



WEIR TOURS
NEW ZEALAND

AOTEA – GREAT BARRIER ISLAND ESCAPE

18–23 April 2027

**Six Days of Island Discovery, Wonderful Food &
Unforgettable Experiences**



Not Just a Destination — An Experience

Join us for a very special six-day journey from Taranaki to Aotea Great Barrier Island — a spectacular island escape filled with beautiful beaches, rugged coastlines, hidden treasures and unforgettable experiences.

Fly across the Hauraki Gulf, cruise the island's breathtaking coastline, discover fascinating local characters and enjoy wonderful food, tranquil gardens and one of New Zealand's most spectacular night skies. With plenty of time to relax, explore and enjoy the journey, this is a holiday filled with scenery, stories, laughter and memories.

Come and discover Aotea — one of New Zealand's best-kept secrets, where the journey becomes part of the adventure.



WEIR TOURS **NEW ZEALAND**

Day 1 – Sun 18th **Taranaki to Auckland – The Journey Begins** **(Lunch, Afternoon Tea & Dinner)**

Our adventure begins this morning as we leave Taranaki behind and head north towards Auckland.

Travelling through the ever-changing landscapes of Taranaki and the Waikato, we will make a stop at Mokau for a chance to stretch our legs and enjoy a home baked morning break.

Continuing north, we head towards the picturesque township of Pirongia, where lunch awaits at Mountain Folk Café Retreat. Enjoy a relaxed meal in pleasant surroundings before we continue our journey.

This afternoon, we visit the **Auckland Botanic Gardens**, a wonderful opportunity to explore beautiful gardens, enjoy the seasonal displays and take in the peaceful surroundings. There will be time to wander at your own pace or simply relax and enjoy the scenery.

Then make our way to tonight's accommodation. Settle in, unwind and enjoy some time to yourself before gathering for our first group dinner.

Tomorrow, our island adventure begins!

Accommodation: Heartland Hotel Auckland Airport

Day 2 – Mon 19th **Auckland - Great Barrier Island** **(Breakfast, Lunch, Afternoon Tea & Dinner)**

After a scrumptious breakfast, we head to Auckland Airport for one of the most exciting parts of our journey — our flight across the Hauraki Gulf to **Great Barrier Island**.

As we leave the mainland behind, enjoy spectacular aerial views of the sparkling gulf, scattered islands and the beautiful coastline of Aotea.

Upon arrival at Claris, we will be welcomed by the island's distinctive scenery and relaxed atmosphere. Our first stop is My Fat Puku Café, where we can enjoy lunch and begin getting acquainted with the local flavour of the island.

With our appetites satisfied, we set out to explore some of Aotea's beautiful eastern coastline.



WEIR TOURS

NEW ZEALAND

We visit **Medlands Beach**, one of the island's best-known beaches, where golden sands meet the Pacific Ocean. Take a leisurely stroll, enjoy the fresh sea air, dip your toes in the water or simply sit back and admire the scenery.

We will also visit the spectacular **Mermaid Pool**, a beautiful coastal location offering wonderful opportunities for photographs and appreciation of the island's natural landscape.

Our journey continues to **Tryphena**, one of Great Barrier Island's main settlements. Known for its sheltered bays, beautiful beaches and relaxed coastal character, Tryphena will be our home for the next three nights.

After settling into our accommodation, we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant, then after, we experience something truly special, an **Evening Beneath the Stars**.

Great Barrier Island is recognised as an International Dark Sky Sanctuary, making it one of the world's special places for appreciating the night sky.

Our Good Heavens guides will introduce us to the wonders above, sharing fascinating stories about the stars, planets and universe. Relax in a comfortable moon chair, look upwards and enjoy the extraordinary beauty of a clear island night. It is an experience that promises to be both fascinating and unforgettable.

Accommodation: Sunset Waterfront Lodge

Day 3 – Tues 20th A Coastal Adventure – From Harbour to Sanctuary **(Breakfast, Lunch, Afternoon Tea & Dinner)**

After a relaxed breakfast at the lodge, we set out for a wonderful day of discovery by land and sea.

We travel to Whangaparapara Wharf, where we board **Sundancer** for a spectacular cruise along the western coastline of Great Barrier Island.

Over approximately four to five hours, we will discover a coastline shaped by nature, history and the sea.

As we cruise towards **Port Fitzroy**, enjoy views of rugged headlands, secluded bays and the island's famous offshore formations.



WEIR TOURS

NEW ZEALAND

Along the way, we may see:

The remains of historic whaling and timber-milling sites.
The beautiful Broken Islands.
The entrance to Port Fitzroy Harbour.
Dramatic coastal scenery and secluded inlets.

Morning tea will be served aboard the vessel, giving us time to relax and enjoy the views. We arrive at Port Fitzroy, one of the island's most picturesque harbours, before continuing to Orama Christian Camp for lunch.

