





Overview

Incorporating the unique geothermal, wilderness, lake and mountain environments of New Zealand's central North Island, the Volcanic Plateau Education Experience features a challenging array of outdoor activities, in a unique and remarkable environment.

Travelling is kept to a minimum, resulting in a full and exciting programme and tremendous value for money. Activities have been designed around providing variety and surmountable challenge, and each excursion is suitable for students with no experience.

As with all Gefen programmes, we offer flexibility and are happy to discuss tailoring itineraries to your curricular requirements or student needs.

Availability: Year Round
Itinerary Flexibility: Medium to high
Minimum Group Size: 10

All trip prices include:

- 7 days accommodation, meals and domestic transport, fully detailed in final quote and itinerary

Ask us how teaching staff can travel **FREE** of charge!

Key Learning Areas

- Self Confidence and A Sense Of Achievement
- Teamwork and Leadership
- Problem Solving Skills
- Positive and Respectful Relationships
- Cultural and Indigenous Peoples Understanding
- Respect for The Environment
- Zip Lining
- Abseiling, Canyoning, Rock Climbing
- Kayaking
- Survival Skills and Self Reliance
- Mountain biking
- White Water rafting



DAY 1 Itinerary Overview

Surf School

Location: Auckland/Waikato

Capability Level: No experience necessary

Day 1 of our tour sees us heading southwest from Auckland via verdant countryside to a safe and protected west coast harbour and an exciting mix of sea, sand and sunshine. Students start their adventure on a high, having chosen in advance from a selection of New Zealand adventure pastimes; paddleboarding, surfing or kayaking.

With a focus on safety and fun, instruction covers a range of physical and mental coaching. Ultimately students are given an excellent grounding in techniques, etiquette and, with repeated practice, are rewarded for persistence and enthusiasm.

At the end of the day, many students will behave excellent basic skills in place and have explored the beautiful and tranquil harbour should weather and time allow.

Learning Opportunities

- Challenges boundaries and pushes participants outside their comfort zone in a safe environment
- Emphasis is on participation, education, safety and fun
- Teaches surf etiquette, beach and surf safety and surf bio-mechanics

Activity Information

- Fully compliant with NZ school safety guidelines
- Professional instruction



DAY 2 Itinerary Overview

Equestrian Experience

Location: Waikato

Capability Level: No experience necessary

Day 2 provides an unparalleled opportunity for students to experience the incredible natural environment that New Zealand is famous from a tremendous vantage point: the back of a horse. Day rides can include spectacular beach rides, forests and farmland and all levels of experience are catered for.

Horse riding is an excellent way to exercise different parts of the body, working on core strength, balance, coordination, muscle tone and flexibility. Riders develop fine motor skills, endurance and improved posture and cardiovascular health.

Interaction with horses helps young people learn patience, compassion, and responsibility while understanding the extent to which their actions affect others. Communication, decision-making, problem solving and leadership skills are all enhanced.

Learning Opportunities

- Develop confidence, trust and awareness
- Develop horse handling and riding skills
- Develop team work and leadership skills
- Improve problem solving skills
- Experience a pristine New Zealand beach environment and a wide range of flora and fauna.

Activity Information

- Professional instruction
- Safety conscious, well supervised environment
- Caters to all levels including complete beginners

DAY 3 Itinerary Overview

Kiwi Discovery & Caving Adventure

Location: Waitomo/Otorohanga

Capability Level: Basic swimming is beneficial

We start day 3 with a uniquely New Zealand experience: a visit to the Otorohanga Kiwi House. Students will discover fascinating native birds and reptiles in an informative and enjoyable environment with the guarantee of seeing the shy and nocturnal kiwi bird.

After lunch, we visit the incredible Waitomo Caves where students can experience the thrill of abseiling down into the stunning Glow Worm caves. Instructors guide you through difficult terrain in a safe and fun manner. Hand/eye coordination and observation skills are improved and self confidence is enhanced, especially if fears are conquered and obstacles overcome.

