

# Bay of Islands Walking Weekend 2021

15, 16, 17<sup>th</sup> October

**Note; this is 16 pages long if printing**

**Full details on the weekend and walks [www.boiwalkingweekend.co.nz](http://www.boiwalkingweekend.co.nz)**

**Purchase tickets on Eventfinda – links at the end of each walk**

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## Walk 1 – Back to the Future – “The Landing” – Sailing, Walking, Wine Tasting, Lunch

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>

Board the R Tucker Thompson sailing ship and start thinking what the Bay of Islands used to look like with such beautiful boats. Arrive at Marsden Cross, New Zealand’s first planned European settlement where Māori and Europeans lived side by side. Think more about how things were.

NZ’s very first Christmas Day was celebrated at Marsden Cross in 1814.

Walk the 1 km track uphill sharing information of the past as we go.

Now it’s back to the future. We have arranged with “The Landing” to walk some of their wetland area and historical sites before arriving at “The Boathouse” for a two course lunch with wine tasting of course!

Perhaps you saw “The Landing” recently on TV. It was part of the series “ Lap of Luxury”.

Once you have visited, we know you will be back. Perhaps the walk should be called “Back in the Future!”

Our return to Russell should be by sail, let’s hope the wind gets up! Total walk is less than 6 km.

Saturday 16 October

Assemble HQ 8am

Duration – 8 hours sailing and walking

Distance – up to 6 km

Grade – Easy to medium

Cost – Adult \$220 pp (includes transport, 2 course lunch and wine tasting)

Child – N/A

Category – Adult friendly (18+ only)

Maximum Walkers 42 (The group will be split in two groups for walking purposes)

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-back-to-the-future-lthe-landingr-tucker/russell>

## Walk 2 – The Full Circle – Paihia to Russell

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>

Leaving Russell, you head towards Okiato, which is the site of New Zealand’s first capital. Walk along stunning mangrove boardwalks and then into bush where the terrain is more challenging before settling onto more coastal boardwalks. Catch the car ferry from Okiato to Opua. The picturesque walk from Opua to Paihia takes you around many points, beaches, and bays. Catching the Bay Belle passenger ferry from Paihia back to Russell.

It is a great sense of accomplishment having completed the full circle that many think you can only circumnavigate either by car or ferry!

Assemble HQ 8.30am

Duration - 6 Hours  
Distance - 17 kms  
Cost - Adult \$35, Child \$15 (includes both ferries)  
Grade - hard  
Maximum walkers - 20  
Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus  
Please note: this is part of the Omata walks

Eventfinda link - <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-the-full-circle-paihia-to-russell/russell>

## Paroa Bay Vineyard Walks

There are 3 Paroa Bay Vineyard walks.

All the same lovely walk but a slight variation when you arrive;

- Dinner
- Platters
- Sunday Lunch

## Walk 3 – Paroa Bay Vineyard – Friday wine and dine

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

It's a short 15 minute ride in a minibus to the start of the walk which is over private land. Paroa Bay Vineyard is a stunning family-owned boutique vineyard with traditional handmade, sustainable wines, and to top it off they have Sage Restaurant which is perched high above the idyllic Bay of Islands for a birds eye view.

Walking to Paroa Bay vineyard you pass enjoy lush native bush, expansive stunning views of the Bay of Islands, and a hidden waterfall.

Paroa Bay vineyard makes their wine with traditional techniques of viticulture and dry grown vines to create distinctive handcrafted wines of character in low yields, reflecting the white clay soils and warm climate of the Bay of Islands.

The walk finishes with a three course meal which is a set menu and includes glass of Paroa Bay wine (or non-alcoholic drink). Sunset is at 7.42pm!

Limited numbers on this walk, which is over private land. You will not be able to walk it any other time of the year! Enjoy!

Assemble at HQ – 3.30pm

Transport departs – 4.00pm

Dinner – 7.00pm approx

Transport departs – 8.30pm

Duration – 5 hours

Distance – up to 6km

Grade- Medium to hard

Cost – Adult \$110 - three course menu and includes glass of Paroa Bay wine (or non-alcoholic drink) plus transport.

