



WHANGANUI RIVER CANOE

ITINERARY



Paddle right through the Whanganui National Park, a remote and impenetrable region rich in Māoritanga (Maori culture). Deep jungles and incised rivers extend for 700 square kilometres and there is almost no road access. Canadian canoes are a comfortable and classic choice for this journey. Explore and enjoy the mighty Whanganui River - the life force of the area as it weaves its way from the mountains to the sea.

LENGTH	5 days
GRADE	B ("Soft Adventure" with an element of challenge) *
PRE-TRACK BRIEFING:	Please call by the base at 6 Tay Street, Ohakune, the day before to collect your dry bags for packing.
START	6:45am, 6 Tay St, Ohakune
FINISH	3:30pm, Ohakune
DEPARTURES	October 2021: 4, 11, 18, 25 November 2021: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 December 2021: 6, 13, 20, 27 January 2022: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 February 2022: 7, 14, 21, 28 March 2022: 7, 14, 21, 28 April 2022: 4, 11, 18, 25 May 2022: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
PRICE	1st Jun 2021 - 30th Jun 2022 5 Day Adult NZ\$1345 5 Day Child NZ\$1095 4 Day Adult NZ\$1145 4 Day Child NZ\$995 5-day trips depart on Mondays (dates above). 4-day trips depart the following date (on Tuesdays), to book the 4 day trip please enquire. The 4-day trip begins at 7.15am and follows Days 2 - 5 of the 5-day itinerary.

"5 DAYS OF ADVENTURE & FUN OF RIVER"

My 18 yr old son and I had a fantastic time on our trip, 5 days canoeing the Whanganui River. We had a great guide, Canon, who cooked the most amazing meals and was very helpful and safety conscious as the river was running high. Very clear and direct instruction when facing tricky sections of the river. All of the gear provided was of great quality and did I mention the food, we ate like Kings!!!! Top Marks!!

~ Jerichofour - Tauranga, New Zealand, April 2018, **Trip Advisor**

"WE COULDN'T HAVE WANTED FOR ANYONE BETTER"

A wonderful five day trip down the river in perfect weather. Beautiful scenery, peace and tranquility. It was efficiently organised and there was a variety of good tasty meals with ample good wine as well! Chloe was an excellent guide, always patient, friendly and enthusiastic. She expertly guided us through rapids and around eddies, explaining about the history of the river and points of interest.

~ Angelad - Riverside, February 2018, **Trip Advisor**

ITINERARY

DAY 1 MAHARANUI

Depart Ohakune between 7.30 and 8.00am for the river. At Ohinepane the canoes and barrels are unloaded and the guides will show you how to pack your canoe. The first day includes lunch at Poukaria Campsite, you paddle past the old riverboat landing at Kirikau and take a short walk at Maraekowhai. View the Ohura falls, and the War and Peace Poles that were erected by the Hau Hau warriors. It's then a short paddle to the first nights camp at Maharanui.

DAY 2 JOHN COULL HUT

The gorge starts to narrow and you leave the last road access point behind at Whakahoro, the second and final mooring point for the Houseboat. You pass Lacey's and Wade's landings and several old Maori Kaianga villages. Later in the morning you pass Mangapapa campsite, Man of War Bluff, Kirikiriroa where the river does a huge horseshoe turn, the Verandah, the Whirlpool and on down to Tamatea's Cave and a possible lunch stop at Ohauora campsite. There is plenty of time for stops and there are safe places to get out and swim. Camp at John Coull Hut and campsite.

DAY 3 'BRIDGE TO NOWHERE'

Breakfast and on the river at 9am. A morning paddle past the Tangarakau and Whangamomona rivers, Mangawaiiti campsite, and Otumangu landing - one of the post WW1 farming settlements. Shortly afterwards you see the first pine trees since Whakahoro (planted by the early settlers), and you stop at the Mangapurua for lunch and a walk to the Bridge to Nowhere (45 min each way). Dinner and hot showers at the lodge. Note: book early to ensure a bed at the lodge.

DAY 4 PURUROTO CAVES

After a leisurely breakfast there is a walk to the Matemateonga track and up to the Puketotara hut, with a view across to Mt Ruapehu. After returning to the lodge you are back on the river for a short paddle until lunch. You pass Kahura landing and one of the locations for the filming of "River Queen". It is an hours paddle through the steep gorge until the river cascades through Ngaporo rapid and past the Mangaio stream and Mangaio rock where several of the early eyebolts can still be seen that were winching points for the riverboats. On down to Pururoto Caves - your final campsite. There is a big eddy to swim in, the caves to visit, and it is the only campsite on the river where you can have a fire! Dinner overlooking the river.

DAY 5 PIPIRIKI

After breakfast you paddle down through Autapu rapid. From Autapu there are several small rapids before the Paparoa rapids swing the canoes past the old eel traps and down to the landing at Pipiriki. It is a one hour drive on the bus back to the base in Ohakune. It's a fantastic trip for all ages - perfect for families and the kids will always have something to do.

