



The Coromandel

8 nights | Feb 2021

a guided adventure for active women

Sat 20 Feb Auckland - Thames

Our adventure starts this morning, with a pickup in Auckland (city or airport) before journeying south across the Bombay Hills and on to the Coromandel. Our first two nights will be spent in the southwestern end of the 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, Thames is the ideal place to begin roaming. This afternoon we'll explore the township, visiting some unique craft stores and taking in the historic buildings and landscape. After dinner we will take a stroll along the foreshore and hopefully witness one of Thames' legendary sunsets (weather permitting of course!)

Sun 21 Feb Thames

Today we will 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. For those who like a more strenuous hike, you are welcome to take on The Pinnacles. Later relax by the pool at our accommodation.

Mon 22 Feb Hot Water Beach – Cathedral Cove - 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**. Hopefully, the tide will be in our favour and we can 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 and surrounds

Over the next couple of days, we will explore the area walking along stunning white sand beaches and through native bush, boating to remote bays, snorkelling, swimming, shopping, eating, wine tasting and relaxing.

Thu 25 Feb New Chums Beach – Coromandel Town

Departing Whitianga this morning, we head north east to Whangapoua and begin our walk along a rocky shoreline and across 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 26 Feb 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). We'll take a late lunch at the popular **Mussell Kitchen and MK Brewing Co** where we can relax in a picturesque garden, dine on tasty food from the open kitchen and sip on refreshing drinks. Later today, time permitting, we will walk the **Kauri Block** where native bush, sweeping vistas and history await us.

Sat 27 Feb 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. Enjoy the last evening of the tour with your new friends over a delicious meal in a local restaurant.

Sun 28 Feb Coromandel Town - Auckland

After breakfast, we head south to explore the award-winning watergardens of **Rapaura**. Take your time to roam through the 64 acres 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.

Price:

\$2599 per person Twin share *

\$400 Single supplement

** if you would like us to find you a room-mate let us know*

Includes

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

Excludes

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



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Group Size

Minimum 7 / maximum 10

How fit do I need to be

Expect to walk on average 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, meeting new people, discovering and socialising.**

Pre & Post Tour Accommodation

Available on request

Auckland arrival & departure

Day 1 – Auckland city pick up approx 10am, airport pick up approx 11am.

Day 9 – Auckland airport drop off by 3pm, city drop off by 4pm.

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 husband and twins and is the Founder of Roam Travel Adventures. Having worked in the travel industry for many years, Marie has travelled extensively throughout the world but lists New Zealand as her favourite destination. She has explored many nooks & crannies of her beloved homeland and with her local knowledge and passion for walking, Marie has carefully crafted this itinerary to include some iconic walks as well as venturing in to less-travelled areas.



Terms & Conditions apply. See www.roadtraveladventures.com for full details.

Hauraki Rail Trail

Ask about adding a 3, 4 or 5 day Hauraki Rail Trail Cycle Tour to this itinerary.