

## 8 DAY CHATHAM ISLANDS TOUR

Departures on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Jan, 13<sup>th</sup> Feb, 1<sup>st</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010

The Chathams are about 800 kilometres east of Christchurch. Two of the 10 Islands are inhabited. Being out in the Pacific the Islands are exposed, yet still have a temperate climate. Rainfall is around 900 mm a year and temperatures vary between 15 and 24 degrees Celsius in summer (December to February) and 6 to 10 in winter. September through March are the best months to visit hence the timing of this tour. Time on the Chathams is 45 minutes ahead of mainland New Zealand, and Pitt Island, with 50 people, is the first inhabited land in the world to see the sunrise each day. We take into consideration the weather conditions and therefore the daily tours as listed in the itinerary may alter in sequence. This is an adventure holiday. The fascinating appeal of the Chatham Islands is the ruggedness, the friendliness of the locals and the general beauty of "A LAND APART". Suitable clothing for changeable weather is advisable. Comfortable walking shoes are essential and a reasonable fitness level is required. Please note that **travel insurance is compulsory for this tour** as disruptions in flight schedules are possible.

### Day 1 DEPART TO CHATHAM ISLANDS (D)

Early afternoon departure from the Mainland from Auckland on Air Chathams Turbo-prop Convair. During the 2 hour 15 minute flight you will be served refreshments and a light meal. The interior of the plane is spacious and comfortable, although a little noisy (ear plugs are provided onboard). You will arrive mid afternoon and remember – the Chatham Islands are 45 minutes ahead of the mainland! On arrival at Chatham Islands Airport, you will be met by your hosts and taken to your accommodation. A buffet seafood dinner tonight will be at either the Kaingaroa Sports and Social Club, or at the Hotel.

### Day 2 CHATHAM ISLANDS (BLD)

Morning fishing trip - the included 1/2 day boat fishing trip is very "Chatham Islands" - a great experience. You will have loads of fun and can expect to catch blue cod and groper on your "rope" line (gloves are recommended). For those who do not want to fish you may enjoy a cliff walk to Tikitiki Hill. Afternoon tour to the incredible Basalt Columns where you will also see seabirds including oyster catchers. Visit the Port Hutt fishing village and Waitangi West - A good photo opportunity. A BBQ will be held tonight at "Admiral's Farm".

### Day 3 CHATHAM ISLANDS (BLD)

An optional Pitt Island Tour will be departing this morning. Depart for Kopinga Marae and enjoy morning tea while hearing about the Moriori people (the first human inhabitants of the Island around 400-600 years ago). Drive through Owenga Village and onto the Rangika Cliff Top for lunch. Walk on the Reserve, visit Tommy Solomon Statue (the last full blooded Moriori).

### Day 4 CHATHAM ISLANDS (BLD)

Depart for Wharekauri, visiting Blind Jims at Te Whanga Lagoon and search the shoreline for fossilised sharks teeth and see the limestone deposits characteristic of open-ocean conditions and of Palaeocene to early Oligocene age (58-35 million years old!). Continue on to Cape Young and Nikau

Scenic Reserve.

### Day 5 CHATHAM ISLANDS (BLD)

Travel to Totoro Memorial, Hapupu National Reserve, home of the Moriori Tree Carvings (Dendroglyphs) and Kaiangaroa. Take a short walk to the only accessible seal colony and site of Broughton Landing 1791 (early whaling village). This full day tour will help you appreciate the size, beauty and culture of the Chatham Islands.

### Day 6 CHATHAM ISLANDS (BLD)

Depart on a tour travelling down the South Coast. You will see spectacular coastal scenery and some of the island's finest sheep and cattle farms. Visit Tuku Reserve and spot the endemic wood pigeon. Visit Ohinemana Gardens for lunch and enjoy delicious food after being shown around the historic homestead.

### Day 7 CHATHAM ISLANDS (BLD)

Travel to Te Matarae and have an enchanting wander through the Mayors' garden. Walk in the Henga Reserve and see the rock carvings. Return to the Hotel to enjoy dinner on your last night, with the many new friends you have made during your stay on Chatham Islands

### Day 8 CHATHAM ISLANDS – HAMILTON (B)

After breakfast this morning you will be transferred to the airport in time for your morning flight home, arriving home on the mainland around lunchtime.

### TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Hamilton – Auckland – Hamilton Transfers ex Leisure Time Tours office
- Return Flights Auckland /Chatham Islands/Auckland
- Chatham Island Transfers
- 7 nights accommodation double/twin bed rooms – please note some single rooms have shared facilities
- All tour admissions as per the itinerary
- Breakfasts (B), Lunches (L) and Dinners (D) where indicated on the daily itinerary
- Touring on the Island

### TOUR PAYMENTS PER PERSON:

- Twin Room Travellers Rest Accommodation \$3150.00
- Twin Room Hotel Chathams Accommodation \$3030.00
- Single Room Hotel Chathams Accommodation (shared facilities – no tea & coffee in room) \$2930.00
- Deposit due at time of booking \$500.00
- Balance of tour payment due 8 weeks prior to tour departure