



**ADVENTURERS TRAVEL CO.**

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## **15 DAYS NORTH ISLAND MOUNTAIN BIKING**

### **\$ NZ 2950**

**Itinerary includes dedicated shuttle driver and trailer (except for the free days and in Rotorua)**

**The private shuttle will be able to stop for any supplies along the way**

**The van has a chilly bin on board for keeping those post ride beers cool.**

#### Day 1

Your private shuttle will pick you up from the airport and take you and your bikes safely to the outskirts of the Pureora Forest Park in central North Island in preparation for your first ride tomorrow.

The shuttle can stop along the way to buy any snacks, drinks or essentials that you need.

Tonight's stay is in real backcountry NZ! But fear not all your needs will be catered for by the hosts at your bike friendly accommodation, including a delicious dinner. Rooms are private with shared bathrooms.

**Meals: D**

#### Day 2

After a hearty breakfast you'll be taken to the start of the Timber Trail for your first day's ride.

The Timber Trail is a great intro to NZ MTB trails, it's a remote 85Km two-day ride. Winding its way through ancient forest, across ancestral lands of local Maori Tribes, along a section of 1940's bush tramway and past historic Rimu timber-milling sites. Sporting some of the highest and longest suspension bridges in New Zealand (8 suspension bridges, 35 bridges in total) and an amazing track spiral with bridge and tunnel making a complete circle of track, it makes for an interesting and unique ride.

Timber Trail day 1 is a 10Km gradual climb of 200m, a steeper section climbing 200m in 4km to the trail high point @ 1000m. Then a mainly downhill section of 21km. Turning off the main track there is 7km up to your rustic but fully serviced overnight accommodation.

Rooms are twin share with shared bathrooms

**Meals: B L D**

**Ride: 42Km 4-5hrs**

**Skill Level: Grade 2+/3 Easy/Intermediate**

### Day 3

After a good breakfast you start second day of the Timber Trail with a fun downhill back to the main track!

Timber Trail day 2 is mostly downhill ☺ continuing through the ancient bush and over the highest and longest suspension bridge in NZ and around the spiral, in general an easier day than the first.

Upon finishing the Timber Trail, and reaching Ongarue, you will be picked up by your shuttle driver, who will have already have picked up your luggage and will take you and your bikes to your next MTB destination, Ohakune in the Tongariro National Park.

Settle into your bike friendly chalet accommodation and take a soak in the chalets own hot tub.

**Meals:** B, L

**Ride:** 54Km 3- 5hrs

**Skill Level:** Grade 2+/3 Easy/Intermediate

### Day 4

Today you'll be riding the famous 42 Traverse. It's 47Km of old logging tracks, taking you through remote native bush and beautiful valleys. It's a great adventure ride and is talked about as 'mostly downhill' with a total decent of 570m, but don't be fooled, there is plenty of hard work required for the uphill along the way! And the rutted out downhill sections will keep the advanced mountain biker concentrating.

The ride finishes with an exhilarating downhill on a gravel road! Note: Navigation can be challenging; a guide can be provided at extra cost.

The shuttle will pick you up from the trail end at the Whakapapa River Bridge and take you back to your Ohakune chalet.

**Meals:** B, L

**Ride:** 47Km 3-6hrs

**Skill Level:** Grade 3 Intermediate



### Day 5

This morning you'll take a shuttle to either Raetihi or you have the option to shuttle the start of the Mangapurua track, depending on how far you want to ride. We recommend starting at Raetihi to enjoy a fun little downhill with great views and a pretty gravel road to the track.

The Bridge to Nowhere ride is all about pioneering history. The track follows an old road which originally gave access to remote rehabilitation settlements in the Mangapurua valley, land that was offered to soldiers returning from World War 1. These hardy pioneers cleared the land of the native bush in order to farm the area. For over 20 years they worked tirelessly to make ends meet in the valley, the road was widened from pony track to take vehicles and a bridge was built, with the idea that it would one day be connected to a road network. However, this never happened and access to this remote valley was ultimately the small community's downfall. Erosion, slips and road damage were constant and the government eventually refused to repair the road, forcing the last of the settlers to leave and giving way to the legacy of the "Bridge to Nowhere".

The track itself is mostly 4x4 track and is not particularly technical, apart from some sections of single track, and there are some very exposed sections to be wary of. The climbing gradient is good it's about an hour to the track high point. Then there is a fun downhill to the valley bottom. Along the track and throughout the valley you can see where the settler's homes were, little signs give you the names of the pioneers and lines of foreign trees and cleared areas where they farmed.

