



## Eco School Cruises 3-Day Camp

[available from October to end of daylight savings]

We offer 3-day camps around Totaranui aboard the Tutanekai.

Although we spend 3 days cruising the Sounds, schools from away will need overnight accommodation for the night prior to the start of our 3-day camp. Following our cultural awareness theme, we recommend you make a booking with the Waikawa Marae.

It is a beautiful Marae with wonderful modern facilities, you can book for either catered or uncatered stay. Many of our young people have never stayed on a Marae and it is a wonderful experience for them. To sleep in a wharenui is like sleeping within the pages of a history book!

The Marae often get a kaumatua to call in the evening to explain all the carvings and tuko tuko panels. Over the next three days, many of the places we visit and the stories and legends we tell will relate back these carvings and the tamariki will come to understand how the history, culture and the environment are all interconnected.

It is better if the kura make the bookings directly with the Marae, so they can get up-to-date instructions about tekana and directions. If the Marae is booked on your preferred date, another very good option is the Waikawa Bay Holiday Park.

| Waikawa Marae                                                                  | Waikawa Bay Holiday Park                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="https://www.waikawamarae.com">https://www.waikawamarae.com</a>        | <a href="https://waikawabayholidaypark.co.nz">https://waikawabayholidaypark.co.nz</a>    |
| 03 573 7547                                                                    | 03 573 7434                                                                              |
| <a href="mailto:waikawamarae@xtra.co.nz">waikawamarae@xtra.co.nz</a>           | <a href="mailto:hiyah@waikawabayholidaypark.co.nz">hiyah@waikawabayholidaypark.co.nz</a> |
| <a href="mailto:waikawamaraepicton@gmail.com">waikawamaraepicton@gmail.com</a> |                                                                                          |

The next morning, Pete will bring a trailer around to collect all the luggage. After breakfast and cleanup, it is a 20-min walk around the Bay to meet the Tutanekai at the wharf and load up the gear.

There is a foreshore and toilet block for the tamariki to settle while we get loaded, we normally set sail by 9.30 am.

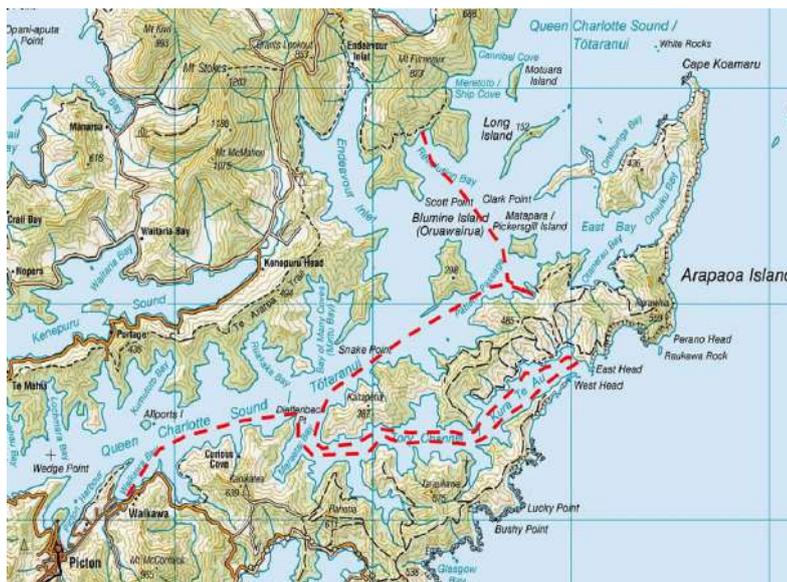


## DAY ONE

After a safety briefing, we steam out to Karaka Point which is the best example of a Fortified Pa in the Sounds.

Then thru the islands and turn out of Tootaranui around Dieffenbach Point into kura Te Au (Tory Channel). The old people say that Tootaranui means “The Sounds is our Mother” and the Channel is the Mother’s Womb!

Dieffenbach was the first environmentalist in the Sounds and has an interesting story that involves the NZ Company and leads to stories of Maori sale of the Sounds to Government and signing of the Treaty of Waitangi.



The Channel has been highly modified by monocultures like whaling, fishing, pastoral farming, salmon farms, oyster farms, paua farms, mussel farms and forestry. So, there is a lot to see and talk about in regard to “sustainability”. Demise of fish, kaimoana, dolphin stocks and growth of algae blooms, queries about the positive and negative effects of these industries on the Sounds ecosystem.

For lunch, we call into Te Awaiti, which was the first European settlement in the South Island. Then there is so much to do.

Visit an Urupa, where the whaler families were buried for 150 years. Visit the tombstones of two of the earliest settlers. See the whale oil in the banks and whale bones on the beach. See the old try pots used to render the blubber into oil and discuss what oil was used for. See the whale bone fence posts. Ask Pete about ghost stories!

Steam around the next bay to explore the old Fishing Bay Whaling Station. Pete will give you a guided tour, (over summer there is a great swimming beach with beautiful white sand and DOC toilets to change).

Steam past Wheke Rock that Maori believe to be the petrified remains of Te Wheke o Muturangi.

Then into Okakuri, where the Heberly whanau, descendents of the whalers still fish and farm. It is the only pastoral working farm in Tootaranui and an interesting contrast to the regeneration that is occurring in the rest of the Sounds.

Check out the strong tides at the Heads, see the old whaler lookouts from where they spotted the migrating whales. Then make tracks for Resolution Bay cabins, where we stay the night.

Pete relays oral histories over the microphone all day long. Each night after tea, he gives the tamariki an oral quiz about the info he has covered. You will be amazed at their retention, because during the day you would swear they weren’t listening!

## DAY TWO

After breakfast, tramp over the most beautiful section of the Queen Charlotte Walkway to Ship Cove.

