



# NEW ZEALAND

2024-2025 GUIDED HOLIDAYS

**FIRST CHOICE** 3-17 day Fully Curated Experiences **From page 24**

**BEST BUYS** 8-21 day Flexible Guided Holidays **From page 34**

# Kia Ora



Wild, wide and wonderful, New Zealand continually excites and inspires. It doesn't matter how many mountains you've climbed, or remote island shores you've visited, there's always something new to discover with us.

We work with our indigenous partners to provide authentic tourism experiences, where you can get involved in activities that help to regenerate a destination's community.



Welcome Traveller,

Otherworldly, mystical, refreshing, wild – these words resonate with me when I think of New Zealand. This is a place where lush green forests meet beaches with charcoal-coloured sand, where geothermal steam rises to unseen heights and mud bubbles in hot springs down below. It's truly beautiful, and I promise you that you won't find a group more passionate than us to ensure your holiday is a spectacular one.

We're especially excited this year as we've had the privilege to curate new experiences into our portfolio. Whirinaki Forest Footsteps in Rotorua is a guided cultural walk that directly contributes to sustainable tourism practices and our commitment to How We Tread Right, goals that are anchored to the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development. You'll learn about Rakau Rongoa (natural medicine plants), and hear stories of myths and legends walking in the shadows of giant trees, connecting with nature in its purest form. This MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience is just one of many special moments to be had on your journey through these unique islands.

With our friendly staff there every step of the way, we'll manage your travels to ensure you get the best out of your destination. Such as arriving at the perfect time to witness geyser mist glistening in the night sky from a seat warmed by geothermal rock, hot chocolate in hand. We'll introduce you to enduring characters, ones like chef Harry who'll serve you Red Barn's local favourites, homegrown root veggies, divine salads, and freshly baked bread - perfect for the fresh butter you'll churn yourself. This is just a taste of the many experiences that await you.

**With over 200 definite departures, wherever you decide to roam, you'll be in good hands with us.**

Sincerely,

Ben Hall  
AAT Kings Group | CEO



Te Puia Geothermal Reserve, North Island

# Start Exploring

## First Choice Guided Holidays 24-33

Tour	Days	Code	Page
<b>North &amp; South Islands</b>			
New Zealand Uncovered	17	ZAAC	26
Contrasts of New Zealand	10	IZANB	28
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Iconic North	7	ZAAW	30
Jewels of the Bay	3	UBOI	31
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## Best Buys Guided Holidays 34-57

Tour	Days	Code	Page
<b>North &amp; South Islands</b>			
Spirit of New Zealand	21	LCQB	36
Essence of New Zealand	18	LCQA	38
Kia Ora New Zealand	17	LABC	40
New Zealand Magic	17	LCBA	42
New Zealand Vista	14	LAAC	44
New Zealand Marvel	14	LCCA	46
<b>North Island</b>			
Northern Wonders	8	LWBA	48
Northern Spotlight	8	LABW	50
<b>South Island</b>			
Southern Spirit	14	LCQW	52
Southern Spotlight	9	LCQR	54
Southern Wonders	9	LRQC	56

**GUESTS – 1300 228 546 • [hello@aatkings.com.au](mailto:hello@aatkings.com.au)**

**AGENTS – 1300 556 100 • [guidedholidays@aatkings.com.au](mailto:guidedholidays@aatkings.com.au)**

The information in this brochure was correct at time of publication. However, advertised itineraries and accommodation may change after publication. Please visit [aatkings.com](http://aatkings.com) for latest details.



### Cover Image:

#### Te Puia Māori Experience

Embrace the ancient wisdom and vibrant culture of Māori people at Te Puia. Immerse yourself in an unforgettable experience as you view an exhilarating cultural performance and enjoy dishes made from locally sourced ingredients. Experience Te Puia on Guided Holidays.

# Explore New Zealand

From glacial-carved gorges to immense lakes, from rainforest-draped national parks to snowy peaks, New Zealand is diverse and dramatic.

Whichever island you're visiting, adventure awaits – be transfixed by a bedazzlement of stars in one of the Southern Hemisphere's dark sky reserves, cruise in the company of penguins across Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, and embrace the opportunity to immerse yourself in both the beauty and importance of Māori culture. This is where magical travel moments are made.

## Stories Worth Sharing

Share your memories with us by using [#aatkings](#) and [#wildawaits](#)



@irismetel | Te Pā Tū  
#rotorua #northisland #newzealand  
#wanderlust #Māorivillage #wildawaits



**Waitomo Caves**  
Glide through a sparkling underground cave system lit by thousands of glowworms, and tour the incredible limestone caverns.

**Pancake Rocks**  
Discover the South Island's wild west coast around Punakaiki, including time-hewn blowholes and the famed Pancake Rocks formed over 30 million years ago.

**Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere**  
Witness this stunning South Island wonder, with its rivers of ice and mantle of snow (perhaps on an unforgettable helicopter flight!)

**Milford Sound/Piopiotahi**  
Cruise this multifaceted jewel of magnificent Fiordland, once described as the world's 8th natural wonder.

**Waitangi Treaty Grounds**  
Immerse yourself in the stories, people and history of Aotearoa, before standing on the spot where New Zealand's founding document was signed.

**Te Puia**  
Follow your local guide into a volcanic wonderland of bubbling mud pools, thermal springs and New Zealand's biggest geyser.

**Lake Tekapo**  
Your chance to take in the incredible Milky Way, far off planets, star clusters, solar systems, and even distant galaxies from the International Dark Sky Reserve.

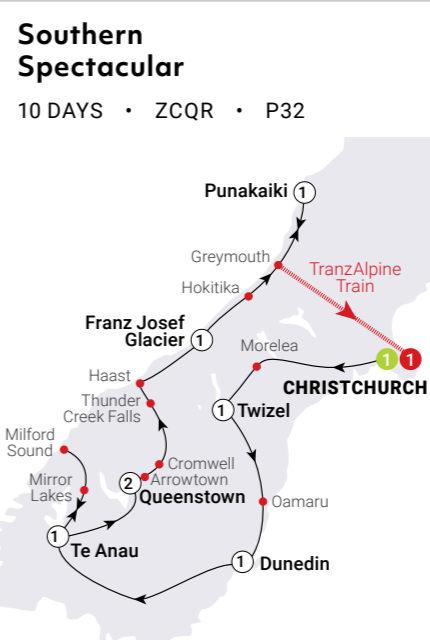
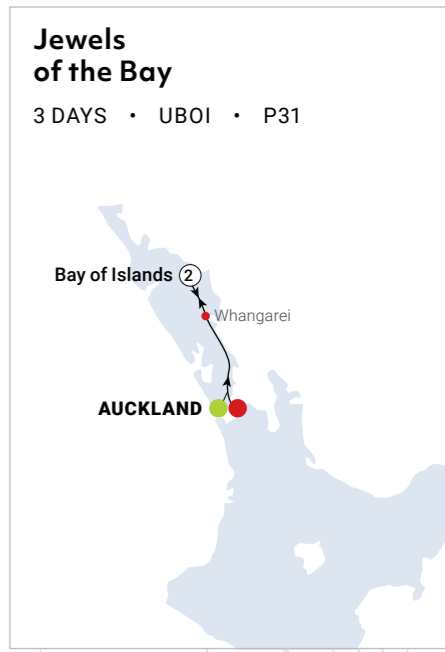
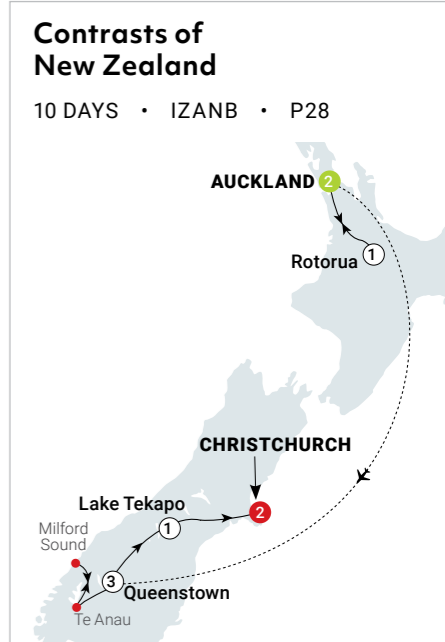
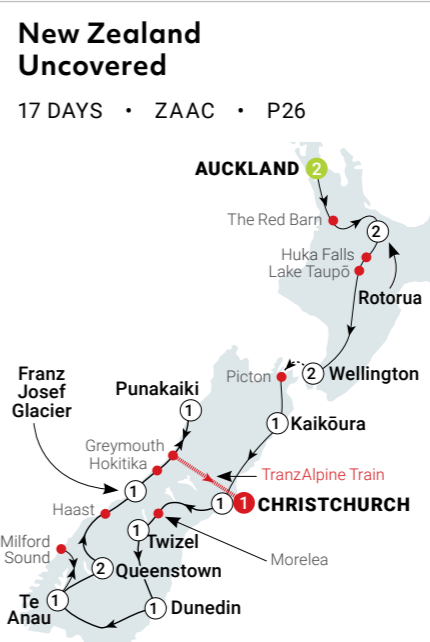
**Arrowtown**  
You'll be enchanted by the heritage main street of Arrowtown, a charming, quirky and delightful gold rush village nestled beside the sparkling Arrow River and below magnificent peaks.

# First Choice

Connect with New Zealand's heart and soul, enjoy seamless service, and be guided by the experts on five fully curated experiences.



Church of the Good Shepherd, South Island



# Best Buys

Experience the best of New Zealand, your way. With eleven flexible itineraries, you will enjoy AAT Kings' unrivalled expertise and discover must-see destinations, with plenty of free time to explore these spectacular lands and vibrant cities.

Lake Tekapo, South Island

**Spirit of New Zealand**  
21 DAYS • LCQB • P36

This itinerary covers the entire country, starting in Auckland and ending in Auckland. Key stops include the Bay of Islands, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, Queenstown, Dunedin, and Stewart Island. It includes sightseeing stops at Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, Franz Josef Glacier, and Milford Sound.

**Essence of New Zealand**  
18 DAYS • LCQA • P38

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, and Christchurch. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, Franz Josef Glacier, and Buller Gorge.

**Kia Ora New Zealand**  
17 DAYS • LABC • P40

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, and Christchurch. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, Franz Josef Glacier, and Arthur's Pass.

**New Zealand Magic**  
17 DAYS • LCBA • P42

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, and Christchurch. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, Franz Josef Glacier, and Arthur's Pass.

**New Zealand Vista**  
14 DAYS • LAAC • P44

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, and Christchurch. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, Franz Josef Glacier, and Arthur's Pass.

**New Zealand Marvel**  
14 DAYS • LCCA • P46

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Nelson, and Christchurch. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, Franz Josef Glacier, and Arthur's Pass.

**Northern Wonders**  
8 DAYS • LWBA • P48

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, and Napier. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, and Franz Josef Glacier.

**Northern Spotlight**  
8 DAYS • LABW • P50

This itinerary starts in Auckland and ends in Auckland. It covers the North Island, including Auckland, Rotorua, and Napier. Key stops include Waitomo Caves, Lake Taupo, Huka Falls, and Franz Josef Glacier.

**Southern Spirit**  
14 DAYS • LCQW • P52

This itinerary starts in Wellington and ends in Wellington. It covers the South Island, including Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, Queenstown, Dunedin, and Invercargill. Key stops include Franz Josef Glacier, Haast, Cromwell Arrowtown, and Queenstown.

**Southern Spotlight**  
9 DAYS • LCQR • P54

This itinerary starts in Christchurch and ends in Christchurch. It covers the South Island, including Christchurch, Queenstown, Dunedin, and Te Anau. Key stops include Franz Josef Glacier, Haast, Cromwell Arrowtown, and Queenstown.

**Southern Wonders**  
9 DAYS • LRQC • P56

This itinerary starts in Christchurch and ends in Christchurch. It covers the South Island, including Christchurch, Queenstown, Dunedin, and Te Anau. Key stops include Franz Josef Glacier, Haast, Cromwell Arrowtown, and Queenstown.



Today, we're proud of  
our history and of our people.  
Some things never change...



## 100+ Years of Adventure and many more to come

A century ago, the Australian outback was but a twinkle in most travellers' eyes. But thanks to visionaries like the Pyke family and Bill King, the way we explore the Land Down Under was about to change in unimaginable ways. Over the coming decades, maps were unfolded, desert cruisers and coaches were customised, and guides were trained. From humble beginnings, the company now known as AAT Kings was going places few had gone before, pioneering new paths across Australia and New Zealand and taking intrepid domestic and international travellers on a wild and wonderful ride.

No corner of the Antipodes was – or is – off-limits, from the remote reaches of the Kimberley and spiritual heartland of the Red Centre, to the untamed Milford Sound, bubbling thermal Rotorua and quiet shores of Tasmania. Not to mention in-depth journeys across Sydney and its surrounds, where this forward-thinking travel venture came to fruition all those years ago.

We've come a long way and clocked a few kilometres in the process. But some things will never change. Like our spirit for adventure. Our oh-so-knowledgeable Travel Directors. The local characters we meet (and will never forget) along the way. The epic, goosebump-inducing stories we're told by First Nations guides. The life-changing experiences on offer – the kind that only 100 years of exploring affords.

Now, we're just jumping into more waterfalls, finding ourselves humbled by more sacred sites, laying more footprints on deserted beaches and hiking through more tropical rainforests than ever before. And we've never been more passionate about our next discovery. Join us, and fall in love with Australia and New Zealand all over again.

*"Keep doing what you're doing,  
but try and do it better" – Bill King*



### 1920s

AAT Kings can be traced back to George Page's modest transport service from Melbourne to Brighton.

### 1930s

The Pike family introduced Sydney to Katoomba, which is still apart of our Day Tours business.

### 1960s

Bill King decided there was a real future with off-the-beaten-track journeys – Bill purchased two Land Rovers, an ex-army international ambulance and a Denning Bus and launched Bill King's Northern Safaris.

### 1970s

Bill designed and built his own 18 passenger vehicles and called them Desert Cruisers. AAT Coachlines had commenced operations in the Northern Territory.

### 1980s

AAT Coachlines purchased Bill King's Northern Safaris and operated as Bill King's Australian Adventure Tours.

### 1984

**AAT Kings brand formed.**

### 1997

AAT Kings joined The Travel Corporation Family of Brands.

### 1999

AAT Kings began operations in New Zealand.

### 2010

Small group immersive Inspiring Journeys brand was born.

### 2018

Down Under Tours joined the AAT Kings Group.

### 2019

SEIT Outback Australia joined the AAT Kings Group.

# New Zealand, but not as you *know* it.

New Zealand never fails to captivate, from its record-breaking glaciers to its steamy hot springs; from its world-leading wineries to its ridges of snow-capped mountains. While we've spent decades here, meeting the locals and crafting the ultimate itinerary, we're always looking for ways to broaden our horizons, discovering new destinations and experiences, and coming up with novel adventures – the one-off kind that remind you why travel is transformative, whether drifting through fjords or swimming in World Heritage listed sites, meeting the makers or listening to soul-stirring stories, dining under the stars or decoding them in a Dark Sky Reserve. Regardless of where we go, some things will never change, like our pioneering spirit, our commitment to worry free and sustainable travel, and our passion for revealing New Zealand in a way you never imagined possible.

International Dark Sky Reserve, Lake Tekapo

## Amazing Experiences

We were built on pioneering spirit, and to this day our tours include adventures that few others experience. We're constantly looking for ways to make journeys extraordinary, whether that's remote night-sky gazing or lunch on a dairy farm. This is New Zealand, but not as you've ever seen it.

## Travel Your Way

What you want from your holiday is not necessarily the same as your neighbour. Sometimes, it's about adventure. Often, it's a good glass of wine and a remarkable view. Perhaps you want to see major sights, or choose your own path while we handle the main roads. Whatever your destination and route, we have an itinerary for you.

## Conscious Travel

There are plenty of things we can all do while travelling to contribute to sustainable tourism practices. We've developed a series of tours with signature **MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®** Experiences – to ensure travel has a positive impact on our planet, the communities we visit and the wildlife we encounter.

## Worry-free Travel

Your wellbeing is our primary concern. In addition to elevated hygiene protocols, AAT Kings tours guarantee upgraded coach air-con filtration systems. We only work with partners we know and trust, and our Travel Directors ensure everything runs smoothly, with a support team on call.

## Family Values

When you travel with AAT Kings, you're not only part of our century-old heritage, but are welcomed into just as many years of experience in The Travel Corporation. Journey confidently knowing our family-owned parent company has welcomed millions of people around the world across its brands.

Māori wood carving



# Amazing Experiences

Every year, millions of adventure-seekers visit New Zealand. But to really get to know it – to take its pulse as an insider – you need to follow the lead of locals. We've spent the last 100 years exploring the Antipodes, meeting farmers, winemakers, chefs, Indigenous experts, artists and astronomers, and creating lasting friendships on our Guided Holidays. The kind that now give us – and you, as our guests – unrestricted and unrivalled access to parts of the country that other travellers just can't go, and to exclusive experiences most will probably never know existed. We'll take you places, and our passionate people will reveal their true beauty.

## Discover NZ's wildlife haven, Stewart Island

New Zealand's southernmost community resides on Stewart Island, a slip of land where brown kiwi birds outnumber humans, and where blue and rare yellow-eyed penguins waddle on rocks. More than 85 per cent of this wild and wonderful destination is national parkland, as you'll discover on a tour around the petite village and its beautiful bays, your journey taking you to Observation Rock and offering unbroken views over Paterson Inlet. This is nature at its most awe-inspiring and humbling.

## All aboard for the Southern Alps!

One of the world's great rail journeys, the TranzAlpine train offers a front-row seat to the South Island's most epic landscapes between Greymouth and Christchurch. Jump aboard to traverse the Canterbury Plains, chugging through immense beech forest, over viaducts, across river-carved gorges and past the ice-fed Waimakariri River, backdropped by the snow-capped Southern Alps. This historic route has been in operation since 1914, and is no less spectacular today than it was more than a century ago.



Milford Sound/Piopiotahi

## Get set for a peak performance, Milford Sound/Piopiotahi

New Zealand boasts more than its fair share of natural wonders, none quite as dramatic as Milford Sound/Piopiotahi within World Heritage listed Te Wahipounamu reserve. Waterfalls tumble from escarpments into inky water, glaciers sparkle from clifftops and mountains scrape the sky – it's a natural haven for fur seals, penguins and dolphins, which you'll observe firsthand on a scenic cruise through the sound. Back on land, your journey through Fiordland National Park continues to Te Anau, from rainforest through wildflower-dusted meadows and across alluvial flats.



Be My Guest lunch, the Red Barn

## Sip and savour liquid gold, Greymouth

Monteith's Brewery has been making lager, IPA and pale ale since 1868. It's fair to say they know a thing or two about beer – more specifically, excellent craft beer, which you'll get to sample on a behind-the-scenes tour revealing the traditions and heritage of this national icon. While some menu items never change, others are seasonal and experimental, and all are a refreshing accompaniment to the pub-style lunch you'll enjoy here.

## Prepare to see stars, Tekapo

Free from artificial light pollution, the UNESCO Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve really knows how to dazzle. Visit this spectacular spot, over the Lindis Pass and backdropped by Aoraki/Mt. Cook, at night to gaze at the Southern Cross, Magellanic Clouds and wonders hidden along the Milky Way through an optical telescope, the mysteries and magic of the starry sky above decoded by a specialist astronomy guide.

