

**THE BEST OF NEW ZEALAND BY SEA**  
**Queenstown to Auckland aboard *Heritage Adventurer***  
**November 11-24, 2025**

**OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION TO BAY OF ISLANDS**  
**November 24-26, 2025**

*Embark on a scenic drive north from Auckland, with a stop at the Hundertwasser Art Centre, before arriving in the charming coastal town of Paihia, your base for two nights. Explore the enchanting Bay of Islands on a picturesque boat cruise and enjoy a private tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, a place of great historical and cultural significance.*

## **ITINERARY**

### **Monday, November 24**

#### **AUCKLAND / PAIHIA**

Disembark the *Heritage Adventurer* and travel north by coach through Auckland City over the Harbour Bridge and through the North Shore suburbs and seaside resorts of the Hibiscus Coast to the city of Whangarei. Enjoy a private guided tour through the Hundertwasser Art Centre, and journey into the world of painter, ecologist, architect, and visionary Friedensreich Hundertwasser. After lunch, continue north to the beautiful Bay of Islands. Scattered with 150 islands, this region, with its blue-green ocean, golden beaches and abundant wildlife, is renowned as a maritime adventure playground. Steeped in a rich and colorful history, the Bay of Islands is known as the birthplace of the nation of New Zealand. The area was discovered by Kupe, the legendary Māori navigator, visited by Captain Cook in 1769. Dinner is at leisure.  
SCENIC HOTEL BAY OF ISLANDS (*B on ship, L*)

### **Tuesday, November 25**

#### **PAIHIA**

This morning, board a comfortable boat for a scenic cruise to the iconic Hole in the Rock. With 144 islands between Cape Brett and the Purerua Peninsula, no visit to the Bay of Islands would be complete without time on the water to appreciate the sheer beauty of this region. Pass the Cape Brett Lighthouse and, if conditions allow, navigate through the Hole in the Rock. Admire the Grand Cathedral Cave and cruise by remote islands with pristine beaches on the way back to Paihia. Stop off at Otehei Bay on Urupukapuka Island where you have 1.5 hours to relax, take a walk, have a swim and enjoy a snack from the on-site café. Snorkel equipment, kayaks, and paddle boards are available to rent on the island. (Note: this is a public cruise – other passengers will be on board.)

Return to the dock at 1 pm. After lunch at Charlotte's Kitchen on the end of Paihia Wharf, you will be picked up and transported by coach to the historic Waitangi Treaty Grounds. On a private tour, learn how British settlers and Māori came together to sign New Zealand's founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi, on February 6, 1840, and visit the magnificent War Canoe, beautifully carved Meeting House, Treaty House, and famous Flagpole. Cap off your extraordinary New Zealand adventure with a farewell group dinner at the hotel.

SCENIC HOTEL BAY OF ISLANDS (B, L, D)

**Wednesday, November 26**

**PAIHIA / AUCKLAND**

Travel by coach from Paihia to Auckland International Airport to connect with your outbound flight. The earliest arrival at the airport would be 1:00 pm.

(B)

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**PROGRAM RATES**

Per person, double occupancy	\$1,590
Per person, single occupancy	\$2,090

**GROUP SIZE**

A minimum of 12 people is required to operate the extension.

**WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- 2 nights hotel accommodations
- 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner
- All tours as described in the itinerary
- Group transfer from Paihia to Auckland International Airport
- Baggage handling and gratuities to waitstaff at group meals, porters, guides and drivers for all group activities
- Services of a professional tour manager and local guides

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- Personal items and optional activities
- Meals other than group meals as outlined in the itinerary
- Items not specifically mentioned as included

**RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS**

Complete the enclosed reservation form and return it to Criterion Travel as soon as possible to ensure availability. Payment for the extension will be added to your final invoice and is due July 14, 2025, or upon receipt of invoice if registering after that date.

**CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY**

Payments for optional extensions are non-refundable if cancellations are received after July 14, 2025. All cancellations must be made in writing.