



# The Coromandel

8 nights | March 2022  
a guided adventure for active women

## Sat 05 Mar AUCKLAND - THAMES

Our adventure starts this morning, with a pickup at Auckland Airport (please arrive by 10.30am) before journeying south across the Bombay Hills and on to Miranda for a spot of bird-watching. The Firth of Thames offers migratory wading birds a massive 8,500 hectares of wide inter-tidal flats and attracts thousands of birds each year. Some fly all the way from the Arctic circle whilst others fly up from the braided rivers of the South Island. There are some easy walking tracks through the mud-flats and an interesting Information Centre where we can eat a picnic lunch whilst learning about this amazing natural occurrence.

Our first two nights will be spent in the southwestern end of the Coromandel Peninsula in the town of **Thames**. Surrounded by impressive bush-clad ranges and the Firth of Thames, a heritage rich in gold and kauri and some interesting shops to poke around in. After dinner we will take a stroll along the foreshore and hopefully witness one of Thames' legendary sunsets (weather permitting of course!)

## Sun 06 Mar THAMES

Today we will explore the township with a local guide taking in the historic buildings and landscape. There will also be time to enjoy some of the shorter **walking** tracks near **Thames**. Native bush, Kauri forests, the singsong of birds, chattering crickets, gold mining history, tunnels and scenery awaits us. Later relax by the pool at our accommodation.

## Mon 07 Mar HAHEI – WHITIANGA

We say *haere ra* to Thames and begin our circumnavigation of the Coromandel Peninsula. Along the way we will make a stop at **Hot Water Beach** and partake in a unique Kiwi experience – digging ourselves a little hole in the sand to find hot spring water to relax in. A short drive further north brings us to the popular seaside village of Hahei where we put on our walking shoes and take a one hour walk to iconic **Cathedral Cove**. We'll detour along the way for cliff top views and then drop down into the Cove where there will be time to take in the gorgeous surroundings and have a swim. Just like the postcards depict, you will find golden sand, soft waves, creamy cliffs, and that well photographed rock rising out of the sea. A scenic ride by water taxi brings us back to Hahei and we continue on to Whitianga.

## Tue / Wed WHITIANGA & SURROUNDS

Over the next couple of days, we will explore the area walking along stunning white sandy beaches and through native bush, boating to remote bays, snorkelling, swimming, shopping, eating, wine tasting and relaxing. Wine tasting & lunch included at Mercury Bay Winery on one of these days.



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## **Thu 10 Mar**                      **NEW CHUMS BEACH – COROMANDEL TOWN**

Departing Whitianga this morning, we head north east to **Whangapoua** and begin our walk along a rocky shoreline and over the headland to the famed **Wainuiototo** aka *New Chums Beach*. Voted amongst the best deserted beaches in the world and only accessible by foot or boat – some describe it as “feeling like you’re inside a postcard”. A golden sand beach fringed by Pohutukawa and native forest awaits us, and we’ll have time to relax and enjoy a picnic lunch and a swim. Later this afternoon we reach Coromandel town and spend some time soaking up its unique character. Time for a look around the shops before settling into our accommodation.

## **Fri 11 Mar**                      **COROMANDEL TOWN**

This morning we visit **Driving Creek** and ride New Zealand’s steepest railway and the only narrow-gauge mountain railway in the country. Be entertained with stories as we wind our way up 2.7km of native forest and past unique pottery and sculptures to EyeFull Tower. Later you have the opportunity to join a pottery making class or go zip-lining (additional cost and subject to availability – early booking essential).

A little further up the 309 Road is **The Waterworks** where we’ll have lunch followed by a roam around the extensive grounds and lots of laughs over the quirky water powered gadgets. We’ll stop for refreshments at the popular **Mussell Kitchen and MK Brewing Co** on the way home later this afternoon.

If you’ve still got some energy there is an optional **sunset walk** in the **Kauri Block** where native bush, sweeping vistas and history await us.

## **Sat 12 Mar**                      **COROMANDEL COASTAL WALKWAY**

Described as “the last frontier” and “like walking through a film set” the **Coromandel Coastal Walkway** is guaranteed to be a pleasure for everyone today. A scenic drive up to the top of the Peninsula guarantees wonderful views from our vehicle but once on foot this 10km track, from **Fletcher Bay to Stony Bay**, provides dramatic vistas.

For those who don’t want to walk so far, you have the option to stay in Coromandel town. You might like to book on a fishing trip on a Mussel Barge, do some shorter walks nearby or just relax. Our accommodation is located just a 2 minute walk from the town centre.

## **Sun 13 Mar**                      **COROMANDEL – AUCKLAND**

After breakfast, we head south to explore the award-winning water gardens of **Rapaura**. Take your time to explore these extensive gardens of native and exotic plantings all interspersed with garden art. Lunch in the garden café located within this private estate before continuing back to Auckland where the tour ends this afternoon. Recommend you book flights to depart 4pm onwards.

## Price:

\$3130 per person Twin share \*

\$500 Single supplement

\* if you would like us to find you a room-mate let us know – subject to availability

## Includes

- 8 nights accommodation (good quality apartments and motels)
- Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Wine Tasting
- Tour navigator / walking guide
- Transportation in modern air-conditioned mini-coach
- Sightseeing/Entry Fees as specified

## Excludes

- Flights
- Travel Insurance
- Meals and refreshments (unless specified in inclusions)
- Items of a personal nature and optional activities, eg. zip-lining

## Group Size

Minimum 7 / maximum 12

## How fit do I need to be

Expect to walk on average 3 - 5 km per day. Some days may be longer (eg. Coastal Walkway is approx 10 km) and some may be shorter, some easy and some harder. There is lots of variety. The pace will be leisurely with ample time for a breather and photos. ***The tour is aimed at leisure walkers who enjoy the outdoors, discovering, meeting new people and socialising.***

## Pre & Post Tour Accommodation

Available on request

## About Your Tour Navigator

Marie Coles is a born & bred Kiwi and grew up in a village in the South Island. She now resides in Cambridge with her family and is the Founder of Roam Travel Adventures. Marie has explored many nooks & crannies of her beloved homeland and with her local knowledge and passion for walking and exploring, Marie has carefully crafted this itinerary to include some iconic walks and sights only suitable for active small groups.



Terms & Conditions apply. See [www.roamtraveladventures.com](http://www.roamtraveladventures.com) for full details.



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