

Tranzscript

MAY 2026 - MANAWATU

New Zealand's favourite travel newsletter

Join our Tranzit Tours travel club and explore New Zealand and beyond with like-minded travellers on our hosted tours .

Tautuku Bay - Caitlins

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Welcome

Yes, winter is on its way but so are some fantastic wintry getaways that we've created to tempt you out of hibernation, and with spring on the horizon a whole new season of adventures awaits.

As always, March and April have been busy travelling months for the team, with the South Island taking centre stage. Highlights included an unforgettable journey through the Canterbury high country, visiting Central Otago as the colours of autumn erupted, and a food lovers escape to Nelson. Meanwhile, our guests enjoyed beachside relaxation and cruising the stunning coastline on Great Barrier Island, while our Gentle Annie tour offered a chance to venture into the hinterland of the Central North Island, rounding off April's travels.

Don't forget to check out our day tour offerings – our "tours without a suitcase" on pages 8-9. We have an incredibly interesting and exclusive visit organised for June to Earth Sciences NZ, and in August we venture to Manawatu to enjoy Blast from the Past – a boutique cinema and dining experience. We are working hard to bring you more shows, and our Circa Show and Dinner makes a return, along with the perennial favourite and unmissable World of Wearable Arts.

So dig out a hat and a scarf and join us soon.

Warm regards

The Tours Team: Robin, Ali, Anil and Katie



**YOUR TOURS
TEAM**



Lake Rotoiti, Nelson Lakes

Our touring year ahead for 2026.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » The Southerner and TranzAlpine Rail Journeys <p>June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Midwinter Christmas in New Plymouth <p>July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Greytown Winter Festival <p>August</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Bay of Plenty Discovery » Behind the canvas Arts Tour | <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hawke's Bay Historic Homes » Alpine Pacific Triangle <p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Coromandel Getaway » Christchurch Spring Break <p>November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Taranaki Gardens Festival » Tasmania » Molesworth & Beyond » Classical India » Islands of the Hauraki Gulf |
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Tour icons.

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Heritage
NZ's home and gardens on show
- 

Wine and Food
Enjoy local delights on tour
- 

Walking/Exercise
A very good level of fitness is required
- 

Boat trip offered
Enjoy a cruise on the water
- 

Culture
Shows, history and the arts
- 

Escape to nature
Nature and natural history
- 

Flights included
Get to your destination quicker
- 

Travel by Train
Train enthusiasts a must!
- Price guide.**

 -  Under \$2000
 -  \$2000 - \$5000
 -  \$5000 +

Your Tranzit touring family.



NEW TOUR!

Featured Tours

Greytown Winter Festival

23-25 July - *phone now for an itinerary*



Greytown throws on its woolly jumpers and puffer jackets and launches into a month-long celebration of Christmas, with lights, decorations, markets and festive displays bringing a magical winter charm to the streets of the village. Staying in marvelous Martinborough we discover country pubs, local artisans and producers by day, and soak up the atmosphere of the Greytown Festival of Christmas by night

Read a sample of the itinerary:

We begin our day with a visit to the fascinating Wheelwright Hub, where we learn about the traditional craft of wheel and carriage making. and gain insight into this heritage skill. We are hosted for lunch and enjoy relaxed country hospitality at the historic Gladstone Inn before we visit Greytown's favourite local artisan businesses including Oggidomani Design Studio and the delicious Schoc Chocolates. This evening, we experience the atmosphere of the Greytown Winter Festival with its twinkling lights, festive decorations, lively markets, and enchanting displays that make this event so extra special.

"Winter brings together craft, flavour and celebration in perfect harmony"

Bay of Plenty Discovery

10-14 August - *phone now for an itinerary*



A new addition to our calendar, the vibrant city of Tauranga will be our base for a tour filled with memorable experiences and local discoveries. Enjoy a relaxing stroll along the scenic Marine Parade walkway at Mt Maunganui, visit the fascinating Classic Flyers Aviation Museum, and indulge in a Devonshire Tea at the historic Elms Homestead. Visit a local oyster farm and learn why the Bay of Plenty is recognised worldwide as a leading producer of kiwifruit. A perfect blend of culture, history, and tastes.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

We visit the fascinating Classic Flyers Museum, where a remarkable collection of vintage aircraft and aviation history awaits, giving insight into New Zealand's rich flying heritage. We then travel to Elms Te Papa for a delightful Devonshire tea (included) followed by a guided tour of the historic homestead and gardens, learning about the property's history and its significance in the region. We will then have some time to wander the vintage architecture and boutique shops at the Historic Village before we arrive back at our hotel.

NEW TOUR!



