

Pedaltours

vacations for cyclists since 1985

VOLCANOES & GLOW-WORMS 8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS Rotorua to Auckland

ITINERARY

Please bring this information with you to the tour start.

Distances are given in kilometres. 1 km = 0.62 miles

Cycling distances given are entirely optional; cycle as little or as much as you wish each day, the shuttle van will always be available. Suggested cycling distances are given for each day, as follows:

Cas. = casual cyclists, Int. = intermediate cyclists, adv = advanced cyclists.



The tour starts in Rotorua, (pop. 54,000) New Zealand's "Spa City", known for its thermal activity, beautiful lakes and Maori culture.

MEETING DAY / DAY ONE:

We meet at 5.00 pm at Princes Gate Hotel
1057 Arawa Street, Rotorua
Ph: 07 348 1179 www.princesgate.co.nz

There will be an introductory meeting, rental bikes fitted and tried, or your own unpacked. We will then have dinner at one of the many excellent restaurants in town.

Should you need to contact Pedaltours please call our Auckland Office, Richard or Helen or Lisa: tollfree within New Zealand 0800 302 0968, tollfree from the U.S. 1 888 222 9187.

Lodging and breakfast: Dinner is included tonight.
Princes Gate Hotel, 1057 Arawa Street, Rotorua
Phone 07 348 1179 www.princesgate.co.nz
Facilities: Restaurant and bar, thermal swimming pool, tennis court, guest laundry.
Features: Historic hotel with a very central location overlooking the Government Gardens, museum and Polynesian Spa.

Day Two:	Rotorua to Taupo:	adv. 103 km / 64 ml.
	Rotorua to Waiotapu:	cas. 39 km / 24 mi
	Rotorua to Reporoa:	int. 50 km / 31 mi

We take a quiet back road through Waikite Valley and Waiotapu thermal areas on our way to Taupo. The thundering Huka Falls provide a noisy and spectacular entrance to the town of Taupo. Lake Taupo is New Zealand's largest lake at 606 sq km. On a good day there will be superb views across the lake to Tongariro National Park and its three distinctive mountains.

The area is famous for trout fishing in the many streams that flow into the lake.

Lodging : Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included today.
Tui Oaks Motor Inn, 88 Lake Terrace, Taupo.
Phone 07 378 8305 Fax 07 378 8335 Email: tui.oaks@xtra.co.nz
Features: Overlooks the lake, walking distance to town.

Cycling distances given are entirely optional; the van will be available at any time

Day Three: Taupo to Tongariro National Park: adv. 98 km / 61 mi
Taupo to Turangi: cas. 51 km / 32 mi
Turangi to Tongariro National Park int . 47 km / 29 mi

A varied, spectacular ride along Lake Taupo leads to the still active volcanoes in Tongariro National Park, the night being spent at the side of Mt Ruapehu. The mountain is permanently snowcapped and the North Island's highest at 2,797 m. On leaving the lakeside there is a substantial climb up to the plateau with a view of the entire lake. As we gain altitude there will be a distinct change in the vegetation, pine forests giving way to tussock grasslands.

Lodging : Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included.

The Chateau, Whakapapa village, Mt Ruapehu.

Phone: 07 892-3809, Fax: 07 892 3704.

Facilities: Cocktail bar, and restaurant, heated indoor pool and sauna, fitness centre, tennis courts and 9 hole golf course.

Features: A grand old hotel, spectacular setting overlooking Mt Ngauruhoe.

Day Four: Tongariro National Park

There are many excellent walks in the park, short and long, including the spectacular Tongariro Crossing. The Visitors Centre is well worth a visit. Alternatively, The Grand Chateau is excellent for spending a relaxing day.

Lodging : B.

The Grand Chateau, Whakapapa village, Mt Ruapehu.

Lunch and dinner not included today

Day Five: Tongariro to Piopio: adv. 142 km / 89 mi.
Tongariro to Taumaranui: cas. 58 km / 36 mi (Lunch. All downhill)
Tongariro to cafe int . 100 km / 62 mi

After an exhilarating downhill ride we travel through ever changing scenery to King Country, a sparsely populated district known for sheep farms and limestone formations.

Meals and Lodging: Breakfast and dinner are included.

Farm Stay, King Country

(Written details of your host and their property will be supplied by your guide)

Cycling distances given are entirely optional; the van will be available at any time

Day Six: Piopio to Waitomo: cas/ int / adv.. 50 km / 30 mi

In the morning your hosts will show you the workings of a typical New Zealand sheep farm. After the day's ride, relax and soak up the old charm of Waitomo Hotel. A visit to the world famous caves (included) is a must, with the option of black water (cave) rafting for the more daring.

Lodging : Breakfast and dinner are included. Lunch at own expense.

Waitomo Caves Guest Lodge B&B

Phone: 07 878-7641 www.waitomocavesquestlodge.co.nz

Facilities: B & B with ensuite rooms, Wi-Fi internet access and laptop available.

Features: Beautiful rural setting and cottage garden views

Dinner : Huhu Café or similar.

Day Seven: Waitomo to Auckland.
Waitomo to Te Awamutu: cas/int. 42 km / 26 mi
Waitomo to Pirongia: adv. 54 km / 34 mi

Today we follow delightful quiet back roads around Mt Pirongia to Te Awamutu and Pirongia where we take the Pedaltours minibus back to Auckland.

Lodging : Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included

The Sebel Suites

Cnr Hobson and Custom Street, Auckland

Phone. 09 978-4000 Fax. 09 978-4099

Facilities: Cocktail bar, laundry and kitchen facilities, Brasserie,

Features: Overlooking the harbour, close to many restaurants, a two min. walk to the ferry building and shops.

Day Eight: Auckland

After breakfast we must say farewell, a safe journey home and hope to see you again.

.....
Cycling distances given are entirely optional; the van will be available at any time

You may like to leave the following accommodation list with friends or relatives.

ACCOMMODATION
NORTH ISLAND HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Day	Date	Location	Accommodation	'phone
1		Rotorua	Princes Gate Hotel	(07) 348 1179
2		Taupo	Tui Oaks	(07) 378 8305
3		Tongariro	Grand Chateau	(07) 892 3809
4		Tongariro	Grand Chateau	(07) 892 3809
5		King Country	farm stay	
6		Waitomo	Waitomo Caves B&B	(07) 878 7641
7		Auckland	The Sebel	(09) 978 4000
8		Depart		