



# Pacific Patterns

*the cultural fabric of Aotearoa New Zealand*

The tour is operated by Desert Traditions  
in liaison with Alumni Travel

**18 Days**  
**Oct 17th - Nov 5th 2021**

Pacific Patterns, presented by New Zealand born artist Carole Douglas of Desert Traditions, is an immersive textile focused journey into the many layers of New Zealand's arts traditions. Beginning with the arrival of Polynesian voyagers more than one thousand years ago, you will follow the evolution of a material culture that reflects Aotearoa's patterns of settlement, celebrates the differences and honours traditional heritage. Travelling by bus, train, ferry and local transport the tour is a rich mix of visits to cultural institutions and arts centres and hands on workshops with artists of note. Along the way you will gather ideas, images and objects that culminate in a workshop with Nelson based mixed media artist, Ronnie Martin. Whether you sketch, stitch, snap, dye, paint, collage or write, at the end of the journey, you will take home a visual record of your adventures, inspiration for future work and a wealth of experiences to fuel your creative fires.

*Pacific Patterns is a tour for those who are interested in material culture - the visual and performing arts, architecture, literature, religion, mythology and philosophy. There is something for everyone. You don't have to be a practising artist to enjoy the experiences on offer and you may well discover hidden talents.*

**Land only twin share \$7,250**  
**Single Supplement \$2,250**

### Itinerary

Auckland & environs ● Ohakune, Tongariro National Park  
Wellington & environs ● Nelson, Marlborough Sounds

## Detailed Itinerary

Please note that the tour commences in Auckland and finishes in Nelson.

Daily breakfasts are included and all other meals as [highlighted](#) in the following program

### October 17th - October 23rd

Auckland City and environs

Accommodation: Rose Park Hotel, Parnell, Auckland

#### Sunday October 17th

Arrivals: Fly into Auckland. Once flights recommence, you will be given suggested services to take. Transfers will be advised. Check into your hotel and join Carole for an orientation talk and [evening supper \(included\)](#).

#### Monday October 18th

City Excursion

Auckland Museum – Tamaki Paenga Hira

[Morning](#): At the museum by local transport

Housed in one of the country's finest heritage buildings, Tamaki Paenga Hira is regarded as one of the finest museums in the southern hemisphere and renowned for its unique collection of Maori and Pacific treasures. From the great Polynesian voyages which first brought people to Aotearoa, to the many cultures and communities that make up Auckland today, Auckland Museum portrays the rich diversity of New Zealand including a spine tingling Maori Cultural performance. The museum also houses a collection of print and pattern in New Zealand textiles providing a fascinating window onto the country's social history. Lunch at Museum Cafe.

[Afternoon](#): By ferry to seaside Devonport

Visit Cushla's Village Fabrics offering a host of Pacific inspired fabrics with time to browse specialty stores and galleries before returning to the hotel at your own pace.

#### Tuesday October 19th

West Auckland

[Morning](#): By mini bus to Corban Estate Arts Centre, Henderson

Nestled within the old Corban Estate with its historic wine buildings and parklike grounds, the centre offers a mixture of galleries, artist studios, performance space and many activities.

[Afternoon](#): Visit Titirangi for lunch and studio of artist Anna Crichton

Titirangi, 'Fringe of Heaven, is situated in the Waitakere ranges on the edge of Auckland. The village's past Bohemian culture is echoed in today's thriving community of artists, studios, galleries and cafés. Anna Crichton, is renowned for her illustrations, ceramics and textiles. In 2019 Anna spent time with block printers in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, to produce a body of collaborative textile works. Anna's recent work is reflected in her whimsical record of Mr and Mrs Dear's journey through a pandemic.

#### Wednesday October 20th

South Auckland

[Dinner included](#)

[Morning](#): By minibus to South Auckland for Tivaevae

[Afternoon](#): Tapa or paper making and The Asia Gallery

South Auckland is a Polynesian hub and vibrant multicultural landscape where contemporary and traditional arts and crafts thrive. Bone and stone carving, shell work, weaving, stitching and printing are part of community life. Cook Island women, renowned for Tivaevae – bold and brilliant appliqué quilts, meet regularly and you will enjoy a demonstration/workshop. Later we will meet tapa cloth artist Tui Gillies (TBC). The afternoon finishes with a visit to The Asia Gallery specialising in indigo textiles.

