

THE GREAT KAIPARA ADVENTURE TWO DAY TOUR

2025-26 BOOKINGS Weekends from \$439.00 pp (see price options on booking form P4)

2025-26 - Weekends: November 15/16, February 14/15, March 14/15, March 28/29, April 11/12 April 25/26.

WEEKDAY SPECIALS: from \$ 419.00pp - March Thursday/ Friday 12/13 Thursday/Friday 26/27

We invite you to join us on a two-day journey with a difference, retracing the old steamer and sailing ship routes from Helensville to Dargaville through the historic Kaipara Harbour aboard our comfortable vessel M.V Kewpie Too.

DAY ONE we complete the 66 nautical mile journey from Helensville through the little travelled waters of the Historic Kaipara Harbour to Dargaville.

DAY TWO We travel from Dargaville by coach along the Pouto Peninsula to the old marine station and Pouto Point where we re-join Kewpie Too for the journey back across the Kaipara Harbour to Helensville

Note: Due to different tides we work, day's one and two may be reversed from Pouto/Dargaville - Dargaville/Pouto to allow us to operate the low tide at Pouto.

DAY ONE: (Helensville-Dargaville)

At Helensville we board our cruise boat M.V Kewpie Too departing along the Kaipara River as the barques and brigantines did in past generations, then it's onto New Zealand's largest inland harbour the mighty Kaipara where we make our way towards the Kaipara Heads where you can almost reach out and touch the past as we examine the Kaipara's former life where more than a century ago ships from many nations came to trade for timber, flax and gum. Crossing the Kaipara Heads, we view the magnificence of the headlands with white sandy beaches and the Tasman Sea beyond. From the Kaipara Heads we journey past the large sand island at the end of the Taporu Peninsula before making our way to the early settlement of Pouto Point where once Harbour Masters, customs officers and port officials were based in the hey day of the shipping industry.

From Pouto Point we cruise through the sheltered inland waterways beside the Pouto Peninsula, we see many remote barren beaches accessible only by boat with their white sands back dropped with the green of newly planted pine forests. We then enter the Northern Wairoa River exploring the many bays and inlets where early gum diggers camped as they tried to make a living from the land. We also cruise by many river settlements where early settlers had grand dreams and plans for major communities, however today could be described as ghost towns.

Mid/late afternoon we arrive in Dargaville, our coach will meet us in Dargaville to transport you to your accommodation for the evening. Dinner is provided in Dargaville, we will transport you from Hobsons Choice & Parkview Motels to dinner and return. If you are staying at the Rail Carriages it is only a short walk to dinner or if you wish, let us know and we can collect/return you.

