



HOBBITON™

• MOVIE SET •

FUNCTION INFORMATION - 2026 - 2028

Contents

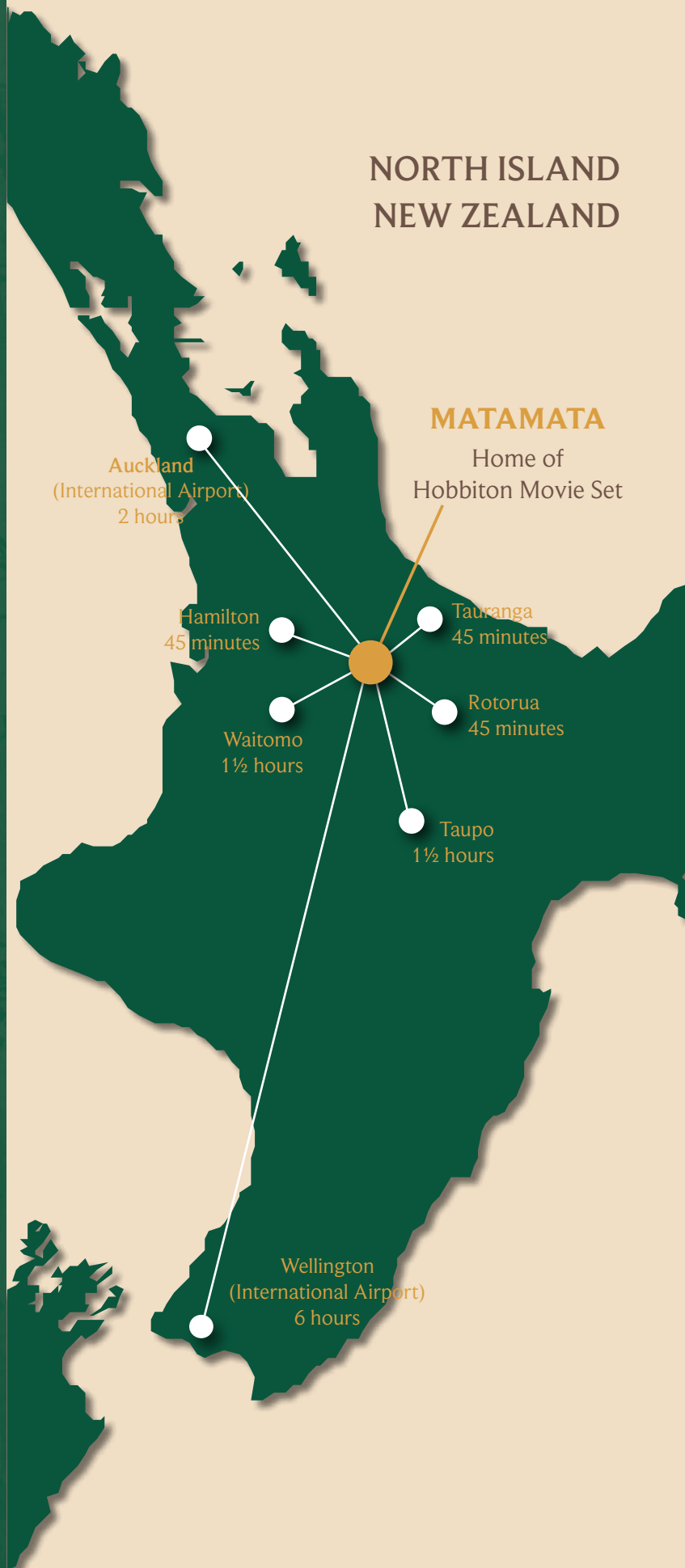
- 1 Welcome
- 2 The story of Hobbiton Movie Set
- 3 The Hobbiton Experience
- 5 Hobbiton Movie Set Signature Tour
- 7 Evening Banquet Tour
- 8 The Green Dragon Inn
- 9 The Party Marquee
- 10 The Marketplace
- 11 Special Events
- 12 The Millhouse
- 13 The Hub Meeting & Conference Venue

Open every day (excluding Christmas day)

Tour information subject to change.
All information correct at time of printing.

