

## The Waka (coach trip)



Your coach trip out to Tamaki Maori village depicts that of the early journeys of Maori Ancestry from their homeland known as Hawaiki to Aotearoa (New Zealand) about 1350. Legend tells us that Maori came to New Zealand in a fleet of canoes (Waka). People from the different Waka settled each area in New Zealand; therefore, each person from any one tribe is identified by the Waka their ancestors arrived on.

The separate main tribes and their related Waka throughout New Zealand are as follows;

Northland & Auckland - Kurahaupo, Mamari  
Waikato - Tainui  
Rotorua - Te Arawa  
Bay of Plenty - Mataatua  
East cape & East Coast - Takitimu, Horouta  
North Island West Coast - Aotea, Tokomaru  
South Island - Te Waka-O- Aoraki

Trained navigators steered a course by the stars at night and the direction of the sea swells by day. The ocean-going Waka, which were described as double hauled or outrigger design, were between 15 to 25 meters long. They brought with them to the new land, the rat, dog, kumara (sweet potato) taro, gourd and yam. Once on land, they found plenty of food. They hunted for birds, fish and seals. Giant flightless birds known as Moa, which weighed around 200 kilograms, were also easy prey.



MAORI VILLAGE