

New Zealand's Natural History

Naturetrek Tour Report

1 - 22 November 2014

Report compiled by Geoff Henderson



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Yvonne Ayres
Norman Ayres
Dave Long
Carolyn Long
Nick Baker

Day 1/2

Saturday 1st / Sunday 2nd November

In transit to Auckland via Los Angeles

Day 3

Monday 3rd November

At 6 a.m. on a rainy November morning tour leaders Geoff Henderson and Warren Jowett met travellers at Auckland airport ready to begin our New Zealand adventure. As we passed the harbour en route to the hotel, a very dense shower of rain reminded us that wet weather gear can be useful.

After joining those of the group who had arrived beforehand, we set off to the Auckland City walk in the Waitakere Ranges for our introduction to a kauri/podocarp hardwood forest ecosystem. In the city, the first birds on show told the story of European introductions; Indian Myna, Song Thrush, Blackbird, House Sparrows and Starlings. Auckland City vegetation however also supports a number of native birds, and it wasn't long before we had glimpses of Tui, Pukeko and Paradise Shelduck. With the weather clearing quickly, we entered the forest with that lush growth feel all around us. Before too long, the native pigeon's impressive size and subtle iridescence were close at hand, as we walked among the podocarps and palms, with myriads of ferns and herbs. The colourful introduced Eastern Rosella moved about the canopy while Tui sang their deep notes in the giant Kauri which towered over us. The weather cooperated perfectly by clearing up for our first picnic, before we headed out to the Tasman Sea coast at Muriwai, to the Australasian Gannet colony. There are breeding areas for White-fronted Tern and Red-billed Gulls as well as gannets, and watching the birds' expert flight above the cliffs was a real treat. Some eggs were visible, closely grasped between the gannets' green-veined feet when they shifted position. It is a truly dramatic coastline, and a great way to spend a first day.

As we sat down to dinner on the waterfront, the last member of the group joined us and, afterwards, everyone was pleased to catch up on lost sleep!

Day 4

Tuesday 4th November

Today we started with a quick orientation up one of Auckland's volcanic cones, Maungakiekie or One Tree Hill. There is a great view from here, which enabled us to orientate ourselves within the Auckland landscape with its many volcanic cones. Soon after, we called in at the east coast Kawa Kawa Bay, where Pohutukawa trees grow around the shore, and then on to the Miranda Shorebird Centre in the Firth of Thames. As we walked in stealthily, three Banded Rail were spotted on the mud flats – much further away from the protection of the mangroves than expected, and a real bonus for us to see these normally furtive birds. Today was a day for water fowl and waders. We were especially pleased to see Wrybill and New Zealand Dotterels, two iconic NZ birds, among a number of other waders. A lone Curlew was spotted on the shelly chenier ridge, with a good numbers of godwit and knot as well as a few Curlew Sandpipers and Pacific Golden Plover. Pied Stilts fed in the ponded areas away from the sea and further back, Black Shag and Royal Spoonbills rested while a Swamp Harrier soared above. Just before we left, the incoming tide was moving the waders to feed further in shore. We drove back past remnants of the podocarp-hardwood forest that were once more widespread today.

Day 5

Wednesday 5th November

The rainy start gave way to clearing weather as we approached Whangaparoa Peninsula, the ferry port for Tiri Tiri Matangi – the sanctuary island of today's visit. This once farmed island has only a little old growth forest and has been re-vegetated over the last 30 years. It is an open sanctuary where many of New Zealand's rare species of birds and reptiles have been placed as part of a nation-wide conservation strategy. As we walked along the jetty, a large ray swam gracefully beneath us. As soon as we stepped ashore the Red-crowned Parakeets could be heard chattering and the Whiteheads worked through the canopy. As the native flax was flowering, some of the honey-eating Bellbirds and Tui had orange heads from the flax pollen, giving them an exotic look. On the Wattle Track, Stitchbirds and Bellbirds fed and called loudly near the feeders that are still required, as the planted vegetation still does not have the quantity or variety of food available.

