



Punga Cove

ENDEAVOUR INLET
MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS

WELCOME

Thank you for choosing to stay at Punga Cove. We hope you enjoy your stay with us.

Our team would love to receive your feedback about your Punga Cove experience.

Please review us on TripAdvisor, Facebook and Google, and tag us in your social media posts:

#pungacove

#nzmustdo

#MarlboroughNZ

#brillianteveryday

#marlboughtourcompany

COME BACK TO SEE US - AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS TOO

Punga Cove is a fabulous boutique venue for weddings and honeymoons, unique events and corporate functions, and relaxing retreats.

We cater fully for all types of events with a unique and personalized approach. Please ask our friendly Punga Cove team for more information.





GENERAL INFORMATION

RECEPTION

Please visit our friendly Punga Cove team at Reception for any queries or information. Reception is located uphill from the jetty.

RECEPTION HOURS

8.00am to 6pm

For after-hours enquiries, please see our friendly staff members at the Punga Fern Restaurant.

CHECK-OUT

Our check-out time is 10am. Check out is available from 7:30-9:30am at the Punga Fern Restaurant, or at Reception from 8-10am.

Would you like to stay in your room longer? Please contact our reception team and we will do our best to meet your request.

After checking out, you're welcome to store your bags at Reception and enjoy Punga Cove for a while longer.

PAYMENT METHODS

Punga Cove accepts VISA, Mastercard, EFTPOS and cash payments.

COMPLIMENTARY TEA & COFFEE

Punga Cove provides complimentary tea and coffee in all our rooms, and in the Basecamp guest kitchen. Extra milk is available at the Punga Fern Restaurant.

WI-FI

Punga Cove is in an isolated location, but the Wi-Fi covers most areas of the resort. Expect floating of Wi-Fi signal due to harsh weather. You are welcome to access free Wi-Fi.

Endeavour Inlet Guests
Password: paradise

**MAIL**

The mail boat visits Punga Cove on Wednesdays and Saturdays to deliver and collect our post. Please hand any mail to Reception for posting.

MAINTENANCE

Punga Cove maintains its accommodation facilities to the highest standard. If you find there is a need for repairs, or a breakage occurs, please inform Reception so we can provide replacements or conduct repairs promptly.

BAG TRANSFERS

We offer a complimentary bag transport service within lodge grounds for all Punga Cove guests.

Please place your bags outside your door by 8:30am for collection on your day of departure – or just inside the door if it is raining.

Please ensure your destination is clearly written on your baggage tag.

BASECAMP GUESTS

Please place your backpacks on the Basecamp luggage rack by 8:30am.



PACKED LUNCHES

Are you heading out to explore and would like us to prepare a delicious, packed lunch?

For \$29 per pack, simply complete the lunch form provided at check-in and return to Reception by 4pm the day before you head out. Your packed lunch will be ready for collection from the Punga Fern Restaurant from 7.30am to 9.30am.

UMBRELLAS

Guests are welcome to make use of lodge umbrellas, which are kept at Reception, and by the entrance to the Restaurant.

DOGS

Dogs are welcome at Punga Cove. If staying in our accommodation we ask that they are kept outside during their stay, including overnight. Please ensure your dog is always kept on a lead and that you cleanup after it.

EMERGENCY AND SAFETY PROCEDURES



To ensure your safety and comfort, Punga Cove has measures in place in the event of an emergency or other event. It is important to know where you should go to report an emergency:

- During the day: Report to Reception.
- Early evening: Report to the Punga Fern Restaurant.
- During the night: a payphone is located near the jetty, call 111.



EVACUATION AREAS

If the resort is evacuated because of an emergency, please follow directions on the Fire Action notice in your room.

Guests may be asked to go to the following evacuation points:

- Those in upper rooms (9-14 and 18-20), Basecamp, and at the Restaurant – go to the car park behind Punga Fern Restaurant.
- Those in lower rooms (1-8 and 17), the guest laundry, and Reception – go to the foreshore grassy area.

EARTHQUAKE

Earthquakes are a common occurrence in New Zealand, and we are prepared for these. If you experience an earthquake during your stay, it is important to stay calm. New Zealand Civil Defense recommends that you:

1. **Drop** to your hands and knees to protect you from falling.
2. **Cover** your head and neck with your arms, if possible, under a sturdy table or desk.
3. **Hold** on to your shelter or protective position until the shaking stops.

