



VIEW OF MOTUIHE ISLAND NEAR AUCKLAND

# NEW ZEALAND

## Connecting History, Geology, and the Māori

14 DAYS | Choose your dates

### About this trip

Owing to its remote location, New Zealand remained remarkably uninhabited by humans until around 1300 CE, which allowed it to develop distinct and highly endemic plant and animal life. Its unparalleled natural beauty is marked by volcanoes, geysers, and geothermal areas, making it a goldmine for geological study. The country's scenery is rivaled only by its cultural heritage; New Zealand is home to a wealth of Māori culture and tradition that embody the reverence of the surrounding natural world. This 14-day educational adventure will immerse students in the best of New Zealand, combining scientific study with cultural exchange to create an unforgettable experience.

### Your students will...

- Hike amid the dramatic landscapes and diverse habitats of Tongariro National Park and see the spectacular volcanic peaks of Tongariro, Ruapehu, and Ngauruhoe.
- Spend three days with members of the Parihaka Pā community, experiencing Māori customs through song, art, and a hāngi feast.
- Participate in a reforestation service project on Motuihe Island with the Department of Conservation.
- Experience geological wonders up close with a visit to the Te Puia geothermal valley and the cave lands of Waitomo.

### Educational Connections



Life & Earth  
Sciences



Social Sciences  
& Culture



Human  
Geography



Service  
Learning

### What's included?

- Bilingual local guide
- Driver
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting



## Itinerary

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### DAY 1 - DEPARTURE

Depart from United States.

### DAY 2 - AUCKLAND

Upon arrival at Auckland International Airport, you will be met by your guide and transferred to your accommodations. Stop along the way at Maungakiekie, known also as One Tree Hill, which was once the site of a Māori fortified village of 3,000-plus inhabitants. As you overlook stunning views of Auckland, Hauraki Gulf, and Rangitoto Island, learn about the history of this sacred volcanic peak and its significance to the Māori people. This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner and program orientation, followed by a twilight walk in the city. *Overnight at Auckland International YHA. (D)*

### DAY 3 - AUCKLAND

Today take the ferry to Motuihe Island and spend the morning volunteering with the Department of Conservation to keep the island clear of pests and invasive weeds. Work in the tree nursery, do some weeding, and possibly help with tree planting. A packed picnic lunch will be provided during the activity. This afternoon, head to Muriwai, one of the black-sand surf beaches on Auckland's west coast. Muriwai is home to a breeding colony of sea birds known as tākapu or Australasian Gannet, and the lookout point offers incredible views toward the Kaipara Harbour. During your walk to the tākapu colony, you'll pass several native plants and trees that are important to Māori culture, and your guide will explain their traditional and medicinal uses. *Overnight at Auckland International YHA. (BL)*

### DAY 4 - PAIHIA

This morning, check out and travel north to Paihia by way of Hokianga Harbour, a large estuary with historical and cultural significance, especially for the Māori. Explore the area, then transfer to the Waipoua Forest to walk among the giant kauri, a type of coniferous tree endemic to the North Island. Learn about the deep spiritual respect early Māori had for the kauri and about the rich bird life and other fauna that inhabits the forest. *Overnight at Saltwater Lodge Paihia. (BD)*

### DAY 5 - PAIHIA

This morning, receive an introduction to waka, Māori watercraft that include war canoes and double-hulled voyaging canoes. Hear about the current revitalization of these waka and how they are used today. Learn paddling skills and the rhythmic chants used to



DETAIL OF MAORI CARVING

synchronize paddle strokes, then take to the water. Later, visit the Waitangi Treaty Grounds in the Bay of Islands. This treaty between the British and the Māori was first signed in 1840 and is considered New Zealand's founding document. Receive a guided tour of these historic grounds and buildings, visit the on-site museum, and gain an understanding of the events that led up to the treaty's signing. *Overnight at Saltwater Lodge Paihia. (BL)*

#### DAY 6 - ROTORUA

Journey south to the geothermal capital of New Zealand, Rotorua. After the long transfer, get settled in and have dinner. This evening, swim in the local mineral hot pools. *Overnight at Treks Rotorua. (BD)*

#### DAY 7 - ROTORUA

This morning, visit Te Puia geothermal village. As you walk through the park, your guide will explain the science behind the landscape's amazing colors, spouting geysers, bubbling mud pools, and steaming vents. Also learn how the 1886 eruption of Mount Tarawera affected the local kiwi population. This afternoon, walk through Rotorua's stunning Redwoods Forest, then take the gondola to the top of Mount Ngongotahā for a luge ride down through the forest. *Overnight at Treks Rotorua. (BL)*

#### DAY 8 - TONGARIRO

Moving southwest, travel through the farmlands of the Waikato region and into the cave lands of Waitomo. Head underground to learn about the geology of the extensive limestone cave systems and witness the bioluminescent glowworms that light up the cave ceilings. Continue to the National Park YHA, your base camp for the Tongariro Crossing, and prepare for tomorrow. *Overnight at National Park YHA. (BD)*

