

HTMC ANNOUNCEMENT re NEW ZEALAND SAFARI 2017

Larry Lee, Hawaii Contact Person for Safari

larry.lee@htmclub.org

7/23/16

Herein: "I" and "me" refers to Larry Lee

I. SYNOPSIS. (This is only a general synopsis. Important details, conditions, restrictions, exceptions and requirements are in the body of this announcement.)

- A. Sponsor and Organizer of Safari: Auckland Tramping Club ("ATC").
- B. Dates of Safari: 1/25/17 to 2/7/17.
- C. Number of Hawaii Participants Allowed: 12 participants.
- D. Eligibility to Participate: Anyone 18 years and older. Priority to HTMC members.
- E. Deadlines:
 - Midnight 9/26/16: Deadline to make Reservations.
 - 9/27-28/16: The 12 qualifying participants will be notified by email.
 - 10/6/16: \$370 US\$ deposit is due from each of the 12 participants.
 - 10/6/16: The ATC Required Information is due from each of the 12 participants.
 - 10/12/16: Deadline to cancel and request a full deposit refund from me.
 - 10/14/16: I will be notified by ATC if additional slots are available.
 - 1/25/17: Safari starts and an additional \$250 NZ\$ will be collected from each participant by ATC.
- F. Reservations: Made to me at larry.lee@htmclub.org.
Deadline 9/26/16.
- G. Estimated Cost: \$750 NZ\$ (Covers bus, ferry & basic accommodations).
- H. Required Deposit: \$370 US\$ (Conditionally Refundable).
- I. Itinerary: St Arnaud, Motueka, Picton, Paekakariki.
- J. Misc. Information: Food, gear, clothing, etc.
- K. ATC Required Information: See body of notice.
- L. Waiver and Release: Release of claims against ATC and HTMC.
- M. Cancellations: At any time. However, refunds are conditional.
- N. Changes and Discretion: Contents of announcements are subject to change. There is discretion in the application of the announcement items.
- O. Acknowledgement, Understanding and Agreement: Of announcement content.

II. DETAILS.

A. SPONSOR AND ORGANIZER OF SAFARI. The Auckland Tramping Club ("ATC") is the sponsor and organizer of the Safari.

In May, members of our New Zealand sister club, ATC, were in Hawaii to give a presentation to HTMC members about their club and the Safari. They were guests at our clubhouse and participated in hikes, trail clearing and backpacking with HTMC club members. They have graciously invited our club members to join them on a 2-week New Zealand hiking safari in January, 2017.

ATC has prepared the itinerary, arranged for accommodations and bus/ferry transportation between hiking areas and other activities.

B. DATES OF SAFARI. 1/25/17 to 2/7/17.

C. NUMBER OF HAWAII PARTICIPANTS ALLOWED. 12 participants.

ATC has allocated 12 slots for Hawaii people and 12 slots for NZ people. If we do not fill our 12 slots, NZ people will fill the empty slots. Similarly, if the 12 NZ slots are not filled, Hawaii people can fill the empty slots. Thus, a back-up list of people wishing to go will be maintained.

D. ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE. Anyone 18 years and older.

Participation is not limited to HTMC members; however, priority will be given to HTMC members. The following priority will apply:

1st Priority: HTMC members (Regular, Associate or Lifetime), who are not traveling with a nonmember.

2nd Priority: HTMC members with their immediate family members who are not HTMC members, when traveling together as a family. "Immediate family members" are: the HTMC member's nonmember spouse, nonmember domestic partner, nonmember sibling, nonmember parent and/or nonmember child (18 yrs. or older).

3rd Priority: HTMC members with their nonmember friends and/or nonmember non-immediate family members, when traveling together as a group. The 3rd Priority also includes 2nd Priority people who are traveling with nonmember friends and/or nonmember non-immediate family members, when traveling together as a group.

4th Priority: Non-HTMC members who are not part of any HTMC member's group.

Priority within each priority category will be based upon when reservations are received on a first come first served basis.

HTMC membership status will be checked against the club's membership committee's records. Pending memberships will not be considered membership. Membership must be HTMC Board of Directors approved and reflected in the membership committee's records.

E. DEADLINES. ATC has set certain deadlines that we must follow. The deadlines in this announcement are designed to meet ATC's requirements. Therefore, it is important that our deadlines are followed.

Midnight 9/26/16: Deadline to make Reservations with me.

9/27-28/16: The 12 qualifying participants will be notified by email.

10/6/16: \$370 US\$ deposit is due from each of the 12 participants.

10/6/16: The ATC Required Information is due from each of the 12 participants.

10/12/16: Deadline to cancel and request a full deposit refund from me.

10/14/16: Notification from ATC if additional slots will be available.