Nearing the lighthouse, we had a marvellous prolonged views of a Kokako feeding on Cordyline flowers and repeatedly calling its haunting song; this was special. After lunch at the visitors' centre, some had a quick trip with Warren to see Brown Teal, while the others made their way along the ridge. As we met again, we were lucky to see a Takahē emerge near the water trough. These are birds from the captive rearing programme, placed here as an insurance policy, should anything happen to the remnant population in Fiordland. On our way back on the Kawerau Track, we were treated again to wonderful views of Kokako – this time a pair feeding on young leaves of Pigeon Wood quite close to us. It was fantastic to see the birds holding a leaf to eat in one foot, like a hand, while standing on the other. Both these amazing views of Kokako were about as good as it could ever get of this very rare bird. The ferry took the 20 minutes back to Gulf Harbour and we drove back to the hotel to pack our gear for moving on tomorrow.

Day 6

Thursday 6th November

It was time to say goodbye to the city of sails, Auckland, and head south to Rotorua. This thermal city really gives you the feel it is 'alive' with steam issuing from street drains and fumaroles dotted around the city's parks. The morning showers cleared for our lunch by the lake, where the tea tree is stunted by the heat in the earth

below. We had a pleasant picnic beside the Little Shag colony where scaup abound. Several dabchick were spotted swimming in the lake and there were Pukeko on the golf course nearby.

The afternoon's action was a lovely walk down the thermal valley at Waimangu. Steaming lakes, sinter terraces and hot water gushes and deep blue inferno crater lake were lined with stunted tea tree, many ferns and the notable *Psilotum nudum*, an ancient fern ally. A black phase Fantail chatted to us, and we had a good view of a Tomtit as we walked. The bus took us back up the hill and the last stop, before heading to Lake Taupo for the night, was at a boiling mud pool with its mesmerizing porridge-like plopping sounds. As we approached Taupo, we had some idea of just how big this volcanic eruption must have been – looking more peaceful these days as a large lake filled caldera.

Day 7

Friday 7th November

Today we had breakfast at Pureora Forest, about an hour's drive away, so we were up and away early. The table was set up near the towering podocarps and hardwood canopy that make up that great forest. A Kokako showed briefly, with Kaka flying over the tree tops, and we became more familiar with the characteristic flight pattern of the Tui. We then walked around the Totara walk – aptly named; these towering Totara are revered by Maori. The feel of this forest with huge trees, tree ferns and robin investigating us was like another world.

We next drove through a mixture of milled and original forest to our lunch spot, looking down towards a stream on the Rimu Walk. A Shining Cuckoo briefly showed us its barred breast and iridescent back, while we could only hear the Long-tailed Cuckoo, just below the lookout. Parrot Orchids and the interesting *Phyllocladus* podocarps grew along the walk among the tree ferns, majestic Rimu and Kahikatea trees.

It was time to head off for Tongariro National Park and as we drew near, the snow-covered cone of Mt Ngauruhoe (Mt Doom!) and Mt Ruapehu came into view. Although the next day was for searching for Blue Duck, we were keen to give ourselves the best chance, so after a longer than expected walk most of us were able to see four adults and four chicks in the river below. It was great to see them managing the turbulent water so easily. We checked into Skotel on that fine cool evening: the temperature was not surprising as Whakapapa Village is at 1,119metres (3,671feet) above sea level.

Day 8

Saturday 8th November

The day dawned clear with early risers managing some great photos of sunrise on snowy mountains. The first task was to find more Blue Duck so everyone could see them, and this was quickly done on the Whakapapanui River just above the village. We then set off on the Taranaki Falls Track with the volcanic peaks our back drop. The walk took us through tussock and shrubland and our first beech forest (*Nothofagus solandri var cliffortioides*). The waterfall plunged down its spectacular height and we were fortunate to see New Zealand Falcon in a tussle with a harrier, as well as circling above us.