*Please note that we are currently negotiating with Tivaevae quilters in Auckland. Due to the impacts of Covid 19 in this area many groups are yet to reconvene. You will spend time with Tivaevae group in Wellington. Alternatives planned with art quilters/paper maker.*





## Thursday October 21st (Full moon)

Matakana

**Morning:** Workshop with Alysnn Midgelow-Marsden.

An hour north of Auckland and close to stunning beaches. Matakana is home to internationally renowned fibre artist Alysnn Midgelow-Marsden. In her practice Alysnn combines metals and fibre and you will explore these materials to create pattern and texture.

**Afternoon:** Lunch in Matakana, village walk, wine tour

The day ends with a wine tasting tour to a vineyard chosen by our driver Vanessa, Kiwiness Tours (some costs may apply). The area is famous for producing delicious wines such as chardonnay, pinot gris and classic reds.

## Friday October 22nd

Arts, crafts, design

**Farewell to Auckland dinner included**

**Morning:** Visit Auckland City Art Gallery – Toi Tamaki.

After entering between majestic kauri columns you will immerse yourself in traditional and contemporary international works and discover the largest permanent collection of New Zealand art. Free tours are available. Lunch at Gallery cafe.

**Afternoon:** Ponsonby Road

Freedom to browse the great op shops, renowned designer stores and small gift and art galleries of this length of road. Two hours will see you cover both sides of the road. A list of places of interest and map is provided. We will meet at a designated time and place to visit Pacific galleries in Karangahape Rd and commence to dinner.

## Saturday October 23rd - Monday 25th

Ohakune, Tongariro National Park

Accommodation: The Hobbit Motel

### Saturday October 23rd

**Dinner supplied by Desert Traditions**

**Morning:** Departure to Ohakune

The Northern Explorer train takes you on a comfortable, epic journey along the spine of the North Island. You pass through stunning scenery while experiencing feats of engineering such the Raurimu Spiral, Turangarere Horseshoe and Makatote Viaduct. It's one of the world's great railway journeys and one that your tour leader has travelled many times.

**Afternoon:** Forage, fire and fibre workshop

After checking in you will go directly to the (walking distance) home of local artist Merrilyn George. Merrilyn has been recording her cultural history for many years using found and recycled materials. Combining textile techniques of botanical and mineral dyes, stitching, weaving, quilting, paper making, printing and manipulating fibres she creates work imbued with her Maori heritage and her surroundings. You will spend happy hours foraging in the field, absorbing the atmosphere and legends of the Volcanic Plateau including active Mt Ruapehu, before returning to cook up a botanical brew! Merrilyn will present her work over an evening meal.

## Sunday October 24th

**Morning:** with Merrilyn to complete your pieces

**Afternoon:** at leisure.

## Monday October 25th - Saturday October 30th

Wellington and environs

Accommodation: Quest Apartments, Lambton Quay

Morning check out before boarding the midday train and resuming our journey to Wellington - ETA 6.45pm

Excellent meals are available on the train. It's a short distance to your accommodation by taxi.



## Tuesday October 26th

The Hutt Valley and environs

By minibus

**Morning:** Dowse Art Museum

Today you will visit the Dowse Art Museum, a lively contemporary art gallery presenting the work of local, national and international artists.

**Lunch (included) at Museum**

**Afternoon:** Visit to Waiwhetu Marae for an immersion into urban Maori culture. Carole was born in Lower Hutt, attended Waiwhetu School and knows the marae from childhood. Waiwhetu literally means 'stars reflected in the water' and refers to the fresh water stream that flows through the suburb. Waiwhetu Pa is home to the Te Ati Awa tribe and traces its origins to members of that iwi (tribe) who arrived in the Hutt Valley in the middle of the 19th century from Taranaki. Waiwhetu Marae, opened in 1960, includes the whare whakairo (carved meeting house) which features a number of significant carvings and woven panels by notable Maori artists, including Rangi Hetet, his wife noted weaver, the late Erenora Puketapu Hetet and daughter, weaver Veranoa Hetet. From Waiwhetu you will travel to Petone to experience the briny foreshores and breezes of Wellington Harbour and enjoy a beverage in one of the many cafes of Jackson Street.