"A perfect blend of culture, history, and tastes"

Overseas Adventures

Tasmania

4 - 19 November - **Phone now to book!**



Our most in-depth Tasmanian experience yet. This journey combines adventure, stunning scenery, and well-chosen inclusions to showcase Tasmania at its best. A close look at the itinerary reveals how much is packed into this experience - virtually no stone has been left unturned. From unique encounters to standout locations, this tour delivers exceptional value and unforgettable memories.

We need a minimum number for the tour to proceed, book now to avoid disappointment.

Read a sample of the itinerary:
Today we embark on the Bruny Island Traveller, a day of exploring spectacular landscapes and gourmet local produce. We'll visit the home of Bruny Island's cheese, oysters, honey and wine, savouring produce as we hear the stories behind the harvest. Explore Two Tree Point beach and meander through the dense rainforest, home to the rare white wallaby.

“A place of spectacular beauty and a haunting history”



“A carefully curated journey through India’s most iconic sites”



Classical India

23 Nov - 11 Dec - **releasing soon!**



Travel with our very own Anil to his home country. Step into a land where empires rose, poets dreamed, and legends still whisper through ancient stones. Our Classical India Tour is the perfect first encounter with one of the world’s most captivating destinations. A carefully curated journey through India’s most iconic cities, wildlife havens, and spiritual heartlands, all with your safety and comfort at the top of our list.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

An early morning visit to the Taj Mahal allows us to witness this marble miracle light up with the first rays of the sun. The glistening white marble is bathed in the soft morning glow, and birdsong is the only sound that greets you in the midst of the tranquil gardens. It is as if the chaos of the city outside disappears and you are transported to an oasis of calm, away from the throngs of tourists and the frenzied rush of daily life.

Day Tours

Science on a Plate

Thursday 11 June

Ever wondered how New Zealand keeps an eye on natural hazards? Today we enjoy a rare behind-the-scenes opportunity at Earth Science NZ. Our private tour includes the Fossil and Rock Archive, home to fascinating geological treasures, the Hydro Lab, where scientists study water and environmental data, and Geohazard Monitoring and Event Response, where we'll learn how natural events are tracked and managed. We'll also visit the National Geohazards Monitoring Centre to discover how data is transformed into rapid, lifesaving responses. We'll enjoy an early lunch at The Farm, a highly recommended venue overlooking the beautiful Boulcott Heritage Golf Course.

Please advise any dietary requirements.

Depart: 8.30am Central Energy Trust Arena, Waldegrave Street carpark

Return: 5.30pm Palmerston North

Price: \$148.00 – due by 28 May

Includes: Coach, Earth Science NZ tour and lunch

Banking reference:

EarthScience26



Science on a plate - Wellington

Blast from the Past

Thursday 6th August

Step back in time and enjoy a delightful Blast from the Past experience at an old-time cinema in Himatangi. Relive the magic of classic movie reels in a nostalgic setting, complete with vintage décor and timeless atmosphere. Sit back, relax, and enjoy a selection of short documentaries, comedies and cartoons as memories of yesteryear come alive on the big screen. There's even an intermission with ice creams. The experience is perfectly complemented by a delicious high-tea lunch, featuring a selection of sweet and savoury treats served with tea and coffee. It's a wonderfully relaxing day out, combining entertainment, indulgence, and a touch of old-fashioned charm.

Please advise any dietary requirements.

Depart: 10.15am Central Energy Trust Arena, Waldegrave Street carpark

Return: 3.15pm Palmerston North

Price: \$99.00– due by 21 July

Includes: Coach, cinema admission and high-tea lunch

Banking reference: Blastpast26



Blast from the Past

2026 World of Wearable Art Show

Sunday 4 October

The World of WearableArt (WOW) Show is an internationally acclaimed celebration of creativity, where art, fashion, design, performance, and imagination collide. Often described as “Broadway meets Cirque du Soleil,” it’s a dazzling arena spectacle where dancers, live music, aerialists, cutting-edge visuals and atmospheric music bring each wearable masterpiece to life.

We have booked Gold category seats to a Sunday matinee with a programme included in your ticket cost.

We will depart in plenty of time to allow you to enjoy a bite of lunch in Wellington (own cost) before the show. Alternatively, you may wish to pack your own picnic to bring with you.

Depart: 8.30am Central Energy Trust Arena, Waldegrave Street carpark

Return: 6.30pm Palmerston North

Price: \$250.00 - Full payment due at time of booking

Includes: Coach and Gold show ticket with programme

Banking reference:

WOWPMR26

Please contact Palmerston North Branch directly on 06 355 4955 to book and pay for WOW.



WOW - Straw-ry Eyed, Bethany Cordwell, Australia

The Concert Club:

Remember the good old days when we used to go to many more concerts and shows? We are keen to start offering more opportunities to go to shows, the symphony orchestra, ballets and Circa Theatre performances once again. If you haven't expressed your interest yet, give us a call or send us an email. We look forward to an evening of culture with you soon.

