

Bev's Chatham Island Tour – October 2020



Itinerary

Wednesday 21st October 2020

7:00 – Coach departs from New Plymouth to Wellington for our flight to the rugged and remote Chatham Islands.

13:00 – Flight departs Wellington

15:45 – Arrival to Chatham Island Tuuta

We are greeted by our Hotel Chatham tour guide on arrival and stop at the Bluffs to take some photographs on the way to the hotel. We then check in, get settled and meet in the bar for pre-dinner drinks.

Dinner in the hotel dining room is a Crayfish Welcome dinner. Please note all drinks are at additional cost during your stay.

Thursday 22nd October 2020

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

During your stay you will visit the Four Corners of the Chatham Islands as well as some special places in between. This itinerary is a guide of what you will experience while here and tour days may swap depending on the weather.

The Wild West

North West of the Island lays extensive farms, fern lands, and volcanic cones are a feature of the landscape. At the end of the road (Waitangi West), stunning white beaches are home to the local Chatham Island Oyster Catchers. On the lower slopes of Maunganui, lies the **STONE COTTAGE** built with local stone and timber, with mortar made of burnt pipi shells. You need to take a photo of the striking rock face.

Day's Highlights:

- Stone Cottage
- Waitangi West cattle station
- Splatter Rock/ Cape Young

We take a packed lunch from the hotel today.

Dinner (three course meal) in the hotel dining room please note all drinks are at additional cost during your stay.

Friday 23rd October 2020

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

The Enigmatic East

We head to Owenga a fishing village, which has a locally owned working fish factory (Chatham Island Food Co) You will be able to see the commemorative Tommy Solomon Statue, the last known full blooded Moriori.

The Kopinga Marae, expression of Moriori spirituality and culture, is the place where best you can learn about the History of the first inhabitants of the Chatham Islands (known to Moriori as Rekohu). Panoramic views are sited across lake Huro to Waitangi and across Te Whanga Lagoon to its entrance at Te Awapatiki.

Day's Highlights:

- Fish Factory Tour
- Tommy Solomon memorial statue
- Owenga Club community lunch
- Moriori Marae

We have a community lunch at the Owenga Club.

Dinner (three course meal) in the hotel dining room please note all drinks are at additional cost

Saturday 24th October 2020

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

The Sultry South

Running South West of Waitangi the Tuku road provides views of rich farmlands and shoal coastal waters. The stunning Awatotara Reserve lies in the valley, great place for viewing Parea, the Chatham Island wood pigeon as well as other bird life.

Day's Highlights:

- Museum Visit
- Tiki Tiki hill and town walk
- Cottage Gift Shop
- South Coast scenic drive
- Local jewellery art studio

We have lunch at the River Onion Art Gallery

Dinner (three course meal) in the hotel dining room please note all drinks are at additional cost during your stay.

Sunday 25th October 2020

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

The Nuggety North East

Kaingaroa Township located in the North East of Chatham, houses a base for a small fishing fleet. Monuments commemorate the first contact between the British & the Moriori in 1791.. Hapupu Moriori Dendroglyphs (Tree Carvings) are situated less than 12 km southeast of Kaingaroa, are part of and extended regenerated native forest of Kopi trees and accessible only with a guide.

Ocean Mail Beach Scenic Reserve is an 830ha Conservation area including 4km of stunning coast line, west of Matarakau, which also leads to optional walks (Wetland and Aster).

Point Munning – Te Whakaru. The stunning Muirson family farm, houses the remains of the Sunderland Plane. From there, heading to Port Munning, you can go and look at the fur seal colony.

Day's Highlights:

- Nikau Bush Walk
- Ocean Mail Reserve
- Muirson Farm and Seal Colony
- Hapupu (Tree Carvings)

We take a packed lunch from the hotel today.

Kaingaroa Social Club buffet dinner *or other option.

