



Tranzscript

SEPTEMBER 2026 - BAY OF PLENTY

New Zealand's favourite travel newsletter

Travel with Tranzit Tours and explore
New Zealand and beyond with like-minded
people on our hosted tours

Abel Tasman National Park

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Welcome

Welcome to the September edition of Tranzscript. It's official, Spring has arrived, bringing longer days, fresh colour and a renewed sense of adventure. After a chilly winter, it's wonderful to see everything springing into life as we look ahead to the warmer months and the exciting journeys they bring.

Recently returned is our Behind the Canvas Art Tour, our travellers enjoying a fascinating glimpse into New Zealand's vibrant art world. The tour combined wonderful experiences, great company, and plenty of memorable moments. Also just unpacking their suitcases is our Historic Hawkes Bay tour group, who delved into the past, visiting remarkable homesteads from a bygone era and enjoying warm hospitality and fine food along the way.



**YOUR
BAY OF PLENTY TOURS
TEAM**

Spring and summer are some of the best times to travel, whether you're drawn to spectacular gardens, scenic rail journeys, cultural experiences, or relaxing getaways. But if travelling without your suitcase is more your cup of tea, we have several day options coming up including our Christmas lunch where we meet up for a day of festive fun.

Take a browse and if something appeals, give us a call or send us an email. If a tour isn't on sale yet, we'll happily add you to our register of interest, so you'll be among the first to know when bookings open.

Happy travels
The Tours Team



Our touring year ahead for 2026/27

September

- Alpine Pacific Triangle

October

- Coromandel Getaway
- Christchurch Spring Break

November

- Taranaki Garden Festival
- Tasmania
- Molesworth and Beyond
- Islands of the Hauraki Gulf

December

- Kaimanawa Horses
- Chatham Island
- Christmas in Dunedin

2027

February

- Great Barrier Island
- Kapiti Island

March

- Top of the South
- Hawke's Bay Off the Beaten Trail
- Southern Lakes High Country

April

- Ride the Rails
- Gentle Annie Explorer

May

- Bay of Plenty Oyster Festival
- The Sounds Short Break

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



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 team.



from left: Katie, Robin, Ali and Anil

NEW TOUR!

***“Let Christchurch
inspire you!”***



Featured Tours

Christchurch Spring Break

19 - 23 October - ***last seats
available, phone now!***



Be inspired by Christchurch's remarkable transformation, from innovative architecture to world-class attractions. Enjoy an introduction to the Garden City aboard a classic double-decker bus, take a behind the scenes tour of the impressive new One NZ Stadium, and delight in the joyful Giants House and Garden at Akaroa. Discover Ravenscar Art Gallery – an entire collection donated to the city. Step into history at Kate Sheppard House and explore the life and legacy of New Zealand's leading suffrage champion. Enjoy an elegant evening dining experience on the Christchurch Tramway Restaurant.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

This afternoon we visit the magnificent new One NZ Stadium – Te Kaha, where a guided tour provides us with the ultimate behind the scenes experience. We'll learn about the stadium's unique artwork, visit the coaches boxes, the VIP suites - where we'll enjoy coffee and cake – and the expansive changing rooms before finally walking through the players tunnel onto the field. distinctive and enduring artists.

Taranaki Garden Festival

2 - 5 November - ***on sale now,
phone for an itinerary***



Discover the beauty of Taranaki's world-renowned gardens, where rich volcanic soils boast some of New Zealand's finest gardens. Experience the beauty of peak season, with spectacular colour and vibrant spring growth. From large country gardens to compact town allotments, from formal to enchantingly casual, this tour will delight. A special feature this year is the iconic Pukeiti Garden – home to one of the world's largest rhododendron collections.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

We begin at Villa Verde Garden, a thriving garden featuring cottage-style flower beds, productive vegetable gardens, a glasshouse, berry house, orchard, and a small collection of chickens and alpacas. Next, we visit Riverlea Garden, a beautiful property surrounding a restored 120-year-old villa, featuring woodland plantings, perennial borders and riverside walks. We then visit Waiongana Garden is a 4ha garden bound by the Waiongana River. It features many varied spaces including a sunken garden, rose garden, redwoods, a native river walk, log walls and herbaceous peonies.

