

With over 140 islands to choose from in the Bay of Islands. this Northland Journey is All About Islands.

Discover islands rich in history, culture and natural beauty. Large and small islands, rocky and sandy islands. Strap on a mask and explore magnificent underwater islands, reefs and wrecks. Other places like the historic Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the quaint Russell township and remote Cape Brett have a distinct island-feel.

The journey to the islands is all part of the fun, with so many options to choose from! Take a water taxi, jump on a day cruise, relax on sailing trip, join a kayak tour, learn to dive, try a fishing charter or take your own boat, it 4 all here for you to explore!

Whether it's an island of fun and adventure or an island of peaceful relaxation, it's out there waiting for you.

Paihia Township

The heart of the Bay of Islands, Paihia is the perfect base for your Bay of Islands experience. This is the main departure point for boat tours to the islands, and accommodation, restaurants, cafes and information centres 5 are all found here.

Haruru Falls / Waitangi River 2

A lovely horseshoe shaped waterfall that's only 3km from Paihia. There is a 5km walk along the river through bush from the Waitangi Treaty Grounds. Explore the river your way by kayak or paddleboard, or drive to the top of the waterfall itself.

ALL ABOUT ISLANDS

Waitangi Treaty Grounds 3

With sweeping views of the Bay of Islands in a park like setting, not only is Waitangi Treaty Grounds a significant national historical site, it is a very beautiful one. Follow the trails to historic sites and buildings. Explore the two contemporary museums - Te Rau Aroha and Te Kongahu Museum of Waitangi, the carving studio, the Treaty House, Te Whare Rūnanga - the beautifully carved meeting house, traditional Māori waka taua (war canoes) and enjoy a full programme of tours and cultural performances. This is an island of history, knowledge, culture and beauty.

Motuarohia / Roberton Island

Home to one of the most photographed scenes in the Bay of Islands. Twin Lagoon Bay has it all including a walking track to a historic pā site with spectacular 360-degree views of the surrounding Bay of Islands. At 8 Waewaetorea Island high tide snorkelling is possible in the larger lagoon. Captain Cook anchored the Endeavour just off the island in 1769 and now many sailing and boat tours stop here. A truly stunning island that is well worth a visit!

Motorua Island

A scenic reserve island that offers history, diverse vegetation and four stunning bays. There is a 4.6km walking track that loops around the island. Moturua has a long history of Maori settlement, early European explorers and the Navy during WWII. More recently, thanks to Project Island Song, Moturua has thriving populations of native birds including kiwi. kākāriki and saddleback.

6 The Black Rocks

A stunning formation of volcanic rocks fall straight to the sea floor, around 30 metres down. This group of small islands is roughly 9 kilometres north of Paihia, and just off the northeast coast of Moturoa Island. The Black Rocks are formed by volcanic eruptions around one million years ago, the blackened tops of the basalt lava flows give this distinctive rock formation its name. Many boat charters and tour operators pass by the Black Rocks.

7 Rangihoua Heritage Park

A place where Māori and Europeans lived side by side through an agreement between Chief Ruatara and Reverend Samuel Marsden. The Marsden Cross memorial marks the place where New Zealand's first Christmas Day service was held, led by Reverend Marsden in 1814.

Crystal clear, turquoise waters surround this stunning island of captivatingly beautiful, white sandy beaches, walking tracks with great views and early Māori settlement sites. Waewaetorea Island can only be reached by boat and some commercial sailing and tour boats stop here for the day. It's a perfect place to swim, snorkel or explore. The views from the top of the island are some of the best in the Bay!

9 Otehei Bay

This is the hub of Urupukapuka Island, once the site of legendary author and fisher Zane Grev's fishing camp, now a wonderful place to day trip and relax. Enjoy



the summer café situated on the waterfront overlooking the crystal clear bay. The bay offers swimming, snorkeling, kayaking, a conservation centre and paddle boarding.

10 Urupukapuka Island

Urupukapuka is the largest and easiest island to get to with regular scheduled ferry and tour services. On arrival you'll see why it's so popular (it's beautiful). There are many sheltered bays where yachts and pleasure boats drop anchor and enjoy sheltered day stops and overnight anchorages. It ticks all the boxes for having an amazing island adventure with walking tracks, beautiful swimming beaches, amazing birdlife, views, picnic spots, diving, snorkelling, full facilities, coffee, restaurant, the list goes on. It's all so good you won't want to leave... and the good news is, you don't have to. Pack a tent, book and stav at one of the 3 beautiful DOC camping sites and enjoy.

HMZS Canterbury Wreck **(11)**

Located in the calm waters of Deep Water Cove is the wreck of the former frigate HMNZS Canterbury. Sunk in 2007 and lying on the bottom of the sea floor upright and intact, this underwater island is a brilliant dive spot teaming with marine life.

Deep Water Cove

A beautiful sheltered cove and landing site with pebble beach to explore. A track joins the steep Cape Brett walk making Deep Water Cove the perfect place for a water taxi pick up or drop off for those not wanting to do the full Cape Brett Walk.

13 Cape Brett Walk

For those wanting to get out on a geographic limb, there are 2 options to hike to Cape Brett. Beginning in Rawhiti, the Cape Brett walk offers a 16km rugged bush-clad track with exceptional coastal views ending at the Cape Brett lighthouse and DOC hut, where you can stay the night. There is the option to shorten the walk by getting picked up and / or dropped off at Deep Water Cove by water taxi.

14 Motukōkako

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Captain Cook named it Piercy Island and no trip to the Bay of Islands would be complete without visiting the famous "Hole in the Rock". Options include landing on the steep sided island in a helicopter or a classic tour boat cruise through the 'hole'.

Russell Historic Township Formerly known as Kororāreka, Russell was once referred to as the 'hell hole of the Pacific' and

was the first permanent European settlement and seaport in New Zealand. It's also famous for its charm and as you stroll around the quaint township, you'll see that New Zealand's colonial history has been beautifully conserved. Accommodation, restaurants, cafes and an information centre can be found here, along with a regular ferry service with Paihia.

Must Do's

Get on an Island

Don't just look at them from afar. get out and explore an island.

Go Under

The island doesn't stop at the beach. There is amazing marine life to observe underwater with snorkeling and scuba diving opening up another world within the Bay of Islands.

Watch for wildlife

The Bay is alive with wildlife, so look out for dolphins, penguins, native birds, stingrays, and whales (seasonal), or ioin a licenced wildlife cruise to learn more.

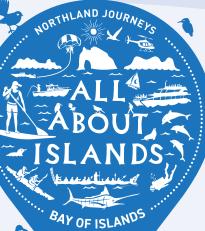
Under your own steam

With so many options to get out on the water the hardest part will be deciding what activity is for you....paddling, swimming and diving or just relaxing on a boat.

Overnight camping

Camping in the Bay of Islands is only available on Urupukapuka Island.

Tohu Whenua are places around New Zealand that matter to us. Northland has nine 'Tohu Whenua' - places rich in historical or cultural significance. Visit www.tohuwhenua.nz



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