SHIRE TOURS, SHIRE'S REST, MIDDLE-EARTH, GREEN DRAGON, HOBBITON, THE HOBBIT and THE LORD OF THE RINGS and the characters, places, events and items contained therein, are trademarks or registered trademarks of Middle-Earth Enterprises, LLC and are used under license by HMST Limited which is independently owned and operated.

NORTH ISLAND NEW ZEALAND





Welcome, welcome!

Hobbiton™ Movie Set is one of New Zealand's most iconic visitor experiences, an immersive destination where visitors step into The Shire™, as seen in *The Lord of the Rings*™ and *The Hobbit*™ Trilogies.

Located in the heart of the Waikato countryside near Matamata, Hobbiton combines cinematic storytelling, authentic rural landscapes, and world-class hospitality to create a uniquely New Zealand experience enjoyed by visitors from around the globe.

This manual has been created to support events organisers and share our tour offerings, experience highlights, and essential information to help you create unforgettable event in The Shire.

This manual offers a true taste of New Zealand with tours developed by New Zealanders for visitors from around the world. Add some Middle-earth magic to your next event. From birthday parties, weddings and intimate banquets, to large-scale incentive events and memorable conference dinners, Hobbiton Movie Set will make your next event unforgettable.





The Story of Hobbiton Movie Set

In 1998, Sir Peter Jackson's team of location scouts began searching for the iconic rolling hills and lush green pastures of Hobbiton. An aerial search led them to the Alexander farm — a stunning 1,250-acre sheep farm in the heart of the Waikato.

They immediately noted the area's striking similarity to The Shire™, as described by J.R.R. Tolkien, and quickly realised the Hobbits™ had found a home.

In one particular part of the farm, a magnificent pine tree towered beside a tranquil lake at the foot of a rising hill. Bag End™ now sits atop that hill, overlooking the Party Tree, as the pine would later become known. The surrounding landscape was untouched with no power lines, buildings, or roads in sight, allowing Sir Peter Jackson to leave the 20th century behind and fully immerse audiences in the fantasy world of Middle-earth™.

In March 1999, the crew began a nine-month quest to bring Hobbiton to life. Help was provided by the New Zealand Army, and soon 39 temporary Hobbit Holes™ were constructed across the 12-acre set. Secrecy was paramount, and strict security measures were maintained throughout construction and filming. Production began in December 1999, with filming in The Shire completed over approximately three months.

Following filming, an initial attempt was made to dismantle the set, leaving behind 17 bare plywood façades. These remaining structures would become the catalyst that propelled Hobbiton into the public eye, with guided tours first commencing in 2002.

In 2009, Sir Peter Jackson returned to the farm to film The Hobbit Trilogy, permanently rebuilding the set in the remarkable detail seen on screen. The Hobbiton Movie Set that visitors experience today features 44 fully reconstructed Hobbit Holes, designed to stand the test of time and now lovingly maintained by the Hobbiton team.

In 2012, The Green Dragon™ Inn opened, allowing guests to conclude their adventure with a refreshing beverage from the Hobbit™ Southfarthing™ Range.

More than a decade later, an interior Hobbit Hole experience was developed, enabling visitors to step inside the charming dwellings of Hobbits going about their daily lives. Designed and crafted by the renowned creative teams behind the original film trilogies, Bagshot Row opened in December 2023, offering an authentic and immersive new chapter in the Hobbiton experience.

Today, an abundance of movie magic remains nestled within the Alexander family's fully operational farm.



© 2013 Warner Bros. Ent.™ Saul Zaentz Co.



The Hobbiton Experience

Today, the Hobbiton Movie Set offers an immersive experience that delights the senses, welcoming visitors from across the globe to step into the sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of The Shire, the home of the Hobbits, as featured in *The Lord of the Rings™* and *The Hobbit™* Trilogies.

The extraordinary global following of the films has made Hobbiton Movie Set a 'must-do' experience for travellers visiting New Zealand. Guests are given a rare opportunity to explore an authentic movie set in its full glory, recreating memorable scenes from the beloved trilogies while discovering how the magic of filmmaking was brought to life here.