Terms and Conditions:

Final payment is required to Tranzit no later than two weeks prior to the trip unless otherwise stated. Concert bookings do require a non-refundable deposit to confirm your booking.

Cancellations:

We endeavour to refund fully where possible, however cancellations made within 48 hours of departure may incur fees of non-refundable components.



Circa Theatre - Wellington

Photographs:

By joining a Tranzit Tours Travel Club day trip or tour, you consent to the use of any photographs or video footage taken during your trip for promotional and advertising purposes, without further consent or payment.

Payment Information

Paying by Internet

NZ Banks now require you to provide the following information when making a payment:

Your name:

please provide your full 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 Spaceplace26)

Other ways to pay:

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

- Phone us with your Credit or Debit Card details
- Drop in to see us with card or cash (for Wairarapa and Manawatu members only)

Tours for 2026

The Southerner and TranzAlpine Rail Journeys

22-26 May - **FULL - waitlisting**



This tour brings together scenic rail travel and memorable city experiences into one seamless and rewarding journey. Travel in comfort aboard the Southerner Train from Dunedin to Christchurch, and enjoy the world-famous TranzAlpine Train, one of New Zealand's most spectacular rail experiences.

Midwinter Christmas in New Plymouth

24-26 June - **just a few seats left, phone now for an itinerary**



New Plymouth is our midwinter destination for 2026, offering a wonderful range of activities and experiences to help us celebrate the season with flair and fun. This vibrant coastal city provides the perfect setting for a memorable winter escape, combining stunning natural scenery, fascinating attractions, and warm hospitality. From a gentle stroll along the

waterfront, taking in ocean views and public art, to discovering heritage and learning how to distil gin.



New Plymouth - Te Rewa Rewa Bridge

NEW TOUR

Greytown Winter Festival

23-25 July - **phone now for an itinerary**

See featured tours on page 4 for full information.

NEW TOUR

Bay of Plenty Discovery

10-14 August - **phone now for an itinerary**

See featured tours on page 5 for full information.

Behind the Canvas Arts Tour

17-21 August - **releasing soon, phone to register your interest**

From Wellington to Whanganui, this intimate tour will discover and uncover the best from the region's art world. Take a fascinating behind the scenes

tour at Te Papa, visit the private galleries of some of our eminent painters, along with regional galleries featuring wonderful treasures.



Behind the Canvas - Sarjeant Gallery

Hawke's Bay Historic Homes

7-9 September - **phone now for an itinerary**

Hawke's Bay is home to a wealth of historic homesteads - grand reminders of a bygone era when wool was king and prosperity shaped the region's landscape. As we journey through this picturesque countryside, we'll uncover some of these remarkable properties, also visiting a selection of notable public heritage buildings, offering insight into the rich architectural and cultural legacy of the Bay.



**Hawke's Bay Historic Homes
Ashcott Homestead**

Alpine Pacific Triangle

28 September - 4 October
phone now to register your interest

Another exciting new tour drops into our calendar, inspired by a well-known scenic South Island touring route, which journeys through the Lewis, Hanmer and Kaikoura areas. We have been delving deep to uncover hidden treasures and classic highlights. A Whale Watch Kaikoura tour promises to be a special highlight offering the chance to witness these magnificent creatures in their natural environment.



Alp Triangle - Kaikoura

Coromandel Getaway

12 - 18 October - **releasing soon, phone now to register your interest**

Discover the endless coastlines and sandy coves, the rugged volcanic landscapes and native forests of this scenic region, along with many unique and quirky attractions. With a mountainous interior cloaked in native rainforest and more than 400 kilometres of dazzling white

sand beaches, the Coromandel is rustic, unspoiled and relaxed. You will love this tour.



Coromandel - Coromandel Harbour

Christchurch Spring Break

19 - 23 October - ***phone now to register your interest***

Treat yourself to a spring escape to Christchurch where we've uncovered some amazing gems to visit. Enjoy an introduction to the Garden City aboard a classic double decker bus, delight in the joyful Giants House and Garden at Akaroa. Discover Ravenscar Art Gallery – an entire collection donated to the city by its philanthropic owners. Visit Kate Sheppard House for an engaging journey into the life and legacy of the woman who helped secure the world's first women's vote, and enjoy an elegant evening dining experience on the iconic Christchurch Tramway Restaurant.



Christchurch - Restaurant Tram

Taranaki Garden Festival 2-5 November - ***phone now to register your interest***

The rich volcanic soils of Taranaki boast some of the best gardens in the country. Join us as we visit at the height of spring, amid the flush of new seasons' growth and the colourful flurry of rhododendron flowering. From large country gardens to compact town allotments, from formal to enchantingly casual, this tour will delight.



