay. After lunch we'll hike up into the forest for views over Mosquito Bay and Tonga Quarry to finish at Onetahuti Beach. There will be time to chill out and enjoy the scenery (even have a dip!) before the water taxi picks us up again to return. This evening we enjoy a kiwi barbecue dinner back at our accommodation in sunny Motueka.
Stay: Nautilus Lodge Motel, Motueka (B, L, D)
Hiking: 6.5 kilometres, 2-3 hours

**Day 5****Thursday, 2 December 2021**

Tour **Explore Pupu Springs**

The Takaka hill is a natural obstacle that kept Golden Bay from being populated by only the hardiest of people for many years, making it a well-kept secret spot to visit. Today we venture over the hill to visit the stunning Pupu Springs. First though we'll hike the Pupu hydro walkway to see the source of this stunning crystal clear water, which follows an old mining water race, an engineering masterpiece of its time! Afterwards we'll visit Te Waikoropupu Springs themselves, the largest cold water springs in the Southern Hemisphere, containing some of the clearest water ever measured. Te Waikoropupū Springs (known as Pupū Springs), discharge 14,000 litres of water per second and are a Maori Taonga. After a picnic lunch we'll head back over the hill, visiting Ngarua caves along the way. This cave system is full of stalagmites and stalactites and holds ancient Moa bones. Tonight you'll be on your own for dinner, choosing from the many options Motueka has to offer.
Stay: Nautilus Lodge Motel, Motueka (B, L)

Hiking: 3.2 kilometres, 1.5 hours

**Day 6****Friday, 3 December 2021**

Tour **Natural Flames and Brunner Peninsula**

After breakfast in Motueka, we'll hit the road south, stopping for a quick look at the Kawatiri historic railway tunnels, before heading towards Murchison to experience the natural flames tour! This will take us on a bushwalk through farmland and native forest to arrive at the natural wonder of flames flickering on the floor of the forest, surrounded by ferns and beech trees! These are produced by natural gas escaping from the earth, and we'll enjoy a billy of tea and pikelets all cooked on the natural flames before walking back. We'll then have lunch in Murchison (own cost) before heading to the small alpine town of St Arnaud. Once there you can choose to relax in our accommodation, or head out for one more walk of the day on the Brunner peninsula nature walk to see a great variety of flora and fauna.
Stay: Alpine Lodge, St Arnaud (B, D)
Hiking: Kawatiri tunnel - 20 minutes; Flames walk - 4.8 kilometres, 1-2 hours; Brunner peninsula - 2.4 km, 45 minutes



Day 7**Saturday, 4 December 2021**

Tour **Hike Nelson Lakes National Park**

Today we get to really experience true backcountry, as we take a boat across Lake Rotoiti into the heart of Nelson Lakes National Park to the dock at Coldwater Hut. After we check out the hut, we'll head along the western shore of the lake, and after an hour come across Whiskey falls. Legend says these falls got their name due to the illegal distillery located here during the years of prohibition! We will continue along the trail through native beech forest, with great views of the lake until we reach the Mt Robert road. We'll transfer back to the Lodge for the evening and enjoy our last feast together to celebrate our week of adventure!

Stay: Alpine Lodge, St Arnaud (B, L, D)

Hiking: 7.5 kilometres, 3-4 hours

**Day 8****Sunday, 5 December 2021**

Tour **Winery Lunch and Return to Picton**

After breakfast we travel down the Wairau Valley towards Blenheim. We'll stop off for some lunch and wine tasting at Forrest Estate winery, before heading back to Picton for our afternoon sailing back across the Cook Strait. Finally, we bid our fellow travellers goodbye before being transferred to our home locations.

(B, L)

**Cost of Tour Includes**

- All coach travel
- Interisland Ferry transfers
- Good quality hotel or motel accommodation
- All evening meals, except day 5
- All breakfasts
- Lunches as listed in the itinerary
- All guiding services - two guides per trip.
- All activities as described above - hiking, boat tours, natural flames and caves.

