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## *Welcome to the Chatham Islands*

The Chatham Islands is New Zealand's eastern-most outpost, with the dateline stretching around the Chathams, allowing the claim to being the first permanently inhabited place in the world to welcome the new day.

The isolation of the Chathams has created a unique island lifestyle and society. With many locals descending from Moriori genealogy you can discover the rich Moriori history and culture during your stay on the Chatham Islands along with Maori and European histories. The remote location of the Chathams also means there is endemic flora and fauna, found nowhere else in the world. There really is so much to see and do.

## **FOUR CORNERS TOUR ITINERARY**

### *Enigmatic East*

Owenga is a fishing village, where we find the locally-owned working fish factory Chatham Island Food Co.

See the commemorative statue of the last known, full-blooded Moriori, Tommy Solomon.

Visit local artist Eva Cherie Tuck in her Owenga art studio.

Rangaiki Cliffs with 200-250m sheer drops. On a clear day, an amazing viewing point to Pitt, Mangere and surrounding islands.

Kopinga Marae is where you will learn about the history of the first inhabitants of the Chatham Islands (known to Moriori as Rekohu).

Take in panoramic views across lake Huro to Waitangi and across Te Whanga Lagoon to its entrance at Te Awapatiki.

### *Nuggety North East*

Kaingarua township located in the North East is home to a small fishing fleet.

Torotoro monument commemorates the first tragic contact between the British on HMS Chatham and Moriori in 1791.

Kaingarua Social Club is renowned for its seafood buffet (seasonal January/ February).

Hapupu Moriori Dendroglyphs (Tree Carvings) south-east of Kaingarua, are part of a regenerated native forest of Kopi trees. Only accessible with a guide.

Ocean Mail Beach Scenic Reserve is a 830ha Conservation area including 4km of stunning coast line, west of Matarakau, which also leads to optional Wetland and Aster walks.

Point Munning – Te Whakaru. The Muirson family farm houses the remains of the crashed Sunderland aircraft. See the fur seal colony Port Munning.

In Mission Bay see the remains of a settlement used by German missionaries and American sealers from the late 1700s.

### *Wild West*

North West of the island lays extensive farms with remarkable volcanic cones a feature of the landscape. At the end of the road, stunning white beaches are home to the local Chatham Island Oyster Catchers.

On the lower slopes of Maunganui lies the Stone Cottage built with mortar of burnt pipi shells and the backdrop of a striking rock face. You may get to meet the intriguing current tenant.

Close by is a magnificent beach with shell banks backed by high sand dunes.

Basalt Columns in Ohira Bay. See massive olivine basalt columns, part of lava flows that date nearly 80 million years old.

### *Natural North*

Wharekauri is where the Dix family farmland is located. At Cape Young see layered basalt and weathered cliffs with views out to the Sisters Islands, spectacular rock formations (Splatter Rock), sandy beaches and the Chatham Island Oyster Catcher.

Port Hutt is tucked in the sheltered, deep water cove of Whangaroa Harbour – home to another fish factory.

See the wreck of the Thomas Currell ship. This ex-WW2 minesweeper served again as freezer space in the crayfishing boom years of the 1960s and 70s.

## *Sultry South*

Running south west of Waitangi, Tuku Road provides views of rich farmlands and shoal coastal waters.

The stunning Awatotara Reserve lies in the valley where the Parea (Chatham Island Wood Pigeon) as well as other bird life can be seen.

## *Beautiful Bits in Between*

**Blind Jim's:** A favourite stop to look for ancient fossilised shark's teeth on the lagoon shore. Wading birds are usually plentiful.

**Nikau Bush:** This 19ha reserve conserves broad leaf forest with a fine stand of Nikau palms, the only palm native to the Chatham Islands. Most impressive when flowering and bearing fruit.

**Admiral Garden:** Stunning sheltered gardens with water and sculpture features established for birds, bees and butterflies by Val Snr and Lois Croon, holds a large attractive planting of Chatham Island Lilies (the Forget Me Not).

The farm also has an established relaxing walk down to the sand dunes and beach. An evening BBQ is normally hosted here after your garden tour.

**Henga Scenic Reserve and Nursery:** Walking tracks pass through regenerating coastal forest to sand dune vegetation. Hidden in the bush are spectacular limestone formations. Judy's nursery is a great place to purchase Chatham Island Native plants.

**Chatham Island Museum:** See all manner of historical and interesting artefacts, located in the Chatham Island Council buildings at Waitangi.

**Rock Carvings (Nunuku's Cave):** Across farmland on the lagoon shore are remarkable Moriori dendroglyphs on limestone walls depicting stylised seals and other wild life.

### **Itinerary Notes:**

Due to changeable weather please pack your day bags for all seasons. Comfortable walking footwear is also recommended.

Don't forget your water bottle, camera, sunglasses and sun screen.

A notice board will be displayed in the Hotel Restaurant with information for your next day's adventure.

Due to weather conditions and accessibility, your itinerary is subject to change.

## **OPTIONAL TOURS**

### **Pitt Island Day Tour**

Day tour return flights to Pitt Island on Air Chathams 6-seat Cessna aircraft.

Fully escorted tour with highlights of Pitt Island: Mt Hakepa, Glory Cottage, Flower Pott Jail, Waihere Bay, Moriori and European history. Lunch hosted at Flower Pott Lodge.

Up to \$500 per person for group of 4 to 5 people. Minimum numbers apply. Includes return airport transfers.

Contact Air Chathams to book.  
[airchathams.co.nz](http://airchathams.co.nz)

### **Scenic Flight with Air Chathams**

1 hour scenic flight over Chatham Islands includes return airport transfers.

\$1150 per flying hour can be split between up to 5 people per flight.

Contact Air Chathams to book.  
[airchathams.co.nz](http://airchathams.co.nz)

### **Fishing Charter**

One of the only places in the world that guarantees a catch! 3 hours or until total allowable catch is caught.

Your fish will be filleted and bagged for you to take back home with you.

Contact Owenga Fishing Charters directly to book.  
<https://owengacharters.co.nz/>

### **Optional Tours Notes:**

All flights and fishing charters are subject to weather conditions, so these are unable to be paid in advance.

Please book your interest with your tour provider or the Hotel. First bookings will take first precedence.

## **HOTEL FACILITIES**

For guests staying at Hotel Chatham, Forget Me Not Suites or Travellers Rest, rooms are serviced daily.

All meals are included in Four Corner Tour Packages.

**Breakfast 7:00 – 9:00am:** Full continental and cooked breakfast at Hotel Chatham Restaurant.

**Lunch:** Packed lunches or lunch at venues.

**Dinner from 5:30pm:** At Hotel Chatham Restaurant with set menus for all tour groups. Local produce highlights such as blue cod and crayfish.

Please advise your travel provider or Chatham Hotel of any dietary requirements.