After lunch, we reboard Sundancer and cruise around to Glenfern Sanctuary. Here, sanctuary staff will welcome us and share the story of this special conservation area. Discover the work being undertaken to protect native wildlife and restore the island's natural environment.

Enjoy a guided experience through this beautiful setting, with opportunities to learn about native birds, conservation and the importance of protecting Aotea's unique ecosystems.

Following our visit, we return by road down the eastern side of the island, enjoying more wonderful views along the way.

A stop at Awana DOC Camp provides an opportunity for afternoon tea before we return to Sunset Waterfront Lodge.

This evening, we enjoy dinner at the Currach Irish Pub, where good food and good company bring another memorable island day to a close.

Day 4 – Wed 21st Island Characters, Hidden Gardens & Creative Discoveries **(Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

Today offers a different perspective of Great Barrier Island — one filled with local stories, fascinating characters, creative talent and hidden treasures.

After breakfast, we begin our day with a visit to the Milk Honey and Grain Museum, where we can discover more about the island's history and the industries that have helped shape its communities.



WEIR TOURS

NEW ZEALAND

We then make our way to **Jaques Haven**, a very special garden created by Jaque just behind the Claris Police Station.

This remarkable microclimate supports a variety of fruit trees, birdlife and bees. Jaque will personally welcome us and share the story of this unique haven. Enjoy a morning tea on the peaceful deck, surrounded by the sights and sounds of this tranquil garden. It is the kind of experience that captures the true spirit of Great Barrier Island — personal, unexpected and full of character.

After a relaxed lunch stop at a local café, we continue our island exploration. We travel towards Blind Bay and the hidden wharf at **Okupu**, passing through a beautiful stand of ancient pōhutukawa trees that frame the roadside.

This is a wonderful opportunity to appreciate some of Aotea's quieter landscapes and enjoy the scenery away from the more familiar tourist routes.

Our day continues with a visit to the **Great Barrier Island Gin Factory**, where we can discover more about local production and island-inspired flavours.

We will also visit the **art gallery** and **museum** in Claris, exploring the creative work, stories and heritage of the island community. There will be time to browse, enjoy the atmosphere and perhaps find a special memento of our visit.

Tonight, we enjoy our final evening on Great Barrier Island — a chance to reflect on the wonderful experiences, new discoveries and friendships made during our island stay.

Day 5 – Thur 22nd Farewell to Aotea – Island Artisans, Tea & Cambridge **(Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

After breakfast, we enjoy our final morning exploring the artistic side of Great Barrier Island.

Our visits today include **local pottery** and **woodturning galleries**, where we can admire the skill, creativity and craftsmanship of island artisans. We will also visit the **Elephant Gallery**, another opportunity to discover the island's artistic character and perhaps find something special to take home.

Following an early lunch, we make our way to Claris Airport. At approximately 1.00pm, we board our Barrier Air flight back to Auckland.



WEIR TOURS NEW ZEALAND

As the island disappears behind us, enjoy one last opportunity to appreciate the beautiful aerial views of Aotea and the Hauraki Gulf. Upon arrival at Auckland Airport, our coach will be waiting to continue our journey south.

This afternoon, we visit **Zealong Tea Estate**, where we will experience the fascinating story of New Zealand-grown tea. Discover how tea is cultivated and produced in the Waikato, learn about the estate's history and enjoy a tea-tasting experience in beautiful surroundings.

We then continue to Cambridge, one of the Waikato's most charming towns, where we settle into our superb accommodation. **The Clements** is a study in updated nostalgia – this historic hotel has been reimaged to take its place amongst New Zealand's finest provincial hotels.

Enjoy a relaxed evening and dinner onsite as we prepare for the final day of our journey.

Accommodation: The Clements Hotel, Cambridge

**Day 6 – Fri 23rd
(Breakfast, Lunch)**

Gardens, Good Food & The Journey Home

After a relaxed start to the morning, we enjoy breakfast before our final day of discovery begins.

Our first stop is **Tree Church Gardens**, a remarkable garden attraction and Garden of National Significance. Discover a unique living church created from carefully planted trees, surrounded by beautiful gardens and peaceful countryside. Take time to wander through the grounds, admire the creativity of the garden design and enjoy the tranquillity of this special place.

Following our visit, we travel south through the picturesque Waikato countryside towards Piopio. Our final stop is The Fat Owl in Piopio, where we enjoy a delicious finger-food buffet lunch.

It is the perfect opportunity to relax, share stories and reflect on the wonderful experiences of our six-day adventure.

After lunch, we continue our journey home, arriving back in Taranaki later in the day.

As our Aotea Great Barrier Island Escape comes to an end, we hope you return home with wonderful memories, new friendships and a renewed appreciation for the extraordinary places waiting to be discovered in our own beautiful country.



WEIR TOURS

NEW ZEALAND

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 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



WEIR TOURS

NEW ZEALAND

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 cancelation, 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

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 the 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)