

11 Day Road Trip 'Volcano Trail' (Christchurch to Auckland)



Highlights

Mt Ruapehu National Park
Tongariro Crossing (optional)
Huka Falls
Taupo
Rotorua
Maori Culture
Waitomo
Bay of Islands Overnight Cruise

Flexible Itinerary

Our routes have been carefully chosen to include the best night stops and highlights. However, as road conditions, weather, local restrictions and group input may vary, no two trips will ever be the same. With the help of your tour leader and fellow travellers you may modify certain night-stops and highlights to give a truly unique experience.

Day 1: Christchurch & Kaikoura

We travel up the beautiful coastline to Kaikoura where many adventures await us. Take a boat trip out to see the whales. Experience being close to some of the largest creatures in the world. For those who wish, there are plane or helicopter flights to view the whales. Kaikoura is famous for its seafood and marine life with much to see and do. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 2: Kaikoura & Nelson

Nelson is in the heart of the wine producing area. It is a very pleasant sunny place and home to some of the most beautiful sea kayaking in the world. Today we spend the afternoon exploring the town. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 3: Nelson

We have a huge variety of activities to choose from including kayaking, boating, sailing in the famous Abel Tasman National Park, mountain biking or just relaxing in town or on the beach. Nelson is very picturesque and is a delight to visit. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 4: Nelson & Wellington via ferry

We cross to the North Island on the inter island ferry and enjoy the fantastic scenery of the Marlborough Sound. We arrive in the afternoon and have a great opportunity for a night out in the capital city. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 5: Wellington & Mt Ruapehu

After visiting the fantastic Te Papa Museum, we head through the central North Island plains towards the great volcanoes and Tongariro National Park. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 6: Mount Ruapehu

There are several options available for the day, but many will want to hike the famous Tongariro Crossing track. A good 'day' hike which is known as the best of its kind in New Zealand, with spectacular views of the volcanic plateau and the lakes. Other options include mountain biking or explore the beautiful local area. During the winter the upper hike is not available due to snow and a lower forest hike will be offered weather permitting. Skiing and snowboarding plus other local sights are available during winter months. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 7: Mt Ruapehu, Taupo & Rotorua

We head to Taupo, just one hour away and known as the North Island's home of extreme sports. On the way we visit the spectacular Huka Falls. Here you can bungee jump or ride in a jet boat, as well as do many other activities. Or how about just relaxing by the shores of the largest lake in New Zealand? After lunch we go to Rotorua to visit Te Pauia, site of the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and thermal area. See geysers and boiling mud pools in an amazing display of the power of nature. An option tonight is a Maori Hangi dinner and concert. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 8: Rotorua & Waitomo

Today we have some great choices. You can do the boat trip and walk through the glow worm caves or go black water rafting. This is an unforgettable trip involving hiking and descending an underground river floating on an inner tube. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 9: Waitomo & Bay of Islands

We leave Waitomo and drive towards New Zealand's winterless north. We cross lush green farmland and make a stop at the Kauri forests to see the giant ancient trees. Upon arrival we make our way to the port to board our overnight cruise boat. The boat is equipped with kayaks, snorkelling gear and other equipment for all the planned stops at the islands on this 24 hour tour. This boat tour will be substituted May-Sep with another boat tour of equivalent value, quality and experience which may or may not be overnight depending on availability and conditions. Accommodation: Overnight Boat included

Day 10: Bay of Islands

Today we have a host of available activities including kayaking, snorkelling, a boat trip to the islands or just relaxing on the boat. Accommodation: Budget Lodging

Day 11: Auckland

We make our way back South passing unspoiled beaches and lush forests. This area has always been prized for its fantastic native hardwood timbers that are fortunately protected nowadays. Crossing the Auckland Harbour Bridge with a spectacular view of the 'City of Sails', we arrive in Auckland to say our fond farewells.

Included: Services of a professional tour leader, all transportation by private adventure vehicle, 9 nights Budget Lodging, overnight Bay of Island boat cruise (may be a day trip during winter months May-Sep depending on conditions), Waitomo Caves entrance, entrance to the Te Puia Maori Arts and Cultural Centre in Rotorua, Te Papa museum in Wellington, inter-island ferry crossing.

