

ROTOROA

An Island of Restoration

Rotoroa Island Corporate Volunteer Days: General Information

Come help us look after Rotoroa Island's natural heritage! It's a chance to get your team out into the Hauraki Gulf for a great day out and contribute to a special restoration project. Corporate or group volunteer days are available between 1 March and 30th September each year. When we can do these days is limited because summer is busy with visitors, and we have limited supervision capacity on the island during this time.

Volunteers are a really valued part of looking after our visitor and natural assets on the island. You need to be physically fit and prepared to walk around the island as this is how you get to where the tasks you will do on the day will be. We do not have vehicles to transport people around.

General plan for the day – Please note these times are indicative only and dependent on the Explore ferry timetable and what ferry you book - [Rotoroa Island Ferry Service](#) | [Island Wildlife Sanctuary](#) | [Hauraki Gulf](#) | [Explore](#). There is a 50% discount provided for eligible volunteer groups on the daily ferry. Alternatively, you may want to charter a boat with Explore who offer a discounted rate for volunteer groups under 55 pax using one of their smaller boats. Lunch can also be provided with this charter service. Please talk to Explore about which option may suit you best when you book.

Volunteer opportunities are available during the week and in weekends

The ferry leaves the island at a later time on the weekends than during the week, so you have more time to volunteer (around 4-5 hours versus 2-3 hours during the week). We don't get you to work the whole time as we also want you to enjoy being on the island and walk and relax. The programme will normally be as follows:

- Arrive on Rotoroa Island, welcome to the island, health and safety and biosecurity briefing
- Please let our ranger know of any health issues we should be aware of.
- One of our rangers will run through what you will be doing and provide you with all the gear you need to safely and efficiently do the work. They will work with you during your volunteer time. Make sure you get some photos so we can share your experience and acknowledge what you did to help us
- We will require you to help with cleaning any gear used and then the rest of the day is yours to walk and relax and enjoy the island

Note:

- Groups need to be 10 people minimum and 30 people maximum (with notice, we can sometimes cater to larger numbers) – please let us know well in advance how many people are coming so we can scale a job to your group
- Final group numbers must be confirmed 7 days before
- Not suitable for young children, those 8 years and older are welcome however they must be supervised.
- Please adhere to all health and safety requirements on the island. Please bring any medication or special health needs when you come.

How to register:

Contact Rotoroa Island Trust hello@rotoroa.org.nz to discuss available dates and what options are available for work that can be done.

Lunch:

Please bring your lunch and a drink bottle as there is no shop on the island other than our small kiosk which sells ice creams and drinks and island momento's. We also have gas operated barbeques if you would like to bring food to barbeque.

Volunteers bring/cover:

- Lunch & a water bottle. There is a water fountain at our Visitor Centre
- Money for ferry, a special volunteer adult fare with 50% discount
- Sturdy clean footwear (ideally tramping boots/shoes), no open toed shoes
- A spare pair of shoes to change into
- Wear warm gardening type clothes, several layers and bring a coat just in case
- Wet weather gear (even in summer as the weather can change without warning)
- Sunscreen and sunhat
- Day backpack - zip up (no open bags or boxes)
- Togs and a towel - our beaches are safe and great to swim at
- Any required medication (our staff will also carry first aid kits).
- Please advise any allergies or medical conditions so we know what to do if you need help.

Rotoroa Island Trust will provide:

- Gloves (for those who don't have any)
- All necessary tools and gear for the work you will do
- Water (drinking fountain)
- Supervisors with plenty of interesting stories and good humour!
- Outdoor BBQ if your team decides on a BBQ lunch
- Kiosk with soft drinks, ice cream, books, t-shirts etc.
- Great beaches, walks and wildlife for you to enjoy

Biosecurity Checklist

Rotoroa is predator free; help us keep it that way by following the precautions below when planning your trip.

- Check bags for rodents, insects (especially ants) and other pests prior to boarding the ferry - let Explore staff know if you find anything or have questions
- Leave your dog/cat on board your vessel if visiting by boat as no dogs or domestic animals are permitted - they endanger the island's wildlife, particularly shore birds.
- Carry food in sealed, rodent proof plastic containers and take your rubbish home.
- Bags and boxes must be sealed - plastic bags, open top bags, supermarket bags and banana boxes are easier for pests to access so please leave these at home.
- Please check your gear (e.g. boots, gloves, socks, bag) are clean and that there is no soil or seeds in boot laces or treads.
- Leave your bicycle at home and if you're bringing a buggy, make sure your tire treads aren't packed with dirt or insects.

Cancellations

Events are only cancelled if the weather or sea conditions are not safe for the ferry or a volunteer day – If you are unsure call Explore on 0800 397 567 or the Rotoroa Duty Ranger on 09 283 0849. If coming on your own boat call the Rotoroa Duty Ranger. We will generally let you know as far in advance as possible if a cancellation occurs but sometimes this is last minute if unexpected weather comes or does not die down as predicted. Your safety and having a great day out are paramount.

A special thank you to Explore Group for providing a generous discount for our volunteers.



rotoroa.org.nz