

Two day tour

Tonga Island Paddle and Hike

Want to experience the more remote northern part of the Abel Tasman National Park? Join our Tonga Island Marine tour on day one, stay at Anchorage overnight on the Houseboat and walk the coastal track back to Marahau on day two.

Day One.

On this tour, we offer free transport from your accommodation in Nelson or Motueka to the Abel Tasman National Park. We load kayaks and paddlers onto the water taxi at Marahau and 40 exciting minutes later we're at Onetahuti Beach. We unload boats and have a safety briefing then we're away paddling to Tonga Island and its flourishing seal colony. Enjoy the beauty of these sleek black mammals, experience being within their natural environment.

Tides permitting, explore the spectacular Tonga Arches, or enchanting Shag Harbor, head south to Bark Bay followed by a lazy drift up Falls River. Find that dreamed of golden sand beach, for a yummy picnic lunch and a freshly brewed coffee.

As the sea breeze builds, sail back to Anchorage. The kayaks return with the guide to Marahau by water taxi and the next part of your adventure begins:

Chris, your host on the houseboat, meets you on the beach and ferries you out to the houseboat, hot shower and a barbeque on the deck complete a memorable day. Accommodation is either shared dormitory style or private double cabins. Rumor has it (weather permitting) that night time excursions are made to see glow worms and marvel at the night time phosphorescence!

Day Two

After breakfast Chris will drop you back to Anchorage beach where you start your hike south on the famous coastal track back to Marahau. You have plenty of time to visit Cleopatra's pools or picturesque Te Pukatea Bay.

It's a leisurely 4 hour walk and there's plenty of time to stop and swim and relax on the beaches of the Astrolabe.

At Marahau Beach our courtesy van awaits your return then its back to our base in Motueka for a hot shower or swim before dropping you back to your choice of accommodation.

What to bring:

- Quick drying shorts or swim wear.
- Avoid cotton T's when possible. Polypro underwear is best with fleece top. Long sleeved shirts are a good idea for summer when the sun is very strong.
- Hat, sunscreen & sunglasses
- Insect Repellent
- Towel
- Light walking shoes/ sandals
- Water bottle
- Camera and spare film
- Warm clothes to change into after paddling including;
Trousers, long sleeve top and fleece top, socks
- Day pack for second days walks. Houseboat supplies dinner, bed (linen included) and breakfast. (Not towels.)
- Bring your own lunch for day 2.

Departure Times:

8 a.m. meet at Motueka, 506 High Street.

5 p.m. back at Motueka on day 2

Frequency of Tours:

Tours departing daily

Minimum numbers are required

Maximum of 8 people per group.

Group bookings available