



WEIR TOURS
NEW ZEALAND



Kaimanawa Wild Horse Adventure

5th – 7th December 2026

A unique three-day journey discovering hidden treasures, magnificent country estates, authentic Kiwi farming and the legendary wild Kaimanawa Horses.

Join us on an unforgettable short escape into the heart of the North Island. Experience genuine rural hospitality, explore one of New Zealand's finest historic homesteads, discover authentic Kiwi farming, and enjoy an exclusive opportunity to travel into a restricted military training area to witness the legendary Kaimanawa Horses roaming free in their natural environment. With comfortable accommodation, delicious meals and spectacular scenery throughout, this carefully paced tour offers a wonderful blend of nature, history, heritage and authentic Kiwi experiences.



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Day 1 – Sat 5th Dec. (L, AT, D)

Home to Taihape

An early morning departure from New Plymouth sees us travelling south to collect our Hawera travellers before heading inland through the beautiful rolling countryside of the Rangitīkei.

Our first special experience is a visit to the delightful **Rangitīkei Farmstay**, where we are welcomed with their renowned "Taste of New Zealand Farming" experience.

Enjoy a delicious buffet lunch overlooking the peaceful farm surrounds before joining a guided tour of the property. Discover beautifully maintained country gardens, productive orchards and vegetable gardens, learn about the workings of a modern New Zealand farm, visit the honey operation and meet many of the friendly farm animals that call the property home. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience authentic rural New Zealand at its very best.

This afternoon we continue to the magnificent **Merchiston Homestead**, one of New Zealand's finest privately owned historic country homes. Built in the late 1800s and lovingly preserved through generations of the McLean family, Merchiston offers a fascinating glimpse into New Zealand's pastoral heritage and the lives of one of the country's pioneering farming families.

During our guided visit we explore the beautifully restored homestead, admire its impressive collection of period furnishings, family memorabilia and historic photographs, and hear captivating stories that bring the house and its history to life. Afterwards, enjoy time to wander through the delightful gardens and expansive grounds, soaking up the peaceful atmosphere and magnificent rural surroundings.

Later this afternoon we continue to the gumboot capital of New Zealand—Taihape—where we settle into our comfortable motel accommodation.

This evening we gather for a delicious dinner at one of Taihape's highly regarded local restaurants, providing the perfect opportunity to relax and reflect on our first day's discoveries.

Accommodation: Aspen Court Motel



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Day 2 – Sun 6th Dec (BF, L, D) Taihape – National Park

After an early breakfast we travel north to **Waiouru**, where a truly unforgettable experience awaits. Today we have the rare privilege of joining the exclusive **Kaimanawa Heritage Horses Wild Horse Tour**—an experience that only a fortunate few have the opportunity to enjoy each year.

Travelling by specially authorised coach, we enter areas of the Waiouru Military Training Grounds that are normally closed to the public. Before departing, we receive an informative safety briefing and introduction to the history of both the military training area and the remarkable Kaimanawa Horse population.

As we journey deeper into the spectacular landscape of the Kaimanawa Ranges, keep your cameras ready as we search for family bands of wild horses roaming freely across the rugged volcanic plateau.

Our knowledgeable guides help identify the various groups, including magnificent stallions, protective mares, playful foals and inquisitive yearlings, while explaining the fascinating social structure of these iconic horses.

Along the way we stop at a spectacular viewpoint where a Department of Conservation representative shares the unique ecological history of this remarkable landscape and explains the careful balance required between conservation and managing the wild horse population.

By lunchtime we arrive at the famous Kaimanawa muster yards, where we enjoy our packed lunch while learning about the annual horse muster and the incredible work undertaken by the volunteers of the Kaimanawa Heritage Horses organisation to protect these treasured animals.

There is also an opportunity to browse exclusive merchandise supporting the ongoing conservation programme.

Throughout the day you'll enjoy incredible photographic opportunities against the dramatic backdrop of Mount Ruapehu, the volcanic plateau and the vast open landscapes that few New Zealanders ever get to experience.

Late this afternoon we return to Waiouru before travelling a short distance to **National Park Village**, where we check into our accommodation.

