



Eight must-do activities in & around Martinborough

1. Biking in the Vineyards

Without doubt, the best way to explore Martinborough Wine Village and the vineyards that surround the village is by bicycle. The cycling is relaxed and easy. In addition, the terrain is relatively flat and distances between wineries are short. Take time to stop at the wineries and taste some of the world's best Pinot Noirs. Half day hire: \$25; Full day \$35 from Martinborough Wine Centre (06 306 9040 or bikes@martinboroughwinecentre.co.nz)



2. Wine Tasting in and around Martinborough

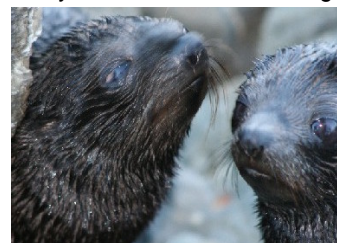


With 35 wineries located in and around Martinborough, wine lovers are spoilt for choice. The village is best known for its wonderful Pinot Noir but take time to discover the other varietals – most of which are outstanding. Highly recommended are the sauvignon blancs, riesling pinot gris and chardonnay. Some wineries may offer you the opportunity to tour their facilities or vineyards. A good starting point for visiting the vineyards is Martinborough Wine Centre which conducts daily tastings from its wine list. Call 06 306 9040 for details.



3. Visit the seal colony at Cape Palliser

A highlight will be the spectacular drive to Cape Palliser to visit the seal colony - the North Island's largest breeding area of New Zealand's fur seals. The drive from Martinborough takes approximately 50 minutes and it takes in some amazing coastal views and scenery. Along the way, stop at Purutuanga Pinnacles - the region's most spectacular sight but curiously undersold in the guidebooks. The guide books do not prepare you for the jaw-dropping impact of this 200 metre narrow canyon of massive grey pillars of rock. One writer said "It looks like Gaudi's cathedral in Barcelona would if it were slowly melting in the sun....It is an unearthly landscape that is unlike any other in New Zealand". While here, it is also worth taking time to climb the 258 steps to the Cape Palliser lighthouse.

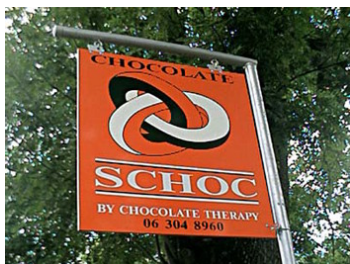


4. Quad biking

This is highly recommended. A two hour drive on quad bikes over Lachie McLeod's spectacular farmland, which includes the Nga Waka range as featured on Palliser Estate wine labels. Lachie and his team are committed to ensuring that everyone has an experience to remember. The trip meanders through rivers and of course, takes in some breathtaking views over the Wairarapa.



5. Chocolate therapy at Schoc, Greytown



In our experience, wine lovers are often chocoholics so Murray Langham & Roger Simpson's Schoc in Greytown is an absolute must-do for many of our guests. Murray says "It's time for people to take responsibility for their chocolate and their lives! These two go hand in hand. Why not enjoy yourself with chocolate and just be. Start to celebrate your very being and celebrate it with chocolate". Murray runs seminars and workshops and he has evolved a new way of understanding the self through Chocolate Therapy Ltd., as a means for change. "You are what you love; you are ok as you are, once you know your centre"

6. Visit Stonehenge

Stonehenge Aotearoa is a full-scale working adaptation of Stonehenge. It is intended to inspire New Zealanders to explore and experience for themselves how technologies of ancient times were used (and still can be used) to give practical and detailed information on the seasons, time and navigation.



During weekdays, Stonehenge Aotearoa is open only for Pre-Booked Groups and Special Events. Unfortunately, it is not open on a daily basis for impromptu visits. General Public Sessions are available during the weekend only.

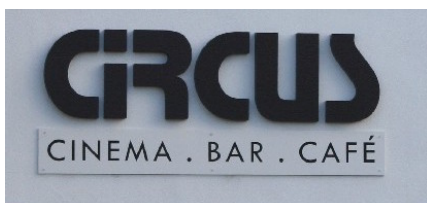
7. Eco experience at Puhaka Mount Bruce

This is a nature and wildlife viewing experience you won't forget. Experience some of New Zealand's endangered wildlife up close and in the wild. Learn about what is being done to save kiwi, tuatara, kokako, kaka and return them to our forest. Puhaka Mount Bruce is 30km north of Masterton and 10 km south of Eketahuna on State Highway 2. It takes about an hour to drive from Martinborough.

For further details, call 06 375 8004 or email info@mtbruce.org.nz



8. Enjoy an art house movie at Circus Cinema



Everything in Martinborough is boutique scale - the vineyards, the hotel, the brewery and now we have a boutique cinema! Two screens show art house movies from Wednesday through to Sunday. For details, phone 06 3069442 or email info@circus.net.nz

