

Eco School Cruises 1-Day Trip Bay of Mystery Tour

Starts with a steam down to **Wharehunga Bay**, the bay where we are most likely to encounter the **Hector dolphins**, smallest dolphins in the world whose Sounds population now only numbers 20 souls. Reduced by the effects that bottom dredging has had on the ecology of the Sounds which reduces the habitat to such a level that 20 is all it can support.

Then we'll visit the beach where 10 of Furneaux's sailors were killed, cooked and eaten, and climb up to **Kahura's pa site** and see the dwelling sites and defensive earthworks.

Matua Pete encourages the kura to sing a waiata as a mark of respect to all the people who have lived in this place over the generations.

OPTION 1: Cruise into and around East Bay (The Bay of Mystery).

See the ex-Arapawa Wildlife sanctuary. Check out the sunken remains of an old sailing ship called "**The Prince of Wales**", one of the immigrant ships that brought settlers to New Zealand.

Visit Anatohia the spiritual Heartland of the Sounds. Hear stories of the Musket Wars. Scan the coastline for Captain Cooks Goats and the Arapawa sheep. There are island pa sites, Urupa, burial Islands, abandoned homestead, and ghost stories.

OPTION 2: Explore Blumine Island.

Get dropped off on the eastern shore of Blumine Island and Whaea Takutai will guide you on a 2-hr walk across the island. You get to check out the flourishing bird life there.

Visit the WWII gun emplacement sites and ruins of the encampment which is like coming across a lost civilization in the bush, with Nikau palms and trees coming up through the foundations.

The gun bunkers are very interesting, and Matua Pete will give an overview of the history of the threat of Japanese invasion, why the guns were built, and why New Zealand was so vulnerable to invasion.

Get picked up at Pipi Bay on Western Side after a swim!

COST: \$50 +GST for each person (child or adult)

CAPACITY: max of 40 paxs.

DURATION: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (approximately)