## Churn things up on a dairy farm, Waikato

The Waikato countryside, 150 kilometres south of Auckland, is the stuff of postcards. It's particularly pretty at the Red Barn, a fully functioning dairy farm where you'll not only meet the gorgeous wide-eyed cows, but also try your hand at churning butter – then spread it thick on freshly baked breads before sitting down to a paddock-to-plate, country-style lunch with your hosts. It doesn't get any fresher.



International Dark Sky Reserve

4.5/5

feefo

independent &  
transparent  
satisfaction rating

“Brilliant trip with excellent service.

The tour guide was so helpful and went out of his way to make sure we had everything we needed.

Simon M ★★★★★

“We would definitely recommend them.

The whole experience arranged by our travel agent for the tours with AAT was very good we have given them 5 stars purely and simply because we couldn't fault any of the trips. The coaches were clean and very comfortable, the tour guides were very knowledgeable about the areas we visited, courteous and at times humorous, always very polite and extremely punctual.

Carol C ★★★★★



@angemount  
Morelea Farm

“Great trip. Would recommend AAT Kings to anyone interested.

John S ★★★★★

# Travel Your Way

No two travellers are ever the same. Which means that with AAT Kings, neither are any two tours. We understand that sometimes you want to switch off and enjoy the scenery, with your itinerary, accommodation and exclusive experiences all seamlessly sorted 'behind the scenes'. Other journeys require the essentials covered and insider tips provided, but need built-in flexibility so you can go your own way. Whether you have a couple of weeks or a couple of days, whether you want to leave everything to us or customise parts of your journey, AAT Kings offers a travel style for every kind of traveller. And regardless of the tour you choose, you'll leave a minimal footprint, connect with culture and support the local communities you visit.

All Blacks Experience, Auckland

## First Choice Guided Holidays

For explorers who want:

- Exclusive experiences and adventures around New Zealand
- More inclusions and meals
- Everything taken care of by talented Travel Directors

There's nothing quite like setting off to see New Zealand, knowing that each wild encounter, all your accommodation – and everything in between – has been taken care of by your Travel Director, guides and the team of supporting experts. All you need to do is relax, make lasting connections and delve into the country's culture. This is about going to wild places, with creature comforts.



## Best Buys Guided Holidays

For explorers who want:

- A flexible holiday with some inclusions, and some independent travel
- All the essentials managed by in-the-know Travel Directors

Take a fully curated holiday, add in a good dose of flexibility, and you arrive at this travel style, designed for those who like travel fundamentals taken care of – the transportation, accommodation – but also like the option of exploring independently, with tips from knowledgeable Travel Directors to point you in the right direction if needed.



# MAKE TRAVEL MATTER™

TREADRIGHT

The TreadRight Foundation was established more than 15 years ago and since then has supported over 60 sustainable tourism projects worldwide. Their mission is clear; to have a positive impact on:

**PEOPLE** SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES & CULTURES   **PLANET** SUSTAINABILITY & CONSERVATION   **WILDLIFE** PROTECTION & AWARENESS

Through our not-for-profit TreadRight Foundation, of which AAT Kings is a founding member, and our sustainability strategy, How We Tread Right, we're committed to reaching net zero GHG emissions across our value chain by 2050 from a 2019 baseline year, with a primary focus to decarbonize. To do this, we have launched a four-point Carbon Action Plan as well as a Carbon Fund dedicated to financing initiatives to reduce the carbon emissions of our business. You can read more about our plans to Measure, Reduce, Restore and Evolve at [impact.ttc.com](https://www.impact.ttc.com).

## AAT Kings *Cares*

Enrich your travels while supporting the people and places you visit. Our MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experiences are carefully developed for the mutual benefit they hold for the communities we explore as well as our travellers.

When you travel on an AAT Kings tour that includes a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, you'll be assured that your experience is having a positive impact. Look for the symbol below to see how you can MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®.

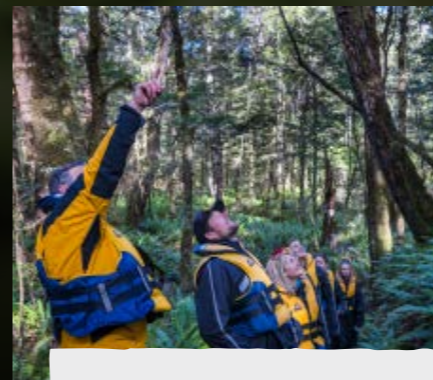
MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®  
EXPERIENCE



WE SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

### Save the kiwi bird, Rotorua

The flightless kiwi bird is under threat, with populations of the beloved national species in decline. AAT Kings supports the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa to provide a safe environment for eggs to hatch, as you'll discover on the **Contrasts of New Zealand** (page 28).



#### Pomona Island Charitable Trust, Fiordland

Cruise around Pomona and Rona islands in Lake Manapouri to discover how the Charitable Trust is conserving and restoring the islands' native plants and animals. Included on **Southern Spectacular** (page 32).



#### Te Puia Māori Arts & Crafts Institute, Rotorua

This Māori-owned and -operated experience reveals the richness of Indigenous culture and heritage, while preserving traditions. Included on **Essence of New Zealand** (page 38).



#### Dark Sky Project

Dark Sky Project is committed to preserving our night skies by connecting us to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences. **Included on selected Best Buys holidays from page 36.**

# Worry-free Travel

The travel landscape is forever changing, something we know only too well at AAT Kings – after all, we’ve been crafting life-changing itineraries for more than a century. Now, more than ever, we’re committed to sparking your wanderlust, while ensuring your wellbeing. We’re by your side to take the hassle and worry out of your holiday, so you can enjoy the journey (and the company), then sleep soundly knowing we’re doing what it takes behind-the-scenes to ensure your safety and well being.

## Trained Travel Directors

Our Travel Directors not only hold a wealth of information about the destinations you visit, but also have their finger on the pulse when it comes to the latest protocols in well being and local etiquette.

## Always in the know

We have worked closely with the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTTC) to guide and co-create their “New Normal Safe and Seamless Traveller Journey” global protocols. Find out more at: [aatkings.com/about-us/wellbeing](https://aatkings.com/about-us/wellbeing)

## A full team of support, 24/7

Our Travel Directors and Drivers rarely need backup, but they have it thanks to a full support team on call around the clock to ensure your journey is seamless and hassle-free, from the moment you sign up until the moment you return home

## Flexibility

We understand the importance of flexibility. If you need to modify your travel plans, we’ll always aim to accommodate you, making minor booking changes at no charge if third-party expenses are not involved. To find out more information on your booking’s flexibility, visit [aatkings.com/booking-conditions](https://aatkings.com/booking-conditions)

## Trusted partners

The people we work with around Australia and New Zealand care about our guests as much as we do. We’re extremely selective when it comes to our partners – whether restaurants, hotels, suppliers or venues – and we ensure upfront that we’re aligned in our commitment to health and well being.



Find out more at: [aatkings.com/about-us/wellbeing](https://aatkings.com/about-us/wellbeing)

# Family Values

## More than a century of experience

At AAT Kings, we’re proud of our service and experience, revealing the wonders and characters of Australia and New Zealand to guests for more than 100 years. We’re even prouder to be part of a much bigger family, The Travel Corporation (TTC), which enjoys a global reach and a portfolio that includes some of the world’s most prestigious travel brands – from luxury hotels and boutique river cruises to independent holiday package companies and guided travel experiences. The collection is diverse, but we all share standards of excellence and common goals: to offer outstanding service and experiences, whichever corner of the planet our guests choose to roam.



## Global Tour Rewards

The loyalty of our past guests means everything to us. That’s why everyone who travels with us is automatically enrolled in our Global Rewards program, with access to exclusive past guest savings and offers on all AAT Kings and Inspiring Journey tours, and our Travel Corporation sister brands. Use your benefits on more than 1000 tours around the globe designed for every taste, place and pace.



Visit [aatkings.com/rewards](https://aatkings.com/rewards) for more.



# First Choice

## Captivating Holidays, Premium Inclusions

For explorers who want to visit wild places with creature comforts, a First Choice Guided Holiday delivers exclusive experiences and quality accommodation around New Zealand, with everything taken care of by your Travel Director so you can relax and enjoy the adventure.



Te Puia Māori Cultural Experience

### 📍 Local Connection

The best way to get the most authentic experience is through locals. Our Travel directors will take you places you never knew existed, while our Be My Guest experiences led by local artisans will connect you to the heartbeat of New Zealand.

### 🌿 Cultural Immersion

Meet the indigenous people of Aotearoa (the Māori name for New Zealand). Discover their history, language and traditions which are central to New Zealand's national identity.

### 🌱 Sustainable Footprints

We're passionate about protecting the environments and communities we visit for future travellers to discover, and do this in partnership with the TreadRight Foundation.

### 🌍 Wildlife & Nature

New Zealand may be small, but it punches well above its weight when it comes to natural drama. Exhale, and be consumed by a cornucopia of wildlife and wilderness areas.

## What's included on a First Choice Holiday?

- All accommodation in premium hotels, lodges and eco-resorts
- More 2 night stays with later starts
- Most meals including daily breakfasts
- Exclusive Be My Guest Experiences
- Wine with all included dinners
- Cultural activities in your destinations
- Community engagement activities
- Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats, and WiFi where available
- The services of a highly experienced Travel Director
- Transfers and taxes

# New Zealand Uncovered

## Highlights

### Local Connection

Enjoy an exclusive Be My Guest lunch at the Red Barn, a Waikato working dairy farm of a retired champion jockey and his wife.

### Cultural Immersion

Māori culture is celebrated across the country, no more so than at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Be immersed in art, tradition, culture... and nurturing cuisine.

### Sustainable Footprints

Hear from the founder about the work being done to address biodiversity needs in the Kaikōura region, by developing a wildlife hospital and conservation centre.

### Wildlife & Nature

A limestone landscape of pancake-shaped rock formations, blowholes and surge pools sure have carved out a name for themselves. Punakaiki or Pancake Rocks are West Coasters that are known the world over.



Milford Sound

### 1 Welcome to Auckland

Auckland is the kind of place you could lose yourself in for a couple of weeks. Arrive at your leisure and explore new waterfront precincts, cruise to the wineries of Waiheke Island, or just ready yourself to meet fellow travellers over a Welcome Reception and dinner. **Hotel: Cordis, 2 nights. DW**

### 2 Auckland

A little bit of leisure, a little bit of culture – today is one of those days. Peek behind the scenes of racing history on the New Zealand Maritime Museum's America's Cup Tour. Your Travel Director then takes you around the city, pausing at Bastion Point for epic photo opportunities. **B**

### 3 Auckland – Rotorua

The O'Sullivan's welcome you to their Waikato estate for a Be My Guest lunch in their Red Barn. Expect country banter and farm-to-table fare prepared with a lot of love. The next hot spot – in every sense of the word – on your NZ holiday is Rotorua. Visit Te Puia to see and support Māori artisans at work, then continue your Rotorua tour at the steamy Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staggering valley where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skywards. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B BG**

### 4 Rotorua

Today, choose your own adventure. We have plenty of ideas for the paths you might follow. Tonight, dive deep into Māori culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, an important hub keeping tradition, art and music alive. Oh, and nurturing Māori cuisine. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course dinner. **B HD**

### 5 Rotorua – Wellington

Say goodbye to Rotorua and hello to the raging rapids of Huka Falls. Your outlook then unfolds into the dreamy landscape of Lake Taupō. Traverse the volcanic Central Plateau to NZ's cool little capital of Wellington. **Hotel: Rydges, 2 nights. B DW**

### 6 Wellington

Take a city tour to discover highlights like its iconic Cable Car, parliament and Mt. Victoria. This afternoon is all yours. You could visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, perhaps the wine region of Wairarapa or Zealandia's ecosanctuary restoring 225 hectares of forest. **B**

### 7 Wellington – Kaikōura

This morning cruise the Cook Strait to Kaikōura, a marine life haven. On arrival be treated to a biodiversity talk from Sabrina Leucht, founder of Kaikōura Wildlife Centre Trust, and learn about the work the trust is doing towards Wildlife rescue and rehabilitation, at this MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Tonight, dine at Hiku, which celebrates what Kaikōura is all about - kai moana and dramatic sea and mountain scapes. **Hotel: Sudima. B HD**

### 8 Kaikōura – Christchurch

Enjoy a relaxed start this morning or sign up for one of several optional wildlife experiences available. Take a scenic flight for a bird's-eye view, get up close to dolphins by boat or kayak, or sample tasty crayfish at waterside fish-and-chip shops. Follow the coast and Canterbury Plains to Christchurch, home to innovative architecture, art institutions and restaurants. **Hotel: Distinction. B**

### 9 Christchurch – Twizel

From its cardboard-crafted Transitional Cathedral to its gold-clad central library, Christchurch has well and truly rebuilt itself since the 2010/11 earthquakes. But South Island locals still cherish a simple life, as you'll discover over a Be My Guest afternoon tea with retired farmers Angie and Stan Taylor at their home Morelea on the edge of Lake Tekapo. **Hotel: Mackenzie Country Inn. B BG DW**

### 10 Twizel – Dunedin

Oamaru has a rich history and proud heritage, enriched by passionate and perhaps quirky locals. Explore the shops, galleries and traditional crafts within some of the Southern Hemisphere's most complete Victorian streetscapes, before landing in Dunedin. **Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B DW**

### 11 Dunedin – Te Anau

From sheep farms to rugged mountains, today is one of contrasts. Venture into Fiordland National Park toward the South Island's largest lake and the lakeside town of Te Anau. Enjoy the thrill of jet boating on scenic Lake Manapouri, home to Pomona Island, where native birds are under threat - and your visit is helping to protect them through a community-based conservation project. **Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW**

### 12 Te Anau – Queenstown

Your journey toward your cruise on Milford Sound/Piopiota traverses native rainforest, alluvial flats and meadows, with mirrored lakes, thundering waterfalls, dramatic rocky ranges and millennia-old valleys. That's enough drama for an entire travel year – you still have the streets of Queenstown to explore. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B**

### 13 Queenstown Free Time

Adrenaline-junkies may wish to get some perspective on a tour of the gorges of Skippers Canyon. Gourmand at heart? Perhaps a Central Otago wine tour? Your day ends on a dreamy TSS Earnslaw cruise across Lake Wakatipu, landing at Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and farm show. **B HD**

### 14 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

From Arrowtown's tree-lined avenues to Central Otago's gleaming lakes, nature rules. Alpine scenery tiers into rainforest along the West Coast, where Thunder Creek Falls and the glacier-studded Mt. Hooker steal the scene. Welcome to the town of Franz Josef, home to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B DW**

### 15 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Explore the small but lively Franz Josef/Waiau village before venturing to Hokitika. Then steel yourself for the Pancake Rocks and Blowholes of Punakaiki, a sliver of South Island geology that is as humbling as it is awe-inspiring. After a spectacular day, spend the night at an eco-friendly, waterfront resort. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B DW**

### 16 Punakaiki – Christchurch

Beer for breakfast? We've got you sorted on a morning tour of legendary Monteith's Brewery, which is followed by lunch. The best is yet to come – all aboard for the scenic TranzAlpine train back to Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts, with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. **Hotel: Distinction. B L FD**

### 17 Farewell from Christchurch

How many travel highs can you pack into a holiday? This itinerary has certainly pushed the boundaries. Now all you have to do is go home and sort through all those photos. **B**

## 17 DAYS 21 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>03, 24, 31</b>	Jan <b>09, 16, 23, 30</b>	Jan <b>07, 14, 21, 28</b>
Nov <b>14, 28</b>	Feb 06, 13, <b>20, 27</b>	Feb <b>04, 11, 18, 25</b>
Dec <b>19</b>	Mar <b>05, 12, 19, 26</b>	Mar <b>04, 11, 18, 25</b>
	Apr 02, <b>09, 16, 23,</b>	
	Jun 04, 25	
	Sep 03, 10, <b>17</b>	
	Oct 01, <b>08, 15, 22, 29</b>	
	Nov <b>05, 12, 19, 26</b>	
	Dec <b>03, 10, 17, 24, 31</b>	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/zaac](https://aatkings.com/zaac) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts **B**      3 Highlight Dinners **HD**  
 1 Be My Guest Lunch **BG**      7 Dinners with wine **DW**  
 1 Lunch **L**      1 Farewell Dinner **FD**  
 1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea **BG**

### Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport  
 Day 17 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.



# Contrasts of New Zealand

## Highlights

### Local Connection

South Island countryside never fails to impress, as you'll discover cruising World Heritage-listed Milford Sound/Piopiotaahi and enjoying morning tea on a farm in the Hurunui Hills.

### Cultural Immersion

Discover just how strong Māori culture is at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, celebrating art, tradition and cuisine. Bring your appetite for nurturing Māori cuisine.

### Sustainable Footprints

Operation Nest Egg may sound James Bond-esque, but it's actually a National Kiwi Hatchery project to care for the country's kiwi population.

### Wildlife & Nature

You'd be forgiven for thinking you'd be transported to Mars when you arrive at Rotorua, a place where steam and mud pop, fizz and swoosh at every turn.