Note: Accommodation is generally on a 4-share basis in single sex rooms. In some areas we may need to use larger rooms. Double rooms can be obtained at extra cost depending on availability. This must be requested at the time of booking and additional costs paid direct.



YOUR TRIP DETAILS

Confirmation Number

Departure Date

Departure Location

Finish Date

Local Payment Amount

THINGS TO REMEMBER

You need to reconfirm your tour on +64 9 52 62 149 at least 48 hours before departure.

Your luggage MUST be kept to a maximum of 20kgs.

Travel Insurance is NOT included, you must arrange your own insurance, it's compulsory!

Drink lots of water, wear a hat and sunscreen.

Part of the enjoyment of our tours is participating!

Max People: 15



HOSTEL

Tour Code: VTC

Terms & Conditions



LUGGAGE: Luggage must be kept to a MAXIMUM OF 20KGS in a backpack or soft overnight bag with a small day pack for easy access to camera, film, sun block etc.

MEALS: Our emphasis is on fresh food wherever possible and our meals are nutritious and varied. We cater for vegetarian and gluten intolerance – please advise at time of booking. On ATA Road Trips a meal kitty of NZD\$10 per person per day will be collected locally. The meal kitty covers three meals on most days, but excludes alcohol, soft drinks and meals at restaurants. All money left in the kitty at the end of the trip is returned to the group.

FITNESS & PARTICIPATION: Our tours are active and most require a reasonable level of fitness. Tours graded '3 boots' are only suitable for very fit and active people who enjoy basic bush camping. They are not suitable for children. If you have any doubts about the suitability of your clients please check with our reservations team as we reserve the right to assess suitability to participate at check-in. Passengers are expected to help with the preparation of food, washing of dishes and general assistance to the guide as directed.

INSURANCE: Travel insurance is NOT included. We strongly recommend that passengers have their own travel insurance against illness, injury, loss/damage to personal belongings and not being able to travel on the confirmed departure date. It is compulsory for passengers travelling on ATA Road Trips to be insured.

PRICING, FEES AND LEVIES: Rates are quoted in AUD and are correct at time of publication. Prices can be subject to alteration due to extreme external economic pressure. No responsibility is accepted by the Adventure Tours Australia Group for unforeseen omissions or misrepresentation of our code-share partners. Fees and levies are charged in AUD per person and subject to change. Refer to our website for fees and levies on your specific tour.

Fuel Levy: Should the price of diesel increase by more than we regard as a reasonable increase a fuel surcharge levy may be introduced. This will be at a maximum of \$20 per person per tour.

CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL: Adventure Tours reserves the right to alter the route or itinerary of any of its tours and arrange alternative carriers to those advertised if necessary. No refunds will be given in these circumstances or in the event of any delay, curtailment or alteration of a trip resulting from any cause including severe weather conditions or mechanical failure. Adventure Tours can't guarantee pick up or drop off times and are not liable for passenger failure to connect with other services or any costs associated in such delays. We accept no responsibility for loss or damage to personal belongings or baggage. The Aboriginal components of our Top End tours are subject to cultural conditions. Participants may be absent due to cultural commitments with little prior notification and Adventure Tours reserves the right to amend the itinerary in these circumstances and no refunds will be given. Components of our trip are weather dependant and we cannot be held liable if they are not available on the day of travel.

LIABILITY: Whilst we make every effort to safeguard our clients, we cannot be held responsible for personal injury or sickness to any customer or damage or loss of property due to events which are beyond our control. Passengers should note that adventure travel involves a higher than normal risk and a signed release will be required from all participants before tour departure. We also take no responsibility for any act of neglect by any company whose services are used as part of our packages including but not limited to activity and accommodation providers.

PASSENGER NUMBERS: A minimum number of passengers is required to operate each tour. It may therefore be necessary to cancel a scheduled departure and to offer an alternative or full refund for that tour.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellation of a booking or part thereof may incur fees, see our website for more details. Once travel has commenced, no refunds will be made for any unused services and clients will be responsible for their travel arrangements from that point onward.