

# TOURS

## AUCKLAND

### Sailing in “The City of Sails”:

We had plenty of people who are interested in this tour and, after many hours of research, I'm very excited with what we have arranged. We will have 2 extremely nice, large yachts (sailboats) chartered for a 3-hour sail on Saturday the 17th to accommodate the first 33 out of our group of 47. The yachts are “[The Pride of Auckland](#)” and the “[Arcturus](#)”. The two boats will coordinate and pick all of us up together, walking distance from our hotel. The Arcturus captain says, “Arcturus is a stable boat even in stronger winds, but it is an adventure experience”. He says he encourages participation. You can see on the Pride of Auckland website that their price is normally \$75 NZ for just 1-1/2 hours. We have the rate of 86 NZ for 3-hours! In US dollars it's \$70. This is going to be so cool. Be one of the 33 people doing this tour.

### City Tour

We can do Hop On/ Hop Off city tour on our first day. You do not need to sign up in advance to do this. We will group together in our lobby after we arrive at our hotel and walk over to the starting point to begin our tour.

**Other activities in Auckland:** No shortage of things to do here! I'm sure you can step up to our concierge desk and sign up for any of these tours while you are there:

<http://www.aucklandnz.com/activities>

## ROTORUA:

**We will have people on both the Dry and Wet tour. Please sign up for the tour you'd like to do.**

**DRY TOUR:** Ruakuri Cave and Waitomo Glowworm Cave as a package deal for \$66 per person. Click here for more into and you will see this combo tour:

<http://www.waitomo.com/itinerary-ideas.aspx>

### WET TOUR – Black Labrinth

Black Labyrinth this is very much an adventure activity and involves getting dressed in a wetsuit and getting wet. This is what we did last time but maybe the dry tour is more interesting. Click the link to read more: **COST: \$70**

<http://www.waitomo.com/black-water-rafting.aspx>

### LUNCH AT THE CAVES:

The glowworm cave company offers a buffet for groups who sign up in advance, otherwise it could take a while to get served lunch and time could be tight in between these tours. For \$15 they can have lunch prepared for us.

**Here is the menu:**

Vegetable Won Ton soup  
Salad of seasonal greens with cashew dressing  
Stir fried marinated beef  
Sesame spiced honey chicken  
Wok fried vegetables with egg noodles  
Steamed rice  
Accompaniments (soy and chili oil)  
Fresh tea, coffee and infusions

## NOVEMBER 19TH:

### For our full day tour of Rotorua we will go to the following venues:

**Agrodome show**, <http://www.agrodome.co.nz/>, They also have a lot of other activities there, like the Zorb and swings etc, they are all listed on the website. We will get a 20% group discount on admission. You may or may not be interested in the Sheep Show. We can discuss on the bus. We will also stop at Agroventures: [www.agroventures.co.nz](http://www.agroventures.co.nz) and see if anyone is interested in these activities.

**Thermal options.** On our last New Zealand trip we took the group to [Te Puia](#) which is also a cultural center where they put on a Māori cultural performance. In checking with them this year, their rates have gone up quite a bit (\$42 group rate), so I researched the two other options. These do not include a Maori experience but they will also make for a very nice, interesting tour.

#### Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland

There is the Lady Knox Geyser that we would see going off by getting there by 9:45 a.m. Otherwise, there are the mud pools and a nice pool. **Cost is \$23**

**OR: Waimangu Volcanic Valley** This is my choice but when we get together I am happy to see if the majority agree with me. What I like about this place is that there are **hiking trails** and also a boat tour (extra, see below). Our group rate on the entry is \$23 and for the **boat ride** it would be \$28.50.

**BOAT TOUR:** If you like this option you would need to make a reservation for the 1 hour boat ride as it's a small boat and signing up in advance is the only way to get on it. This does not include the admission to hike. I have added this to the in advance tour sign up form. For the hike only we can just pay upon arrival and use the trails.

**LUGE:** Then go to the Skyline, up the Gondola and do some Luge Rides.

<http://www.skylineskyrides.co.nz> Cost for the gondola and 5 luge ride package is \$38us however there are many other options there.

[http://www.skyline.co.nz/rotorua/ssr\\_attractions/](http://www.skyline.co.nz/rotorua/ssr_attractions/)

## RIVER RAFTING – ROTORUA

**Tuesday morning, Nov. 20th**

The river rafting on the Kaituna was popular enough. The outfitter says: *It is a very user-friendly river with only the one grade 5 drop. There are two much smaller drops before the big one so that you get to practice what to do before you experience the 7m's.* **COST: \$71**

<http://www.raftabout.co.nz/white-water-rafting/kaituna-waterfall>

## MOUNTAIN BIKING – ROTARUA

**Tuesday morning or afternoon, Nov. 20th**

Here's another tour that I researched and it sounds like a beautiful tour. Rotorua boasts possession of some of the best mountain biking in the Southern Hemisphere so this trail, through the scenic Whakkaarewarewa Forest with our guide will certainly prove that. This will be a 2-hour ride and mostly flat. The trails are best described as on rolling, undulating terrain.