After lunch in the café we drove to the bottom of the ski field for a great view. The first *Gentiana* leaves were peeping through the soil and an eyebright or two were showing their white flowers. Even up here, a fern or two could be found in crevices in the rock. After a look in at the visitors' centre, we had time for relaxing before dinner.

Day 9

Sunday 9th November

We left Whakapapa village on a clear crisp day with the mountains looking larger than life. On the way to the ferry, we had a quick look in at Foxton Beach estuary where we saw Eastern Bar-tailed Godwit and Knot, and sharp eyes spotted Pacific Golden Plovers as well. After walking on to the ferry, we managed to spot NZ White-capped Albatross, Giant Petrel and a number of Fairy Terns in the middle of the strait and gannets and Fluttering Shearwaters on the calm waters of the Marlborough Sounds. It was good to set foot in Picton, with our hotel overlooking the harbour.

Day 10

Monday 10th November

Next morning was our day for our morning's boat charter, to catch up with the rare King Shag in the Marlborough Sounds, a complex system of drowned valleys. The skipper, Paul, carefully manoeuvred our boat to within photographing distance of a group of King Shags which sat nervously watching us while a Weka fossicked about for food around their roosting site. In warm sunshine, we became familiar with little Blue Penguins, Spotted Shags, Pied Shags and rafts of Fluttering Shearwaters. On the sanctuary island of Motuara, some watched Yellow-crowned Parakeet, Bellbird and a robin with a chick bathe in a shallow pool, while others chose to walk to the top of the island saw South Island Saddleback. A New Zealand Falcon flew above as a goodbye, as we cast off from the wharf. Next was a short visit to Blumine sanctuary island, which saw us searching for the rare Orange-fronted Parakeet among the peeling Bellbirds and native Passion Vine. The birdsong and peacefulness of the island was palpable, but we only managed a fleeting view of the rare parakeet as we left.

After a café lunch in Picton, we headed south for Kaikoura, a coastal town nestled under the Seaward Kaikoura Ranges. Just north of the town, we walked a short distance through coastal bush to a waterfall. Here in the pool, pups from the adjacent NZ Fur Seal colony clamber or swim up the stream to use the pool under the waterfall as a safe play area. To watch the grace of these young animals at home in their watery element was a real treat. Back at the colony on the coast, the females were close to giving birth to the new season's pups. It is great to see these animals doing so well after historic hunting had severely diminished their population.

Day 11

Tuesday 11th November

The weather which had threatened our albatross boat trip luckily cooperated, and we set off for the deep water trench which comes so close to the shore in this area. It was wonderful to see the sheer size of the Southern Royal and Wandering Albatross as they showed their precision wingtip control over the sea's surface. The NZ White-capped and Salvin's Albatross, though smaller are very impressive, and what the Northern Giant Petrels lack in size when compared to albatross, they certainly make up in attitude if there is any food about. By looking at the birds that were attracted to a fishing boat and using a small block of frozen chum, we were able to become very familiar with each species very close to us and observe their behaviour over a period of time. This really allows you time to observe the kind of detail that is often so difficult in pelagic situations. It was great to have a species list for the trip copied for us on our return.

The afternoon was a free choice time where people could relax or explore as they chose. It was great to see some Banded Dotterel and chick on the beach at South Bay. Today was Armistice Day – all NZ towns have a war

memorials and these reminded us of the significance of the day. As the day came to a close, there were tell-tale signs that a cold front was approaching.