Postmasters Café

### 1 Welcome to Auckland

New Zealand's largest city is also one of its prettiest, as you'll discover exploring at your leisure. Arrive early to linger in its hip harbourside precincts, where galleries and design-driven stores await. You'll have worked up an appetite by the time you meet your fellow travel companions at a Welcome Reception and dinner. Start your Auckland tour on a high, we say. **Hotel: The Grand by SkyCity, 2 nights. DW**

### 2 Auckland

If you didn't get your city bearings yesterday, you will on an Auckland tour today. Have your camera poised as you reach Mission Bay, a dreamy waterside suburb where the blues patchwork to the horizon. Click! Then get snap happy once again at Bastion Point and the Michael Joseph Savage Memorial, offering epic vistas over Auckland and its harbours. Click, click, click! Want some tips on how to spend your free afternoon in New Zealand's largest city? How about going behind the scenes of the All Blacks, arguably the world's most legendary rugby team? Or cruising to Waiheke Island to sip more wine at forward-thinking cellar doors? **B**

### 3 Auckland – Rotorua

You could be forgiven for thinking Rotorua's landscapes are a sci-fi movie set. Mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. The surrounding forest is a fertile habitat for New Zealand's national bird, being protected and bred at the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa. The cute-as-a-button, cotton-ball kiwi is under threat in the wild; at the hatchery, passionate conservationists reveal how they are saving the population, one incubated egg at a time. Tonight, dive deep into Indigenous culture and traditions on a Rotorua tour at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: Millennium. B HD**

### 4 Rotorua – Auckland – Queenstown

Lance O'Sullivan, a retired champion jockey, and his wife Bridgette invite you to an exclusive Be My Guest morning tea at the Red Barn, at their working dairy farm in the Waikato district. Expect country banter and have a go at the forgotten art of butter churning. The feel-good vibes that endure

will follow you all the way to Queenstown, the self-proclaimed adventure capital of New Zealand. It makes perfect sense – there are ski fields, white-water river and bridges strapped with bungy cords wherever you turn. And then there's the dining scene; Queenstown is home to some of the country's most awarded restaurants. Whether you're in the mood for bulging burgers or lakeside tapas, ask us for recommendations on this leg of your Queenstown New Zealand tour. **Hotel: Millennium, 3 nights. B BG**

### 5 Milford Sound/Piopiotaahi Cruise

Bring your stamina and sense of adventure – things get a little wild today. Nature rules as you skirt Queenstown's gleaming Lake Wakatipu, and traverse the Devil's Staircase to Te Anau, the alpine gateway to World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park. Once you've paused to admire the drama at Mirror Lakes, Knobs Flat, Hollyford Valley lookout, Cleddau Valley and the Chasm, you'll begin to understand why Rudyard Kipling called this the 'Eighth Wonder of the World'. You haven't even seen Bowen Falls or Milford Sound/Piopiotaahi yet... The best Milford Sound/Piopiotaahi cruise sees you in the company of an eagle-eyed guide, who not only knows the immense geological history of the region, but can also point out sun-baking fur seals and playful dolphins. **B L**

### 6 Queenstown Free Time

Take today's Queenstown New Zealand tour at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride. Blast across Lake Wakatipu and down the world-famous Kawarau and Shotover Rivers in one of the world's most stunning locations. Prefer to be able to talk (and drink wine) while you cruise? Glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue lunch in a dreamy alpine setting. Wherever you wander, be sure to save space for tonight's Highlight Dinner at Postmasters Café, a historic Arrowtown cottage replete with picket fence and Instagrammable gardens. **B HD**

### 7 Queenstown – Lake Tekapo

Whether pinot noir grapes or cherries, things grow well in the fertile Central Otago region of the South Island. Get a taste for the area's plump stone fruit at the stall of a local orchard. Mountain drama – including

views of Aoraki/Mt. Cook – is your backdrop en route to Lake Tekapo, with water so turquoise it looks like a Renaissance painting. This part of the country is ravishing and remote; the lack of light pollution means dazzling Southern Hemisphere stargazing at UNESCO World Heritage listed Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. It's handy to have an astronomer in your company to decode the constellations of the Milky Way. If there was ever a NZ experience that put life in perspective, this is it. **Hotel: Pepper's Bluewater Resort. B DW**

### 8 Lake Tekapo – Christchurch

The Canterbury region of the west coast is a rustic union of grassy plains, mirror-like lakes and snow-capped mountains, the kind of landscape that you might see on postcards. Arrive into the beautiful English city of Christchurch for a guided visit. The city is not only rebuilding itself after the devastating 2010/11 earthquakes, but is changing the way architects think about design. Case in point the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. **Hotel: Distinction, 2 nights. B**

### 9 Christchurch

Travel north through rolling countryside to Hurunui Hills, a hill country farm in North Canterbury. Enjoy warm Kiwi hospitality with the Bamford Family, who have been farming at Hurunui since 1884 with six generations focused on producing premium Merino sheep, wool and Angus cattle. Soak up stunning scenery while enjoying morning tea, meet the farm animals & discover what it is like to live off the land on this unique Be My Guest experience. Continue to a local vineyard, Waipara Springs Winery, where it's time to relax and enjoy a platter-style lunch among the vines. A big day leads to a big evening joining your Travel Director and travel mates for a celebratory Farewell Dinner featuring produce from the Canterbury region. **B BG L FD**

### 10 Farewell from Christchurch

You've travelled hundreds of kilometres across two islands, likely taken thousands of photos, and made countless memories and new friends. The only thing left to do is plan your next trip to New Zealand. **B**

## 10 DAYS 12 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>06, 20</b>	Jan <b>05, 12, 19, 26</b>	Jan 03, 10, 17, <b>24, 31</b>
Nov <b>17</b>	Feb 02, <b>09, 16, 23</b>	Feb <b>07, 14, 21, 28</b>
Dec <b>08</b>	Mar 01, 08, <b>15, 22</b>	Mar <b>07, 14, 21, 28</b>
	Apr <b>05, 19</b>	
	Jul <b>05</b>	
	Aug 23	
	Sep <b>06, 20</b>	
	Oct <b>04, 18</b>	
	Nov 08, <b>15, 22, 29</b>	
	Dec 06, <b>20</b>	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/izanb](http://aatkings.com/izanb) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

9 Full buffet breakfasts B      2 Highlight Dinners HD  
2 Lunches L                      2 Dinners with wine DW  
2 Be My Guest Morning Teas BG   1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport

Day 10 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the price above.

Internal-holiday flight: The flight below is required to be purchased in order to fulfil the holiday itinerary:

Day 4 – Auckland to Queenstown



# Iconic North



Be My Guest lunch, the Red Barn

## Highlights

### Local Connection

The dairy industry is big business in New Zealand, as you'll fast find on the O'Sullivan's Waikato farm. The stories they'll tell you about life on the land.

### Cultural Immersion

Discover just how strong Māori culture is at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, celebrating art, tradition and cuisine.

### Sustainable Footprints

Your visit to Te Puia not only reveals Rotorua's steamy history, but also supports up-and-coming Māori creatives.

### Wildlife & Nature

If you want to be blown away by nature, Huka Falls is the place to go. This mighty waterfall sees 220,000 litres of water per second thunder over an 11-metre ridge.

## 7 DAYS 10 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2025
Oct <b>03, 24, 31</b>	Jan <b>07, 14, 21, 28</b>
Nov <b>14, 28</b>	Feb <b>04, 11, 18, 25</b>
Dec <b>19</b>	Mar <b>04, 11, 18, 25</b>

2024
Jan <b>09, 16, 23, 30</b>
Feb 06, 13, <b>20, 27</b>
Mar <b>05, 12, 19, 26</b>
Apr 02, <b>09, 16, 23,</b>
Jun 04, 25
Sep 03, 10, <b>17</b>
Oct 01, <b>08, 15, 22, 29</b>
Nov <b>05, 12, 19, 26</b>
Dec <b>03, 10, 17, 24, 31</b>

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/zaaw](http://aatkings.com/zaaw) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

6 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Highlight Dinner HD  
1 Be My Guest Lunch BG 1 Dinner with wine DW

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Auckland Airport  
Day 7 – flights to depart anytime from Wellington Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

# Jewels of the Bay



Waitangi Treaty Grounds

## Highlights

### Local Connection

Meet the artists, makers and producers that call the Bay of Islands home, as well as descendants of Traditional Landowners who signed the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840.

### Cultural Immersion

Free day in the Bay of Islands? An optional mini tour of Russell takes you to iconic locations that make it so significant in New Zealand's early history.

### Sustainable Footprints

Journey through Waitangi Treaty Grounds, New Zealand's most important historic site. Discover the stories, people and events that have shaped the past, present and future.

### Wildlife & Nature

From its 20-million-year-old volcanic dome to its spectacular waterfall, Whangarei feels more like an oasis than New Zealand's most northerly city.

## 3 DAYS 1 Included Experience

### Departure Dates

2023	2025
Oct <b>15</b>	Jan 05, 12, 19, 26
Nov <b>12</b>	Feb 02, 09, 16, 23
Dec <b>03, 17</b>	Mar 02, 09, 16, 23

2024
Jan 07, <b>14, 21, 28</b>
Feb 04, <b>11, 18, 25</b>
Mar 03, 10, 17, 24
Apr 14, 21
Jun 23
Sep 08, 29
Oct 06, 13, 20, 27
Nov 03, 10, 24
Dec 01, 08, 15, 22

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/uboi](http://aatkings.com/uboi) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

2 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Dinner D

## Flight Information

Day Prior – flights to arrive any time into Auckland Airport  
Day 3 – flights to depart after 7.00pm from Auckland Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

### 1 Welcome to Auckland

Meet your fellow travel companions at a Welcome Reception and dinner, and share stories of your day-one wanderings. **Hotel: Cordis, 2 nights. DW**

### 2 Auckland

Those sails on the harbour? They come from a long and fascinating history of boat-building and sailing, as you'll discover on an America's Cup tour at the New Zealand Maritime Museum. The water is your backdrop as you skirt the harbour toward dreamy Mission Bay and Bastion Point. There's nothing like an epic view to set your soul soaring. **B**

### 3 Auckland – Rotorua

The O'Sullivan's welcome you to their Waikato estate for a Be My Guest lunch in their Red Barn. Expect country banter and farm-to-table fare prepared with a lot of love. The next hot spot – in every sense of the word – on your NZ holiday is Rotorua. Visit Te Puia to see and support Māori artisans at work, then continue your Rotorua tour at the steamy Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, a staggering valley where geysers pop and thermal springs jettison skywards. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B BG**

### 4 Rotorua

Today, choose your own adventure. Tonight, dive deep into Indigenous culture at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Hear about Māori history, traditions,

and future aspirations across an evening of celebration and feasting. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and complementary chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course Highlight Dinner. **B HD**

### 5 Rotorua – Wellington

You'll hear Huka Falls well before you see it – 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11 metre high waterfall every second. The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō then the Kapiti Coast to Wellington. **Hotel: Rydges, 2 nights. B**

### 6 Wellington

Head out on a city sights tour to take in highlights such as its iconic Cable Car, parliament and Mt. Victoria. This afternoon is yours to discover Wellington. Perhaps visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, tour the Wairarapa wine region or the first urban completely fenced ecosanctuary of Zealandia, where the biodiversity of 225 hectares of forest is being restored. **B**

### 7 Farewell from Wellington

It's been a week of epic sights and adventures in the North Island. All good things must come to an end, but there's time to enjoy one last breakfast with your travel companions. **B**



As this holiday departs from the Cordis Auckland at 7.30am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

### 1 Auckland – Bay of Islands

We hope you slept soundly, because today is jam-packed with adventures. Hit the road in the morning for a scenic sojourn to the Bay of Islands. This pocket of the country deserves its name – there are more than 140 subtropical islets off the coast here. It's undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret; this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840, between Captain William Hobson and Māori chiefs. Your guide, likely an descendant of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance of the site, while pointing out the world's largest ceremonial war canoe and a carved meeting house. You wanted an introduction to New Zealand heritage on day one – you got it. Meet your fellow travellers at a Welcome Reception and dinner this evening. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. D**

### 2 Bay of Islands Free Time

If there's a travel destination that inspires wanderlust, the Bay of Islands is it. Today, trip the light fantastic and head off in whatever direction you please. Perhaps out on to the water to ride the waves aboard a historic tall ship, glass of New Zealand wine in hand. Or

maybe on a mini-tour around the romantic town of Russell, the country's first permanent European settlement and seaport. Fun fact: the town's streets retain their original names and layout from 1843. Just ask your Travel Director for touring tips – and places to wine and dine come dusk. This part of the country was made for blazing sunsets. **B**

### 3 Bay of Islands – Auckland

If you've never heard of Whangarei, you're probably not alone. But today, New Zealand's most northerly city is well and truly on your radar. A place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums, Whangarei is the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. **B**





# Southern Spectacular

## Highlights


### Local Connection

Angie and Stan Taylor serve up a mean afternoon tea on their estate in Tekapo. Perhaps the only thing better is cruising Milford Sound/Piopirotahi with a guide pointing out dolphins.

### Cultural Immersion

Farming is a big deal in New Zealand, as you'll first discover at Walter Peak Station. Sit down to a barbecue dinner before being immersed in a farm show.

### Sustainable Footprints

 Pomona Island Charitable Trust works with passionate volunteers to rehabilitate the South Island's largest inland island. You get to be a part of the magic.

### Wildlife & Nature

Snow-capped mountains, a mirror-like lake, white-water rivers and vine-laced fields. Queenstown is blessed with natural assets.



Queenstown

10 DAYS  
11 Included Experiences

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>10, 31</b>	Jan 02, <b>16, 23, 30</b>	Jan 07, <b>14, 21, 28</b>
Nov <b>07, 21</b>	Feb <b>06, 13, 20, 27</b>	Feb 04, <b>11, 18, 25</b>
Dec <b>05, 26</b>	Mar <b>05, 12, 19, 26</b>	Mar 04, 11, <b>18, 25</b>
	Apr 09, <b>16, 23, 30</b>	
	Jun 11	
	Jul 02	
	Sep 10, 17, <b>24</b>	
	Oct 08, <b>15, 22, 29</b>	
	Nov 05, <b>12, 19, 26</b>	
	Dec 03, 10, 17, <b>24, 31</b>	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

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A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

9 Full buffet breakfasts B      1 Highlight Dinner HD  
1 Lunch L      5 Dinners with wine DW  
1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea BG      1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive by 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 10 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Return airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

At once forward-thinking and fun, Christchurch is the kind of city you could lose yourself in for a week – or more. You have this afternoon, so make the most of it. We recommend riding the rails on the vintage Christchurch Tram, a narrated hop-on, hop-off experience that loops around town, your host pointing out historic architecture and new developments that have popped up since the 2010/2011 earthquakes. Time to meet your fellow adventure-seekers over a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Distinction.**

### 2 Christchurch – Twizel

If you didn't get your Christchurch bearings yesterday, you certainly will on today's city tour, taking in the record-breaking Transitional Cathedral – who knew you could build a church from cardboard? The buildings of the city fade into a patchwork of farms as you ease across the Canterbury Plains toward Morelea. Here, retired farmers Angie and Stan Taylor welcome you to their home with a slap-up Be My Guest afternoon tea and tales about life on the land. And this land is truly dramatic, backdropped by powdery mountains and cut with turquoise lakes, none quite as pretty as Lake Tekapo, on its banks the stone-hewn Church of the Good Shepherd. **Hotel: Mackenzie Country. B BG DW**

### 3 Twizel – Dunedin

Oamaru has a rich history and proud heritage, enriched by passionate and perhaps quirky locals. Explore the shops, galleries and traditional crafts within some of the Southern Hemisphere's most complete Victorian streetscapes. You're en route to Dunedin, replete with rolling green meadows and grand stone castles. It kind of feels like you've been transported to Scotland – small wonder it's known as the 'Edinburgh of the South'. Afternoon at your leisure, we recommend a visit to Speight's Brewery – a New Zealand institution. And pretty much everything in between. There's always that castle to explore... Larnach may not have the history of Scotland's grand estates, but it's just as pretty in our humble opinion. A NZ holiday must. **Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B DW**

### 4 Dunedin – Te Anau

Leave Dunedin's pastoral sheep-farming countryside behind as you venture into World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, a place of yawning gorges and gem-like glaciers, and azure lakes so large they have their own islands. Case in point Pomona Island, where a charitable trust of passionate volunteers works to restore flora and fauna. With your help. Take a thrilling jet boat ride down the Waiau River to Lake Manapouri and if that's not enough water for one day, you may choose to cruise to the iconic Glowworm Caves. Can we tempt you? **Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW**

### 5 Te Anau – Queenstown

Nature rules today, from the moment you depart Te Anau and begin your journey deep into the heart of Fiordland National Park. Think native rainforests, beech forests, alluvial flats and meadows; Mirror Lakes perfectly reflecting mountain scenery; and precipitous lookouts holding guard over alpine rivers. And this is just the entrée. The main course is Milford Sound/Piopirotahi, where you cruise in the company of dolphins that frolic under the torrent of mighty Bowen and Stirling Falls, and gaze at misty escarpments so sheer they appear to cleave off the edge of the Earth. You're in the company of a naturalist who knows every nook and cranny of this mighty cavern and will point out flora and fauna you would have never spotted on your own. Life in perspective. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B**

### 6 Queenstown Free Time

Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride, perhaps. Prefer wine to get your heart started? See why Central Otago makes some of the world's most raved about cool-climate pinots on a cellar door tour. Wherever your daily wanderings take you, reunite with your companions come dusk to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw, your barbecue Highlight Dinner served on the grounds of Walter Peak High Country Farm. This is followed by a farm show. **B HD**

### 7 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiiau

In the shadow of the Remarkables, Queenstown is pretty spectacular. But it has some stiff good-looks competition from neighbouring Arrowtown, with its movie-set tree-lined avenues and 19th-century buildings that once housed gold-rush fortune-seekers. Things grow well in this verdant countryside, from cherries to pinot grapes and all manner of stone fruit. View a working orchard in action and sample a ripe peach or two. Prepare for a flavour explosion. The next explosion is a visual one as you arrive in the town of Franz Josef/Waiiau, home to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. Get some perspective of this immense ice fall on an optional helicopter flight – you may even get to land on it. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B DW**

### 8 Franz Josef/Waiiau – Punakaiki

Explore the small but lively Franz Josef/Waiiau village before venturing to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's native jade greenstone. Then soak in the natural surroundings as you head to Punakaiki to view the Pancake Rocks and Blowholes, where waves thunder through cracks in the Earth. This is the soundtrack that lulls you to sleep at tonight's eco-resort. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B DW**

### 9 Punakaiki – Christchurch

Wine may steal the scene across much of New Zealand, but at legendary Monteith's Brewery, beer rules. It's a good thing lunch is included. Sip your way through a tasting paddle of XPA, IPA, lager and pale ale because, hey, you're not driving to the station where your TranzAlpine train awaits. This is one of those experiences where the journey matters just as much as the destination, as you sweep through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. What a way to end a day. **Hotel: Distinction. B L FD**

### 10 Farewell from Christchurch

Wait, the last 10 days flew by. Return home with new friends, a full SD card on your camera – and even more memories. **B**



# Best Buys

## Awe-inspiring Attractions, Built-in Flexibility

For explorers who want the essentials taken care of and the unrivalled knowledge of a Travel Director, but also the option of exploring independently, Best Buys Guided Holidays offer flexibility with optional extras.

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Striking the perfect balance between a guided holiday and an independent tour, because sometimes you need a helping hand from the professionals but other times the travel moments you most remember are unplanned and unscripted.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

Whether a UNESCO World Heritage listed site or a fabled landmark, New Zealand doesn't disappoint in its natural attractions. We help you get there, sharing some fascinating stories along the way.

### 🌱 Sustainable Travel

We've been exploring New Zealand since 1999, and hope to do so for many more to come. Over that time we've worked with, supported and sustained environments and communities, far and wide, big and small. Their future ensures our future.

### 🏔 Natural Wonders

Ground yourself in nature and explore some of New Zealand's postcard-worthy attractions, from gorges and glaciers to tranquil lakes and windswept coasts.

## What's included on a Best Buys Holiday?

- Comfortable accommodation with easy access to city centres
- Flexible free time on your holiday
- Earlier starts to maximise your days
- Many meals including daily breakfast
- Iconic destinations = Bucket List achieved!
- Active optional experiences, for you to add on to your holiday
- Travel in purpose-built air-conditioned coaches with reclining seats, and WiFi where available
- The services of a highly experienced Travel Director

# Spirit of New Zealand

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Whether you're on foot or in a boat, you'll be wowed by Abel Tasman National Park's all-consuming beauty. Soak up the bounty at your own pace.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

There are few places in NZ quite as humbling as Milford Sound/Piopiotahi within World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park. Waterfalls, ancient escarpments and dolphins await.

### 🌱 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE A guided tour of the Māori Arts and Crafts Institute at Te Puia contributes to its success, committed to preserving and promoting Māori arts and crafts.

### 🏞 Natural Wonders

An island off an island, Stewart Island is wild, wide and wonderful. Some 97% is national parkland - prepare for epic animal encounters.