Here you can read more about this company and the bikes:

<http://www.planetbike.co.nz/hire.html> Cost, with our group rate and transportation will be \$51 (normally \$67). Please let us know if you are signing up for the morning or afternoon tour.

## JET BOATING – ROTORUA

**Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 20th**

### NEW ZEALAND RIVERJET JETBOATING – GEOTHERMAL – NATURE “As Good As It Gets”

This choice got more votes and I think it's the best choice too since it is taking in a river versus a lake with a fantastic gorge and thermal activity. With 10 or more, which I'm sure we'll get, they will also include the Green Eel.

[http://www.riverjet.co.nz/riverjet-thermal-safari/book-safari\\_idl=204\\_idt=893\\_id=5043\\_sid=1226.html](http://www.riverjet.co.nz/riverjet-thermal-safari/book-safari_idl=204_idt=893_id=5043_sid=1226.html)

**COST: \$106.** This does not include transportation which, depending on how many sign up for this tour, will run between \$13-\$30 pp. (we're splitting the cost of an 11 person van - \$150 round trip). I still think it's going to be totally worth it.

Here is a very nice website that gives you plenty of information on all the activity options in Rotorua: <http://www.rotoruanz.com/> I've also set up a discount at this spa that's a 15 minute walk from our hotel: <http://www.polynesianspa.co.nz/polynesianspa/>

## QUEENSTOWN:

### Milford Sound

**Thursday, November 22nd**

Nearly everyone expressed an interest in the fly-cruise-fly with the Dart River, and it's sure to be the highlight of the trip. We plan this for our first day in Queenstown. This way if the weather is not conducive for our tour we can keep trying each morning.

<http://www.milfordflights.co.nz/flights.asp#combos> **COST: \$431**

### River Rafting

**Friday morning, November 23rd**

We did have enough people who also expressed an interest in this tour.

**COST: \$130** **READ MORE:** <http://www.queenstownrafting.co.nz/shotover/>

### Shotover Jet Boat tour:

**Friday afternoon, November 23rd**

This is the original jet boat tour that got it all started. We've got this set up for the afternoon.

**COST: \$92** **READ MORE:** <http://www.shotoverjet.com/>

## TWIN CHALLENGE – RIVER RAFTING AND JET BOATING

Do both of the above tours – River rafting and Shotover Jet Boat Tour and pay \$212. This is known as the Twin Challenge and it's a savings of \$10.

Friday is a good day for you to have on your own if you're signing up for all the tours in Queenstown. I will recommend taking the gondola up the mountain and doing some paragliding or more luge. There is also some very nice hiking around the area of the lake next to our hotel.

For the [luge](#), [paragliding](#), sky diving and [Canyon Swing](#), we will just pay there directly. No need to sign up in advance. I have negotiated a small discount on these tours that I will include in our final trip letter.

Here's a website with info on other activities in Queenstown. And there are activity booths everywhere in this town. <http://www.everythingqueenstown.com/>

## Here is a complete list of the tours that you can check off:

**These prices are via check.** If you are paying by credit card we will add 3% to cover our merchant fees.

## Please sign up for the tours by October 20th

• Sailing in Auckland	\$70
• Waitomo Caves Day Tour	\$66
• <b>OR</b> Waitomo Caves Black Labyrinth	\$70
• Buffet Lunch	\$15
• Boat tour at Waimangu	\$28.50
• Kaituna River Rafting	\$71
• Mountain Biking – AM or PM (circle)	\$51
• Rotorua Thermal Jet Boating	\$106
• Milford Sound fly-cruise fly & Dart River	\$431
• River Rafting the Shotover	\$130
• Shotover Jet Boat	\$92
• Twin Challenge – River Raft & Jet Boat	\$212

**Total enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Singles in Paradise, P.O. Box 130126  
Carlsbad, CA 92013-0126

**Bill my credit card:** plus 3% for credit cards and fax to 760.298-1640

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

You can also just email us to give us instructions to bill your credit card for the tours you'd like to sign up for.

We will be sending out a grid as we get closer to the trip where you can see what everyone has signed up for.

See you soon,

Ed Reder