



Playing Around New Zealand Ltd
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Website 2021 - New Zealand North Island – Dates TBA

PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

- 5 rounds of golf (Windross Farm, Gulf Harbour Country Club, Wairakei Golf and Sanctuary, The Kinloch Club and Cape Kidnappers) with shared electric carts.
- 7 night's in 4 star hotel accommodation with breakfast.
- Airport and golf transfers in Auckland in a late model air-conditioned Mercedes minivan with local guide.
- Full time driver service from the morning of day 3 until Hawke's Bay departure.
- Air NZ flight from Hawke's Bay to Auckland on departure day (includes two checked bags).
- 24 hour on-call assistance from your Playing Around New Zealand tour office.
- New Zealand goods & services tax (GST) at 15%

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

- Caddies and rental clubs.
- Golf and activity bookings on leisure days.
- Sightseeing and activity program for non-golfers.
- Hotel room upgrades.

COSTS (Valid for travel between 1st September – 20th December 2020 & subject to availability)

- NZ\$3650 per person based on twin share and a minimum group size of 8.

Schedule

Day 1: Auckland (January / February 2021)

Morning / Afternoon: Our staff member will meet the group at Auckland Airport off flight _____ at _____ and provide the transfer to the centrally located City Life Hotel (30 minutes).

Evening: At leisure in central Auckland.

Accommodation: CityLife Hotel, Superior Room

Day 2: Auckland

Morning: Golf at Gulf Harbour Country Club (50 minutes from central Auckland). **Tee time: 11:00am**
Your transport will depart the hotel at 9am to ensure you can take advantage of the superb practise facilities at Gulf Harbour.

Evening: At leisure in Auckland

Accommodation: City Life Hotel, Superior Room

Day 3: Auckland to Taupo

Morning: Golf at Windross Farm (35 minutes' drive from central Auckland). **Tee time: 10:30am**
Your transport will depart the hotel at 9am to ensure you can take advantage of the superb practise facilities at Windross. Following golf you will travel to Taupo (2 ½ hours).

Evening: At leisure in Taupo. Restaurant bookings and transfers will be supplied.

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel Taupo, Guest Room Plus

Day 4: Taupo

Morning: Golf at Wairakei Golf and Sanctuary (15 minutes' drive). **Tee time: 10:00am**

Afternoon / Evening: At leisure. Your tour guide will provide a tour of the region including the Huka Falls and Aratiatia Dam. Restaurant bookings and transfers will be supplied.

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel Taupo, Guest Room Plus

Day 5: Taupo

Morning: Golf at The Kinloch Club (25 minutes' drive). **Tee time: 10:30am**

Evening: At leisure in Taupo. Restaurant bookings and transfers will be supplied.

Accommodation: Hilton Hotel Taupo, Guest Room Plus

Day 6: Taupo to Hawke's Bay

Morning / Afternoon: Travel to Hawke's Bay (2 hours). Your guide will provide a complimentary wine tour during the afternoon (tasting costs are at additional expense).

Evening: At leisure in Hawke's Bay. Restaurant bookings and transfers will be supplied.

Accommodation: Crown Hotel, Superior Room

Day 7: Hawke's Bay

Morning: Golf at Cape Kidnappers (40 minutes' drive) **Tee time: 10:30am**

Evening: We recommend that the group enjoy a farewell dinner at a leading Hawke's Bay vineyard restaurant. Transfers will be supplied.

Accommodation: Crown Hotel, Superior Room

Day 8: Hawke's Bay to Auckland

Departure Day: The group will transfer to Hawke's Bay Airport 80 minutes prior to their domestic Air New Zealand flight to Auckland. The flight will take one hour and there are several flights each day.

Your Transport



Mercedes Sprinter

You will be transported in our own luxury Mercedes Sprinter vehicles. They are all late model, air conditioned and very spacious. There will be complimentary refreshments on board and drive times will not exceed 90 minutes without a break.

Tolan Henderson

Tolan is the company's leading Tour Director and will be the friendly face that guides you around New Zealand. After spending 18 years in the IT industry with Intel and Microsoft the lure of the golf course was too strong! Beginning with a 2-year stint as a club maker, the fire was lit and with a desire to combine the love of golf, people and travel, it was only a matter of time before Tolan joined the Playing Around New Zealand team. With a cheerful and humorous personality and a local golfing knowledge that is second to none, Tolan is the perfect tour director and host. To say Tolan is an avid golfer is an understatement – when not touring you can almost guarantee that you will find Tolan on a golf course somewhere! Not only has he played just under 300 of New Zealand's 407 golf courses he claims to have ticked off most of the courses in the South Pacific Islands and Hawaii and has made a start on mainland America.