Rotorua Geothermal Pool

**21 DAYS**  
**22 Included Experiences**

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>05</b>	Jan 04	Jan 02, 23, <b>30</b>
Nov <b>30</b>	Feb 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22, 29	Feb 06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27
	Mar <b>07</b> , 21	Mar 06, <b>20</b>
	Oct <b>03</b> , 17, 31	
	Nov 21, <b>28</b>	
	Dec 12, 19, 26	

**Definite Departures highlighted in red.**

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lcqb](http://aatkings.com/lcqb) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

20 Full buffet breakfasts **B**      2 Highlight Dinners **HD**  
5 Dinners **D**                              1 Farewell Dinner **FD**

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 21 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport

**Flights are not included in the holiday price**

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

Community spirit is strong in Christchurch, as you'll discover exploring its streets at your leisure. We recommend jumping on the tram to tour Christchurch and discover how the city has rebuilt itself since the 2010/11 earthquakes. Meet your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception this evening. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden.**

### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

More of Christchurch is revealed before the colours of the Canterbury Plains spread before you: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snowcapped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 3 Omarama – Dunedin

Architectural drama awaits in Dunedin. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). **Hotel: Kingsgate. B**

### 4 Dunedin – Invercargill

Invercargill is obsessed with motor vehicles. Tributes to speed legends colour the city. So it's only fitting that you visit Classic Motorcycle Mecca for a tour and Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: Kelvin, 2 nights. B HD**

### 5 Stewart Island

Wild, wide and wonderful, Stewart Island's rugged coastline cuts a dramatic form in the Southern Ocean. It's largely untouched, which means that endemic flora and fauna thrive. But don't take our word for it. Meet the locals on a tour through the Village and Bays. **B**

### 6 Invercargill – Queenstown

The Real Country Farm Show, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, offers an authentic taste of what rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture. Continue to Queenstown and take the afternoon at your own pace. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 7 Queenstown Free Time

A spot of bungee jumping at the place it was born? Or an epic journey through Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, carved by waterfalls and a playground for dolphins and seals? There's a reason why this part of the island has World Heritage status. You choose today's path. **B**

### 8 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Around the next bend is the Alpine countryside of the Southern Lakes. Over the Haast Pass, the pretty town of Franz Josef/Waiau, at the edge of Westland World Heritage Park, awaits. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 9 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Wander Hokitika's windswept coast before discovering the town's other beauty: pounamu (native greenstone or jade). Prepare yourself for Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks and blowholes; they owe their existence to the thundering surf that will lull you to sleep. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B D**

### 10 Punakaiki – Nelson

Ease along the Heritage Highway toward Nelson. Press your nose against the glass as your coach weaves through Buller Gorge and Kahurangi National Park. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B**

### 11 Nelson Free Time

Lace up your hiking shoes and head off on a bushwalk, or cruise through Abel Tasman National Park. This pocket in the north of the island inspires calm, its golden beaches framed by sculpted granite cliffs. **B**

### 12 Nelson – Wellington

All aboard the Interislander for a cruise through Queen Charlotte Sound to Wellington. **Hotel: Travelodge. B D**

### 13 Wellington – Napier

Head out on a city sights tour. After the opportunity to visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, travel to Art Deco mecca, Napier. **Hotel: Scenic Te Pania, 2 nights. B**

### 14 Napier

After a devastating earthquake in 1931, Napier completely rebuilt itself in just two years. The end result is architectural Nirvana, a city home to the

world's greatest concentration of Art Deco, Spanish Mission and Striped Classical buildings. This morning get the lowdown from your in-the-know local guide on a Napier tour. This afternoon is yours to choose, perhaps a Gannet safaris or wine tour. **B**

### 15 Napier – Rotorua

This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, including hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Sudima, 2 nights. B HD**

### 16 Rotorua Free Time

Bliss out in the Polynesian Spa's thermal springs; visit the Hobbiton movie set; or board a scenic flight for a bird's-eye view. **B**

### 17 Rotorua – Auckland

Today your sights are firmly set on the Auckland's main love: rugby. The interactive All Blacks Experience explores an introduction to the game as a part of New Zealand culture. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

### 18 Auckland – Bay of Islands

The Bay of Islands is undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret: this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. Your guide, perhaps a descendent of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D**

### 19 Bay of Islands Free Time

Trip the light fantastic and head off in whatever direction you please. **B**

### 20 Bay of Islands – Auckland

Explore Whangarei, the island's most northerly outpost, at your leisure before the commute back to Auckland for your Farewell Dinner. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B FD**

### 21 Farewell from Auckland

We hope you've packed your address book with the names of new friends. But at the end of the day, it's the memories that will fuel your flight home. **B**



# Essence of New Zealand

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

We've crafted an itinerary with plenty of two-night stays, so you can sleep in and take the pulse of your destination, whether Queenstown, Wellington, Nelson or Rotorua.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

From the bubbling geysers of Rotorua to the gem-like surface of Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere, nature and culture unite across the North and South islands.

### 🏡 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE The Real Country Farm Show offers an authentic taste of what rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture.

### 🌿 Natural Wonders

More than 97% of Stewart Island is protected national parkland – unspoilt and largely unpeopled. It's a magnet for the kiwi bird, which thrives here.



All Blacks Experience, Auckland

## 18 DAYS 21 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>05</b>	Jan 04	Jan 02, 23, <b>30</b>
Nov <b>30</b>	Feb 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22, 29	Feb 06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27
	Mar <b>07</b> , 21	Mar 06, <b>20</b>
	Oct <b>03</b> , 17, 31	
	Nov 21, <b>28</b>	
	Dec 12, 19, 26	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lcqa](https://aatkings.com/lcqa) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

17 Full buffet breakfasts B    2 Highlight Dinners HD  
4 Dinners D

### Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 18 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

#### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

Arrive early to see just how Christchurch has transformed itself since the 2010/11 earthquakes. The best way to do this? Aboard the city's tram. It loops past historic attractions as well as some new ones. Meet your fellow travellers this evening for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden.**

#### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

Step out with your guide for a deeper dive into 'The City of Gardens' before traversing the colourful Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo and snow-capped mountains. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

#### 3 Omarama – Dunedin

Architectural drama awaits in Dunedin. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). **Hotel: Kingsgate. B**

#### 4 Dunedin – Invercargill

If you've got an odd urge to hear Slim Dusty while traversing rolling green pastures en route to Gore, you're not alone, it's the country music capital of NZ. Invercargill is obsessed with something else: motor vehicles. Tributes to speed legends colour the city. So it's only fitting that you visit Classic Motorcycle Mecca for a tour and Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: Kelvin, 2 nights. B HD**

#### 5 Stewart Island

The ferry ride to Stewart Island is wild and wonderful. When you arrive, you're welcomed by the country's southernmost community. It's largely untouched, which means endemic flora and fauna thrive here. But don't take our word for it. Meet the locals on a Village & Bays Tour. **B**

#### 6 Invercargill – Queenstown

You've probably already noticed that there's a lot of farmland here in New Zealand. It's fitting, then, that you meet southern girl Laura, who will introduce you to the sheep farm she was born and raised on. The Real

Country Farm Show, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, offers an authentic taste of what rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture. Continue to Queenstown and take the afternoon and evening at your own pace. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

#### 7 Queenstown Free Time

Today, sign up to dive deep into Milford Sound/Piopiotahi within World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, best explored on an optional tour cruising the waterway. Don't be surprised if you see dolphins and seals. **B**

#### 8 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Around the next bend is the Alpine countryside of the Southern Lakes, from Lake Dunstan to oh-so-blue Lake Hawea and lovely Lake Wanaka. Over the Haast Pass, the town of Franz Josef/Waiau at the edge of the Westland World Heritage Park, awaits. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

#### 9 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

Wandering Hokitika's windswept shore on the West Coast feels a bit like you've discovered the end of the Earth. The town's other natural beauty is pounamu (native greenstone or jade). Prepare yourself for Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks and blowholes; they owe their existence to the thundering surf that will lull you to sleep. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B D**

#### 10 Punakaiki – Nelson

Ease along the Heritage Highway toward Nelson. Press your nose against the glass as your coach weaves through Buller Gorge and Kahurangi National Park, a place of wild rivers, high plateaus, alpine herb fields and coastal forests. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B**

#### 11 Nelson Free Time

Today is at your leisure. Lace up your hiking shoes, or sit back on a boat and soak up the silence of Abel Tasman National Park. This wilderness inspires calm, its golden beaches framed by sculpted granite cliffs that all unite to create one of the country's most legendary coastal tracks. **B**

#### 12 Nelson – Wellington

You'll want a window seat for the cruise from the South Island to the North aboard the Interislander. This spectacle unfolds as you glide through

Queen Charlotte Sound up the Tory Channel and across Cook Strait to NZ's cool little capital of Wellington. **Hotel: Travelodge. B D**

#### 13 Wellington – Napier

Your city sights tour will end at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. After the opportunity to visit, don't miss seeing the Maori whareniui, travel to the Art Deco mecca, Napier. **Hotel: Scenic Te Pania, 2 nights. B**

#### 14 Napier

After a devastating earthquake in 1931, Napier completely rebuilt itself in just two years. The end result is architectural Nirvana, a city home to the world's greatest concentration of Art Deco, Spanish Mission and Striped Classical buildings. This morning get the lowdown from your in-the-know local guide on a Napier tour. Your afternoon is at leisure. **B**

#### 15 Napier – Rotorua

This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, including hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Sudima, 2 nights. B HD**

#### 16 Rotorua Free Time

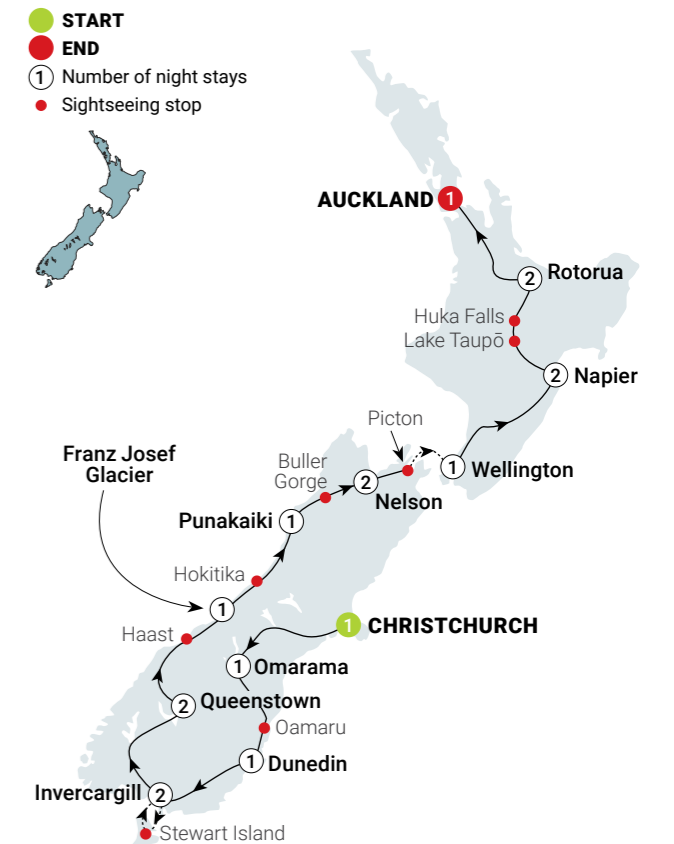
Today, it's your choice. Your Travel Director can point you in the direction of a kiwi nursery and hatchery. Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of the opportunity to tour the sights featured in The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. Want a bit of down time? Bliss out at the Polynesian Spa. **B**

#### 17 Rotorua – Auckland

Welcome to Auckland, the 'City of Sails'. You'll understand how it got its moniker when you glimpse yachts gliding around its two harbours. But today your sights are firmly set on the city's other love: rugby. The interactive All Blacks Experience explores an introduction to the game as a part of New Zealand culture. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

#### 18 Farewell from Auckland

It's amazing how much of two islands you can see in 18 days. Provided you have the right people at the helm, and like-minded company, that is. **B**



# Kia Ora New Zealand

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Want to get your heart racing? Explore the extremes of the North Island then feel the natural rush of Queenstown. Or just laze by the pool. Your choice...

### 📍 Iconic Sites

You don't need a reason to visit World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park. But if you're looking for one, make it shimmering Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. This place is nature amplified.

### 🏠 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE Journey through New Zealand's most important historic site, Waitangi Treaty Grounds, with a passionate local guide. Discover the stories, people and events that have shaped the past, present, and future.

### 🌿 Natural Wonders

End-of-the-Earth drama awaits in the Bay of Islands, where 140 droplets of land unite powdery beaches with dreamy pockets of forest.



Te Puia Cultural Performance

## 17 DAYS 19 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 14	Jan 06, 13, 20, 27	Jan 04, 11, 18, 25
Nov 04, 11	Feb 03, 10, 17, 24	Feb 01, 08, 15, 22
Dec 02, 09, 16, 23	Mar 02, 09, 16, 23	Mar 01, 08, 15, 22
	Apr 13, 20, 25	
	Jun 22	
	Jul 20	
	Sep 07, 21, 28	
	Oct 05, 12, 19, 26	
	Nov 02, 09, 23, 30	
	Dec 07, 14, 21	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/labcc](https://aatkings.com/labcc) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts B      2 Highlight Dinners HD  
5 Dinners D                              1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Auckland Airport

Day 17 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

### 1 Welcome to Auckland

Explore waterfront precincts filled with yachts or just meet your fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception tonight. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express.**

### 2 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Say goodbye to the 'City of Sails' as you journey north to the Bay of Islands – 140 droplets of land ringed by turquoise sea. It's undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret; this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. Your guide, perhaps a descendent of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance of the site, while pointing out the world's largest ceremonial canoe and a carved meeting house. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D**

### 3 Bay of Islands Free Time

Today, trip the light fantastic and head off in whatever direction you please. Perhaps travel up to Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua, the very top of New Zealand, via idyllic Ninety Mile Beach. Or glide around on an historic tall ship, enjoy a cruise to the iconic Hole in the Rock or join a tour of Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. **B**

### 4 Bay of Islands – Auckland

Whangarei is a place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums. It's like the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

### 5 Auckland – Rotorua

After a morning of sightseeing, set your GPS for the Waitomo Caves. Cruising cavernous waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. It's a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 6 Rotorua Free Time

Explore at your own pace today. Want a bit of down time? Bliss out at the Polynesian Spa. Animal lover? Go behind the scenes at a working kiwi hatchery. Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of today's opportunity to visit the sights featured in The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. **B**

### 7 Rotorua – Wellington

At Huka Falls, 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11-metre-high waterfall every second. The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of mint-blue Lake Taupō. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**

### 8 Wellington – Picton

Wellington is known for its uber-cool cafés, designed to fuel you through a session at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Onwards to the Interislander for a cruise across Cook Strait, from the North Island to the South, through a maze of arms and inlets. **Hotel: Picton Yacht Club. B D**

### 9 Picton – Christchurch

There aren't many beaches more dramatic than the black sands of Kaikōura. Bonus points if you spot a sea lion or sperm whale frolicking offshore. Your Travel Director has tips on where to dine tonight. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden. B**

### 10 Christchurch – Omarama

On your city tour view the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. From here, your outlook is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snow-capped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience in Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 11 Omarama – Dunedin Free Time

Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings, stands proud before you journey further south toward the 'Edinburgh of the South'. Dunedin's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to Larnach Castle. While away the

afternoon in the city's art-lined alleys, or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives here – fur seals and penguins among them. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

### 12 Dunedin – Te Anau

Weave your way into Fiordland National Park and the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

### 13 Te Anau – Queenstown

Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like lakes. All roads lead to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, where a string of waterfalls create a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Venture out into the Fiord on a sightseeing cruise, where dolphins and seals are a common sight. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 14 Queenstown Free Time

Take Queenstown at your own pace today. Feel the wind in your hair on a high octane jet boat ride, perhaps. But make sure you're back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet BBQ Highlight Dinner and farm show. **B HD**

### 15 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown and Lake Dunstan appear on the horizon. Then there's Lakes Hawea and Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, the pretty town of Franz Josef/Waiau awaits. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 16 Franz Josef/Waiau – Christchurch

Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. Just when you thought your adventure couldn't get any better, you'll aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden. B FD**

### 17 Farewell from Christchurch

Two islands, glaciers, lakes, thermal springs and a parade of wildlife... We hope you find the words to describe this epic adventure. **B**



# New Zealand Magic

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Freedom in travel? Explore remote reaches of the North Island one minute, then sip wine or zip across Queenstown lakes the next. Ask us for tips.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

Visiting Milford Sound/Piopiotahi within World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park is a humbling experience. Waterfalls, ancient escarpments and dolphins await.

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE Journey through New Zealand's most important historic site, Waitangi Treaty Grounds, with a passionate local guide. Discover the stories, people and events that have shaped the past, present, and future.

### 🏔 Natural Wonders

Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere sparkles like a gem in the Southern Alps, cutting through the mountains for more than 12 kilometres.

Waitomo Glowworm Grotto

17 DAYS  
19 Included Experiences

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 02, 23	Jan 01, 08, 15, 22, 29	Jan 06, 13, 20, 27
Nov 20, 27	Feb 05, 12, 19, 26	Feb 03, 10, 17, 24
Dec 18, 25	Mar 04, 11, 18, 25	Mar 03, 10, 17, 24
	Apr 01, 08	
	Sep 02, 30	
	Oct 14, 21, 28	
	Nov 04, 18, 25	
	Dec 02, 09, 16, 23, 30	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

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A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

16 Full buffet breakfasts B      2 Highlight Dinners HD  
7 Dinners D

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 17 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

Explore the 'Garden City' at your leisure. We recommend jumping aboard the Christchurch Tram. Meet your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception this evening. **Hotel: Ibis.**

### 2 Christchurch – Franz Josef/Waiiau

All aboard the TranzAlpine train, whisking you through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks. From Arthur's Pass, visit the small town of Hokitika, the heritage and cultural centre of the West Coast well-known for its jade. Things are about to get cool again as you arrive in the town of Franz Josef, gateway to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere, a white-out of snow and ice. Get some perspective on an optional flight over this natural wonder. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 3 Franz Josef/Waiiau – Queenstown

Over the Haast Pass, the alpine scenery of the Southern Lakes spreads before you: Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows; Lake Hawea; and Lake Dunstan, where you'll pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruit. We know you'll want to linger in Arrowtown's movie-set-like streets, but Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables await in Queenstown. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 4 Queenstown Free Time

Take today at your own pace. Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride, perhaps; discover some of New Zealand's feathered friends at a wildlife centre; or sip your way through surrounding vineyards. Then glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet BBQ dinner and farm show. **B HD**

### 5 Queenstown – Te Anau

Your route from the Mirror Lakes through the Cleddau Valley is the entrée to your Milford Sound/Piopiotahi tour. Cruising this World Heritage listed expanse will give you goosebumps, a string of waterfalls creating a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Look out for dolphins – they're a common sight here. The onward road through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and gin-clear rivers, carving up the countryside en route to Te Anau. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

### 6 Te Anau – Dunedin

While away your Dunedin afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

### 7 Dunedin – Omarama

Sleep in or channel your inner royalty at Larnach Castle – Dunedin's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look. If you've ever wanted to see New Zealand's oldest public gardens, today you're in luck with a visit to Oamaru. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 8 Omarama – Christchurch

Your outlook this morning is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snowcapped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience in Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. Back on earth, it's time to become reacquainted with Christchurch. On your city tour view the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. **Hotel: Ibis. B D**

### 9 Christchurch – Picton

There aren't many beaches more dramatic than the black sands of Kaikōura. Your onward route skirts the pink tinged crystallisation ponds of the Lake Grassmere Salt Works, before arriving in the pretty seaside fishing village of Picton. **Hotel: Picton Yacht Club. B D**

### 10 Picton – Wellington

Swap wheels for water aboard the Interislander for a cruise from the South Island to the North into New Zealand's cool little capital of Wellington. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**

### 11 Wellington – Rotorua

This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved

meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 12 Rotorua Free Time

Explore at your own pace: Bliss out in the steamy thermal springs of the Polynesian Spa, or go behind the scenes at a working kiwi hatchery. And then there's Hobbiton. These beautiful landscapes are not only a bucket list tour for Hobbit fans, but a gorgeous countryside getaway. **B**

