

25th - 30th November 2026

Great Barrier Island

It's crazy, but it's true...A scenic 30 minute flight is all it takes to transport yourself back in time to a very special and unique part of New Zealand.

Situated on the outer edge of the Hauraki Gulf in New Zealand's only National Marine Park, Great Barrier Island is a mere 90 kilometres from Auckland City - but a world away from your typical holiday destination. Over 70% of the land is protected Conservation Park and with night skies rated 'second to none'... the whole island is a Dark Sky Sanctuary.

To visit Great Barrier Island is to experience life off the grid, under the radar and on the edge... it really is a world of its own!

Join us as we explore this tranquil island paradise from top to bottom and everything in between by land, sea and air!

Along with all the highlights of this special little piece of paradise this tour also features the Aotea Great Barrier Island garden Tour which has become massively popular with visitors from all over NZ and the world. So this tour of the Barrier really has it all and shouldn't be missed! Book now as this tour is limited to 15 people and will fill up fast!

DAY 1

Wed 25th Nov

Home - Great Barrier Island



If departing from Whanganui, meet at the Whanganui Racecourse for an early 5:45am departure and travel to Whanganui Airport to catch our flight to Auckland.

Departing from another destination

For those departing from another destination you will fly into or meet us in Auckland. All tickets and details will be provided in your personal information pack, sent prior to travel.

On arrival at Claris airport we will be met by our host, Leigh. Have a meet and greet then visit the **Milk, Honey, and Grain, museum**. We then go on and have a stroll along **Medlands Beach**, a beautiful scenic surf Beach, before grabbing a bite to eat for **lunch**. Following this we head South and over Medlands hill to the West Coast of the Island to Tryphena, where our accommodation awaits. We will have time to unpack our bags and get familiar with our surroundings before staying on-site for our first group **dinner** at the Barrier Social Club just around the corner from our accom.

Great Barrier Island is a world renowned designated Night Sky Sanctuary. Be sure to gaze skyward every evening before you rest up for the night.

Accommodation: SUNSET WATERFRONT LODGE



DAY 2

Thur 26th Nov

Great Barrier Island



After a peaceful night we rise for breakfast before we are transferred to Whangaparapara wharf where we meet Chris, the Captain and owner of **Sundancer**.

Aboard Sundancer explore the West Coast of Great Barrier on a **4 -5 hour cruise** from Whangaparapara to Port Fitzroy. See the remains of the whaling station and timber mill locations, cruise through the Broken Islands while enjoying morning tea. See the spectacular coastline, and the Man O' War entrance to beautiful **Port Fitzroy Harbour**. Occasionally dolphin encounters are experienced during the cruise. **Lunch** is provided at the picturesque Orama Camp then we head to **Glenfern Sanctuary** opposite Port Fitzroy wharf. Enjoy an informative talk about the sanctuary then drive up the hill and soak up the amazing views over the Hauraki Gulf.

Dinner tonight is at Mulberry Grove - a great little shop/restaurant right next to our lodge where you can purchase many supplies and enjoy the local hospitality.

After a great meal it's time to turn in for the night or maybe have a sneaky nightcap and a star gaze before bed.

Accommodation: SUNSET WATERFRONT LODGE



DAY 3

Fri 27th Nov

Great Barrier Island



Enjoy another superb **continental breakfast** before another day enjoying what the Barrier has to offer.

This morning we head over to the local school and share **morning tea** with the teachers, students and principal. The students will lead you around the school and show you their way of life on the island.

Break for **lunch** then visit the spectacular **Windy Canyon** for an easy 15-20 minute walk each way to the lookout and get some great photos of the beautiful beaches.

After a bit of exercise it's time for a well earned drink! We'll make our way to **Island Gin** for an interesting tour of the distillery and for those keen a chance to sample the product.

Put your feet up a little before we head out for a memorable **dinner** at the local Irish Bar - This meal is in conjunction with the Garden Tour we embark on tomorrow so is sure to be a fabulous night.

Accommodation: SUNSET WATERFRONT LODGE



DAY 4

Sat 28th Nov

Great Barrier Island



Enjoy another superb **continental breakfast** before embarking on one of the Island's marquee annual events - **The Aotea Great Barrier Island Garden Adventure**

This is a unique opportunity to view a variety of residential gardens on the Island. The guided tours will enable you to visit charming cottage gardens, to see spectacular coastal panoramas and experience the hidden native flora and birdlife. The ticket includes tour transportation, a scrumptious **Morning Tea** and a charming **Devonshire Afternoon Tea**.