Almost at the end of the track, the bridge appears out of literally nowhere! And is truly odd in this environment. Continuing on from here the track descends down to the famous Whanganui River, where your Jetboat shuttle will be waiting to take you to your lodge accommodation.



The lodge is set high up on the river bank and you can enjoy the fantastic view from the terrace with a beer or wine from the bar!

**Meals:** B L D

**Ride:** 78Km 5-7hrs or 38Km 3-4hrs

**Skill Level:** Grade 3 Intermediate

## Day 6

After a cosy night's sleep at the lodge and tasty breakfast, you have the option to canoe down the tranquil and beautiful Whanganui river to Pipiriki or to take a walk or relax at the lodge for the morning before catching a Jetboat to Pipiriki.

The canoe takes around 4-5hrs depending on how often you stop, there are many great photo opportunities on the way down, a few grade 2 rapids and even a waterfall in a cave to swim at if you're brave enough!

Your bikes will be jetboated to Pipiriki where you pick them up and complete the loop back to Raetihi with a 28Km ride on a quiet tar sealed road. Option to take a shuttle back to Raetihi if you don't feel like riding.

Your usual shuttle will be waiting at Raetihi for the drive to your accommodation in Taupo. Your accommodation here will be your base for the next 4 nights, it is self-contained, with full kitchen facilities, and safe bike storage yet close to town if a night out is what you're after.



**Meals:** B, L

**Ride:** 78Km 5-7hrs or 38Km 3-4hrs

**Skill Level:** Grade 3 Intermediate

## Day 7

Free day in Taupo. Taupo is known as the jewel in the crown of North Island, boasting the largest fresh water lake in the Southern Hemisphere, great biking and hiking tracks that soak up fantastic views of the lake and wind their way through native bush.

Taupo's list of activities is immense; from world class trout fishing to being the home to the largest commercial tandem skydiving drop zone in the world! And close to The Tongariro crossing, which claims to be New Zealand's best one day walk and offers the chance to get close to or even climb up Mount Doom (or Mount Ngauruhoe for the non Lord of the Rings fans!)

Various optional extras available: Heli Biking, Skydive Taupo, Complete the famous Tongariro Crossing Hike, Kayak on Lake Taupo to Maori Carvings



### **Recommended Optional Extra**

Heli-Bike 😊

**Meals:** Not included

## Day 8

You'll be picked up in the morning by your shuttle for the short trip to The Hub Café where you buy your pass (\$10) for the Craters of the Moon Trail park.

Craters has a great selection of tracks, from downhill to cross country, through varying landscapes of bush to its famous moon like features of the thermal volcanic areas.

We will supply you with some suggested tracks to try so that you can get the most out of your day.

**Meals:** Not included

**Ride:** as much or as little as you like

**Skill Level:** Grade 2 / Grade 3 / Grade 4



## Day 9

Today's ride is in 3 sections and takes you on a fantastic single track journey of 'The Great Lakes Trails'. There are impressive back drop views of Lake Taupo, native bush, rocky outcrops, waterfalls and riding along the shores of Lake itself.

The day starts with a shuttle out to Lake Taupo's Western Bays, where you will ride 30km of undulating single track down to the shores of the lake itself.

From here your boat shuttle will pick you up and take you to the Kinloch, where your land shuttle will take you to the top of the next awesome



section of trail. This 20km of 'peddly' downhill (there is one small uphill!) is fast, fun and very pretty back to Kinloch.

In Kinloch you can stop for a rest and a bite to eat, before deciding whether to complete this epic day by riding the last sections or you can take the shuttle from here.

From Kinloch the climb is about 5km but it's a good gradient and gives you rewarding views back to Kinloch Bay. At top of the headland you can choose whether or not to do the 10K loop track, which take you to more looks outs and through beautiful bush. There is a lot of bird song in this bush and if you're lucky the Tui's and Bell Birds will be the soundtrack to this cool loop. Finish off the famous Great Lake Trails with a downhill to Whakaipo Bay, where your shuttle will be waiting for you.

**Meals:** Not included

**Ride:** 73Km 7hrs (option to reduce km by 10km or 23km if preferred)

**Skill Level:** Grade 3 intermediate

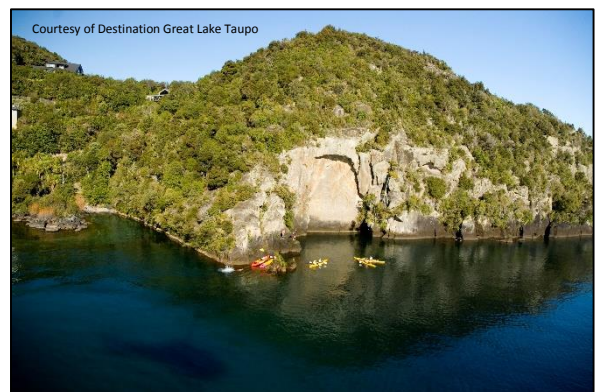
## Day 10

Free day in Taupo. Rest those legs by choosing a non-biking option or continue the riding with an extra day at Crater of the Moon.