### 13 Rotorua – Auckland

Waitomo Caves is radiant – quite literally. While cruising waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. The next thing that glows on your horizon is Auckland, New Zealand's largest city. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B D**

### 14 Auckland – Bay of Islands

The Bay of Islands is undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret: this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D**

### 15 Bay of Islands Free Time

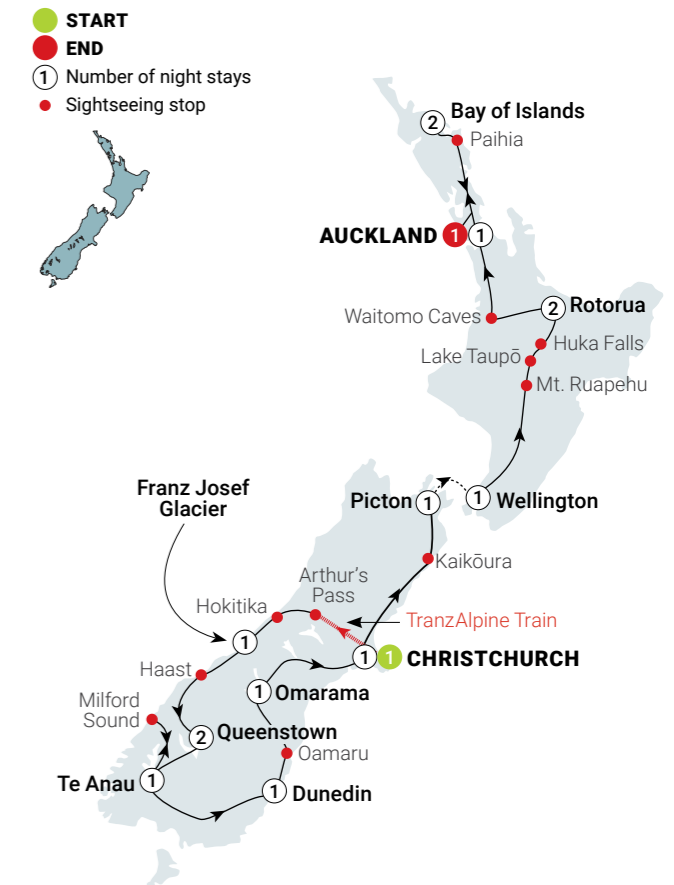
Trip the light fantastic and head off in whatever direction you please. Perhaps travel up to Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua, the very top of New Zealand, via idyllic Ninety Mile Beach. Or glide around on an historic tall ship, or visit Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. **B**

### 16 Bay of Islands – Auckland

Today, New Zealand's most northerly city is on your radar. Whangarei is a place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums. Explore at your leisure before sinking back into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

### 17 Farewell from Auckland

It's hard to say goodbye. But you have a camera full of photos to categorise before you get home. **B**



# New Zealand Vista



Walter Peak High Country Farm

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Freedom in travel? Explore remote reaches of the North Island one minute, then sip wine or zip across Queenstown lakes the next. Ask us for tips.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

Within World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, Milford Sound/Piopiotahi is the kind of place you expect to see on postcards. You're here in real life.

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER LIVE BETTER Dark Sky Project is committed to preserving our night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🌌 Natural Wonders

Get your glow on at the Waitomo Caves, a magical subterranean world lit by thousands of glowworms. Drift along and prepare to be dazzled.

### 1 Welcome to Auckland

Auckland never fails to turn on the charm, as you'll discover while exploring the city before meeting your Travel Director and fellow adventure seekers for a Welcome Reception tonight. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express.**

### 2 Auckland – Rotorua

After a morning of sightseeing, set your GPS for the Waikato River to Waitomo Caves. Here, your cruise route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. It's a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 3 Rotorua Free Time

We're leaving you up to your own devices today. Bliss out in the steamy thermal springs in Rotorua's Polynesian Spa. Go behind the scenes on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery. Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of the opportunity to tour the sights featured in The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. The choice is yours. **B**

### 4 Rotorua – Wellington

A staggering 220,000 litres of water thunder over Huka Falls' 11-metre high escarpment every second. It creates quite the calamity. From here, the road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō, its waters so vivid and blue they resemble an Ice Mint. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**

### 5 Wellington – Picton

Wellington is known for its uber-cool cafés, designed to fuel you through a session at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Onwards to the Interislander for a cruise across Cook Strait, from the North Island to the South. **Hotel: Picton Yacht Club. B D**

### 6 Picton – Christchurch

Black is the new black, as you'll fast discover when walking along the dramatic ink-hued Kaikōura beach. Bonus points if you spot a sea lion or sperm whale frolicking offshore. Talk to your Travel Director for tips on the essential restaurants to dine in tonight – Christchurch has reinvented itself in more ways than one. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden. B**

### 7 Christchurch – Oamaru

View the sights of the city including the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. From here, your outlook is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, snow-capped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 8 Oamaru – Dunedin

Oamaru may have supplied other NZ cities with limestone, but it kept some for itself – and the result is glorious leafy streets with grand 1800s buildings that stand proud before you journey further south toward Dunedin. It's easy to while away the afternoon in 'little Edinburgh's' atmospheric art-lined alleys. Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country – fur seals and penguins among them. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

### 9 Dunedin – Te Anau

Dunedin's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to the city's main George Street. Rolling green hills dotted with doe-eyed sheep are replaced by soaring mountains as you weave your way into Fiordland National Park and the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. Soak up the serenity – it doesn't get any better than this. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

### 10 Te Anau – Queenstown

There are some travel days that blaze into your memory. Today is one. Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like lakes. Gin-clear rivers carve the countryside, with all roads leading to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. Cruising this World Heritage listed expanse will give you goosebumps, a string of waterfalls creating a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 11 Queenstown Free Time

Queenstown is known as NZ's adventure capital for good reason. But don't take our word for it. Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride. Nature lover? Discover some of New Zealand's feathered friends at a wildlife centre. But make sure you're back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet BBQ Highlight Dinner and farm show. **B HD**

### 12 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

After departing the movie-set-perfect streets of Arrowtown, discover Lake Dunstan, surrounded by orchards where you'll pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruit. Then there's Lake Hawea followed by Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere sparkles like a gem. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 13 Franz Josef/Waiau – Christchurch

Swap white at Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere for green at Hokitika: the pounamu (native jade) found here is the stuff jewellery dreams are made of. Just when you thought your adventure couldn't get any better, you'll aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden. B FD**

### 14 Farewell from Christchurch

Two islands, two weeks. It's remarkable what you can see when you have the right people guiding you. **B**

14 DAYS  
18 Included Experiences

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 17	Jan 09, 16, 23, 30	Jan 07, 14, 21, 28
Nov 07, 14	Feb 06, 13, 20, 27	Feb 04, 11, 18, 25
Dec 05, 12, 19, 26	Mar 05, 12, 19, 26	Mar 04, 11, 18, 25
	Apr 16, 23	
	May 28	
	Jun 25	
	Jul 23	
	Sep 10, 24	
	Oct 01, 08, 15, 22, 29	
	Nov 05, 12, 26	
	Dec 03, 10, 17, 24	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/laac](http://aatkings.com/laac) or contact your local travel agent.

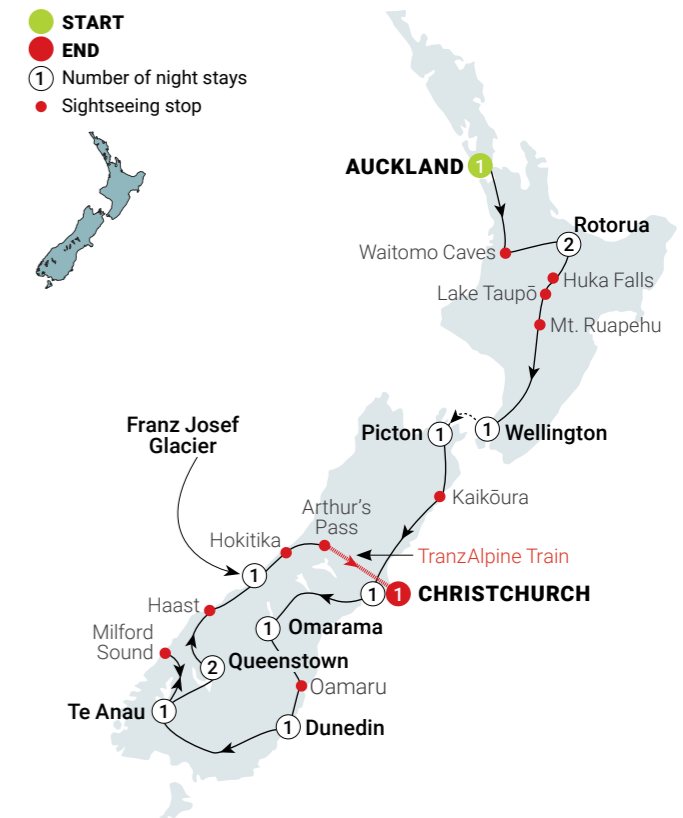
A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

13 Full buffet breakfasts B      2 Highlight Dinners HD  
5 Dinners D                              1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Auckland Airport  
Day 14 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport  
Flights are not included in the holiday price



# New Zealand Marvel

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

From helicopter jaunts to jet-boat rides, winery expeditions and Hobbiton tours, your Travel Director is ready to organise optional experiences across Rotorua and Queenstown.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

Waterfalls, ancient escarpments and dolphins await in Fiordland National Park's Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. This World Heritage Site is as humbling as it is immense.

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

Dark Sky Project is committed to preserving our night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🏞 Natural Wonders

From snow-tipped mountains to a wild and dramatic coastline and turquoise alpine lakes, the Southern Lakes region is one of NZ's most diverse and distinctive wilderness areas.



Milford Sound /Piopiotahi

## 14 DAYS 18 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 02, 23	Jan 01, 08, 15, 22, 29	Jan 06, 13, 20, 27
Nov 20, 27	Feb 05, 12, 19, 26	Feb 03, 10, 17, 24
Dec 18, 25	Mar 04, 11, 18, 25	Mar 03, 10, 17, 24
	Apr 01, 08	
	Sep 02, 30	
	Oct 14, 21, 28	
	Nov 04, 18, 25	
	Dec 02, 09, 16, 23, 30	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lcca](https://aatkings.com/lcca) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

13 Full buffet breakfasts B      2 Highlight Dinners HD  
5 Dinners D                              1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 14 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

There are plenty of reasons to arrive in New Zealand's 'Garden City' early, among them the astonishing transformation that has reinvigorated streets since the devastating 2010/11 earthquakes. Meet your Travel Director and travelling companions for a Welcome Reception tonight. **Hotel: Ibis.**

### 2 Christchurch – Franz Josef/Waiau

Jump aboard the TransAlpine train bound for Christchurch, with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, gorges and river valleys. Visit the small town of Hokitika, the heritage and cultural centre of the West Coast well-known for its jade. Around the corner is the town of Franz Josef, gateway to Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. Get some perspective on an optional flight. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 3 Franz Josef/Waiau – Queenstown

Over the Haast Pass, alpine scenery of the Southern Lakes spreads before you. First up there's lovely Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Then Lake Hawea – the colour of an Ice Mint – and Lake Dunstan, where you'll pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruits. As tempting as it is to linger in Arrowtown's movie-set-like streets, Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables await in Queenstown. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 4 Queenstown Free Time

Today, choose your own adventure – there are plenty to be had. Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride, perhaps. Or discover some of New Zealand's feathered friends at a wildlife centre. Wine aficionado? Sip your way through surrounding vineyards. Wherever you wander, make sure you're back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue BBQ Highlight Dinner and farm show, and a little late-night dancing. **B HD**

### 5 Queenstown – Te Anau

Your route from the Mirror Lakes through the Cleddau Valley is the entrée to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, a cavernous wonderland where waterfalls thunder from ancient escarpments into inky water where dolphins play. You'll likely spot them on your Milford Sound/Piopiotahi cruise. It's all part of World

Heritage listed Fiordland National Park, an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and gin-clear rivers, carving up the countryside. This is your backdrop all the way to Te Anau. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

### 6 Te Anau – Dunedin

Swap the forested slopes of Fiordland for the rolling green hills of the Edinburgh of the South. Welcome to Dunedin, a beguiling union of both Māori and Scottish heritage. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

### 7 Dunedin – Omarama

If you didn't get a taste for Dunedin's Scottish heritage yesterday, you surely will today. Explore grand Larnach Castle at your leisure – this is, after all, the only one of its kind in the country – then wander the manicured grounds of Otago University or the city's main George Street for an additional reminder of the city's ties to Europe. If you've ever wanted to see New Zealand's oldest public gardens, today you're in luck with a visit to Oamaru, known for its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 8 Omarama – Christchurch

Your outlook this morning is the Canterbury Plains. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. Back on earth, it's time to become reacquainted with Christchurch, your in-the-know guide pointing out the city's miraculous transformation. **Hotel: Ibis. B D**

### 9 Christchurch – Picton

Forget powdery white sand – once you've seen the dramatic black Kaikōura cove, you'll be spoilt for all future beach-bashing. Bonus points if you spot a sea lion or sperm whale frolicking offshore; a sighting is practically guaranteed if you opt for an aerial tour over the coastline. Your onward route skirts the pink-tinged crystallisation ponds of the Lake Grassmere Salt Works, before arriving in the pretty seaside fishing village of Picton. **Hotel: Picton Yacht Club. B D**

### 10 Picton – Wellington

Cruising through Queen Charlotte Sound, up the Tory Channel and across Cook Strait is a journey as scenic as it is serene. Today's chariot, the Interislander, transports you from the South Island to the North, navigating a maze of arms and inlets into Wellington. Bring your stamina to explore Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Ask your Travel Director for tips on where to sip wine and coffee tonight – this city is known for its uber-cool cafés, restaurants and bars. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**

### 11 Wellington – Rotorua

The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō, the largest of its kind in the country. It's a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 12 Rotorua Free Time

Sometimes, the best adventures are those that you have when you least expect them. Like wandering into Rotorua's Polynesian Spa and falling into a few hours of bliss while soaking in steamy thermal springs. Or discovering endangered birds on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery. And then there's Hobbiton. These beautiful landscapes are not only a bucket list tour for Hobbit fans, but a gorgeous countryside getaway. **B**

### 13 Rotorua – Auckland

Before you reach your final destination, get set to glow through the Waitomo Caves. While cruising cavernous limestone waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, appears on the horizon, dazzling with not one, but two harbours. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B FD**

### 14 Farewell from Auckland

The 'City of Sails' flutters as if waving goodbye as you make your way home. **B**





# Northern Wonders



Te Puia Geothermal Reserve

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

We're here to point you in the right direction when it comes to wining, dining and relaxing across Auckland, Wellington and Rotorua. Ask your Travel Director for tips.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

The Waitomo Caves are the stuff fairytales are made of. Illuminate your day cruising this limestone network, cast in the magical light of glowworms.

### 🌱 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER | EXPERIENCE The Te Po Experience at Te Puia contributes to the success of the Māori Arts & Crafts Institute, committed to preserving, fostering, and promoting Māori arts and crafts.

### 🌋 Natural Wonders

Rotorua is hot, in more ways than one. Steaming geysers, bubbling mud pools and mineral-rich springs are the beating heart of this geothermal valley.

**8 DAYS**  
**9 Included Experiences**

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>11</b>	Jan 03, <b>10</b> , 17, 24, 31	Jan 01, <b>08</b> , 15, <b>22</b> , 29
Nov <b>01, 29</b>	Feb 07, <b>14</b> , 21, 28	Feb <b>05</b> , 12, <b>19</b> , 26
Dec 06, 27	Mar <b>06</b> , <b>13</b> , 20, 27	Mar <b>05</b> , 12, <b>19</b> , 26
	Apr 03, 10, 17	
	Sep 11, 09, 23, 30	
	Oct 09, 23, 30	
	Nov <b>06</b> , <b>13</b> , <b>27</b>	
	Dec 04, 11, <b>18</b> , 25	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lwba](https://aatkings.com/lwba) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

7 Full buffet breakfasts **B**      1 Highlight Dinner **HD**  
2 Dinners **D**

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 2.00pm into Wellington Airport

Day 8 – flights to depart any time from Auckland Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

### 1 Welcome to Wellington

New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington is the kind of place you could easily lose yourself in for a day. Good thing you arrived early. Check out one of the city's oh-so-hip cafés before exploring Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand, home to an extraordinary collection of artefacts, including an eye-opening exhibit dedicated to Māori history. Time to meet your fellow adventurers for a Welcome Reception.. **Hotel: Travelodge.**

### 2 Wellington – Rotorua

The Kapiti Coast is the summer playground of Wellingtonians – for good reason. You'll follow in local footsteps as you make your way along a road that unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō, the largest (and perhaps bluest) of its kind in the country. It's a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 3 Rotorua Free Time

If there's a New Zealand city where you want free time, Rotorua is it. Go your own way today, perhaps blissing out in the Polynesian Spa's thermal springs (we recommend a mud wrap). Who knew nature was this relaxing? Or discovering endangered birds on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery. Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of the opportunity to tour the sights featured in The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. These beautiful landscapes are not only a bucket list tour for Hobbit fans, but a gorgeous countryside getaway. **B**

### 4 Rotorua – Auckland

The Waitomo Caves are radiant – quite literally. While cruising cavernous underground waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. It's a fairytale start to your day. One that only gets better as

you descend on Auckland, the 'City of Sails'. You'll discover how it got its moniker while gazing over its two yacht-studded harbours from the lookout at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B D**

### 5 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Your journey north to New Zealand's Bay of Islands is not short of drama – discover 140 droplets of land ringed by turquoise sea at the top of the country. It's undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret: this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840, between Captain William Hobson and Māori chiefs. Your guide, perhaps a descendant of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance of the site, while pointing out the world's largest ceremonial war canoe and a carved meeting house. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D**

### 6 Bay of Islands Free Time

Go as fast or as slow as you like today – there's no rush, and no agenda. Talk to your Travel Director to organise leisurely jaunts up to Cape Reinga, the very top of New Zealand, via idyllic Ninety Mile Beach. Or glide around on an historic tall ship, or a trip to the iconic Hole in the Rock. If you're a history buff, you may want to join a tour of Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. The choice is yours. **B**

### 7 Bay of Islands – Auckland

You're about to reach the very tip of New Zealand, as your tour takes you to Whangarei – the county's northern-most city. This is a place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums. It's like the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back into your coach seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. Ask your Travel Director for tips on where to dine; Auckland is a bit of a culinary hotspot. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

### 8 Farewell from Auckland

The only bad day in your Auckland tour is the one where you have to bid farewell. On your journey home, just remember how much pleasure you have packed into this last week. **B**



Bay of Islands



Rotorua mud pool



# Northern Spotlight

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Sometimes, the best experiences in life (meals, spas, hikes) are those you stumble upon. We can point you in the right direction in Auckland, Rotorua and Wellington – then go for it!

### 📍 Iconic Sites

Life becomes all the more radiant at Waitomo Glowworm Caves, a subterranean wonderland that replicates the night sky.

### 🌱 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE | 🌿 The Te Po Experience at Te Puia contributes to the success of the Māori Arts & Crafts Institute, committed to preserving, fostering, and promoting Māori arts and crafts.

### 🌋 Natural Wonders

Ancient volcanoes, thundering waterfalls and a yacht-studded harbour are your backdrop in Whangarei, New Zealand's northernmost city. What a wildlife wonderland.

