

The Hump Ridge Track



A UNESCO World Heritage Site - mountains, rivers, birdlife, and virgin podocarp forests.

tour highlights

- Historical viaducts
- Helicopter transport
 - Fantastic flora
 - Sawmilling relics
 - Great company
- Experienced attentive guide

tours run

Tours run: November - April (Weekly)

tour cost

2019 / 2020

Starting in Tuatapere: NZD\$1695

Private Room Upgrade: NZD\$100 per night

Deposit Payable: 25% of the tour cost

cancellation

If a client wishes to cancel the tour the following charges will be applied:

1. 56 days or more from departure date - 25% of the tour cost;
2. 42 to 55 days from departure date - 50% of the tour cost; and
3. 41 days or less - no refund will be given.

insurance

Tuatara Tours recommends that the client take out cancellation insurance together with all other necessary travel and medical insurances.

Obtaining all necessary insurances is the responsibility of you the client and Tuatara Tours cannot be held liable for any failure on your part to get insurance.



the tour

The Tuatapere **Hump Ridge Track Walk** in the Fiordland National Park, is tucked away in the Waitutu forest, an ancient native forest on marine terraces.

The Waitutu Forest was famously described by botanist Professor David Bellamy as 'probably the most important forest in the world'. This guided walk over moderate terrain is in the heart of south-west New Zealand's Te Wahipounamu area — a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Mountains, rivers, birdlife, and virgin podocarp forests abound. Come and enjoy one of New Zealand's wildest and most beautiful areas.

about your guide

Our guides are very experienced, friendly walkers and bikers who love to share their knowledge of New Zealand's flora and fauna and local history. They all hold current first aid certificates, passenger driving licences and are the very best people to ensure your experience will be one to remember.

at a glance

TUATAPERE

DAY 1 TUATAPERE TO OKAKA LODGE

DAY 2 OKAKA LODGE TO PORT CRAIG LODGE

DAY 3 PORT CRAIG LODGE TO TUATAPERE

Activities: Walking
Accommodation: B&B & Lodges

Trip Duration: 3 Days, 3 Nights
Grade : Moderate





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lodges

Each Lodge is fully wheelchair accessible and has been built and are run in conjunction with our commitment to sustainability.

Bar & Shop

Both Lodges also have a licensed bar and shop where you can buy a range of New Zealand wine and beer, as well as snacks, refreshments and dehydrated meal pouches. Take some cash or a credit card with you (sorry, no EFTPOS available) We stock a selection of beers and wines. As our liquor licence is an "on-licence", it is not permitted to "Bring Your Own", you must purchase all alcoholic beverages from our bar. Both Lodges hold stocks of the following products for sale: Beer, wine (red and white), ginger beer & soft drinks Backcountry Cuisine meal pouches, selection of confectionery, selection of nuts, single serve UHT milk, complimentary tea and coffee

Please Note: Contents of the shop may change from time to time.

Sorry, we do not have any of the following available

- Three point power plugs,
- Ovens
- Microwaves
- Refrigeration
- Freezer

frequently asked questions

What do I carry while on my tour and what happens to the rest of my luggage?

On a walking, cycling or kayak tour your extra luggage will be transported for you each day to your accommodation that night. All you need to have with you is your daypack with your lunch, clothing requirements, camera and incidentals. For cyclists, this can be left in the support vehicle while you are cycling as this is always close by for ready access. Please ensure the luggage you are sending on ahead is limited to one item and is packed in an easily transported overnight bag or suitcase.

On a hiking tour where huts and lodges are less accessible by vehicle, you may be asked to carry your own luggage for some or all of the days of the tour, please refer to your itinerary for details. For this reason we recommend you pack as lightly as possible and carry only the items suggested on your gear check list. For any of our tours, we recommend the use of a waterproof pack liner to keep your personal items as dry as possible.



what's included

• Accommodation

Day One: Traditional B & B

Day Two: Purpose built walkers lodge. Multi share accommodation with all linen supplied, or upgrade to a private double or twin premium room (extra NZ\$100 per night) with shared facilities. Communal lounge and kitchen.

Day Three: Purpose built walkers lodge. Multi share accommodation with all linen supplied, or upgrade to a private double or twin premium room (extra NZ\$100 per night) with shared facilities.