In a major event, once the shaking stops, please go to your room's designated evacuation area or follow Punga Cove staff instructions.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

In the event of a medical emergency, alert Punga Cove staff at Reception or the Punga Fern Restaurant.

If the emergency occurs at night, please use the payphone below Reception to call 111.

Staff will provide assistance or alert emergency services if necessary.





LODGE FACILITIES

SWIMMING POOL AND SPA TUBS

Punga Cove's swimming pool and two spa tubs are available to all house guests. Complimentary towels are available in your room or if you need extra towels, please enquire with Reception.

We ask that you do not use the pool or spa area after 10pm, out of consideration for other guests. For safety, please do not bring glass into the pool and spa area.

The spa water is assessed and maintained daily, but minerals may discolor the tubs. This is normal. The spa tubs may be "OUT OF ORDER" at times for maintenance or repair.

GAMES AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT

For rainy days and balmy evenings, we have a selection of books at Reception and a ping-pong table at the cabana in the grassy area near the foreshore.

We also provide sports equipment to our guests. Please have a look in the cabana or enquire with Reception.

HAMMOCKS & LOUNGE CHAIRS

Relax by our beautiful beach on one of our lounge chairs or hammocks.

SHOP

Punga Cove has a small shop at Reception to cater for basic requirements. Items include food, non-alcoholic beverages, toiletries, confectionery, and souvenir items.



HOUSEKEEPING

Punga Cove's housekeeping staff are available from 9am until the afternoon. Rooms will be serviced during the day.

If your room requires maintenance or other attention, please see our reception team.

ROOM EXTRAS

Please contact Reception if you require extra blankets, pillows, towels, or an iron. Extra milk is available from the Punga Fern Restaurant.

GUEST LAUNDRY

Our guest laundry is located uphill from the reception area and is open from 8.30am to 5pm daily.

Pay \$10 at Reception to use the washer, \$10 to use the dryer and receive biodegradable laundry detergent.

DRYING ROOM

Ensure all your gear is dry before another day of adventuring by putting it in the drying room overnight. The drying room is located on the pathway behind the swimming pool.

WATER TAXIS AND TRANSFERS

We can organize water transfers for guests exploring the Queen Charlotte Track from Punga Cove. Please see Reception for more information.





LUNCH AND DINING AT PUNGA COVE



Our Punga Fern Restaurant is open every day for breakfast from 7.30-9.30am, have a snack, lunch, and drinks until 3pm. Dinner from 5:30pm-8pm.

We offer smart casual evening dining featuring the best of local Marlborough produce with an international twist, paired with Marlborough and international wines.

Bookings for dinner can be made at the Punga Cove Reception.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

IF THE POWER GOES OUT

Because Punga Cove is in an isolated area of the Marlborough Sounds, sometimes living completely off-grid becomes a reality.

Should the power go out in the evening for a lengthy period, staff will visit you in your room to ensure your comfort.

The Punga Fern Restaurant is equipped with gas facilities and an auxiliary generator.

WATER

In isolated areas like Punga Cove, fresh water is limited and precious. Please conserve water where you can. The water is safe to drink directly from the tap.

Note that the water pressure in your room's shower may drop noticeably during peak showering times, usually between 7am-8am and 3pm-6pm.

SMOKING

Punga Cove's rooms are all strictly smoke-free inside.

As we live in a fragile natural environment (particularly during hot, dry summers) and are a long distance from fire emergency services, please use ashtrays as provided. These are located outside all rooms for your convenience. Please always consider the comfort of other guests.

COOKING

Please do not cook shellfish or other strong-smelling foods in your room, for the comfort of future guests.



TRANSPORT, PARKING AND MOORINGS

Punga Cove provides free parking for guests arriving by car. The carpark is located above the Punga Fern Restaurant.

For overnight guests arriving by private boat, moorings can be used free of charge. The mooring charge for other visitors is \$25.

Many water taxis and other tour operators from Picton stop regularly at Punga Cove's jetty. To organize water transport or see a schedule, please see our team at Reception.

Punga Cove is accessible by helicopter. The helipad is located on the grassy area at the beach.



ACTIVITIES

There is no shortage of things to do here at Punga Cove or further afield in the Marlborough Sounds.

Ask at Reception for information on walking tracks, to book an excursion on the water, or to simply request a packed lunch and explore the day away.

