

MARLBOROUGH & HURUNUI GARDEN FESTIVALS TOUR

**INCLUDING HURUNUI GARDEN FESTIVAL & MARLBOROUGH
BLOOM IN THE BOOM**

HOME – BLENHEIM – HANMER SPRINGS – CHRISTCHURCH – BLENHEIM – HOME

28 October 2022

9 Day Fully Hosted Tour

Home Pickups Manawatu, Horowhenua, Kapiti & Wellington



HURUNUI & MARLBOROUGH GARDEN TOUR

28 October to 5 November 2022

FRI 28 Home – Blenheim (D)

Today we head to Wellington and Interislander for our 2.15pm sailing, cruising across the Cook Strait and through New Zealand's only true sounds, the picturesque Queen Charlotte Sound into Picton. On arrival into Picton we travel the short distance through the vineyards of the **Marlborough Wine Country** to the town of Blenheim, with the remainder of the afternoon at leisure to relax before regathering for our Welcome Dinner together tonight at our hotel.

SAT 29 Blenheim – Hanmer Springs (B D)

After breakfast we depart Blenheim and travel along a thin ledge of land pinned between the blue waters of the Pacific Ocean and the rugged ranges to Kaikoura, where the mountains meet the sea, this will be our stop today for lunch (own cost).

After lunch we travel further south to the beautiful Hurunui district and our first garden visit of the tour – **Waihui**. The garden at Waihui as you see it today has grown and extended over the last 30 years, as they learnt what would survive the wind, snow, extreme heat and hydroponic-type conditions. Although renowned for their roses, they also take pride in their native areas, and enjoy mixing exotics with natives to achieve colour from early spring right through to summer and autumn.

Following Waihui, we visit nearby **Loch Leven - a Garden of National Significance**, awarded 5 stars by the New Zealand Gardens Trust. The 3-acre garden has evolved over the last 31 years and is still evolving. Large borders are filled with a rich array of plants including roses, rhododendrons, shrubs, perennials, hostas, irises, perennials and peonies. You will see ashes, elms, oaks and silver birches planted throughout the large expanse lawn and garden to give shade and tranquility. On leaving Loch Leven we continue on to the resort town of **Hanmer Springs**, our home for the next two nights. Dinner together tonight at a local restaurant.

SUN 30 Hurunui Garden Festival (B L D)

This morning we have a later start before travelling to **Saddlewood**, a classic and elegant English style garden. A long avenue of poplars that line the driveway is the first of many delights you'll find at Saddlewood. The drive approaches the homestead and the array of beautiful deciduous trees including oak, ash, birch, plane, elm and lime all nestle around this classically English styled home. You'll love the many paths and ponds that take visitors to areas of woodland, water, roses and views that open north to the spectacular views of Mt Tekoa. The White Garden features many charming varieties of shrub and perennials that are timeless. Traditional lily of the valley, sweet mock orange, Solomon's seal and Clementine aquilegia, are placed within the borders amongst the many other specimens. This garden has a beautiful elegance and restfulness that invites visitors to linger and relax. It is a continually evolving property that aims to reflect the English theme for which it was originally intended. Following our garden visit we stop at the **historic Hurunui Hotel** for lunch, famous for having held its license continuously since 1st July 1860. Next up is **Palmside**, originally planted in the 1920s you will see many majestic trees, including oaks, ash, lime, chestnut and an evergreen magnolia. Since the current owners moved here in 1984 variegated elm, gleditsia, silk tree, cherry trees, maples, dogwoods and magnolias have been added to the collection, including Acer brilliantissimum and Cornus controversa Variegata – also known as the Wedding Cake tree. Our final garden today is **The Geens**. While The Geens is just 14 years old, thoughtful planting of trees that offer both habitat and a food source for the birds has already paid off, with korimako (bellbird), tui and kereru (wood pigeon) all regular visitors. For the last few years bellbirds have raised fledglings in the garden. After our full day out, you may like to visit Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa tonight, before our dinner together.

MON 31 Hanmer Springs – Christchurch (B D)

Our first stop this morning is beautiful **Coldstream Gardens for a private visit**. The stream flowing through Coldstream garden is the secret to the spectacular growth of the garden established just 31 years ago. The one-hectare garden wraps around the farmhouse, with a series of interconnecting lawns and pathways that led you from one area to the next, following our wander around these beautiful gardens we will be hosted for a delicious morning tea by the owner Vicki. We then continue our travels across the broad flat expanse of the Canterbury Plains, an area of flat terrain known predominantly for its intense farming of crops and 'Canterbury Lamb', through Kaiapoi to **Christchurch City**. Dinner at the hotel this evening.

