



R I D E & S E E K

Join us on an adventure that takes us across a country that was until 700 years ago still uninhabited. Beginning in the modern city of Auckland and travelling across both Islands to finish in the remote south with its pristine wilderness and spectacular mountains.



NEW ZEALAND | (FEBRUARY 05 - FEBRUARY 28 | 2022)

Māori Overview

TOTAL DISTANCE:

2052km | 1275mi

ELEVATION:

19,400m | 63,600ft

DURATION:

24 DAYS
23 Nights



NEW ZEALAND

MAKE IT EPIC



MAORI

GRADING:



Tours available from 12 DAYS



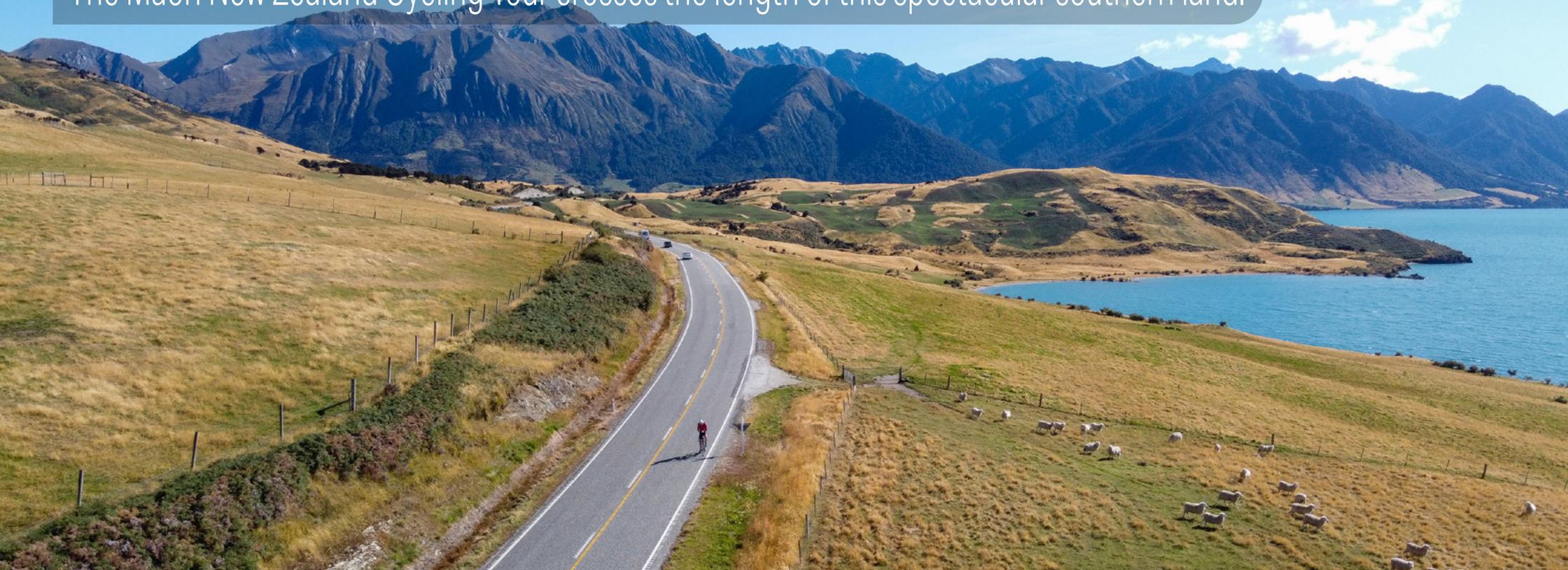
EXTRA LOOPS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE TOUR FOR THOSE WANTING MORE DAILY RIDING AND ELEVATION

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RICH MĀORI HERITAGE | PRISTINE NATURAL WORLD

www.rideandseek.com

The Māori New Zealand Cycling Tour crosses the length of this spectacular southern land.



