



BAY of MANY COVES
NEW ZEALAND

Explore Marlborough & the Sounds

We have a delightful range of activities within our diverse region – both on and off the water.

This first section outlines activities on offer directly from the Bay of Many Coves, complimentary activities right on your door-step and within our environs



Kayaking – from the Bay of Many Coves

Kayak from our own ‘fleet’ of sea kayaks. A great way to explore the sheltered bays and beautiful Sounds coastline. Head up into the head of the bay to see the ‘many coves’ – see the holiday homes dotted around the hills and on the foreshore, look out for little blue penguins and dolphins, birds and there are often seals basking on the rocks at clay point opposite the Bay. There are doubles & singles, sea-kayaks & ‘sit-on-top’ kayaks. [Guided kayaking available also](#)



Paddle Boarding – from the Bay of Many Coves

Try one of our paddle boards, another great way to explore the bays. [Stand Up Paddle boarding \(SUP\)](#) is a sport that everyone can enjoy, regardless of age, ability or size. The perfect whole body & core workout, SUP or “walking on water” is the most peaceful way to get out and experience nature while you’re exercising. It improves balance, co-ordination, strength & endurance, is stress-reducing, invigorating plus invites adventure and exploration.



Clinker Dinghy – our row-boat

Take a row in the restored clinker dinghy, a quaint way to explore the bay and get a good view of the property and it’s surrounds while you get a little exercise. Check out the [birds - cormorants or shags nesting](#) on the rocks just to the left of Arthur’s Bay.



Native Flora & Fauna – our grounds

Take a stroll through the grounds, you will see many native trees, shrubs, plants and of course, birdlife. The Cheek Weka will be rustling in bushes, the wood-pigeons (or Kereru) will swoop overhead, the bellbirds will be tweeting and the fantails busy flitting about. We have over 11,000 native plants in our 52 hectares, some common and some rare to our location.

[Ask a staff member to accompany you if you wish.](#)



A boat ride in the Bay – on our ‘tender’

Let one of the team take you out on our small boat to explore the greater Bay of Many Coves, and you will see how appropriately it was named!

There are many interesting properties in the different inlets, high up on the hillsides and right down on the coastline. There are bird colonies to appreciate and often marine mammals such as little blue penguins, dolphins and seals.

This service runs ‘on-demand’ at your leisure.



Relax poolside - with views overlooking the Bay

A swim in the outdoor pool (heated to around 22 degrees) is refreshing, along with a dip in the Cedar Hot Tub – which is blissfully around 38 degrees (wonderful for star-gazing in the evenings).

Unwind with a book or game on the loungers beside the pool, the staff will deliver a cold beverage or ice-cream, perhaps even a light snack.

A great spot to spend an hour or two.



Our environs; our 52 hectares of native bush is a paradise

for trekking. Follow the signs to the waterfall, the loop track, the lookout (elevation 386m, 1.9kms from the resort) or do a loop walk right up to the Queen Charlotte Track (4.3kms from the resort in one direction). Take the base track up into the Bay of Many Coves and explore the holiday homes, the bird life and the stunning vegetation.

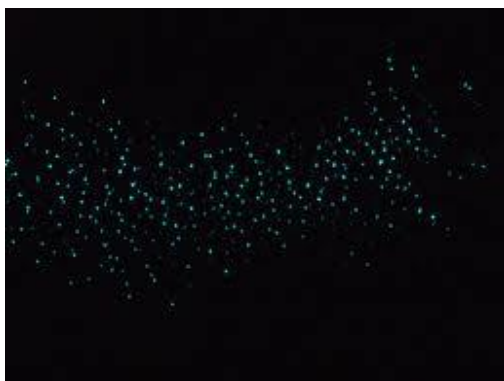
Longer or shorter walking options available



Our Waterfall -

A stroll through the native bush takes you to our little waterfall - streaming down a 7 meter-wall. Enjoy the sounds of Bellbirds and Tui’s on your way. It takes around 15 minutes to walk to the falls.

Take a complimentary walking pole in case it is a little slippery



Glow-worms – our little night lights

When it is dark and only the owls are flying around, take the torch from your room and journey into the darkness Just 5-6 minutes walk away across the bay and along the track, you will see the banks lit up. Turn your torches off as soon as you see the lights of the glow-worms. *A glowworm is actually the larvae of insect that glow through bioluminescence.*

A staff member can guide you if you wish.