***“Visit the best
gardens in the
country”***



Chatham Island

7 - 14 December - **on sale now,**
phone for an itinerary



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.

Read a sample of the itinerary:

Today we visit Ocean Mail Reserve a contrasting landscape of dune systems, akeake forest and peat wetlands. We'll take a short walk to visit a local seal colony at Point Munning – the shoreline here is dramatic and craggy. Moving on we visit an old Mission and Whaling Station site and a farm where we will be able to view the remains of a wrecked Sunderland Flying Boat which hit rocks while taxiing in to land in 1959.

***“Every day is an
adventure on the
Chathams!”***



***“A place of
spectacular
beauty and
haunting history”***

Tasmania 2026

4 - 19 November - ***Last days to
book, phone now!***



Final seats remaining for our most in-depth Tasmanian experience yet. Don't miss this opportunity to experience Tasmania's history, wildlife, food, culture and spectacular scenery on what promises to be one of our most memorable tours yet. A close look at the itinerary reveals how much is packed into this experience—virtually no stone has been left unturned. From rugged wilderness and ancient rainforests to charming historic towns, stunning coastlines to fascinating wildlife and world-class food and wine, this tour delivers exceptional value and unforgettable memories.

**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.

Day Tours

Te Ohiwa Harbour Cruise

Wednesday 30 September

Back by popular demand, our annual day cruise to Tio Ohiwa 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.

Please advise any dietary requirements.

Depart: approx.

7:30am – Omokoroa Country Estate, 5 Anderley Avenue, Omokoroa

8:00am – Bob Owens Retirement Village, 112 Carmichael Road, Bethlehem (roadside bus stop)

8:20am – Pacific Lakes Village, 242 Grenada Street, Papamoa Beach

8:35am – Summerset by the Dunes Retirement Village, 35 Manawa Road, Papamoa

Return: approx.

Between 4.30pm-5.00pm (all stops)

For other village pickups please contact our Bay of Plenty team

Price: \$195.00 – due by 25 September

Includes: Transport, The Shuck'n'Cruise Tour and Lunch

Banking reference: TioOhiwa26

Please note: Our day trips require a minimum number



Tio Ohiwa Harbour Cruise

A Kiwi Christmas in Katikati

Wednesday 25 November

Get into the festive spirit with a delightful day out to the charming town of Katikati! Begin your day with a relaxing visit to the beautiful Katikati Bird Gardens, where you can wander through tranquil gardens, enjoy the native birdlife, and soak up the peaceful surroundings. Afterward, take a leisurely stroll through Katikati's boutique shops, gift stores, and specialty retailers, perfect for finding unique Christmas presents or a little treat for yourself. Once you've worked up an appetite, sit down and enjoy a delicious lunch in great company before spending more time exploring this welcoming town.

Please advise any dietary requirements.

Depart: approx.

9:00am - Pacific Coast Village - Reception

9.20am - Mount Maunganui RSA

9.50am - Bob Owens Village- Reception

10.15am - Omokoroa Country Estate – Reception

Return: approx.

Between 3.30pm-4.30pm (all stops)

For other village pickups please contact our Bay of Plenty team

Price: \$80.00 – due by 11 November

Includes: Transport, Bird Garden Entry and Lunch

Banking reference: Kiwi26

Please note: Our day trips require a minimum number of passengers to proceed



Murals in KatiKati



Festive Fun in KatiKati

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 (ext 1), we would love to help.

Terms and Conditions:

Final payment is required to Transit 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.