Discover this fantastic country sitting on the edge of the world

Our route takes in highlights across both the North and the South Island while celebrating the rich history and still strong culture of the Māori. In the North we cycle through the thermal wonderland of Rotorua, rich with Māori heritage and the volcanic landscape of Tongariro National Park. Then on the South Island we explore the wild west coast with its pristine nature and stunning Southern Alps. This Epic Adventure was our first foray into the southern hemisphere and it ticked all the boxes.

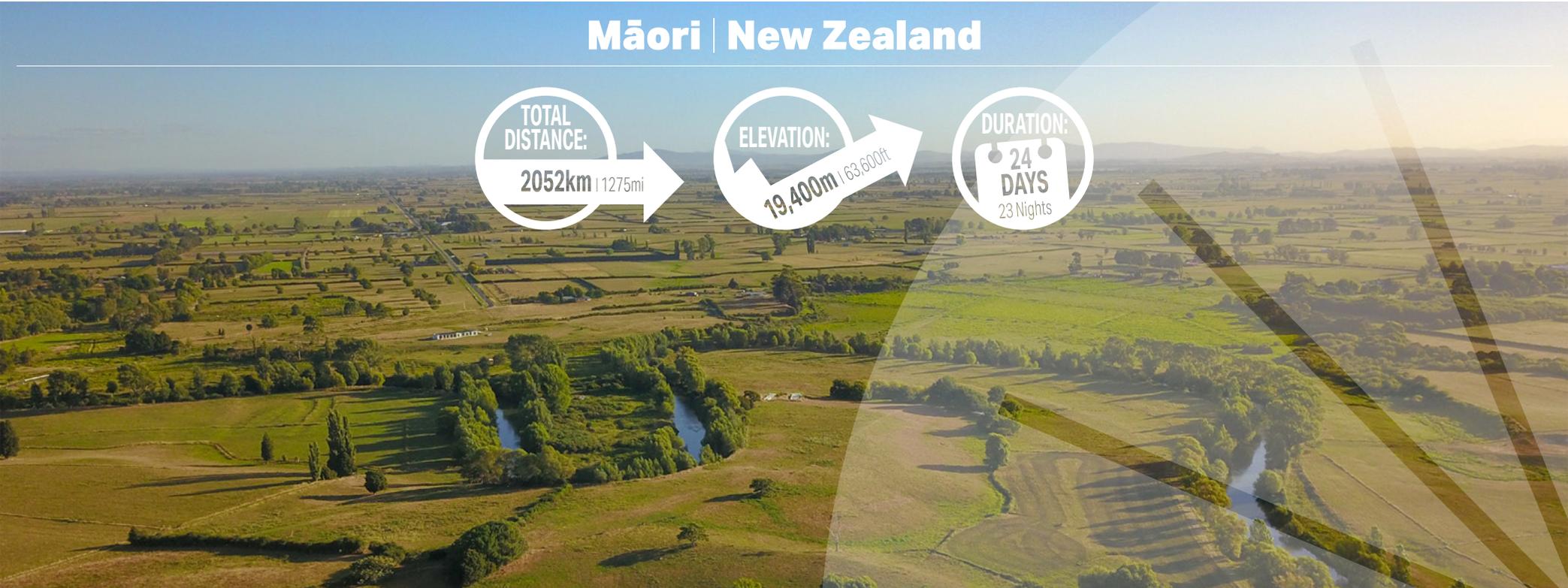


Māori | New Zealand

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STAGE 1 - Auckland to Wellington

The North Island of New Zealand is known for its national parks, volcanic activity and cosmopolitan cities, the largest of which is Auckland.

TOTAL DISTANCE:
1025km | 636mi

ELEVATION:
9260m | 30,400ft

DURATION:
12 DAYS
11 Nights



STAGE 2 - Wellington to Queenstown

The South Island of New Zealand is renowned for its mountains, lakes and glaciers. The Southern Alps is home to Mt. Aoraki at 3,724 metres high.