All experiences begin with a guided coach journey through the Alexander family sheep farm, where visitors take in the natural beauty of the landscape, with the mighty Kaimai Ranges rising in the distance. Upon arrival, expert guides lead visitors on a walking tour of the 12-acre Movie Set, sharing stories, pointing out famous locations, and revealing the intricate craftsmanship behind the set's creation.

Journey past colourful Hobbit Hole doors scattered across the hillsides, including the iconic Bag End™, home of Bilbo™ and Frodo Baggins™, before arriving at Bagshot Row™ for a glimpse inside the humble dwelling of a Hobbit.

The experience continues along winding pathways past The Millhouse™, across the double-arch stone bridge, and into the world-famous Green Dragon™ Inn, where every visitor is welcomed with a complimentary, exclusive beverage as the perfect conclusion to their own Middle-earth™ adventure.





Hobbiton Movie Set Signature Tour

From *The Shire's Rest*™ and Matamata Information Centre

The Hobbiton Movie Set Tour is an essential stop on the itinerary for all visitors travelling through New Zealand, offering an interesting and entertaining experience that incorporates the famous film set and an insight into rural life.

Your tour starts with a short bus ride through a picturesque 1,250 acre working sheep farm (there are 13,000 sheep and 300 beef cattle on the property) with spectacular views across to the Kaimai Ranges.

Your guide will escort you on a shared walking tour through the 12 acre set; past the colourful Hobbit Hole doors that scatter the hillsides, including the iconic Bag End™, home of Bilbo and Frodo Baggins™, before arriving at Bagshot Row™ for a glimpse of the interior of a humble Hobbit's home.

Continue along the pathways past The Millhouse, across the double-arch stone bridge and into the world-famous Green Dragon™ Inn, where you will enjoy a complimentary, exclusive beverage to conclude your own Middle-earth adventure.

After your tour of the film set your guide will then return you to *The Shire's Rest* with the opportunity to visit the Shire Store.

Tour Details

Departing: *The Shire's Rest* at Hobbiton Movie Set, 501 Buckland Road, Matamata or Matamata Information Centre, 45 Broadway, Matamata

Times: For all groups, we will assign one of our guides to your coach so there are no time constraints, we will work into your travelling itinerary.

Duration: 2.5 hours





Evening Banquet Tour

See The Shire™ by day and night with a Hobbiton™ Movie Set Signature Tour followed by a banquet feast fit for a Hobbit served inside The Green Dragon™ Inn.

Experience Hobbiton Movie Set as you have never seen it before with a guided tour through The Shire at dusk. Making the most of the remaining daylight, your tour guide will escort you through the 12 acre site, recounting fascinating stories and anecdotes about the trilogies, including a visit to Bagshot Row™ for a glimpse of the interiors of a humble Hobbit's home.

Continue along the pathways past The Millhouse, across the double-arch stone bridge and into the world-famous Green Dragon Inn for a complimentary beverage from our exclusive Hobbit™ Southfarthing™ range. The guests will then be moved through into The Green Dragon dining room and treated to a banquet feast fit for a Hobbit™. The tables will be heaving with traditional Hobbit fare and, as is the tradition in the Shire, second helpings are encouraged.

To conclude this premium Hobbiton Movie Set experience, after dessert the guests will re-join their guide to make their way back through the wandering paths of The Shire. The trails will be illuminated by path lighting and handheld lanterns will be provided amongst the guests to help light the way. This stunning journey under moonlight will travel through the village which is breathtakingly lit up, with Hobbit Hole chimneys smoking and lanterns glowing in the darkness.

Tours depart *The Shire's Rest* four times weekly, generally on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for FIT travellers and any other night of the week for groups or private events with a maximum of 48 people per night.

Tour Details

Departing: The Shire's Rest, 501 Buckland Rd, Matamata

Times: Tour departure times vary by time of the year. Please check our website for departure times for your preferred dates.

Maximum Tour Capacity: 64 pax

Duration: 4.5 hours



The Green Dragon™ Inn

VENUE INFORMATION

The Green Dragon Inn was the meeting place for all residents of Hobbiton™, who would gather in the warm surroundings of the bar to chatter about the day's events. The quality of the ale and food was renowned throughout The Shire™.

