

POPULAR WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES IN NEW ZEALAND



From swimming with dolphins and whale watching to encounters with kiwi birds and penguins, here are the best ways to see New Zealand wildlife up close.

Read the text and put the words in brackets in the correct form.

See endangered yellow-eyed penguins

1

Where: Dunedin, South Island, 3 hour drive southeast of Queenstown

Go on a Penguin Place tour in Dunedin to see a working conservation programme and experience undisturbed penguin _____ (ACT) at close range through a unique system of hides and covered tunnels. The reserve is a private conservation effort to save one of the world's most endangered penguins, the yellow-eyed penguin, from _____ (EXTINCT). The reserve is funded entirely through the profits from the tours, so by visiting you are helping to support important conservation efforts.



Visit a blue penguin colony

2

Where: Oamaru, South Island, 1 hour north of Dunedin

See the world's smallest penguins in their _____ (NATURE) environment. Blue penguins are found right around the coast of New Zealand and southern Australia, but none _____ (CLOSE) to human activity than in Oamaru. The birds nest around the harbour area which offers a unique opportunity for you to observe them at dusk, arriving home from their day at sea and returning to their nests. During the day, you can see the breeding colony and walk around and learn about the penguin's life cycle and protection/conservation policies.

Meet Dr Phillipa and some of the blue penguins in our 'Good morning world' video below.

Spot whales in Kaikoura

3

Where: Kaikoura, 1½ hours north of Christchurch (airport CHC)

New Zealand's leading whale watching company, Whale Watch Kaikoura offers an _____ (EXCITE) up-close encounter with the world's largest toothed predator. You can see the Giant Sperm Whale in their natural environment at all times of the year. On a _____ (TYPE) encounter, you'll also see New Zealand fur seals, pods of dusky dolphins and the endangered wandering albatross. Depending on the season you may also see migrating humpback whales, pilot whales, blue whales and southern right whales.



Seal Swim Kaikoura

4

Where: Kaikoura, which is a 2.5 hour drive north from Christchurch or 2.5 hours south of Picton.

Swimming with wild New Zealand Fur Seals, in the shallow waters of the Kaikoura Peninsula, is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It's one of those simple natural experiences that opens your mind to the sheer magnificence of New Zealand's natural environment and its _____ (AMAZE) inhabitants. A unique natural activity, Seal Swim Kaikoura is locally owned and operated and has won the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence two years running. All equipment is provided and no experience is necessary. Generally _____ (SUIT) for those aged 5 years and over, this is a New Zealand experience you do not want to miss. Operates from October through to May.



Swim with dolphins in Kaikoura

5

Where: Kaikoura, 2 1/2 hours north of Christchurch

Kaikoura is undoubtedly the marine capital of New Zealand, with whales, dolphins, seals and seabirds viewed only minutes from shore. Dolphin Encounter Kaikoura provides _____ (VISIT) the opportunity of experiencing one of nature's most unique experiences, swimming with or just watching the _____ (AMAZE) acrobatic dusky dolphins. Dusky dolphins inhabit the waters around Kaikoura year-round and pod sizes vary from 100 - 1000+. Tours depart three times daily in summer and twice daily in winter.

Cruise Akaroa Harbour to see the world's smallest and rarest dolphin

6

Where: Akaroa, South Island, 1½ hours north of Christchurch

Depart the historic French township of Akaroa aboard one of the Black Cat Cruises to swim with dolphins and view penguins and albatross from aboard too. Akaroa Harbour is the only place on the entire planet where you can get up close and personal with New Zealand's playful Hector's dolphin - the world's smallest and _____ (RARE) species. Explore the stunning scenery of this picturesque seaside village with its majestic sheer sea cliffs and rock formations as you cruise around an extinct _____ (VOLCANO) crater.



Go on a whale and dolphin safari from Auckland

7

Where: Auckland

Encounter dolphins and whales in their natural environment right in the heart of Auckland. Auckland's Whale & Dolphin Safari takes you out on the _____ (BEAUTY) Hauraki Gulf Marine Park which is considered one the most biologically and _____ (GEOGRAPHY) diverse marine parks in the world. Over 22 species of dolphins and whales have been seen in the Gulf, and these bot cruises encounter marine mammals on over 90% of trips.



See newly hatched kiwi chicks at Rainbow Springs Wildlife Park

8

Where: Rotorua, North Island, 3 hour drive southeast of Auckland

Rainbow Springs is spread over 22 acres of parkland, and offers a _____ (TRUE) unique experience for anyone who wants to get to know New Zealand's wonderful environment and animals, both during the day and at night. Your ticket is valid for 24 hours so visit the nocturnal animals like the kiwi, a shy nocturnal bird as it frolics on the forest floor. Learn more about kiwi _____ (CONSERVE) by adding on a Behind the Scenes tour of Kiwi Encounter, which includes a visit to see the Incubation, Hatching and Nursery Rooms where the kiwi chicks are.



Visit Zealandia, one of the best eco-sanctuaries in New Zealand

9

Where: Wellington, North Island

Zealandia is a unique eco-sanctuary for New Zealand's native wildlife. Rare species are _____ (LIFE) wild within one square mile of regenerating forest surrounded by a ground-breaking pest-proof fence. Choose from 32 kilometres of tracks to spot kākā (the playful forest parrot), tuatara (a reptilian living fossil), saddleback, hihi, falcon, takahē, wētā, tūī, robin and many more. Book a night tour to seek out the _____ (ICON) little spotted kiwi and other nocturnal creatures.



Go on a Kiwi Discovery Walk

10

Where: Hawke's Bay, North Island, 30 minutes from Napier.

Kiwi Discovery Walks are now part of the Cape Kidnappers Guest Activity Programme at this boutique luxury lodge. Lodge guests are _____ (ABILITY) to take part in a very special activity with Kiwi expert Dr. John McLennan and his team. Dr. McLennan and team offer small groups of guests guided tours, using their radio tracking and monitoring devices. Guests get the chance to get up-close to one of New Zealand's most _____ (DANGER) and rare birds.



Answer these questions.

1. Where is Dunedin?
2. How is the Penguin Place in Dunedin funded?
3. Where do the blue penguins nest?
4. What sea animals can you see in Kaikoura?
5. What award has *Swim Seal Kaikoura* received?
6. What can you do at *Dolphin Encounter Kaikoura*?
7. Which is the world's smallest and rarest penguin species?
8. How many species of dolphins and whales have been seen in Hauraki Gulf?
9. Why do *Rainbow Springs* offer a 24-hour pass?
10. Where is *Zealandia*?
11. What is *Zealandia*?
12. What do Dr. John McLennan and his team do at the Cape Kidnappers?