



## Lord of the Rings group tour – daily itinerary

### **Arrival Day :** Auckland.

Our guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel.

We gather informally for a meal tonight to meet each other and prepare for an early start tomorrow.

Your hotel is the Spencer on Byron. Breakfast tomorrow is included. (B)

### **DAY 1:**

Be ready to depart at 08.00 ~ Auckland to Rotorua via Hobbiton.

Prepare to be delighted ! Have your photo taken beneath the Party tree and outside Bag End. We have lunch at Hobbiton in 'The Shire's Rest'.

In Rotorua later this afternoon, you may wish to visit a geothermal park or soak in a hot mineral pool. An option this evening is to enjoy a traditional Maori concert and meal.

Our hotel is the Lake Plaza, Rotorua. (B)

### **DAY 2:**

Rotorua to Ohakune via the Mountain sites of Mordor and Eryn Muil.

Find the spot where Sam and Frodo were lost amid volcanic lava flows and where they first met Gollum.

Later visit Gollum's fishing pool, where Andy Serkis was careful not to plunge over the waterfall!

Accommodation- The Powderhorn Chateau, Ohakune. (B). ( Where the Stars stayed.)

### **DAY 3:**

Ohakune to Wellington via the **River Anduin**. There's an optional extra here for the mad and daring ~ great viewing for the rest of us !

Lunch at the 'Laughing Fox' is followed by a visit to the site where the Elves are leaving Rivendell for the West and Arwen has her vision of Aragorn and their son. Then it's on to **Wellington** to the "Get off the road!" site.

Tonight you may like to dine at "The Green Parrot"- a favourite of Viggo's.

Mercure Hotel next 3 nights.(ph: 04-385-9829) (Breakfast tomorrow included.)

### **DAY 4:**

Our day begins with a special guest joining us at breakfast- the movie's Calligrapher, who will also have samples of his work for sale.

Then it's time for a Highlights Tour of 'Wellywood' ~ our tour will take us past the Stone Street Studios, Weta Workshop, and second breakfast at the Chocolate Fish Cafe - favourite haunt of the Hobbits !

The afternoon will be yours to explore Wellington. (B)

### **DAY 5:**

Our morning begins with a visit to the Cloak Factory and Isengard Gardens before we head over the Rimutaka Ranges to the site of 'Leaving Lothlorien' and the Gladden Fields ( ~ and where Smeagol strangled Deagol ! )

On our return to Wellington once again you will have time to enjoy the delights of our capital city.

### **DAY 6:**

Up early for our flight to the South Island. Breakfast at the airport before flying to Christchurch.

Time to head for the site of Edoras. Buy a picnic lunch for today, as this is a remote area. Wear shorts and sturdy footwear. We have three streams to cross on our way to the summit. (Bring a hand towel ! )

Later we view Lake Tekapo and Lake Pukaki, plus N.Z's highest Mountain - Mt. Cook.

Tonight we stay at The MacKenzie Country Inn, Twizel (or similar)

Dinner and breakfast are included.

### **DAY 7:**

We rise early today to catch the Pelennor Fields at their best. This area once rang to to the thunderous sound of 300 horses on the charge.

We check out the sites of The Great Chase and the Rohan village that was burned. Can you find the canyon where the leaf brooch was dropped ? For the next two nights we stay at Oliver's Lodge, Clyde - 2 nights. (B)

**DAY 8:**

Time for optional activities. You can choose from the following:

Archery

Horse trekking

Rail trail cycling and Kayaks:<[www.trailjourneys.co.nz](http://www.trailjourneys.co.nz)>

River cruise.

**DAY 9:**

Another picnic lunch is required as we head for the Mavora Lakes and four LOTR sites - the Orc funeral pyre, Fangorn Forest, the log which concealed Merry and Pippin before Frodo left the fellowship, and where Sam and Frodo paddled away on the next stage of their journey.

Later optional activities include jet boating down the River Anduin or a helicopter ride to Peter Jackson's favourite location.

Tonight you may choose to eat where the stars did - Redcliffs Cafe.

Your accommodation: The Luxmore Hotel, Te Anau. (B)

**DAY 10:**

Today we head for Queenstown via Arrowtown, where part of the Ford of Bruinen was filmed and also the site of significant gold discoveries in the 1860s. Later we visit the sites of Amon Hen and Ithilien.

This afternoon you are free to pursue your optional activities:

\* A 4 wheel drive tour to the Pillars of Argonath with Nomad Safaris

\* Heliworks flight to the Ford of Bruinen

\* A jet boat ride or bungy jump.

\* Dart Stables - horse treks

\* SS Earnslaw lake paddle steamer

We stay at The Aurum Suites , Queenstown - 2 nights. (Room only)

**DAY 11:**

Today is for further optional activities and last minute shopping.

Tonight we have our farewell dinner at the Skyline Restaurant.

**DEPARTURE DAY :**

Your journey through Middle-earth is at an end.

For further information, contact

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