## Wednesday October 27th

**Morning:** Visit Te Papa Museum (walking distance)

The Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa, is New Zealand's national museum. Te Papa, 'Our Place', opened in 1998 after the merging of the National Museum and the National Art Gallery. Here you will discover rich stories of New Zealand's cultural and social heritage. Later you will meet with textiles curator Rangi Te Kanawa for a viewing of the museum's textiles and conservation work.

Lunch on waterfront

**Afternoon:** Weta Workshop Tour

We travel by shuttle bus to Weta Workshops, a special effects and prop company that produces materials for film and television. The company is named after the New Zealand weta, one of the world's largest (harmless) insects. The workshop has produced creatures, costumes and makeup effects including New Zealand director Peter Jackson's trilogy The Lord of the Rings. You will learn about props, costumes and creatures, see artists at work and enjoy a special behind the scenes viewing of the costume department.

## Thursday October 28th

Porirua Cultural Centre and Pataka Museum by train.

**Morning:** Tivaevae (Pacific island quilting)

The morning will be spent with a local Tivaevae group for a demonstration/workshop.

**Lunch (included) at Pataka Museum café.**

**Afternoon:** Hands on Harakeke (flax)

Enjoy a flax workshop with Clare Smith, well known textile artist and costume maker who specialises in surface design. Clare is a highly qualified tutor across many mediums and from 2018 to 2019 she studied Raranaga (Maori weaving) at Te Wananga Aotearoa. You will learn the protocols for working with New Zealand flax, how to sustainably harvest and prepare the leaves for weaving and extract the fibre, muka, for making twine. You will take away samples of muka and a small basket of your own making.

Evening: you will enjoy a shared meal and 'show and tell' with the Mauri Oho weavers.

Taxi van back to hotel.

## Friday October 29th

**Farewell to Wellington dinner (with surprise) included.**

A day of options including op shops, small craft galleries and design stores. A list of venues and map provided.



## **Saturday October 30th**

Nelson, Marlborough Sounds

Accommodation: The Palms Motel

**Morning:** 9.00 am departure by inter island ferry to Picton arriving at noon

You will be taken to Nelson by minibus (ETA 2.00 pm). An orientation walk later in the afternoon and if time allows we will visit the local arts and produce market.

## **Sunday October 31st (All Hallows Eve)**

Coastal day tour and arts trail by minibus

Welcome lunch included

Numerous art and pottery studios, vineyards, cafes, charming coastal towns and beautiful beaches line the route to Able Tasman National Park. You will follow local knowledge for an introduction to yet another of Aotearoa's creative hubs, take time to fossick, soak your toes or more into the Tasman Sea and absorb the changing patterns of land, sea and sky. Nelson is also famed for culinary arts that go far beyond fish and chips and barbeques. You can indulge in Pacific Rim cuisine with seafood such as green lipped mussels, crayfish Bluff oysters, fresh fish and whitebait (in season), award winning cheeses and of course New Zealand lamb.

## **Monday November 1st**

**Morning:** Visit the Suter Art Gallery, Te Aratoi o Whakatu

Lunch at the Gallery café overlooking the river

**Afternoon:** Visit WOW (the World of Wearable Art) museum however this is dependent on the collection being available for viewing. You will end the day with a not to be missed Pic's Peanut Butter tour. Beginning with a blender in his kitchen, and later adapting a concrete mixer to meet demand, Pic Picot has gone on to create what many regard as a national institution. You'll leave with a smile on your face, a red star and peanut butter...!

## **Tuesday November 2nd**

Pacific Patterns (all day workshop)

Lunch supplied

Today is your final workshop of the tour with Nelson based textile/mixed media artist Ronnie Martin. Ronnie, creative director of Nelson's annual Changing Threads Contemporary Textile Awards exhibition, is a popular tutor. She teaches and exhibits widely in New Zealand and overseas and her work is held in private and public collections. Under Ronnie's expertise you will set your inner child free and put together the pieces collected during your journey. All materials and equipment supplied for your visual record of your journey, your very own Pacific Patterns and a lasting testament to learning, sharing and creativity.

## **Wednesday November 3rd**

**Morning:** Complete your project with Ronnie

Shared lunch and afternoon at leisure.