Maximum walkers – 15

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-paroa-bay-vineyard-friday-wine-and-dine/russell>

## Walk 4 – Paroa Bay Vineyard – platters and wine

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>

It's a short 15 minute ride in a minibus to the start of the walk which is over private land. Paroa Bay Vineyard is a stunning family-owned boutique vineyard with traditional handmade, sustainable wines, and to top it off they have Sage Restaurant which is perched high above the idyllic Bay of Islands for a birds eye view.

Walking to Paroa Bay vineyard you pass enjoy lush native bush, expansive stunning views of the Bay of Islands, and a hidden waterfall.

Paroa Bay vineyard makes their wine with traditional techniques of viticulture and dry grown vines to create distinctive handcrafted wines of character in low yields, reflecting the white clay soils and warm climate of the Bay of Islands.

The walk finishes with shared platters and a glass of Paroa Bay wine (or non-alcoholic drink). Limited numbers on this walk, which is over private land. You will not be able to walk it any other time of the year! Enjoy!

Start – 9.00am

Transport departs – 9.30am

Transport departs – 2.00pm

Duration – 5 hours

Distance – up to 6km

Grade- Medium to hard

Cost – Adult \$65, include shared platters and glass Paroa Bay wine (or non-alcoholic drink) and transport. Please note the platters are not a full lunch.

Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Maximum walkers – 15

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-paroa-bay-vineyard-platters-and-wine/russell>

## Walk 5 – Paroa Bay Vineyard Sunday Lunch

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

It's a short 15 minute ride in a minibus to the start of the walk which is over private land. Paroa Bay Vineyard is a stunning family-owned boutique vineyard with traditional handmade, sustainable wines, and to top it off they have Sage Restaurant which is perched high above the idyllic Bay of Islands for a birds eye view.

Walking to Paroa Bay vineyard you pass enjoy lush native bush, expansive stunning views of the Bay of Islands, and a hidden waterfall.

Paroa Bay vineyard makes their wine with traditional techniques of viticulture and dry grown vines to create distinctive handcrafted wines of character in low yields, reflecting the white clay soils and warm climate of the Bay of Islands.

The walk finishes with a two course Sunday lunch and glass of Paroa Bay wine (or non-alcoholic drink) at Sage Restaurant.

Limited numbers on this walk, which is over private land. You will not be able to walk it any other time of the year! Enjoy!

Start – 9.00am

Transport departs – 9.30am

Lunch 12.30pm

Transport departs – 2.00pm

Duration – 5 hours

Distance – up to 6km

Grade- Medium to hard

Cost – Adult \$90 - Includes a 2 course lunch – entrée and main, and glass of Paroa Bay wine (or non-alcoholic drink) and transport.

Maximum walkers – 15

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-paroa-bay-vineyard-sunday-lunch/russell>

## Omata Estate Vineyard Walks

There are 3 Omata Vineyard Walks to choose from each day;

- 9km walk – Russell to Omata – WALK 6
- 3km walk – Okiato to Omata – WALK 7
- A walk for non-walkers who really just want to support their partners and friends at the weekend. – WALK 8

## Walk 6 – Omata Estate Vineyard from Russell – 9km

There are 3 Omata Vineyard Walks to choose from each day;

- 9km walk – Russell to Omata – WALK 6 – THIS EVENT IS FOR WALK 6
- 3km walk – Okiato to Omata – WALK 7
- A walk for non-walkers who really just want to support their partners and friends at the weekend. – WALK 8

**Friday 15** - Evening – wine tasting and delicious wood fired homemade pizza!

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>** - Afternoon - wine tasting and sumptuous platters

Omata Estate is a boutique vineyard situated in a stunning location on a sheltered hilltop with wonderful views across the vines to the bay. Their lovely wooden restaurant, brick paths, terraced and sunny garden are reminiscent of an old French vineyard, which creates a perfect atmosphere to sit back, relax and enjoy a glass of wine with a gourmet platter or delicious wood fired pizza.

It is a lovely 9km walk - through Russell township, across mangrove boardwalks, through native bush and has coastal views.

Includes wine tasting and beautiful food, and each wine tasting goes through 5 different varieties of wine all grown on the property.

Catching a mini bus back to HQ at the end of it all.

It's a hard choice!!

### **Friday 15th October**

Assemble HQ 2.30pm

Depart 3.00pm

Arrive about 6.00pm at Omata Vineyard for wood fired pizza and wine tasting.

Depart 7.30 – 8pm

### **Sat 16th October**

Assemble HQ 10.00am

Depart 10.30am

Arrive about 1 – 1.30pm for gourmet platters and wine tasting.

