

## Ekea kā tiritiri o te moana.... Ascend to the heights of your aspirations



### What is Aoraki Bound?

Aoraki Bound is a cultural and personal development programme combining Ngāi Tahu cultural knowledge and expertise with the experience and reputation of Outward Bound in a 20-day journey-based course that builds leadership, cultural awareness and personal development.

### Objectives

**Tō Tātou Reo:** To use and grow an appreciation of the Ngāi Tahu language as a window into our unique culture; and to commit to its ongoing use and development.

**Tō Tātou Ngāi Tahutanga:** To grow an appreciation of Ngāi Tahu culture; and to commit to the future development of our people.

**Tō Tātou Whanaungatanga:** To develop communication skills and effective relationships; To grow the bonds that bind us as individuals into an iwi and value our collective strength and identity.

**Tō Tātou Mana:** To develop an awareness of self; To consider your one's own values and apply them in life to stand with mana and be an empowered individual.

**Tō Tātou Taiao:** To experience the majesty of our lands and waters. To gain an understanding of kaitiakitanga and to commit to the protection and enhancement of our environment and its taonga.

### Purpose

Cultural revitalisation is crucial to the future sustainability and development of Ngāi Tahu as individuals and as a collective. Ngāi Tahu recognise the need to develop their people, their culture and their place in Aotearoa. We have a genuine desire to share our knowledge and values with all New Zealanders as we build a nation and a sense of what it is to be a citizen of this land. Hence, we recognise the importance of building beneficial and lasting relationships with individuals and organisations that share our core values and philosophy.

Mark Solomon, Kaiwhakahaere [Chairman] of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu said;

*"The value of Aoraki Bound will be realised by the differences it makes to the next generation in terms of the revival and perpetuation of Ngāi Tahu culture, knowledge and identity, and the development of our people as future leaders.*

*A strength of the course is that it is not just for Ngāi Tahu, but for all New Zealanders. If we want to be seen as an active member of the community, then we need to involve the community. Enhancing cultural tolerance and understanding doesn't come from being exclusive, we have to be inclusive and the learning and sharing of knowledge works both ways. You can't be proud of something unless you know what it is all about." he says.*

Mark believes the payback to the tribe will be motivated people able to stand up and represent themselves, and an increasing group of non-Maori in the community who are culturally aware.

## Background

In 2005 a team commenced work on a course that combines Ngāi Tahu cultural values, tikanga, mahinga kai and te reo with Outward Bound's exceptional skills and 50 years of experience delivering adventure-based experiential education and development.

A pilot course was completed successfully in March 2006 and followed by a comprehensive evaluation process. To date, eight courses have been run, with a total of 91 participants.

An Alumni of Outward Bound/Aoraki Bound graduates has been created and further opportunities have been and will continue to be made available as appropriate, to support their leadership development.

## Content

Aoraki Bound participants spend 10 days at the Outward Bound facility at Anakiwa, Queen Charlotte Sound and 10 days on a hikoi [journey] from Anakiwa to the base of Aoraki.

The hikoi will take participants to significant Ngāi Tahu historical sites and along ancient pounamu trails. The content will feature te reo [language], mahinga kai [traditional food gathering], rock art, waiata [songs] and whakataukī [proverbs]. Activities include tramping, sailing, waka/kayaking, solo, swimming, jogging and high ropes.

## Course Schedule

The 2012 courses will be held on the following dates:

1. 31 January – 19 February 2012
2. 28 February – 18 March 2012

## How to enrol for a course

The course caters for 14 participants, aged 18 years and over.

Select a course from the above dates. Course fees are \$4,400 + GST [\$5,060]. We do not want cost to prevent any person from participating, and a matched savings scheme together with limited scholarship funding is available to assist where required.

Complete the Aoraki Bound enrolment form and return it with a \$195 deposit, to secure your position.

On receiving your enrolment form and deposit, we will send you an enrolment pack that includes travel information, a gear list, and an Outward Bound medical form to complete with a doctor.

Final acceptance on to a course is subject to Outward Bound receiving and approving the medical form and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu receiving full payment of the course fee six weeks prior to course commencement. *Note: this will vary where scholarship applications received.* Any questions, please contact Janyne Morrison at Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu.

## How to participate

1. Attend a course yourself
2. Support your friends/whānau to attend
3. Sponsor your leaders and emerging leaders to attend
4. Provide a scholarship to support those who may not otherwise be able to attend

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu see Aoraki Bound as an opportunity for our valued contractors/suppliers to become our long term partners by participating in Aoraki Bound and strengthening their understanding of Ngāi Tahu culture, history and our vision for the future.

Typical results from an employer's perspective include – increased self confidence, adherence to values, focus, personal responsibility, motivation, determination, drive, empathy, an ability to work in a team and the concept of service; along with increased understanding of and comfort with Ngāi Tahu culture.

## Contact

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Or visit [www.aorakibound.co.nz](http://www.aorakibound.co.nz) for further information and to view the Aoraki Bound DVD

## Feedback from Aoraki Bound graduates:

*"Aoraki Bound was the richest experience of my life. I have never felt more alive than on those three weeks. I felt truly humbled to have walked in the footsteps of my ancestors.*

*To read a book, to know history is one thing, but to have actually lived it, to have walked those trails is an entirely different experience with far deeper meaning."*

*"The sense of security I now have in my identity as a Ngāi Tahu woman and as a New Zealander is probably the most profound and deeply personal benefit I gained from the course."*

*"Before Aoraki Bound I identified myself as Kāi Tahu, only because my father is Kāi Tahu and it is the Iwi I trace back to. It was not because I felt a deep connection with Kāi Tahu and Te Waipounamu. Aoraki Bound has given me this sense of true identity and belonging to my people and the land on which we live. I now say with pride "I am Kāi Tahu."*

*"I have a newfound inner strength. Before I 'waited' to 'be allowed', now I have my place, know my Ngāi Tahu identity and am stepping up more."*

*"I will now embrace Maori culture instead of being scared of it."*

*"As non-Ngāi Tahu I feel absolutely privileged to be included, it has given me a whole different perspective. I will view New Zealand's political decisions differently now."*

*"My employer has noticed that I am more driven, inspired and more precise in my decision making."*

*"If everyone did this course, the world would be a better place"*