



First Light Marathon Optional Day Tours

STINGRAY ENCOUNTER



19 JANUARY 2024

2.5 HOURS

\$ 147 AUD

Just outside of Tairāwhiti Gisborne, Tatapouri Bay teems with marine life. Come wade among the rays and interact with the reef's inhabitants under the watchful eye of a guide.

Of all the ways to experience the magical marine environment around Tairāwhiti Gisborne, feeding the stingrays on a reef ecology tour is one of the most memorable. You will begin with a coach bus out to the bay, where participants will suit up in waders to keep you dry and protected.

You will be wading across the reef at low tide, allowing you to observe and interact with Stingrays, Eagle Rays, Kingfish, and various other reef dwellers. The marine life on the reef is not enclosed, so all the animals are free to come and go.

The guides will provide information on reef's inhabitants, known as the Tamariki (Children) of Tangaroa, the Maori god of the sea. You will learn about the different species, the local legends of Tairāwhiti Gisborne, and even gain some insight into some of the methods once used by the Maori to manage their natural resources.

Upon conclusion of the tour, you will be driven back to your hotel.



INCLUSIONS:

- Transport to/from Tatapouri Bay
- Guided reef ecology tour
- Waders

To book or for more information contact Travelling Fit... Your Marathon Travel Specialists
Phone +61 2 4385 2455 | www.travellingfit.com | Email: sales@travellingfit.com

Please Note: All prices are quoted in Australian dollars and are based on a per person basis.
Prices and itinerary are subject to change at any time without prior notice.

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GISBORNE ASTRO TOURS



20 JANUARY 2024

2 HOURS

\$ 118 AUD

Hidden away from the bright lights of any city, you can experience a unique and in-depth voyage of discovery to the far corners of the universe.

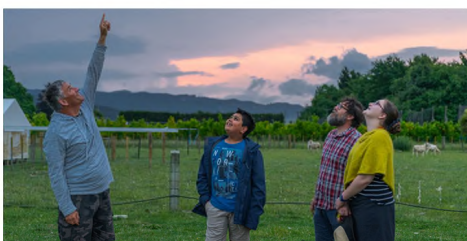
Embark on a 2-hour Astro Tour with a highly acclaimed astronomer and see the stars, planets, and galaxies light up the night.

The Southern Cross, Centaurus, and Carina are just a few of the constellations awaiting you in the Southern Hemisphere. On this tour, you will be driven out by coach to a quiet, rural location just outside of Tairāwhiti Gisborne. There, you will meet the astronomical guide and be given a short health/safety briefing, and then an introduction to the astronomy talk.

Next, you will go outside to identify constellations and gaze through telescopes. There will be 6-7 telescopes set up, and participants can circulate around to see the various targets, all while our informed astronomer answers any questions you might have.

The Gisborne Astro Tours are the first and only astro tour on the east coast of Aotearoa New Zealand, and stargazers come from afar to revel in the glorious dark skies of the Land of the Long White Cloud.

Let the tranquil environment and knowledgeable guide be your gateway to the stars.



INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation to/from Patutahi
- Guided Astro Tour including an inspiring, easy to understand astronomy presentation
- View rare celestial targets only seen from Aotearoa New Zealand's latitude

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TOLAGA BAY & HIKE TO COOKS COVE



21 JANUARY 2024

5 HOURS

\$ 74 AUD

Follow an easy trail along the bay to Cooks Cove (Opoutama), where you'll learn about the history of the area and be rewarded with stunning natural vistas.

This excursion will begin with a 1-hour drive north of Tairāwhiti Gisborne to Tolaga Bay, a bay and small town that, at 660m, boasts the longest concrete wharf in the country. Along the bay is a path that leads to Cooks Cove, where Captain James Cook stopped in 1769 as part of his circumnavigation of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Information panels along the walkway tell the story of Cook and his crew's visit to Cooks Cove (Opoutama), the history of local iwi Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti, and the excavation of an archaeological site at Opoutama, first occupied by Māori.

You will also be able to explore a hole in the wall, called Te Kotere o te Whenua, or, if you fancy a swim, safely take a dip in the cove.

The pathway is an out-and-back walk that totals 5.8km, and, with stops, takes around 2.5 hours. Although the path is generally rated as easy, there is some hill climbing that requires a moderate level of fitness. Good, comfortable walking shoes are recommended.



INCLUSIONS:

- Transport to/from Tolaga Bay

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LEARN TO SURF



21 JANUARY 2024

3 HOURS

\$ 127 AUD

Whether you're an absolute beginner or just need to brush up on your skills, our talented instructors are here to help.

Tairāwhiti Gisborne offers excellent surfing conditions year-round. There is a variety of stunning beaches within a short driving distance from the city, and the skilled surfing instructors are eager to get you standing up on a board.

Surfers can enjoy a choice of different surf breaks, from safe sand bottom beach breaks to reef and point breaks - which beach you will surf will be weather dependent.

There will be two surfing lessons offered - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. You will be driven out to the beach, where you'll meet the instructors and get suited up. Then, you'll be treated to a two-hour surf lesson where you can test your mettle out on the water.

The lesson will be limited to 24 participants per session with 3 surf coaches, so everyone will be able to get some personalized attention.



INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation
- 2 hour surf lesson
- Wetsuit and surfboard

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MAUNGA HIKURANGI



21 JANUARY 2024

8 HOURS

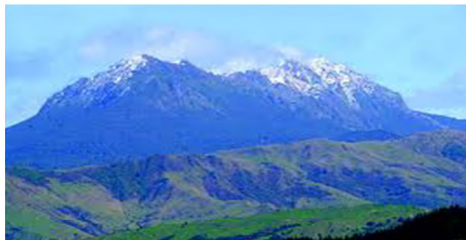
\$ 412 AUD

A place of great spiritual and cultural significance to the Ngāti Porou people, Maunga Hikurangi combines breathtaking natural views with a fascinating history. Learn about the legends and gaze in wonder from the first spot on the North Island to greet the sun.

The tour to Maunga Hikurangi begins with a 2-hour drive north of Gisborne City to Ruatoria, where we'll transfer to a 4WD vehicle for the journey to (and from) Maunga Hikurangi.

Standing at 1754m high, Maunga Hikurangi is the highest non-volcanic mountain on the North Island. Māori legend tells that the demigod Maui fished up the North Island out of the sea, and Maunga Hikurangi was the first point to emerge from the sea. It is recognized as the first point on Aotearoa New Zealand to be touched by the morning sun, and the mountain is sacred to the local Ngāti Porou people.

Roughly two-thirds of the way up the mountain, there are 9 larger-than-life carvings that represent Maui and his whānau (extended family). The pillars – called pou – depict the stories and legends of Maui as the founding ancestor of the Ngati Porou people, which the local guide will help bring to life before your eyes. The tour lasts approximately four hours, and includes lunch on the mountain, as well as a native seedling to plant as part of an eco-project, and participation in a karakia, a traditional Māori blessing.



INCLUSIONS:

- Transportation to/from Ruatoria
- 4WD adventure to/from Maunga Hikurangi
- In-depth cultural tour with an expert Ngāti Porou guide
- Native seedling to plant as part of an eco-project
- Participation in a karakia (traditional Māori blessing)
- Lunch atop Maunga Hikurangi

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