6-Day DC-3 'Wings, Wine & Whales' Air Tour

Starts and ends in Auckland

Monday 12 April 2021 (Returns Saturday 17 April 2021)

A FABULOUS, COLOURFUL FUSION!

Classic 'low and slow' flying with superb wine and foodie experiences, iconic wildlife encounters and nostalgic heritage visits. This sensational new DC-3 Air Tour explores three notable NZ food and wine regions – Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and Marlborough. Expect wine tasting, craft beer tasting, foodie delights, a thrilling Kaikoura Whale cruise, Mt Bruce Wildlife Centre visit, Whanganui River lunch cruise and a few more treats we'll squeeze in too! *Fully hosted and inclusive - quality hotels, meals daily and all the fun and sociability of small group touring. Your best autumn holiday idea yet!*

HIGHLIGHTS and INCLUSIONS

DC-3 airliner flights on 4 tour days (5 flights)
Whale Watch cruise, Kaikoura
DC-3 cockpit visits while in flight
'Yesteryear' grass runway landing / take off
Wine tasting at vineyards of significance
Foodie experiences; Wairarapa & Marlborough
Pukaha Mt Bruce National Wildlife Centre
Fell Locomotive Museum, Featherston
NZ's Stonehenge, Carterton
Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre
Whanganui River steamship lunch cruise
Two 2-night stopovers (Masterton & Blenheim)
One night in Napier
Quality 4-star + hotels. Meals every day
Luxury coach sights, transfers
Auckland transfers to and from Airport
Fully hosted by Tour Director

TOUR PRICES:

NZD $5,890 Share twin / double per person
NZD $6,500 Guaranteed single room

Mon **DC3 Flight – AUCKLAND to NAPIER**
Step aboard your classic DC-3 and take off from Auckland's Ardmore Airport. Fly above the Waikato, Tokoroa and Taupo. Land in Napier around noon. Meet your coach and drive to a local winery for lunch and wine tasting. See Napier's highlights afterwards by coach then enjoy time to explore the Marine Parade, Museum and maybe local shopping!
SCENIC HOTEL TE PANIA
Lunch & Dinner

Tue **DC3 Flight – NAPIER to MASTERTON**
Fly south over Dannevirke, Pahiatua and the Manawatu to reach the Wairarapa. Land at Masterton and drive to the renowned Pukaha Mt Bruce National Wildlife Centre, a sanctuary for native wildlife. You may glimpse the resident albino kiwi. Return to Masterton and a possible visit to the Vintage Aviator collection (a possibility only for now).
COPTHORNE RESORT SOLWAY PARK
Breakfast & Dinner

Wed **Coach – WAIRARAPA 'FOOD & WINE'**
Wander around the Wairarapa today. See NZ's 'Stonehenge' then to Martinborough for delicious 'foodie delights'. Expect to find beautiful patisseries, chocs, sweets, fine coffee and more. And with 20 wineries nearby, a pleasant wine tasting is a must!

Next is the Fell Loco Museum then Greytown, known for boutique shopping, beautiful trees and a well-developed art scene.
COPTHORNE RESORT SOLWAY PARK
Breakfast & Dinner

Thu **DC3 Flight – MASTERTON to OMAKA**
Take off from Masterton, fly over Wellington and cross Cook Strait. Before long Blenheim's extensive vineyards will appear below. Land on the grass runway at Omaka and call into the Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre. See the museum's exhibitions then enjoy a vineyard visit and craft beer tasting opportunity later.
CHATEAU MARLBOROUGH
Breakfast & Dinner

Fri **Coach – BLENHEIM to KAIKOURA.**
Drive the Alpine Pacific touring route today. Pass Lake Grassmere's salt production site, then Ward and Seddon. Mountains on one side and the sea on the other make this is a drive to remember. Board your Whale Watch cruise boat to head out in search of the giant sperm whales that reside here year round. Return to Blenheim after an excellent day.
CHATEAU MARLBOROUGH
Breakfast & Dinner

Sat **DC3 Flights (2) – BLENHEIM to AUCKLAND**
Rejoin your DC-3 and fly across Cook Strait. The North Island coastline will be in sight then the Whanganui River will appear. Land at Whanganui and transfer to the historic paddle wheel ship PS Waimarie for a pleasant lunch cruise. Re-board your DC-3, take off and fly north passing Awakino, Kawhia and Raglan. Land at Ardmore for final farewells!
Breakfast & Lunch

Tour operated by…