Since 2012, we have been privileged to present The Green Dragon Inn as part of our experience. The Green Dragon Inn is an exceptional example of expert craftsmanship. Step inside the masterfully recreated pub, where the barrels are filled with our exclusive Southfarthing ale, stout, cider and ginger beer, a perfect match to any feast in The Shire.

We have a delectable range of food available from our professional in-house catering staff, covering everything from canapés to a banquet feast fit for a Hobbit™.

The Green Dragon Inn is fully themed with indoor and outdoor fireplaces encouraging your guests to spread out into the Bywater beer garden beneath the glowing lanterns.

Capacity information

GREEN DRAGON INN

Seated 80

Banquet 64

Cocktail 200

PARTY MARQUEE

Seated 230

Cocktail 350

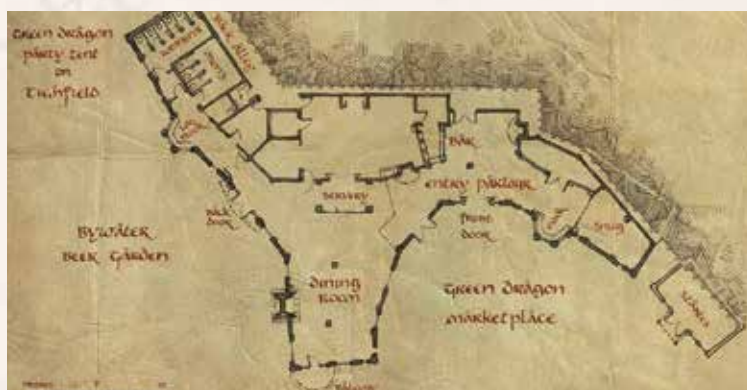
GREEN DRAGON INN & PARTY MARQUEE

Seated 310

Cocktail 550

Venues available in conjunction with a Hobbiton Movie Set tour. *Maximum numbers, per head, per room.

The Green Dragon Inn is only available for exclusive use in the evening after the last tour of the day.





The Party Marquee

VENUE INFORMATION

The Party Marquee is a fully themed, spacious location for large groups. The painted canvas exterior, vibrant bunting and colourful lanterns means your group will be immersed in the festive magic of the movies.

The Party Marquee is adjacent to The Green Dragon™ Inn, with the garden bar outside overlooking the Hobbiton™ Movie Set, providing an exquisite view for all our guests.

Like The Green Dragon Inn, the marquee has a fully licensed bar and catering is tailored to your event by our professional in house team.

“I rate the planning, function, guides, hospitality and catering as excellent! The attention to detail and friendliness of the whole organisation deserves to be complimented.”

Debbie Hamlin, GE Healthcare

“I have to say we were all blown away by the experience which was above all my expectations, definitely a function to be remembered!”

Darilyn Kane, University of Auckland Business School

Capacity information

GREEN DRAGON INN

Seated 80

Cocktail 200

PARTY MARQUEE

Seated 230

Cocktail 350

GREEN DRAGON INN & PARTY MARQUEE

Seated 310

Cocktail 550

Venues available in conjunction with a Hobbiton Movie Set tour. *Maximum numbers, per head, per room.

The Green Dragon Inn is only available for exclusive use in the evening after the last tour of the day.



The Marketplace

The Marketplace is a bustling, vibrant experience to tantalise the senses of your visitors. Guests will find themselves engulfed in the sights, smells, sounds and tastes of The Shire™.

Situated by the Mill and a short stroll across the double arch stone bridge from The Green Dragon™ Inn is the Marketplace. Guests are invited to taste a real piece of Middle-earth™ from individually themed stalls bursting with traditional Hobbit™ fare. The market stalls are catered to your guest's requirements and can consist of New Zealand cheeses, freshly baked artisan breads, cured meats, smoked fish, and of course fresh produce from the Hobbiton™ gardens just to name a few.

Throughout the evening there will be roaming entertainment mingling amongst the guests. Our visitors are invited to move freely throughout the area and watch the carpenters, horse farriers and puppeteers go about their daily life. Among the stalls will be Hobbiton's handcrafted barrel bars pouring the exclusive Hobbit™ Southfarthing™ range, a selection of Middle Earth wines and various non-alcoholic beverages.