1/25/17: Safari starts and an additional \$250 NZ\$ will be collected by ATC.

F. RESERVATIONS. Reservations should be emailed to me at larry.lee@htmclub.org. Email is preferred since it will give me a record of your reservation and the date/time of your reservation. (This will help in establishing your priority status.) It is also less likely when using email that I will forget or misplace your reservation, which may be the case if given to me orally, by phone or in person. You should receive an email reply confirming receipt of your reservation request within a day. If you do not receive a reply, please forward your original reservation request to me again. Otherwise, my landline phone no. is 808-263-4690. Sorry, no text is available.

The deadline for making reservations is midnight 9/26/16. The 12 qualifying participants will be notified by email, between 9/27-28/16. If you do not hear from me after 9/28/16, you should assume that you are not one of the 12 participants. However, your name will be placed on a back-up list in the event a slot opens up.

To be fair and considerate to others, please do not make reservations unless you are serious about going and you know you will be able to participate if selected. Thus, please do not make reservations with the idea that you can cancel at any time. Because of deadlines, the need to commit funds in advance, and the need for flight reservations, there may not be enough time or the opportunity for another to replace you and the slot may be wasted. Thank you for your understanding, consideration and cooperation.

When making reservations, please include the following information:

1. Your email address and your phone number. Please check your email periodically in a timely manner for announcement updates and messages. You will be notified by email if you are selected as one of the 12 participants.

2. Please indicate if you are a HTMC club member. Membership status will be confirmed with the records of the membership committee. Pending club membership status will not be considered club membership. Board approval of membership and recordation by the membership committee are required.

3. If you are not a HTMC club member, please tell me if you are traveling with a club member or not and, if so, the member's name and your relationship to the member (see Section D above, "Eligibility to Participate").

4. Whether you would like to upgrade your accommodations to a motel should you be one of the 12 participants. ATC would like to get an early idea of the potential demand for motel upgrades.

G. ESTIMATED COST. \$750.00 NZ\$. This estimated cost includes: lodging accommodations (least expensive shared cabins), bus and ferry service between hiking locations (campsites) and bus from Paekakariki (end of Safari) to Auckland.

The estimated cost is based upon rates for the cheapest cabins. Upgraded cabins and motel, if available, may be options, in which case you will be charged the additional cost. The included bus cost is also only an estimate, depending upon the actual number of participants and miles traveled. In any event, ATC will keep track of each individual's accommodation and bus costs. At the end of the trip, you will either get a cost refund or be required to pay additional money in NZ \$ to ATC.

The estimated cost does not include anything else. For example, you are responsible for your transportation to Christchurch for the start of the Safari and to Wellington airport at the end if you choose to fly to Auckland, upgrades, optional excursions, food, gear, entertainment, overnight stay at Mt. Ruapehu Snowsport Lodge (for those taking the bus back to Auckland; lodge cost HTMC members \$15/night, non-members \$23/night), shopping costs, etc.

A \$370 US\$ advance deposit will be required (see details, below) and an additional \$250 NZ\$ will be due and collected by ATC on the first day of the Safari (1/25/17). (\$750 NZ\$ est. cost - \$370 US\$ (\$500 NZ\$) deposit = \$250 NZ\$ bal.) Because the est. \$750 cost is in NZ\$, the \$370 deposit is in US\$ and the \$250 balance is in NZ\$, an adjustment will be made by ATC on 1/25/17 to account for the exchange rate difference.

H. REQUIRED DEPOSIT AND REFUNDS. Deposits are due on 10/6/16. A conditional refundable deposit of \$370 US\$ will be required from each of the 12 participants. (The actual deposit required is \$500 NZ\$ and the \$370 US\$ deposit is an estimated equivalent of \$500 NZ\$.) Because of the fluctuating exchange rate and fees, an adjustment will be made by ATC on the first day of the Safari when the additional \$250 NZ\$ is due.

No reservations by ATC will be made on a participant's behalf until the participant's deposit is received and cleared.

Upon being notified that you are one of the 12 participants, the \$370 US\$ deposit must be received by me by midnight 10/6/16. The deposit check should be made payable to "Larry Lee" and mailed to me at 1176 Lunahaneli Place, Kailua, HI 96734. I will deposit the checks and issue a single total check to ATC. Failure to make the deposit by 10/6/16 may disqualify you as one of the 12 participants.

Request for a full refund from me should be made by 10/12/16. Requests should be made by email to me. If your refund request is received by me by midnight, 10/12/16, you will receive your full \$370 US\$ deposit back. Requests received after 10/12/16 will be the sole responsibility of, and handled solely by, ATC; and the requesting party will need to work directly with ATC for any refund. Because the deposit funds have to be committed in advance to pay for accommodations/transportation and because the rates and costs are based upon a full participation of 24 people, whether or not a refund will be made and, if so, how much of a refund will be at the sole discretion of ATC for all refunds requested after 10/12/16.

