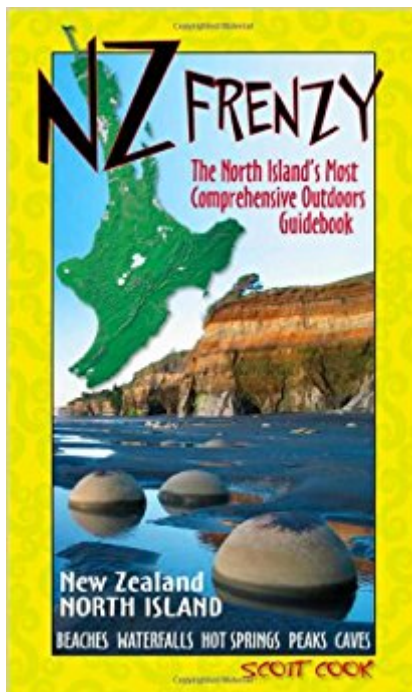


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NZ Frenzy: New Zealand North Island



Synopsis

NZ Frenzy is a guidebook to NZ's North Island OUTDOOR places. Please read the reviews, as they'll give you better insight than all my author hoopla (and note in the reviews that EVERY single review from someone who has actually had my book in NZ has given it 5 stars!) Please click on the "Look Inside" button and read some entries. I've personally been to every beach, every hot spring...and hiked all the trails. My book is an attempt to save you time and \$ in NZ, while delivering you to the island's unheralded but uber-worthy wonder spots that the mainstream books and tourist publicity gloss over. My book is meant to compliment the mainstream guidebooks, NOT replace them, as I feel you should get a LonelyP or RoughG for your NZ trip. My book is vastly different though. I wrote this guidebook because info about non-commercial stuff is difficult to find in NZ. NZ Frenzy is ALL ABOUT the outdoor spots that don't receive all the tourist publicity. My guide does give you info about the touristy places like Bay of Islands, Rotorua, Waitomo Caves, Tongariro Crossing, etc...but mainly my book is about the off-the-beaten-track unpublicized, uncommercialized wonder spots---the places NZ Tourism doesn't tell you about because nobody is making \$\$ off them. NZ Tourism, Lonely P, etc are great at directing you how to spend \$\$ and be a "tourist"....my book will get you away from the crowds to places that'll make your jaw drop again and again!! I guarantee it! Even if the North is only one week of your trip, my book will be worth every penny. When you get to Hot Water Beach or Cape Reinga or Waitomo, etc ...and see disappointing busloads of tourists, you'll be glad to have my book in your hand to give you some other nearby options. Don't waste your precious NZ time. EVERY minute in NZ can be awesome when you have good info at your fingertips! Have the trip of your life!!.....Cheers, Scott

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Customer Reviews

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We were about to buy another, more well known guide to New Zealand, when we saw mention of this book. So we took a chance and got NZ Frenzy instead. What a great decision it turned out to be. We spent 3 weeks on the North Island and used NZ Frenzy as our guide. We found great hikes, secluded beaches, waterfalls, hot pools and much more. Many spots we were the only people there in February. Yes, we were the only ones on the beach in the cover photo and its even more beautiful than it looks! Even Kiwi's we met asked how we found the spots they had never even heard of! We can't speak highly enough about this book. We have already gotten the South Island version for our 2017 trip. Thank you Scott for a well written guide that is so easy and fun to read. Love the web links too. And of course the riddle :->)BTW. The photos in the book are in B&W. Don't be disappointed. The wealth of information given far exceeds any negative from B&W photos. They are in color on the blog site for your reference.

This book made my North Island New Zealand two week trip amazing. I had the Lonely Planet Guide, but didn't really need it much as I had my places to stay lined up ahead of time and I'm more an outdoor person rather than big on tourist sites. I'm 67, not in great shape, although I have two new knees that are helping me to be more active, and I was traveling alone during last week of March, first week of April, 2016. Some of Scott's suggestions were too intimidating for me to attempt (slippery rocks, changeable tides) but I found plenty in Frenzy to keep me happily occupied. Great tips, like how to avoid crowds and fees. I travel pretty cheaply. Free glow worm caves, yeah! Best time to catch the hot beach without crowds worked perfectly. I went at low tide 9 am, no one there off season but me and a few kids. Helped me get over my embarrassment at solo travel trying something new. And Scott's suggestions for Rotorua were right on the money (Ha, saving it ;-). I would have skipped that tourist trap altogether if it weren't for NZ Frenzy. The book is very clear, directions easy to follow and Scott's personal anecdotes and numerous make for entertaining reading even about places I was not going to visit. I've already passed on my copy and will recommend the book to anyone heading to New Zealand. And, I even got to see a kiwi, thanks to Scott's suggestions.

I just got back from NZ and had the best time of my life. I am 23 and went with some friends looking for an outdoorsy and obscure trip. THIS BOOK WAS OUR BIBLE. We literally drove from north island to south and every town we would find something random to do based on Scott's activities. This book is for those looking for Walks, hikes, waterfalls, and free activities that are completely obscure. He never mentions tourist activities because those are well covered through brochures and ads, but without his amazing directions to weird off the chart locations, our trip would have been in NO WAY as freaking awesome as it was. Scott even describes his activities with what you will have to do, what to expect, and how to prepare.. That helps so much when driving around blindly like we were! I honestly wish he made this book for every country.. GET TO WORK SCOTT!ps. Waitomo caves are amazing for glow worms that light up like a galaxy. GO ZORBING, Hobbiton is expensive but fun for the true Hobbit fans, Mud pools were CRAZY. Taipo had the best HOT waterfalls! And hiking MT Doom along with the Tongariro Crossing was a 10 hour hike of hell.

Cook, who also writes on Oregon, knows you've got Lonely Planet or a Rough Guide, and focuses (with the help of maps and photos at his website) on attractions, tending toward fairly short hikes with views, beautiful forests, museums, waterfalls, ranging from "top tourist attractions" ranging from

Cape Reinga to Te Papa Museum to "Favorite obscurities" from Mahinepua Peninsula to Te Porere History. The guidebook isn't the place for lodging, gardens, restaurants, or even vineyards and cheese factories. Hobbits get mentioned. It does catch the sorts of places that Oregonians would visit on a car trip around their state, not while they're being hip in Portland. While I'm not totally fond of Cook's effusive, casual writing style, and his orientation is more toward scenery than my own pet interest (New Zealand's plants and birds), his book has provided an excellent guide for planning my forthcoming first visit to the North Island. Touristy Rotorua remains on my itinerary (partly as a base to visit places like Otanewainuku Scenic Reserve), and I've been duly warned of touristy Paihia. Each spot has one or two pages, each with pronunciation, headline, Google coordinates, driving instructions, usually photos (simple but useful), camping, when to expect crowds, other tips, and an obscure-o-meter gauging how popular a place is.

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