

## Natural New Zealand - in Style 18 Days



### Your “Taste of Volunteering” Project: Environmental

**Native Tree Planting.** You will be recalling a forgotten era at this fabulous property, which is only accessible by boat, and is surrounded by Department of Conservation land. Here, your Maori host will regale you with fascinating stories and you can help play a part in restoring native flora and fauna to this area. This forms part of the overall vision of the property to be sustainable and economically viable to encourage more Maori people back to this region. Other initiatives include a manuka honey project, and organic farming.

#### Trip Highlights:

- Waiheke Island
- Americas Cup sailing
- Piha and Karekare beaches
- Bay of Islands
- Helicopter flight down North Island to Rotorua (via Waitomo Caves and Huka Lodge)
- Pelorous Sound volunteering
- Wine tasting in Marlborough Sounds
- Whale watching in Kaikoura
- Heli-hike on Franz Josef Glacier
- Helicopter flight to Milford Sound
- Jet-boat, flight and hike day – Siberia Experience
- Queenstown

#### Day by Day Itinerary:

Day 1	Arrive Auckland, fly to Waiheke Island	D
Day 2	Waiheke Island and Americas Cup sailing	B
Day 3	Bay of Islands – Maori cultural tour	B,D
Day 4	Bay of Islands – sailing	B,L
Day 5	Heli flight to Rotorua via Waitomo and Huka Falls	B,L
Day 6	Lake Tarawera catamaran launch and fishing	B,L



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

Day 7	Ferry to Picton via Wellington, boat transfer to Pelorous Sounds	B, D
Day 8-10	Volunteering in Pelorous Sounds	B,L,D
Day 11	Finish volunteering and transfer to Blenheim, wine tasting	B
Day 12	Christchurch via whale watching in Kaikoura	B,L
Day 13	Drive over Arthur's Pass to Franz Josef	B
Day 14	Half day heli-hike on Franz Josef Glacier	B
Day 15	Jetboat, flight and hike – 'Siberian Experience'	B,L
Day 16	Heli flight to Milford Sound and on to Queenstown	B,L
Day 17	Queenstown activities	B,D
Day 18	Fly back to Auckland; Trip ends	B

*(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)*

## **Trip Description**

### Day One

Arrive Auckland. VIP escort from door of aircraft. Meet tour manager and transfer to your helicopter for a 15-minute scenic flight to Delamore Lodge on Waiheke Island. Hot stone massage and dinner at the lodge that night.  
[www.delamorelodge.co.nz](http://www.delamorelodge.co.nz)

### Day Two

A leisurely exploration of Waiheke Island, its vineyards and art galleries. Stay another night at Delamore Lodge.

### Day Three

Sail the Waitemata Harbour, including a stop on Rangitoto, a dormant volcano island with wonderful views back to Auckland. Your boat will take you north of Auckland, where you will be met by your chauffeur and driven 3 hours up to the Bay of Islands. Meet a charismatic Maori chief for an introduction to Maori culture – this could be a historical tour of treaty grounds, of Maori war sites, a visit to a Maori community, a soak in geothermal hot pools, or a paddle in a war canoe. Whichever you prefer. Stay that night at Eagles Nest [www.eaglesnest.co.nz](http://www.eaglesnest.co.nz) in the one bedroom honeymoon villa, First Light Temple. Enjoy a meal cooked by your personal chef.

### Day Four

A day of sailing in the Bay of Islands. You can also elect to dive, snorkel, even swim with the dolphins, or just sit back and relax.



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

UK: 0800 783 3554; NZ: 0800 426 3787; US 201 984 5372; RoW: +44 207 193 1062

[Bookings@handsupholidays.com](mailto:Bookings@handsupholidays.com)



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

#### Day Five

Be picked up from the lodge by your helicopter. Enjoy a scenic flight over Northland's beaches. Fly to Waitomo. Try a caving experience and then abseil 50 metres down a cliff. Then fly into exclusive Huka Lodge for lunch before continuing onto Rotorua, flying into volcano Mount Tarawera, over the lakes and geothermal areas, before setting down at Solitaire Lodge [www.solitairelodge.com](http://www.solitairelodge.com). This is a long, special helicopter day, covering the major points of the upper half of the North Island. Amazing day.