Day 12

Wednesday 12th November

In the morning the temperature had fallen, though it was still dry. We said goodbye to the picturesque coast and the Marlborough Rock Daisy on the cliffs of Kaikoura. The first stop was at St Anne's lagoon. A pleasant spot with many planted specimen trees including *Pinus coulteri* with its giant pine cones. New Zealand Shoveler, Scaup, Black Swan, Grey Teal and Coot were feeding on the lagoon. We had a quick look at earthquake damage/demolition in Rangiora before stopping at Waimakariri Gorge for lunch – just on the edge of rain we were obviously going to get as we headed west! Black-fronted Terns hawked delicately for insects over the channels of the river, as it fanned out into its wide braided bed after leaving the confines of the gorge. Over Porter's Pass into the intermontane limestone basins of Cragieburn, we stopped for a leg stretch and spotted Australasian Crested Grebe in the distance on Lake Pearson as the rain began. We were still hopeful of good weather though, as after a cold front, the weather clears from the southwest first – just where we were heading! Arthur's Pass is the divide between western and eastern catchments and also the rough division between the drier east and the rainforest of the West Coast. The antics of the Kea were only briefly on show as we made our way down the impressive Otira Valley, where the river tumbles steeply over massive rocks on its way down to the West Coast. Huge purple 'pineapple' heaths grew in the montane beech forest. As we drove down the valley, the beech forest was replaced by podocarp hardwood forest which, being bird dispersed, was much faster to colonise after glaciation than beech forest.

Just before we drove into Hokitika, sharp eyes picked up White-faced Heron, Cape Barren Goose and New Zealand Pipit: one of the real bonuses of having a very observant group! As well, the weather was beginning to show signs of clearing already as we looked west of the hotel, with nothing to the west of us except the Tasman Sea.

Day 13

Thursday 13th November

The day dawned fine with some light cloud visible from our breakfast venue near lake Matheson, and a brief visit to Lake Mahinipua proved interesting, as we watched Brown Creeper feeding in the Kamahi trees. Okarito Lagoon had two White-faced Heron quite close – both in breeding plumage with black bills and filigree feathers. Walking up to Fox Glacier lookout, we had a really intimate look at exactly what a U-shaped glacial valley is actually like, with steep walls towering above us, and a good view of the succession of vegetation stages from bare moraine to older cover. The Gunnera growing there, was in stark contrast to the giant Gunnera of European stream-side gardens! Today was logistically busy, with the motel in Fox Glacier, dinner on Franz Josef Glacier and the night's kiwi expedition for Okarito Brown Kiwi (Rowi) near Okarito. Ian positioned the group in the best places and it was great to see this rare kiwi. We were happy to have a very successful night and not to be too late!

Day 14

Friday 14th November

Today we travelled through massively contrasting country; from West Coast rainforest, over the montane Haast Pass, down a rainfall gradient in the drier Makarora Valley, past Lakes Wanaka and Hawea and into Central

Otago's more gently sloping block/fold mountains. This is about as far as you can get from the sea in New Zealand. Then we drove over the wonderfully lit Lindis Pass tussock-covered summit, and on to Lake Ohau. On the way however, we walked through majestic West Coast forest, festooned with epiphytes, to Munro Beach, where we were lucky enough to see three individual Fiordland Crested Penguins escape the surf's backwash and walk up (and back down) the beach, behind which they nest. We were also pleased to catch a good look at New Zealand's smallest bird, the Rifleman. This happened just after a Yellowhead had flitted into view for us near Haast Pass. The Riflemen were close to the ground and busily feeding. As we approached Lake Ohau, the typical orographic rain could be seen spilling over the Southern Alps, but just short of the lodge. We were welcomed to the lodge and, before long, we were eating dinner in the dining room looking out over the lake at the post-glacial landscape. Some even made plans to use the outdoor hot tubs on the deck!