Learning Opportunities

- Understand how New Zealand's birds and animals adapt to their environment
- Experience abseiling and caving in an incredible setting
- Learn about glow worms
- Develop self confidence and trust
- Develop team work and leadership skills
- Discover internal capabilities
- Undertake physical challenge

Activity Information

- Kiwi visit includes full time educator to co-ordinate with your LEOTC programme if required
- Strict risk management guidelines followed
- Fully qualified and experienced instructors and management
- Full training and safety instruction provided
- All equipment provided



DAY 4 - 5 Itinerary Overview

Adventure Central

Location: Tongariro/Rotorua
Capability Level: Basic fitness

The next two days will see students partaking in a very special outdoor experience at a purpose built camp in the spectacular central north island wilderness. Students stay overnight and activities include steep creeking/stream walking, high ropes and flying foxes, rock climbing, kayaking, team initiatives and exploring new environments. Activities may vary dependent on weather conditions.

Featuring inspirational leaders, extensive safety systems and a world-renowned curriculum, the camp creates an environment where students are supported and encouraged by their peers and instructor to participate to a level which challenges them.

Learning Opportunities

- Build confidence and a sense of achievement
- Develop safety awareness and self confidence
- Discover internal capabilities
- Undertake physical challenge
- Improve concentration span
- Develop teamwork and leadership skills

Activity Information

- Outdoors Safety Audit Certified and operate under Best Industry Safety Practice codes
- Enthusiastic, well trained instructors
- All equipment provided



DAY 6 Itinerary Overview

Whitewater Rafting / Geothermal Wonder

Location: Rotorua/Auckland

Capability Level: No experience necessary

Leaving the site of our incredible wilderness experience behind, Day 6 sees us heading northeast and venturing back into the pristine native bush, where students experience clean air, pure water and adrenalin-filled fun in an action-packed, white water rafting adventure. Students will still be grinning and reliving the experience hours later!

After lunch we continue toward Rotorua, via the geothermal wonder of Orakei-Korako. Students will have a glimpse into the centre of the earth with bubbling mud, hot springs, erupting geysers and colourful mineral deposits, all nestled amongst beautiful waterways and attractive native bush. There are not many places in the world where an introduction to what lies beneath the earth's crust is as easy and uncrowded as this beautiful unspoilt park.

Learning Opportunities

- A physical challenge that improves upper body strength, cardiovascular fitness and flexibility
- Focus on overcoming obstacles improved ability to concentrate
- Develop self confidence
- Develop team work and leadership skills
- Discover internal capabilities
- Experience an incredible geothermal world

Activity Information

- Strict risk management guidelines followed
- Fully qualified and experienced instructors and management
- Full training and safety instruction provided
- All equipment provided

DAY 7 Itinerary Overview

Zipline Challenge / Cultural Experience

Location: Auckland

Capability Level: No experience necessary

The last day sees students spend the morning exploring the amazing indigenous forest in an ingeniously safe and challenging selection of range of high wires and zip lining. A multi sensory experience incorporating rich forest scents, diverse textures, unique birdsong and stunning views, the Forest Challenge is a safe and exhilarating way to experience nature up close. Students challenge their balance, confront challenges, develop safety awareness and support their peers in an incredibly peaceful and unique conservation environment.

After lunch we spend the afternoon with a special introduction to the unique culture of the New Zealand Māori at the world famous, geothermal wonder of Rotorua. This is an excellent way to place the physical and environmental environments that the students have experienced into a cultural context, before embarking on the bus trip back to Auckland.

Learning Opportunities

- Features a stimulating and fun range of climbing and flying fox challenges
- Build confidence and a sense of achievement
- Develop safety awareness and self confidence
- Discover internal capabilities
- Undertake physical challenge
- Improve concentration span
- Learn about unique indigenous flora and fauna, and conservation of this pristine forest.
- Experience a glimpse into the vibrant and proud indigenous culture of the New Zealand Māori
- Experience the incredible geothermal environment of Rotorua

Activity Information

- Outdoors Safety Audit Certified and operate under Best Industry Safety Practice codes
- Enthusiastic, well trained instructors
- All equipment provided

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