Huka Falls

**8 DAYS**  
**9 Included Experiences**

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>14</b>	Jan 06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27	Jan 04, <b>11</b> , 18, 25
Nov <b>04, 11</b>	Feb 03, <b>10, 17</b> , 24	Feb 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22
Dec <b>02, 09, 16, 23</b>	Mar 02, <b>09</b> , 16, 23	Mar 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22
	Apr 13, 20	
	May 25	
	Jun 22	
	Jul 20	
	Sep 07, <b>21</b> , 28	
	Oct 05, <b>12, 19, 26</b>	
	Nov 02, <b>09, 23, 30</b>	
	Dec 07, 14, 21	

**Definite Departures highlighted in red.**

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/labw](https://aatkings.com/labw) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

7 Full buffet breakfasts **B**      1 Highlight Dinner **HD**  
1 Dinner **D**

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Auckland Airport  
Day 8 – flights to depart after 12 noon from Wellington Airport  
**Flights are not included in the holiday price**

### 1 Welcome to Auckland

Auckland is known as the 'City of Sails'. And you'll discover why when exploring its two harbours at your leisure. Pick a waterfront precinct and find a perch to while away the afternoon over a Marlborough savignon blanc tonight. Should you need a closer look, take a cruise out to the wineries of Waiheke Island. Meet your fellow travel companions for a Welcome Reception tonight. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express.**

### 2 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Your journey north to New Zealand's Bay of Islands is not short of drama – discover 140 droplets of land ringed by turquoise sea at the top of the country. It's undeniably beautiful, but it also holds a special historical secret: this is where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840, between Captain William Hobson and Māori chiefs. Your guide, perhaps a descendant of one of the original signatories, will explain the significance of the site, while pointing out the world's largest ceremonial war canoe and a carved meeting house. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B D**

### 3 Bay of Islands Free Time

If there's a travel destination that inspires wanderlust, the Bay of Islands is it. And today, you can do just that. At your leisure, venture up to Cape Reinga/Te Rerenga Wairua, the very top of New Zealand, via idyllic Ninety Mile Beach. Or glide around on an historic tall ship, cruise to the famous Hole in the Rock or join a tour of Russell and learn more about the settling of the Bay of Islands. The choice is yours. **B**

### 4 Bay of Islands – Auckland

Northern exposure is a thing today, when you journey toward the top of the country to visit Whangarei – NZ's northernmost city, and a place where waterfalls meet beaches, galleries meet museums. It's like the country in a tantalising snapshot – a union of nature and forward-thinking culture. Explore at your leisure before sinking back into your seat for the mesmerising commute back to Auckland. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

### 5 Auckland – Rotorua

There's no bad day in Auckland – today, yours starts with a city sights tour before you set your GPS for the Waikato River and Waitomo Caves. This

place is radiant – quite literally. While cruising cavernous waterways, your route is cast in a magical light by thousands of glowworms. It's a landscape almost as otherworldly as Rotorua, where mud pops and jettisons from bubbling geysers, and steam rushes skywards from cracks in the Earth. This evening, explore Te Puia's geothermal valley, and learn about Māori history and culture on this guided experience, which includes a dinner of hangi-inspired cuisine and a cultural performance in a finely carved meeting house, Te Aronui a Rua. It ends on a high at the Pohutu Geyser, where, armed with a hot chocolate you'll view one of New Zealand's geothermal wonderlands. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 6 Rotorua Free Time

Explore at your own pace today, but with plenty of tips from your Travel Director. Want a bit of down time? We wouldn't blame you for simply blissing out at in the steamy thermal springs at Rotorua's Polynesian Spa. Animal lover? Go behind the scenes on a working kiwi nursery and hatchery. Culture vulture? Hobbit fans will want to take advantage of the opportunity to tour the sights featured in The Lord of the Rings movies at Hobbiton. **B**

### 7 Rotorua – Wellington

You'll hear Huka Falls well before you see it – at this natural wonder, a staggering 220,000 litres of water thunder over an 11-metre-high waterfall every second. The road ahead unfolds in a broad panorama of Lake Taupō, its waters so vivid and blue you'll think someone has taken the glasses off your nose and cleaned them for the first time. Traverse the Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's cool little capital, Wellington, where there are so many restaurants and bars to choose from. Ask your Travel Director for tips on where to eat. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**

### 8 Farewell from Wellington

The best way to begin a Wellington day? With a coffee. The city is known for its uber-cool cafés, designed to fuel you through your city sights tour. You may wish to linger in town, discovering Maori culture at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. Afterwards, it's time to bid farewell to your NZ crew. What a week. **B**



Hangi-inspired dinner



Auckland



# Southern Spirit

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

New Zealand's natural bounty is epic, as you'll see in Nelson, the gateway to Abel Tasman National Park. The bounty also inspires talented chefs across Queenstown, Christchurch and Wellington.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

New Zealand's cool little Capital, Wellington's diversions range from cultural Nirvana at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand to the beehive-like Parliament building.

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER | OFFERINGS The Real Country Farm Show offers an authentic taste of real, rural New Zealand is like. For every guest, we donate funds to The Fairlight Foundation, Advancing Women in Agriculture.

### 🏞 Natural Wonders

An island off an island, Stewart Island is wild, wide and wonderful. Some 97% is national parkland – prepare for epic animal encounters.

Punakaiki Pancake Rocks

## 13 DAYS 15 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>05</b>	Jan 04	Jan 02, 23, <b>30</b>
Nov <b>30</b>	Feb 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22, 29	Feb 06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27
	Mar <b>07</b> , 21	Mar 06, <b>20</b>
	Oct <b>03</b> , 17, 31	
	Nov 21, <b>28</b>	
	Dec 12, 19, 26	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lcqw](https://aatkings.com/lcqw) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

12 Full buffet breakfasts B      1 Highlight Dinner HD  
3 Dinners D                              1 Farewell Dinner FD

### Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 13 – flights to depart at 12 noon from Wellington Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

#### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

There are plenty of reasons to arrive in New Zealand's 'Garden City' early, among them the astonishing transformation that has reinvigorated streets since the devastating 2010/11 earthquakes. Explore at your leisure. We recommend jumping aboard the Christchurch Tram. This evening, it's time to meet your fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden.**

#### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

Step out with your guide for a deeper dive into 'The City of Gardens' before traversing the colourful Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo and snow-capped mountains. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

#### 3 Omarama – Dunedin

Architectural drama awaits in Dunedin. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). **Hotel: Kingsgate. B**

#### 4 Dunedin – Invercargill

If you find yourself humming a Garth Brooks tune en route to Gore, you're not alone; it's the country music capital of NZ. Invercargill is obsessed with something else: motor vehicles. Tributes to speed legends colour the city. So it's only fitting that you visit Classic Motorcycle Mecca for a tour and Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: Kelvin, 2 nights. B HD**

#### 5 Stewart Island

Invercargill is the gateway to the southernmost community in the country. Welcome to Stewart Island, a wild and wonderful drop of land that is 97% national parkland. Naturally, it's a magnet for endemic flora and fauna, as you'll discover on your guided Village and Bays tour. Later you have the option to join a leisurely cruise, including a picnic lunch, around Paterson Inlet that will take you past unique places including Acker's Cottage before docking at Ulva Island to admire the bird life and native flora. **B**

#### 6 Invercargill – Queenstown

You've probably already noticed that there's a lot of farmland here in New Zealand. It's fitting, then, that you meet southern girl Laura, who will introduce you to the sheep farm she was born and raised on. Continue to Queenstown and take the afternoon at your own pace. Wine aficionado? Sip your way through surrounding vineyards. You might choose to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm, where a gourmet barbecue BBQ dinner and farm show awaits. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

#### 7 Queenstown Free Time

We wouldn't blame you for using today to linger by the banks of Lake Wakatipu, marvelling at the sky-scraping Remarkables. But if you want to venture further afield, we have a few ideas. Top of our list today is an epic journey through Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi, carved by waterfalls and a playground for dolphins and seals. There's a reason why this part of the island has World Heritage status. **B**

#### 8 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Atmospheric Arrowtown was born from gold, and its movie-set-like streets still shimmer today. It's hard to tear yourself away, but the Alpine country of the Southern Lakes is calling, from Lake Dunstan – pause for juicy stone fruit picked fresh from the tree – to oh-so-blue Lake Hawea and lovely Lake Wanaka, with its shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass, the pretty town of Franz Josef/Waiau awaits. Get some perspective on an optional Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere flight tour – if the weather behaves, you may even get to land on it. New Zealand tours don't get much cooler than this. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

#### 9 Franz Josef/Waiau – Punakaiki

On the wild West Coast, Hokitika may be small in size, but boy is it big in personality, not to mention natural attractions. Wander the windswept coast before discovering the town's other beauty: pounamu (native greenstone or jade). Steel yourself for Punakaiki's Pancake Rocks and blowholes; they owe their existence to the thundering surf that will lull you to sleep. **Hotel: Scenic Punakaiki. B D**

#### 10 Punakaiki – Nelson

After action-packed days, all you need to do today is sit back and enjoy the drama of the Heritage Highway en route to Nelson. Gaze over Buller Gorge – a deep canyon home to New Zealand's longest swingbridge – and Kahurangi National Park, a place of wild rivers, high plateaus, alpine herbfields and coastal forests. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B**

#### 11 Nelson Free Time

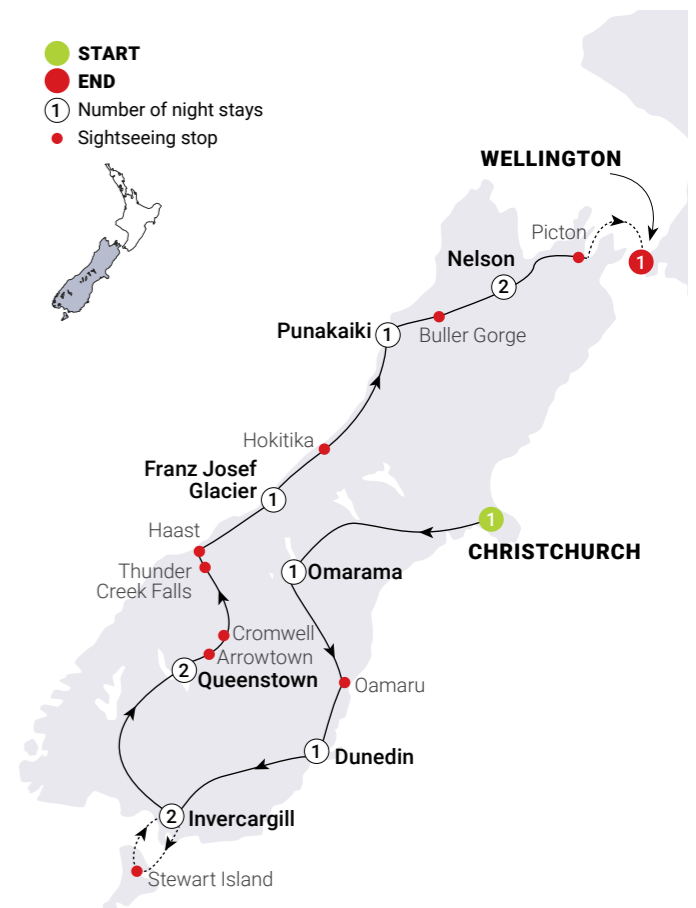
The South Island's oldest city, Nelson is the ideal starting point for outings through Abel Tasman National Park. This pocket in the north of the island is a beguiling union of golden beaches framed by sculpted granite cliffs. It's home to one of the country's most legendary coastal tracks, if you fancy stretching your legs on a hike. Otherwise, drift away on a cruise around the coast, revealing unpeopled bays and dreamy inlets. The choice is yours. **B**

#### 12 Nelson – Wellington

All aboard the Interislander for a cruise through Queen Charlotte Sound, up the Tory Channel and across Cook Strait, from the South Island to the North, navigating a maze of arms and inlets into New Zealand's cool little capital of Wellington. End your tour on a high note at a Farewell Dinner with your Travel Director and travel companions. **Hotel: Travelodge. B FD**

#### 13 Farewell from Wellington

Wellington also knows a thing or two about good coffee, and you'll need a strong one to get you through this morning's sightseeing. You may wish to linger in town, discovering Māori culture at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand. It's hard to say goodbye to your tour of the South Island of New Zealand. If you can't bear to leave, we have a few ideas up our sleeve to extend your holiday. **B**



# Southern Spotlight

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Queenstown is home to more than 150 bars and restaurants. If you don't know where to look, ask your Travel Director for recommendations. Enjoy downtime at your own pace.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

The TranzAlpine train ride has been described as one of the most scenic cross-country jaunts in the world. But don't take our word for it...

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER | EXPERIENCE Dark Sky Project is committed to preserving our night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🏞 Natural Wonders

The West Coast, or 'the Coast' as locals call it, is an untamed natural wilderness of rivers and rainforests, glaciers and geological treasures.



Church of the Good Shepherd

## 9 DAYS 10 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>22</b>	Jan 14, 21, <b>28</b>	Jan 12, <b>19</b> , 26
Nov <b>12</b> , <b>19</b>	Feb 04, 11, <b>18</b> , <b>25</b>	Feb 02, 09, <b>16</b> , 23
Dec <b>10</b> , <b>17</b> , 24, 31	Mar 03, 10, <b>17</b> , 24, 31	Mar 02, 09, <b>16</b> , 23, 30
	Apr 21, 28	
	Jun 02, 30	
	Jul 28	
	Sep <b>15</b> , <b>29</b>	
	Oct 06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27	
	Nov <b>03</b> , <b>10</b> , <b>17</b>	
	Dec 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22, 29	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lcqr](https://aatkings.com/lcqr) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

8 Full buffet breakfasts B  
3 Dinners D

1 Highlight Dinner HD  
1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 9 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

Since its 2010/11 earthquakes, Christchurch has reinvented itself in more ways than one. Discover how if you choose to step back in time aboard the Christchurch Tram, linking some of the city's most legendary attractions. It's time tonight to meet your travelling companions for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden.**

### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

On your city tour view the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. From here, your outlook is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, the quaint Church of the Good Shepherd, snow-capped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 3 Omarama – Dunedin

If you've ever wanted to see New Zealand's oldest public gardens, today you're in luck. Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings, stands proud before you journey further south toward the Edinburgh of the South: Dunedin. It's easy to while away the afternoon in the city's atmospheric art-lined alleys. Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country – fur seals and penguins among them. Thirsty? Visit Speight's Brewery, a New Zealand institution. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

### 4 Dunedin – Te Anau

Dunedin's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to the city's main George Street. Rolling green hills dotted with doe-eyed sheep are replaced by soaring mountains as you weave your way into Fiordland National Park and the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. Soak up the serenity – it doesn't get any better than this. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

### 5 Te Anau – Queenstown

From the moment you step outside today, nature rules. Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like lakes. Gin-clear rivers carve the countryside, with all roads leading to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. Cruising this World Heritage listed expanse will give you goosebumps, a string of waterfalls creating a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Look out for dolphins – they're a common sight here. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 6 Queenstown Free Time

Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride, perhaps. There's a reason why Queenstown is known as the adventure capital of the country. Nature lover? Discover some of New Zealand's feathered friends at a wildlife centre. Wherever you wander, make sure you're back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and farm show. **B HD**

### 7 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Try and keep count of today's lakes. Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown appears on the horizon. We know you'll want to linger in the movie-set-like streets, lined with trees and character-filled boutiques. But Lake Dunstan awaits, as do its orchards. Pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruit. Then there's Lake Hawea followed by Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass to the town of Franz Josef, where, this afternoon you may choose to fly over Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 8 Franz Josef/Waiau – Christchurch

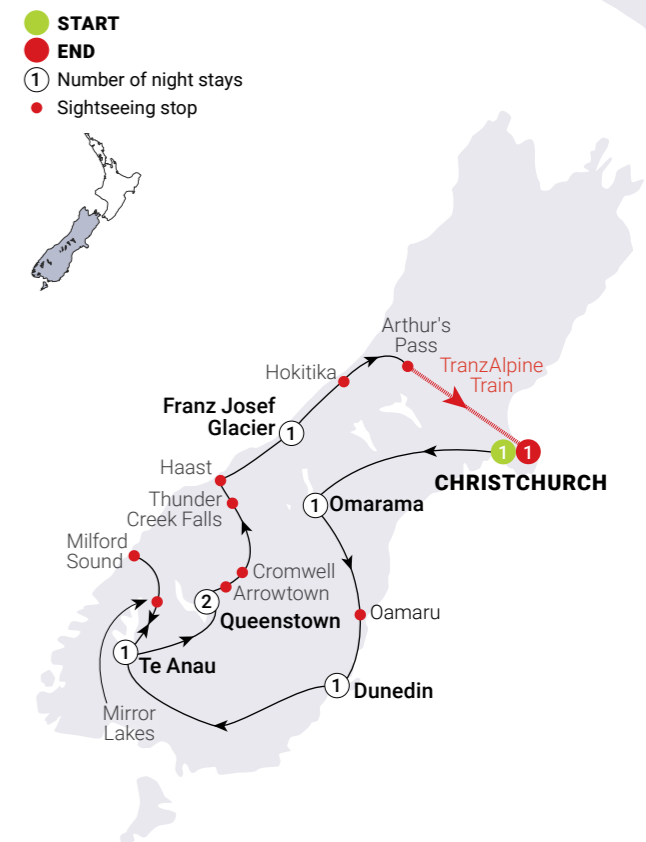
Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. Just when you thought your adventure couldn't get any better, you'll aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden. B FD**

### 9 Farewell from Christchurch

New Zealand's South Island never fails to wow. We hope you find the words to describe this epic New Zealand tour to your family back home. **B**



Milford Sound/Piopiotahi Cruise



# Southern Wonders

## Highlights


### ✂ Flexible Holidays

We love leading you to NZ's top attractions. But we also give you the freedom to discover at leisure. Ask us about Queenstown's best restaurants, or enjoy an unplanned adventure.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

The TranzAlpine train ride has been described as one of the most scenic cross-country jaunts in the world. But don't take our word for it.

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

 Dark Sky Project is committed to preserving our night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🏞 Natural Wonders

The Dunedin coast dials up the natural drama, its wind-carved cliffs and beaches attracting wild seabirds, sea lions and penguins.



