

# Big Tour to Middle Earth

#### Tuesday, June 17th

- 08:30 Pick-up Auckland Hotel (TBC)
- 12:00 Waitomo Glowworm Caves Group Tour (included by TIME);
- 13:00 Time for lunch at/near Waitomo (excluded);
- 13:45 Depart Waitomo;
- 16:00 Drop-off Rotorua Hotel (TBC)
- 17:15 Collection for Mitai Cultural Performance & Dinner (included; collection and drop off is via Mitai transport)

### Wednesday, June 18th

- 09:30 Pick-up Rotorua Hotel (TBC)
- 10:00 Wai-O Tapu Rotorua (included);
- 11:30 Depart Wai-O Tapu
- 13:15 Time for lunch at Hobbiton (excluded);
- 14:10 Hobbiton Movie Set Group Tour (included);
- 16:45 Depart Hobbiton;
- 19:30 Drop-off Auckland Hotel (TBC)

Bring just what is needed and all important stuff in a small suitcase or backpack. We will be taking our bags to the Pullman Auckland Hotel at the airport to stay with the concierge.





## **Auckland to Waitomo Caves, Hobbiton** & Rotorua 2-Day Private Tour

Pass through the beautiful NZ countryside on your way to see the world-famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves, then experience what the unique town of Rotorua has to offer from thermal hot mud pools, geysers and our Maori cultural centre of New Zealand. Choose to incorporate Hobbiton Movie Set into your tour. Experience all of this in two wonderful days on a private tour in a Mercedes luxury vehicle just for you. Pick-up in Auckland and drop-off in Auckland or Rotorua.

> 2 Days, 1 Night Tour Code: P2AWRH

#### Day 1: Auckland to Rotorua via Waitomo Caves

The Waitomo Caves, which are located about 2 ½ hours south of Auckland, are one of New Zealand's most famous attractions. On our Private Tours, we plan the day according to your wishes and at Waitomo, there are numerous activities to choose from as all our guests' interests and budgets vary. We travel via New Zealand's famous Thermal Explorer Highway touring route, taking in the beautiful countryside of the Waikato and King Country. Our experienced and knowledgeable Host-Guide will tell you about New Zealand and the extraordinary places you'll see along the way.

Waitomo is an amazing natural wonderland which offers a vast range of unique sights and experiences and we will be happy to advise you on various options based on your interests. We then continue from Waitomo via the fertile farmlands of the Waikato and pass through the steep, densely forested Mamaku Ranges before reaching Rotorua.

Winding down from this plateau, we catch our first glimpses of Lake Rotorua, a volcanic caldera filled with this iconic lake featuring bush-clad Mokoia Island at its centre. We may have the opportunity to stop at Mamaku Blue, a very interesting Blueberry farm, winery and café. Mamaku Blue is a fascinating place where you can learn about this very healthy little berry and its amazing journey.



After settling into your accommodation, in the evening we recommend one of the unique Maori cultural experiences in Rotorua. Here you can enjoy traditional Kai (Maori food) cooked in a Hangi (earth oven) and enjoy a performance of song and dance in a traditional Maori village setting. Alternatively, you can just relax or explore more of Rotorua at your leisure.

Accommodation in Rotorua.

#### Day 2: Rotorua to Auckland via Hobbiton Movie Set

As part of your private tour with us, we can incorporate several interesting places in and around Rotorua for you. Enjoy the Sights of Rotorua including the beautiful lakefront, Government Gardens and Rotorua Museum, which is housed in the stunning old Victorian bath house in the centre of the beautiful Government Gardens. Or go to Redwood Forest, widely regarded as one of the world's most beautiful forests.

Another excellent option is to visit Blue Lake and Lake Tarawera, with the latter being dominated by the peak of iconic Mount Tarawera towering above the lake. Mount Tarawera erupted violently in June 1886 and buried a Maori village called Te Wairoa. The Buried Village of Te Wairoa is an excellent attraction that can be incorporated into your sightseeing.

We can arrange further tour options to cater for your particular preferences and abilities. They include some of the world's most spectacular and interesting thermal areas, such as Wai-o-Tapu, Waimangu Volcanic Valley and Hells Gate. We can also arrange helicopter or floatplane flights to see both Rotorua and Lake Rotorua, as well as a huge amount of amazing volcanic sights, from above.



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Rotorua is also famous for its excellent Trout Fishing, which you can do either as part of a Lake Cruise on Lake Rotorua or another spectacular lake in the region, or Fly Fishing with an expert guide. A visit to Skyline Gondola on Mount Ngontotaha with spectacular views of Lake Rotorua and its surrounding area is another great option, not forgetting that "The Luge" is one of the most fun things you can do in New Zealand. You can also visit one of Rotorua's historic bath houses in the lovely Government Gardens, home to one of the world's best spas, so here you can steep yourself in luxury and wellbeing as well as history. This is also a great option on the evening of day 1 instead of the Maori cultural experience if you prefer.

On our way back to Auckland, if we depart Rotorua by lunchtime we can incorporate a visit to the famous Hobbiton Movie Set near Matamata, which shot to stardom as Hobbiton in Peter Jackson's famous "The Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit" film trilogies. We return you to Auckland by about 5pm or to fit in with your requirements.



#### **Inclusions:**

- Fully guided Private Tour in Mercedes luxury vehicle.
- Pick-up/drop-off in Auckland incl airport/cruise terminal.
- Tour times flexible to work in with your requirements.
- Complimentary snacks & water.
- All guide expenses (e.g. guide accommodation & meals).
- All tours support local eco-cultural initiatives.

#### **Exclusions:**

- Entry fees.
- Guest accommodation and meals.
- Anything not specifically mentioned in the itinerary.

#### Retail rates p.p. for 2 days in NZ\$ valid to 31 March 2027:

2 pax NZ\$1,690 p.p.

3 pax NZ\$1,223.83 p.p.

4 pax NZ\$990 p.p.

5+ pax NZ\$870 p.p.

Please note all rates include GST and are commissionable.



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#### Age Information:

- Adults are from 12 years
- Children's age is between 4 and 11 years
- Infants age is 0-3 years

Children 4 – 11 years 50% off adult price, Infants FOC.

#### **Cancellation Policy:**

After booking has been confirmed: 20%.

From 30 to 59 days: 50%. Less than 30 days: 100%.