



REST NEW ZEALAND TOURS

Travel Manual

INDEPENDENT SELF DRIVE TOUR

With a 4x4 Rental Car through New Zealand



**Rest New Zealand International Ltd / PO Box 33-457, Takapuna, North
Shore City 0740, New Zealand / ph +64-9-4860636
www.restnztours.co.nz**

In case of an emergency please call
Ph 09 4862456, mobile 021 765 085 or 021 1351174

Day 1

Meet & Greet by REST NEW ZEALAND TOURS.

Transfer to your accommodation.

Hand over of your travel documents.

Auckland sights

Downtown: Business district around busy Queen Street. Have a look at the country's oldest department store, Smith and Caughey's. West of Queen St is High St with NZ top designer shops with quirky cafés and bars. *Viaduct Harbour and Princes Wharf* with restaurants and bars at the waterfront.

Sky Tower: With 328 m the tallest tower in the southern hemisphere, two restaurants (one revolving), observation deck and great views. Sky Jump, Sky Walk for the more adventurous.

The Domain: The oldest park in the city with some cafés, huge trees, nice flora and walking tracks. On the highest point sits *Auckland Museum*.

Auckland Museum: It tells the story of New Zealand. From the great Polynesian voyages, to the remarkable flora, fauna and geography to the story of New Zealand's involvement in several wars. Maori cultural performance daily 11am, 12pm, 1.30pm.

Mount Eden (Maungawhau): Distinctive volcano in the city, 192 m high with 360 degree views over the city and both harbours. Accessible by car from Mt. Eden Road.

Kelly Tarlton's Underwater World: Antarctic Encounter with sub-antarctic penguins and Underwater World with a great variety of species including stingrays, sharks, turtles, giant rays and other deep sea creatures. 23 Tamaki Drive, free shuttle bus from downtown.

Parnell Village: A boutique central suburb with Victorian buildings, gardens, galleries and restaurants, is a great place to explore.

Ponsonby Road: Auckland's gourmet mile with many cafés, restaurants and boutique shops.

Devonport: Historical suburb with Cheltenham Beach and great views from Mt. Victoria. 15 minutes by ferry from downtown ferry building.

Takapuna Beach: Great beach for a swim or a walk, restaurants and cafés.

Explore Auckland Harbour by boat: Harbour Cruises by motorboat or sailing boat and Whale and Dolphin Safaris from Ferry Building downtown.

Beach walk from Takapuna Beach to Milford Beach: Start at Takapuna camping ground, turn left and walk along the waterfront.

Accommodation

Auckland City Hotel

157 Hobson St
Auckland
Ph 09 925 0777



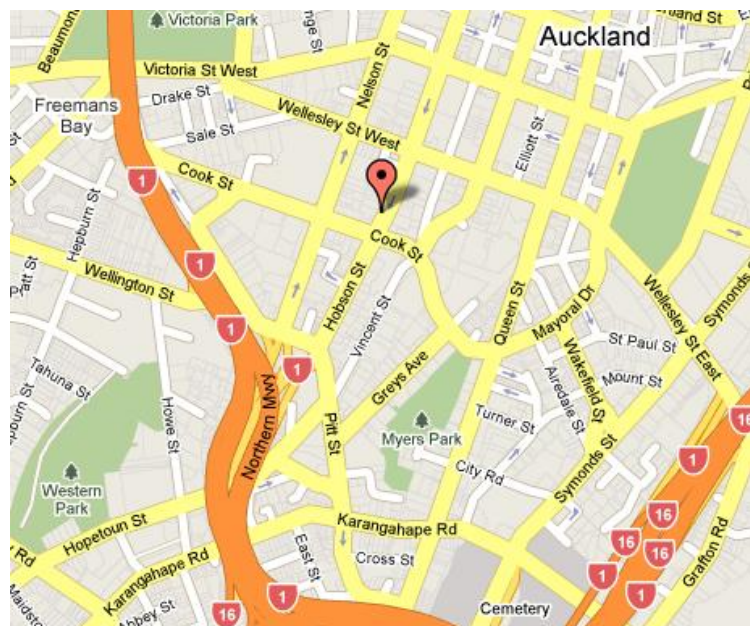
Built in 1912 (formerly Trade Hall Hobson Street), the building has been transformed into a captivating boutique Hotel. Retaining its iconic facade with its ideal combination of inventive design and traditional efficiency, Auckland City Hotel retains the character and charm of its past enhanced with a relaxing contemporary decor. It is situated in the heart of Auckland's entertainment, business district and easy access to motorways.