Sauvignon Blanc Grapes – the Marlborough Icon

Enjoy wine tasting with fellow guests in the evening, sample some of the best Marlborough has to offer. We taste Reserve Sauvignon Blanc wines from Villa Maria Estate, a vineyard which has proven itself since it's first vintage over 50 years ago.

Learn about how different soil, terrain and temperature effect the grapes.

[Informative, social, delicious.](#)



Sea – creatures; scan the shoreline

Fish feeding is a daily activity, the Bight Café is right on the waterfront, from here we feed our 'pet' Blue Cod and other fish ('spotties'. Kahawai, leather jackets and others). You can also see Kina (sea urchins), different types of starfish, mussels and sea-cucumbers. Down on the beach are shells and small crabs.

[Our tame pet cod, 'Bluey'](#)

on the water



R & R Cruises - Exclusive to the Bay of Many Coves Resort. Cruise the beautiful bays of the Marlborough Sounds aboard 'Lady Karen', a 43' Kauri twin engine launch, built in 1957; Your Captain and Host, Gordon, will ensure a journey of entertainment, knowledge and fine hospitality.

- Highlights:**
- fishing or scallop dredging
 - kayaking
 - wining and dining
 - exploring the bays and inlets
 - viewing the seabirds and other marine life
 - visiting the salmon farm
 - skeet shooting.

[From \\$545 \(1 – 8 persons\), half or full day cruises](#)



R & R Cruises – Tory Channel Showcase, see the real New Zealand

Highlights:

- Ruakaka Bay Salmon Farm
- Tio Point Oyster & Mussel Farms
- Perano Whaling Station
- Whokenui Paua Farm

Departs the Resort at 10am – full day returning around 5pm
Subject to favourable weather conditions.

[Price subject to number of passengers, 24 hrs notice required](#)



FAITH

One of the last of the golden era of pleasure motor yachts, Faith has been meticulously maintained and carefully upgraded to combine the best of modern facilities with craftsmanship and materials unavailable to any modern vessel. Her facilities comfortably cater for up to 20 people for day and evening cruises – perfect for exploring the bays and inlets and coves within the Marlborough Sounds.

From \$300



Beviamo Yacht Charters

Take the helm for yourself or relax and enjoy the ride. Imagine yourself cruising your way around 4000 square kms of idyllic scenery that make up the beautiful Sounds - pristine waters and bush clad hills provide a serenity rarely found these days. Beviamo is a 42 foot (12.9 metre) luxury yacht built in Germany and has a very experienced local skipper.

From 1 – 8 persons. Rates vary for half or full day charter.



Voila Yacht Charters

Sailing yacht VOILA is a crewed Beneteau Oceanis 54 with interior layout and design by Nauta. Yacht VOILA was delivered in 2012, available in Marlborough for luxury yacht charters.

Pure luxury on the water and a very memorable sailing experience.

From 1 – 10 persons. Rates vary for half or full day charter.



Fishing Charters

Experience the Sounds on the MV Tory with a local expert Captain. The main fish we catch in the Queen Charlotte Sound is Cod and Terakihi, but there are plenty of other species to keep your day interesting. Suitable for novices and experienced fisher-folk.

Prices for up to 6 people, vary from \$530.00 to \$1,500

The Chefs love cooking up your fresh catch – pan fried, sashimi'd, battered, as you wish, it is our pleasure – from the sea to the plate.



Myths & Legends Eco Tour

Experience cultural tourism at its best and learn about the environment, wildlife and Maori history.

Pete, Tane & Takutai are knowledgeable locals and their passion is story-telling !

Half Day or full day options

Either private or shared trips



Swim with dolphins (or spectate)

Swimming with dolphins and viewing them in their underwater world is the adventure experience of a lifetime! This is an opportunity to get into the water with dolphins or take the viewing cruise in the sheltered calm waters of the Sounds. You will seek out dusky, bottlenose, common and even rare Hector's dolphins that frequent this amazing area. [Half Day \(morning\) from Picton, Wetsuits provided.](#)



The Mail Boat MV Tiri Cat, Beachcomber Cruises

Join the Beachcomber Mailboat Skipper as he delivers the mail and groceries to families that live in the beautiful and remote places around the Sounds. Say 'Hi' to the kids waiting on the wharf for their schoolwork or greet the many animals that come down to the collect the paper. They are the only officially licensed operator in the Queen Charlotte Sound that delivers the mail for the Royal New Zealand Post. Hundreds of bays & inlets are on route with plenty of marine wildlife.



