

# Discover Marlborough Sounds

Departing Tauranga 14 May – Return to Tauranga 22 May 2021  
on a 9 day adventure



Image: MarlboroughNZ

We are delighted to offer this in-depth exploration Cruise-Tour to the top of the south island – into the beautiful Marlborough Sounds, on the brand new Heritage Explorer. Small and intimate, with a maximum of 18 guests on board.

With a dedicated Expedition Leader, zodiacs and kayaks, you can be as active as you like...or simply cruise in total comfort enjoying the best of NZ food and wine. Relax at the end of the cruise at the Chateau Marlborough for 2 nights and visit the Omaka Classic Car Collection. A personally guided tour of the Omaka Aviation Centre to see both WW1 and WW2 Exhibitions – courtesy of the brilliance of Sir Peter Jackson. Finalising the visit to this beautiful wine region with a fully guided Half day Wine tour and tastings.

Master Suite

**\$7,837\***

Per person

Double cabins from

**\$6,930\***

Per person

Twin cabins from

**\$5,975\***

Per person

Single cabins available by application

## Inclusions:

- ✓ Return flights Tauranga - Blenheim - Tauranga
- ✓ Two nights at the Chateau Marlborough Blenheim
- ✓ 7 day / 6 night Discovery Cruise on Heritage Explorer
- ✓ All yacht cabins with private facilities
- ✓ Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner daily on the cruise
- ✓ Full Beverage service aboard the Cruise
- ✓ Daily briefings with Expedition Leader
- ✓ Shore trips, Excursions, Walks and Kayaking
- ✓ Personally Guided Tour of the Omaka Aviation Centre Exhibitions
- ✓ Visit to the Omaka Classic Car Collection
- ✓ Fully Guided half day Wine Tour

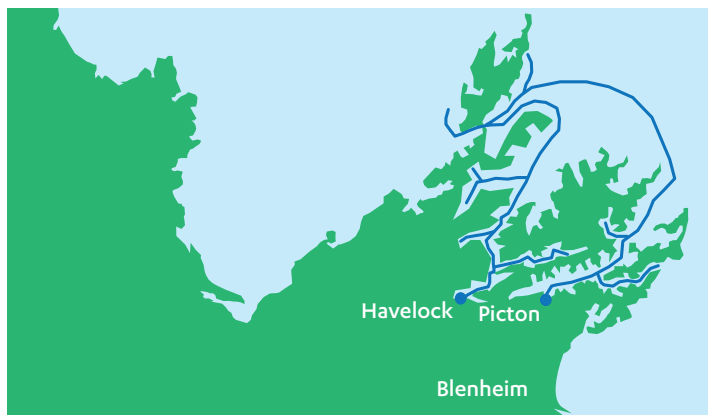
**YOU Travel Bethlehem**

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Heritage Explorer is a 10 cabin, 18 guest expedition vessel, built locally in the renowned Carey Boatbuilding yards in Picton for Heritage Expeditions. This 30 metre motor yacht cuts a striking shape in the water with a considered design that's both ahead of its time and showcases a clever balance of privacy, bespoke comfort and spaciousness. Its contemporary Interior features well-appointed cabins with private facilities. The dining room boasting a spectacular 180degree view for its diners along with a Lounge and Bar area featuring regional New Zealand wines with accompanying beer and spirits. Outside on deck, the vessel has plenty of covered seating and viewing spaces for wildlife spotting, early morning sunrises and stunning evening sunsets. Time to let the voyage unfold...

**Note:** Some voyages will operate the itinerary in reverse. During our voyage, circumstances may make it necessary or desirable to deviate from the proposed itinerary. This can include poor weather and opportunities for making unplanned excursions. Your Expedition Leader will keep you fully informed.

**Contact You Travel Bethlehem for a availability and deposit requirements.**

\*Terms and Conditions apply, see instore for details.

## Itinerary:

### Day 1: Blenheim

Depart Tauranga at 0630am and arrive into Blenheim at 0930am – board Heritage Explorer in the afternoon. The Captain and Expedition team will be waiting to welcome you aboard Heritage Explorer and show you to your cabin. You will have the opportunity to familiarise yourself on board, then join the Captain on the Bridge or fellow travellers on deck as we set sail along Queen Charlotte Sounds this afternoon.

### Days 2 & 3: Queen Charlotte Sound

First sighted in 1642 by Abel Janszoon Tasman while seeking shelter for his ships Heemskerck and Zeehaen from a storm near d'Urville Island, it was Captain James Cook who would first set foot here aboard the Endeavour during his five visits to Ship Cove, his New Zealand base between 1770 and 1777, in what he would call Queen Charlotte Sound. We spend two full days exploring the waterways and islands of scenic Queen Charlotte Sound with opportunities to head ashore and walk a section of the Queen Charlotte Walkway as well as search for birdlife on the predator free islands. A visit to Tory Channel brings the whaling history of the Perano Whalers to life. We also plan to visit Ship Cove and learn of its history, exploring the region and visiting Captain Cook's memorial inaugurated in 1913. Another conservation success story, Blumine Island has seen the translocation of several rare bird species including the once widespread Orangefronted Parakeet, now New Zealand's rarest parakeet, which were translocated to the island between 2011 and 2012. Also thriving on the island are South Island Saddleback, brought back from the brink of extinction last century from just 36 birds rescued in 1964, descendants of these birds were translocated to Blumine Island in 2009.

### Day 4: d'Urville island

Today we sail through the iconic French Pass and the wake of French Explorer Dumont d'Urville and then explore the island named in his honour. The outermost island in the Marlborough Sounds, d'Urville Island features imposing sea cliffs along its west coast, a high mountainous backbone and the fastest moving tidal flows in New Zealand between the French Pass tempered by some of the country's finest peninsula scenery. Dolphins and New Zealand Fur Seals are frequently seen in the waters surround the island and it was here that Pelorus Jack, the endearing Risso's Dolphin who famously stole the nation's heart, guided ships across the dangerous waters of Cook Strait between 1888 and 1912.

### Days 5 & 6: Pelorus Sound

The largest in the Marlborough Sounds, Pelorus Sound's main channel winds some picturesque 55 kilometres south between steep verdant hills from Cook Strait to Havelock. Boasting 380 kilometres of shoreline, the endless bays and sheltered coves of Pelorus Sound are perfect for exploration. Venturing into Pelorus Sound we head to Ngawhakawhiti Bay where nature surrounds us and it's possible to get a glimpse of what the sounds would have been like before the native forest was cleared. The more active are able to enjoy the walking part of the Nydia Track before we explore Nydia Bay. On the final night we will enjoy a farwell dinner.

### Day 7: Blenheim

We arrive into the inner reaches of Pelorus Sound this morning. After final breakfast and farewells a zodiac tender takes you ashore at Havelock. Meet your transfer on arrival and continue on to the Chateau Marlborough for 2 nights. Afternoon at leisure.

### Day 8: Blenheim

After breakfast we board our local transfer coach and visit the Omaka Classic Car Collection and the Omaka Aviation Centre for a personally guided Exhibition Tour. Return back to the Hotel to meet our Wine Tour Hosts for an afternoon Wine Tour and Tastings. The evening at your leisure.

### Day 9: Blenheim

Enjoy breakfast at the Chateau Marlborough Hotel before boarding your flight in Blenheim at 1105am and arrive back to Tauranga at 1.30pm.