TOTAL DISTANCE:
1028km | 638mi

ELEVATION:
10,120m | 33,200ft

DURATION:
13 DAYS
12 Nights

 [CLICK](#) to see the Ride & Seek website for details of tour dates and prices

Auckland to Queenstown

- Exploring the geothermal wonderland around Rotorua with its geysers, fantastically coloured steaming pools and bubbling mud pools.
- Cycling through the land of volcanoes made famous through the Lord of the Rings films.
- Cycling up Mt. Mount Ruapehu, a still active volcano and the biggest ski field in the southern hemisphere in winter.
- Māori Culture, with its fascinating oral history rich in song and dance and seen throughout the country by the distinct wood carvings adorning the local Marrees (sacred local meeting halls) and places of cultural importance.
- The new world gastronomy with the incredible choice of local produce makes dining a real highlight throughout the tour.
- New Zealand Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc rate with some of the best in the world, but it also has a growing reputation for chardonnay, pinot gris, riesling, merlot and methode traditionnelle wines that are all worth tasting!
- Riding through pristine nature in numerous World Heritage National Parks.
- New Zealand wildlife is like no other, literally! 80% of its species aren't found anywhere else in the world. A couple you may have heard of are the Kiwi bird and the Kea, the world's only alpine parrot.
- Cycling along the rolling coastline of Queen Charlotte Sound.
- Our ferry ride from the North Island across the Cook Strait to the South Island through Marlborough Sounds framed by lush forested hills.
- The west coast and the Southern Alps, with their snow-covered peaks, glacier-filled valleys, spectacular array of waterfalls and rugged pristine coastline.
- Rest day at Wilderness Lodge Lake Moeraki. A premier nature lodge offering an experience like no other. Walk from your room into a natural paradise of ancient rainforest, kayak pristine lakes and hike rugged beaches.



We carefully select the places where we stay based on their personality and the hospitality of our hosts.

New Zealand is a young country so you won't find any castles or centuries old monasteries converted into hotels, instead we have modern hotels, many of them set amongst beautiful forest more ancient than anything you could find in Europe.



M Social

Functionally chic, this contemporary hotel features rooms designed for all travellers. The only hotel that truly overlooks the vibrant Princes Wharf that's home to a stunning array of dining, entertainment and shopping experiences. All you need to do to experience it is step out the front door.

Château Tongariro Hotel

This historical hotel impresses with its grand architecture, interiors and facilities. These include a 9-hole golf course and a cinema. Located within a dual World Heritage National Park, providing a stunning natural playground with diverse landscapes to explore on our rest day.

Te Weheka Boutique Hotel

Situated beneath the Southern Alps on New Zealand's West coast within walking distance from the impressive Fox Glacier, Te Weheka Boutique Hotel offers modern spacious rooms with balconies overlooking the lush native forest.

Wilderness Lodge Lake Moeraki

Discover wilderness in comfort and style at New Zealand's premier nature lodge, offering an experience like no other. Walk from your room into a natural paradise of ancient rainforest, kayak pristine lakes and hike rugged beaches.

QT Queenstown

Incomparable views over the crystal clear Lake Wakatipu and breathtaking peaks of the Southern Alps set the scene at QT Queenstown. Sitting pretty in nature's playground, this lush lakeside resort emulates nostalgic alpine and après-ski ambience – perfect for our final night on tour.

We choose our restaurants because they are exceptional and unique.

New Zealand is world renowned for its seafood, coffee culture, dairy and lamb as well their Marlborough Sounds South Island Sauvignon Blanc. The good news is that New Zealand isn't defined by what they export so what's locally available is even better.



Edgewater Restaurant

Our signature lake front restaurant. In this elegant Taupo restaurant the food is as fabulous as the views over the lake. Savour its award-winning local and international cuisine, crafted with the freshest ingredients daily.



