

# Pedaltours

VACATIONS FOR CYCLISTS SINCE 1985

## VOLCANOES TOUR

### North Island New Zealand

#### 8 Days / 7 Nights Tour Rotorua to Auckland

Pedaltours – Since 1985.

The original New Zealand guided bike tour company.

We specialise in wonderful fully supported cycling vacations for cyclists of all levels. Our tours highlight the stunning scenery and fabulous lodges of our country. We have the best rental bikes in New Zealand. Our tours are great value and are the easiest way to have a relaxed cycle vacation.

Our knowledgeable, friendly local guides take pride in showcasing their country for you, while you cycle as little or as much as you want.

Enjoy friendly Kiwi hospitality, a superb mix of mountain scenery and easier coastal terrain that will delight cycle enthusiasts –knowing that each evening, there is a comfortable lodge and excellent cuisine awaiting you.

Rotorua is famous for its exciting geothermal activity including geysers and mud pools. It also has a prominent Maori culture and a thriving adventure tourism industry.

Rotorua takes its name from the Maori words for lake (roto) and two (rua) - thus meaning 'Second lake'.

The Tongariro National Park contains some of the Zealand's North Islands largest volcanoes: Mt Ngauruhoe (used in the filming of Lord of the Rings representing Mt Doom), Mt Tongariro and Mt Ruapehu.



# Pedaltours

VACATIONS FOR CYCLISTS SINCE 1985

Please bring this information with you to the tour start.

Cas = casual, int = intermediate, adv = advanced cyclists

Should you need to contact Pedaltours please call the Auckland office: + 64 9 5792617

**Cycling distances given are entirely optional; cycle as little or as much as you wish each day, the minibus will always be available.**

## ITINERARY

The tour starts in Rotorua, (pop. 54,000) New Zealand's "Spa City", known for its thermal activity, beautiful lakes and Maori culture.

### MEETING DAY / DAY ONE:

We meet at 5.00 pm at Novotel Rotorua Lakeside Hotel Lake end, Tutanekai St, Rotorua

Ph: 07 3463 888 [www.novotelrotorua.co.nz](http://www.novotelrotorua.co.nz)

There will be an introductory meeting, rental bikes fitted and tried, or your own unpacked. We will then have dinner at one of the many excellent restaurants in town.

### Day Two:

Rotorua to Taupo: adv. 105 km / 66 mi  
Rotorua to Waiotapu: cas. 39 km / 24 mi  
Rotorua to Reporoa: int. 50 km / 31 mi

We take a quiet back road through Waikite Valley and Waiotapu thermal areas on our way to Taupo. The thundering Huka Falls provide a noisy and spectacular entrance to the town of Taupo. Lake Taupo is New Zealand's largest lake at 606 sq km.

On a good day there will be superb views across the lake to Tongariro National Park and its three distinctive mountains. The area is famous for trout fishing in the many streams that flow into the lake.

### Day Three:

Taupo to Tongariro National Park: adv. 98 km / 61 mi  
Taupo to Turangi: cas. 51 km / 32 mi  
Turangi to Tongariro National Park: int. 47 km / 29 mi

A varied, spectacular ride along Lake Taupo leads to the still active volcanoes in Tongariro National Park, the night being spent at the side of Mt Ruapehu. The mountain is permanently snow-capped and the North Island's highest at 2,797 m. On leaving the lakeside there is a substantial climb up to the plateau with a view of the entire lake. As we gain altitude there will be a distinct change in the vegetation, pine forests giving way to tussock grasslands

### Highlights and Points of Interest

As soon as you enter Rotorua you will notice a faint scent of sulphur and escaping curls of steam.

Rotorua has much to offer: Geysers and bubbling mud pools, a 4WD trip up Mt Tarawera, white water rafting, the luge rides, jet boat rides, the Buried Village, the Green and Blue Lakes (a 32km cycle ride), fishing, relaxing thermal spas and, of course, shopping.

You can also experience Maori culture through one of the Maori Villages. See and hear about Maori art forms and Maori foods, horticulture, songs and traditions.