Trip Highlights

- HURUNUI GARDEN FESTIVAL
 - WAIHUI GARDENS, ROTHERHAM
 - LOCH LEVEN GARDENS,
 - SADDLEWOOD, HAWARDEN
 - PALMSIDE GARDEN, CULVERDEN
 - THE GEENS, HANMER SPRINGS
 - COLDSTREAM GARDEN & MORNING TEA
- LUNC AT THE HISTORIC HURUNUI HOTEL
- HANMER SPRINGS THERMAL POOLS & SPA
- CHRISTCHURCH BOTANIC GARDENS TOUR
- MARLBOROUGH GARDEN FESTIVAL
 - BURNLEA
 - LONGFIELD
 - EVERSLEY
 - WELTON HOUSE
 - HORTENSIA HOUSE
 - WINTERHOME
 - BAREWOOD
 - PARIPUMA
 - ELLERTON
- AWARD WINNING ARBOUR RESTAURANT
- *Please Note: Marlborough Festival Gardens to be confirmed once festival ticket sales are released in later 2022*

TUE 1 Christchurch (B)

This morning we make our way to the **Christchurch Botanic Gardens**, to take our guided audio tour in the electric "caterpillar" shuttle**. The Gardens were founded in 1863 when an English oak was planted to commemorate the solemnisation of the marriage of Prince Albert and Princess Alexandra of Denmark. Following our tour the remainder of the day and evening is at your leisure.

*** Caterpillar subject to running – should the Caterpillar not be running we will enjoy a private guided walking tour.*

WED 2 Christchurch – Blenheim (B L D)

Today we travel through the North Canterbury farmlands to Cheviot. Here we enjoy wine tasting and lunch at **The Mt. Beautiful Two Rivers Cafe and Wine Tasting Room**. Continuing north we travel this scenic route back to Marlborough, our home for the next three nights. Dinner tonight at a local restaurant

THU 3 Garden Marlborough Festival (B L D)

Today we will spend a full day exploring and touring the **Garden Marlborough Festival** travelling in our own coach with a knowledgeable Garden Marlborough Festival Host onboard to advise and guide our private group. This evening after our day out, we dine together at a local restaurant.

FRI 4 Garden Marlborough Festival (B L D)

Today we spend another full day together discovering more fabulous gardens and are again joined by our **Garden Marlborough Festival** Host.

This evening is a special treat, as we enjoy a fabulous Farewell Dinner together at the **award-winning Arbour restaurant**. Their ever-changing 'Eat Local' tasting menu dishes showcase local producers and Marlborough stories.

Hurunui & Marlborough Garden Tour

This wonderful 9 day tour takes us on an adventure through magnificent gardens that are sure to educate, entertain and inspire you. There is so much to experience and enjoy as we meander through the gardens forming part of the **Hurunui Garden Festival**. With the vibrant bird life, rolling hills and stunning green landscapes, it will come as no surprise that the Hurunui Region is home to some excellent gardens.

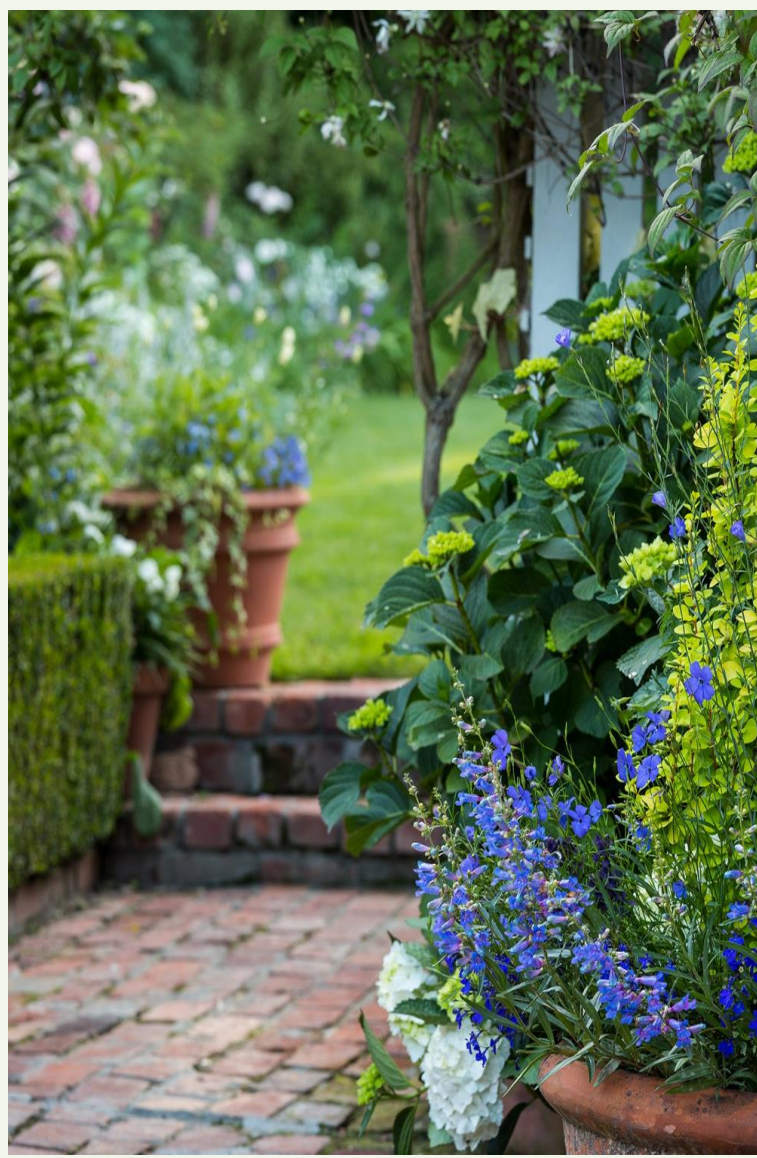
Continuing into Christchurch and touring the historic **Christchurch Botanic Gardens**, where leaves entwine and flowers flourish in the steamy tropical heat of the conservatories.

