



## **ONEPU MOANA, HOKIANGA, NORTHLAND**



### **RECOMMENDED ROAD TRIP ITINERARY**

Make the journey to Onepu Moana part of your group's experience. Leave the city well behind and go on a road trip to your retreat which will help you connect with each other in a way that most corporate retreats never do. It's all about time together and shared experiences to bring everyone closer together for a better understanding and appreciation. The road trip is the classic experience that people will remember and appreciate well after the retreat has ended. We think it makes it extra special.

#### **FROM AUCKLAND TO ONEPU MOANA - Day 1**

9.30am – Leave North Shore, Auckland

10.30am – Enjoy a morning tea organic coffee at the magical ethereal vegan Utopia Cafe in Kaiwaka, and pop next door into the quaint fabulous Cheese Shop

11:00am – Leave Kaiwaka, and soon turn left off main the State Highway, towards the great driving roads of the Kaipara Harbour area

12noon – Stop in Dargaville for lunch – maybe seated out the back at the hippy-chic Blah Blah Blah Cafe

12.45pm – Continue northwards for 75-90 minutes to your final destination (we do it in 60 mins but we know the corners). This last leg along the Kauri Coast includes about a 30-45min drive winding through the spectacular Waipoua Kauri Forest. 5Mins before arriving at your accommodation, your drive climbs a hill with a "Rest Stop" sign on the left – get ready to pull into that carpark to take in the breathtaking views of sand-dunes that will suddenly appear in front of you. Stop. Take photos. And breathe in that Hokianaga! Then it's a short gentle drive through the small twin towns of Omapere and Opononi.



2pm – Relax at Onepu Moana Retreat

5pm – Enjoy an early simple dinner at the iconic Opononi Tavern – maybe some pizzas or ribs or divine mussels, or delish seafood chowder

6pm – Be picked up by FootPrints from the Pub, to experience the incredible 4-hour gentle walking evening tour through the extraordinary Waipoua Forest with amazing local Maori guides, where you will meet Tane Mahuta (world's largest kauri tree).

### **DRIVING BACK – Suggested Route**

10.30am – Depart for Omamari Beach on the wild west coast (via the Kai Iwi Lakes turn-off).

12:00pm – At Omamari, begin a half-hour drive along the sand of this outstanding coastline for about half-an-hour, on to the next village called Baylys Beach (rental cars are not insured for beach coastline driving, however local NZers are because it is regarded as a State Highway – though 4WDs recommended)

12.30pm – Enjoy a very laid-back lunch and wine/beer at the funky Sharkys Cafe in Baylys

1.30pm – Now back on the road for the 2-hour drive back to Auckland's North Shore