# Pedaltours

VACATIONS FOR CYCLISTS SINCE 1985

## Day Four:

Tongariro National Park: Rest Day

Tongariro National Park has World Heritage Site status. There are many excellent walks in the park, short and long, including the spectacular Tongariro Alpine Crossing – an 18.5 kilometre traverse of Mt Tongariro which takes 6-9 hours. Your guide can advise you about the hike. See also [www.tongarirocrossing.org.nz](http://www.tongarirocrossing.org.nz).

The Visitors Centre is well worth a visit. Alternatively, The Grand Chateau is an excellent venue for a relaxing day.

## Highlights and Points of Interest

Tongariro National Park: The three peaks of Tongariro (1,968m), Ngauruhue (2,290) and Ruapehu (2,796m) dominate starkly the surrounding plateau of tussock and near desert. Permanently snow capped Ruapehu is the North Island's main ski area and is known for its spectacular day walk, the Tongariro Crossing. There are also several short and very attractive day walks.

Piopio is a little village south of the world famous Waitomo Caves and north east of the Taranaki coastline. It's ideal for exploring many of our dramatic and picturesque landscapes, for example, limestone/karst formations, pockets of native bush, rugged hills, river valleys and rolling productive farmland.

Waitomo takes its name from the Maori words for water (wai) and opening/entrance (tomo). The Waitomo river emerges from the cave which is world renowned for its spectacular Glow-worm Grotto.

## Day Five:

Tongariro to Piopio: adv. 142 km / 89 mi  
 Tongariro to Taumaranui: cas. 58 km / 36 mi  
 (all down hill)  
 Tongariro to café: int. 100 km / 62 mi

After an exhilarating downhill ride we travel through ever changing scenery to King Country, a sparsely populated district known for sheep farms and limestone formations. We are guests tonight of a local farming family

## Day Six:

Piopio to Waitomo: cas./int./adv. 50 km / 31 mi

In the morning your hosts will show you the workings of a typical New Zealand sheep farm. After the day's ride, relax in the comfortable surroundings of a family-run B&B. A visit to the world famous glow-worm caves (included) and award-winning Visitor Centre is a must, with the option of black water (cave) rafting for the more daring.

## Day Seven:

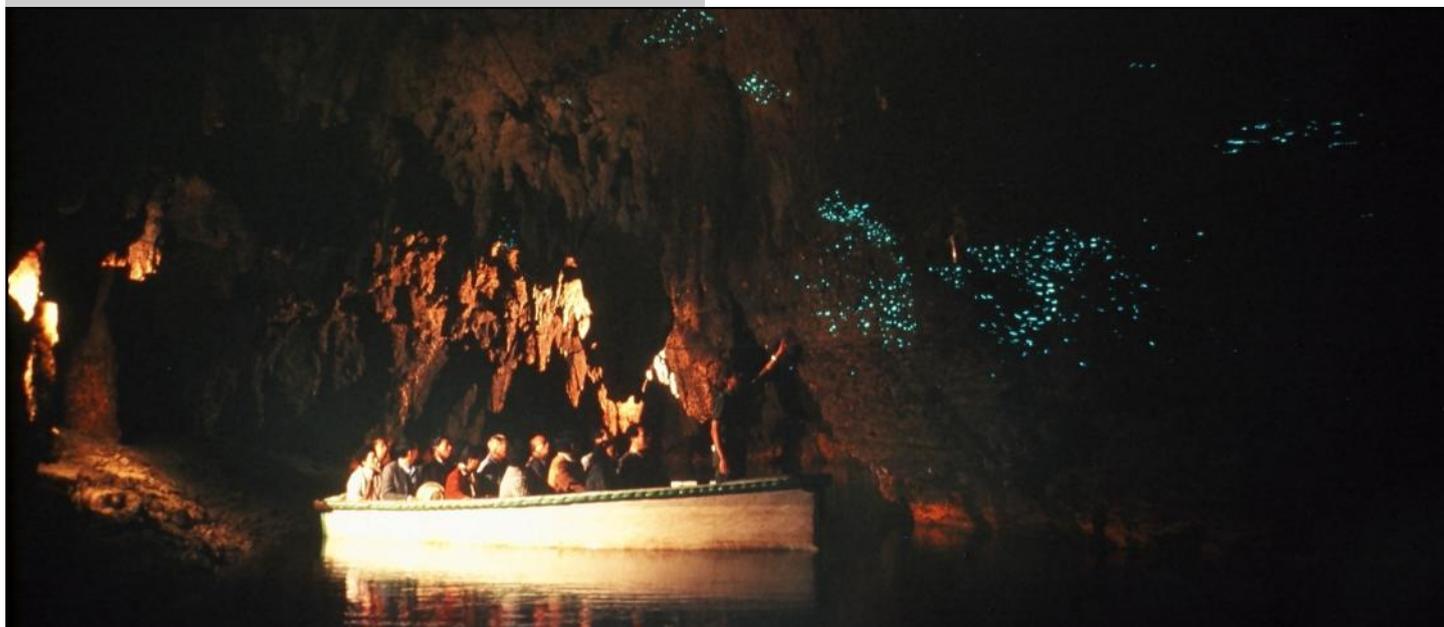
Waitomo to Auckland  
 Waitomo to Te Awamutu: cas./int. 42 km / 26 mi  
 Waitomo to Pirongia: adv. 54 km / 34 mi