Day 15

Saturday 15th November

We awoke to a bright day. Looking east, the weather was fine but, looking west, heavy rain cloud lay over the mountains. As we drove up the canal towards Aoraki Mt Cook we spotted a lone Black Stilt near Lake Poaka. It is great to see these rarest of birds. Their habitat is much reduced in recent history, as is their number and distribution. At the Tasman River delta we were also lucky enough to see one juvenile, with its blotchy plumage, and three adults. The plan now was to walk up the picturesque Hooker Valley in Aoraki Mt Cook national park. Looking west, we could see we were in for a wet time. When we got there however, that rain had turned to driving sleet! Spirits only marginally dampened, we walked up to just past the first swing bridge. From here you can see Mueller Lake and glimpses of parts of Mt Sefton and Aoraki itself, through the scudding cloud. The white ice-fed glacial river roared below us, and a couple of avalanches boomed in the back ground. We did manage to have a quick investigation of New Zealand's divaricating, tangly shrubs and the amazing sword-leaved member of the Carrot family, *Aciphylla*, before retreating to the warm and dry. After a quick look at the visitors' centre, we drove down valley to sunshine again for a late lunch. At Kelland's Ponds some great crested grebe came quite close for us, and we drove back to Ohau Lodge as the rain came in.

Day 16

Sunday 16th November

Aoraki Mt Cook looked clear and sharp from the breakfast table. Black-fronted Terns hawked for insects as we drove towards our first stop – a few minutes among the golden tussock ridge of Lindis Pass. New Zealand's barren craggy interior was impressive up the Kawerau Gorge to Lake Wakatipu, where the river drains the lake, and a dusting of new snow made the Remarkables look especially picturesque.

After lunch in Te Anau, we drove to the Lake Gunn nature walk, where the green mosses and liverworts carpet the Red Beech forest in myriad shades of green. It was good to see more Riflemen and hear the Kaka call in the distance. Waves gently lapped at the glacial shores of Lake Gunn, as we looked through the trees to the north. Lake Te Anau looked tranquil from the hotel dining room, as the light faded over Fiordland National Park on the far side.

Day 17

Monday 17th November

Today, Carolyn and Dave, two of our number, and Warren left the group for Stewart Island while, for the rest of us, Milford Sound was our destination. In an old ox-bow of the Eglinton River, the Mirror Lakes' crystal clear

water meant that if you were lucky, you could see the diving scaup underwater with bubbles coming from their nostrils. As we drove over The Divide, breaks in the cloud meant that Mt Christina and Mt Crosscut towered above, while the aqua-coloured Hollyford River below roared its way to the west coast. The vertical walls and permanent snow of the Homer-Gertrude area really put human endeavour into perspective, and the Mt Cook Buttercups were coming to their best. After a long, and sadly unsuccessful, look for Rock Wren, we finally drove through Homer tunnel down to the Chasm, where the power of water to sculpt rock makes an impressive, intimate gorge. Everybody decided to opt for the cruise on Milford Sound. The Fiordland Crested Penguins were seen again, and visibility allowed good views of this glacially-gouged fiord, with its waterfalls, sheer cliffs, and tree avalanche-scarred buttresses, from the comfort of the boat.

Day 18

Tuesday 18th November

Our plane to Stewart Island departed from Invercargill in the late afternoon, so we were had time to break up the day with a number of interesting stops en route. After looking back over the Te Anau basin from Ramparts lookout, we spent half an hour in the unusual Wilderness Reserve where Bog Pine shrubs grow among pale *Racomitrium* moss on an old river terrace. Driving on through Western Southland we passed through Tuatapere, and briefly saw a Shining Cuckoo at the historic suspension bridge at Clifden, where the Waiau River slowly washes the limestone scarps.

Lunch in Riverton was a breezy affair, with the cool wind making us hang on to our hats! After a short walk on lowland forest and a quick look around the Invercargill museum (for Tuatara and extinct Moa), we checked in at the airport, hoping recent wind warnings would not affect our flight to Stewart Island. Conditions had eased and though the flight had a few bumps, we all settled in to our rooms in Halfmoon Bay, hoping conditions were calm enough for tonight's planned kiwi spotting trip. Alas, the back-up night of tomorrow was needed. A few of us climbed to Observation Rock for a great, somewhat stormy, view as squalls periodically blew through. Not to be deterred, some of us spotted a Morepork (NZ Owl) briefly in a tree, before it flew off.

