



# YOUR UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY TO TARANAKI

## 20 - 23 FEBRUARY 2025

## A WEEKEND AWAY...

## ITINERARY



**Steam Incorporated** and **Weir Tours** are excited to present a special 4-day exploration of the Taranaki region. This marks Steam Inc's long-awaited return to Taranaki, and we can't wait to offer our travellers a memorable, multi-day experience once again.Whether you're new to Taranaki or a seasoned visitor, this is the perfect chance to explore the region without the hassle. Let our dedicated team take care of everything, so all you need to do is relax and enjoy the journey. Even better, our trip coincides with the renowned 'Americarna' festival, New Zealand's premier celebration of American car culture. On the first day of our tour, you'll have the chance to dive into this iconic event and experience the thrill of classic, vintage, and custom cars, all while enjoying the scenic beauty of Taranaki.

### **THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY**

Our diesel hauled heritage train departs Paraparaumu for Taranaki, travelling through the Horowhenua & Manawatu regions - picking up at Levin, Palmerston North & Whanganui enroute to Taranaki. Spend the late afternoon nestled in the township of Inglewood and explore the muscle cars as part of the Americarna Festival. The local community host an astounding street party. Experience live entertainment, while indulging in a delightful array of food, refreshing beverages, craft stalls, and fantastic kids' activities, before jumping back on the train to head into New Plymouth to round off your first day. A shuttle bus will take you to your accomodation for the night.

### **FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY**

After being collected from your hotel by the Weir Tours team, we embark on a day of exploration 'round the mountain', taking in some of the region's unique sights.

First, we visit the Cape Egmont Lighthouse, which marks the western-most point of the Taranaki coast. By day, it stands as a beacon of history, and by night, its white flash

every eight seconds guides ships from up to 22 nautical miles away.

From there, we journey down Surf Highway 45 to Ōpunake, a funky arts and beach town famous for its surf, all set against the backdrop of majestic Mount Taranaki. It's a thriving community with a creative spirit, making it a must-see stop on our tour.

Next, we travel to Hāwera to step back in time at Tawhiti Museum, considered the best private museum in New Zealand. Here, life-size models and intricate scale figures tell the captivating stories of Taranaki's past.

After a day filled with stunning coastal scenery and fascinating history, we return to New Plymouth by coach to join our fellow tour guests for a delicious evening meal, rounding off a truly memorable day before heading back to our hotels.



**SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY** - Venture into Taranaki's premier, award-winning gardens, where you'll be guided by the passionate creators themselves. Learn the stories behind these stunning landscapes and discover the unique plants that make each garden truly special. Afterward, you'll be transported to one of New Plymouth's scenic highlights–Okurukuru.

This renowned destination sits atop a 50-acre vineyard just ten minutes south of the city. From this vantage point, enjoy sweeping views from Ōakura to the Sugar Loaf Islands, with Mt Taranaki standing proudly in the background. As you take in the scenery, indulge in a selection of local wines and canapés, offering a perfect taste of Taranaki's thriving hospitality scene.



### SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

Join the train at the New Plymouth Wind Wand first thing in the morning and settle in for our return journey back to the Kapiti Coast, throughout the day. As we drop you home after a whirlwind few days with Steam Incorporated, and the team from Weir Tours.

The railway track south unveils some of New Zealand's best hidden scenery. Enjoy a leg stretch en route at Waverley, before travelling through to Whanganui where we stop and pick up a bite of lunch. Take in the sights from our open viewing carriage as we venture south. Upon disembarking the train at one of your chosen stops enroute, make your own way home as the train is put to bed after a busy 4 days exploring the highlights of Taranaki.

ELECTRONIC STREET







## BOOK YOUR EXPLORATION OF TARANAKI



## Packages start at **\$1486**<sub>PP</sub>...

The pricing above reflects the base package for the "Taranaki Like No Other Rail Experience," with additional meal and activity options available at the time of booking. To explore all travel options on this special train and to tailor your journey to suit your preferences, our team is here to help. Contact us to start planning your unforgettable experience.

### A BREAKDOWN OF THE FOUR DAYS...

#### Base Package Pricing Inclusions:

- Private Train travel between Kapiti & New Plymouth, with Steam Incorporated complimentary onboard tea and coffee on Day 1 & Day 4
- 3 nights in 4 star accommodation including breakfast Get in quick to avoid missing out, limited numbers!
- Shuttle/bus transfers for Thursday & Sunday

### **Optional Extras**:

- Day 1 Lunch onboard the train from Marton \$30pp
- Day 1 Dinner at Inglewood \$30pp
- Day 2 'Round the Mountain Coach Tour' with Weir Tours (inclusive of lunch) \$95pp
- Day 2 Dinner with the Tour Group \$50pp
- Day 3 'Gardens & Winery Tour' with Weir Tours (inclusive of lunch) \$160pp
- Day 3 Dinner with the Tour Group \$50pp
- Day 4 Lunch onboard the train from Whanganui \$20pp

#### **Base Package Pricing Limitations:**

- Airfares, connecting travel or other expenses prior to joining or after leaving the tour train.
- All meals and refreshments other than those detailed in inclusions above.
- All personal expenditures, refreshments, taxis, other travel and transfers, accommodation or related charges not specifically referred to in the itineraries as being included.
- Travel Insurance, which is recommended for all passengers.

## CONTACT US TO DISCUSS YOUR TOURING REQUIREMENTS EMAIL ADMIN@STEAMINC.ORG.NZ OR CALL 0800 783 264