



5 days

North Island



#### Style

Indulge in traditional and local delicacies, relax in comfortable, perfectly placed lodgings. Enjoy adventure, culture and the best of the North Island.



Start **Auckland** 



Finish **Auckland** 

## **Sweet North**

Designed as a standalone North Island trip, the Sweet North is also the perfect complement to any of our South Island trips.

Pair this itinerary with one of our South Island trips for the complete New Zealand experience.

# Day 1 – Arrive Auckland & Hike Matahuru Valley

After meeting your group in Auckland, we'll head south to the rolling green hills of the Waikato. Today we've secured exclusive access to the Matahuru Valley walk. As we explore the lush fertile landscape and a delicious picnic lunch you'll have the chance to learn from your guides and get to know your fellow travellers. We'll spend tonight in Whitianga, a lovely coastal town on magnificent Mercury Bay.

Stay: Whitianga

## Day 2 – Kayak Cathedral Cove & Rotorua Māori feast

We'll travel a short distance this morning to Hahei, where we'll paddle out in kayaks to Cathedral Cove. Accessible only by foot, boat or kayak, this picturesque natural rock archway joins two secluded coves in the Te Whanganui-A-Hei Marine Reserve area. This afternoon we'll travel to Rotorua a rich cultural hub and geothermal wonderland where we'll spend the night.

Stay: Rotorua

# Day 3 – Rotorua's Geothermal Wonderland and Redwoods Hike

Bubbling mud pools, active geysers and rising steam give Rotorua and the Te Whakarewarewa Valley something of an otherworldly quality. You'll experience the local Maori culture and enjoy a hāngi (a traditional Māori feast), before hiking in the stately Redwood Forest on the outskirts of Rotorua. We'll then travel south to Taupo, stopping to appreciate the legendary Huka Falls along the way.

Stay: Taupo







### Day 4 – Hike & Explore Tongariro National Park

Tongariro is New Zealand's oldest National Park and boasts dual World Heritage site status, acknowledged for both its cultural and natural significance. As we explore this moon-like landscape dotted with turquoise and emerald lakes, you'll discover why the Tongariro Crossing is known as New Zealand's best day walk.

Stay: Taupo

#### Day 5 - Discover the Waitomo Caves & finish in Auckland

The last day, but one to remember!
Explore the hidden depths of
Waitomo, marvelling at the limestone
formations, crystal tapestries and
glow-worms that illuminate the cave
system. We'll then make our way
back to Auckland to say our farewells.
If you're heading to the South Island
to join us on another trip, we'll help

