



15 The Strand East
P O Box 529
Whakatane
New Zealand

Tuesday 1 July 2008

Parawai Tramping Club
PO Box 771 Paraparaumu

AN EXCITING ADDITION TO YOUR EVENTS CALENDER

White Island Tours offers you an opportunity to give members of your club a once-in-a-lifetime experience of visiting an active marine volcano. A special group rate from 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008 applies.

Groups will be taken on a six-hour day-trip to White Island (49km from Whakatane), which includes an 80-minute return cruise aboard our luxury vessel PeeJay and a two-hour guided tour of the island to experience first hand the unique volcanic landscape.

The special group rate for **groups of 20 or more** is \$145 per person - a \$30 discount on our normal rate of \$175 per person. The price includes morning tea and lunch on the boat.

If you are also interested in accommodation, you may wish to check our motel (White Island Rendezvous) for room availability.

If you wish to book a group, or need further information, please contact me at free phone 0800 733 529 or email me at marketing@gwhiteisland.co.nz.

Sincerely,

Tanya McKay Marketing
Assistant
0800 733 529

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tanya McKay".

Phone: 64-7-308 9588 **Facsimile:** 64-7-308 0303 **Email:**
info@whiteisland.co.nz
Website: www.whiteisland.co.nz

GROUP TRIP TO WHITE ISLAND

An overview of what is involved...

Check-in is at White Island Tours reception at 15 Strand East, Whakatane. Here everyone will read and sign our Safety Terms and Customer Declaration which outlines what is involved in the day including the landing on White Island, passengers then receive a boarding pass and make their way over the road to the boat.

The boat journey out to White Island is 80 minutes, during which the different guides give a commentary as we pass places of interest such as the Whakatane heads, Statue of Wairaka, Whale Island etc. If weather conditions permit, we serve morning tea on the way (hearty soup made in our Cafe and a fresh slice of Vienna bread) otherwise we wait until we reach the calmer water at White Island to serve this. We issue all passengers with safety gear as we get close to White Island - a hard hat and gas mask.

Upon reaching White Island's Crater Bay, we anchor the boat, explain some of the history of the island and instruct the passengers on what is involved with the transfer and what they need to take on to the Island. We then launch our smaller purpose-built inflatable boat and transfer passengers in small groups over to the wharf. When the inflatable is firmly tied to the wharf, each person must step on to the side of the inflatable and then on to a ladder which is suspended on the side of the concrete jetty. Depending on the tide, there may be 2 - 6 rungs to climb to get on to the wharf. Everyone must then walk over a metal plank (with hand rail), which joins two parts of the wharf, over some boulders and then on to the beach. Here the fully guided tour commences with two guides - one at the front and one at the back of the group. The lead guide gives a full safety briefing before setting off.

The island tour lasts 1 V£ - 2 hours and is very educational, covering scientific/volcanic facts, island history, information on the scientific and monitoring equipment that GNS have out there, wildlife, plant life, a tour of the old sulphur mining factory, history of the miners etc. It is a very interesting tour with plenty of stops. Information is given out in an easy to understand manner and relates to what surrounds you. The guides are very experienced in tailoring the tour to suit the audience and gauge the level of interest, when to move on etc.

Once the tour is complete everyone makes their way back to the wharf, and the transfer back on to the boat is via the same system as transfers to the island. Lunch and a cold drink is served back on board. Depending on conditions, we then go for a cruise to some places of interest - in the winter months there are NZ fur seals on the rocks around the island, and in summer, large colonies of Australasian gannets. We also have a look at the site of the miners' living quarters etc. before heading home.

On both the journey to and from the island we keep a sharp lookout for dolphins, whales etc which are commonly spotted in this area - and we have a permit to spend time with them (taking photos etc.).

"Our members thought the trip was fantastic....you did a marvellous job to keep in contact with me throughout the planning...From the food to the guides, skippers and smooth waters it made for a day we will not forget soon."

**Lesley Good Committee
Member Ohope
Chartered Club New
Zealand**

"Our club enjoyed an interesting visit to White Island...The trip was complimented with friendly staff, comfortable boat, good food and beverage. A well run excursion to an interesting piece of NZ"

**Ralph Gore
Chairman Programme and
Social Committee Matamata
Lions Club New Zealand**