Taranaki Garden Festival

Photographs:

By joining a Transit Tours 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

Paying by Internet for Travel Club Trips NZ Banks now require you to provide the following information when making a payment:

Your name: please provide your name

Our account name: Transit Coachlines Wairarapa Limited

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)

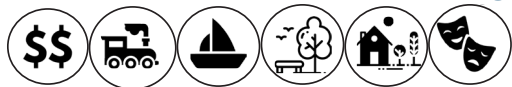
Other ways to pay:

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

Guided Tours 2026

Coromandel Getaway

12 - 18 October - **full, waitlisting**



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.



Cathedral Cove - Coromandel

Christchurch Spring Break

19-23 October - **last seats available, phone now!**

See featured tours on page 4 for full details

Taranaki Garden Festival

2-5 November - **on sale now, phone for full itinerary**

See featured tours on page 5 for full details

Tasmania

4 - 19 November - **last days to book, phone now!**

See featured tours on page 7 for full details

Molesworth and Beyond

9-13 November - **on sale now, phone for full itinerary**



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.



Acheron House - Molesworth

Islands of the Hauraki Gulf

23 - 29 November - **on sale now, phone for an itinerary**



Join us as we explore some of the myriad small islands that dot the Hauraki Gulf: 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.



Mission House - Islands of the Gulf

Kaimanawa Heritage Horses

3-5 December - **on sale now, phone for an itinerary**



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 Heritage Horses

Chatham Island

7 - 14 December - **on sale now, phone for an itinerary**

See featured tours page 6 for full details

NEW TOUR

Christmas in Dunedin

22-27 December - **on sale now, phone for an itinerary**

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.



**Moeraki Boulders
Christmas in Dunedin**

Tours for 2027

Phone now to register your interest in these great tours in the calendar for 2027.

Great Barrier Island

12-16 February - **register your interest**

This is an all-round stunning destination for a smaller group. Discover this hidden gem of the Hauraki Gulf, encounter unique and endangered wildlife, experience its rugged natural beauty, admire the talents of local artisans, covet the relaxed lifestyle the folk of the Barrier enjoy, and enjoy the endless walking opportunities.



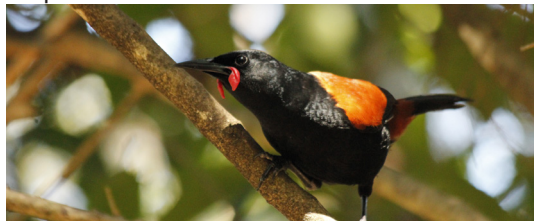
Okupu Beach - Great Barrier Island

NEW TOUR

Kapiti Island

19-21 February - **register your interest**

We join with Kapiti Nature tours to bring you this once in a lifetime opportunity to stay overnight on Kapiti Island. One of New Zealand's oldest and most important nature reserves, setting foot on Kapiti Island is like stepping back in time, when our native birdlife was abundant. Enjoy a night spotting kiwi experience and sleep in the comfort of a glamping tent or cabin, then wake to the sound of the dawn chorus. All walks are fully guided as you learn about the island's rich history and meet its special feathered inhabitants. This promises to be a very unique experience.



Tieke / Saddleback - Kapiti Island

Top of the South

8-15 March - **register your interest**

Join us as we discover the highlights of sunny Nelson, magic Marlborough and gorgeous Golden Bay. History

and nature collide in this fabulous part of the world as we meet craftspeople and artisans and cruise on the unmissable Abel Tasman. Enjoy a day out on Farewell Spit – a world-renowned nature reserve and a special highlight of this tour.



