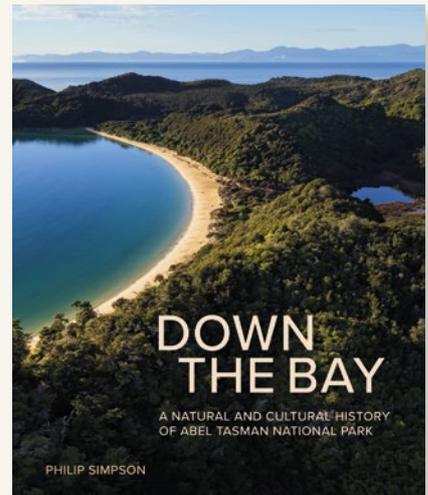


## A NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF ABEL TASMAN – ONE OF NEW ZEALAND'S MOST ICONIC AND POPULAR NATIONAL PARKS



Abel Tasman National Park was a war-time baby, born in 1942 to protect the wonderful sequence of forested beaches and headlands, and which have become much-loved by both countless New Zealanders and visitors alike. *Down the Bay* is a tribute to this gem of New Zealand's national park system.

Philip Simpson, an award-winning author of a number of books on New Zealand trees, presents a complete picture of the distinctive landforms of Abel Tasman, from the deep caves of the uplands to the distinctive granite headlands and golden-sand beaches, the diversity of plants and animals, the coastal environment, and overlays this with accounts of both Māori and European history.

As well the book records how Project Janszoon, a trust funded by a remarkable philanthropic gift, is working with the Department of Conservation to transform the park by removing pests and reintroducing threatened birds to restore the area to its former state. This is an inspiring and hopeful story of how the future of an important area of New Zealand is being secured for future generations.

*Down the Bay* will be the first comprehensive and authoritative account of Abel Tasman National Park to ever be published, a book that will beautifully capture what is an unforgettable visitor experience.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Award-winning writer and ecologist **PHILIP SIMPSON** lives next to Abel Tasman National Park and works for Project Janszoon. His previous books, on cabbage trees, pōhutukawa, rātā and totara, all combine natural and cultural history, the latter including Māori and European values towards the trees, and he transfers this perspective to the park. For four years he has tramped through the park studying the plants and animals, geology and soils, as well as researching the human history through the libraries and museums of New Zealand, and the memories of local people.

**PHILIP SIMPSON IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW / EXTRACTS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST**

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**\$79.99**

280 x 230 mm, 312 pp, hardback with dustjacket, colour illustrations throughout

ISBN: 978 0 947503 93 2

Published: December 2018