Today we follow delightful quiet back roads around Mt Pirongia to Te Awamutu and Pirongia where we take the Pedaltours minibus back to Auckland.

## Day Eight:

Auckland

After breakfast we must say farewell, a safe journey home and hope to see you again.



# Pedaltours

VACATIONS FOR CYCLISTS SINCE 1985

## Volcanoes Tour 8 Days / 7 Nights

### What's included

- 3 and 4 star accommodation
- 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches & 6 dinners
- Farm stay (optional)
- Full minibus support
- Experienced guide/ cycle mechanic
- Pedaltours souvenir cycle jersey
- Daily route directions and coloured maps with profiles
- Thirty years of experience in offering guided and fully supported cycle tours in New Zealand

### Route rating

Moderate ride with one day of up-hill cycling.

### Accommodation Meal Details

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

#### Key

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Bar              |  Gym            |
|  Guest Laundry   |  Swimming Pool |
|  Internet Access |  Spa Pool      |
|  Restaurant      |  Sauna         |

### Day 1 (D)

Novotel Rotorua Lakeside Hotel ★★★★★  
 Lake end, Tutanekai Street, Rotorua  
 07 3463888, www.novotelrotorua.co.nz  
 Situated on the picturesque shores of Lake Rotorua, the Novotel Rotorua Lakeside offers tranquil surroundings with sensational views.



### Day 2 (B, L, D)

Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo ★★★★★  
 243 Lake Terrace, Waipahihi, Taupo  
 07 378 5110, www.manuels.co.nz  
 Situated right on the foreshore of the world-famous Lake Taupo. Featuring spectacular views of the lake and mountains of the Central Plateau.



### Day 3 (B, L, D)

Chateau Tongariro Hotel ★★★★★  
 Whakapapa village, Mt Ruapehu  
 07 892 3809, www.chateau.co.nz  
 An elegant Georgian structure nestled at the foothills of Mt Ruapehu, boasting a golf course and spectacular views over Tongariro National Park.



# Pedaltours

VACATIONS FOR CYCLISTS SINCE 1985

## Volcanoes Tour 8 Days / 7 Nights

**Day 4** (B)  
Chateau Tongariro Hotel ★★★★★  
Whakapapa village, Mt Ruapehu



**Day 6** (B, L, D)  
Waitomo Caves Guest Lodge  
7 Waitomo Caves Rd, Waitomo Caves  
07 878 7641, [www.waitomocavesguestlodge.co.nz](http://www.waitomocavesguestlodge.co.nz)  
Situated on a hillside right in the heart of Waitomo Caves Village, in a peaceful garden setting, with beautiful views over the surrounding countryside.



**Day 5** (B, L, D)  
King Country Farm Stay  
Farm Stay, King Country  
(Written details of your host and their property will be supplied by your guide. Should you not wish to stay in a farm stay, please let us know and we'll arrange alternative accommodation for you).



**Day 7** (B, L, D)  
The Sebel ★★★★★  
Cnr Hobson and Custom St West, Auckland.  
09 978-4000, [www.thesebel.co.nz](http://www.thesebel.co.nz)  
Superbly located 4 star apartment-style hotel overlooking the harbour, close to many restaurants, a 2 min walk to the ferry



**Day 8** (B)  
Depart. We look forward to seeing you on another Pedaltours adventure one day.