Mirror Lakes

9 DAYS

10 Included Experiences

## Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 02, 23	Jan 01, 08, 15, 22, 29	Jan 06, 13, 20, 27
Nov 20, 27	Feb 05, 12, 19, 26	Feb 03, 10, 17, 24
Dec 18, 25	Mar 04, 11, 18, 25	Mar 03, 10, 17, 24
	Apr 01, 08	
	Sep 02, 30	
	Oct 14, 21, 28	
	Nov 04, 18, 25	
	Dec 02, 09, 16, 23, 30	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

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A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## Dining

8 Full buffet breakfasts B      1 Highlight Dinner HD  
3 Dinners D                              1 Farewell Dinner FD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 9 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

You don't have to arrive in Christchurch early, but we recommend you do – this South Island city has some of New Zealand's most innovative architecture, not to mention forward-thinking restaurants and bars. You may choose to spot them aboard the Christchurch Tram, linking some of the city's most legendary attractions. Tonight, it's time to meet your Travel Director and travelling companions for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Ibis.**

### 2 Christchurch – Franz Josef/Waiau

Your South Island New Zealand Tour starts on a literal high as you jump aboard the TranzAlpine train, crossing the Canterbury Plains towards the Southern Alps and Arthur's Pass. This is one of the world's most scenic rail experiences, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. At the other end of the line is Hokitika, the home of pounamu (native greenstone or jade). Just when you thought your day couldn't get any better, Franz Josef town twinkles on the horizon. This afternoon, you may choose to fly over Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

### 3 Franz Josef/Waiau – Queenstown

Over the Haast Pass, alpine drama awaits. The Southern Lakes deserve their name: there are almost more waterways here than you can count. First up there's lovely Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Followed by oh-so-blue Lake Hawea and Lake Dunstan, where you'll pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruit. As tempting as it is to linger in Arrowtown's movie-set-like streets, lined with trees and character-filled boutiques, Lake Wakatipu and The Remarkables await in Queenstown. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

### 4 Queenstown Free Time

The adventure capital of New Zealand doesn't disappoint when it comes to activities that are fast and furious. Take your pick, you could explore the natural drama of Skippers Canyon. Prefer life at a more leisurely pace? Opt to step onto a Lord of the Rings filming locations or sip your way through surrounding vineyards. Wherever you wander, make sure you're back in

time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and farm show. **B HD**

### 5 Queenstown – Te Anau

Nature rules today as you motor from the Mirror Lakes through the Cleddau Valley. But this is just a teaser of what's to come: World Heritage listed Milford Sound. A Milford Sound cruise across this dreamy expanse will give you goosebumps, its string of waterfalls creating a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Look out for dolphins and fur seals – they're a common sight here. The road back through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and gin-clear rivers, carving up the countryside en route to Te Anau. And just when you thought things couldn't get any more magical, nestled on the edge of the South Island's largest lake, Te Anau is the perfect place to savour some peace and relaxation after the spectacle of the day. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

### 6 Te Anau – Dunedin

The South Island's biggest lake is a blissful place for an invigorating morning walk. If it doesn't set your pulse racing, than your outlook of rolling green hills dotted with doe-eyed sheep surely will. This pastoral countryside surrounds the city of Dunedin. While away the afternoon in atmospheric art-lined alleys or sipping a lager or two in Speight's Brewery (a national institution). Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country – fur seals and penguins among them. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

### 7 Dunedin – Omarama

Did you know that Dunedin takes its name from the Scottish word for Edinburgh? The city nods to its European heritage at Larnach Castle – the only one of its kind in the country – as well as through the grounds of Otago University and along the city's main George Street. Explore at your leisure, before venturing on to New Zealand's oldest public gardens and grand limestone buildings at Omarama. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 8 Omarama – Christchurch

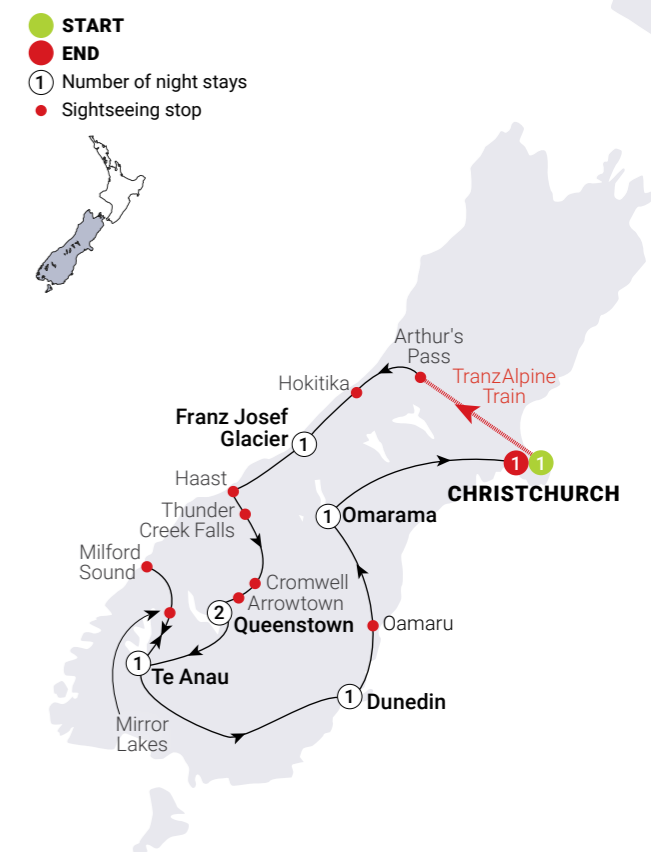
If there's a lake with a more vivid turquoise colour than Tekapo, we're yet to see it. It's made even more dramatic by snow-capped mountains, the quaint Church of the Good Shepherd and atmospheric towns that surround. Your tour of the Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. Back on earth, you're becoming reacquainted with Christchurch, your in-the-know Travel Director pointing out the city's miraculous transformation over the last decade. Local spirit is strong here. **Hotel: Ibis. B FD**

### 9 Farewell from Christchurch

If you feel like you've only seen the tip of the South Island's iceberg, you'd be correct. This beguiling part of the country could keep travel enthusiasts entertained for eons. Thankfully, we have more itineraries – ask your Travel Director and start planning your next trip to New Zealand. **B**



Arrowtown



# Travel Essentials

## My AAT Kings Travel Portal

For peace of mind and a seamless tour from the moment you book until you return home, you can personalise your tour online with ease in the My AAT Kings Travel Portal.

By registering your details online you'll be able to advise us of any preferences or dietary requirements for a more enjoyable tour, have access to useful information and links and be assured that we have any emergency contact details securely stored in case of an unlikely event whilst travelling with us.

## Registering for My AAT Kings

**It's quick & easy to register online**

1. Visit [my.aatkings.com](http://my.aatkings.com)
2. Enter your first name, last name and email address
3. Create a unique password & click Register User
4. Add your booking number and click Add my Booking

Registering is quick and easy. You'll need the following information in order to create your secure login:

- Your AAT Kings booking number and last name
- Emergency contact details
- Passport details for international travellers

You'll be able to register 24 hours after you've confirmed your booking with us. Once you have completed your online registration you'll also be able to download, save and print your travel documents within 3 weeks of your departure date.

To read about how we store and manage your personal information, visit our Privacy Policy at [aatkings.com/privacy](http://aatkings.com/privacy)

## Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is highly recommended for all guests covering all applicable dates of travel with AAT Kings & Inspiring Journeys. This insurance should cover: tour interruption, personal injury, medical expenses, evacuation and repatriation cover including during pandemic events. The choice of insurer is yours.

## Booking Conditions

Full Booking Conditions can be found at [aatkings.com/booking-conditions](http://aatkings.com/booking-conditions) and form the legal agreement between us and you as our guest.

**GUESTS 1300 228 546** [hello@aatkings.com.au](mailto:hello@aatkings.com.au)  
**AGENTS 1300 556 100** [guidedholidays@aatkings.com.au](mailto:guidedholidays@aatkings.com.au)

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# Gold Seal Protection

AAT Kings' Gold Seal Protection (GSP) plan costs only \$99 per person upon payment of your deposit. GSP gives you additional peace of mind should your travel plans change, and includes:

## Pre-Departure Cancellation

GSP allows you to cancel your AAT Kings holiday for any reason without penalty prior to 30 days from your guided holiday departure date: If no Force Majeure Event\* has occurred when you cancel, the value of your AAT Kings Holiday Pre-payment\*\* will be refunded; or If a Force Majeure Event\* does occur causing you to cancel, the AAT Kings Holiday Pre-payment\*\* will be converted to a Future Travel Credit (FTC) of the same value. The FTC may be redeemed against the cost of a new holiday provided by AAT Kings or one of our Travel Corporation sister brands, departing at any time within 24 months of your cancellation but is not redeemable for cash. If the new tour or departure is more expensive than the FTC you are responsible for the difference in price; if the new tour or departure is less expensive than the FTC, a new FTC will be issued for the difference. Airline travel costs and any related cancellation or rebooking costs are not covered by the Gold Seal Protection Plan.

Your Gold Seal Protection plan is available only upon paying your deposit and cannot be added at a later date. Please note that the GSP plan cost is not refundable for any reason and is only available to Australia and New Zealand residents. Travel Agent fees and cancellation costs may apply.

\*Force Majeure Event – means any event or circumstance beyond AAT Kings' control, including but not limited to: an act of God (such as earthquake, flood, fire, explosion, landslide, lightening, action of the elements, force of nature, washout, typhoon, hurricane, tsunami, storm or storm warning or natural disaster); industrial disputes, work ban or other labour dispute or difficulty; acts of terrorism, political unrest, war or threat of war, riots or civil strife; closure of airports or ports; pandemic, epidemic or health risk; governmental and administrative actions (including closure of borders and travel warning and restrictions).

\*\*AAT Kings Holiday Pre-payment – means all monies paid to AAT Kings in respect of land arrangements only.

^Immediate Family – means a parent, sibling or child.

## During Your Tour

Should your holiday be interrupted and you leave at any time during the tour due to personal illness or injury; or be required to return home to Australia because of the serious injury, illness or death of an immediate family member^:

(a) you will be refunded up to \$90 per person/per day for the unused portion of the holiday. Please note that in some cases hotels require a 1-night cancellation fee.

(b) AAT Kings will pay the additional cost of airline travel for earlier or later return home to Australia in the same class of air travel on the first available flight, provided the original return air tickets were booked through AAT Kings from Australia on AAT Kings' recommended airline. A medical certificate is required to qualify for this holiday interruption and return flight security provision.



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# Inspiring Journeys

IMMERSIVE SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

# NEW ZEALAND



MILFORD SOUND/PIOPIOTAHU • QUEENSTOWN • HAWKE'S BAY • ROTORUA



Meet our vibrant makers and creators, and the local storytellers whose passion it is to share with you the very best of these unique lands.

Delight the senses with exclusive culinary experiences and allow your expert guide to show you the iconic sights that promise moments of awe and wonder.

Your small group journey will be expertly curated with no detail forgotten, ensuring your adventure is seamless, stress free and timed to perfection.

With more than 100 years' experience in showcasing these mesmerising locations, we've collected a wealth of unmatched knowledge and passion that allows us to create an unforgettable travel experience for you.



Inspiring Journeys is proud to pay respect to the continuation of cultural practices of Māori people.

The immersive, contrasting beauty of New Zealand awaits.

The unrivalled natural beauty of the South Island's mighty fiords will leave you spellbound; while in the North Island ancient traditions immerse you in Māori culture and ignite your spirit. Indulge in adventure, and when it's time to relax, embrace your idyllic surrounds.

**This is where your *journey* begins.**



# START EXPLORING



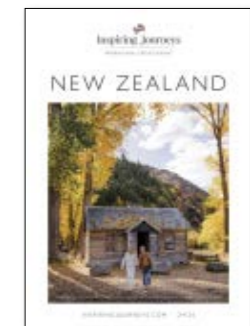
Look for these icons to learn about your small group experience:

- IMMERSE**  
yourself in new experiences
- INDULGE**  
your senses
- EXPLORE**  
boundless landscapes
- RELAX**  
and recharge

**The Long White Cloud** 12  
19 days • NZIJ  
Traverse the dramatic contrasts of the North and South Islands, as you discover the extraordinary natural landscapes and rich ancient heritage.

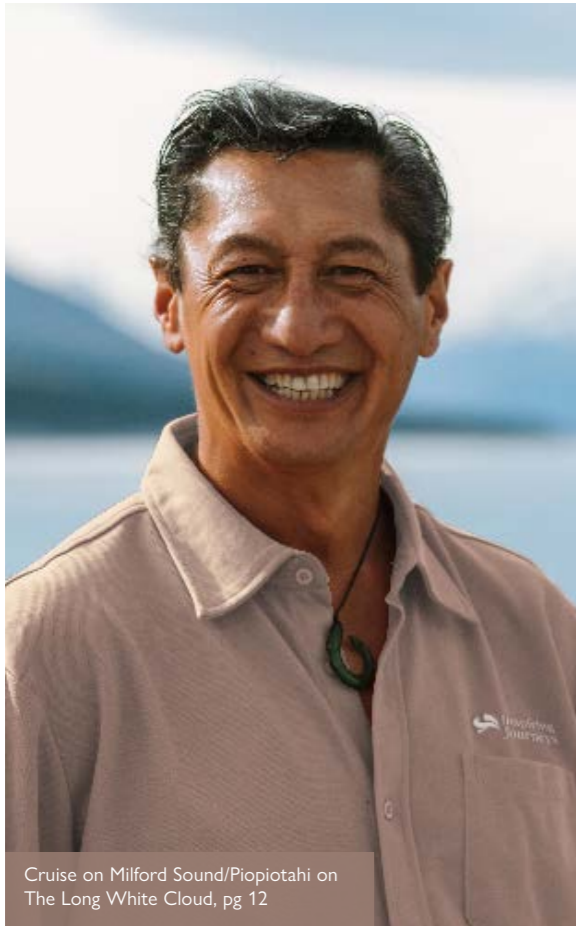
**The Southern Drift** 14  
12 days • NZSI  
From the still waters of Milford Sound/Piopiotahi to the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps, experience a true exploration of the natural wonders of New Zealand's South Island.

**The Endless Shores** 16  
8 days • NZNI  
Experience natural wonders, from the luminous glowworms of the Footwhistle Cave and native redwood giants, and be immersed in the rich Māori culture alive in the North Island.



**Cover story:**  
**Arrowtown, South Island**  
Discover Arrowtown, a historic gold mining village surrounded by lush trees and magnificent mountain peaks. Experience the charm of quaint streets dotted with boutique shops and cafés, embrace the spirit of the gold rush, and immerse yourself in nature's beauty.  
*Join us on this extraordinary journey on The Southern Drift, pg 14.*

# THE INSPIRING JOURNEYS EXPERIENCE



Cruise on Milford Sound/Piopiotahi on The Long White Cloud, pg 12

MEET JOURNEY DIRECTOR,

*Marty*

From the moment your small group journey begins, to the wave goodbye, you can relax knowing you're in safe hands. Our crew of experts are highly experienced, regularly trained, and passionate about making sure your once-in-a-lifetime journey through New Zealand is outstanding.

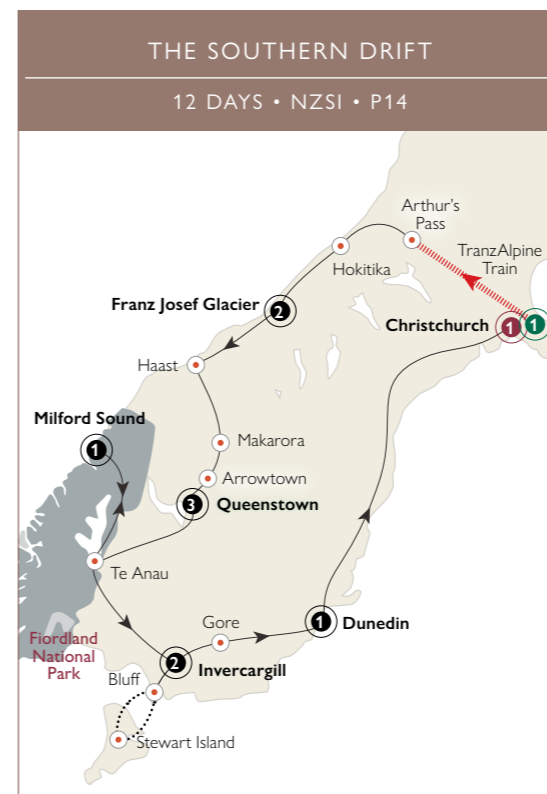


Visit Mrs. Jones' fruit orchard stall in Cromwell on The Southern Drift, pg 14

MEET ORCHARD OWNER,

*Mrs. Jones*

Mrs. Jones Fruit Stall is a refreshing stop on any itinerary; expect stone fruit ice cream made on-site and heartwarming stories. On a few acres, where the family had fruit trees, Mrs. Jones said to her husband that she would sell excess fruit on the side of road and read books all day. However, there was little time for reading, as her small business flourished. Now over 40 years later, they still offer Kiwi fruits to our guests.



# LIFE ENRICHING MOMENTS



Experience Whirinaki Forest guided cultural walk on The Long White Cloud pg. 12



Dine at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience on The Endless Shores pg. 16



Ascending the breathtaking Redwoods Treewalk on The Long White Cloud pg. 12



Stay at Te Waonui Forest Retreat on The Southern Drift pg. 14

## Immerse

### YOURSELF IN NEW EXPERIENCES

Dive in deep and absorb every small detail of your destination. Embrace the opportunity to connect with descendants of ancient cultures. Go behind the scenes to experience life like a true local. Immerse yourself in the sights, smells, sounds, and folklore that make every stop on your journey a memorable one.

📍 Look for this icon to find Immerse highlights

## Indulge

### YOUR SENSES

Te Pā Tū presents culture and kai (cuisine) events – sharing Māori history, traditions, and future aspirations across an evening of celebration and feasting.

Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and complementary chef choice aperitif, followed by a seasonal three-course dinner.

🍷 Look for this icon to find Indulge highlights

## Explore

### BOUNDLESS LANDSCAPES

Embrace your adventurous spirit and embark on an epic exploration. Visit the wondrous places you've dreamt of, discover hidden gems and insider experiences that may become the highlight of your tour. Walk, cycle, swim, see wildlife – or simply just soak up the awe-inspiring scenery.

🏞️ Look for this icon to find Explore highlights

## Relax

### AND RECHARGE

Sit back and relax knowing that your experience will be seamless from the very moment you start planning your journey with us. With every detail taken care of, you can be certain that the curated encounters, scenic destinations and carefully chosen hotels are exactly what you needed.

🛀 Look for this icon to find Relax highlights

# SHARE YOUR STORIES

#InspiringJourneys  
#SimplyInspiring  
#WonderOfTravel



@bridget.m.g  
#redwoods #newzealand #simplyinspiring  
#inspiringjourneys



@brettmorrison87  
#milfordsound #fiordland #nz #waterfall  
#middleearth #inspiringjourneys



@lu\_ontour  
#nz #milfordsound #southisland #wanderlust  
#holiday #inspiringjourneys

## 4.6/5 feefo

Independent reviews from our guests

*"Excellent tour guide and bus driver. Great accommodation each night. Very detailed information given at all stops during our tour."*

★★★★★ 5.0/5

Michael F

*"Awesome trip and I really enjoyed the mountains, waterfalls and forests."*

★★★★★ 5.0/5

Vivian G

*"Guide and driver were both fantastic."*

★★★★★ 5.0/5

Frank A

# HANDCRAFTED BY OUR EXPERTS TO CREATE YOUR JOURNEY *of a lifetime.*

The Inspiring Journeys experience is designed for immersion and authentic connection; it is the ultimate showcase of your chosen destination.

### Small Groups

With an average of 16 guests, your intimate, small group journey will grant you access to exclusive experiences and lodgings which are out of reach for larger groups.

### Only Outstanding Experiences

Crafted by our experts, each highlight has been carefully selected and seamlessly planned to deepen your connection with this mesmerising land.

### Your Journey Director

Inspired by a passion for your destination, Journey Directors are brimming with knowledge, stories and expertise. Their captivating insights will give you a fascinating window into every part of your journey, allowing you to understand your chosen destination in depth.

