

Duration 9 hours
Start time 0800 hours
End time 1700 hours

You will see
 Great scenery
 The Hobbiton movie set
 Te Puia
 Geysers and Mud pools
 The Kiwi Bird
 Rotorua City and lake

Whats included
 Comfortable transport
 Experienced guide
 Tour at Hobbiton
 Te Puia entry
 Maori Cultural performance

Notes:

Note, if the ship arrives after 0800 then the tour will begin 30 minutes after arrival, or as soon as passengers can leave the ship
 Should the ship leave earlier than 60 minutes after the tour is due to end then we may shorten the tour accordingly

Hobbiton Movie Set, Farm Show, Lunch & Te Puia Tour

This tour combines the famous Lord of the Rings movie set location at Hobbiton, located on a working sheep farm, with Rotorua. The Hobbiton private tour lets us see how this hidden valley was transformed and used in all of the LOTR films. See farm livestock in a small demonstration, before taking lunch at the Shires Rest cafe overlooking rolling hills. Departing Hobbiton, we head to Rotorua for our visit to Te Puia. Here we you can experience the natural wonders of the geothermal geysers and mud pools, then watch the traditional Maori cultural performance on the Marae before heading back to Tauranga.

Itinerary

Departing Tauranga, we first cross the harbour bridge, which offers great views of The Mount, the volcanic core 232m high which marks the entrance to the harbour of Tauranga. We then climb up to over 1000 feet to cross the Kaimai mountain range which divides the Bay of Plenty coastal region from the Waikato district, the main dairy farming area of New Zealand.

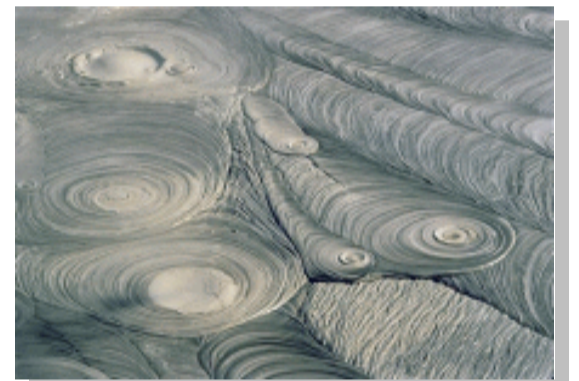
We soon arrive at Hobbiton, the movie set location for the village in the Lord of The Rings films. Here we will be met by our private guide for an informative tour around the movie set location. Stand under the party tree, walk past the Hobbit holes, imagine yourself amongst the characters. Nestled deep in the rolling hills of the Waikato, this location was chosen for its unblemished landscape.

Next we visit the small sheep farming demonstration before taking lunch at the Shires Rest cafe overlooking the rolling hills. Leaving Hobbiton, our journey takes us through the Mamaku Ranges, past ancient forests and over the rim of the volcanic crater which now forms the lake of Rotorua.

After passing through the city of Rotorua and some of the famous landmarks such as the Rotorua Bath House and Government Gardens we arrive at Te Puia, the home of the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and the location of the famous Pohutu geyser.

We will visit a carving school and see craftsmen fashion traditional wood carvings, then move on to watch Maori women demonstrate flax weaving. A short walk takes us through the geothermal valley of Whakarewarewa to view the mud pools, the famous Pohutu geyser and hot pools that make Te Puia unique. See New Zealand's iconic flightless bird, the Kiwi in a purpose built Kiwi-house. Explore the recreated traditional Maori fortified village.

Seats are reserved for us to see a Maori Cultural Performance; this is given on the Marae, in one of the few fully carved meeting houses in New Zealand, a place of special spiritual significance to Maori. Here you will see the traditional songs, dances and demonstrations of fighting skills [including the Haka] performed. We then depart Rotorua for the return to Tauranga to rejoin the ship.



General Info

This tour requires some walking on well made paths, gentle inclines and some steps

Meals

Lunch is included
 Please see our Shore Trips Booking Terms & Conditions

Conditions

This tour requires a minimum of 6 persons to operate. The tour will run with less at the following rates
 5 persons, \$349.00 PP
 4 persons, \$399.00 PP
 Rates are shown in NZ \$