

Underworld Adventures

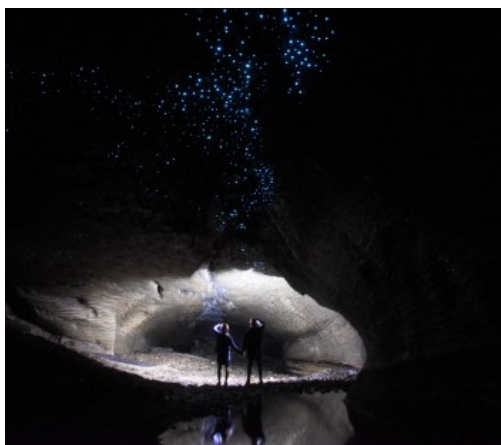
Charleston, West Coast

Glowworms and Cave Rafting



Based on the wild West Coast, Underworld Adventures offers three incredible cave experiences in one of NZ's largest unmodified cave systems, treasuring spectacular stalactites & stalagmites & galaxies of glowworms unequalled on this planet.

Underworld Adventures was established in 1987 by Geoff Schurr, Ray Moroney and Stu Berendt, cavers with many years as leading cave explorers and educationalists. With their extensive knowledge, understanding and passion for the caves and karst on the West Coast they founded a company that offers the opportunity to experience exactly this, the beauty of a world that lays beneath our feet and to develop an understanding for this hidden treasure. 29 years later Underworld Adventures has developed into a small company providing a unique variety of cave adventures.



Glow Worm Cave Tour

A magical journey of discovery in the simply stunning Cave and Karst Environment of The "Nile River GlowWorm Caves". Journey by Rainforest Train into the Nile River Canyon. Explore the upper levels of the large Metro/Te Ananui cave systems in New Zealand, in its natural wilderness state. Get up close to interpret simply the best GlowWorm displays. Walk amidst magnificent stalactite and stalagmite formations and take in the unique atmosphere of a large, unmodified wilderness cave.

Discovered in the 60s, the Metro/Te Ananui cave system is one of the few caves in the world you can walk through and see in its natural, unspoilt state, the way it was discovered.

Departs 9:00, 11.30 & 2.00* | Duration 3 hour 30 minutes (*10:00 & 12.30 winter)

Underworld Rafting

Take the rainforest train through the primeval rain forest and explore a calcite paradise in one of NZ's largest limestone caves complete with stalactites and stalagmites. Float through' incredible Glowworm lit grottoes and have fun bouncing down the gentle Nile River rapids. Underworld Rafting is a superb 4 hour award winning black water cave rafting adventure in the Metro/Te Ananui Cave System located in the Paparoa National Park

Equipped with wet suits, wet suit socks, boots, gloves and helmet we use The Nile River Rainforest Train for travel through the primeval West Coast rainforest and between the towering cliffs of the Nile River Canyon. A short climb is required to enter the enormous Metro/Te Ananui Cave System where in the upper levels you will meander through a calcitic paradise of stalactites and stalagmites. In the lower levels you float through an awe inspiring glow worm grotto using only the natural light of the most prolific glowworm display as your navigational aid. Emerge in a lost world of virgin forest before leaving the tranquillity for the rushing waters of the Nile River Rapids. This is an award winning adventure definitely not to be missed! Bring your swimwear and a towel. We supply the rest.

Departs 9:00, 11.30 & 2.00* | Duration 4 hours (*10:00 & 12.30 winter)

Adventure Caving

Adventure Caving is full on expedition style caving which takes you into the Te Tahī cave system. Fully dressed in wetsuits, overalls and equipped with harnesses, lights and helmets we drive right into the heart of the West Coast karst.

Following some practice, the journey starts with a 130 ft abseil down the breath-taking Tomo. Underground a scramble over boulders in dry rift passages takes you to the active waterways where we climb, chimney, bridge gaps and crawl through amazing passages, surrounded by the water, the sound, the smell and the overwhelming atmosphere of the cave. These sporty passages with cascades, waterfalls, and squeezes lead finally to the last stretch of dry passage where crawling, climbing and open chambers lead to a hidden exit.

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Definitely the right adventure for fit, capable adventurous with the desire for a sporty and fully involved caving experience. Suitable for fit people only, aged 16 and over. Bring your swimwear and a towel. We supply the rest, including a power snake.

Departs 9:00, 11.30 & 2.00* | Duration 5 hours (*10:00 & 12.30 winter)



Directions

We operate from our iconic base on SH6 in the historic township of Charleston – 20 minutes drive south of Westport or 30 minutes north of Punakaiki and the Pancake Rocks.

Terms

CHILD POLICY Rainforest train suitable for all ages and abilities. Underworld Rafting suitable for children 10 years and over who are confident in water. Glowworm Cave Tour suitable for all ages

CANCELLATIONS 24 hours 100% | other cancellations fully refunded less booking fee | Trips cancelled by Underworld Adventures due to inclement conditions or lack of reservations full refund

SEASON Open all year except Christmas Day

DISCLAIMER With any adventure there is always an element of risk. Underworld Adventures will not be held liable for personal or property damage.

Accommodation in this area

- [Birds Ferry Lodge](#)