As the sun sets over Hobbiton Movie Set the village will light up and provide a stunning backdrop for your celebration.

The Marketplace is a unique and special experience offered exclusively to function groups.

Capacity information

THE MARKETPLACE

Cocktail	up to 1000
----------	------------

Price on application.

“Our guests raved about the outstanding service and the delicious food and were mesmerised by the incredible Hobbiton venue and the spectacular water show finale. These guests have been around the world and are accustomed to six-star service on-board. They are calling this World Cruise event THE highlight of their 108-day adventure thus far and the best World Cruise event ever.”

John Stoll

Vice President — Land Programs at Crystal Cruises



Special Events

Here at the Hobbiton™ Movie Set we are happy to arrange numerous entertainment options to complete your festivities in The Shire™. We can offer a wide range of customised entertainment and activities to form your ideal incentive or corporate occasion, helping you to create a successful event to remember.

We have many options, including:

Hobbiton Movie Set evening lights

Enjoy the stunning lights of Hobbiton as the perfect backdrop to your evening in The Shire. The Hobbit Holes and other iconic features have the ability to be lit up spectacularly, glowing in the night sky.

This Hobbiton Movie Set experience can also be combined with an evening tour back through the set. The trails will be illuminated by path lighting and handheld lanterns will be provided amongst the guests to help light the way. This stunning journey under moonlight will travel through the village breathtakingly lit up with Hobbit Hole™ chimneys smoking and lanterns glowing against the darkness.

Musical entertainment

We can provide a wide range of musical entertainment to complement your evening in Hobbiton. Whether you choose to keep in theme, with authentic traditional folk music, or select something a little more contemporary, we can find the ideal artists for you.

Interactive entertainment

We can offer an extensive range of entertainment to fully immerse your group in Middle-earth™. We offer performances including fire-breathers, jugglers, to more interactive fun, including archery and outdoor movie screening for the elves and dwarves that walk amongst us.

Waterscreen across the lake

Across the water, we can offer a showstopping waterscreen display of video and imagery suited to your event.

Middle-earth Magic in the sky

Hobbiton Movie Set is home to the first ever drone show to take to the skies of New Zealand. Our team can work with you to tailor make an unforgettable drone show that will see your guests looking skyward at the illuminated scenes that can be themed around Middle-earth and your event.



The Millhouse

The Millhouse is an exciting addition to Hobbiton Movie Set, providing a warm and welcoming environment to host intimate gathering of up to 48 guests.

Situated in the heart of the Shire, across the water from The Green Dragon™ Inn, The Millhouse is a fully themed stand alone venue. Filled with Sandyman's flour sacks and exposed cogs that drive the waterwheel, this venue has Middle-earth™ atmosphere with an industrial twist.

Like The Green Dragon Inn, The Millhouse has a fully licensed bar and catering is provided by our professional team, prepared in the venue's kitchen.

Flexible dining and seating configurations are tailored to suit your specific needs with menus designed to capture the taste of The Shire and complement the unique space.

Capacity information

THE MILLHOUSE

Seated 30

Banquet 28

Cocktail 48

Venues available in conjunction with a Hobbiton Movie Set tour. *Maximum numbers, per head, per room.

The Green Dragon Inn is only available for exclusive use in the evening after the last tour of the day.



The Hub - Conference & Meeting Venue

The Hub is a brand new architecturally designed venue situated adjacent to The Shire's Rest™.

The site includes state-of-the-art conference facilities perfect for your next small to medium sized business event, nestled in the rolling hills of the Waikato.

The Hub has been designed to complement the rural surrounds, featuring natural timbers and colours.

The perfect meeting space before you begin your Middle-earth™ adventure.

Capacity information

ROMNEY ROOM

Banquet 32

Classroom 24

Theatre 50

ANGUS ROOM

Banquet 48

Classroom 36

Theatre 80

ROMNEY & ANGUS ROOMS COMBINED

Banquet 80

Classroom 60

Theatre 130

Hire costs include use of in-house AV equipment and labour. Catering options available at additional cost.