We are doing the **Nikau Tour** which is on relatively flat terrain. Visit six wonderful gardens ranging from those with extensive vistas to tranquil quiet spaces. Geographically involves central and southern Aotea Great Barrier. This day out means mixing with the locals and truly experiencing what life is like living on the island.

After a great day out we have another great **meal** together then hit the sack ready to go again tomorrow!

Accommodation: SUNSET WATERFRONT LODGE



DAY 5

Sun 29th Nov

Great Barrier Island



We have another hearty **breakfast** and then get set for another special day.

First up we visit **Jaques Haven**, meet Jaque and have a personal tour of the Haven he has created just behind the Claris Police Station, a micro climate with a variety of fruit tree's, bird life & bees. Morning tea is on a tranquil deck in the middle of his little haven.

Then go to **Blind Bay** and the **hidden wharf** at Okupu, driving through a stand of ancient Pohutukawa that enclose the road edge around the bay.

After **lunch** we walk into the **Kaitoke Hot Springs**, (45 minute relatively flat forest walk each way – bring your togs if you wish) or dunk your feet into the thermal water. (Please note this walk is not compulsory) and there is a shorter walk if you'd prefer not to go too far into the bush.

Pizza Night My Fat Puku is a local favourite on the Island so tonight we head there for **dinner** and drinks.

Accommodation: SUNSET WATERFRONT LODGE



DAY 6

Mon 30th Nov

Great Barrier Island - Home



This morning after **breakfast** we collect our bags and get ready to farewell the Island but we still have a few things to do first.

There is a chance to **feed the eels** who live close to our lodge before we visit **Shoal Bay pottery** and a lookout point over the Colville channel to the Coromandel Peninsula and south to Matarangi and the Mercury Islands.

We will explore Tryphena a little more and if time permits call into the **Elephant** and **Black Cow galleries** in Puriri Bay.

We will either dine in at Pa Beach café, or get a takeaway **lunch** and eat at one of the local beaches before being taken back to Claris to check out the **Art Gallery and museum** before heading to the airport for our return flight to Auckland.

Once we land in Auckland we will have time to relax and grab yourself a bite to eat before checking in for our flight back home landing at 7:00pm.

Note: For those travelling anywhere else arrangements can be made to get you home safely.



Total cost

Departing from Whanganui:

\$4,195.00 (Twin Share)

\$4795.00 (Single Supp)

\$500 deposit due at time of booking.

Final payment due by 30th September 2026.

Payment methods

- ✓ Credit Card
- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Eftpos
- ✓ Online

Send online bank deposits to:

BNZ 02-0792-0090015-00

Please use your name and trip name as code and reference.

What's included?



Transport

- All coach travel
- Flights
- Scenic Boat Cruise



Accommodation

- Great twin share accommodation
(single supplement available)



Food and drink

- Includes 2 course dinner every night except night 6.
- All lunches and morning/afternoon teas stated in itinerary



Activities

- All activities as stated in **bold** in the itinerary



How to book

Be in quick to secure your seats!



Call us

06 3447465

Freephone: 0508 482269



Email us

info@takeiteasytours.nz

Thank you,

The Take It Easy Team

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



www.takeiteasytours.nz

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



Take it Easy Tours

Terms and Conditions

Cancellation policy

If after your booking has been confirmed and you wish to cancel, the following cancellation fees will apply:

- For cancellations after 31st August 2026 – loss of deposit.
- For cancellations after 30th September 2026 – 75% of total fare will apply.
- For cancellations within 2 weeks prior to travel – 100% of total fare will apply.



Disclaimer

Take it easy tours will make every effort to provide on time service. It does not guarantee its departure and arrival times, which may be delayed by various factors including weather, traffic, road conditions, mechanical problems and any other conditions Take it easy tours can't control. Take it easy tours are not liable for any inconvenience or expense caused as a result of such delay. Take it easy tours assumes no liability or responsibility for property, delay or expense arising from or caused by weather conditions, acts of God, accident, government restrictions or regulations, from an act or omission of any individual, traffic, road conditions, mechanical problems, or any other cause or condition beyond its control. Take it easy tours reserves its right to cancel or change any tour, advertised schedule, or route without notice and assumes no liability or responsibility for any conditions beyond its control that may interrupt or cancel any tour.