Day 19

Wednesday 19th November

Our day started by collecting the lunches and heading off on "Wildfire", hoping the trip wouldn't have to be too modified by the wind and showers. Soon we saw good numbers of Fiordland Crested Penguins, even one on a nest. Yellow-eyed Penguins were more difficult but one was spotted, back to us, under the salt-tolerant Titiaweka, a tree daisy that hugs the coast line. Out near the islands of Herekopare and Jacky Lee, we admired a pair of Brown Skua with chicks, as they wheeled about in that muscly, assertive flight they do so well. Salvin's and NZ White-capped Albatross were keen to investigate us as a possible food source, as were numerous Cape Petrel. Diving Petrels passed us with their characteristic direct flight. All seemed unbothered by the occasional squall. As lunch time approached we steamed past Bench Island and into Paterson Inlet. After a quick lunch we set off to look around the sanctuary Island, Ulva. Once a central post office in the 1800's for the saw-millers of the inlet, the Ulva Island is now predator free, and home to many rare and endangered birds. Robins fed fearlessly at our feet and it was great to see many Spider Orchids as well a coastal Gentian on the island. The podocarp hardwood forest here, while not as tall in its northern latitudes, has a rugged grandeur. A Weka parent busily showed its chick how to forage amongst the tidal wrack on the shore at Boulder Beach. The South Island Saddleback was briefly seen, the juvenile having no 'saddle'. On the way back to the boat, a Yellowhead was seen low down and close at hand - possibly as a result of the showery sleet!

Back to the motel to await news of kiwi spotting tonight – and yes, our fingers crossed worked, it was on! At 8.15pm we set off on 'Wildfire' for Glory Cove where we would walk across to Ocean Beach to look for the Stewart Island Brown Kiwi. Previous rain had left the track a little slippery but we all arrived on the beach, keen to look for kiwi. It was still quite light in the southern twilight and, after searching along the beach for quite a while, our group managed to see both a female and a male kiwi feeding on sand hoppers on the beach. When this happens, everyone can see well because there is plenty of room, and it was great to watch the kiwi sticking its bill right down deep into the sand in the half light of the edge of the torch beam, with the snuffling sound as it cleared its nostrils. On show too, were the southern stars. The Southern Cross and the two pointers were clearly visible, as was Orion's Belt – upside down of course! The one or two ghostly prions that could be seen flying in the light of the searchlight as we drank our hot coffee on the way home in the dark, completed a very full day.

Day 20

Thursday 20th November

Satisfied that we had managed our trips despite squally weather, we were in front of the hotel just before 8am., ready to be picked up for the short flight back to Invercargill. Keen eyes counted not less than 20 Royal Spoonbills in the estuary shortly before the plane came in to land. After picking up Warren and the lunch, we set off for Dunedin via the scenic landscape of The Catlins area of SE Southland and Otago. We had the magnificent Tautuku Beach to ourselves as we walked down it for a few hundred metres with a Caspian Tern patrolling just behind the breakers, and were able to look back from Florence Hill down this lovely, lonely beach. After coffee in Owaka, our next stop was Nugget Point, where the rugged rocks of the Southland Syncline disappear into the South Pacific. A lone Southern Elephant Seal rested in the shallows whilst NZ Fur Seals basked on the rocks after their nocturnal fishing. The cliffs here are spectacular and a few alpine plants grow unusually close the sea.

Time moving on, we made the last leg up to Dunedin to check-in and prepare for our last activity; the dinner cruise in and beyond Otago Harbour. A short drive out to Deborah Bay took us to 'Caprice' the catamaran, and we set off on a pleasantly mild evening. Soon a few Northern Royal Albatross could be seen soaring round the colony above. This small colony is the only Northern Royal Albatross colony on mainland New Zealand. Sailing past Stewart Island and spotted shag colonies, nesting Royal Spoonbills and out to sea a little where we were eventually lucky to bump into a small group of Hector's Dolphin. Barely a metre long and with a rounded dorsal fin, the rare animals joined us briefly. As we entered the harbour, dinner was served and rounded off a very pleasant and interesting last evening to the trip. All good things come to an end!