Scuba Diving – Two dive operations are based in Picton and will collect you from the Resort for a day out diving in the Marlborough Sounds. The most famous dive would have to be the wreck in Port Gore – [the Mikhail Lermontov](#) – the jewel of NZ ship wrecks & one of the biggest diveable ship wrecks in the world. Other options include - a one day guided dive in the Outer Sounds; the Double Cove Fish Feeding Snorkel tour; diving for crayfish or scallops; Dive fish Reserve or the Koi wreck & Long Island Marine Reserve.



Seafood Odyssey Cruise departs from Picton Marina at 1.30pm daily for an afternoon scenic cruise on board the Marlborough Travel launch.

Enjoy the sights and sounds of the area and a commentary from your skipper about the region. The Marlborough Sounds are a stunning area to cruise with seemingly endless bays and coves to explore and different scenery around each corner.

Highlights; The King Salmon Farm & Green Shell Mussel Farm



Marine Wildlife & Eco Tour; Motuara Island & Surrounds

(Afternoons) This half-day trip is a nature experience with fantastic scenery, wonderful wildlife and great guides. Outstanding commentary along with open viewing areas allow you to enjoy dolphins (90% encounter rate!), fur seals + numerous seabirds. Land on Motuara for a 1-hour walk - spot resident blue penguins, rare saddleback, melodic bellbirds, cheeky robins, native pigeons & yellow-crowned parakeets. The birds are fearless, plentiful & very vocal and the view from the Cook Strait lookout is spectacular!

[Departs Picton daily \(summer\) from 1.30pm.](#)



Bird Watching; Motuara Island Eco Tour (Mornings)

Guarding the entrance to Queen Charlotte Sound, this island features regenerating forest and is predator-free, hence it has become a fantastic wildlife refuge. Birds found at Motuara Island are as above.

From \$85pp return. Guided options available. Departs resort at 8.30am (summer only). Additional afternoon activities can be added.



Marlborough Icons Tour

– Full Day

Visit Marlborough's classis - Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, the Marlborough Sounds and Marlborough Greenshell Mussels. Enjoy the fine wines of Marlborough in the morning and the stunning Kenepuru Sound in the afternoon.

Available November - April

Around \$200pp

on the land



Historic Ship's Cove - 'Meretoto'

This site is internationally recognised as **Captain James Cook's** favourite base during his 3 wide-ranging voyages of NZ on his ship Endeavour - the cove was already valued by Maori as a place of shelter at the edge of the open sea. He spent 170 days at this anchorage between his first visit (Jan 1770) & final departure (Feb 1777). Cook found it provided a central & secure anchorage with good wood, water & fishing to prepare & provision his ships & restore his crews. There is an informative display at the site reflects the cultural themes & interpretation covering the Maori & Cook stories.



Queen Charlotte Track, explore the 71 kilometer track, hike a section, set your own pace. This stunning coastal track winds through towering native forest and regenerating bush, over ridges and into beautiful coves. Venture from the Bay of Many Coves Resort for a round-trip walk or allow us to arrange a boat pick up service from any of the several entry and exit points for longer excursions. Both freedom and guided walking options are available.

From \$75 return pp. Picnic lunches available



Wineries of Marlborough Tour – Half or Full Day

With over 40 cellar doors in Marlborough, you'll be glad for your personal guide - visit vineyards of your desire - be driven, be informed, enjoy the tastings and learn about Marlborough's famous Sauvignon Blanc along with many other grape varieties being produced in the region, New Zealand's largest wine producing area.

Commencing in Picton , Private or joining small group options, can combine with other tours.



In the Saddle – Horse trekking in the Sound

The horse trekking is at the head of the Kenepuru Sound, just over the hill from us – too far to walk so we will arrange for watertaxi transfers for this activity. The Bridevale Trek will have you atop your sure footed and good natured steed for approximately two and a half hours. Your hosts will provide some snacks to be washed down with a bottle of local wine, a very civilized way to soak up the scenery of the Sounds.

