



8 DAY CHATHAM ISLANDS TOUR

15 - 22 January 2026

- During our stay we will visit the four corners of the Island and the special places in between.
- Due to the very changeable weather please pack your day bags for 4 seasons in 1 day, comfortable footwear is recommended as you will be crossing over farmland. The water is fine for refilling your water bottles.

Life on the Chatham's is dictated by wind and tide rather than the clock and things don't always go to plan, so be prepared.

Thursday 15 January

We depart New Plymouth and travel south to Wellington where we board our flight to the **CHATHAM ISLANDS**.

During the flight you may like to put your watches forward - The Chatham's is 45 minutes ahead of NZ time (but 20 years behind the times).

On our arrival we will be met at the airport by Hotel Owner Toni Croon or one of the local tour guides.

Our first stop will be at Red Bluff for some photos, before checking into our accommodation with time to freshen up ready for the start of our adventure.

- **To follow is our itinerary for the week, in no particular order our actual itinerary is determined by weather & availability of guides & venues. Some we may not be able to include but will be substituted by other visits of interest.**
- **To help the Chatham Islands retain its freedom from the **Varroa mite**, they ask that you do not bring any honey products with you.**

Friday 16 to Wednesday 21 January

Breakfast daily in hotel dining room 7.00am to 9.00 am

Picnic lunches are supplied each day

Dinner daily - (three courses) in hotel dining room

Waitangi West:

We travel over part of the Waitangi West Station consisting of 3,412 hectares carrying 10,000 sheep. Recently bought by a Chinese buyer for \$5m

Stone Cottage & Maunganui Bluff

(under renovation and possibly not open)

The cottage was built between 1866 & 1868 for the Moravian Missionaries who arrived in the Chathams in 1843. These German missionaries made no converts, but had a significant input into the history and lifestyle of the Chathams, introducing large-scale horticulture, sheep farming, ship building and literacy. The cottage is built largely of local stone and wood, which reflects the missionaries' attitudes. They were committed to the idea of being self reliant in their own lives, and as an example to others, hence using only local materials.

We then visit the safest fishing harbour with the most shipwrecks on the island, at *Port Hutt*.

Our next stop is the amazing *Basalt Columns* at Waitangi West.

Over farmland down to Ohira Bay lies massive olivine basalt columns, part of lava flows dated near 80 million years ago. These are another interesting geological formation - a series of pentagonal shaped volcanic rock columns on the shoreline, and not found anywhere else on the island and only two other places in the world. Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland & Scotland

Owenga:

Depart for our journey out to the South-east and fishing settlement of Owenga. A fishing village, including a working fish factory, plus the remains of The Anglican Church of St Barnabas.

First stop is the *Moriori Kopinga Marae* sited on the hilltop at Te Awatea. This is the only Moriori marae in New Zealand. Kopinga Marae, shaped like an albatross when viewed from the air, continues to amaze visitors. Learn about the culture and the History of the first inhabitants of the Island. Panoramic views across Lake Huro to Waitangi and across Te Whanga to its entrance at Te Awapatiki.

Tommy Solomon Statue at Manakau, Owenga,

Tommy Solomon, (7 May 1884 – 19 March 1933) is believed by most to have been the last full-blooded Moriori, which were the indigenous people of the Chatham Islands.

We drive by the Wind Farm and the Preece farm to where the Millennium celebrations took place. The first place in the world to see the sun this century. *Rangaiki Cliffs*, 200-250m sheer drop cliffs, on a clear day amazing viewing point to Pitt and Mangere and surrounding Islands, also the best place to sight the seldom seen 44's looking east out to sea.

Take a walk across farm land north of Te One Township to see *Nunukus Cave* & unique *Moriori Rock Carvings*.

Beautiful bits in between:

Today we visit the craft shop for your gifts and souvenirs, the town village and the Museum, then to *Blind Jim's Creek* (Fossilized Sharks Teeth).

On the shores of beautiful Te Whanga lagoon, near Blind Jim's Creek, careful fossicking is likely to be rewarded by the discovery of fossilised shark teeth. Around 30 million year old. These incredibly ancient objects are almost as scarce as hen's teeth but can be found in the Chatham Islands. To find a tooth from a creature that was eating fish long before the first primate - let alone the first human - walked the earth is amazing. I am sure that by the time you leave Te Whanga Lagoon you will all be in possession of one or many of these prized ancient fossils.

Visit *Go Wild Apiary*. A bee sanctuary which houses, what are believed to be earth's last known Black British honeybee for over 200 years. The bees are special, but it turns out the honey they make is incredibly special, too. A unique endemic flora palate with distinctive sweet notes found nowhere else in the world. This precious organic honey is limited and worth savouring, enjoy a sample and try some unique freeze honey.

Running South West of Waitangi the Tuku road provides views of rich farmlands and shoal coastal waters. The stunning *Tuku Reserve* lies in the valley, and great place for viewing Parea, the Chatham Island pigeon and other bird life

Kaingaroa - North part of the Chathams:

Nikau Bush Reserve is 19ha reserve located 1.5km North of Blind Jims. It conserves broadleaf forest with a fine stand of Nikau palms the best on the island, the only palm native to the Chatham Islands, an even more impressive sight when flowering and bearing fruit.

We drive out to *Cape Young* and *Splatter Rock*.

These rocks on the western end of Wharekauri Beach are from "Middle Earth" and the metamorphic glass in them, sparkle in the sun.