Day 21/22

Friday 21st / Saturday 22nd November

Before breakfast we shared our last bird list, then went to our own chosen activities for the morning, before lunch, goodbyes and flights north to leave this little part of the South Pacific and return home: the trip was at an end. From north to south, east coast to west we had covered a wide range of country. Our bird total stood at 121 for the trip and we had covered 5800km over the trip.

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Species List

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; H = Heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	November																	
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	Stewart Island Brown Kiwi	<i>Apteryx australis lawryi</i>																	✓	
2	Okarito Brown Kiwi (Rowi)	<i>Apteryx rowi</i>											✓							
3	Australasian Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus australis</i>										✓			✓					
4	New Zealand Dabchick	<i>Podiceps rufopectus</i>				✓														
5	Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>									✓									
6	Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>									✓									✓
7	White-capped (Shy) Albatross	<i>Diomedea cauta steadi</i>							✓		✓								✓	✓
	Salvin's Albatross	<i>Diomedea salvini</i>									✓								✓	
8	Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>							GP		✓								✓	✓
9	Snares Cape Petrel	<i>Daption capense australe</i>							CP		✓								✓	
	Cape Petrel	<i>Daption capense</i>																	✓	✓
10	Grey-faced Petrel	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>									✓									
11	Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>							✓										Prion	
12	Westland (Black) Petrel	<i>Procellaria westlandica</i>									✓									
13	Buller's Shearwater	<i>Puffinus bulleri</i>									✓									
14	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>							✓	✓									✓	✓
15	Fluttering Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gavia</i>							✓	✓	✓									
16	Hutton's Shearwater	<i>Puffinus huttoni</i>									✓									
17	Common Diving Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix</i>																	✓	
18	Yellow-eyed Penguin	<i>Megadyptes antipodes</i>																	✓	
19	Blue Penguin	<i>Eudyptula minor iredalei</i>			✓				✓	✓								✓	✓	✓
20	Fiordland Penguin	<i>Eudyptes pachyrhynchus</i>												✓			✓		✓	
21	Australasian Gannet	<i>Morus serrator</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓										
22	Little Black Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	✓			✓			✓											
23	Little Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
24	King Shag	<i>Leucocarbo carunculatus</i>								✓										
25	Stewart Island Shag	<i>Leucocarbo chalconotus</i>																	✓	✓
26	Spotted Shag	<i>Punctatus punctatus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓
27	Black Shag (Great Cormorant)	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	November																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
28	Pied Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓							✓	✓
29	White-faced Heron	<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
30	Great Egret (White Heron)	<i>Egretta alba</i>										✓	✓						
31	Reef Heron	<i>Egretta sacra</i>			✓														
32	Royal Spoonbill	<i>Platalea regia</i>		✓														✓	✓
33	Black Swan	<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓					✓	✓
34	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	✓	✓		✓								✓	✓			✓	
35	Cape Barren Goose	<i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>										✓							
36	Paradise Shelduck	<i>Tadorna variegata</i>	h	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Grey Duck	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>				✓						✓			✓				
39	Grey Teal	<i>Anas gibberifrons</i>				✓	✓					✓							
40	Brown Teal	<i>Anas. aucklandica</i>			✓														
41	New Zealand Shoveler	<i>Anas rhynchos</i>					✓				✓	✓							
42	Blue Duck	<i>Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos</i>					✓	✓	✓										
43	New Zealand Scaup	<i>Aythya novaeseelandiae</i>		✓		✓	✓					✓			✓	✓	✓		
44	Swamp Harrier	<i>Circus approximans</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45	New Zealand Falcon	<i>Falco novaeseelandiae</i>					✓	✓		✓									
46	Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopava</i>		✓								✓							
47	California Quail	<i>Lophortyx californica</i>	✓			✓	✓				✓								
48	Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		✓															
49	Weka	<i>Gallirallus australis</i>								✓		✓	✓						✓
50	Banded Rail	<i>Rallus philippensis</i>		✓															
51	Pukeko (Purple Swamphen)	<i>Porphyrio melanotus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
52	Takahe	<i>Porphyrio mantelli</i>			✓														
53	Australian Coot	<i>Fulica atra australis</i>										✓			✓				
54	South Island Pied Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>		✓							✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
