

EXTENSION: GREAT BARRIER ISLAND



This information should answer some of your questions about a possible trip and give you a better idea of what you can do day-to-day. It doesn't hope to answer everything. If you have any questions please get in touch.



From our accommodation at Whangaparapara

Great Barrier Island

Great Barrier Island is New Zealand's fourth largest landmass, and with a population of just under 1000, the island is the outdoor person's paradise. There are numerous forest walks including climbing Mt Hobson (621m), the highest point on the Island.

In this proposed itinerary we have included return flights, but there is a ferry option, depending on the season. Accommodation is a studio unit in Whangaparapara. Four nights on Great Barrier Island is an ideal duration for this extension but you can lengthen or shorten this.

An ideal way to recover from jetlag or to wind down after a trek.

- DAY 1 Arrive in **Auckland**, hotel. Optional "*Pride of Auckland*" dinner cruise (allow \$110pp).
- DAY 2 **Great Barrier Island:** A 30 minute flight to the island, or the longer ferry option. Arrive at Claris airport and transfer to our accommodation in Whangaparapara. Studio unit accommodation (B)
- DAYS 3-5 There are lots of activities to choose from and we can recommend the following:

- Climb the highest point on the Island, Mt Hobson (Hirakimata), (621m). There are several tracks leading to the summit through the forest. Transport will be required and may be available or you can hire a car.
- Climb the hill opposite our accommodation - approx 2-3 hours return through Kauri forest.
- Rent a car for a day or more, to explore the island and its bays. Visit Port Fitzroy and take a guided tour of Glenfern Sanctuary overlooking the harbour.
- Mountain bikes are available at our accommodation in Whangaparapara.
- Kayaks are available at our accommodation at Whangaparapara.
- Bike and walk to the White Cliffs from Whangaparapara for a 360 view of the whole island
- Visit the kauri dams and the hot springs and have a soak.
- Spend your first or last night/s in Tryphena, the port and biggest town.

DAY 6 Fly to Auckland. Depart Auckland or continue with your own arrangements.

Cost NZ\$800pp (£315pp*)

* Exchange rate used £1 = NZ\$2.55 (costs subject to exchange rate)

Includes (based on 2 people sharing):

Flights to and from the island

1 night Auckland in city centre hotel, twin share including breakfast (at the beginning or at the end of the trip)

4 nights Whangaparapara in studio unit, twin share, breakfast on first morning. Meals are available and there are basic cooking facilities in the unit.

Prices are valid till June 2010.

This itinerary starts and finishes in Auckland, and is only a sample. Variations depend on the number of people, style of accommodation, length of time available and activity level - other options can be arranged. If you have longer you could consider the following:

- You could take a ferry to and from the Island. Ferries depart from downtown Auckland and arrive at Tryphena Harbour to the south of Whangaparapara. You could spend a night here before heading to Whangaparapara.
- There is also the option to fly one way to the island and take a ferry one way.

ML/MW 8/09