

# Tranzscript

MAY 2026 - BAY OF PLENTY

*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 our tours, 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. Come and join us for a special mid-winter lunch at a popular local restaurant.

If you are interested in attending concerts, theatres, the ballet and many more adventures, please let us know. Or are you a group that would like help organising tickets and transport? – please contact our Bay of Plenty team direct on 07 571 0360 (extension 1), we would love to help.

We look forward to travelling with you soon!

The Bay of Plenty Tours Team



**YOUR TOURS  
TEAM**



## Lake Rotoiti, Nelson Lakes

### Our touring year ahead for 2026.

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

### Tour icons.

- 

**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

### Your Tranzit touring family.

<p>Ali</p> 	<p>Robin</p> 	<p>Katie</p> 
 <p>Anil</p>	 <p>Andre</p>	 <p>Les</p>

- 

**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 +

**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

## The Agrodome Rotorua

Regrettably, we did not receive enough bookings for this day tour to go ahead this year. We have contacted all members who booked and have issued full refunds. We are very disappointed that we couldn't make this trip happen. However, we are now working on our next day trip in June, and we'd love to see you there. We need plenty of bookings to make this fabulous winter day trip a success.

## Winter Warmer Lunch

Wednesday 10 June

Enjoy a delicious lunch and indulgent dessert at the popular Talisman Restaurant, a much-loved local favourite renowned for its welcoming atmosphere, friendly service, and crowd-pleasing flavours. Take time to relax and enjoy a beautifully prepared meal made with care, perfect for a leisurely midday break. Following lunch, enjoy some free time to explore Katikati Village at your own pace. Stroll through charming streets lined with boutique shops and galleries, stop for a coffee at a local café, or simply soak up the relaxed, small-town



Talisman Restaurant - Katikati

atmosphere that makes Katikati such an inviting and memorable destination.

***A pre-order is required for this day trip at point of booking – please ask team for menu options and advise of any dietary requirements.***

### **Depart:**

8:30 Pacific Coast Village  
8:45 Mount Maunganui RSA  
9:15 Bob Owens Village  
10:00 Omokoroa Country Estate,

### **Return:**

Between 4.30pm-5.00pm (all stops)

**Price:** \$110.00 – due by 22

May

**Includes:** two-course lunch and transport

**Banking reference:**

WinterWarmer26

# Tio Ōhiwa Harbour Cruise

September - date to be confirmed  
**Register your interest - call us today!**

Back by popular demand, our annual day cruise to Tio Ōhiwa Oyster farm is coming this September! Join us as we take the scenic coastal route to Whakatāne to visit Tio Ōhiwa Oyster Farm, an innovative business featured on Country Calendar. Along the way, a knowledgeable local guide will join us to share the stories of the region, including a tour of Muriwai Cave. At Whakatāne Heads we'll hear the history of the Mataatua waka and the legendary bravery of Wairaka, whose beautiful statue stands proudly at the river mouth. Over the hill at Ōhope, we board the Tio Ōhiwa ferry for a cruise across Ōhiwa Harbour to the oyster farm.

Here we'll discover how their oysters and other seafood are grown and processed, before enjoying a delicious kai moana lunch, fresh from their takeaway shop. Discover the beauty and flavours of Ōhiwa Harbour on this unforgettable cruise experience.



**Tio Ōhiwa Harbour Cruise**



**Tio Ōhiwa Harbour Cruise**



**Tio Ōhiwa Harbour Cruise**

## November

Watch this space - an exciting day trip is being planned as we speak. Details to follow in the next edition of Tranzscript.

## The Concert Club:

If you are interested in attending concerts, theatres, the ballet and many more adventures, please let us know. Or are you a group that would like help organising tickets and transport? – please contact our Bay of Plenty team direct on 07 571 0360 (extension 1), we would love to help.



Tauranga Musical Theatre

## 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.

## 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 WinterWarmer26)

#### Other ways to pay:

For your convenience, you can also make payment by phoning us with your Credit or Debit Card details

# 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.



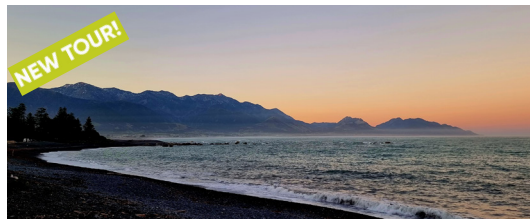
**Hawke's Bay Historic Homes  
Ashcott Homestead**

## 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

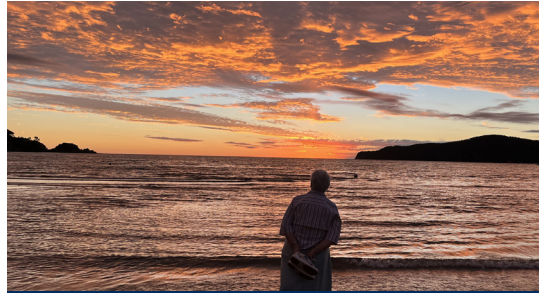
- Great Barrier Island

### 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 love visiting members' villages and clubs to talk about our tours and travel club and we thoroughly enjoy our time meeting and engaging with folk. If you think this 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**

## 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:

## Joining a Tour from Bay of Plenty

We offer convenient pick-up locations on our day tours, including villages. If joining

a current Tranzit (multi-day) tour we will work with you on the best possible joining solution to suit both your budget and convenience.

## All inclusive

From the moment you board our coach 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](http://www.tranzittours.co.nz)



The Church of the Good Shepherd - Lake Tekapo

## Book now

For enquiries and reservations call:

**06 370 6600 ext 2**

**0800 471 227 ext 2**

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

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