Dockside Restaurant & Bar

Situated at the heart of Queens Wharf this is one of Wellington's most diverse venues with the ability to cater to every need. Housed in a historic waterfront shed it enjoys stunning views from every aspect, with a maritime theme throughout.



BAZAAR, Queenstown

Adventurous foodies will be enticed by the rousing hustle and bustle of its interactive marketplace. The space is alive, tempting you to take part in the delicious and theatrical mosaic of international cuisines. Chefs cook before your eyes in a buzzing setting. Their creations draw inspiration from the fresh, local produce.



Tamaki Māori Village

Journey to an authentic Māori village in a Rotorua forest and be formally welcomed onto sacred grounds. Amidst crackling fires, discover Māori art forms, take part in ancient rituals, learn fascinating Māori traditions and share impressive song and dance routines, before enjoying a traditional feast cooked beneath the ground on hot stones.



Ride & Seek Picnics

We pride ourselves on providing the best picnics. These are always in spectacular locations, be it at a historical site or a breathtaking view. The produce will always be local, fresh and exceptional.

From volcanos to glaciers

The Māori Tour explores the journey of a fascinating and inspiring people as they travelled across the ocean 700 years ago to arrive on New Zealand, many making their new home in this new world near the start of our tour.

The Māori, as they came to be known, with only what they brought with them adapted well to a land that had never seen humans.

Isolated from other landforms for 80 million years it had moved further east away from Australia and grew through volcanic activity in the North Island and mountain ranges in the South Island. A process that continues today.

This strange land was the last to be discovered of all the habitable land masses in the world and was different in that, apart from bats that had managed to fly there, it was completely devoid of mammals. New Zealand was and still is a land of birds and reptiles.

As the newly formed settlements grew the Māori travelled south down through the land of volcanoes, geysers and colourful bubbling hot pools.

This geologically active part of New Zealand became an important part of the mythology of Māori culture. While the culture may be young, it is rich, diverse and has built on its Pacific island origins to become unique in its own right.

Using their impressive boat building skills the Māori continued south crossing the Cook Strait to reach the South Island where they settled the coastlines and mountain valleys right to its most southern point.

The Māori population in the South Island remained much lower than in the North Island as the winters are difficult and the terrain tough. This is as true today as it was 150 years ago, with three-quarters of the New Zealand population residing in the North Island. It's for this reason the South Island is thankfully still a part of the world that showcases how the earth once was with its largely untouched nature.

We hope you can come and explore it on the best form of transport of all, your bike!



What our guests have to say...



The Maori Epic showcases the best of New Zealand from the road. In both Islands, we were treated daily to the amazing landscapes: thermal and volcanic regions in the north, glaciers rivers and lakes in the south. Add to this the extraordinary route planning, support, opportunities to explore the areas in which we stayed, to experience the value placed on conservation, to understand the history and culture of the diverse peoples who have settled there, and of course to enjoy the locally produced food and wine with a group of wonderful people who are proud to be part of the growing R&S family.

Cathy V



A fun ride through New Zealand. We stayed at great hotels, stopped at unique cafés and ate good food. The sites ranged from big cities to small towns through rolling pastures and over volcanic mountains. We learned about Maori history and saw the extent to which Maori culture has been incorporated into everyday life.

Jack N



The routes chosen for the country's natural beauty were excellent. The locations for the rest days were ideal. Ben and Ritchie were knowledgeable, professional, accommodating, I really could go on and on. It was constantly obvious how in-depth they had prepared each day.

Kerrie K

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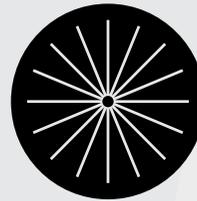


WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Go to our website at:

<https://rideandseek.com/tour/maori-new-zealand-auckland-to-queenstown/>
to find out more information, a recommended reading list, testimonials and much more.

Alternatively, contact us at info@rideandseek.com or **+61 (0) 2 8007 3161**



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