I. ITINERARY.

1. 1/25/17 (Wed.): Meet at the Christchurch airport before 9:30 a.m. ATC will pick us up and bus us to St. Arnaud.
2. 1/26/17 (Thur.): St. Arnaud. Day hikes. In each case, there will be different levels of day hikes to choose from (beginners to advanced). People choosing not to hike can remain at the lodging or visit a nearby town if there is one.
3. 1/27/17 (Fri.): St. Arnaud. Day hikes.
4. 1/28/17 (Sat.): St. Arnaud. Day hikes and possible optional overnight backpacking trip.
5. 1/29/17 (Sun.): Pick up backpackers and bus to Motueka
6. 1/30/17 (Mon.): Motueka. Day hikes.
7. 1/31/17 (Tues.): Motueka. Day hikes.
8. 2/1/17 (Wed.): Motueka. Day hikes and possible optional overnight backpacking trip.
9. 2/2/17 (Thur.): Pick up backpackers and bus to Picton with a side trip to Omaka Aviation Museum.
10. 2/3/17 (Fri.): Ferry across Cook Strait to Wellington and bus to Paekakariki.

11. 2/4/17 (Sat.): Paekakariki. Day hikes. Optional boat trip to Kapiti Island, weather permitting.
12. 2/5/17 (Sun.): Paekakariki. Day hikes.
13. 2/6/17 (Mon.): Paekakariki. Day hikes.
14. 2/7/17 (Tues.): End of Safari at Paekakariki. Bus will take us to Auckland (approximate 2 day ride), with a one night layover at ATC's Snowsports Lodge on Mt. Ruapehu (there will be an extra charge for the lodge - \$15 HTMC member, \$23 non-member). Those wishing to fly out from Wellington to Auckland must take a shuttle to Wellington airport.
15. 2/8/17 (Wed.) Bus arrives at Auckland.

J. MISC. INFORMATION.

1. Accommodations: Shared cabins with the possibility of upgraded cabins and/or motel options. The estimated cost is based upon the cheapest cabin rate, any cabin upgrades or motel accommodations cost extra, which participants will have to pay for as they go.
2. Food: The bus will stop at local markets on the way to each campsite so we can buy food and supplies. Campsites near a town will allow the option of eating out. Pantry and freezer food at Snowsports Lodge is available to HTMC members for \$25 and non-members \$33/night.
3. Cooking facilities: Cabins have cooking facilities with limited utensils. It is recommended that you bring your own knives, eating utensils and mug.
4. Gear: Cabins may not have linen, thus, it is advisable to bring a sleeping bag and towel. Also, hiking gear for day hikes, including day pack for lunch, water and inclement weather gear. If planning to do overnight backpacking: sleeping bag, backpack, cooking gear will be needed.
5. Clothing: Good hiking footwear, good waterproof jacket with hood and warm clothing.
6. NZ uses 230/240 v. with angled 2-3 pin plugs. You will need an adapter for your electronics.

K. ATC REQUIRED INFORMATION. ATC is requiring the following information from each participant:

1. Full name.
2. Residence address.
3. Email address.
4. Telephone number(s).
5. Age.
6. HTMC Membership Status.
7. Name of next of kin with the kin's address and telephone number(s).
8. Hiking experience.
9. Any special medical issues you may have that ATC should know about.

Please submit this information to me by 10/6/16 along with your deposit check.

L. WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND CLAIMS. The 12 participants must each agree to and sign a waiver and release of all claims and liability against ATC and HTMC. The details of the waiver will be provided to the 12 participants.

M. CANCELATIONS. You may cancel your reservations and participation at any time. However, any refund will depend upon when your refund request is received. Please see Section H, "Deposit Required," above, regarding deposit refund policy.

N. CHANGES AND DISCRETION. This announcement is based upon current information from ATC. However, because certain expenses may not have been made yet, e.g. bus, accommodations, ferry, etc., the items and information in this announcement are subject to change. It may also be necessary for me to exercise discretion in the application of the contents of this announcement, e.g., conditions, deadlines, restrictions, etc.

O. ACKNOWLEDGMENT, UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT. By making a reservation request to join the Safari, you thereby acknowledge, understand and agree to the full content of this announcement and any future changes, including but not limited to all information, conditions, restrictions, waivers and requirements.

Larry Lee
HTMC Hawaii Contact Person for Safari
larry.lee@htmc.org (recommended)
Landline Phone: 808-263-4690