

Auckland → Wellington

East Coast & Pacific Coast, ~6 days Itineraries



Day 1: Auckland → Coromandel/Hot Water Beach

- **Travel time:** ~3 hours 15 mins (Auckland to Coromandel)
- **Mode:** Car
- **Day Overview:** Drive to the Coromandel Peninsula, known for its unspoiled beaches and natural hot springs. At Hot Water Beach, dig your own thermal pool, then explore the stunning Cathedral Cove before relaxing along the coastline.
- **Highlight:** Digging your own thermal pool at Hot Water Beach and scenic Cathedral Cove.

Day 2: Coromandel → Mount Maunganui → Tauranga

- **Travel time:** ~2 hours (Coromandel to Mount Maunganui)
- **Mode:** Car
- **Day Overview:** Head to the Bay of Plenty region to relax at the pristine beaches of Mount Maunganui. Enjoy a leisurely day at the beach or hike to the summit for panoramic views. In Tauranga, visit the bustling harborside and dine at waterfront restaurants.

- **Highlight:** Relaxing at Mount Maunganui's beaches and hiking to its summit for sweeping views.

Day 3: Tauranga → Hamilton → Waitomo (optional)

- **Travel time:** ~1 hour (Tauranga to Hamilton) + 1 hour 45 mins (Hamilton to Waitomo)
- **Mode:** Car
- **Day Overview:** Start the day in Hamilton with a visit to its beautiful gardens, then head towards Waitomo to explore the glow-worm caves. If time permits, take a detour to visit the famous Hobbiton movie set.
- **Highlight:** Hamilton Gardens and exploring the glow-worm caves of Waitomo.

Day 4: Waitomo → Gisborne/Mohaka region

- **Travel time:** ~2 hours (Waitomo to Gisborne)
- **Mode:** Car
- **Day Overview:** Travel along the East Coast to Gisborne, known for its beaches and relaxed vibe. Alternatively, you can stop in the Mohaka region for outdoor adventures like rafting or horse trekking.

- **Highlight:** Scenic beaches in Gisborne and adventure activities in the Mohaka region..

Day 5: Mohaka → Napier

- **Travel time:** ~1 hour 30 mins (Mohaka to Napier)
- **Mode:** Car
- **Day Overview:** Drive along the coastline to Napier, renowned for its Art Deco architecture. Explore the city's stunning buildings, enjoy local wines at nearby vineyards, and stroll along Marine Parade.
- **Highlight:** Napier's Art Deco architecture and the region's renowned wineries.

Day 6: Martinborough → Wellington

- **Travel time:** ~1 hour 10 mins (Napier to Wellington)
- **Mode:** Car
- **Day Overview:** Start your final day with wine tasting in Martinborough before heading to Wellington. Once in the capital, visit the famous Te Papa Museum and ride the Wellington Cable Car for scenic views.

- **Highlight:** Wellington's Te Papa Museum and stunning views from the Cable Car.

Day 7: Wellington

- **Mode:** Walking or local transport
- **Day Overview:** Spend a relaxing day in Wellington, exploring Zealandia eco-sanctuary or visiting Parliament. Enjoy a leisurely stroll along the waterfront or opt for a kayak ride in the harbor.
- **Highlight:** Zealandia eco-sanctuary and waterfront exploration.