

# Bay of Islands, Northland, New Zealand

Where New Zealand's founding document was signed and 144 islands spill into a sparkling blue bay — the Bay of Islands rewards every kind of curious cruiser, from history buffs to dolphin-chasers.

 Tender port

 Typical call: 7-9 hrs

 NZ Dollar (NZD)

 English / Te Reo Māori

## MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrive: \_\_\_\_\_

All aboard: \_\_\_\_\_

Excursion: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## GETTING ASHORE

**Docking:** Tender to Waitangi Wharf, near Paihia

**Best For:** Māori history, boat cruises, wildlife, scenic walks

**Walk to centre:** 5-min shuttle or 20-min waterfront walk to Paihia

**Don't Miss:** Waitangi Treaty Grounds & Hole in the Rock cruise

 Getting around:  Taxi  NZD \$30 minimum

## TOP THINGS TO DO

- Waitangi Treaty Grounds** — Walk a few hundred metres from the tender wharf to where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840 — NZ's founding...
  - Hole in the Rock Cruise** — A classic Bay of Islands bucket-list trip — cruise out to Cape Brett and pass through the sea arch carved into...
- Historic Russell** — New Zealand's first European town and briefly its capital.
  - Island Cruise & Snorkel** — Half-day tours explore the bay's 144 islands, stopping at Urupukapuka or Motuarohia (Robertson Island) for swimming...
  - Cape Reinga Day Trip** — Long but spectacular: a guided coach tour to NZ's northernmost tip where the Tasman Sea meets the Pacific Ocean, often...

## BEST WALKS

- Waitangi Wharf to Waitangi Treaty Grounds** 1.2 km | 20 min | Easy | Flat waterfront — Walk north along the waterfront from Waitangi Wharf, cross the Waitangi Bridge over the Waitangi River estuary, and arrive at the...
- Russell Historic Waterfront Walk** 1.5 km | 30 min | Easy | Ferry required — From Russell Wharf, stroll The Strand south past the Duke of Marlborough Hotel, Christ Church (1835), and the Pompallier Mission.
- Flagstaff Hill (Te Maiki), Russell** 2 km return | 45 min | Moderate | Some uphill — From near the boat ramp on The Strand, a short track climbs to Flagstaff Hill for panoramic views over the Bay of Islands, Paihia, and...

## WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

| Mon | High | Low | Rain |
|-----|------|-----|------|
| Apr | 69°  | 58° | 10d  |
| Jun | 61°  | 51° | 11d  |
| Aug | 60°  | 49° | 12d  |
| Sep | 62°  | 50° | 12d  |
| Oct | 65°  | 53° | 12d  |

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:47AM–5:59PM · Jun 7:30AM–5:17PM · Aug 7:05AM–5:51PM · Sep 6:23AM–6:14PM · Oct 6:41AM–7:37PM