Taranaki - Taranaki Garden Festival

Molesworth and Beyond

9 - 13 November - **phone now to register your interest**

We'd like to introduce you to the South Island High Country. Travelling in comfortable 4WD vehicles through the soaring back country terrain of Molesworth Station (NZ's largest), we'll also tour through the constantly changing landscapes of Rainbow Station – from mountain lakes to beech forest.



Molesworth - Station Musterers

Islands of the Hauraki Gulf

23 - 29 November - **phone now to register your interest**

Join us as we explore some of the myriad small islands that dot the Hauraki Gulf: rugged Rangitoto, Tiritiri Matangi (a haven for endangered NZ bird life), historic Kawau and wonderful Waiheke. And while we're at it we meander to Miranda, a world-renowned destination for migratory shore birds.



**Islands of the Gulf
Mission House Kawau**

Kaimanawa Heritage Horses

3-5 December - **phone now to register your interest**

Don't miss this rare opportunity to encounter the famous heritage horses of the Kaimanawa Ranges in their natural habitat. In spectacular back country normally closed to the public, we are very privileged to be able to enjoy this experience. We are joined by a Kaimanawa Heritage guide who knows where to find the mares, foals and stallions roaming free in their family bands.



Kaimanawa Horses

Chatham Island

7-11 December - **phone now to register your interest**

Discover this remote part of NZ with its unique landscapes and natural history,

learn about the lifestyle of the Chatham Islanders and enjoy fabulous meals featuring 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.



Chatham Island - Maunganui

Christmas in Dunedin

22-27 December - **phone now to register your interest**

The southern charm of Dunedin beckons this year as our festive destination. This grand old city and its surrounds are a unique mix of natural wonders, rare wildlife and stunning heritage attractions. The iconic Taieri Gorge train journey promises to be a special highlight.



Dunedin - Taieri Gorge

A sneak peak at whats in store in 2027

February

- Great Barrier Island

March

- Top of the South

March/April

- Southern Lakes High Country



Great Barrier Island - Sunset



Southern Lakes High Country



Top of the South - Farewell Spit

Home Safe & Sound.

High Country Stations - March

An unforgettable journey through the Canterbury high country! From the warm hospitality at stations such as Terrace, Orari Gorge, Point and Middle Rock, to the breathtaking landscapes that speak for themselves, this tour had it all. Stories rich in history were heard and plenty of wow moments experienced.



Happy travellers on our High Country Stations tour

Central Otago - March

Recently returned, this tour uncovered the Otago Goldrush legacy through charming villages and dramatic landscapes, enhanced by vibrant autumn colours. Highlights included Skippers Canyon, the Central Rail Trail, and the southern charm of Dunedin.



Outside Cardrona Hotel - Central Otago tour



Lunchtime! - Central Otago Tour

Great Barrier Island - April

What an incredible few days exploring the magic of Great Barrier Island – from beachside relaxation to cruising the stunning coastline aboard Sundancer, every day brought something special. We discovered local creatives, learned about a special wildlife sanctuary and enjoyed local flavours – Currach Irish Pub was a highlight on the dining front!



Boat Cruise Fitzroy - Great Barrier Island Tour



Great Barrier Island Sunset

Facebook

We're excited to share that our Tranzit Tours Facebook page has had a revamp! We'll be using Facebook and social media platforms much more to showcase upcoming tours, exclusive offers such as **EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS**, behind-the-scenes moments and exciting announcements for 2026 and beyond. Make sure you're following our page to stay in the loop – there's plenty of inspiration, updates and special promotions coming your way!



Help us save a few pigeons!

If you have an email address, we'd love to send your Tranzit Tours Tranzscript straight to your inbox rather than by post. It helps us cut down on printing and postage (and gives our hardworking pigeon post a well-earned rest!)

While you're at it, please let us know if any of your contact details have changed. And if you'd prefer not to receive our newsletters anymore, that's okay too - we'd much rather know.

Give a Gift Voucher

Celebrate the moments that matter with our newly styled Tranzit Tours gift vouchers – the perfect present for birthdays, Father's Day and every special occasion in between. Beautifully refreshed our vouchers give the gift of experience, connection and unforgettable memories. It can be used towards a concert, a day tour or a travel club tour. You're not just giving a voucher – you're giving something to look forward to.



Do you need a guest speaker?

Our tours team covered quite a lot of ground last year, visiting members' villages and clubs to talk about our tours and travel club and thoroughly enjoyed our time meeting folk.

We 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.



Presenting to residents in a Bay of Plenty lifestyle village

tranzit
tours

The important stuff:

Our promise - Tranzit Tours is made up of a fun and adventurous team where you, our guest, 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



The Church of the Good Shepherd - Lake Tekapo

Book now

Manawatu Contact Details:

06 355 4955

0800 471 227 ext 2 (Tour Team)

Email: deef@tranzit.co.nz

Office: 33 Matipo Street, Palmerston North

Open 9:30am - 4:00pm



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