

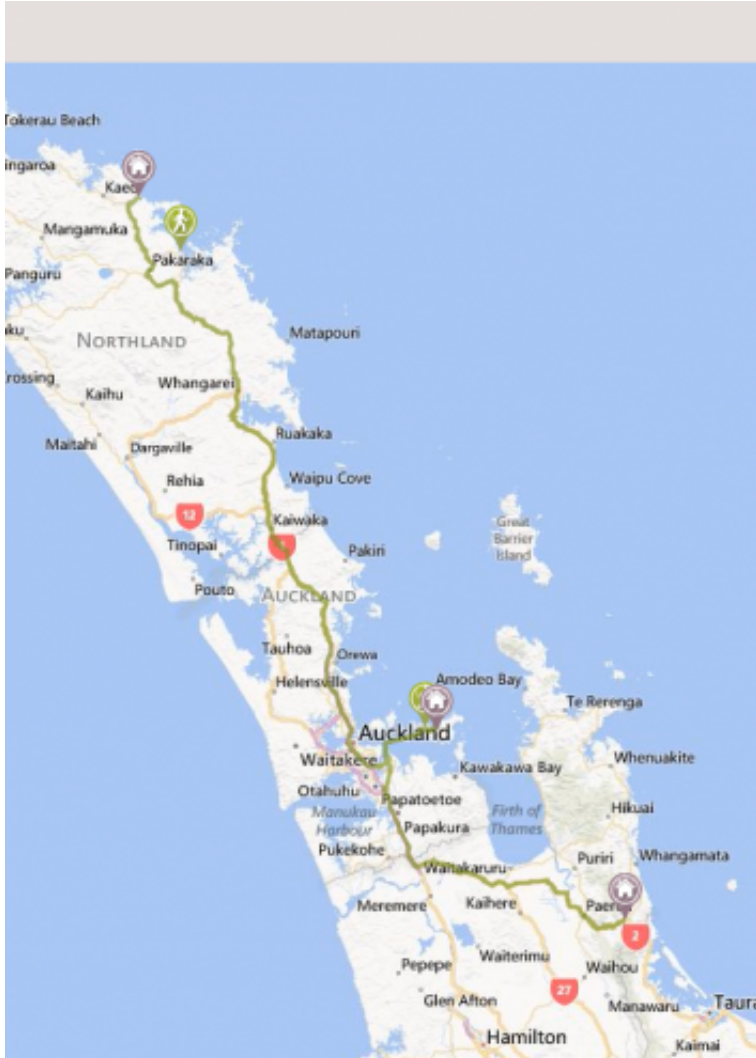
# Romantic Short Breaks

## Enchanting North



Never far from the sea, and perfect for a romantic short holiday or New Zealand honeymoon. We have tried to include a mixture of activity, relaxation, good food and wine and a slower pace with time to explore and savour.

From Auckland fly to a magical luxury cottage retreat in Northland's Bay of Islands, New Zealand's marine playground for sailing, diving, snorkelling and marine life discovery. Your trip then takes you south to one of New Zealand's best boutique lodges on Auckland's Waiheke Island famous for its gourmet pleasures and on to the beautiful Coromandel Peninsula, staying at Manawa Ridge luxury accommodation with unique architecture and views which go on forever.



### At a glance

**Duration:** 9 days, 8 nights

**Connection points:**

- Auckland airport
- Auckland or Rotorua airport

**Activity level:** easy

**Best season:** November-April

### Driving times

- Auckland - Bay of Islands 3 1/2 hours by car (we suggest you fly)
- Auckland - Waiheke Island: 1 3/4 hours (ferry or fly)
- Auckland - Waihi, Coromandel: 2 hours

### Indicative Price from \$5,665

Price is for accommodation only and excludes meals, ground or air transport unless stated. [Contact one of our Travel Agents](#) or use [My Holiday](#) to contact the operators and book direct.



ENCHANTING NORTH  
*Romance & relaxation*  
NORTH ISLAND





### Day 1 - Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

Stay [Takou River Lodge](#)

From Auckland fly to Kerikeri or allow 3 1/2 hours to drive from Auckland north past Whangarei to just beyond Kerikeri.

Your accommodation at Takou River in one of the utterly romantic cottages. Ideally placed to explore the Bay of Islands and the Far North's attractions, yet well away from the hustle and bustle of tourist towns.

### Day 2 - Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

Stay [Takou River Lodge](#)

Take a day to unwind and explore. Borrow a kayak and paddle to the deserted beach at Takou Bay where you can surf, swim or simply wander along to the secluded bays. Finish the evening enjoying one of the alfresco claw foot baths.

### Day 3 - Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

Do [Carino Sailing | Sailing with Dolphins](#)

Stay [Takou River Lodge](#)

This is a beautiful slow day on the water watching for petrels and penguins and offering the chance to swim with wild dolphins and experience them close-up. At the end of the day you have an opportunity to explore historic Russell, home of New Zealand's founding treaty, the Treaty of Waitangi.

### Day 4 - Waiheke Island, Auckland

Stay [The Boatshed](#)

Fly or drive back to Auckland and take the ferry across to Waiheke, a gourmet and wine destination. If you have flown, you can either take a small plane or a taxi and ferry to reach Waiheke Island and then be car-free for 2 days. Romantic dinner at The Boatshed.

### Day 5 - Waiheke Island, Auckland

Do [Ananda Tours | Wine & Gourmet Tours](#)

Stay [The Boatshed](#)

Sample the excellent Waiheke wines with Ananda Tours before today's most arduous task, selecting one of the great cafes for dinner or you can just dine at The Boatshed again!

### Day 6 - Waihi, Southern Coromandel

Stay [Manawa Ridge](#)

Back on the mainland, head south and it is just 2 hours to your next base.

Spectacular 360 degree views over Waihi Beach, the Pacific Ocean and Coromandel coast await you at Manawa Ridge, there are breathtaking views from every room. Guests will feel relaxed and inspired by the artistic balance of recycled beams, mud brick and straw bale walls.

### Day 7 - Waihi, Southern Coromandel

Do [Bularangi Motorbikes | Harley Motorbike Tours](#)

Stay [Manawa Ridge](#)

Bularangi Motorcycles run guided Harley Davidson trips around the Coromandel Peninsula - if you've not ridden before, how about a chauffeured ride?

Mouth watering meals are prepared with seasonal, organically grown and free ranging produce – much of it sourced from the Manawa Ridge estate itself. Coupled with an impressively stocked underground wine library 'The cave', guests are in for a sustaining and sustainable visit.

### Day 8 - Waihi, Southern Coromandel

Do [Driving Creek Railway | Scenic Train Ride, Pottery & Sanctuary](#)

Stay [Manawa Ridge](#)

The lodge sits in 250 acres which you can explore on foot, or if art is your passion, you are welcome to create your own sculpture out of the very workable volcanic rock found in the surrounding Coromandel Peninsula. Resident artist, Carla, is always on hand to show guests through a carving session.

This afternoon take the scenic drive to Driving Creek Railway where you can take a train ride, visit a pottery and explore the wildlife reserve.

### Day 9 - Journey's End

Return to Auckland to finish your journey or drive to Rotorua to link to other itineraries.