The farm we travel through is Wharekauri Farm Station. It is 28,000 acres in extent. There are 40 miles of fencing, 12,000 sheep and 260 acres under crop. Continuing on to *Ocean Mail Scenic Reserve* we take a board walk and wander through this wetland area.

At *Hapupu Historic Reserve* we discover another unique archeological site. Carved into the bark of kopi (karaka) trees within the reserve are Moriori tree carvings – known as dendroglyphs. They are among the little evidence of pre-contact Moriori culture remaining on the island. The last remaining live tree was expected to die and has done so during 2015 – 2017

We also visit *Broughton Landing* - an old Mission and Whaling Station, and the farm 'Mission Station' owned by Jim Muirson. Jim has 1,400 hectares, running 3,000 Ewes and 350 Cows. This is where we will be able to view the remains of a wrecked RNZAF Short Sunderland and a newly arrived Fokker Friendship in the process of preservation. This particular Sunderland aircraft, provided an aviation lifeline to the island until it was holed by a rock while taking off from the Te Whanga Lagoon in 1959.

We finish the day by travelling across paddocks to reach the huge fur seal colony at Point Munning.

Town Tour & Admiral Gardens night

Today we visit the Museum, Old Radio Station, Tiki Tiki Hill and view over the newly built Waitangi Wharf

Drive to the South Coast, where we can admire a reforestation area and endemic birds.

We return to town and enjoy a cuppa at *River Onion Gallery*. Local photographer and artist Celine Gregory-Hunt recently renovated and invested in her beautiful property on the side of Waitangi beach to showcase her artwork inspired by the natural beauty of Chatham and Pitt Island. Close by you can purchase souvenirs at Chatham Cottage Gift Shop & locally made jewellery at Dough N Go general store.

Visit Henga Nursery and enjoy a walk through the beautiful Henga Reserve to view Long Beach.

Dinner this evening starts at *Admiral Farm*. (Named after the abundant Butterfly)
This is a fourth generation Chatham's property owned by the Croon family with a gorgeous garden featuring the eerie skeletons of dead kopi trees and great drifts of the stunning Chatham Island forget-me-not. Lois and Val Croon will be in attendance. Drinks and wine provided.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Deep sea fishing

\$200 pp 2 to 3 hours 10 pax (Weather permitting) (*price to be confirmed*)

All Fish and Paua caught will be filleted and bagged, frozen and able to be all brought home.

Quota for recreational fishing 11 Blue Cod each & 11 Hapuka per boat and will come home early if quota caught.

(Extra 'free flow' Blue Cod or Groper can be bought to take home from the hotel).

Pitt Island Day Trip

\$450 pp 8 to 10 pax by Cessna (Weather permitting)

(*price to be confirmed*)

Depart approx 9.30 returning approx 4.30

Thursday 22 January - Departure

EARLY Breakfast

Bus will leave hotel with everybody for the airport for our flight back to Wellington. On arrival in Wellington we will re-board our coach for our return trip to New Plymouth and points in between.

We trust you have enjoyed your tour with us: made many new friends and had a great time, we thank you for joining us and hope to see you all in the very near future.

The only extras that you may have to pay for on the Chathams would be your 'bar tab' or optional day trips (which they ask you to pay by evening before departure).

INCLUSIONS: Accommodation on a share twin basis with private facilities,
7 Dinners, 7 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches
Coach travel & all sightseeing as per the itinerary

INSURANCE: At the time of booking it is strongly recommended that comprehensive travel insurance be taken out.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

COST: Per person Twin Share **\$ 5350.00**
Single Room **\$ 6120.00**

DEPOSIT: A deposit of \$1500.00 per person is required at the time of booking and the full payment is due by 30 November 2025.

PRICES: OUR PRICES ARE GUARANTEED

CANCELLATION FEES: If you are forced to cancel your reservation
More than 45 days before you travel 100% of the published deposit.
Less than 45 days prior to departure 100% of the tour price

CREDIT CARDS: We accept VISA & MasterCard subject to a 1.5% transaction fee.

DIRECT PAYMENTS: Can be made to Dalroy Tours
ANZ Bank 01-0707-0305166-46 OR TSB Bank 15-3953-0944207-10
(please include your Name & Chatham in the reference)

REFUNDS: Please note that no refund of unused ground content will be made for any reason.

RESPONSIBILITIES: DALROY TOURS acts only as an agent for the persons or companies providing accommodation transport or other services, (hereinafter called "service providers") and DALROY TOURS issues all coupons, vouchers, tickets or other documents on the service providers terms and conditions, which are to be read in addition to and not in degradation from these terms.

LIABILITY: DALROY TOURS advises you that the services it renders under this agreement are the booking and packaging of services provided by others such as hotels, transport companies and tour operators DALROY TOURS, its employees and agents will not be responsible and exclude liability for loss or damage to the tour member outside their control including but not limited to any act or omission to the tour member or his/her property by air carriers, accommodation providers or any other provider of services to the tour member.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY AND HOTELS: The operator reserves the right to deviate from the itinerary should circumstances so dictate and to substitute hotels with those of an equal standing or tariff.

INSURANCE: At the time of booking it is strongly recommended that comprehensive travel insurance be taken out.

- If due to flight delays we are forced to overnight in Wellington before travelling to the Chatham Islands, this will be an extra cost as no refund will be given for the first night / day on the Chatham Islands.
- In case of a late departure from the Chatham Islands due to plane delay, the cost of an extra night accommodation only will be charged as well any meals of your choice will be an additional cost. Customers will be required to pay the extra cost before departure.

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