



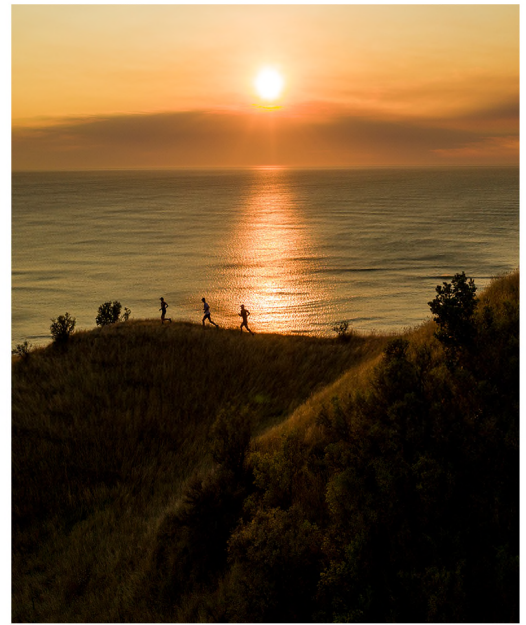
# First Light Marathon

24 January 2026

The First Light Marathon takes place in Tairāwhiti Gisborne, Aotearoa New Zealand, which is known for being the first city in the world to see the sun each day. Its spectacular coastline and the steep green hills provide a magical backdrop to this unique race. There is the option to participate in the Marathon or Half Marathon distance where runners will herald in the sunrise as they crest the many hills and race along the white sand beach.

Furthermore, Tairāwhiti Gisborne is known as the "Chardonnay Capital" of Aotearoa New Zealand - home to countless wineries, excellent food, and world-class beaches, there is plenty to enjoy after the race is run.

Travelling Fit is delighted to offer you a 5 Day / 4 Night Package with the option to choose from 4 different excursions. There is also the opportunity to add a 5 Day / 4 Night Hobbiton & Coastal Wonders pre-marathon extension tour or a 6 Day / 5 Night post-marathon extension tour to visit Rotorua and the majestic Tongariro National Park. Contact us for details.



## PACKAGES INCLUDE:

- Guaranteed Race Entry (runners only)
- 4 Nights Accommodation in Tairāwhiti Gisborne  
Check in: Thu 22 Jan 2026  
Check out: Mon 26 Jan 2026
- Guided shakeout run with a beer and fingerfood
- Pōwhiri (Māori welcome) including lunch
- Pasta Dinner
- Celebration dinner at a local winery
- Personalised Travelling Fit Running Top  
*exclusive to Travelling Fit clients*
- Invite to Travelling Fit's First Light Marathon Closed Facebook Group  
*exclusive to Travelling Fit clients*

## PACIFIC HARBOUR MOTOR INN PACKAGE – PRICES FROM

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE ROOM
RUNNER	\$2315 AUD	\$2949 AUD
SUPPORTER	\$2084 AUD	\$2718 AUD

## SENATOR MOTOR INN – PRICES FROM

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE ROOM
RUNNER	\$2413 AUD	\$3093 AUD
SUPPORTER	\$2182 AUD	\$2862 AUD

## PORTSIDE HOTEL – PRICES FROM

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE ROOM
RUNNER	\$2511 AUD	\$3260 AUD
SUPPORTER	\$2280 AUD	\$3030 AUD

## NOTES:

- For the Half Marathon, deduct \$69 from the package price.
- Refer to separate flyer for optional excursions and extension tours.

To book or for more information contact Travelling Fit... Your Running Tours Specialists  
Phone +61 2 4385 2455 | [www.travellingfit.com](http://www.travellingfit.com) | Email: [sales@travellingfit.com](mailto: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.

**TravellingFit**  
Run the World.



# First Light Detailed Itinerary

22 to 26 January 2026



## Day 1: 22 January 2026 - Arrival in Tairāwhiti Gisborne

All participants will arrive in Tairāwhiti Gisborne either by a domestic flight or by bus. Tairāwhiti Gisborne is about a 6–7-hour drive or a 1 hour flight from Auckland. Alternatively, guests might consider renting a car if you plan on doing a bigger tour around the island. If participants choose to fly, the local airport is Tairāwhiti Gisborne airport (GIS). You can also join the pre-tour starting in Auckland – contact Travelling Fit for details or refer to our separate flyer.

Around 6pm, all runners will gather for a short shakeout run guided by a local runner from Gisborne. The run will be a maximum of 5km at a relaxed pace, perfect for starting to get familiar with the beautiful surroundings. After the run, everyone gathers for a complimentary beer and some finger food, where you can get to know your fellow marathon participants, meet the organisers, and raise a glass to the beginning of your Aotearoa New Zealand adventure.

*Meals: Finger food after the shakeout run.*

## Day 2: 23 January 2026 – Traditional Pōwhiri

Early this morning, an optional excursion is on offer - "Stingray Encounter," in Tatapouri. On this excursion, you will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with stingrays and other reef life on a reef ecology tour. You will return in time for other scheduled activities.

All participants will get together in the late morning for a traditional Māori welcome ceremony, known as a pōwhiri. A pōwhiri is a special ritual of encounter and the perfect way for you to experience Māori traditions. It usually takes place at the Māori meeting grounds, called a marae. The ceremony involves singing, dancing, speeches. After the ceremony, lunch at the marae will be served.

The rest of the afternoon is yours to soak in the cultural attractions of the city, hit the beaches, or stretch your muscles on a hike. In the evening all participants will meet to enjoy a pasta dinner.

*Meals: Lunch at the Powhiri & pasta dinner.*

## Day 3: 24 January 2026 – Race Day

This morning you will make your way to the start line, just a short walk away. As the first light of day crests the horizon, you'll set off with music and excitement drumming through your body. Both the marathon and half-marathon begin at 5.40am and will end at 1.40pm, whilst the 6km event will start at 6.10am.

In the evening you have the opportunity to catch up with other runners and supporters at The Wharf Bar & Grill and share your experience of today's run while tasting an ice-cold beer. The Wharf is in a beautiful location with views of Gisborne Inner Harbour.

Later in the evening, there is an optional excursion, "Gisborne Astro Tours," where you will get to admire the celestial wonders of the Southern Hemisphere. An accomplished astronomer will be your guide to the starry constellations above.

*Meals: Light lunch at the finish line.*

## Day 4 – 25 January 2026 – Optional Excursions and Celebration Dinner

Today, you will have the day free to explore Gisborne at your own pace, or you might opt to join the exciting excursion to Tolaga Bay. This is a walking tour of Tolaga Bay and Cooks Cove. Cooks Cove is named after Captain James Cook, who stopped here in 1769 during his circumnavigation of New Zealand.

In the late afternoon all participants will be driven out to a local winery for the Celebration Dinner. Everyone gets together to celebrate yesterday's achievements with a festive dinner.

*Meals: Celebration Dinner.*

## Day 5 – 26 January 2026 - Farewell Gisborne or hello Extension Tour

Sadly, it is time to say goodbye to Tairāwhiti Gisborne. After check-out, you'll bid farewell to Aotearoa New Zealand. Alternatively, if you're not quite ready to say goodbye, you can join an exciting 6-day extension to explore beautiful natural landscapes, trek one of the famous day hikes in the world and see the geological remnants of seismic activities with your own eyes. Contact Travelling Fit for details or refer to our separate flyer.

*Meals: Not included this day.*

To book or for more information contact Travelling Fit... Your Running Tours Specialists  
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