## **Thursday November 4th**

Marlborough wine tour

Farewell lunch included (some costs may apply)

Hailed as one of New Zealand's sunniest and driest regions, Maori refer to the Wairau Valley as 'Kei puta te Wairau' – 'The place with the hole in the cloud'. This combination of a cool, high sunshine climate, low rainfall and free-draining, moderately fertile soil produces unique wines. In the 1980s Marlborough put New Zealand on the international stage with its exquisite Sauvignon Blanc.

## **Friday November 5th**

Departures. We will assist you in making your arrangements.

*NB The tour book that accompanies you on your tour will provide comprehensive information including arrival and departure times. You will also receive regular updates between booking and departure.*





### **Alysn Midgelow-Marsden - inspirer : facilitator: energiser**

Alysn is an experienced freelance artist in fine art textiles, an author of several books and numerous articles, a tutor and a gallery director. Awards include the Bernina Award for the most Innovative use of the sewing machine, NZ, 2015. After living most of her life in the Midlands of England Alysn moved to New Zealand in 2012.

Alysn has an experimental and curious nature leading to continuously evolving works and investigating new dimensions as they develop. For her, the history and meaning of the materials is critically important to the development of the piece. Her favoured materials are metals and woven metal fabrics, wire, paper, fabric, thread, paint and natural objects.

In addition to her own work, Alysn finds pleasure in adapting ideas into formats that can be adopted by fibre artists, embroiderers and other creatives.



### **Merrilyn George**

Merrilyn George is an award-winning quilt and fibre artist whose work has been exhibited for two decades throughout NZ, the Pacific, Europe, USA and Canada. A Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and recipient of the 2017 Queens Service Medal for service to community and education, Merrilyn has been a professional educator her whole life. Currently she is an artist whose work includes art quilting, narrative book making, collage, taaniko weaving, icon painting and Maori design. Her work has featured in numerous publications including the 2010 Quilts around the World, The American Quilter Magazine, and The New Zealand Quilter.

*'My art is about my environment, narratives of significant events, and how we relate both spiritually and temporally. The places we inhabit are charged with personal significance, shaping the images we have of ourselves. The Wairua, the mountains, especially Ruapehu; the land and Maori inspired design are continuing symbols in my work, which often include words to extend and explain my visual message.'*



### **Ronnie Martin**

Ronnie is a Nelson based textile and mixed media artist. She has exhibited widely both in New Zealand and overseas and won many awards for her work. These include supreme winner of Filaments of Fire, design colour and innovation awards for various Quilt Symposia, and Embroidery Guild recipient of a national scholarship for travel overseas. A qualified, enthusiastic and knowledgeable tutor, Ronnie offers classes through the Creative Journeys Workshops team with Jo Kinross and David Ryan and offers individual tuition at her home studio. Her areas of expertise cover many surface design techniques such as fabric painting, image transfer, printmaking, free machine embroidery, felting, layering, burning and cutback techniques, book binding and creative stitching. Ronnie is currently the Creative Director of the annual Changing Threads Contemporary Textile and Awards exhibition held by Arts Council Nelson. Full CV on request.



### **Clare Smith**

Clare Smith is a Textile artist and costume maker who specializes in surface design (dyeing and printing on fabric). She has a Teaching Diploma, a Graduate Diploma in Visual arts and a Diploma in Costume Construction from Toi Whakaari. (the New Zealand Drama school).

Between 2018-2019 Clare studied Raranga (Maori Weaving) at Te Wananga o Aotearoa.

Clare has been teaching dyeing, screenprinting, fabric dyeing, quilting, and machine quilting in New Zealand and internationally since 1996. She currently teaches costume dyeing and finishing at the New Zealand Drama school. Clare exhibits her quilts and wallhangings widely, most recently with 'Through Our Hands' Group in the United Kingdom and at the Bojagi Forum in Seoul, South Korea.



### **Your Tour Leader**

New Zealand born Carole Douglas is a practising artist, curator, educator and social ecologist. An avid traveler since her early 20s she is passionate about the arts and the cultures from which they spring. Carole has worked in India since 1996 where she has been responsible for several community development projects focussing on material culture and issues of sustainability.