KAYAKS AND STAND-UP PADDLE BOARDS

Use of Punga Cove's kayaks and stand-up paddle boards is complimentary for our guests to explore our beautiful part of Endeavour Inlet. These can be signed out at the Reception.

Be sure to keep an eye out for seals, stingrays that glide gracefully below the water, a passing pod of dolphins or, occasionally, orca.

Please always wear a lifejacket.

FISHING EQUIPMENT

Fishing equipment hiring and bait purchase are available from Reception. Local

fishing regulations regarding size and bag limits are displayed near the jetty and must be adhered to – any breaches of fishing regulations are the guest's responsibility and Punga Cove accepts no liability for this.

If fishing at the jetty, please be mindful of boats approaching and berthing at the jetty and wind your line out of the water if a boat approaches.



INDEPENDENT EXPLORING

WALKS

PUNGA COVE – CAMP BAY

10 minutes return

This scenic five-minute meander takes you from the shore to the Department of Conservation camp on the Queen Charlotte Track.

Enjoy the lush native forest by day or take an evening stroll to check out the glow worms that light up the bush.

PUNGA LOOP WALK

75 minutes return

From Punga Cove, join the track below Reception that takes you to the Queen Charlotte Track and Camp Bay.

At Camp Bay, turn left and follow the track through regenerating coastal rainforest until you reach a sign pointing you towards Kenepuru Saddle (do not go downhill).

Follow the gentle climb along a former packhorse trail to the unsealed Titirangi Rd. Take time to enjoy the magnificent views over the dark waters of Endeavour Inlet and milky blue of Kenepuru Sound.

Follow Titirangi Rd back towards Punga Cove and turn again onto the Queen Charlotte Track back to Camp Bay, then retrace your steps to the resort.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE TRACK

The 73km Queen Charlotte Track runs through Punga Cove. Stay for the night as you walk through or base yourself here at the lodge and walk any section of the track each day using water transfers to get there and/or get back each night.

Ask at Reception for water taxi schedules and to book.

Walkers and mountain bikers who use the Queen Charlotte Track between Punga Cove and Anakiwa are required to purchase a Queen Charlotte Track Land pass. School children are free. Please see Reception for more details.

You do not require a pass for the section of track between Punga Cove, Furneaux Lodge and Ship Cove.



Punga Cove – Furneaux Lodge

3-4 hours one way

Follow the scenic Queen Charlotte Track around the beautiful Endeavour Inlet to Furneaux Lodge. Stay for lunch and walk back or ask us to arrange for a water taxi to pick you up on one of their scheduled trips.

Punga Cove – Kenepuru Saddle

20 - 30 minutes one way

Take the uphill climb to Kenepuru Saddle and be rewarded with stunning views over Endeavour Inlet as far as Cook Strait, and over Kenepuru Sound on the other side.

There are two ways to reach the saddle: Either walk to Camp Bay and follow the signs to the saddle (see Punga Loop Walk) or via the Punga Cove carpark up to the road.

Punga Cove – Eatwell's Lookout

1.5 hours one way. Track pass required.

Walk to Kenepuru Saddle (see Punga Cove - Kenepuru Saddle) and continue south on the Queen Charlotte Track. Follow the sign to Eatwell's Lookout (pictured below) for spectacular views across Queen Charlotte and Kenepuru Sounds. You will need to purchase a QCTLC track pass to walk this section of the track.





Punga Cove - Torea Saddle

7-8 hours one way - approximately 23km. Track pass required.

For incredible views across both Queen Charlotte and Kenepuru Sounds, follow the Queen Charlotte Track along the ridgeline that separates the sounds and links Punga Cove and Torea Bay/Portage. You will need to purchase a QCTLC track pass to walk this section of the track.

This section of the track is the most challenging, but also one of the most spectacular. Ask at Reception to book a water taxi to bring you back to Punga Cove from Torea Bay – there are limited options, so booking is essential.

PUNGA COVE TO MOUNT STOKES

4-5 hours return

At 1,203 meters, Mt Stokes is the highest peak and only alpine environment in the Marlborough Sounds.

From the Punga Cove carpark, walk or drive for 6.4km along Titirangi Rd to the Mt Stokes turnoff.

The tramping track up Mt Stokes is steep and rough in parts and, in winter, there may be snow on the summit. Ask at Reception for more details about this walk including weather conditions.

