

Get on the waka – be part of an unprecedented national event

Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees



On Board Information

What to expect as a *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainee*.



Health and Safety

It will be essential for *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees* to adhere to the instructions of each vessel's captain and crew, and to the rules and health and safety regulations of each vessel.

Fitness and Health Requirements

Vessels will require *Tuia 250 Trainees* to meet minimum fitness and health requirements for the tasks and activities on board. Each applicant needs to provide details about themselves regarding these aspects.

Each vessel will have different swimming ability requirements for their *Trainees* – some require *Trainees* to merely be comfortable floating in the water, while others will require *Trainees* to have the ability to swim 100 metres unassisted. Applicants need to indicate their ability in the application form.

Many of the tasks and activities required of the *Trainees* will be physically strenuous. Applicants need to declare any health conditions to assist vessels in identifying whether an applicant meets the health requirements. Some vessels will require *Trainees* to have supporting medical certificates.

Being on board a vessel can also be a mentally-demanding experience - *Trainees* need to have the mental strength to carry out the tasks.

There are various opportunities for people with physical and intellectual disabilities to participate in the *Tuia 250 Voyage*. Applicants with physical or intellectual disabilities will need to share information about their conditions with MCH. Their applications will be processed by organisations more qualified in assessing their ability to participate.

On Board Tasks and Activities

As a *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainee* you will be expected to carry out and participate in the following tasks and activities:

Tasks: Cooking; cleaning; maintenance duties; rigging activities; watcher duties; moving between rafts, tenders, the shore, and back to the vessel from the water.

Activities: Morning swims, tramps, wānanga, discussions, waiata, and participation in community engagement activities.

Full participation in all tasks and activities will be a compulsory part of the *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainee* programme.

Living Conditions

Living on board a vessel for an extended period of time can be a very challenging experience, and quite tough for some people to adjust to. Space will be cramped and limited, and *Trainees* will need to be comfortable sharing it with people they have only just met.

The vessels vary in size and have different numbers of crew they can accommodate – some will have a capacity of 10 people, whereas others will have a capacity closer to 50. Applicants need to indicate the number of people they will be comfortable being with on board.

Some vessels will be able to accommodate most dietary needs, whereas other vessels will have a limited capacity to meet those requirements. Applicants will need to indicate any dietary requirements or preferences they have, including any foods they do not eat (for example: seafood, meat, dairy etc.)

Being at sea means exposure to the elements. *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees* will be required to bring with them particular clothing and equipment to participate in voyage activities. *Trainees* need to provide this equipment themselves, however MCH can offer advice and support on how to acquire funding for these items.

Rules and Regulations

Each vessel has its own set of rules and regulations that the *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees* will need to strictly adhere to. More specific information will be provided to successful *Trainees* at a later date, but some of those rules are listed below to provide applicants an understanding of what they can expect:

- Use of cell phones, tablets or other electronic devices will not be allowed, although use of cameras will be okay.
- *Trainees* must not bring or use alcohol, illegal drugs, cigarettes or vaping devices on board.
- Offensive language or threatening behaviour on board vessels and towards the crew or other *Trainees* will not be tolerated.
- Gang patches, insignia or gang-related behaviours will not be tolerated.
- There will be some clothing restrictions on the vessels, for example, appropriate and practical swimwear and footwear.
- *Trainees* must comply with the safety instructions given by the captains and crew.
- *Trainees* must participate in all activities to the best of their ability.

Further information on each vessel can be found on the *Tuia 250* website.

Selection Criteria

Character Suitability

One of the responsibilities of MCH is to ensure that the available *Trainee* berths are filled with suitable applicants. To identify suitable applicants, MCH will rely on three long answer questions where applicants have the opportunity to talk about themselves, their experiences and their ambitions.

MCH will be looking for applicants who have a firm understanding and a genuine interest in the *Tuia 250* kaupapa and themes, and applicants who are creative and have relationships with their communities, hapū and/ or iwi.

Cultural Participation

A major part of the *Tuia 250 Voyage* involves the participation in Te Ao Māori (the Māori world) and the learning and use of mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge and understanding).

You are not required to have any experience in Te Ao Māori, but having an interest in learning about it and participation in cultural engagement as part of the Voyage will be necessary.

Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees will be required to actively participate in pōwhiri at the disembarking port of their voyage, to learn a number of waiata (songs in te reo Māori) and karakia (Māori ritual chants), and to learn about and adhere to kawa and tikanga (marae customs and practices).

Trainees will be given information and support regarding these aspects.

A full selection criteria can be found on the *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainee* Application Form, and the *Mātātahi Voyage Leg* Application Form.

Trainee Responsibilities

Agreements and Codes of Conduct

Successful applicants will be required to sign codes of conduct agreeing to the rules and regulations of the vessels, as well as their commitment to carrying out their voyage leg.

Trainees must also acknowledge that failure to meet their vessel's code of conduct may result in their expulsion from the programme, where they will disembark at the nearest port and be responsible for making arrangements to get home.

Applicants must also recognise that vessels will not be responsible for any damaged, lost or stolen goods, and that they will not be held responsible for any injuries that may occur to the *Trainees*. Insurance is recommended for all *Trainees*, and travel insurance will be compulsory on some vessels.

During the voyage there will be cameras capturing the action on board each vessel and it will be likely that images of the *Trainees* will be present in that footage. *Trainees* will need to agree to allow MCH to use that material for promotional purposes. Further information can be found in the Photo, Video and Application Material Terms of Use section in the application forms.

Costs

Costs for the voyage and pōwhiri will be covered by MCH. There are some costs that will need to be taken on by the *Trainee*:

- Travel costs to the embarking point
- Travel costs from the disembarking point
- Any accommodation costs before and after the voyage leg (will not be required once on board the vessel)
- Food and other related costs needed before and after the voyage leg
- Travel insurance (compulsory on some vessels, recommended on others)
- Costs for doctors visit when attaining medical certificates (compulsory on some vessels)
- Compulsory gear and equipment

The applicant will be notified of the outcome of their application well in advance as to allow sufficient time to raise funds to cover these expenses. MCH can also provide advice on ways to do so.

Travel

As indicated above, successful applicants must be responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from the ports of their voyage leg. *Voyage Trainees* 17 years of age or younger will need to provide details for their methods of transport from the disembarking point (whether they will be picked up by a parent or caregiver, or making their way home via other forms of transport).

The *Tuia 250 Flotilla* has a schedule to stick to, however, due to the nature of ocean voyaging and its reliance on the weather and the environment, vessels may arrive later than previously anticipated. There is a risk that *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees* may miss original travel plans or booked accommodation. MCH will provide advice to successful applicants on the best ways to plan around these risks. Successful applicants must be willing to accept these possibilities knowing that MCH will not be liable for these costs.

Sharing Your Experience

At the conclusion of the journey, *Tuia 250 Voyage Trainees* will be required to produce some form of material to represent their experience on their voyage. This may come in the form of a video clip, a piece of writing, a photo album, a piece of art, an interpretive dance, or a song – whatever each *Trainee* feels would be the best way to share their experiences. This material will be shared with MCH and may potentially be used for promotional and reporting purposes.

