



Kiwi Wildlife Tours NZ

New Zealand and Sth Pacific
Birding, Nature
& Ecological Tours



Kiwi Wildlife Tours NZ offers comprehensive bird-watching, nature & ecological tour and travel services for New Zealand and the South Pacific.

Imagine sitting on a remote shingle beach surrounded by bush clad headlands and streams as one of the worlds rarest penguins moves past you... or standing beneath giant podocarp trees watching a blue duck family feeding in the riffles on a clear mountain stream... or snorkeling over a reef watching a sea eagle pursued by an osprey which in turn is pursued by a Brahminy kite, while underwater a turtle glides by amidst a myriad of colourful fish and corals... or enjoying the spectacle of thousands of seabirds wheeling over a tropical island, the burst of waves against the reef edge, a turquoise lagoon...

At Kiwi Wildlife we have the skills, knowledge and tours for close encounters with our region's diverse wildlife.

■ AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

On our New Zealand tours we spend 21 days exploring New Zealand and some associated offshore islands. The many highlights include: Bay of Islands, a day on Tiritiri Matangi Island, a native bird sanctuary; spotlighting for kiwis on Stewart Island and four other locations elsewhere in New Zealand; penguins and tiny Hector's dolphins on the West Coast of the South Island; overnight on Milford Sound; and pelagic trips for the famous great albatrosses off Kaikoura, South Island; also special seabirds in Hauraki Gulf and off Stewart Island.

Volcanoes, high mountains, glaciers, fiords, forests ranging from the sub-tropical kauri in the north to cool temperate podocarp/rata and southern beech forests in the south, tussock-lands, sweeping beaches and rugged coastlines, interspersed with pasturelands, sheep and introduced passerines. We begin in Auckland and at each place we go, the more spectacular the scenery and the more havens for endangered species we encounter.

■ North Island guided touring

Get your New Zealand visit away to a flying start, a wonderful introduction to NZ birds! New Zealand's North Island has great deal to offer birdwatchers. Some of our special endemics are more likely to be seen in the North Island than further south (eg. blue duck) and there are some remarkable landscapes to enjoy as well.

■ Our Specialist Travel Service designed for Birders

We are New Zealanders and know our country, its birds, wildlife and landscapes intimately. We've set up our Free and Independent Travel (FIT) service to help visitors who want to travel independently. You can either choose one of our set routes and itineraries, or we can tailor one especially to take account of your



interests and tastes. And you don't have to be completely on your own. If you want to ease yourselves into your New Zealand holiday you can mix some guided birding with us before heading out on your own. This can be done as a day excursion from here, an Auckland base, or as overnight trips of two, three or four days in the North Island.

Our FIT service covers: accommodation; flights, ferries and water taxis; excursions around the country with specialist operators around New Zealand; rental cars; camper vans

We also offer a birder's mapping service that details specific birding locations.

■ Custom Tours

Preparing custom itineraries that take account of particular group's individual interests has become something of a speciality for us. Every year we run four or five New Zealand-wide tours for small groups, usually groups of friends, family members, or overseas birding groups and nature societies. Your group will have a dedicated guide/driver.

■ SOUTH PACIFIC TOUR PROGRAMME

The Pacific is the greatest ocean on earth, with an area exceeding that of all dry land on the planet. There are four times more islands in the Pacific than in all other oceans and seas combined. The existence of so many islands has created enormous opportunities for evolutionary experimentation in life forms, perhaps the best example being through birds. No matter how remote or far-flung, birds have always managed to find islands to colonise. The result is an amazing array of birdlife on islands throughout



the Pacific. The 'Treasured Islands' theme for our South Pacific tours recognise the biodiversity riches of this part of the world.



The South Pacific is *home* for us; travel with those who know the region best. Ask us for our tour itineraries for these wonderful places. Our regular tours include: **New Caledonia, Fiji, Solomon Islands, French Polynesia and Pitcairn Islands.**

■ WORLD DESTINATIONS

We are always searching out new locations to share with our regular clients and work with specialists in other countries. Of course anyone can join us, so check our website for itineraries to some of the world's special places.



Kiwi Wildlife Tours NZ holds a comprehensive DOC Concession to operate commercial tours in national parks, reserves, forest parks and on island sanctuaries throughout New Zealand.