Depart 2.30pm – 3.00pm

Duration – 3 Hours walking

Distance 9 kms

Cost – Adult \$55, Child \$40 – includes platters of food, wine tasting and transport back

Grade: medium to hard. A couple of steep hills

Maximum walkers – 20

Category – Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-omata-estate-vineyard-9km/russell>

## **Walk 7 – Omata Estate Vineyard from Okiato – 3km**

There are 3 Omata Vineyard Walks to choose from each day;

- 9km walk – Russell to Omata – WALK 6
- 3km walk – Okiato to Omata – WALK 7 - THIS EVENT IS FOR WALK 7
- A walk for non-walkers who really just want to support their partners and friends at the weekend. – WALK 8

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Evening** – wine tasting and delicious wood fired homemade pizza!

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Afternoon** - wine tasting and sumptuous platters

Omata Estate is a boutique vineyard situated in a stunning location on a sheltered hilltop with wonderful views across the vines to the bay. Their lovely wooden restaurant, brick paths, terraced and sunny garden are reminiscent of an old French vineyard, which creates a perfect atmosphere to sit back, relax and enjoy a glass of wine with a gourmet platter or delicious wood fired pizza.

It is a beautiful 3km walk – you take a 10 minute mini bus ride to Okiato, walk through native bush and enjoy coastal views.

All walks include wine tasting and beautiful food. Wine tasting goes through 5 different varieties of wine all grown on the property. Catching a mini bus back to HQ at the end of it all.

It's a hard choice!!

### **Friday 17th October**

Assemble HQ 3.30pm

Depart 4.00pm

Arrive about 6.00pm at Omata Vineyard for wood fired pizza and wine tasting.  
Depart 7.30 – 8pm

### **Sat 17th October**

Assemble HQ 11.00am

Depart 11.30am

Arrive about 1 – 1.30pm for gourmet platters and wine tasting.

Depart 2.30pm – 3.00pm

Duration – 1.5 – 2 hours walking

Distance 3 kms

Cost – Adult \$55, Child \$40 – includes platters of food, wine tasting and transport

Grade: medium to hard. A couple of steep hills

Maximum walkers – 20

Category – Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-omata-estate-vineyard-from-okiato-3km/russell>

## Walk 8 – Omata Estate Vineyard – Non-Walkers

There are 3 Omata Vineyard Walks to choose from each day;

- 9km walk – Russell to Omata – WALK 6
- 3km walk – Okiato to Omata – WALK 7
- A walk for non-walkers who really just want to support their partners and friends at the weekend. – WALK 8 - THIS EVENT IS FOR WALK 8

Are you coming to the Walking Weekend to support your partner or friend? Are you a short distance walker? This is the walk for you!

You will be transported out to Omata Estate, a boutique vineyard situated in a stunning location on a sheltered hilltop with wonderful views across the vines to the bay.

An optional 2 km walk will be among the vines. The guide will explain the intricacies of the vineyard so that you will appreciate the wine tasting at the end! Bring your camera for great views over the Bay. If you don't want to have a walk in the vines, you can perch yourself on a beanbag or chair and relax.

### **Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**

Assemble HQ 4pm

Depart 4.30pm

Wine tasting and woodfired pizza around 6pm

Depart 7.30 – 8pm

### **Sat 16<sup>th</sup>**

Assemble HQ 11.30am

Depart 12.00pm

Wine Tasting and platters 1 – 1.30pm

Depart 2.30pm – 3.00pm

Duration 2 km walking at a very slow pace!

Cost – Adult \$55, Child \$40 – includes food, wine tasting and transport both ways.

Grade: Easy - Maximum walkers: 16 Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-omata-estate-vineyard-non-walkers/russell>

## Walk 9 – Kotikoti Walk – over private land

Friday 15th

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

This spectacular walk is on private land which is opened for the Walking Weekend. A perfect opportunity to do something you cannot do the rest of the year!

Walk from HQ through town to enter the walk with regenerating coastal forest with distant views along the way finishing with a spectacular vista of the outer Bay of Islands. You can see Moturoa Island, the stunning lava formation of the Black Rocks, the distant northern entrance of Tikitiki through compass north to the clump of eastern islands and the magnificent Cape Brett Peninsula with the peaks of Rakaumangamanga and Pukehuia. The walk ends by walking the length of Long Beach, Oneroa, before rising over the hill to return to HQ.

Friday 15th

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

Assemble HQ 8.30am

Return time approx. 12.30pm

Duration 4 hours

Distance 7 kms

Grade hard

Cost Adult \$20, Child \$10

Maximum walkers – 20

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-n-kotikoti-pa-walk-over-private-land/russell>

## Walk 10 – Moturua Island Song travelling by launch

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> AND Sat 16<sup>th</sup>

Travelling aboard a commercial launch to Moturua Island where you will disembark and visit a collection of beaches each with its own unique archaeological historical perspective. A beach you visit is one of the earliest known landing sites of voyaging Polynesians. Diggings have revealed a collection of artefacts dated back to approximately 1320.

Moturua was host to some early French explorers, a significant farming operation supplying milk to the mainland, a substantial defence battery and barracks, an underground network of bunkers communication and water reservoir. Fantastic birdlife and views.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> AND Sat 16<sup>th</sup>

Assemble HQ – 9.30am

Depart wharf 10.00am

Return to Russell – 2pm

Duration – 30 minutes each way on launch, 3 hours on island

Distance - 5 km walking - Grade - Medium

Cost – Adult \$75, child \$50

Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Maximum Walkers: 19

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-10-moturua-island-song-travelling-by-launch/russell>

## Walk 11 – Moturua Island Song sailing on the Tall Ship R Tucker

Sunday 17th

Sailing out from Russell aboard an iconic sailing vessel, R.Tucker Thomson – experience the peacefulness of travelling through the Bay of Islands on this marvellous Tall Ship. Arriving at Moturia Island you will disembark and visit a collection of beaches each with its own unique archaeological historical perspective. A beach you visit is one of the earliest known landing sites of voyaging Polynesians. Diggings have revealed a collection of artefacts dated back to approximately 1320.

Moturua was host to some early French explorers, a significant farming operation supplying milk to the mainland, a substantial defence battery and barracks, an underground network of bunkers communication and water reservoir.

Fantastic birdlife and views.

Sun 17<sup>th</sup> (on the R Tucker Thompson Tall Ship – sailing)

Assemble HQ – 7.30am

Arrive back at Russell Wharf – 4.00pm

Duration – 8 hours

Distance - 5 km walking – 3 hours on island

Grade - Medium

Cost – Adult \$85, child \$50

Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Maximum Walkers: 20 per walking group

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-11-moturua-island-song-sailing-tall-ship-tucker/russell>

## Walk 12 – Four walks in One! 21km

Saturday 16th

Due to popular demand, we have introduced a longer walk. (Please note this walk includes sections of 4 of our individual walks)

Catch the passenger from Russell to Paihia and walk four walks in one!

The first part is the Paihia School Road Lookout.

A pleasant 2km climb to a view of the Bay of Islands. From the viewpoint you can see the Bay from Opuā to Waitangi and over the Russell Peninsula to Urupukapuka Island and Cape Brett in the distance.

The second part of the walk is the Oromahoe Traverse (no longer part of the programme), a medium to hard walk, a unique opportunity to walk this ancient trail used by Māori for hundreds of years, that runs right through the heart of the stunning Opuā State Forest. Learn about the community's mammoth effort in taking out over 11,000 pests and the explosion of native wildlife that followed,

particularly the magnificent Northern Green geckos, kiwi, wood pigeons, tomtits, owls, and so much more.

The third part of the walk includes some metal road walking and the stunning Opuia Kauri Walk (no longer part of the programme). The kauri walk is a short but delightful stroll, partly on boardwalk through groves of kauri to an elevated lookout platform and bench seat. Once at the lookout you will be surrounded by kauri trees of different ages – from young rickers up to 25 years old to more mature trees of about 400 years in age.

Returning to the road we walk down Oromahoe road to join the fourth part of our walk – a section of the Opuia to Paihia coastal walkway – which is part of the Full Circle Walk. Wonderful views of Veronica Channel can be seen here along with a stunning mangrove boardwalk.

You will feel a great sense of achievement as you catch the passenger ferry from Paihia to Russell again. After all – you will have walked around 21 km!!! A half marathon!!!

Saturday 16 October

Assemble HQ 7.15am

Depart HQ at 7.30am for the 7.45am ferry from Russell

Duration - 8 Hours

Distance - 21 kms

Cost - \$35 (includes both ferries)

Grade - hard

Maximum walkers - 20

Category - Family friendly

Eventfinda link - <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-12-four-walks-in-one-21km/russell>

## Walk 13 – Mana, Missionaries and Mayhem

Friday 15th

The ultimate tour of Russell - significant landmarks and captivating stories! Finishing up enjoying a cold drink at the iconic Duke of Marlborough Hotel which has been refreshing rascals and reprobates since 1827.

Russell (Kororareka as it was then known) was once the main trading port in Aotearoa, with the infamous reputation as the 'Hell Hole of the Pacific'. Home to American whalers and traders of all nations, it was a scene of 'uncivilised behaviour' described by Charles Darwin in his visit to New Zealand in 1835 as 'the land of cannibalism, murder and all atrocious crimes'. It is anything but that today as your guided walk of this enchanting seaside town will soon reveal. Indeed, alongside this picture of 'vice' ran the voice of 'virtue' as Missionaries sought to convert local Maori (and anyone else who would listen) to Christianity.

Includes an eye-opening walk around Russell, entry into and a tour of Pompallier Mission and Printery and a drink at the Duke of Marlborough Hotel.

Assemble HQ 10am

Conclude at the Duke at 2pm for a drink

Distance 4km

Duration 4 hours

Cost Adult \$30, Child \$10 (includes a refreshment at the Duke, and the tour of Pompallier Mission)

Grade - Medium (a hike up Maiki Hill)  
Category - Family friendly – all ages.  
Maximum walkers – 20

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-13-mana-missionaries-and-mayhem/russell>

## Walk 14 – The Club Walk - Humour is the heart of Russell

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

An introduction to the heart of the Russell community, walk between the clubs, stopping for a drink and some fascinating stories.

- The Russell Boating club, sitting right on the water's edge, threatening to float away with sea level rising.
- The Swordfish club located upstairs on the waterfront which is the oldest game fishing club in New Zealand is a must do when you visit the Bay of Islands.
- The RSA is full of its own history of fighting for survival.
- The Bowling Club which is an integral part of the community. Take in the photographic history and hear the stories behind the memorabilia which help keep our town alive.

Once you have visited each club and appraised each menu you can return for dinner and a cosy night in with the locals.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Assemble HQ 3.30pm

Duration – 4 hour

Distance 2km

Cost - \$5

GRADE: easy

Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Maximum walkers - 20

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-14-the-club-walk-humour-is-the-heart-of-russell/russell>

## Walk 15 – Rakaumangmanga – Cape Brett overnight walk

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Assemble HQ 8.45am, return Saturday Russell 12.30pm

This must be one of the best hikes in New Zealand – a must do! A difficult but totally rewarding walk... enjoy outstanding views of the outer Bay of Islands, north to the Cavalli Islands and south to Whangaruru and beyond to the Poor Knights Islands, while taking in the peace and tranquillity that only isolation can provide.

Cape Brett the Guiding light: The light at the end of Cape Brett/Rakaumangamanga has guided and protected visitors to New Zealand for hundreds of years. The light reflecting off the crystalline rocks once helped guide the earliest waka to a safe landfall in this new homeland. For the last 100 years the Cape Brett lighthouse has lit and protected the coast for all seafarers.

Starting our day with a boat ride through the Bay of Islands to Maunganui Bay (Deep Water Cove). Walkers begin with a climb from the once established fishing village known as Deep Water Cove, up through forest under restoration and intense pest control - responsible for the regrowth of plant species, presence of Fantail, Wood Pigeon, Pied Tit and Tui. Search for native orchids along the track edges, pass over an extensive pā with terracing and kumara pits concealed under the canopy.

The walk is very hard with great rewards, gasping for breath from both exertion and extreme views. Upon reaching the iconic lighthouse above Motukokako or Piercy Island, the home of the Hole in the Rock, you can see the DOC hut you stay in.

The house has bunk rooms, the kitchen has cooking facilities and is fitted out with long wooden tables - the perfect spot to swap tramping stories. Down at the hut you can unburden your back, empty your pack, make up your bunk, and enjoy whatever refreshments you may have carried out with you while taking in the peace and tranquillity that only isolation can provide. Dinner is a shared meal.

The following morning after an adequate breakfast, a slightly lighter pack and time on your side, trek back over familiar territory with new views back to Maunganui Bay, for morning tea and a boat trip back to Russell.

You will need to bring; lunch for first day and water, sleeping bag, pillowcase, plate, bowl, cup, knife, fork, spoon, tramping boots, wet weather gear, any refreshments and of course a sense of humour!

This walk is **HARD**, you need a good level of fitness and be able to carry an overnight backpack.

Friday 15th

Assemble HQ 8.45am

Depart Russell Wharf 9.30am

Saturday 16th, pick up Deep Water Cove 11.30am, arrive back in Russell 12.30pm

Duration 28 hours – walking time 3 hours each way

Distance 6km each way

Grade hard

Cost \$220 - includes dinner, breakfast, morning tea (2<sup>nd</sup> Day), accommodation, guides and water taxis

Maximum walkers - 21

Category – not suitable for children, but we have had some older teenagers who are fine so please contact us first.

Full gear list will be emailed out when you book.

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-15-rakaumangmanga-cape-brett-overnight-walk/russell>

## Walk 16 – The Whalers Walk

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

A walk and talk led by Lindsay Alexander an expert in his field. Lindsay will captivate you and take you back in time – you can see the ships in the bay, hear the shouts of the men and almost smell the bustling streets. Lindsay has been researching the Bay of Islands' whaling history for many years and has published books on the subject.

Assemble HQ 10.30am

Duration – 2 hours

Distance 2km

Cost Adult \$10, 16 years and under free

GRADE: easy

Category: Family Friendly – all ages

Mobility scooter/wheelchair friendly. Maximum walkers - 20

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-16-the-whalers-walk/russell>

## Walk 17 – Paihia Lookout and Charlotte’s Kitchen

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

Ferry from Russell to Paihia, where your walk starts 700m from the centre of Paihia. This is a pleasant walk that is 4km return (2km each way) through regenerating native forest to a viewpoint overlooking the bay. From the viewpoint you can see the Bay from Opuia to Waitangi and over the Russell peninsula to Urupukapuka Island and Cape Brett in the distance. Meander back down to Charlotte’s Kitchen which is situated on the end of the Paihia Wharf in a superb spot for one of their lovely lunches. The perfect way to finish the Bay of Islands Walking Weekend.

Assemble HQ 10.30am

Catch 11.00 ferry

Back at HQ by 2.45pm

Cost - Adult \$40, Child \$30 (includes lunch and ferry)

Grade Medium

Maximum walkers - 20

Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-17-paihia-lookout-and-charlottes-kitchen/russell>

## Walk 18 – Kiwi Walk

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Kiwi are rampant in Russell. One was seen on The Strand in front of the “Front Four Square”. There is no guarantee that you see one though. These elusive creatures like to keep to themselves but some local kiwi will walk you through a track that kiwi are regularly seen. It’s on private land but you are allowed to walk it day and night. At night time it can become a red light district!

With your red light in hand, you will be shown the regular spots that kiwi frequent.

The group size will be limited – three groups of four or five people. If the night sky obliges, you’ll also be able to star gaze and enjoy the lights of Russell.

Assemble HQ 7.00pm

Transport departs 7.30pm

HQ return 9.00 to 9.30pm

Grade – easy

Cost \$15

Group size is limited to 3 – 5 people per group

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-18-kiwi-walk/russell>

## Walk 19 – Bay of Islands Vintage Railway Bike and Hike

Sat 16<sup>th</sup>

Sun 17<sup>th</sup>

Meeting at the Bowling Club to catch a minibus for the short ride to the car ferry for the 5-minute boat ride from Okiato to Opuia. From Opuia you walk 8km along the scenic Pou Herenga Tai Twin Coast Cycle Trail. This walk takes in beautiful marina, mangrove, estuary and river views. You'll experience the old train tunnel and of course the Taumarere Long Bridge.

At Taumarere Long Bridge there is a small railway station that services the Bay of Islands Vintage Railway Trains. Here you will catch one of the trains for the last 3km into Kawakawa. The vintage trains travel through the main street, State Highway 1, the only place in NZ where this happens!

There are cafes, a small supermarket, museum, art gallery and plenty of craft and gift shops. The perfect toilet stop in Kawakawa is the World Famous Hundertwasser toilet.

Have lunch in Kawakawa and a wander around before meeting the Twin Coast Cycle Trail Transport collect your bike and enjoy the 11km cycle back to Opuia.

The trail is flat and has an even surface – great for walking and cycling.

It is important that you do know how to ride a bike and have ridden a bicycle in the last few years.

Assemble HQ 8am

Duration – 8 hours

Distance - 8km walking, 3km train, 11km cycling

Cost - Adult \$95

Includes – bike hire, transport Russell to Okiato, ferry.

Grade - Easy

Maximum participants- 13

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-19-bay-of-islands-vintage-railway-bike-and-hike/russell>

## Walk 20 – Urupukapuka Island – The Ultimate Loop Walk

Saturday 16

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

Urupukapuka Island is the largest island in the Bay of Islands and is a slice of paradise well worth exploring. As well as boasting some of the most spectacular panoramic views and gorgeous beaches with crystal clear water there are dozens of pristinely preserved archaeological sites on the island, some of which may be up to 1000 years old. From prehistoric Māori pā, villages, gardens, and food storage, right up to early 20th Century buildings used by famous author Zane Grey.

Travelling by commercial launch to Urupukapuka Island, venturing into the inner islands where you will disembark at the stunning Otehei Bay.

The full walk is 8 km on very well-maintained trails, with some steep climbs and steps and there is plenty to see.

Hiking through forest which holds treasures of Project Island Song such as the North Island robin and saddleback, which are the jewels amongst the abundant tui and fantail population. From sheltered bays, ancient pā, a wildlife hide and created wetland, climb through regenerating Manuka forest to scintillating views along the impressive seaward coastline. Looping around the island with one view to Zane Grey's campsite and the other out to the waters he fished, before catching your vessel back to Russell.

Assemble HQ – 8.30am  
Depart Russell Wharf 9.00am  
Duration – 5 hours walking  
30 minutes each way boat travel.  
Arrive back at Russell Wharf Approx 2.30pm  
Distance 8 kms  
Cost Adult \$60.00, Child \$40 (includes boat transfers)  
Grade: Hard  
Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus  
Maximum walkers – 20

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-20-urupukapuka-island-the-ultimate-loop-walk/russell>

## Walk 21 – The Island Hop (Urupukapuka and Motuarohia Islands)

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Travelling by launch out to Urupukapuka Island. Hike for a couple of hours on Urupukapuka Island – getting dropped off at a Bay and walking across the island to Otehei Bay. Urupukapuka Island is the largest island in the Bay of Islands and is a slice of paradise well worth exploring. As well as boasting some of the most spectacular panoramic views and gorgeous beaches with crystal clear water there are dozens of pristinely preserved archaeological sites on the island, some of which may be up to 1000 years old. From prehistoric Māori pā, villages, gardens, and food storage, right up to early 20th Century buildings used by famous author Zane Grey.

**Our island hop is stopping at Motuarohia (Robertson) Island on the way home to Russell to climb to the centre of the island for spectacular 360-degree views of the surrounding Bay of Islands – this is 350 metres and a 15 minute walk.**

**Saturday 16th**

Assemble HQ 7.30am  
Depart wharf 8.00am  
Arrive back at Russell Wharf approx 12.30 – 1.00pm

**Sunday 17th**

Assemble HQ 8.00am  
Depart Russell Wharf 8.30am  
Arrive back at Russell Wharf approx 1.00pm to 1.30pm

Duration – 2.5 hours walking  
Walk Distance – 3km  
Boat travel – 30 – 40mins with stops each way  
Cost Adult \$60.00, Child \$40 (includes boat transfers)  
Grade: medium  
Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus  
Maximum walkers – 20

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-21-the-island-hop-urupukapuka-and-motuarohia-islands/russell>

## Walk 22 – Meet the Locals

Sunday 17th

An early start to the day to meet the locals. Watch the sun rising over the Cape Brett Peninsula, have breakfast together then embark on a mystery tour of Tapeka and Russell. On the way you'll meet some interesting characters, have some beautiful views and get to places you can only get to via the Bay of Islands Walking Weekend.

**We do not want to miss the sunrise.**

**Sunday, 6.15 leave the bowling club – sharp!**

Duration – 5 Hours  
Distance 5 kms  
Cost – Adult \$25, Child \$15 (includes breakfast)  
Grade - medium  
Maximum walkers - 12  
Category - Family friendly – Children 10 years plus

Eventfinda link <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/walk-22-meet-the-locals/russell>