#### Day Six

Spend the day on mysterious Lake Tarawera on a luxury catamaran together with a jetski and fishing gear. Catch a trout and your skipper will bury it in the geothermally heated sand at Hot Water Beach in order to cook it. Enjoy lunch and relax before returning to Solitaire. You may then elect to explore Rotorua's thermal activity 'up close and personal'!

#### Day Seven

Drive to Wellington and take the scenic ferry ride across the Cook Strait to Picton and transfer by car to Pelorus Sound for your volunteering. You will be recalling a forgotten era at this fabulous property, which is only accessible by boat, and is surrounded by Department of Conservation land. Here, your Maori host will regale you with fascinating stories and you can help play a part in restoring native flora and fauna to this area. This forms part of the overall vision of the property to be sustainable and economically viable to encourage more Maori people back to this region. Other initiatives include a manuka honey project, and organic farming.

#### Day Eight

Volunteering continues.

#### Day Nine

Volunteering continues.

#### Day Ten

Volunteering continues.

#### Day Eleven



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

UK: 0800 783 3554; NZ: 0800 426 3787; US 201 984 5372; RoW: +44 207 193 1062

[Bookings@handsupholidays.com](mailto:Bookings@handsupholidays.com)



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

Volunteering finishes. Leave Pelorous Sound. Be chauffeur driven to The Convent in Blenheim, stay in the chapel suite. Relax. Vineyard meal in the evening. [www.convent.co.nz](http://www.convent.co.nz)

#### Day Twelve

Drive to Christchurch via Kaikoura, where, depending on the time of year, you can experience spectacular whale watching. Staying at Claremont Estate. [www.claremont-estate.com](http://www.claremont-estate.com)

#### Day Thirteen

Drive over Arthur's Pass to the West Coast and on to near Franz Josef Glacier, staying at Kapitea Ridge. [www.kapitea.co.nz](http://www.kapitea.co.nz)

#### Day Fourteen

Take a helicopter flight up Franz Josef Glacier and go on a half-day glacier hike, equipped with crampons and pick axes. In the afternoon we transfer to Wanaka, staying at Silver Pine lodge [www.silverpine.co.nz](http://www.silverpine.co.nz).

#### Day Fifteen

Take in a wilderness jetboat, flight and hiking tour in a spectacular, pristine environment, known as the 'Siberia Experience'.

#### Day Sixteen

Be picked up from your front lawn in your helicopter. Fly over to Fiordland, Milford Sound, for some majestic views. Stop on glaciers, on mountain tops, and on the beach. Then return to Queenstown to your lodge at Punatapu, [www.punatapu.com](http://www.punatapu.com) The Punatapu Suite.

#### Day Seventeen

Second day in Queenstown. Optional activities:

- Hiking
- 4WD offroad tour
- Rafting
- Jetboating

#### Day Eighteen

Fly to Auckland, fly out.

**Comfort Level:** 5+/5 (1/5 during volunteering for 4 nights in Pelorous Sounds)



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

UK: 0800 783 3554; NZ: 0800 426 3787; US 201 984 5372; RoW: +44 207 193 1062

[Bookings@handsupholidays.com](mailto:Bookings@handsupholidays.com)



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

Accommodation is in superb quality luxury lodges and hotels for 13 nights, and simple, rustic accommodation for 4 nights whilst volunteering in the Pelorous Sounds.

**Activity Level:** 3/5

**Min. Travellers per Group:** 2

**Max. Travellers per Group:** 6

**Police Check Required?** No



*Explore, Experience, Enrich™*

UK: 0800 783 3554; NZ: 0800 426 3787; US 201 984 5372; RoW: +44 207 193 1062

[Bookings@handsupholidays.com](mailto:Bookings@handsupholidays.com)