We thank the following photographers for allowing us to use their images: *Hadoram Shirihai, Kim Westerskov, Malcolm Schuyf, Chris Collins, Huub van Buchen, Adam Scott-Kennedy, Mike Watson, Dean Schuler, Pinit Saengkaew, Tonia Cochran and Ron Watkins.* Fossil penguin artwork *Chris Gaskin*

For further information and bookings please contact

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Pterodroma Pelagics



New Zealand & South Pacific Seabirds



Pterodroma Pelagics is a subsidiary of Kiwi Wildlife Tours NZ Limited specialising in New Zealand pelagics (seabird tours) with regular trips scheduled for the Hauraki Gulf, New Zealand's Far North and Stewart Island. Our programme for extended pelagics and seabird expeditions explores our South Pacific oceanic setting with some unique seabird itineraries and boat-based birdwatching opportunities.

Seabirds in our region

Pelagic seabirds are highly specialized. They number only 2-3% of the world's species of birds even though oceans cover more 60% of the planet's surface. Why is our region so important? New Zealand has the most diverse seabird community in the world with 84 types of seabirds breeding in the region. Of these, nearly half breed nowhere else in the world. In other words, seabirds are a vital component of our endemic fauna; they are a major part of what makes New Zealand special.

But the story doesn't end there. Most seabirds breeding in New Zealand and on islands in the Southern Ocean migrate through the Pacific during non-breeding periods. In a single season the entire population of a particular species may fly from one end of the ocean to the other. Many other seabirds visit New Zealand waters throughout the year, birds that breed in the Indian Ocean, far-eastern Pacific or the tropics.

Looking further afield, seabirds breeding on South Pacific Islands add to this diversity. The Pacific Ocean is also home to some of the world's rarest and least-known seabirds. Pterodroma Pelagics/Kiwi Wildlife is leading the way with ship-based opportunities for seabird enthusiasts and birdwatchers to explore this fascinating region.

Hauraki Gulf Seabird Tours

The beautiful Hauraki Gulf is situated close to Auckland, New Zealand's most popular international entry point and the perfect place to start your birdwatching adventures. Join us on our Hauraki Gulf seabird tours to see a unique range of locally endemic seabirds. We offer regular day departures and occasional overnight tours to see seabirds and other marine life. A large number of seabirds breed in the Hauraki Gulf – such as Cook's, Pycroft's, Grey-faced and Black Petrels; Buller's, Little, Flesh-footed and Fluttering Shearwaters; Diving Petrels, Fairy Prions, Blue Penguins and White-faced Storm Petrels. We have also regularly seen the recently rediscovered NZ Storm Petrel on our trips during summer months. A full sightings record for our tours can also be found on our website.

Contact us or use the trip calendar on our website for dates and costs. Most of our trips are full day tours to ensure you get to see the best of what the Hauraki Gulf has to offer, although we can run half-day trips on demand. Trips can be up to 12 hours duration. Winter trips will be shorter. Departures are from locations 50-60 mins north of Downtown Auckland: Sandspit, Leigh and Ti Point. All these places are reached via SH1 to Warkworth then follow the road signs.

New Zealand's Far North

Our Far North is a rarely-visited area of seabird activity, although we are changing that by running more trips each year. Warm oceanic currents flow across the Tasman Sea from east Australian waters, and across the top of New Zealand. This dynamic oceanic mix off North Cape offers a rich array of seabirds. Our pelagic tours are run as three-day live-aboard excursions from Warkworth just north of Auckland. We depart Warkworth Friday midday, return to Warkworth Sunday evening.

Stewart Island

Our Stewart Island pelagics are run in association with Kiwi Wildlife Tour groups. Depending on weather conditions the day's itinerary can include Port Pegasus and South Cape in the far south, a circumnavigation of the island, or the Solander Islands at the West entrance of Foveaux Strait. On some trips we will consider day trips to the Snares Islands.

See our website for dates and pricing



Seabird Research

Seabirds are extremely mobile (petrels and albatrosses travel faster and farther than most other animals) and the relatively low number of seabird species across the planet's vast oceans make them excellent biological indicators for measuring trends in the oceanic environment. As highly visible predators, seabirds can be used to monitor changes in levels of resources in marine ecosystems. Our seabird observation programme aims for the routine accumulation of data on the distribution of seabirds for New Zealand's EEZ and the South Pacific. In order to provide high quality and up-to-date information to those involved in seabird and marine



research, this programme is on-going with new data incorporated into a single comprehensive dedicated seabird mapping database. When we established Pterodroma Pelagics

we set out to actively collect data through our seabird observation programme. Our study of the New Zealand storm petrel, a pelagic seabird thought extinct for over 100 years, is an excellent example of how data collected can be utilised.

Contact us to find out how you can contribute to this programme and for exciting seabird birdwatching opportunities.

For further information and bookings please contact

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