



Auckland – 3 Day Itinerary

Surrounded by two sparkling harbours, vibrant and multicultural Auckland is the country's largest city and commercial hub. Home to 1.5 million people, it offers world class accommodation, outstanding food and wine, and great shopping, sights and attractions.

Day one

Explore Auckland and its surrounds

Get out on the water with a cruise on a classic yacht or launch. You can experience the thrill of sailing on a former America's Cup racing yacht, or hire a kayak to meet the local marine mammals on an evening paddle to Rangitoto Island. Auckland's [Dolphin Explorer](#) conducts daily marine mammal eco-safaris, finding common and bottlenose dolphins, Brydes whales and orca in Auckland's magnificent Hauraki Gulf Marine Park.

If you prefer to keep your feet on dry land, a drive out to the wild west coast is the ideal choice. Discover the area's pristine native bush, coastal rainforest and rugged black sand beaches on foot or on the back of a 4WD quad bike. Other options include surfing or exploring the vast gannet colony at Muriwai Beach.

For a touch of history and stunning views, visit Devonport, a short 12 minute ferry ride across the harbour. Wander around the art galleries, book shops and cafes of old Devonport or take a walk or segway tour with [Magic Broomsticks Tours](#) to the top of Mt Victoria and North Head. The volcanic cones offer stunning 360 degree views from the city to the Hauraki Gulf islands.

A visit to Auckland wouldn't be complete without some shopping. Shop at top designer stores with international and local labels in Newmarket or discover the funky fashion stores and chic cafes and bars in Auckland's Britomart precinct and High Street.

Day two

It's island time

Depart Auckland city on a high speed ferry to Waiheke Island, only thirty five minutes away.

Waiheke Island is a picturesque blend of farmland, forest, beaches, vineyards and olive groves. Sample award winning wines in the beautiful vineyards, taste delicious local produce, visit the local artisans' studios or simply relax on a golden sand beach. Lunch at one of the many vineyards on the island is a must-do; take in the panoramic sea views at Mudbrick, Te Whau and Cable Bay or enjoy a glass of legendary Larose at Stonyridge.

Day three

Enjoy wine, food and marine life

Forty five minutes north of the Auckland harbour bridge you'll find an area devoted to producing great food and wine. With its riverside walkway, outdoor cafes and charming shops, Warkworth is a great destination to explore.

Nearby is the settlement of [Matakana](#). Drop into one of the many vineyards around the area for an outstanding lunch or, if it's a Saturday, visit the Matakana Village Farmer's Market. If it's wildlife you're after, explore the wonders that lie below the water's surface at Goat Island Marine Reserve.