55	Variable Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
56	Spur Winged Plover	<i>Vanellus miles</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>		✓					✓										
58	New Zealand Dotterel	<i>Charadrius obscurus</i>		✓															
59	Banded Dotterel	<i>Charadrius bicinctus</i>		✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	November																	
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
60	Wrybill	<i>Anarhynchus frontalis</i>		✓																
61	Far-eastern Curlew	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>		✓					✓											
62	Eastern Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>		✓					✓										✓	
63	Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>		✓					✓											
64	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>		✓																
65	Pied Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓				✓	✓			✓		✓	
66	Black Stilt	<i>Himantopus novaezealandiae</i>												✓						
67	Southern Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus dominicalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
68	Red-billed Gull	<i>Larus novaehollandiae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
69	Black-billed Gull	<i>Larus bulleri</i>		✓							✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
70	Brown Skua	<i>Catharacta skua</i>																	✓	
71	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		✓					✓	✓	✓								✓	
72	Black-fronted Tern	<i>Sterna albobristata</i>										✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
73	White-fronted Tern	<i>Sterna striata</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	
74	Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia risoria</i>	✓	✓																
75	New Zealand Pigeon	<i>Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
76	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓						✓	
77	Kaka	<i>Nestor meridionalis</i>					✓											✓	✓	
78	Kea	<i>Nestor notabilis</i>										✓	✓				✓			
79	Eastern Rosella	<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	✓																	
80	Red-crowned Parakeet	<i>Cyanoramphus novaezealandiae</i>			✓		✓										P	✓	✓	
81	Yellow-crowned Parakeet	<i>Cyanoramphus auriceps</i>					✓			✓										
82	Orange-crowned Parakeet	<i>Cyanoramphus malherbi</i>								✓										
83	Pacific Long-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Urodynamis taitensis</i>						H												
84	Shining Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>					✓					✓							✓	
85	Morepork	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>																	✓	
86	New Zealand Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon sancta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓								
87	Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
88	Rifleman	<i>Acanthisitta chloris</i>											✓		✓					
89	Silveryeye	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
90	Grey Warbler	<i>Gerygone igata</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
91	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>		✓						✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	November																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
92	New Zealand Pipit	<i>Anthus novaseelandiae</i>										✓			✓				
93	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
94	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
95	Dunnock (Hedge Sparrow)	<i>Prunella modularis</i>			✓	✓		✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
96	Fernbird	<i>Bowdleria Punctata</i>					✓												
97	Pipipi (Brown Creeper)	<i>Mohoua novaseelandiae</i>											✓						✓
98	Whitehead	<i>Mohoua albicilla</i>	✓		✓		✓												
99	Yellowhead	<i>Mohoua ochrocephala</i>												✓					✓
100	Fantail	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
101	Tomtit	<i>Petroica macrocephala</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
102	New Zealand Robin	<i>Petroica australis</i>			✓		✓			✓		✓	✓				✓		✓
103	Kokako	<i>Callaeas cinerea</i>			✓		✓												
104	Stitchbird	<i>Notiomytis cincta</i>			✓														
105	New Zealand Bellbird	<i>Anthomis melanura</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓
106	Tui	<i>Prosthemadura novaseelandiae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
107	South Island Saddleback	<i>Philesturnus carunculatus</i>			✓					✓									✓
108	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
109	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Indian Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓													
111	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
112	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
114	Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓				✓			✓	✓
115	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
116	Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓

Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at www.facebook.com is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!