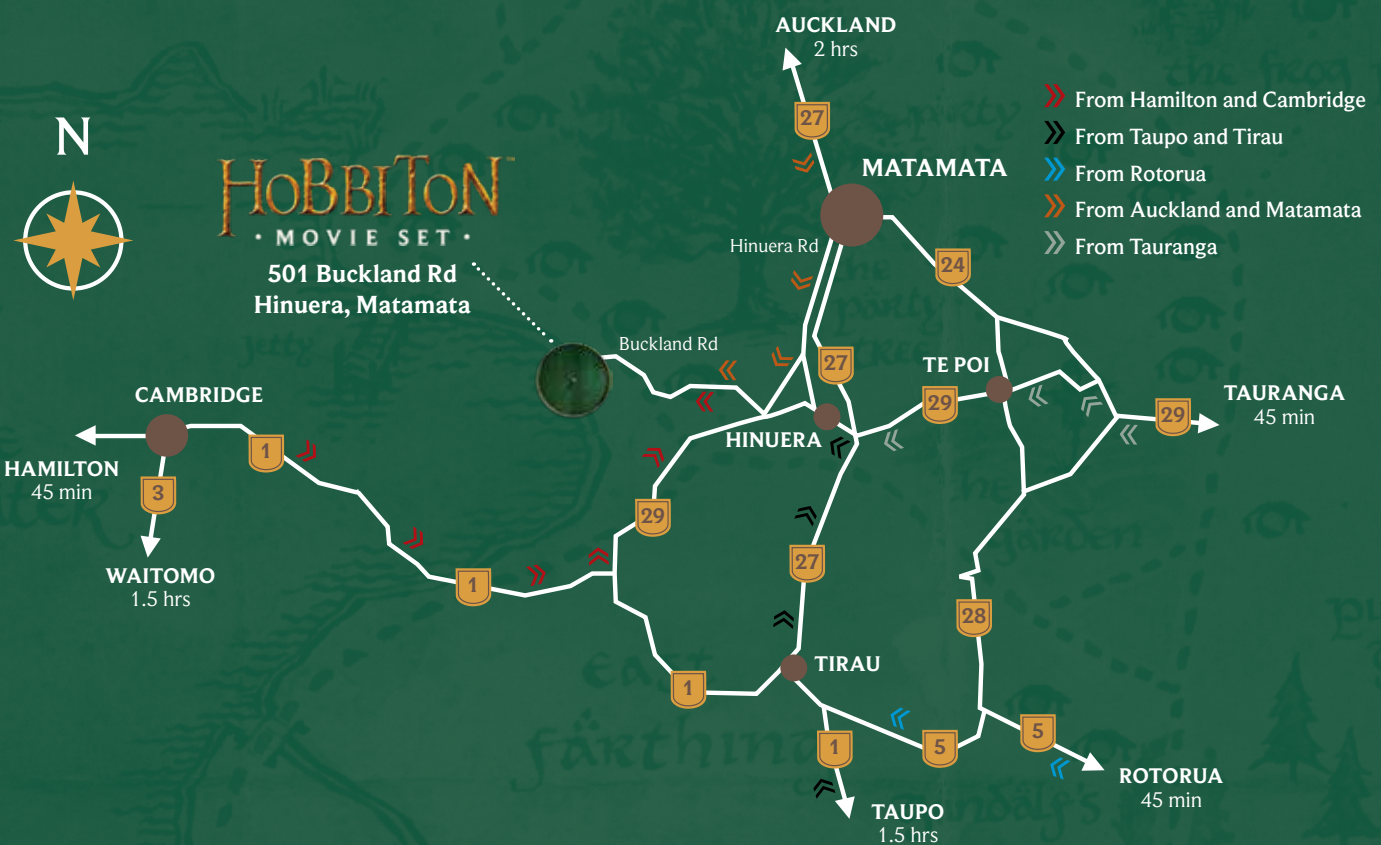








Where the Hobbit Holes™ are hiding



501 Buckland Rd, Hinuera, Matamata 3472, New Zealand
Phone: (64) 7 888 1505 | Email: events@hobbitontours.com

www.hobbitontours.com



/hobbitontours



HOBBITON MOVIE SET TOURS IS
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED