



Kaikoura early morning

Tranzscript

New Zealand's Best Senior Travel Club

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MARCH 2025 | WAIRARAPA

tranzit
tours

► Part of The Tranzit Group

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Welcome

And just like that, it's March!

The tours team have been busy over the last couple of months with Anil jet-setting off to India to visit his family. While there he has been liaising with attractions for our planned Heritage and Cultural Tour of India in 2026. Keep an eye on our Facebook page where we will be showcasing his travels.

Ali and her tour group recently returned from Great Barrier Island where an adventurous time was had by all, walking through volcanic rock formations, witnessing glorious sunsets and discovering the endless beaches of the Barrier. Talented artists and craftspeople were abundant, and the waters of the Hauraki Gulf were warm and inviting.



Just home and unpacking their bags is our Whanganui River tour group, who experienced the sacred Whanganui Awa in its many guises, from headwaters to the sea, historic paddle steamer to speedy jet boat and much more, although unfortunately with a bit of an unseasonal weather challenge in the mix.

YOUR TOURS TEAM

Don't forget to check out our day tours on page 6 - join us in April when we experience the new electric ferry from Wellington to Days Bay, and in June we've rounded up a great grazing venue for our Mid-Winter lunch.

We are looking forward to taking you on your next scenic adventure!

~ *The Tours Team*



Picnicing on Great Barrier Island

Touring Icons

A quick visual guide for what you're in for.



Heritage

NZ's home and gardens on show



Culture

Shows, history and the arts



Wine and Food

Enjoy local delights on tour



Flight/s included

Get to your destination quicker



Walking

A good level of fitness is required



Travel by Train

Train enthusiasts a must!



Boat trip offered

Enjoy a cruise on the water



Escape to nature

Nature and natural history

Your Tranzit touring family...

Ali



Robin



Anil



Fleur

Quick tour guide

April

- » The Greenstone Trail
- » Gentle Annie Explorer

June

- » Mid Winter in Napier

August

- » Northern Explorer Short Break

September

- » Melbourne & Great Ocean Road
- » Mountains to Sea
- » Forgotten World Highway

October

- » Fraser Island
- » Far North
- » Ride the Rails

Also planned:

- » Hurunui Gardens
- » East Cape Escape
- » Molesworth
- » Deep South
- » Chathams

Featured Tours

Northern Explorer Short Break

20-22 August 2025 - Phone NOW for an itinerary - you don't want to miss out!



This tour provides the opportunity to travel the 'Northern Scenic' route on the Northern Explorer train to Taumarunui, featuring numerous soaring viaducts and the engineering marvel of the Raurimu Spiral. This short break stays in Ohakune and is packed full of other attractions including a Dinosaur Museum - housed in a beautiful heritage building, and one of NZ's largest Alpaca farms.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

Northern Explorer to Taumarunui & Travelling to Ohakune

The Northern Explorer is a train excursion featuring many wonderful scenic and engineering highlights. We'll enjoy the gorges of Rangitikei Valley and River, passing over five towering viaducts. We'll marvel at the stunning scenery of Tongariro National Park as the train passes over the tallest viaducts on the line, before we reach the world-renowned Raurimu Spiral, an ingenious engineering solution to the steep gradients the central plateau presents. We are met by our tour coach and driver at the Taumarunui Railway Station and drive to the Turoa Ski field where you can play in the snow and enjoy a coffee at the Mountain Café.

"Ride the rails on the Northern Explorer"

Mountains to Sea

15-19 September 2025 - Phone NOW for an itinerary!



The name paints the picture: from a stay in Ohakune under the shadow of Mt. Ruapheu, to relaxing by the sea in Raglan. Discover the silica terraces and geysers of Orakei Korako and cruise the Waikato River to experience the power of the remarkable Huka Falls. Step into the enchanting world of Hobbiton and enjoy the delicious “fayre” at the Green Dragon Inn.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

Explore Thermal Taupo

This morning we travel out to the hidden valley of Orakei Korako, to experience the eerie majesty of this thermal area. We cross the Waikato River by boat and then have time to explore a world of geysers and see some of the largest silica terraces in the world. This afternoon we visit the Aratiatia Dam site and then join our Huka Falls River Cruise. With time firstly to view the truly spectacular sight of the Aratiatia Dam emptying into and filling the river gorge below, we will board the specially designed and covered in riverboat for our cruise which takes us upstream to view the fabulous Huka Falls. Motoring up the crystal waters of the Waikato River, you will also see birdlife, natural hot streams and see what natural energy drives the Wairakei Geothermal Power Station.



*“Outstanding displays of
NZ’s geothermal
activity”*

Day Tours

East West Ferry

Tuesday 8 April - just a few seats left so don't delay!

A wonderful day of adventure awaits with a guided tour of the Wellington Museum with its fascinating historical stories of the Wellington region with unique tableaux displays before boarding the East West Ferry for Days Bay. In Eastbourne we dine for lunch at an authentic French café and our experienced head chef delights our taste buds before we embark on the return ferry journey taking in the sights and sounds of Wellington's stunning harbour. A unique taste of France in Wellington!

Please advise of any dietary requirements when you book.

NB: Lower Valley pickups available today

Depart:

8.10am Tranzit Depot

8.20am Farriers Masterton

Return: 5.15pm Masterton

Price: \$135.00 – due by 21 March

Includes: Coach, Ferry, lunch and museum entry

Banking reference: EastWest25



East West Ferry

Credit Photo: Hutt Valley Council

Lunch at Homewood Storeroom

Tuesday 10 June - Book now, you don't want to miss out!

Join us for our midwinter lunch in a charming setting in a quiet corner of the Wairarapa, the Homewood Storeroom. Situated near to Riversdale is a family-owned restaurant run by chef Paddy Tatham and partner Alex, on the edge of the Tatham family farm. We enjoy a delicious lunch incorporating ingredients from the farm and we'll also get to hear a bit about the farm operation and the restaurant venture that appeared on Country Calendar last year. Also be sure to browse the gallery featuring quality local products.

Depart: 9.20am Tranzit Depot

9.30am Farriers Masterton

Return: 3.00pm Masterton

Price: \$99.00– due by 27 May

Includes: Coach and lunch

Banking reference:

Homewood25



Homewood Storeroom

World of Wearable Art Show 2025

October (dates TBC) - phone now to register your interest

Tickets will go on sale soon for this perennial favourite. Phone us now to register your interest so you don't miss out!. Truly amazing garments are presented in a unique two-hour show of choreography, music, lighting and special effects.

Price: Details to be confirmed

The Concert Club

We've been talking about the good old days when we used to go to many more concerts and shows, and we are keen to start offering more opportunities to go to shows, the symphony orchestra, ballets and Circa Theatre performances once again. Please give us a call or send us an email if this would be of interest to you.

Travel Club Terms and Conditions

Paying by internet for Travel Club Trips

For those of you wanting to pay by internet, there have been a few changes instigated by the NZ banking industry, to help reduce the risk of people making mistakes and paying the wrong person and to help avoid payment scams when making payments. This comes into effect at the end of November 2024.

You will now be required to provide the following information when making a payment:

Your name: please provide your name

Our account name: Tranzit Coachlines Wairarapa Limited

Tranzit Tours Account number: 02-0688-0127658-00

Reference: please use the reference listed for each of our tours and day trips, which you will find in the pricing information for each tour or trip (eg Palliser24)

Other ways to pay:

For your convenience, you can also make payment the following ways:

- Phone us with your credit card details
- Drop in to see us with card or cash (Wairarapa & Manawatu members only)

Spend a few days away with us.

Tours for 2025

Give us a call to request an itinerary or register your interest if something takes your fancy. We look forward to arranging your next holiday!

Greenstone Trail

10-18 April - last chance to book, phone now for an itinerary



Explore the wild West Coast of the South Island from top to bottom. This is one of New Zealand's most unspoilt regions and our tour is full of attractions that cover many of the 'must see and do's' of Westland. Have you ever walked among the treetops in a South Westland Rainforest or been wowed by the reflections at Lake Matheson? Visited the glaciers or explored the secret waterways of Okarito?



Rainforest Walk - Greenstone Trail

Gentle Annie

28-30 April - last seats available, don't miss out!



Explore the Central North Island's lesser travelled interior and the dramatic landscapes of the Rangitikei region. We travel up the historic Moawhango Valley and follow the Inland Patea Heritage Trail (better known as the "Gentle Annie"), from Taihape to Napier. A visit to one of the historic sheep stations on the route is a special highlight!



Mid Winter Christmas in Napier

24-26 June - full, waitlisting.

Offering many options to enjoy Hawkes Bay. Enjoy a tour and lunch at the historic Ashcott Homestead and get hands on at Faraday Museum of Technology. Have a relaxing morning of breathtaking views along the Cape Sanctuary in a guided 4x4 bus tour and sample wines at Craggy Range with its awe-inspiring back drop views of Te Mata Peak.

The Forgotten World Highway

29 September - 3 October -
phone now to register your
interest



Experience this remote and mysterious journey, as we wind our way over saddles, through gorges, tunnels and dense forest. The “republic” of Whangamomona, the hand-hewn Moki tunnel, and the remarkable Tangarakau Gorge are highlights on this scenic route that follows an old heritage trail.



Forgotten World Highway

The Far North

6 - 15 October - releasing soon -
register your interest



The Far North returns as we plot the history of the unique Northland kauri industry and connect with ancient kauri. We've packed in all of the Far North's favourites along with some great new temptations.

Drive along the endless sands of 90 Mile Beach, cruise to the Hole in the Rock, visit the amazing sculpture park at Matakana, discover the Kumara Capital of Dargaville, and uncover an amazing whaling museum in a remote tranquil spot.



Waipoua Forest - Far North

Ride the Rails

23 - 30 October - register your
interest



Due to an unexpected maintenance closure of the TranzAlpine line at the time that we had booked this excursion, we are re-writing this tour and aiming to re-release as soon as possible. Dates will remain much the same. This is one of our most popular tours, so don't miss out; register your interest now and rediscover the joys of train travel. The world renowned TranzAlpine (Greymouth to Christchurch) and the scenic

Coastal Pacific (Blenheim to Christchurch) excursions are special highlights, but we also discover vintage and branch lines, talk to genuine railway enthusiasts, and learn about the unique history of NZ rail.



Ferrymead Heritage Park
Ride the Rails



Hurunui Gardens

Hurunui & Marlborough Gardens

Early October (dates TBC) - phone now to register your interest



Hurunui Garden Festival is gaining a reputation as a first-class garden event. Gorgeous gardens from all over this region (near Hanmer Springs) open their gates so festival goers can visit gardens of national significance, horticultural delights and elegant rural properties borrowing mountain vistas. View art and sculpture and find inspiration in the gardens of others. We will also be visiting some of our favourite Marlborough Gardens, so don't miss this opportunity to see some of the best gardens in the country.

Molesworth Station

12-16 November - phone NOW to register your interest



This is one of our most popular tours and we've made it even better, introducing you to more remote areas. We use specially designed vehicles that take you comfortably through the soaring back country terrain of Molesworth Station (NZ's largest). BUT THAT'S NOT ALL... we also tour through the stunning and constantly changing landscapes of Rainbow Station and visit a hill country property in the Leader Valley with unique geological features. We use a local guide whose knowledge is extensive, so you will learn the area's history through an informative and entertaining commentary.



**Musterers & Dogs
Molesworth Station**

East Cape Escape

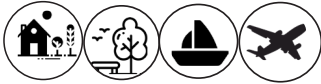
24 - 30 November - phone NOW for an itinerary



Explore the scenically and culturally rich East Cape, viewing beautiful churches, discovering isolated bays and taking roads less travelled. We ride the rails at Awakeri, stay at stunningly isolated Hicks Bay, stroll on the Tolaga Bay Wharf, and lunch at the local in Waihau and Tokomaru Bays. A stroll through Eastwoodhill Arboretum is another special attraction on this tour that is sure to please.

The Deep South

17 - 26 November - phone now to register your interest



Returning in 2025 by popular demand. Join us on our southern-most sojourn as we travel the full Southern Scenic Route from Dunedin via the ruggedly dramatic Catlins Coast to Invercargill, and on to stunning Fiordland. We really get to tick off those bucket list destinations, with a cruise in tranquil Doubtful Sound and an overnight stay on Stewart Island being special highlights.



Tolaga Bay - East Cape

Chatham Island

4 - 9 December - phone NOW to register your interest



We return to this remote part of NZ to discover the unique landscapes and natural history, learn about the lifestyle of the Chatham Islanders and enjoy fabulous meals featuring



Doubtful Sound - The Deep South

abundant seafood. Every day is an adventure as our travels uncover unusual geological formations, remote fishing villages and a rich flora and fauna - all interwoven with the unique Chathams history of the Moriori.



Maunganui - Chatham Island

Christmas in Rotorua

23 - 27 December - phone
NOW to register your interest

Our festive season commences as we head to Rotorua, the geothermal capital of New Zealand. A place where the earth breathes and nature paints it's masterpiece. Walk in the canopy of the Redwood Forest, cruise on Lake Rotoiti and enjoy a fascinating display at Birds of Prey, with all the celebrations of Christmas in the mix.

Join us for a fun and festive time with friends old and new!



Sulphur Flats - Rotorua

Overseas Experiences

We are almost there with our overseas plans for 2025 and 2026. You will see updated destination and details below. Register your interest now for these great opportunities.

Melbourne and the Great Ocean Road September 2025 (dates TBC)

An eight-day tour exploring the best of Melbourne, from its parks and gardens to its gracious buildings, sporting venues, the Yarra River and Phillip Island. This tour also features the Great Ocean Road, one of Australia's most scenic drives. We discover the amazing Twelve Apostles and other incredible formations fashioned by nature, learn about the history of the "shipwreck coast" at Warnambool, and find out about the gold rush of Ballarat and much more.