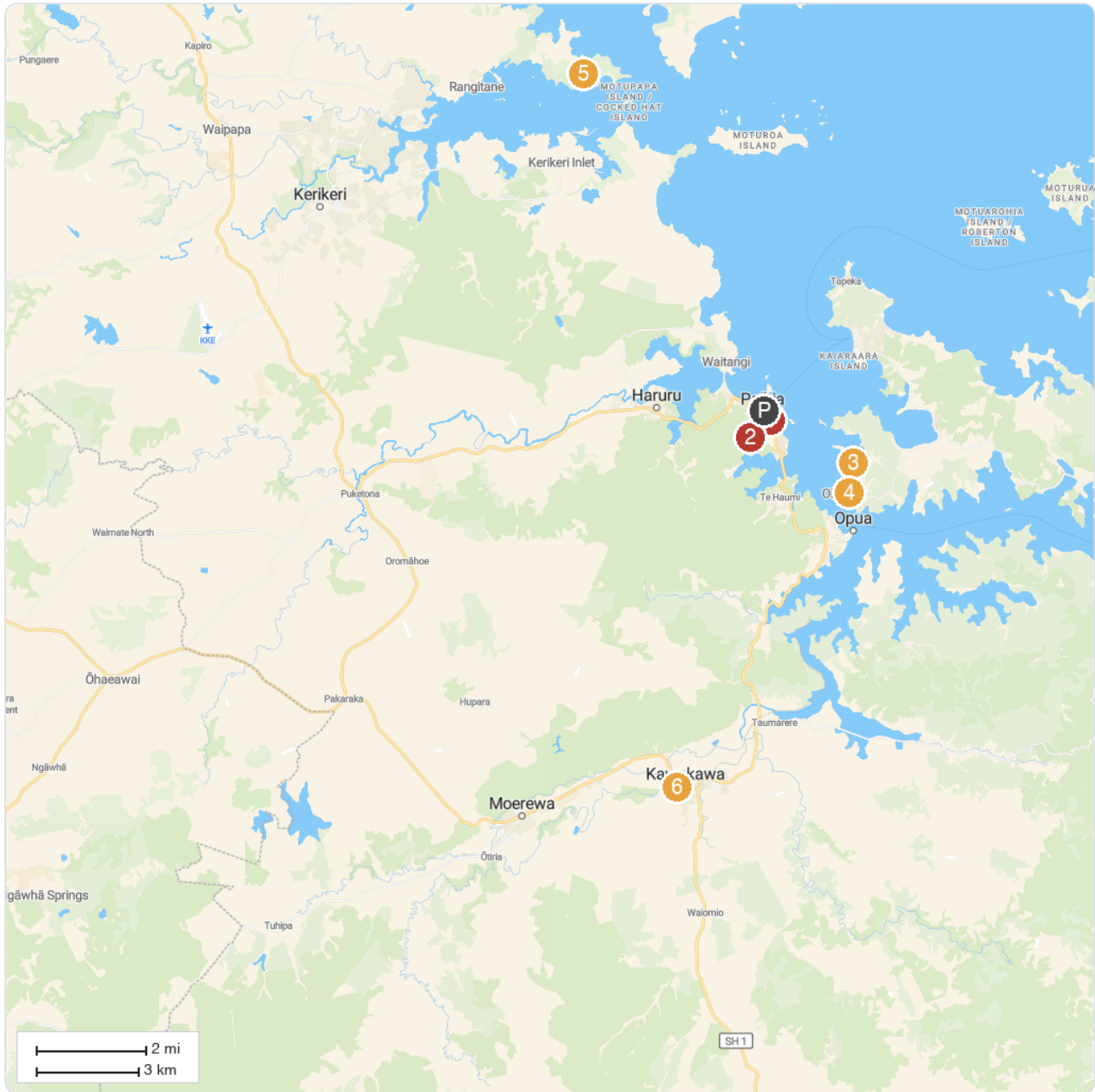
## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Tender early. Queues build quickly on busy ship days — get ashore in the first wave to maximize time, especially if heading to the Treaty Grounds or booking a full-day Cape Reinga...

# Bay of Islands, Northland, New Zealand — Port Map

[cruiseports.org](https://cruiseports.org)

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| <p><b>1</b> Barefoot Sailing Adventures</p> <p><b>3</b> Omata Estate Vineyard &amp; Kitchen</p> <p><b>5</b> Kerikeri Cruising Club &amp; Marina</p> <p><b>P</b> Cruise port / terminal</p> | <p>Enjoy scenic sailing tours and island adventures.</p> <p>A beautiful vineyard offering wine tasting and delicious food.</p> <p>A vibrant marina and club for boating enthusiasts.</p> | <p><b>2</b> Opua Forest Paihia Lookout Track Entrance</p> <p><b>4</b> First New Zealand Capital</p> <p><b>6</b> Bay of Islands Vintage Railway</p> | <p>Start a scenic forest walk to a stunning lookout.</p> <p>Visit Okiato, New Zealand's very first capital settlement.</p> <p>Ride a historic steam train through scenic countryside.</p> |
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