Facilities

- Sky TV
- Hair dryer
- Broadband internet
- Gym
- Laundry
- Café, Restaurant
- Wellness spa

Directions

Take SH1 North Whangarei to the city. Exit at **Nelson St**. Drive down Nelson St and turn right into Wellesley St and right again into Hobson St.



Day 2

Rental car pick up

Please take a taxi to Thrifty Car Rental depot at 150 Khyber Pass Road. For further details see the rental car voucher in your booklet.

Auckland – Muriwai Gannet Colony – Helensville – Kaukapakapa – Wellsford – Dargaville – Waipoua Forest – Omapere Total 290 km, approximate driving time 4 hours, map 5/3

Drive to the nearest on-ramp to the Motorway SH1 North (Whangarei) to Exit 414 for Upper Harbour Highway. Exit there and turn left into the Upper Harbour Highway that passes into a short stretch of Motorway SH18 that is sign posted as Greenhithe/Waitakere. Stay on this road and follow the sign SH16 to Kumeu/Helensville. Opposite the petrol station in Waimauku turn left to *Muriwai Beach* and the Gannet Colony (9 km). After a short walk to the colony and a stroll along the endless black sand beach return to Kumeu via SH16. Follow SH16 to Helensville and Wellsford, than SH1 to intersection Brynderwyn, turn into SH12 to Dargaville. In Dargaville look for signs *Waipoua Forest, Kai Iwi Lakes – SH12 Kaikohe* and follow SH12 to Omapere.

Highlights

Muriwai Beach and Gannet Colony: Gannets nesting here on a rock from August to April. The fascinating birds can be watched from a platform above. Great view. 10 minutes walk. *Photo stop.*

Matakohe Kauri Museum: History of Kauri timber and Kauri gum and the early pioneer days. Well worth seeing and an interesting shop.

Waipoua Forest: 10 minutes walk to the oldest Kauri tree, the 1000 year old Tane Mahuta.

Pakia Hill: SH12, car park on the left side just before Omapere with fantastic views to Hokianga Harbour and the sand dunes. *Photo stop.*

Opononi: Sleepy little fishing village at Hokianga Harbour.

Tip

An experience of a lifetime is a twilight tour through the Waipoua Forest to the country's oldest Kauri trees. A Maori guide brings you in close encounter with the spiritual meaning of nature and forest for the Maori. Start at Copthorne Resort Hotel in Omapere. Dinner can be pre-ordered at the resort. Footprints Waipoua, ph 09 405 8207, free phone 0800 687 836. *If you have booked this tour you can save visiting the Kauri trees on your way to Omapere.*

Highlight of the day

Muriwai Beach and Gannet Colony.

The Kauri Museum

5 Church Road, Matakoho
SH12, ph 431 7417
Turnoff is well sign posted

The Kauri Museum at Matakoho in the North of New Zealand is one of the country's most amazing theme museums. Approximately 85,000 people visit the internationally acclaimed museum every year. This is a real Must See Attraction for anyone visiting Northland.



This award-winning museum tells a fascinating story of the pioneering days through the use of kauri timber and kauri gum. Settlers first came to Matakoho and nearby Paparoa and Maungaturoto in 1862. This museum was established to celebrate their centennial and to pay tribute to those early pioneers.



There are many exceptional displays and dedicated galleries to admire. You can expect to see a magnificent collection of antique kauri furniture. There is restored machinery including NZ's earliest tractor, a 1929 Cat 60 and a turning Steam Sawmill.

The Kauri Museum also has the largest collection of kauri gum in the world, a replica boarding house, a school and a historic post office with a fantastic collection of telephones.

The shop has plenty of souvenirs made of kauri wood and in the nearby café you can refresh yourself for the next part of your tour.

Directions