TOURS & EXPERIENCES

To join a tour and discover other parts of beautiful Marlborough, ask our team at Reception to contact Marlborough Tour Company and enquire on availability and timetables.

WINE TOURS

No trip to Marlborough is complete without trying the region's world-famous wines, straight from the source. Choose from a selection of wine and vineyard tour options and timetables, including a full day Taste Marlborough Wine Tour.

SEAFOOD CRUISE

Discover, learn about and taste the freshest seafood, straight from the source, on a Seafood Odyssey seafood cruise through Queen Charlotte Sound. Visit a salmon farm and taste fresh King salmon, try surf clams, Greenshell Mussels and pair it all with crisp Marlborough sauvignon blanc.





HELICOPTER EXCURSIONS

Treat yourself with the unforgettable experience of a spectacular bird's-eye view of the Marlborough Sounds or fly further afield to see the true scale of Marlborough's expansive vineyards from above. Punga Cove has its own helipad, allowing for guests pick-up on site.

CHARTER CRUISE

Choose your own Marlborough Sounds experience by chartering a boat for the day. Be informed by local knowledge of the crew and explore the lesser-known corners of Queen Charlotte Sound.



OUR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

Our stunning natural environment is what makes Punga Cove so special, and we are committed to looking after it for now and for the future.

At Punga Cove we are constantly striving to implement more and better sustainable practices to protect and enhance the forest, the sea and the wildlife that surrounds us.

We only use biodegradable and organic cleaning products and conserve water by reducing water volume without compromising on quality.

Punga Cove has also phased out single-use plastic toiletry bottles and replaced these with larger refillable containers.



BE
PREPARED



DRIVE
CAREFULLY



KEEP NZ
CLEAN



PROTECT
NATURE



SHOW
RESPECT

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THE MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS

GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The Marlborough Sounds is a network of ancient, drowned river valleys, with three main sounds: Queen Charlotte, Pelorus and Kenepuru.

Punga Cove is located on a piece of land that straddles the deep Queen Charlotte Sound and comparatively shallow Kenepuru Sound. There is a distinct difference between the water colour of the two sounds.

Ongoing downward tectonic movement means the Marlborough Sounds continue to slowly sink.

The highest peak in the Marlborough Sounds is Mt Stokes, at 1,203 meters. At its summit is a rare sub-alpine environment.

Marlborough Sounds soils consist mainly of clay over a base of greywacke rock, which account for the many slips visible on the hillsides.

OUR FORESTS

The Marlborough Sounds is clad in a wide variety of vegetation, including lush sub-tropical rainforest and native flora & fauna as seen here around Endeavour Inlet.

Much of the Marlborough Sounds was cleared for farming, but several conservation projects are now allowing native forest to regenerate.

Punga Cove owes its name to the plentiful punga ferns (tree ferns) that thrive in this high-rainfall area of the Sounds. There are also many rimu, matai and miro trees near the coast, while further away the red beech is predominant.

WILDLIFE

Punga Cove is the perfect place to see the plentiful bird and marine life that call the Marlborough Sounds home.

You are almost guaranteed to encounter a cheeky and bold flightless Weka during your stay, or on the Queen Charlotte Track. Also look out for Kereru (wood pigeon), tui, Piwakawaka (fantail), Kotare (kingfishers) and the rare King Shag.

In the water, we often see passing pods of dolphins, Little Blue Penguins, seals, eagle rays and stingrays and even the occasional orca or whale.

CONSERVATION

There are an increasing number of community-led and private conservation projects around the Marlborough Sounds. For most, the focus is on extensive trapping of introduced animals to ensure the survival and regeneration of native flora and fauna. These species include possums, pigs, goats, stoats, rats, and mice.

Wilding pines are also a problem in the Marlborough Sounds. Punga Cove supports the community project that is working hard to eradicate these trees, which take over native forest.





HISTORY

The Marlborough Sounds has a long history with Māori, who inhabited these sheltered waterways centuries before the first Europeans arrived.

Many myths and legends surround the Sounds, including the battle between the great navigator and warrior Kupe and Wheke, the giant octopus. As Kupe fought Wheke in Cook Strait/Raukawa, the octopus tried to anchor himself to the earth and gouged out the Sounds' complex landforms.