Our modern backcountry lodges at Okaka and Port Craig are in superb locations. At almost 1000m, Okaka Lodge is the highest point on the track. Port Craig lodge, at sea level, offers trampers the chance to soak weary limbs in the Southern Ocean. During summer season, both lodges are fully equipped with:

- Solar powered lighting throughout complex
- Gas Heating in the communal lounge/dining room
- Hot porridge for breakfast
- Flush toilets & running drinkable water
- Lodge managers on duty

• Food

You will enjoy great local cuisine; continental breakfasts and hearty packed lunches during the day, wholesome home-cooked fare prepared by your host/hostess in the evenings. If you have any dietary issues or food allergies, we are happy to cater for these, please advise the office of details when you make your booking. Alcohol is not included in the tour cost, but is available for purchase.

• Guides

Your Guides are trained outdoor enthusiasts who will explain the natural and human history of the area. They pride themselves on their safe, efficient and friendly service. All Guides are trained in First Aid and are in radio contact with each other, the Lodges and the office at all times. Your safety and comfort is paramount and your Guides may have to adapt the day's walk depending on the groups' fitness and weather or track conditions. While they will make every effort to meet your needs please adhere to their professional decisions if circumstances demand this.

• All transport

• Access and Concession fees paid to the Department of Conservation

• NZ Goods and Service Tax (GST)

• Safety and Risk Management

To ensure maximum safety for all, our guides are certified first aiders and fully qualified drivers. Tuatara Tours operate under a Safety and Risk Management Plan which is regularly audited and approved by a qualified and independent auditor



This tour is operated in conjunction with another operator.



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Do I really need thermals and a fleece, in summer?

Yes, as some of the areas visited can be exposed, and New Zealand weather can be notoriously changeable, you must be prepared for all weather conditions.

How many people are in each group?

Typically, we take a maximum of twelve people on each tour. We feel this gives you the best opportunity to gain as much from your experience as possible and keeps the feel of each tour relaxed and friendly. We are happy to discuss options for groups of more than twelve with you.

trip grading

To determine the grade of a particular adventure we consider a number of factors. These include the condition of the terrain, the altitude, the number of pass crossings and the length of the trip.

The Hump Ridge Track Walk is graded Moderate: Fitness Level

A moderate to high level of fitness is required to complete this walk. If you are not a regular walker we suggest you begin a daily walking programme at least 8 weeks before your departure. Gradually increase the distance you walk and introduce a backpack with some weight inside. Staircase or hill climbing is strongly recommended as you will be climbing over 800M on the first day of your walk. The track surfaces vary from smooth well formed paths to rough terrain broken by rocks and tree roots. If you feel your fitness is not up to the required level for the climb on the first day we can offer you the option of a helicopter flight to the lodge for an additional cost.

Some tips for training:

Undertake your training using the clothing and footwear you intend to complete the tour in, this will give you the opportunity to make sure they will be suitable for the purpose and to break in your foot wear so as to avoid any discomfort. Train with your pack or day pack on so you get used to bearing the weight and include a variety of terrain in your training including hills and off road. As much as we'd like to we can't guarantee fine weather on your tour so don't hesitate to get outdoors and train on the rainy days as well.



itinerary

Tuatapere

Welcome! Aim to arrive at Tuatapere at about 5 pm at the Tuatapere Hump Ridge Track office to meet your guide and your fellow walkers for a briefing on your itinerary. Your experienced local guide will explain the measures in place for the next 3 days, to ensure your safety in this wild part of New Zealand.

Later, you can return to your accommodation, to relax ahead of tomorrow's walk. You may like to try some local Fiordland fare, such as the famous Blue Cod. Dinner tonight is at your own expense.

Day 1 Tuatapere to Okaka Lodge 12km: 5-6 hrs

A scenic helicopter ride over Te Waewae Bay delivers you to the start of your walk. You will climb up to the top of the Hump Ridge, experiencing our beautiful bush first hand as it changes dramatically with elevation as you head up the ridge to the Stag Point where the trees part and you are welcomed by the beautiful bay once more - this time from a different perspective.

Not far to the top of the ridge now and on a nice day you can see many of our neighboring islands off the South Coast and of course the Fiordland mountains and lakes nearby.

When you arrive at Okaka, our lodge 'on top of the world' all you will have to do is unwind as you admire the views, settle into your private room with super king bed and, of course, take a hot shower.

You will feel at home with our lodge managers' home cooking and hospitality.





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What will the weather be like?

New Zealand is known to have four seasons in a day so you should always be prepared for sudden changes in weather or temperature and have the appropriate gear with you at all times. Rain can be expected at any time throughout the year.

Spring (September-November) and Autumn (March-May) are generally cooler months for experiencing the outdoors with temperatures averaging 15-25 degrees during the day.