Have a quick swim, then board the Tutanekai and steam over to Motuara Island Bird sanctuary.

Whea Takutai will guide the kura to the top of the island, pointing out some of New Zealand's most endangered birds, along with Skinks and Blue Penguins (if they are in the boxes), and sometimes we see Kiwi.

Pete will give an overview of the History of Captain Cook, his ships and crew.

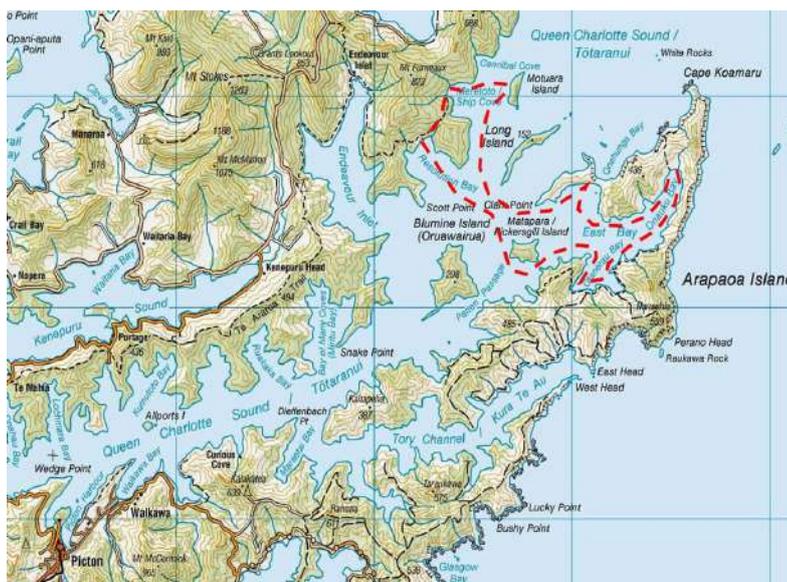
We then take you on a Bay of Mystery Tour around East Bay, the spiritual heartland of Tōtaranui.

You'll see Burial Islands and hear stories of Portuguese ships and sailors who wore shiny clothes that turned Maori weapons aside. Gannet colonies, Sunken Sailing ship, one of the immigrant ships called The Prince of Wales.

Check out the smallest dolphins in the world, Popoto, or Hector's dolphin.

Walk up to the Maori Pa Site where 10 of Captain Cook's men were killed, cooked and eaten... the old people say this was the bay where Cook lost his mana.

At the end of day two, we steam back to Resolution Bay for the night.

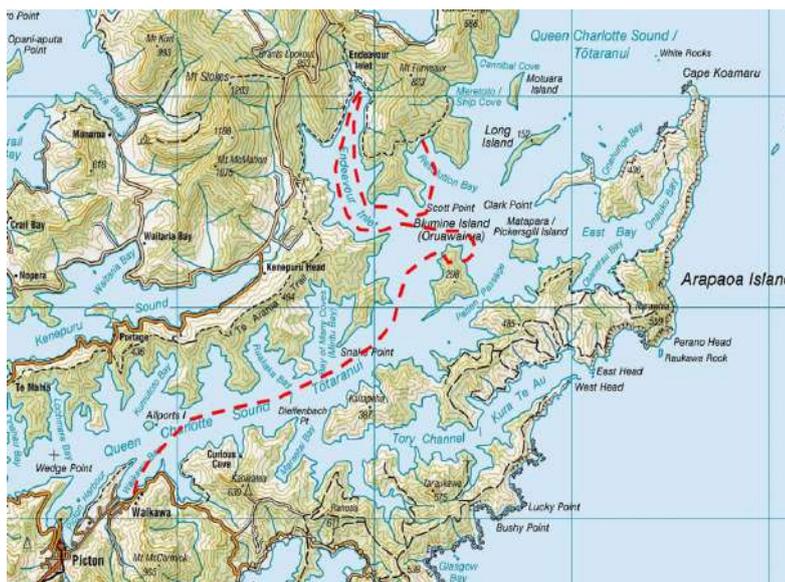


## DAY THREE

After breakfast, we pack up all luggage and stow back aboard Tutanekai and steam around to Endeavour Inlet.

There we take the kura for a short bush walk up to see the biggest and oldest Rimu trees known to be standing in New Zealand, one is reputed to be 2000 years old. It would have been standing at the time of the birth of Christ!

This is the only stand of virgin bush left standing at sea level in the Marlborough Sounds. The bio diversity is amazing... like stepping into Jurassic Park! It is an inspiring story of early attempts of conservation.



From here, we steam out to Blumine Island where we make a beach landing. Whea Takutai will give you a guided tour, looking out for the bird wildlife. The Blumine Island Bird Sanctuary is fast becoming our top bird island sanctuary. It is three times the size of the Motuara Island Bird Sanctuary and has large stands of mature native bush and plenty of fresh water.

The really interesting thing for the tamariki is the WW2 gun-emplacements found on the island that are in amazing condition. Pete will give an overview of the History of WW2 and explain how completely defensive New Zealand was with our army overseas in Europe.

The kura usually have lunch up at the Gun Emplacement.

From here, we make our way back to either Waikawa Bay or to the Picton Ferry for kura from the North Island.

Some kura like to get back soon after lunch if they are travelling home by bus or train. Some like to book the Waikawa Marae to be able to stay on the last night and head home fresh the next morning.

Takutai and I love doing these 3-day camps. Believe me... the experiences the tamariki have swimming, tramping, steering the boat, dolphin watching, etc. are memories they will never forget.

**COST:** \$150 +GST for each person (child or adult)

**CAPACITY:** max of 40 paxs.

**DURATION:** 3 days