

OVER THE HILL - FULL DAY FIELD TRIP TO THE WAIRARAPA

Assemble at the Town hall at 8.15 to board your green Newlands bus on Wakefield Street opposite the Amora Hotel.

On loading you will be checked against the participants list to ensure that the right people are on the right bus. The bus will then depart for the Wairarapa via State Highway 2 along the edge of the harbour and the Hutt Valley. There will be the opportunity for a brief comfort stop at Harcourt Park to the north of Upper Hutt if any participants feel like a break before tackling the windy Rimutaka hill road.

We travel over the hill to Featherston where we will stop for morning tea (provided) and visit the Fell Locomotive Museum. The Museum houses H199, one of six engines designed for use on the famous Rimutaka Incline. The locomotives climbed gradients as steep as 1 in 13 on the 4.8km railway between the settlements of Cross Creek and Summit in the South Wairarapa.

We leave Featherston at 10.15 and head to the vintage aviation museum at Hood Aerodrome near Masterton to photograph a collection of vintage World War I aircraft. The Vintage Aviator's rare and diverse collection of 12 airworthy WWI Fighter including the British SE5a (Scout Experimental), Sopwith Triplane, Bristol F2.B Fighter, German Fokker Dr.1 Triplanes, Fokker D.IV and Pfalz D.III, Sopwith F.1 Camel and the little French Nieuport XI. All displayed aircraft are presented with information boards outlining relevant statistics. Viewing platforms allow visitors to see inside the cockpits of most aircraft on display. The smell of castor oil and old leather transports the senses back to a time when chivalry existed between warring opponents and aircraft designs teetered, sometimes perilously, on the edge of newly discovered technologies.

We leave the Vintage Aviator at 12.15 and head to our next stop in historic Martinborough where we can buy lunch at one of the cafés or sandwich shops around the square. There are cafés where you can get a sit down meal on either side of Kitchener Street where you enter the square while the Bach at the corner of Jellicoe Street, on the right hand side of the square, and Providore, a block down Jellicoe Street on the left, have takeaway rolls, sandwiches, and pies.

At 1.45 pm we leave Martinborough Square and head to Alana Estate winery and vineyard where we can photograph the vineyard and winery where harvesting and plunging should still be in progress or perhaps relax over a sample of some of Alana Estate's award winning wines at a wine tasting session.

We leave Alana Estate at 15.00 pm to return to Wellington Town Hall.

TIME TABLE

Depart Wellington Town Hall	8.30
Arrive at Harcourt Park	9.00
Depart Harcourt Park	9.15
Arrive Featherston Fell Engine Museum	9.45
Depart Featherston Fell Engine Museum	10.15
Arrive Hood Aerodrome, Masterton	10.45
Photography at Aircraft display	
Depart Hood Aerodrome	12.15
Arrive Martinborough	12.45
Lunch and Photography in Martinborough at own cost	
Depart Martinborough	13.45
Arrive Alana Estate Vineyard & Winery	14.00
Photography at Vineyard and winery	
Depart Alana Estate Vineyard & Winery for Wellington	15.00
Arrive Wellington Town Hall, tour ends	17.00

Notes:

- Easy access to all venues
- 1.5 hours bus trip over the winding Rimutaka hill road.
- If required there will be a comfort stop before we head over the hill but please note that this road is notoriously winding if you are inclined to travel sickness.