

White Island (Whakaari), Bay of Plenty, New Zealand

A steaming stratovolcano rising from the Bay of Plenty, Whakaari / White Island is viewed from the ship's rail — an eerie lunar landscape of sulfur vents, acid lakes, and gannet colonies glimpsed at a respectful distance.

-  Scenic sail-by only (no landing)
-  Typically 1-2 hrs at speed
-  NZD onshore
-  English / Te Reo Māori
-  Active volcano — Volcanic Alert Level 2

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Scenic cruising only — no pier, no tender, no landing

Best For: Volcano photography, geology lectures, deck viewing

Location: ~48 km off North Island coast in the Bay of Plenty

Don't Miss: Steam plume at sunrise — spectacular from the upper deck

 Getting around:

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Deck Viewing & Photography** — Position yourself on the upper decks or bow as the ship circles Whakaari.
- Onboard Volcanic & Māori History Lecture** — Most ships schedule a lecture to accompany the sail-by.
- Helicopter Overflight (from Tauranga / Whakatāne)** — If your itinerary includes a nearby port call, a scenic helicopter flight over Whakaari lets you peer directly into the...
- Offshore Boat Charter (from Whakatāne)** — Boat charters depart from Whakatāne for close offshore viewing of the island — close enough to smell the sulfur.

BEST WALKS

- Upper Deck Circuit (onboard)** ~10 min loop • Flat • All fitness levels — Walk the ship's upper promenade or lido deck to get 360° views of the island as the ship circles.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	64°	60°	11d
Jun	58°	54°	13d
Aug	55°	51°	13d
Sep	56°	52°	13d
Oct	58°	54°	10d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 6:37AM–5:44PM · Jun 7:24AM–4:59PM · Aug 6:56AM–5:35PM · Sep 6:12AM–6:01PM · Oct 6:26AM–7:27PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring a zoom lens. The ship stays at a safe distance; a smartphone camera won't capture the crater detail. A 200mm+ optical zoom makes a huge difference.
- Aim for the sunrise pass. Holland America and other lines often time the sail-by at dawn — the low light turns the steam plume golden and the scene is extraordinary.
- No landings — period. The 2019 eruption killed 22 people and the prohibition is enforced by New Zealand law. Do not book any tour claiming to land on the island.