This evening we enjoy dinner together at the popular onsite restaurant

Accommodation: The Park Hotel Ruapehu



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Day 3 – Mon 7th Dec (BF, L, D)

National Park - Home

Following a relaxed breakfast, we make our way to the **Tongariro National Park Visitor Centre**, where we discover the fascinating natural and cultural history of New Zealand's oldest national park and our first UNESCO Dual World Heritage Area.

From here we travel to the spectacular **Sky Waka Gondola**, ascending the slopes of Mt Ruapehu in comfort while enjoying breathtaking panoramic views across the Central Plateau.

At the summit we'll enjoy lunch at New Zealand's highest restaurant while taking in magnificent vistas stretching across Tongariro National Park. On a clear day the views are simply unforgettable.

After descending the mountain, we journey south down the scenic SH4, through native forest, river valleys and picturesque farming country before arriving in Whanganui.

Our final stop is the beautiful **Virginia Lake**, one of Whanganui's most treasured gardens. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon tea before taking a leisurely stroll through the elegant Winter Gardens, where colourful seasonal displays provide a fitting conclusion to our tour.

With many wonderful memories, new friendships and plenty of photographs, we continue via Hāwera before arriving back in New Plymouth early this evening.





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TOUR COST:

- \$1595.00
- \$1785.00 single supplement
- \$750 pp Deposit to secure your spot

Tour Costs Include:

- Rangitikei Farmstay Experience
- Merchiston Homestead & Gardens Guided Tour
- Kaimanawa Heritage Horses Wild Horse Tour
- Tongariro National Park Visitor Centre visit
- Sky Waka Gondola
- Virginia Lake & Winter Gardens
- All coach travel as stated in the itinerary.
- Experience Tour Leader/Driver
- Two course dinners every night.
- Breakfast every morning (continental and/or cooked).
- Lunch everyday
- Morning & afternoon teas as stated in itinerary.
- Twin share accommodation (or single accommodation available—contact office)
- 5-star quality tour coach.
- Tour photos.



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TERMS & CONDITIONS....

(Applicable for New Zealand Tours 01 July 2026 – 30 Dec 2027)

Acceptance Of Terms & Conditions

If you have booked a tour with us and pay your deposit, you are deemed to have accepted these terms. We may ask you to sign a copy of these terms when you join a tour to provide a record that you have accepted these terms.

Itineraries

The Itinerary for your tour package was correct at the time of date and printing, however it is subject to change without notice. Your itinerary could change due to road or weather conditions, changes imposed by other tour operators or a range of other factors beyond our control. You agree that we have no liability to you for changes to your itinerary.

Price Amendments

Prices were correct at the time and date of printing; however, Weir Bros Tours reserves the right to amend the price subject to any changes in price imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary or increases in government or other levies.

Health & Fitness

All passengers are required to acknowledge they are in reasonable health and are considered fit to travel and are not traveling contrary to any medical advice. By acknowledging their health and fitness to participate passengers are indemnifying us from all actions, claims and demands arising out of any lack of health and fitness.

Health & Safety Information including COVID-19

At Weir Bros our first priority is your safety and enjoyment while you are travelling with us.

While we have always maintained a high standard of cleaning on our coaches. We have increased the frequency of cleaning when we are traveling on tours to help ensure your safety. Hand sanitiser will be provided, and we ask that you maintain government standards in terms of hygiene practices, this includes washing or sanitising hands frequently. For the health and safety of all passengers and staff on tour, any passengers showing symptoms of illness (such as fever, coughing or difficulty breathing) will not be accepted onboard the coach unless they can provide a negative Covid-19 test result received within the past 24 hours.

Should any passenger start to feel unwell on arrival or while on tour, they must immediately advise their Tour Manager and may be required to visit a medical practitioner/medical centre/hospital. To continue the tour the passenger must provide a negative Covid-19 test and be deemed fit and well to participate fully on a coach tour. Any costs incurred will be at the passenger's own expense.

