



LADIES LONG WEEKEND IN CAMBRIDGE

08 – 12 October 2020

In 2019 the Waikato town of Cambridge was bestowed the title of Most Beautiful Large Town in New Zealand. We are looking forward to welcoming you for a long weekend of exploring local delights and surrounds with a small group. Escorted by local Cambridge resident Marie Coles.

THURSDAY ARRIVE CAMBRIDGE

Arrive in Cambridge this morning or fly in to Hamilton. Airport pick up included.

We start our long weekend with a **local walk** along the river paths and in to the centre of town for afternoon tea in one of the many great cafes. Cambridge is the centre for sports excellence and even has its own “walk of fame” just like Hollywood! We'll then take a drive out to Lake Karapiro home of NZ rowing and canoeing, before heading to the home of cycling - the \$28.5 million Avantidrome which provides facilities for cycling elite. Back to accommodation to freshen up before meeting for drinks followed by dinner in a local restaurant.

FRIDAY CAMBRIDGE | HAMILTON

This morning we'll visit **Zealong Tea Plantation**. Who would have thought in the middle of the Waikato you'd find an award-winning tea plantation! It all started with a camellia tree apparently. Our guide will lead us along the tea trail to learn how tea is picked and processed. We'll then learn the art of tea appreciation followed by a scrumptious high tea.

The afternoon will be spent rambling through the popular **Hamilton Gardens**. The Gardens tell the story of gardening through different civilisations and time, and showcase a wonderful collection of plants and architecture. You will be astounded that Hamilton has such a fabulous internationally renowned treasure. From the Gardens we'll stroll along the **Waikato River** to view the unique bridges, memorial gardens and beautiful homes.

SAT ORAKEI KORAKO | TE WAIHOU | TIRAU

This morning we drive south to an active **geothermal area**. **Orakei Korako** aka “The Hidden Valley” is NZ's largest geothermal area with more than 250 hot springs and geysers. We will have plenty of time to explore the area by foot.

This afternoon we walk the picturesque **Te Waihou Walkway** along farm tracks to the internationally acclaimed Blue Spring. The water here is so pure it supplies around 70% of NZ's bottled water. Enroute back to Cambridge, we'll stop at the quirky little town of **Tirau** for some free time to explore the shops.

SUN MAUNGATAUTARI | ARAPUNI | HOBBITON

Just a short drive from Cambridge, is the **Maungatautari Ecological Sanctuary** where we will spend an interesting few hours on a morning guided walk through the forest. Surrounded by the world's longest pest-proof fence, this ancient forest offers a sanctuary for populations of many of New Zealand's most endangered species – from birds to bats, frogs to reptiles, tuatara to giant weta. We'll stop for lunch at a little country café and have a stroll along the river. Later this afternoon visit “Middle Earth”. Even if you're not a ‘Lord of the Rings’ fan, a visit to **Hobbiton** is a truly amazing experience. Stroll through the lush pastures of “The Shire” on a guided movie-set tour, past Hobbit Holes, the Mill and on to the world-famous Green Dragon Inn for a well-earned beverage.

Time to get your glad rags on for a special dinner in a gorgeous location. You are going to absolutely love this evening out!

MON DEPART CAMBRIDGE

Check out after breakfast. You might like to have a poke around the Cambridge shops for a little retail therapy before you depart.



COST:

\$1200 per person twin share (if we are unable to find you a room mate, you will need to pay single supplement)
\$330 single supplement

INCLUDES:

- Airport transfers from Hamilton
- 4 nights accommodation at The Hidden Lake Hotel, Cambridge (or similar)
- Daily breakfast
- Transportation
- Local guide
- Entry fees as mentioned in itinerary
- High tea at Zealong
- Aperitif & Dinner on Sunday night

EXCLUDES:

- Meals not mentioned as included
- Refreshments

GROUP SIZE:

Minimum 7 / maximum 11

Price is subject to change until confirmed and paid in full. \$200 non-refundable deposit on confirmation. Balance due 01 Sep 2020. Credit card fees apply. Itinerary is subject to change due to availability and weather.

BOOK NOW WITH:

Travel for Solos (a subsidiary of helloworld Cambridge)
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