#### DAY 9 - TONGARIRO

Spend a full day hiking in Tongariro National Park to see the spectacular Mount Tongariro, Mount Ruapehu, and Mount Ngauruhoe (also known as Mount Doom for its role in "The Lord of the Rings" movie trilogy). Established in 1887, Tongariro is the oldest national park in New Zealand and the sixth oldest in the world, and is also recognized as a dual natural and cultural World Heritage area. The park encompasses a variety of habitats, including broadleaf rainforest, beech forest, and scrub land. *Overnight at National Park YHA. (BL)*



#### DAY 10 - MANAIA

Depart for Waiokura Marae in the Taranaki region. A marae is a communal and sacred meeting ground, and here you'll be hosted by the whānau (a Māori-language word for "extended family") of Waiokura. Visit Parihaka Pā, a Māori community known for peacefully protesting to stop the confiscation of their land in the 1800s. The village was invaded in 1881 and occupied for several years. Learn about this incident and other historical events over the next few days. You will be welcomed under formal protocol, which involves speech making, singing, introductions, sharing the breath of life, and sharing food. While on this marae, the following days'

activities are subject to change; as guests of the local people, please be prepared to have a flexible schedule. *Overnight at Waiokura Marae. (BD)*

#### DAY 11 - MANAIA

Your Waiokura Marae activities today include a water safety instruction and surf lesson, and then a tour of the Tawhiti Museum, which depicts the country's history and heritage through life-size exhibits and scale models. *Overnight at Waiokura Marae. (BLD)*

#### DAY 12 - MANAIA

Make a half-day visit to the local high school, then participate in Māori arts and crafts, such as weaving and

poi making. Tonight, share a farewell hāngi dinner—a traditional Māori meal in which food is cooked underground using heated rocks—with your hosts. *Overnight at Waiokura Marae. (BLD)*

#### DAY 13 - WELLINGTON

Depart for Wellington, New Zealand's capital. Upon arrival this afternoon, visit Te Papa, New Zealand's national museum, with collections highlighting the country's art, history, nature, Māori and Pacific cultural treasures, and more. Then spend some time sightseeing around the city before a final farewell dinner this evening. *Overnight at Wellington YHA. (BD)*

#### DAY 14 - DEPART

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to Auckland and on to the US. (B)



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at [holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe](https://holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe)



## Program pricing

**\$4,095** (20 participants + 3 leaders)

**\$4,850** (14 participants + 1 leaders)

**\$5,295** (7 participants + 1 leader)

Price includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, private transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, full-time guide for duration of program, and carbon offset.

International airfare, gratuities, and items of a personal nature are not included.

Valid for travel in 2021.

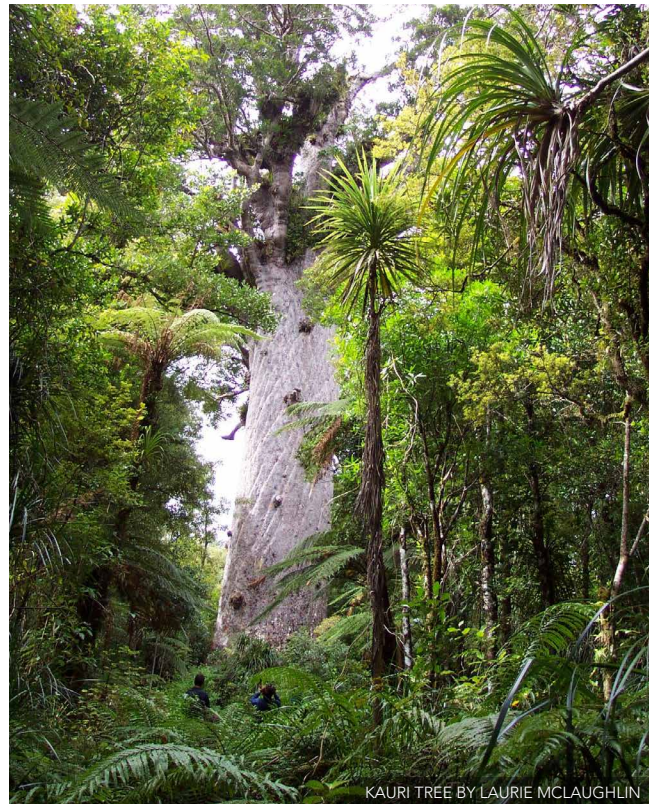
## Travel protection

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

## The fine print

*Rates are based on triple/quadruple occupancy for participants; complimentary leader accommodations may be single or double occupancy based on availability. International airfare is included for complimentary leaders. Holiday surcharges may apply. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form are due upon booking. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are non-refundable.*



KAURI TREE BY LAURIE MCLAUGHLIN



TRADITIONAL MAORI DRESS AND DANCE BY ROBERT LINSDELL



AUCKLAND