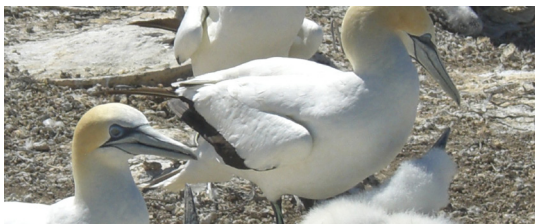
Split Apple Rock - Top of the South

NEW TOUR

Hawke's Bay "Off the Beaten Track"

22-24 March - **register your interest today!**

Visit the famous longest place name and hear the stories behind this treasured taonga. Take an overland tour to Cape Kidnappers where you'll come face to face with over 20,000 gannets in their natural habitat. Find secret coastal locations and many other hidden treasures of the fabulous Hawkes Bay.



Majestic Gannet - Hawke's Bay

Southern Lakes High Country

30 March - 6 April - **register your interest today!**

Rural splendour takes on epic proportions on the big sheep stations of the south. From Otago to the McKenzie Country and the Canterbury High Country. An iconic station on the shores of Lake Wanaka, a traditional station in the heart of the Mackenzie Basin and historic Mesopotamia Station promise to be special highlights.



West Wanaka Station

Ride the Rails

12-18 April - **register your interest today!**

It's back! Rediscover the joys of train travel as this special tour returns to our calendar for 2026. The world renowned TranzAlpine (Christchurch to Greymouth) 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.



Weka Pass - Ride the Rails

Gentle Annie

20-22 April - **register your interest today!**

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!



Springvale Bridge - Gentle Annie

NEW TOUR

Bay of Plenty Oyster Festival

12-16 May - **register your interest today!**

Experience the flavours and hospitality of the Bay of Plenty

at the popular Ōhiwa Oyster Festival. Enjoy fresh local oysters, delicious food, live entertainment, market stalls, and a vibrant festival atmosphere set in the beautiful Ōhiwa Harbour region. This special event is a highlight for seafood lovers and a wonderful opportunity to explore the scenic Eastern Bay of Plenty.



Oyster Festival - Ōhiwa

NEW TOUR

The Sounds Short Break

24-27 May - **register your interest today!**

Take A sojourn to the Sounds. Cruise the Queen Charlotte Sound on the Magic Mail Run and savour lunch at Furneaux Lodge, enjoy a leisurely lunch among the vines, discover exquisite gardens and much more to love about Marlborough on this autumn break.



Ships Cove - Sounds Short Break

Home Safe & Sound.

Bay of Plenty Discovery

Our Bay of Plenty Discovery Tour showcased the very best of this vibrant region, from thriving orchards and picturesque harbours to fascinating local attractions. Highlights included The Herb Farm, Agrodome, Ōhiwa Harbour, Kiwifruit Country, and The Cider Factorie. Along the way, travellers enjoyed wonderful scenery, great company, and memorable experiences, returning home with lasting memories and a renewed appreciation for Aotearoa.



Happy travellers enjoying this comprehensive Bay of Plenty Discovery tour!

Greytown Festival

Our Greytown Winter Festival tour offered travellers a wonderful few days in beautiful Wairarapa. Highlights included delicious local food, Juno Olives, the Wheelwright Hub, Greytown's artisan shops and the magical Winter Festival atmosphere. A memorable winter escape filled with great experiences and discoveries!



Wintry weather didn't dampen this tour to the Greytown Winter festival

Behind the Canvas Art Tour

What an unforgettable journey this was, through New Zealand's inspiring artistic and cultural treasures. From behind-the-scenes experiences at Parliament and Te Papa to Wellington's vibrant galleries, exhibitions and architectural gems, every day offered discovery and inspiration. Highlights included meeting passionate artists, admiring street art, glassworks and ceramics, and exploring the spectacular sculpture trail at The Morgans Art Park.



An incredible inspiring few days on the Behind the Canvas Art Tour

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.



Would you like a guest speaker to visit?

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.

Celebrating important milestones!

This year, as part of our Centenary celebrations, we recognised longservice commitment from Robin Corbett (Tour Manager) of 23 years and Ali Cockeram (Tour Coordinator) of 29 years. Congratulations!



The important stuff:

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

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



Alexandra Bridge - Clutha River

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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