Carole is an experienced tour operator. She began her tours to India in 2004 to build bridges between cultures and support traditional artisans. Now living on the Central Coast of NSW she operates a weekend shop and gallery specialising in sustainable products and arts. As part of her community efforts and to raise awareness of environmental issues she teaches natural dyeing and other textile/arts related practises. Her current work is site specific and refers to the connections between materials and techniques and their significance to people and place. (R ))At Petone



## GENERAL INFORMATION AND SPECIAL BOOKING CONDITIONS

### TOUR PRICE:

Land Only per person, twin-share A\$7,250

Single Supplement A\$2,250

### LAND ONLY TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Transport including private coach, taxis, trains and ferry
- Transfers and entry fees as per itinerary
- Comfortable twin share accommodation with private facilities
- All breakfasts plus meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Services of Tour Leader
- Tour booklet
- Workshops (some material costs may apply)

### LAND ONLY TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- International air travel between Australia and New Zealand
- Airport taxes
- Beverages with meals (excl. tea and coffee at breakfast)
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Travel Insurance
- Airport to hotel transfers if not travelling on suggested flights
- Visa requirements of the tour member
- Items of personal nature (phone, laundry etc.)

### AIRFARES:

Please contact our travel agent Tony O'Halloran, Out and About Travel, 02 9358 6633, for best available fares at time of booking.

### *I'm Interested...How Do I Book?*

Fill in the online Booking Form, read and agree with our Terms & Conditions, select your payment option for your deposit of \$725.00 per person to Alumni Travel and submit. Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive a confirmation of your place in writing.

### DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT:

The deposit is accepted as a first instalment of the tour cost and will be fully refunded if the arrangements cannot be confirmed or the tour is cancelled by Alumni Travel. Final payment for the tour needs to be received at least 60 days prior to tour departure. An invoice will be sent two weeks before the final payment is due.

### CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS:

Any cancellation from the tour needs to be done in writing. The cancellation date will be taken from the day your written cancellation is received by Alumni Travel. Because of the tour cancellation charges imposed by our various suppliers, the following cancellation charges apply, per person:

Over 60 days before before tour starts \$100.00 – Admin Fee  
59 – 40 days before tour starts 25% of tour cost  
39 – 10 days before tour starts 50% of tour cost  
Within 10 days before tour starts 100% of tour cost

If a difference occurs between these cancellation conditions and those imposed by our suppliers, then the conditions of the supplier shall apply. There is no refund before or after travel has commenced or for any unused portion of the tour, either in regard to the standard group arrangements or separate independent arrangements.

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS:

Payments by credit card will be subject to a 2% non-refundable Merchant Administration Fee.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE:

It is now standard policy with our company that all our international travellers have some type of international travel insurance, so that you are covered for any unforeseen circumstances that may arise. A comprehensive Insurance brochure is available from our tour partners Out and About Travel. The insurance brochure contains the terms and conditions under which insurance cover will be offered to you.

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS:

Payments by credit card will be subject to a 2% non-refundable Merchant Administration Fee. If you would like Alumni Travel to assist you with any additional arrangements pre or post tour, please contact our office for assistance at time of booking. All arrangements need to be finalised at least 30 days prior to your departure.

### AMENDMENTS:

An administration fee of \$30.00 per amendment will be charged for any changes made to any reservation within 30 days prior to your departure. Any additional charges imposed by our suppliers will also be payable.

### PASSPORT AND VISAS:

It is the traveller's responsibility to ensure that they possess the necessary travel documentation for the tour, such as a valid passport and any required visas. Your passport should be valid at least 6 months beyond the end of your journey and have two clear pages for each country to be visited in your journey.

### FORCED CANCELLATION:

In the event that passenger numbers do not reach the minimum number of tour participants (approximately 8, excluding the tour leader) required for the tour, it may be necessary to either surcharge or cancel the tour. If such an event does occur, you will be notified at least 60 days prior to the tour departure.

### TOUR PRICES:

This tour price has been calculated on the basis of exchange rates and tariffs at time of print and is subject to change up until final payment has been received. At the time of final invoicing (approximately two months prior to the tour departure date), Alumni Travel reserves the right to re-cost the tour based on actual exchange rates. This could mean an increase or decrease to the above listed prices. Should you decide to cancel your arrangements on the basis of a change in the tour price, normal cancellation charges will apply.

### COVID 19

We cannot accept responsibility for any sudden changes or delays in travel due to Covid19. We monitor the situation daily and ask you to do the same. At present there is no requirement to be vaccinated for travel between Australia and New Zealand.

#### For bookings please contact:

Rob Lovell

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