[Rates per person, per hour + wateraxis to Punga Cove return](#)



Mountain biking - on the Queen Charlotte Track

Hire a mountain bike for a day or two and enjoy the thrill of one of New Zealand's best single track rides. This 71km walking track has been purposely built to cater to both walkers and bikers. The Queen Charlotte Track is a narrow single track ride with a variety of terrain. It is a clay based track therefore slippery when wet, but hard and fast in dry conditions. Recommended for intermediate level bikers! The track is open all year, although the section from Ship Cove to Punga Cove is closed to bikers from 1 Dec to 28 Feb annually.

[Two companies rent bikes & a “bike fitting” prior to hiring is recommended. \\$on application – depending on bike quality](#)



Scenic Flights – by Floatplane

Capture the sounds from the air – a stunning way to appreciate the intricate coastline.

Scenic flights are available from the Resort;

20 min - view from the air Ship Cove/ Queen Charlotte Track/ Tory Channel; \$on application

40 min – fly over French Pass/ Durville Island/ Pelorus Sound; [\\$on application](#)



Scenic Flights – by Helicopter

It is a buzz to Scenic flights are available.

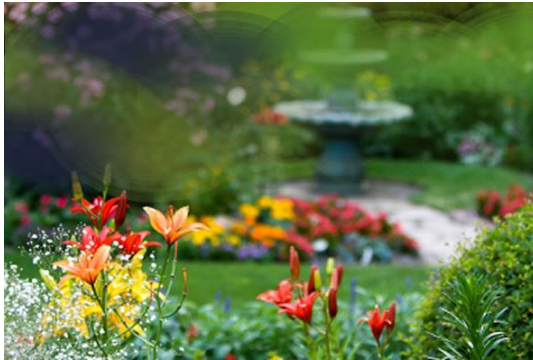
You can also take a helicopter into the winery region and explore the vineyards and cellar doors.

[Operators are available from Nelson, Marlborough & Wellington.](#)

in the region...



Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre houses a display like no other and you don't have to be an aviation buff to enjoy it! Human stories from the Great War come to life in a theatrical treatment, which is innovative and visually stunning. Captivating scenes depict the aircraft in context, some recreating actual incidents. The rare memorabilia is worthy of any national collection and ranges from beautifully crafted 'trench art' through to personal items belonging to the famous Red Baron himself. **A Peter Jackson 'Production'**



GARDENS & ARTS; You will be introduced to the Marlborough landscape in an informative and relaxed way on this tour. Many private **gardens** open their doors for you to enjoy their diverse and colourful gardens. Gardening enthusiasts the world over know this region for its annual gardening festival, Hunter's Garden Marlborough. Amongst the Gardens in town and country are many studios, scenic Marlborough inspires talented painters, sculptors, weavers and potters.



SHOPPING & LOCAL DELICACIES: Let our local guide show you around the Marlborough region, the towns of Picton and Blenheim. With lovely boutiques, specialist food shops, wine and gourmet outlets, local delicacies and depending on the season, fruits and olives, cherries, strawberries and so on. Fudge, embroidery, quilting, olives, honey, merino, micro breweries, and much more

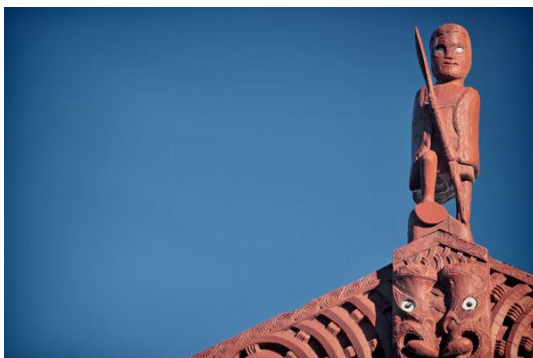


MAORI Experiences Marlborough

Omaka Marae Experience

Morning tour - 9.30am daily, approx 3 hours

- Traditional welcome; Sample contemporary Maori food; Learn the significance of the carved meeting house Listen to fascinating story telling and local legends; Participate in an interactive cultural activity such as flax weaving, traditional Maori instruments or Maori weaponry.



Aroha Marlborough

Afternoon tour - 1.00pm daily, approx 4 hours

- View the Wairau Bar exhibition at the Marlborough Museum; Visit sites of significance to local Maori, Learn the history of the Moa Hunters, Sample award winning Te Pa wine, Experience beautiful native bush/birdlife and learn how Maori interacted within the natural environment.