Various options available:

Heli Biking, Cross country and downhill riding in Craters of the Moon, Skydive Taupo, Complete the famous Tongariro Crossing Hike, Kayak on Lake Taupo to Maori Carvings

**Meals:** Not included



## Day 11

After packing up from your Taupo accommodation you will be shuttled to the mountain biking mecca of Rotorua. But just before you get there, you'll stop off at Rainbow Mountain. A gnarly out and back track up to the top, for the thrilling downhill back to the start! As an extra bonus there is a thermal creek at the end to soak those tired muscles in. This creek needs to be seen to be believed! Sit under a hot little waterfall and let all those aches drift away! (we recommend taking a beer!)

Your shuttle will wait for you and will continue onto your Rotorua accommodation.

**Meals:** Not included

**Ride:** 10Km 1-2Hrs

**Skill Level:** Grade 4+



## Day 12/13/14

So finally you're here, North Island's mecca for biking! Rotorua. Famed for both its fantastic downhill and cross country tracks and lakes, it's rich Maori culture and it's weird and wonderful geothermal features!

Redwoods: 130Km of tracks, throughout both native and planted bush. Pick from our bunch of not to be missed tracks and local must do tips. Shuttles are available throughout summer months and private shuttles to the top can be arranged for the group if required.

Skyline Park: Focus on downhill tracks here, gondola shuttle to the top.

Adventure Ride Recommended Optional Extra: Moerangi Track – NZ's longest 100% bush single track

The Lakes: Green lake tracks, Blue lake walking tracks, Western Okatana walkway, Lake Tarawera walks



Other non-biking options: Wai-o-Tapu Thermal Wonderland – see the best of the geothermal weird and wonderful sights. Tour a Maori Village and/or experience a Hangi dinner, White Water Kayak the famous Kaituna, Rafting the highest waterfall in NZ.

**Meals:** Not included

**Ride:** Variable

**Skill Level:** Various Grades

## Day 15

Check out of your Rotorua home from home and shuttle directly to Auckland Airport for your flight home.

### Optional Extras:

Taupo: Ride/Boat Trip/Trout Fishing/Maori Carvings Cost: \$470pp (Min group of 4) \$314pp (Group of 6)

*Ride through wet lands and pristine native bush to the secluded Kawakawa Bay. Option 1 [Kinloch, Whangamata Rd, Orakau Track down to Kawakawa Bay 19Km 2-4hrs Grade 3] or option 2 [shuttled to start of Orakau track, ride down to Kawakawa Bay 10Km sweet downhill]. Here you will be met by your private launch.*

*Take a dip in the crystal clear water to cool down before you board if you wish and once on-board sit back, relax and enjoy a sumptuous lunch, whilst you cruise back to Taupo.*

*The Maori rock carvings will be viewed on the way and you can try your hand at some trout fishing as well.*

*This is a round trip of 5-6 hours finishing back at the Taupo Marina*

*Includes- transfers to the start of the ride, lunch, wine and beer and fishing licences*

Taupo: Heli- Biking – Kaimanawa Ranges

Cost: \$NZ 425 (Min group of 2)

*Within a short drive from Taupo, you and your bike will be loaded onto a helicopter and whisked off to the Kaimanawa ranges. Here you'll be dropped off at the start of a 10Km private downhill track ☺ Track is grade 3 – 4 although best noted not highly groomed. You can shred it down to the bottom, where the helicopter will pick you up and take you back up to the half way point for a second run down this section. After all this exhilarating riding you'll be flown back to base.*

Rotorua: Moerangi Track

Cost: \$100pp (Min group of 5)

*New Zealand's longest 100% in the bush single track bike ride! And whoa is this Bush worth seeing. Ancient trees, huge diversity of Fauna, remote ride, great track, hard climbs and gnarly downhill..... the cost is the shuttle, which is an 1hr 30mins out of Rotorua each way..... well we did say it was remote!!!!*



### Important Notes:

Based on a group of 4 people.

Adventurers can tweek or make changes to this itinerary and make it suit you. Just ask us