The Golf Courses

Windross Farm (South Auckland)

Set amongst picturesque panoramas in the south of Auckland City is New Zealand's brand-new golf course, Windross Farm. A welcome addition to the North Island golf course offering and a facility that promises a very special golfing experience. The new course traverses 60 hectares of pristine farmland with 360 degree views of spectacular tree lined hills and lush green countryside. Windross Farm has been developed as a unique links-style course that offers a mixture of flat and undulating ground, man-made lakes and strategically placed dramatic bunkers to offer the best of golf and the natural environment.

Gulf Harbour Country Club (North Auckland)

Gulf Harbour Country Club is a spectacular golf course located only 40 minutes north of the Auckland CBD and was home to 1998 World Cup of Golf, the course itself was designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. it is well known for its stunning views out over the Hauraki Gulf. The layout is a Championship par 72, with returning 9's of par 36. Each nine consists of two par 3's, five par 4's and two par 5's and will challenge golfers of all ability.

Wairakei Golf & Sanctuary (Taupo)

The Wairakei Golf & Sanctuary is set midway between Auckland and Wellington, in the heart of the spectacular scenery of the Lake Taupo region. Designed by Commander John Harris, Michael Wolveridge and Peter Thomson with the aim of producing New Zealand's first internationally recognised golf course, there is little doubt that this trio exceeded all expectations. The end result is a course that sprawls over 450 acres of natural countryside. This coupled with the 6429 metres from the championship tees and 108 large well placed bunkers has led Wairakei to receive worldwide acclaim.

The Kinloch Club (Taupo)

The first Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course to be built in New Zealand has been created around the unique natural features of the site rather than transforming the landscape to meet a uniform golf course design. The course fits the landscape with ease, and the backdrop of Lake Taupo provides a magnificent setting. Jack Nicklaus on the Kinloch golf course development: "The Kinloch site has the views and all the elevation that you need for a great golf course. It will be a very special and enjoyable golf course."

Cape Kidnappers (Hawke's Bay)

The American designer of Cape Kidnappers, Tom Doak, who is also well known for his prize-winning courses in the US, has said that, 'If Cape Kidnappers were a book it would be an epic. Enjoy your game and enjoy the setting (because) you may never play golf somewhere like this again'. Like Kauri Cliffs, Cape Kidnappers plays above the ocean, atop dramatic cliffs, but unlike Kauri Cliffs, where the shape of the land dictates play along the shoreline, this course runs to and from the edge. Cape Kidnappers is built on a ridge-and-valley landscape with spectacular sea views.

Auckland

Auckland's blend of harbour, islands, Polynesian culture and modern city environment has created a lifestyle ranked amongst the best in the world. The natural assets of Auckland have made it a dream destination for all kinds of travellers, from doing-it-on-the-cheap backpackers to cost-is-no-issue super yacht owners.

Welcome to Auckland, our largest and most diverse city. Being at the narrowest point of the North Island it literally stretches itself from one side of the country to the other – from the Pacific Ocean to the Tasman Sea. This means, wherever you are in Auckland, you're never far from the water. From big wild rolling surf beaches to a beautiful gulf scattered with tranquil holiday islands, the sea and all its attractions are why this is known as the City of Sails. From some of New Zealand's best shopping and dining experiences to a cruise on the beautiful gulf harbour – a few days in Auckland is the perfect beginning or end to your vacation in New Zealand.



Activity recommendations:

- Waiheke Island wine and food experience.
- Harbour Bridge climb & bungee jump.
- Shopping in Parnell and Ponsonby.
- Americas yacht sailing experience.
- Fishing for Snapper on the harbour.
- Enjoying the panoramic views from Mount Eden or exploring the black sandy beaches on the West Coast.

Rotorua & Lake Taupo



Rotorua is one place where the turbulent forces that formed New Zealand are most evident. This city, on the Volcanic Plateau, has one of the world's most lively fields of geothermal activity. Skyrocketing geysers, hot springs and boiling mud pools all tell you that this place sits squarely on the Pacific Rim of Fire. Rotorua is also the ancestral home of the Te Arawa people who settled here more than 600 years ago and their presence offers the visitor numerous cultural experiences.

