

6th - 10th September 2021

Mystery Uncovered - Bay of Plenty

Time to reveal what we got up to on our inaugural 'Mystery Tour'

Below you'll uncover all the secrets of our very first Mystery Tour. It was a wonderful success so we've decided to repeat the tour, this time 'uncovered'. Read on to find out all the destinations and activities you'll experience throughout the week.

Staying in a secluded, wilderness retreat means you only have to unpack your bags once, and from here we'll explore the Bay of Plenty region with its lakes, gardens and other world class tourist attractions.

Come and join us as we welcome in the magical springtime to 2021!

(Note: If the mystery is what you are after, never fear, as we will be running a new Mystery Tour in March 2022).

DAY 1

Mon 6th Sept.

Home - Lake Okataina

If departing from Whanganui meet at the Whanganui Racecourse for an **8am** departure, and travel up SH1 for some morning tea. We then head through to Turangi and visit the **Volcanic Centre** before having lunch at a local restaurant.

Departing from another destination

If departing from another location we'll arrange for you to meet the group in Whanganui or at a suitable location throughout day 1. (All details will be provided in your personal information pack sent prior to travel).

Continue through Taupo arriving at **NZ Riverjet** for a very leisurely boat cruise up the mighty Waikato River, uncovering some history and visiting the geothermal wonderland that is Orakei Korako.

Back on the bus, we make our way through to Lake Okataina and settle in for our 4 night stay at the Lakes Lodge Wilderness Retreat. Dinner is on-site.

Accommodation: LAKES LODGE



DAY 2

Tue 7th Sept

Lake Okataina - Mt Maunganui



After a relaxed start to the day we meet up with Nick Berryman - owner of Lakes Lodge and get set for a **gentle cruise** around Lake Okataina. This picturesque lake is the 4th largest lake in the Rotorua region, completely surrounded by native bush right down to the shore line.

The history is rich from pre European times and the local Maori tribes that lived on the lake edge. Visit a sunken Maori pa site seeing the palisades in the lake that surrounded the pa site and old burial grounds. This is the best example of a pre European pa site in New Zealand!

We have lunch on dry land before hitting the road through to Mt Maunganui where you have a choice of either visiting the hot pools, hitting the shops, strolling around the beach or climbing the Mount itself for those feeling like a bit of a challenge and fitness.

Weave our way back to our accommodation for a lovely 3 course meal, a game of cards or 8 ball by the open fire, then rest our heads for the night.

Accommodation: LAKES LODGE



DAY 3

Wed 8th Sept

Lake Okataina - Tauranga



Enjoy a cooked or continental breakfast then travel north along SH33 making our way to Tauranga Harbour and meeting the team from **Kewpie Cruises** where we navigate our way around the Omokoroa Harbour. This 3 hour cruise of the calm inner reaches has the best diversity of landscapes from untouched white sandy beaches, lush green forests to small village settlements in contrast to the highly developed port infrastructure. We also have a BBQ lunch while on-board the vessel.

In the afternoon, we visit the tranquil and beautiful **Katikati Bird Gardens**. Set directly on the edge of the inner Tauranga Harbour, it features water lily ponds, mature trees from around the world, flower gardens, natural wetlands and a large variety of birds wandering free and in aviaries scattered throughout the gardens. A unique and special location to visit.

We find a different way to travel back to our lodge before settling in for another superb meal prepared by our hosts.

Accommodation: LAKES LODGE

DAY 4

Thur 9th Sept

Lake Okataina - Hobbiton



Today we travel north, via Tirau and out to the back blocks of Matamata to **Hobbiton**. This world class tourist attraction is bound to impress. Witness



the lengths kiwi director Peter Jackson went to in order to make this movie, which has grossed nearly 3 billion dollars at the box office.

Our local guides explain all the secrets of the shire and how the movie was shot and made, before we make our way inside the Hobbiton Pub for a refreshment and festive feast in the marquee.

Some walking is required for this tour so please let us know if you require some assistance. Golf carts and mobility scooters are available upon request.

Before we get back to the lodge for our final night, we'll stop in Rotorua and have a look around the city and visit a few places of interest. For our final night we'll have a little bit of a knees up. Please bring any kind of hat you'd like to wear for hat night and **karaoke!** The quirkier the better and don't worry if you can't sing we'll all be there to help you out!

Accommodation: LAKES LODGE

DAY 5

Fri 10th Sept

Lake Okataina - Home

As we bid farewell to our new friends at the Lakes Lodge we travel back down the western side of Lake Taupo stopping at the magnificent **Oreti Village** in Omori for one last stunning meal. With full tummies we board the bus travelling home via the National park with a quick refreshment stop in Raetihi then heading back to Whanganui.

For those travelling to different locations all your travel will be organised to get you home safe and sound.



Total cost

Departing from Whanganui:
\$2,395

Deposit \$500 due by 20th July 2021.

Final payment due by 20th August 2021.

Please phone the office to make other payment arrangements.

Payment methods

- ✓ Cheque
- ✓ 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 as stated in the itinerary



Accommodation

- Great twin share accommodation
(single supplement available)



Food and drink

- Includes 2 course dinner every night
- All lunches
- Cooked and continental breakfast



Activities

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



How to book

Be quick to secure your seats!



Call us

06 3447465

Freephone: 0508 482269



Email us

info@takeiteasytours.nz

Thank you,
The Take It Easy Team

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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 15th August 2021 – 75% of total fare will apply.
- For cancellations within 14 days 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.