Greater Marlborough

When you depart the Sounds, there is still so much more to explore within the Region



Molesworth Station; New Zealand's largest high country station. Marlborough's high country and history is not to be missed. The best way to see it is to sit back and enjoy an escorted tour. The heritage and heart of NZ's largest and most iconic high country farm, Molesworth Station will come to life for you once you step on board the comfortable airconditioned vehicles. Be blown away by some of the most dramatic and remote outback scenery in New Zealand, with lakes, river terraces, mountains, and sweeping open expanses under deep blue skies. Guided tours include areas not usually accessible to the public, meeting the people who call the high country home. Stay, tour, experience. *Molesworth Station is located behind the Inland Kaikoura Mountain range in the Marlborough district - It is New Zealand's largest farm, at over 1,800 km², and supports the country's biggest herd of cattle*

Rainbow Ski Field & St Arnaud Lakes; winter is stunning in the sounds and not far away is the Rainbow ski field. Operating Hours: 9:00am to 4:00pm Operating Season: Mid July until Mid October Mountain Car-park Elevation: 1540m (5,052 feet) Lift Accessed Vertical: 218m (715 feet) Terrain: Beginners 25%, Intermediate 55%, Advanced 20% Facilities: Café, Rental of ski and snowboarding equipment and clothing, Shop for accessories, clothing and rainbow branded souvenirs, Ski & board school, SMI snow-making facilities, Two Kassbohrer Pisten Bully snow groomers

Saint Arnaud is a small alpine village located in the north of New Zealand's South Island, west of the mountains of the Saint Arnaud Range and 90 kilometres southwest of Nelson – along the Wairau Valley road from Marlborough. A Beautiful lakes area, pristin e, peaceful and great for fishing.



Seddon & Ward; If you are driving south towards Kaikoura, the Marlborough vineyards continue down the coast , there are worthwhile stops at YEALANDS and other vineyards in the Awatere valley region. You will also pass the large SALT mines.

Omaka Classic Cars; Situated next to the Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre on the outskirts of Blenheim and showcasing almost 60 vehicles from the 1950's to the 1980's, this collection of classic cars offers a special insight into both Marlborough and New Zealand motoring history from that charismatic period where space, grace, chrome bumpers, large grilles and individual design were allowed to run wild. Covering the period between the pioneering vintage car era and the cars of today, every vehicle on display is original and every one of them, with minimal work, would happily motor from Bluff to Cape Reinga and at the national speed limit. All of them, or the makes they represent, have formed part of the New Zealand way of life at some point during their lifecycle and all were originally available on the New Zealand market.

From Austins to Zodiacs with Fords, Holdens, Jaguars and more, the range is extensive and will change every two months or so to include more of the 110 or so in the total collection. Omaka Classic Cars is open from 10am to 4pm. Parking and entry tokens available from Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre, Aerodrome Road, Omaka, Blenheim.

Watertways Boating Safaris (Kenepuru sound) Drive a boat, explore the Sounds. Fun, freedom and stunning scenery on a guided boating safari. Learning to handle the boat is quick and easy for the first timer. You will soon set off to explore the sheltered waterways of the Marlborough Sounds whilst enjoying the thrill of driving your own boat. Experience an area of unsurpassed beauty in an everchanging landscape of native forest, ferns and hidden bays where the mountains and waterways form a backdrop for every scene.

Moa Breweing and Renaissance; It's not all about wine here – but there are boutique breweries.

Pelorus Bridge Scenic Reserve; Driving towards Nelson? Swim, kayak, fish, walk or picnic at this popular spot on SH6 18 km from Havelock. Walks range from 30 minute wheelchair accessible forest and riverside walks to a 3 hour return hike to Trig K (417m). The nationwide Te Araroa Trail also passes through Pelorus Bridge and continues up the Pelorus Track providing an alternative route to Nelson on foot (2-3 days).



Driftwood Eco Tours; kayaking tours based at the Opawa River, 10 minutes east of Blenheim. Photograph close up birds such as the magnificent Royal Spoonbill and hear the early history of the area such as the earliest recorded site of human occupation in New Zealand. Other tours include mountain biking or 'Port Underwood Eco Tour'.

CYCLE THE VINES:

Many companies offer bicycles to cycle the vineyards!