Summer (December-February) is usually warmer with averages of 20-30 degrees and longer sunshine hours due to daylight saving. As New Zealand has very little air pollution, UV rays are strong during the summer months and a good sunscreen and a hat are recommended for outdoor activities during the heat of the day.

Day 2 Okaka Lodge to Port Craig Lodge 20km: 7-9 hours

After breakfast you wander down the Hump Ridge, with 360 degree views of Te Waewae bay, the South Coast, Waitutu terraces and mountains behind them.

While you are walking over the mighty wooden viaducts on the way to Port Craig Village, consider the men who built them almost a century ago.

Our guide will share many stories from the days when Port Craig was a bustling sawmill town in the 1920's.

If you are interested in the history and relics that surround Port Craig, choose to take the interpretive trail or just meander down to the beach and spy our resident Hector's dolphins who live at the old wharf poles in the surf.

Awaiting you at the lodge, our friendly lodge manager will welcome you to your room and you can put your feet up and once again enjoy their hospitality while taking in your new coastal backdrop.

Day 3 Port Craig Lodge to Tuatapere 20km: 5-7 hours

To complete the track, you will first walk out under native bush canopy, then along our beautiful golden beaches - one named Blowholes because of the ring of rocks the waves blow up through as they come to shore - a spectacular finish to a fantastic trip.

Walk back along the section you flew over on day one, and enjoy it once again but at beach level.

Note: On day 2 and 3 you have to carry your own pack



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responsible travel

None of us could deny the benefits of travel in broadening our horizons and our way of thinking about the world we all share; travel breaks down barriers and provides valuable insights into other ways of life, it challenges us to step outside our comfort zone and to learn from those around us.

Our responsibility as participants in this journey is to acknowledge our impact on the environment and the communities in which we travel and to consider our individual contribution now and for the benefit of future generations.

We are Qualmark endorsed; New Zealand tourism's official benchmark for environmental standards and quality control. Wherever possible our company utilises local products and services, we support conservation efforts to preserve our natural and cultural heritage and we respect and care for the unique environment we travel in. Make your commitment to responsible travel with us.

pre and post tour accommodation

If you would like some help booking pre/post tour accommodation we can help

Contact us at

- ▶ New Zealand: 0800 377 378
- ▶ Australia: 1 800 044 633
- ▶ World: +64 3 962 3280
- ▶ Email: info@tuataratours.co.nz
- ▶ Web: www.tuataratours.co.nz

what's not included

- pre and post tour accommodation
- alcoholic drinks with meals
- personal expenses
- gratuities, tipping is not expected in NZ but gratefully received. It is at your discretion whether or not to reward for excellent service
- dinner night 1

custom tours

▶ **We Can Customise Existing Tours To Suit.**

You may want to spend an extra day or you may want to add another element to your tour!

▶ **We Can Design A New Tour Just For You.**

We have years of experience in creating custom-made tours for groups, so if you are planning a tour for your friends, family, club, corporate workplace.... contact us now.





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have you considered?

New Zealand Walking Tours

The Akaroa Walk
 The Franz Josef Trail
 The Mesopotamia High Country Walk
 The Queen Charlotte Walk
 The West Coast Trail
 The Hump Ridge Track Walk
 The Coromandel Explorer Walk
 The Tongariro Crossing Walk
 The Lake Waikaremoana Walk
 The Abel Tasman Walk - 3 Days
 The Abel Tasman Walk - 5 Days
 The Abel Tasman Walk/Kayak - 3 Days
 The Abel Tasman Walk/Kayak - 5 Days
 Bucket List Walk
 The Old Ghost Road
 Fiordland With Helicopter Flight From The Fiords
 Fiordland Southwestern Tour/2 Helicopter Flights
 Fiordland Scenic Journey
 Fiordland Southern Discovery Experience
 Queen Charlotte Walk and Boat Stay

New Zealand Hiking Tours

The Heaphy Track
 The Lake Waikaremoana Great Walk
 The Stewart Island Track
 The Tongariro Crossing Walk

New Zealand Cycling Tours

Around The Mountains Cycle trail
 The Tekapo Canal Trail
 The Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail
 The Westland Wilderness Cycle Trail
 The Otago Rail Trail
 The Tasman Great Taste Trail

Bhutan Tours

Japan Walking Tours

Australia Walking Tours

All of these tours and more available at
www.tuataratours.co.nz



pre tour checklist

The following is a list of items that we highly recommend you bring on your walk.