Monday 26th October 2020

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

Te Whanga Lagoon

Blind Jims & Nikau Reserve. First one is a favourite stop to look for fossilised sharks teeth on the lagoon shore, wading birds are usually plentiful. Nikau Bush is 19ha reserve located 1.5km North of Blind Jims. It conserves broadleaf forest with a fine stand of Nikau palms, the only palm native to the Chatham Islands, an even more impressive sight when flowering and bearing fruit.

Henga Scenic Reserve and Nursery. Walking tracks pass through regenerating coastal forest to sand dune vegetation and hidden in the bush are spectacular limestone formations. Judy's nursery is a great place to purchase Chatham Island Native plants. Chatham Island Museum, where you can view all manner of historical and interesting artefacts, located in the Chatham Island Council buildings at Waitangi. Rock Carvings (Nunuku's Cave) across farmland on the lagoon shore are remarkable Moriori dendroglyph's on limestone walls depicting stylised seals and other wild life.

Day's Highlights:

- Nunuku's Cave
- Te Matarae
- Shark Teeth Hunting
- Henga Scenic Reserve

We take a packed lunch from the hotel today.

Dinner (three course meal) in the hotel dining room please note all drinks are at additional cost during your stay.

Tuesday 27th October 2020

7:00 – 9:00 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

The Natural North

Wharekauri (Maori name for Chatham Island), is where the Dix family farmland is located. At Cape Young there is layered basalt and weathered cliffs with views out to the Sisters (other islands), spectacular rock formations (Splatter Rock), sandy beaches and the Chatham Island Oyster Catcher.

Port Hutt - Tucked in a sheltered cove, the beautiful deep water Whangaroa Harbour is home to another working fish factory. The stunning THOMAS CURRELL, a minesweeper during World War 2, now sits in the bay housing bird life, great for the photographers.

ADMIRAL GARDENS. Stunning sheltered gardens established for the birds, bees and butterflies by Val Snr & Lois Croon, held a large attractive planting of the Chatham Island Lilies (The Forget Me Not). The farm now has an established relaxing walk to the sand dunes and down to the beach lovely for those who are more keen and able. An evening BBQ is normally hosted here after your garden tour.

Day's Highlights:

- Basalt Columns
- Port Hutt
- Long beach walk

We take a packed lunch from the hotel today.

Admiral Gardens Buffet dinner

Wednesday 28th October 2020

7:00 – 8:15 Breakfast in the hotel dining room (full continental breakfast).

We say farewell to our friendly hosts at Hotel Chatham and board our transfers to the airport for our flight back to the New Zealand mainland.

10:15- Depart Chatham Island Tuuta

11:30 – Arrive in Wellington

We then board our coach for our trip home to New Plymouth

PLEASE NOTE

- *Due to the very changeable weather please pack your day bags for 4 seasons in 1 day. Comfortable footwear is also recommended.*
- *Don't forget your water bottle, camera and sunglasses; you may even need sun block.*
- *A notice board will be displayed in advance, with hints of your next day's adventure.*
- *Due to weather conditions and accessibility, your Itinerary is subject to change.*
- *Surprise lunches at various locations on the Island are also a highlight and included*
- *Bev Ellice will be escorting this tour along with a guide from Hotel Chathams*

OPTIONAL EXTRA'S:

PITT ISLAND DAY TOUR (A must do) Day Tour includes return airport transfers, return flights to Pitt Island on Air Chathams 5 seat Cessna aircraft. Fully escorted tour showing all highlights of Pitt Island: Mt Hakepa, Glory Cottage, Flower Pott Jail, Waihere Bay, Moriori & European history. Lunch is hosted at Flower Pott Lodge, and includes local produce.

Cost is \$450.00 per person if group of 4 to 5 people, minimum numbers apply.

Fishing Charter 2-3 hours \$205*pp

Hunting Trip on request

Tour Price is \$4375 per person and includes return coach to Wellington, flights on Air Chathams, accommodation, return airport transfers, guided bus tours by Toni Croon and/ or Matilda Paku, all concessions, visitor map book, water bottle and all meals*

Tour is subject to numbers.