



CHECK OUT THE CHATHAMS

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TRAVEL OF NOTE

30 NOVEMBER - 07 DECEMBER 2024



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Check out the Chathams, a natural wonderland of scenery, birdlife, fauna, unique island life, rich Moriori, Maori and European culture and history complete with Operatunity music and flavour.

Experience the Exceptional...

- Explore the Chathams, home to a number of ecological significant conservation reserves with threatened and uncommon plant and birdlife including 18 bird species unique to these islands, and home to 30% of NZ's threatened bird species.
- We will stay at Hotel Chatham in their 5-star forget-me-not suites, which offer luxury, space and views (only opened 2020).
- 4 great concerts from your hosts for the week: Bonaventure Allan-Moetaua, Kelly Lim Harris and Paul Carnegie-Jones including some musical jamming with the locals!
- Explore Chatham Island with amazing scenery, birdlife and fauna: Rangaiki Cliffs with 200-250m sheer drops and witness amazing views to Pitt and Mangere, the regenerated native forest of Kopi trees, Ocean Mail Beach Scenic Reserve, a 830ha Conservation area, fur seal colony at Port Munning, stunning white beaches, Basalt Columns in Ohira Bay, part of lava flows that date nearly 80 million years old, Cape Young with layered basalt and weathered cliffs, spectacular rock formations (Splatter Rock), the Chatham Island Oyster Catcher and the stunning Awatotara Reserve where the Parea (Chatham Island Wood Pigeon) can be seen.
- There are also optional extra tours including tours to Pitt Island and fishing charters (these are at your own cost).
- Discover the rich history and culture of this island with visits including: the commemorative statue of the last known, full-blooded Moriori, visit a local artist, Torotoro monument and the wreck of the Thomas Currell ship, an ex-WW2 minesweeper.
- All meals are included on this trip.
- Limited to 20 travellers, this tour is part of our Travel of Note boutique tours.

OUR ARTISTS FOR THIS TRIP:

Bonaventure Allan-Moetaua, Kelly Lim Harris and Paul Carnegie-Jones



This is what we will see for the week on the Chatham Islands. The order will depend on the weather and tides, but this summary gives you an idea of what to expect. We also include 4 great concerts from our hosts and a chance to sing with the locals and meet them, finding out more about this amazing place and its people.

ENIGMATIC EAST

- Owenga is a fishing village, where we find the locally owned working fish factory Chatham Island Food Co.
- See the commemorative statue of the last known, full-blooded Moriori, Tommy Solomon. Visit local artist Eva Cherie Tuck in her Owenga art studio.
- Rangaiki Cliffs with 200-250m sheer drops. On a clear day, an amazing viewing point to Pitt, Mangere and surrounding islands.
- Kopinga Marae is where you will learn about the history of the first inhabitants of the Chatham Islands (known to Moriori as Rekohu).
- Take in panoramic views across lake Huro to Waitangi and across Te Whanga Lagoon to its entrance at Te Awapatiki.

NUGGETY NORTHEAST

- Kaingaroa township located in the Northeast is home to a small fishing fleet.
- Totoro monument commemorates the first tragic contact between the British on HMS Chatham and Moriori in 1791.
- Hapupu Moriori Dendroglyphs (Tree Carvings) south-east of Kaingaroa, are part of a regenerated native forest of Kopi trees. Only accessible with a guide.
- Ocean Mail Beach Scenic Reserve is a 830ha Conservation area including 4km of stunning coast line, west of Matarakau, which also leads to optional Wetland and Aster walks.
- Point Munning – Te Whakaru. The Muirson family farm houses the remains of the crashed Sunderland aircraft. See the fur seal colony Port Munning.
- In Mission Bay see the remains of a settlement used by German missionaries and American sealers from the late 1700s.

WILD WEST

- Northwest of the island lays extensive farms with remarkable volcanic cones a feature of the landscape. At the end of the road, stunning white beaches are home to the local Chatham Island Oyster Catchers.
- On the lower slopes of Maunganui lies the Stone Cottage built with mortar of burnt pipi shells and the backdrop of a striking rock face. You may get to meet the intriguing current tenant.
- Close by is a magnificent beach with shell banks backed by high sand dunes.
- Basalt Columns in Ohira Bay. See massive olivine basalt columns, part of lava flows that date nearly 80 million years old.

NATURAL NORTH

- Wharekauri is where the Dix family farmland is located. At Cape Young see layered basalt and weathered cliffs with views out to the Sisters Islands, spectacular rock formations (Splatter Rock), sandy beaches and the Chatham Island Oyster Catcher.
- Port Hutt is tucked in the sheltered, deep-water cove of Whangaroa Harbour – home to another fish factory.
- See the wreck of the Thomas Currell ship. This ex-WW2 minesweeper served again as freezer space in the crayfishing boom years of the 1960s and 70s.