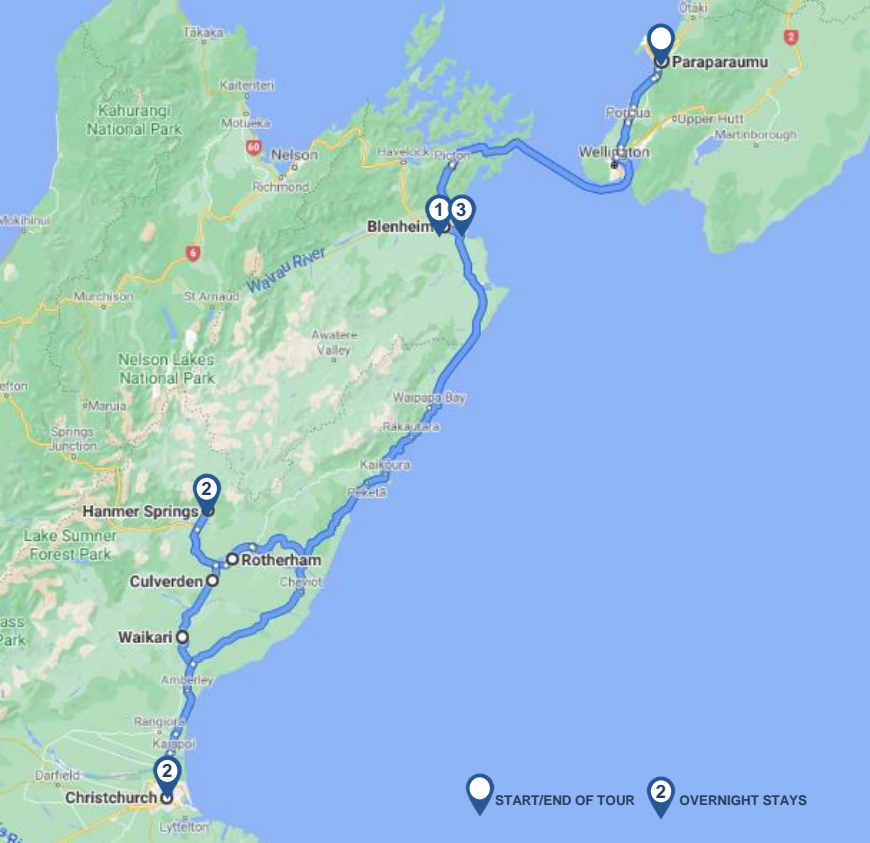
Leaving Christchurch behind, we travel back to Marlborough to enjoy the highlight of our tour and New Zealand's premier garden event, **The Marlborough Garden Festival**, dreamt up by gardeners for gardeners.

This is definitely a tour for the garden lover and we are sure you will not leave you disappointed.

SAT 5 Marlborough - Home (B)

This morning we start the day with a private guided tour at the Omaka Aviation Heritage Museum to view the fabulous and not to be missed, Knights of the Sky and Dangerous Skys exhibitions. Following our tour, we begin our journey from Marlborough towards home, with time for lunch in Picton before reboarding the Interislander for our early afternoon sailing home.





HURUNUI & MARLBOROUGH GARDEN TOUR

9 Day Tour Includes

Fully hosted by a YOURTours Host

Quality Accommodation & Coach

Sightseeing and Entrance Fees as indicated
on itinerary

Meals, as per itinerary

Departs 28 October 2022

Price \$5,390 pp twin share

Price \$6,350 pp single

**You are invited to join us on one of
our fully hosted small group tours,
with a maximum of 18 guests.**

We are based on the beautiful Kapiti Coast with our guests joining us from all corners of New Zealand. We believe you will be pleasantly surprised by just how much we include in our tour price.

You can be reassured that your Tour Host will always be one of our friendly well-experienced YOURTours Team Members, ensuring everything is looked after from start to finish, allowing you to relax and enjoy your tour.

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