See the clear blue waters on a summer's day and Lake Taupo can appear the most beautiful and tranquil place in New Zealand. Appearances deceive. Taupo is more than a lake. It is a volcano with no top – a top that was blown off in one of the largest and most devastating eruptions ever

seen on the planet. Visit the Craters of the Moon and you will see evidence of its fiery birth in the geysers, steaming craters and boiling mud pools.

Activity recommendations:

- Visit Huka Falls and the geothermal parks at Wai O Tapu or Te Puia.
- Enjoy a relaxing massage or treatment at the world class Polynesian Spa.
- Visit a Maori village and experience a cultural show.
- Take a twilight cruise on Lake Taupo.
- Experience fly-fishing in the pristine rivers.
- Take a hike in the Tongariro National Park.

Hawke's Bay

There are two words that sit with Hawke's Bay and they are Wine Country. Hawke's Bay is one of New Zealand's warmest, driest regions and this has made it one of the country's leading producers of wine; notably red wines – cabernet sauvignon, merlot and latterly syrah – but also with some quite stunning whites. But there is much more than wine to this glorious place. It is New Zealand's Art Deco centre, rebuilt in the 1930's after a huge earthquake. It hosts the country's most elaborate celebrations of Matariki – the Maori New Year. It's a place where you can shop at the farmers market for locally grown delicacies, indulge in artisan gourmet food, and join the lunchers at Napier's Great Long Lunch. And it's a place where you can walk the forest trails of the Ruahine and Kaweka Forest Parks or the glorious beaches that stretch along the coast.



Activity recommendations:

- Take a tour of the world class wineries.
- Enjoy lunch/dinner at the Craggy Range or Elephant Hill wineries.
- Walk amongst the Art Deco buildings in Napier.
- Visit the largest mainland gannet colony in the world at Cape Kidnappers.
- Visit the national aquarium on Napier's seafront.

Accommodation

CityLife Hotel, Auckland

Whether you're visiting the City of Sails for the first time, or are a returning guest, CityLife Auckland offers truly memorable Auckland accommodation. Located on Queen St in the CBD, it's a short stroll to the city's best restaurants, bars and attractions like the Sky Tower, Ferry Terminal and Viaduct Harbour.

Hilton Hotel, Taupo

The elegant Hilton Lake Taupo hotel is located on the Napier-Taupo Highway, just minutes from the town centre and 15 minutes from Taupo airport and features stunning views over the largest lake in New Zealand and the mountains of the Tongariro National Park. The onsite Bistro Lago restaurant is considered to be one of Taupo's finest. The hotel boasts a **Qualmark 5 star rating** as well as an Enviro-Gold rating, New Zealand's highest award for Environmental and Social Sustainability in Tourism.

Crowne Hotel Napier (Hawke's Bay)

The Crown Hotel Napier overlooks the waterfront in the historical village of Ahuriri, Napier. The hotel offers luxury boutique accommodation and conference facilities in a picturesque seaside setting. The hotel has 43 stylish and unique guest suites, ranging from studios to two and three bedroom luxury apartments.

Playing Around New Zealand

In the summer of 2003, a passion for golf and travel prompted Will Owen to buy a small minibus and begin offering a daily golf service for visitors to Christchurch, New Zealand. Through hotel and online marketing this service became popular and he expanded the tours to include other destinations on the South Island. In 2004, he conducted his first multi-day tour for a golf group from Australia along with several self-drive itineraries for visiting golfers from across the globe. By the summer of 2005, Playing Around New Zealand was firmly established and Will began employing the services of first class guides to assist him in making his tour service truly nationwide. Fast forward to 2020 and thousands of golfers from across the world have enjoyed the first-class itinerary planning and tour services from the team at Playing Around New Zealand, lifelong friendships have been formed and several visitors have returned to New Zealand for their second, third and even fourth golf trip! Will now leads a small team of dedicated professionals from his Auckland office. During the past fifteen years, they have built superb relationships with the best New Zealand golf courses and accommodation providers to ensure that golf visitors who use their services have the best possible travel experience. The company also owns several Mercedes vehicles that are exclusively available for self-drive and guided golf tours. As members of Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) and the International Association of Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO) you are assured of the highest standards of service and integrity. Playing Around New Zealand were also the proud recipients of the World Golf Awards "Best New Zealand Inbound Golf Tour Operator" in 2015, 2017 and 2018. You can also read reviews on TripAdvisor at https://www.tripadvisor.co.nz/Attraction_Review-g255106-d5111714-Reviews-Playing_Around_New_Zealand-Auckland_North_Island.html