Total Cost Per Person (Based on 1 person)

Double or Twin share**\$5995.00****Single Accommodation****\$6745.00**

Terms and Conditions

Deposit required to confirm your booking \$3000.00 per person (non-refundable)

Tour balance payable by: 29 September 2021

Bank account details: BNZ 020688 0127658 00

Tour Reference: TopWalkingDec21

To: Transit Coachlines Wairarapa Ltd

P O Box 116

MASTERTON 5840

Phone 0800 471 227 or (06) 370 6600

OR: Book online at www.transittours.co.nz

Transit Coachlines (Wairarapa) Ltd, trading as Transit Tours Terms and Conditions and Important Booking Information

Before you book a tour with Transit Tours, please take the time to read and understand these Terms and Conditions below.

These Terms and Conditions apply to bookings made from 11 September 2020 onwards, including new bookings made with credit vouchers issued following tour cancellations or postponements.

If you booked your tour prior to 12 October 2020, your original Terms and Conditions still apply.

Pricing Validity

- All costs associated with each tour are outlined in full within each tour itinerary. All pricing quoted is valid for the dates of tour when booked.

Reservations and Payments

- Bookings for all Transit tours can be made through any Transit Coachlines Reservations Centre or an approved Travel Agent.
- Any person making a booking for others shall be deemed to have accepted these Terms and Conditions on behalf of all individuals they are booking on a tour and it is the responsibility of the person making the booking to bring these Terms and Conditions to the attention of those individuals booked.
- A deposit as stated in the Tour Itinerary is payable to secure the booking.
- The balance must be paid in full by the date stated in the Tour Itinerary.
- Any reservation made within fourteen (14) days of the tour departure must be paid in full at the time of booking.

Cancellations, Postponements and Alterations

Cancellations by the Customer

- Cancellations 45+ days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 15% of your deposit, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- Cancellations 44 – 8 days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 15% of the total tour cost, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- Cancellations within 7 days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 25% of the total tour cost, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- No refunds will be made for cancellations made within one day of departure or once travel has commenced. Refunds will not be provided for unused portions of a tour, unless the Customer can provide genuine reason and documentary evidence that services were unable to be utilised (and a refund if applicable is available from the other provider) in which case the company will review each request and may provide a partial refund at the sole discretion of the company.
- Cancellations of one half of a twin share booking will result in the Customer cancelling being charged the cost of a single booking, if the Company is unable to match the twin share booking with another Customer.

Alterations by the Customer

- The Customer may transfer their booking to another person for the same tour and commencement date, but only if the other person satisfies all of Transit Tours requirements in relation to the tour and provides us a completed Booking Form. The Customer must notify Transit Tours in writing of the intended transfer at least 30 days prior to the commencement date of the tour. A \$60 transfer fee per person/per transfer will apply (in addition to any supplier change fees).

Cancellations or Postponements by the Company

- Transit Tours reserves the right to cancel, reschedule or postpone a tour. With the exception of the Force Majeure section below, Transit Tours will:
- In the event of a tour being cancelled by the company prior to departure and not postponed – refund the total amount paid in respect of that tour or provide a credit, but will have no further liability to the Customer.
- In the event of a tour being postponed – rebook the Customer for the new departure date or provide a credit, but will have no further liability to the Customer.
- In the event of a Force Majeure event that occurs prior to, or during, a tour such as but not limited to fire, flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, avalanche, severe weather, power outages, labour disruptions, pandemic, government controls or other events outside Transit Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Transit Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised, Transit Tours reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or shorten the tour and will be excused and released from its obligations without liability of any kind. Customers will receive a credit for postponed tours. For cancelled or shortened tours, refunds in these circumstances will be in full less any unrecoverable costs (i.e. expenses already incurred or fees charged by other providers).
- The Customer will be advised of any increased tour costs as a result of the postponement. Credits will be equal to the value of the payment made and must be used within 12 months. Customers are strongly advised to take out travel insurance.
- In the event of cancellation or postponement by the company, Transit Tours is not responsible for any consequential loss incurred by the Customer. Customers are again advised to take out travel insurance.

Alterations by the Company

- Before Tour Commencement: If a major change to the tour needs to be made before departure, we will inform the Customer of the change as soon as practicable and will advise of any consequential price increase or decrease.
- Transit Tours reserves the right to alter a tour (including the itinerary) and substitute accommodation facilities should unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, the company reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. The company will not be held responsible for weather-based cancellations, or those closures made at the tour provider's discretion.
- Transit Tours will inform the customer as soon as practicable and will advise of any consequential price increase or decrease.