Payments, cancellations & Amendments

A deposit of 20% is required to Weir Tours at the time of booking to confirm your reservation and acknowledges your agreement to our terms and conditions. All balance payments must be received by Weir Bros prior to or on the date specified for final payment. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. If the full tour price is not received by this date, we reserve the right to cancel your booking. Payments can be made with Cash, Eftpos / Credit or Direct Debit via the account number supplied on the payment form. Please note if paying via credit card you will incur a fee of 2.5% on top of the original price. Weir Bros reserves the right to amend or reschedule the tour due to the result of circumstances outside the company's control. Weir Bros also reserves the right to cancel the tour due to insufficient numbers



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and in this instance a substitute date may be offered, or a full refund will be made available. Tour Prices exclude drinks, travel insurance or items of personal nature.

Weir Tours is not liable for any cancellation or change cost or penalties incurred via third party travel arrangements, including air travel, that may be affected thereby. All additional costs incurred are not liable by Weir Tours and will be passed onto you. Please ensure you have sufficient insurance to cover any costs incurred for unforeseen disruptions. Weir Tours is not responsible for other travel arrangements that you or your party have made outside of those made by Weir Tours and which are affected by our cancellations or amendments.

Force Majeure

Force Majeure Event means any event or circumstance beyond the control of Weir Tours, which has the effect of preventing, restricting or changing the nature of the products and services sold to you including but not limited to: (a) an act of god (such as earthquake, flood, fire, explosion, landslide, lightning, action of the elements, force of nature, washout, typhoon, hurricane cyclone, tsunami, storm or storm warning of natural disaster); (b) industrial disputes, work ban or other labour dispute or difficulty; (c) acts of terrorism, political unrest, war or threat of war, riots or civil strife; (d) failure or delays to scheduled transportation and the closure of airports or ports; (e) Pandemic, epidemic or health risk including Covid-19; (f) all governmental and administrative actions, guidance and measures in any territory (including closure of borders and travel warnings and restrictions) Weir Tours have the right to cancel amend or reschedule your packaged tour during or following any force Majeure and if we do so you agree that we have no liability to you for any direct or indirect consequences of the cancellation, amendment or rescheduling.

Travel Insurance

Weir Bros strongly advises all passengers to purchase travel insurance when booking a tour. A comprehensive travel insurance policy gives peace of mind for unexpected issues or emergencies that may arise prior to or during a tour. Weir Tours cannot be held responsible for your failure to obtain Insurance which is appropriate, and we recommend you purchase your insurance at the time of, or soon after, booking your trip. Weir Tours will not be held liable for any costs incurred resulting from your failure to obtain adequate travel insurance.

Luggage

Although every effort will be made to will be made to handle guests' luggage carefully, we cannot be responsible, assume liability or accept claims for loss or damage to luggage and personal effects due to breakage, theft or fair wear and tear through hotel, airline, and group carrier handling. Therefore, it is important for protection that passengers make certain that they have adequate travel insurance to cover such eventualities.

Our Responsibilities

Weir Tours are responsible for booking and packaging goods and service provided by other operators such as hotels, attractions, and transportation companies to create your packaged tour. We take all practicable steps to ensure the safety and comfort for all involved in this packaged tour.

Your Responsibilities

You agree to behave reasonably throughout the tour and not to be a nuisance to other passengers. You agree to comply with our reasonable requests and the requests of other operators. You indemnify Weir Tours for any liability, costs, damages or other expenses we suffer or incur as a direct or indirect consequence of your behaviour while part of your package tour.

Removal From Your Package Tour



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For the Well being of all passengers on your packaged tour, Weir Tours reserve the right to remove you from the tour and cancel your booking th us if you breach any of your obligations under the terms provided that, except in the case of a serious breach (as determined by Weir Tours) we will give you notice of your breach and a reasonable opportunity (which will be no more than 2 days) to remedy the breach before exercising our cancellation right. In the case of a serious breach, we can exclude you from the tour and cancel your booking by immediate, verbal, or written notice to you. In the event of such cancellation, you will be responsible at your cost for arranging any accommodation or travel costs and other matters as required as a direct or indirect consequence of the cancellation. In the event of removal form a tour no refund will be given.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation fees depend on when Weir Tours receives notification in writing of a cancellation.

Bookings cancelled more than 60 days before departure incur 20% of tour cost.

Bookings cancelled between 59 and 45 days before tour commencement will forfeit 50%

31-44 Days Prior to tour commencement you will forfeit 75%

0-30 Days prior to tour commencement you will forfeit 100% of your tour price (No Refund)