The Great Ocean Rd - Victoria
Credit Photo: BookMe

Cairns and Port Douglas

We are now looking towards 2026 for this popular winter destination.

Heritage & Cultural Tour of India 2026

Anil is in India at the moment visiting family and exploring the possibilities for this tour. We'll keep you updated on progress, so keep your eyes peeled on this page.

K'gari (Fraser Island)

October 2025 - take a look at this new destination!

World Heritage listed Fraser Island, known as K'gari (meaning paradise) is known for its natural wonders, unspoilt beaches, fantastic weather year-round and incredible scenery. This tour also takes in the sights of Brisbane and Hervey Bay - a recognised whale migratory path, and where we join a special whale watch cruise.



The Taj Mahal - Agra, India
Credit Photo: Anil Sharma



Shipwreck - Fraser Island
Credit Photo: Happy Travels



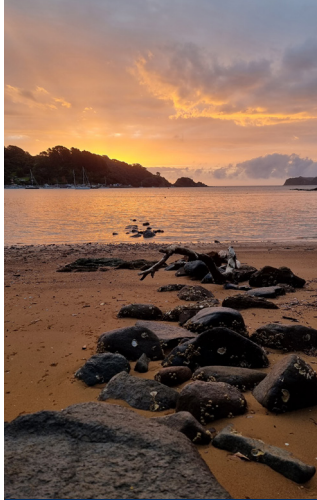
Hazy days in the sun - India
Credit Photo: Anil Sharma

Out and about with Tranzit Tours

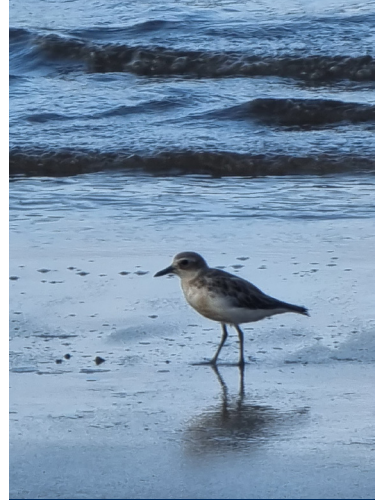
Fabouloous snaps from our more recent tours - Thanks to Ali and Fleur for the great photography.



**Windy Canyon walk
Great Barrier Island
February 2025**



**A stunning sunset
Great Barrier Island
February 2025**



**Dotterel spotting
Great Barrier Island
February 2025**



**Sunset Rock - Great Barrier Island
February 2025**



**Orana Park - Christmas in
Canterbury Tour 2024**



**Up the Whanganui River
March 2025**



**Torrent Bay boat ride
Top of the South Tour 2024**

Do you need a Guest Speaker?

Our promotional team led by Robin recently visited several members' villages in the Bay of Plenty and Greytown to talk about our tours and travel club and thoroughly enjoyed their time meeting folk. They are planning another series of visits around the lower North Island this year, so if you think it may be something your club or village might be interested in, do give us a call, we'd love to visit!

Keep us In the Loop

Have you recently moved, got a cell phone, got rid of your landline or changed your email address? Let us know, as we don't want you to miss out on receiving all the latest news about our exciting tours. If you don't want to receive our newsletters any longer we won't be hurt, we would rather know than keep annoying you with unwanted mail.

Needing a great gift?

The perfect gift for any occasion is a Tranzit Tour gift voucher. They can be made out for any nominated amount, and best of all there's no tiresome expiry date. Give us a call or drop in and see us and your gift giving troubles will be over.

The important stuff:

Our promise: Tranzit Tours is a fun and adventurous team, where you always come first.

The Tranzit Tours difference gives you:

Door to Door Transfers

We never compromise on your comfort or safety – from the moment we pick you up from your front door, to the moment we drop you off at home.

All inclusive

From the moment our driver collects you from the front door your journey with us is convenient, relaxing and stress free. All your costs are paid for up front - accommodation, dinners, attractions and transfers. There are no hidden extras.

Destinations & Attractions

Our tours offer a mix of big-ticket wow factor attractions and destinations such as Doubtful Sound, the Moeraki Boulders and Taupo to lesser-seen landscapes - all from the seat of a comfortable coach.

To discover more of our tours and for full itineraries visit www.tranzittours.co.nz



Walking on Medlands Beach - Great Barrier Island

Book now

For enquiries and reservations call:

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0800 471 227

9:30am - 4:00pm, Monday - Friday

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