Insurance

- Transit Tours recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance to cover against things like lost or damaged luggage, accident or sickness, loss or theft of personal belongings and documents, or the need to cancel or shorten your tour. Please note that special conditions will apply for pre-existing medical conditions with all travel insurance policies.

Health and Fitness

- Transit Tours are generally able to accommodate most fitness abilities; however, some tours may require a certain level of physical fitness for full enjoyment of tour activities. The Customer must inform Transit Tours, at the time of booking, of any health or fitness restrictions that may limit participation of tour activities or put the Customer, tour staff or other customers at risk. The Customer acknowledges that their suitability for a tour, or any activity within a tour, is wholly the Customer's responsibility.
- Payment of a deposit by the Customer to secure a Transit Tour acts as a warranty that:
 - the Customer is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in the tour, and
 - the Customer does not have a health, physical condition or disability that would create risk to themselves, tour staff or other customers, and
 - the Customer indemnifies Transit Tours from all actions, claims and demands arising out of any want of health or fitness.
- Transit Tours reserves the right to decline a booking on medical, health or fitness grounds at its sole discretion.
- Transit Tours reserves the right to remove a Customer from a tour, or quarantine a Customer on tour, if their health and/or fitness interferes with the tour or staff safety or other Customers safety or tour experience in any way. Any additional costs associated with a Customer's removal from tour or placement into quarantine, shall be borne by the Customer. Refunds will be made in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

Authority on Tour

- Transit Tours are operated by staff with decision making authority while on tour. By travelling with Transit Tours, you agree to accept the authority of the driver/guide and their decisions are final in all matters likely to affect the wellbeing, safety or experience of any customer or staff member on board. Failure to adhere to reasonable requests or any inappropriate behaviour that is degrading the experience of other customers, may result in the Customer being removed from the tour. If a Customer is asked to leave a tour, any costs associated with returning home will be borne by the Customer and any unused portion of the tour will not be refunded.

Responsibilities

- Transit Tours include goods and services provided by other operators such as hotels, attractions and transportation companies. Customers are advised to familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions on which these services are supplied. Accordingly, Transit Tours will not be responsible and will be excluded from liability for any loss, damage, omission or acts being negligent or otherwise, committed by other goods and service providers used in connection with the tour.

- Transit Tours is not liable for any loss, damage, delay, or injury caused to the traveller or their baggage whilst under the care or control of a third-party provider. A Customer's baggage and personal effects shall be carried at the owner's risk as provided for under the Carriage of Goods Act.
- Transit Tours is not responsible for any losses or additional expenses to the Customer due to tours impacted by Force Majeure events that occur prior to, or during, a tour such as but not limited to fire, flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, avalanche, severe weather, power outages, labour disruptions, pandemic, government controls or other events outside Transit Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Transit Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised.

Acceptance of Risk

- The Customer acknowledges that all Transit Tours may be subject to risks and dangers beyond that which might be experienced by the Customer at home. Except as provided in law, the Customer acknowledges that they assume all risk and Transit Tours is not liable for misadventure, death, injury, delay or loss which occurs during the tour.

Seat Rotation

- For the enjoyment of all travellers Transit Tours operates a seat rotation system which all travellers must participate in as a condition of booking.

Photographs

- Photographs used to market any Transit Tour depict typical scenes experienced, but the subject matter may not necessarily be seen or experienced whilst visiting a destination within a tour.
- Whilst on tour, the Customer may be included in photographs and/or film taken by the guide or driver. These photographs may be used for future promotional advertising purposes and by booking on a Transit Tour the Customer authorises the use of any images they are captured in to be used without further consent or any payment of any kind. If the Customer does not authorise the use of their image for promotional purposes, they must make this known at the time of booking.

Privacy Policy

- Any personal information that Transit Tours collects about the Customer may be used for any purpose associated with the operation of a tour or to send the Customer marketing material in relation to Transit Tour products. The information may be disclosed to our agents, service providers or other suppliers to enable Transit Tours to operate the tour. Transit Tours will otherwise treat your details in accordance with our privacy policy (available on our website).

Applicable Law

- The laws of New Zealand govern these Terms and Conditions to the fullest extent allowable.