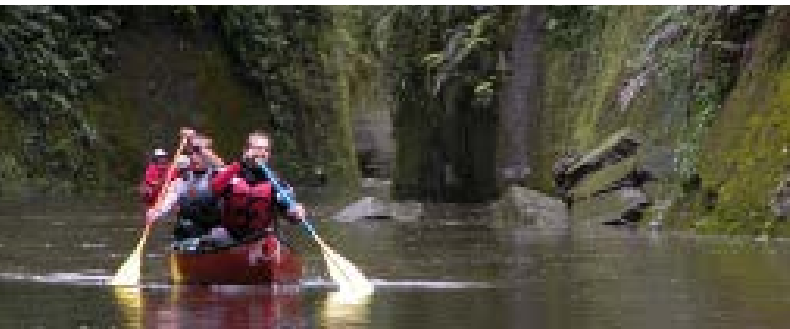


LIFE ON THE TRAIL

GRADE B

- Up Average of 4-5 hrs physical activity per day.
- No hiking experience necessary.
- Reasonable standard of fitness required

The paddling is easy and the relaxed pace leaves you time to explore and enjoy the unique scenery of the Whanganui National Park - with the usual river and campsite fun!



GUIDES AND SAFETY

Some of the best river guides you will find anywhere in the world will guide the canoe safari. Canoe Safari guides are trained professionals and their experience and knowledge can make a huge difference to your enjoyment and safety on a trip. All guides are trained in First Aid/CPR, and most also have qualifications in Swiftwater Rescue, Risk Management, weather reading, and many are qualified Raft guides. They are also great cooks and entertainers.

FOOD

Gourmet style eating with fantastic menus of fresh vegetables, fruit, hearty steaks, chicken and bottled wine. Three course feasting at its best, all cooked to perfection by the guides, and eaten in good company on a grassy river terrace.

There is fantastic trout fishing on all the rivers. Bring your fishing pole and favourite tackle. You catch 'em and yours guides will cook 'em.

TRANSPORT

Transport to and from the river from Ohakune is in a mini-bus.

Pick up from accommodation or the train station can be arranged. Please indicate at time of booking.

ACCOMMODATION

3 nights camping and one night at a lodge.

Motel type accommodation at Ohakune before and after the journey is available from \$120 for 2 people. Extra person is NZ\$20. Motel includes kitchen with electric hob & microwave, one room with queen, single, & double sofa bed. Ensuite, Sky satellite TV, electric blankets, etc. When booking, please let us know if you would like to book this.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

There are no additional costs. All meals are included in the price of the trip.

Price includes: Accommodation, all meals, transfers, canoes, life-jackets, waterproof storage barrels and camera case, camping equipment, guide.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Payment

For bookings 4 or more months in advance of the departure a 25% deposit can be paid with the remainder due 65 days prior to your trip. For bookings within 4 months of the departure, full payment is required.

Cancellations

More than 60 days prior to departure: \$85 per person cancellation fee

59 - 30 days prior to departure: \$200 per person cancellation fee

29 - 10 days prior to departure: cancellation fee is 50% of full ticket price

9 days or less prior to departure: NO REFUND

Travel Insurance

It is suggested that clients take out comprehensive travel insurance.

COVID-19

Please see our website or contact us for the latest COVID-19 booking assurance.

Notes

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

PACKING LIST

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Consider your clothing in two parts; what you will wear canoeing and what you will need in camp. Work on the assumption that your canoeing clothes will get wet so you must have a dry change for campwear. Polypropylene/thermal wear is good as it is warm when wet, fast drying and lightweight. Cotton is cold when wet - so if it is raining, wool or polypropylene is better. You can use the check lists below to help you when packing for your trip.

CANOE CLOTHES

- Swimwear
- Sandshoes, sandals or wetsuit booties
- Shorts
- Sunhat
- Woollen or polypropylene top
- Waterproof lightweight jacket or parka
- Windproof leggings (optional)
- Woollen socks
- Tracksuit or polypro pants (not jeans)
- Light gloves (for warmth or blisters)

CAMPING CLOTHES

- Comfortable shoes
- Complete change of warm clothes
- Spare lightweight top
- Waterproof rain jacket
- Warm socks
- Sleeping bag
- Towels (2 small)
- Warm hat (depending on time of year)
- Extra snacks
- Sunglasses (with strap)
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Camera with spare memory
- Water bottle
- Torch/Flash light
- Book or other reading material
- First Aid kit
- Personal medication, if required
- Other personal items
- Plastic bags for extra water proofing

FOOTWEAR

It is advised everyone wears something on their feet at all times. There will be occasions when you will need to step out of your canoe into river shallows. In these slippery conditions sandshoes or sandals are better than jandals/flip flops.

WE SUPPLY

- Snug tents
- Great food and wine
- Thermarest airbeds
- Excellent guides
- Waterproof barrels are provided for your gear, with easy access for cameras, sunscreen, etc
- All river gear, paddles, life-jackets

SLEEPING BAGS ARE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

If you would like to hire a sleeping bag, please request this at least five days before departure.

- 3 days NZ\$20
- 4 days NZ\$30
- 5 days NZ\$40