- Pack with waterproof liner and cover
- Waterproof raincoat with hood
- Boots or strong walking shoes
- Merino or polypropylene thermal base layer – top and bottom 2 sets
- Polar Fleece Jacket or Zip front Top
- Warm Hat
- Gloves
- Shorts or trousers
- Wool or thermal Socks
- Underwear
- Light sandals for evening at the Lodges
- Change of clothes for the Lodges
- Sunscreen
- Blister Pack or Foot Fleece
- Torch – small
- Camera
- Water Bottle

The following are recommended: You will be carrying your own gear on days 2 and 3 so please keep your gear to around 10kgs

- Walking poles
- Gaiters
- Swimsuit
- Sun hat and sun glasses
- Spare boot laces

We do not recommend you walk in cotton garments, jeans or silk. These fabrics take much longer to dry after perspiration or wet weather and you may feel damp and cold, even inside the best raincoat.

On day 1 your gear is transported by helicopter, however as the helicopter is unable to fly in fog or high winds, as such, on very inclement days we cannot guarantee that your luggage will reach you.

Whilst the Lodge Managers will make every effort to make sure you are as comfortable as possible, you will greatly assist your own comfort by carrying a few extra essentials, such as items of personal medication and spare thermals, in your pack.





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Tuatara Tours - experienced and innovative!

Tuatara Tours is an experienced and innovative walking and cycling adventure company, based in the South Island of New Zealand. The vision at Tuatara Tours is to encourage as many people as possible to be involved in fun, adventure and the outdoors. We ourselves walk, run, mountain bike, road bike and occasionally participate in multi-sport adventure races... to the best of our ability. We are not champions – but we are out there! We understand the outdoors and we revel in the country, people and climate that we work with.

our team is here to provide the best experience

We only have one world and we have to share it with each other. Much of the attraction for our clients is to experience unspoiled and un-crowded landscapes. It is our challenge to ensure that in this sharing of the experience, we minimise where possible, the impact of our business.

Through the introduction of strict environmental guidelines, we minimise our impact on the environment we live and work in.

subscribe to our newsletter

Our newsletter will be emailed to you monthly on the first working day of every month.

- latest trips
- travel advice
- events & attractions
- and more!

Go to www.tuataratours.co.nz and click the free subscription button.

how to book

Go to www.tuataratours.co.nz, click the enquiry button and submit your booking request using the form provided.

We enjoy talking to people about their travel interests. So feel free to contact us directly if you'd rather not fill out a form.

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Tuatara Conservation

Tuatara Tours are proud to be actively involved in Tuatara Conservation.

Tuatara Tours has formally adopted "BP" a male juvenile tuatara who resides at Orana Park in Christchurch and is part of the conservation programme to ensure the safe future of these amazing reptiles.



country information

Culture

New Zealand has a diverse multi-cultural population, the majority of whom are of British descent. New Zealand's indigenous Maori make up around 14 percent of the population. The culture of its indigenous Maori people affects the language, the arts, and even the accents of all New Zealanders. New Zealanders embrace new technology and culture, but they also have a background of quiet but rugged individualism, self-reliance and a passion for invention. Many New Zealanders travel extensively and thrive on learning and experiencing other cultures. They are renowned for their openness, ingenuity and "easy-going" nature.

Environment

Fourteen spectacular national parks preserve New Zealand's natural heritage enshrining a huge variety of landscapes, vegetation and wildlife. New Zealand encompasses rich farmland, mountains, rivers and unsurpassed scenery. The country is slightly bigger than the UK in size. Three-quarters of the population live in the North Island with more than a third of New Zealand's population living in the largest city, Auckland.

The South Island - with its lakes, fiords and spectacular outdoor scenery is the most popular destination for tourists. The gateway to the South Island is Christchurch - a city of approximately 340,000 people.

Recreation

New Zealand's stunning landscapes, lush forests, amazing wildlife and pleasant climate make it a haven for many outdoor activities, and a great place to relax and enjoy life. New Zealanders love the outdoors, especially tramping, camping, skiing and snowboarding. Sailing, surfing and swimming are also favourite pursuits. New Zealand's sports and recreation facilities are inexpensive, abundant and very accessible.



The Humpridge Track

3 Day Walk

Lake Monowai

Lake Hauroko

Lake Poteriteri

Tuatapere Day One

Waikoaia River

Rarakau

Stoney Creek

Te Waewae Bay

Blowholes Beach

Port Craig Lodge

Percy Burn Viaduct

Shannons Gully

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