Many fortified settlements (pa) were built throughout the Marlborough Sounds as iwi (tribes) defended themselves against invaders. Of particular note was the warrior chief Te Rauparaha, who warred with tribes throughout the North and South Islands and led raids against Marlborough Sounds Māori during the 1830s.

The first European contact came with Captain James Cook, who found shelter and abundant food and water in nearby Ship Cove/Meretoto, located in Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui. Captain Cook returned there several times with his ships during his explorations of New Zealand over the next seven years. Endeavour Inlet and Resolution Bay were named after Cook's ships.

Since Cook, the Sounds has seen many industries come and go including whaling, mining and pastoral farming. The latter resulted in the burning of much native forest, some of which is regenerating now.

Today, aquaculture is one of the Sounds' main industries, particularly King salmon and Greenshell Mussels.



HISTORIC SITES IN QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND/ TŌTARANUI

SHIP COVE/MERETOTO

The site where explorer Captain James Cook anchored his ships from 1770 is marked with a memorial and information panels. This is also the beginning of the Queen Charlotte Track and is visited often by water taxis and tour operators. Resolution Bay and Endeavour Inlet are named after two of Cook's ships.

PICKERSGILL ISLAND/MATAPARA

Located on the northern side of Arapaoa Island, Pickersgill Island/Matapara was named after the master's mate on Cook's ship the Endeavour.

EAST BAY

This bay on Arapaoa Island was where Captain Cook released a buck and a doe, which went on to establish a wild population that still exists today.

HIPPA ISLAND

The largest Māori pa in Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui was once based here, at the southern tip of Motuara Island and had, according to Captain James Cook, 80-100 whare (houses) in 1770.

By the time he returned eight years later, the pa was deserted. Given the rugged and exposed nature of the site, it is likely the pa was positioned for defense from outside tribes.

CANNIBAL COVE/ANAHO

This Outer Sounds Bay received its English name by Captain James Cook after the crew of the HMS Endeavour discovered human bones in the remains of a meal.

Its Māori name, Anaho, means new bay or bay that runs deep. The bay supported a large settlement and had gardens and livestock.

Captain Cook released a boar and a sow at Cannibal Cove/Anaho which would later become a food source for Māori and European explorers.



MOTUARA ISLAND

Besides being an important native bird sanctuary, Motuara Island is also a site of historical significance for both Māori, who populated Hippa Island at Motuara's southern end, and early Europeans.

Captain Tobias Furneaux, who captained the Endeavour's sister ship, the Adventure, established a hospital and gardens on the island. Captain Cook built an edifice on the island to record his visit and covered it with a Union Jack, proclaiming British Sovereignty over the South Island.

Today, Motuara Island is an important bird sanctuary and home to saddleback/tiēke, South Island robin/toutouwai, yellow-crowned parakeet/kākāriki and Maud Island frog.

It is also used as a crèche for Rowi kiwi, which are only found in South Ōkārito Forest, near Franz Josef. Rowi have been decimated by stoats – fewer than 500 are left. Eggs are hatched in captivity and the chicks transported to Motuara Island. Once they weigh 1kg they can defend themselves from stoats and are returned to the wild.

LONG ISLAND – KOKOMOHUA MARINE RESERVE

Captain Cook also had gardens on Long Island and introduced potatoes, parsnips, carrots, and turnips to local Māori to supplement their kumara (sweet potato) crops.

During World War 2, an anti-submarine signal station was built at Long Island. Many other defense structures were built in Tōtaranui/Queen Charlotte Sound during that time, including on nearby Blumine Island and in Tory Channel, many of which are still visible today.

ABOUT MARLBOROUGH

The Marlborough Sounds top the wider Marlborough region, which stretches as far south as Kekerengu on the rugged east coast and as far west as D'Urville Island.

Its main centers are Blenheim and Picton, and the smaller settlements of Renwick, Havelock, Seddon and Ward.

Marlborough's dry, sunny climate makes it perfect for wine production and it has become New Zealand's largest wine industry, which stretches across the Wairau and Awatere Valleys. It is best known for its flagship variety sauvignon blanc, but also produces many other qualities wine styles. Many local operators offer group and bespoke wine tasting and vineyard tours.

The region also has many cafes, bars and restaurants, the Omaka Aviation Heritage Center, craft beer brewers, the Makana Chocolate Factory, artisan cheese-makers, fruit growers and, on Sunday mornings, the Marlborough Farmers' Market.