SULTRY SOUTH

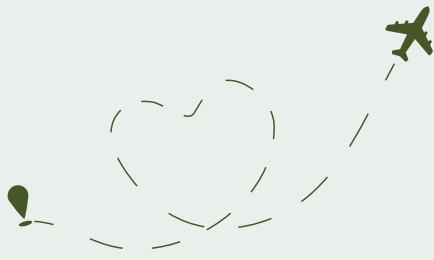
- Running southwest of Waitangi, Tuku Road provides views of rich farmlands and shoal coastal waters.
- The stunning Awatotara Reserve lies in the valley where the Parea (Chatham Island Wood Pigeon) as well as other bird life can be seen.

BEAUTIFUL BITS IN BETWEEN

- **Blind Jim's:** A favourite stop to look for ancient fossilised shark's teeth on the lagoon shore. Wading birds are usually plentiful.
- **Nikau Bush:** This 19ha reserve conserves broad leaf forest with a fine stand of Nikau palms, the only palm native to the Chatham Islands. Most impressive when flowering and bearing fruit.
- **Admiral Garden:** Stunning sheltered gardens with water and sculpture features established for birds, bees and butterflies by Val Snr and Lois Croon, holds a large attractive planting of Chatham Island Lilies (the Forget Me Not). The farm also has an established relaxing walk down to the sand dunes and beach. An evening BBQ is normally hosted here after your garden tour.
- **Henga Scenic Reserve and Nursery:** Walking tracks pass through regenerating coastal forest to sand dune vegetation. Hidden in the bush are spectacular limestone formations. Judy's nursery is a great place to purchase Chatham Island Native plants.
- **Chatham Island Museum:** See 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 dendroglyphs on limestone walls depicting stylised seals and other wildlife.



Entertainment from your hosts including Bonnie & Kelly



\$6395 per person twin share

Single Room Supplement Add \$1380

Initial Deposit on booking: \$1000

Second Deposit due 4th June 2024: \$2000

Final Balance due: 13th August 2024

THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return economy airfares Auckland - Chatham Islands including taxes on Air Chathams.
- 7 nights' accommodation at Hotel Chatham with all tours and meals included: The majority of the group will stay in the forget-me-not suites, five-star suites which offer luxury, space and views (only opened 2020).
- 4 great concerts from your hosts for the week: Bonaventure Allan-Moetaua, Kelly Lim Harris and Paul Carnegie-Jones including some musical jamming with the locals!
- Limited to 20 travellers, this tour is part of our Travel of Note boutique tours.
- Explore Chatham Island with amazing scenery, birdlife and fauna: Rangaiki Cliffs with 200-250m sheer drops and witness amazing views to Pitt and Mangere, the regenerated native forest of Kopi trees, Ocean Mail Beach Scenic Reserve, a 830ha Conservation area, fur seal colony at Port Munning, stunning white beaches, Basalt Columns in Ohira Bay to see the massive olivine basalt columns, part of lava flows that date nearly 80 million years old, Cape Young with layered basalt and weathered cliffs, spectacular rock formations (Splatter Rock), the Chatham Island Oyster Catcher and the stunning Awatotara Reserve where the Parea (Chatham Island Wood Pigeon) as well as other bird life can be seen.
- Learn about how the locals live including Owenga, a fishing village, Kaingaroa township, see extensive farms with remarkable volcanic cones a feature of the landscape, the Stone Cottage, visit Waitangi, the Dix family farmland, Port Hutt, the deep water cove of Whangaroa Harbour.
- Discover the rich history and culture of this island with visits including: the commemorative statue of the last known, full-blooded Moriori, visit a local artist, Torotoro monument and the wreck of the Thomas Currell ship, an ex-WW2 minesweeper.
- Other experiences include Blind Jim's to look for ancient, fossilised shark's teeth on the lagoon shore, Nikau Bush, a 19ha reserve, Admiral Garden, sheltered gardens with water and sculpture, Henga Scenic Reserve and Nursery, Chatham Island Museum with historical and interesting artefacts, Rock Carvings (Nunuku's Cave) and remarkable Moriori dendroglyphs on limestone walls depicting stylised seals and other wildlife.
- All meals are included on this tour plus all tours, concerts, transfers on the Chatham Islands as listed in your itinerary.

GENTLE TOUR

This is an easy trip for the most part, but you do need to be able to get on and off boats and manage stairs, slopes and uneven terrain. This trip will not suit those on walkers and a moderate level of mobility is required.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All itinerary details are subject to change, but changes will be replaced with a comparable or better option.
- Initial & Second deposits are fully refundable up until final balance due date, minus an administration fee of up to \$500 plus any non-recoverable costs.
- All monies are non-refundable at final balance due date. This becomes an insurance claim.
- Payment by direct credit incurs no surcharge. Credit card payments will incur a surcharge of 1.5%.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Bookings will only be accepted with initial deposit.
- All travellers must obtain comprehensive travel insurance for international travel and insurance for domestic travel is recommended.
- Please refer to our terms and conditions on booking form.



TRAVEL OF NOTE

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