### Luxury Vehicles

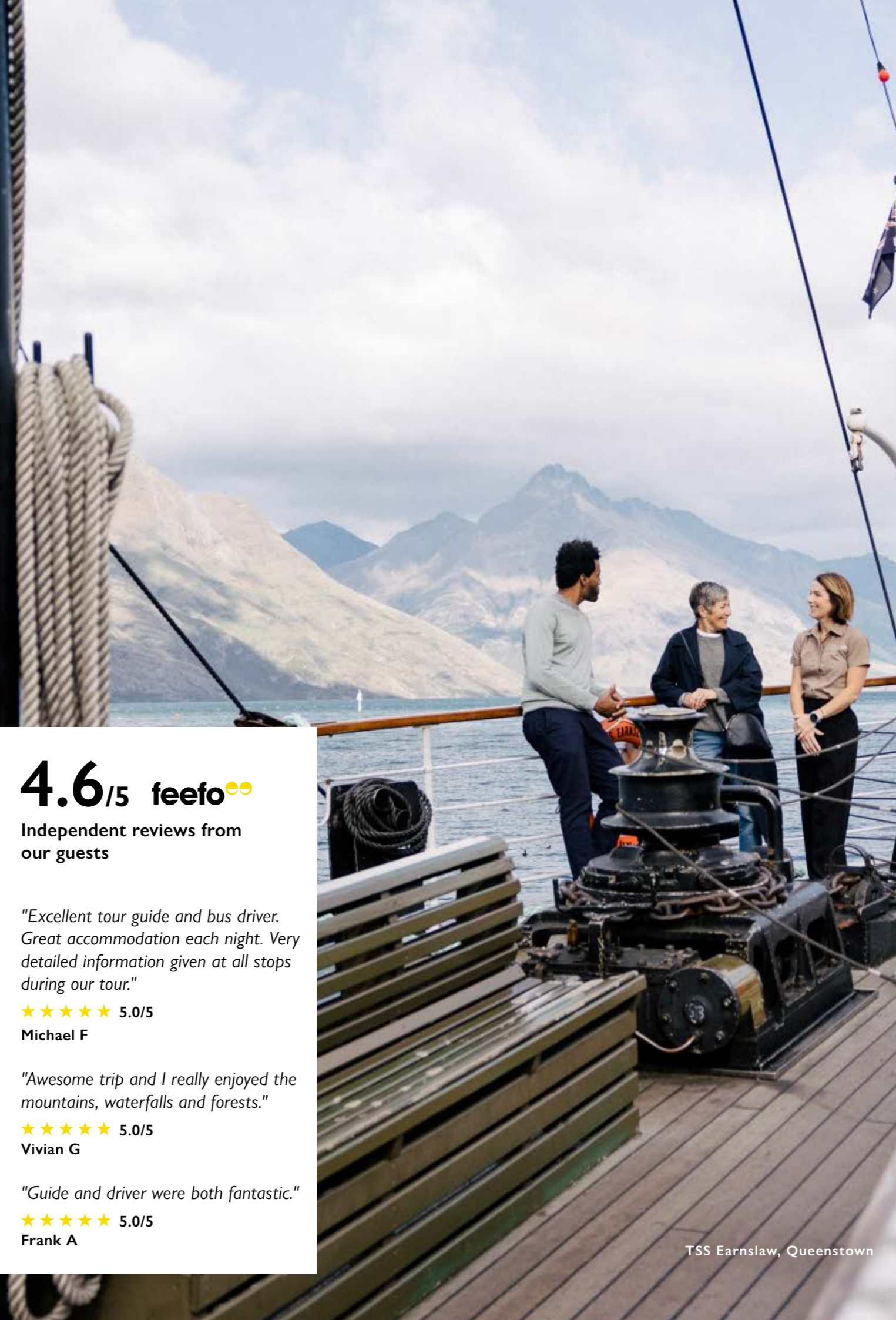
With vehicles designed for the contrasting landscapes and luxury coaches with complimentary refreshments for longer journeys, simply sit back, relax and enjoy the view.

### 4-5 Star Hotels

From the charm of heritage listed lodgings with tales, myths and legends waiting to be discovered, to riverside mountain view chalets, know that your premium stay will be in the true heart of your destination.

### Included Gourmet Dining

From award-winning restaurants that will enrich your palate to distinctive flavours from the native bushland, your unforgettable dining will be perfectly paired with local wines and an experience that inspires all the senses.



TSS Earnslaw, Queenstown

# THE LONG WHITE CLOUD

CHRISTCHURCH | QUEENSTOWN | FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER/KĀ ROIMATA O HINE HUKATERE | MILFORD SOUND/PIOPIOTAHĪ | WELLINGTON | ROTORUA | AUCKLAND



Redwoods Treewalk

## IMMERSE

Embrace the traditional Māori greeting at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience, and immerse yourself in Jurassic rainforest.

## INDULGE

Enjoy an unforgettable dining experience at Craggy Range Winery in Hawke's Bay, a region blessed with fertile soils.

## EXPLORE

Discover the luminous shimmer of the Footwhistle Cave. Lose yourself in giant redwoods, and view Milford Sound on show.

## RELAX

Wake up to the wonder of fiordland on your Milford Mariner cruise, and take a deep breath and unwind at Te Waonui Forest Retreat.

Traverse New Zealand's North and South Islands, from the hot pools of Franz Josef/Waiau, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience in Dunedin, to the brave depths of Queenstown, the adventure capital. Explore extraordinary landscapes and ancient heritage, as you encounter New Zealand as few have seen it before.

### Day 1: Welcome to Christchurch

Board a private transfer to your hotel. Tonight, meet your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception with local wines and canapés.

**HOTEL** Hotel Montreal

### Day 2: Christchurch – TranzAlpine – Franz Josef/Waiau

Travel through the Southern Alps aboard TranzAlpine train. From Arthur's Pass, visit the small town of Hokitika. Continue to Franz Josef/Waiau, where you'll spend two nights in an eco-friendly retreat nestled in the wilderness.

**HOTEL** Te Waonui Forest Retreat, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 3: Franz Josef/Waiau (Relaxed Start)

This morning, explore Franz Josef/Waiau, where a local guide explains the history behind the imposing Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukaterere.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 4: Franz Josef/Waiau – Arrowtown – Queenstown

Discover the Haast River this morning as you journey its length in a fully enclosed river jet boat. Stop at Makarora, then explore the heritage gold-settlement of Arrowtown, before an orientation of breathtaking Queenstown.

**HOTEL** Hotel St. Moritz, 3 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 5: Queenstown at Leisure

Enjoy Queenstown your way! Perhaps join a wine tour and taste some of Central Otago's world-renowned Pinot Noir.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 6: Queenstown at Leisure

Make the most of your extended stay in Queenstown. Perhaps take a peaceful cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard New Zealand's oldest steamship, the TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station. Tonight, enjoy a Local Dining Experience in one of Queenstown's most exclusive restaurants.

**MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 7: Queenstown – Te Anau – Milford Sound/PiopiotaĪ

Travel south along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau, where you'll stop for lunch at a local farm, and then through World Heritage Fiordland National Park. Tonight, you will stay aboard the iconic Milford Mariner.

**HOTEL** Milford Mariner

**MEALS** Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 8: Milford Sound/PiopiotaĪ - Invercargill

Leave Fiordland National Park and journey to Invercargill. A city obsessed with motoring history, there are tributes to speed legends across town, from Burt Munro to Bill Richardson and his shed full of classic vehicles. Enjoy a tour of the largest private collection of its type in the world.

**HOTEL** The Langlands, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 9: Invercargill (Stewart Island)

Board a ferry at Bluff and cruise to the pristine Stewart Island. Later, join a leisurely cruise around Paterson Inlet and see diverse flora and birdlife.

**MEALS** Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 10: Invercargill – Dunedin

Enjoy a relaxed start before departing for Dunedin. On a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience visit Dunedin Craft Distillers, who produce botanical spirits from surplus bread and bakery products that would otherwise go to landfill. Venture just next door for a special Chocolate tasting journey at OCHO Chocolate.

**HOTEL** Hotel Distinction Dunedin

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 11: Dunedin – Christchurch

Travel up the east coast through Omarau and Timaru to Christchurch.

**HOTEL** Hotel Montreal

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 12: Christchurch – Kaikōura – Wellington

Travel along the Pacific coast to Kaikōura. Continue to the seaside village of Picton and later, cross the Cook Strait to Wellington.

**HOTEL** QT Wellington, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 13: Wellington at Leisure

Today see Wellington your way. Perhaps visit the urban eco-sanctuary of Zealandia/Te Māra a Tāne, or Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 14: Wellington – Hawke's Bay

Travel through the dairy farming land of Manawatu to Napier. Enjoy a Local Dining Experience at Craggy Range winery.

**HOTEL** Porters Boutique Hotel, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 15: Napier (Relaxed Start)

Join a local guide for a vintage car tour through Napier and surrounding areas. You'll learn about the earthquake that destroyed the city in 1931 and hear stories of the people that led the rebuild in the Art Deco style.

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 16: Hawke's Bay – Rotorua

Continue your journey to Rotorua, where this afternoon, armed with a packed lunch, you'll join a local guide for a cultural walking eco-tour to discover the Jurassic Whirinaki Forest, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience.

**HOTEL** Pullman Rotorua, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, lunch

### Day 17: Rotorua – Redwoods Treewalk

Ascend the breathtaking Redwoods Treewalk for an elevated bird's eye view of the 120-year old redwood giants. At the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa, passionate conservationists reveal how they are saving the kiwi population, one incubated egg at a time. Tonight, visit Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Tū Te Rā is a celebration of the abundant harvest of this season, and explores concepts, rituals, and stories of ancient Māori warfare and peace in a feast of culture and cuisine. Enjoy a seasonal canapé and complementary chef choice aperitif, and a seasonal three-course dinner.

**MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 18: Rotorua – Caveworld Waitomo – Auckland

Make your way to the famous Caveworld Waitomo for an exclusive 5-star Eco Glowworm experience in Footwhistle Cave. Later, travel to Auckland. This evening, toast your tour at a Celebration Dinner.

**HOTEL** QT Auckland

**MEALS** Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

### Day 19: Farewell from Auckland

Your epic New Zealand journey comes to an end this morning and you are transferred to Auckland Airport for your onward flight.

**MEALS** Breakfast

## DEPARTURES

2023	2024	2025
Oct 09	Jan 01, 08, 29	Jan 06, 27
Nov 06	Feb 05	Feb 03
	Mar 04	Mar 03
	Oct 07	
	Nov 04	

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and definite departure dates visit [inspiringjourneys.com/nzji](https://inspiringjourneys.com/nzji) or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 13+ Unforgettable experiences
- 33 included meals
- 18 Nights premium accommodation

## NOTES

### NZIJ: CHRISTCHURCH TO AUCKLAND

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Return private vehicle airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.
- Flight Information:  
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport  
Day 19 – flights to depart anytime from Auckland Airport



# THE SOUTHERN DRIFT

CHRISTCHURCH | ARTHUR'S PASS | FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER/KĀ ROIMATA O HINE HUKATERE | QUEENSTOWN | MILFORD SOUND/PIOPIOTAHĪ | TE ANAU | DUNEDIN

12  
DAYS



Milford Sound Overnight Cruise

Discover New Zealand on this Inspiring Journey through the natural treasures of the South Island. From the still waters of Milford Sound/PiopiotaĪ and snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps to the rolling hills of Central Otago, delve into the beauty of landscapes that have remained unchanged for millennia.

## IMMERSE

Delve deep into the natural wonders of Milford Sound/PiopiotaĪ, with specialist nature guides sharing their knowledge of this mystical landscape.

## INDULGE

Join a behind-the-scenes tour at Dunedin Craft Distillers, OCHO Chocolate, and embark on a culinary discovery of Queenstown.

## EXPLORE

Journey down the Haast River in a fully enclosed jet boat, and discover the remarkable glacial valley where temperate rainforest thrives.

## RELAX

Take a dip in the Franz Josef/Waiāu local geothermal hot pools and relax and rejuvenate after a day of discovering the South's natural wonders.

### Day 1: Welcome to Christchurch

On arrival in Christchurch you will be transferred by private car to your hotel. Spend some time at leisure to relax or explore on your own. This evening, join your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception with local wines and canapés.

**HOTEL** Hotel Montreal

### Day 2: Christchurch – TranzAlpine – Franz Josef/Waiāu

- It's all aboard the TranzAlpine train. Rated as one of the world's great scenic railway journeys, you'll travel in comfort across the Canterbury Plains through the Southern Alps. From Arthur's Pass, visit the small town of Hokitika. Later we continue to Franz Josef/Waiāu. Your eco-friendly accommodation is set amid native bush, with an emphasis on relaxation and rejuvenation. This evening, why not enjoy Franz Josef's/Waiāu local geothermal hot pools?

**HOTEL** Te Waonui Forest Retreat, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 3: Franz Josef/Waiāu (Relaxed Start)

- An experienced local guide will host you on a walking tour in one of the most pristine places on Earth. They will share their knowledge of the glacier region, leaving you with a whole new appreciation for Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. Later, you may want to get up close to the glaciers on an optional helicopter flight.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 4: Franz Josef/Waiāu – Arrowtown – Queenstown

- This morning it's time for an adventure as we travel in a purpose-built fully enclosed river jet boat and journey down the Haast River. After a lunch stop at Makarora we head to Queenstown, taking time to stop to explore the historic gold-mining village of Arrowtown. The adventure-capital awaits you for your extended 3 night stay, and you'll have the opportunity to explore it during an orientation tour when you arrive.

**HOTEL** Hotel St. Moritz, 3 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 5: Queenstown at Leisure

- Today is at leisure to discover Queenstown – your way.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 6: Queenstown at Leisure

- Make the most of your extended stay in Queenstown. Why not sit back and enjoy a peaceful cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard New Zealand's oldest steamship, the TSS Earnslaw, to Walter Peak Station. Tonight, enjoy a Local Dining Experience at one of Queenstown's exclusive restaurants.

**MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 7: Queenstown – Te Anau – Milford Sound/PiopiotaĪ

- Travel south along Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau. Stop for lunch at a local farm, where you will hear stories of life on the land and meet a cuddly animal or two. Continue through the rainforest of the UNESCO World Heritage site of Fiordland National Park, sighting glaciers and mountain ranges onto the amazing Mirror Lake before driving through the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel. Spend the night aboard the iconic Milford Mariner and wake up in one of the most beautiful places on earth. The cruise style is relaxed, allowing plenty of time to view the fiord's spectacular waterfalls, rainforest, mountains and diverse wildlife such as seals, penguins and dolphins. Hear from the specialist nature guide on board or choose to explore the shoreline by kayak or small boat. Enjoy exclusive access to the Fiord once the day trippers depart the sound.

**HOTEL** Milford Mariner

**MEALS** Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 8: Milford Sound/PiopiotaĪ – Invercargill

- We leave the majestic Fiordland National Park for the fertile sheep-dotted pastures of South Otago through to Invercargill, a commercial hub full of grand architecture and gardens. A city obsessed with motoring history, there are tributes to speed legends across town, from Burt Munro to Bill Richardson and his shed full of classic vehicles. Enjoy a tour of the largest private collection of its type in the world. Later this afternoon you will have some free time to explore this city, and an evening free to seek out local hot spots.

**HOTEL** The Langlands, 2 nights

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 9: Invercargill (Stewart Island)

- Board a ferry at Bluff and cruise to Stewart Island, known by locals as Rakiura the Māori reference to Glowing Skies. It has been described as rugged, pristine and tranquil – and rightly so as 97% of the island is designated National Park and Conservation Estate. This means the birdlife, native flora & fauna and other natural environmental features have been able to thrive. You will gain an entertaining insight into New Zealand's southernmost community and learn about the history and environment of Stewart Island on a Village and Bays tour. Later you will join a leisurely cruise, including a picnic lunch, around Paterson Inlet that will take you past unique places including Acker's Cottage before docking at Ulva Island to admire the bird life and native flora. Travel back to Invercargill for a relaxed dinner.

**MEALS** Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

### Day 10: Invercargill – Dunedin

- Enjoy a relaxed start before departing for Dunedin. On a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience visit Dunedin Craft Distillers, who produce botanical spirits from surplus bread and bakery products that would otherwise go to landfill. Venture just next door for a special Chocolate tasting journey at OCHO Chocolate.

**HOTEL** Distinction Dunedin

**MEALS** Breakfast, Dinner with wine

### Day 11: Dunedin – Christchurch

- Travel up the east coast of the South Island via Oamaru and Timaru to Christchurch for a sightseeing tour. This evening, toast your tour at a Celebration Dinner with your new-found friends and Journey Director.

**HOTEL** Hotel Montreal

**MEALS** Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

### Day 12: Farewell from Christchurch

- Say farewell to your fellow travellers as we transfer you by private car to Christchurch Airport for your onward flight.

**MEALS** Breakfast

## DEPARTURES

2023	2024	2025
Oct 09	Jan 01, 08, 29	Jan 06, 27
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For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and definite departure dates visit [inspiringjourneys.com/nzsi](https://inspiringjourneys.com/nzsi) or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

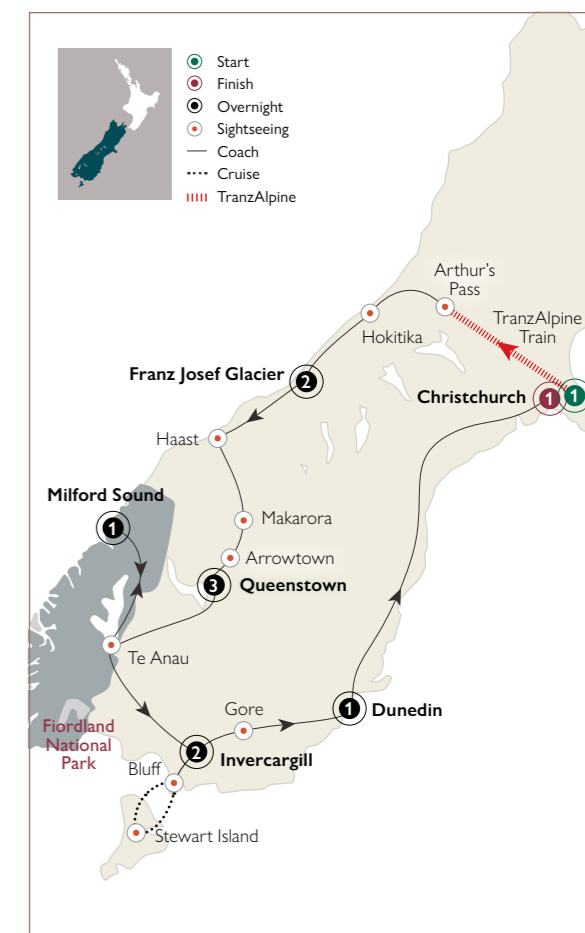
## INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 6+ Unforgettable experiences
- 20 included meals
- 11 Nights premium accommodation

## NOTES

### NZSI: CHRISTCHURCH RETURN

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Return private vehicle airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.
- Flight Information:  
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport  
Day 12 – flights to depart anytime from Christchurch Airport



# THE ENDLESS SHORES

WELLINGTON | HAWKE'S BAY | LAKE TAUPŌ | ROTORUA | WAITOMO | AUCKLAND

8  
DAYS



Te Pā Tū Māori Experience

## IMMERSE

Walk through a Jurassic rainforest on a cultural eco-tour, and embrace the traditional greeting of your hosts at Te Pā Tū Māori Experience.

## INDULGE

In the shadow of the spectacular Te Mata Peak, enjoy an unforgettable dining experience at Craggy Range winery in Hawke's Bay, a region blessed with fertile soils.

## EXPLORE

Walk high among giant 120 year old Redwood trees, and discover the luminous shimmer of the breathtaking Footwhistle Glowworm Cave.

## RELAX

Cruise the streets of New Zealand's Art Deco capital in style in the comfort of a luxurious vintage car driven by your expert guide.

Embrace the traditional greeting of your Māori hosts, whose relationship with this unspoilt land is revealed on this journey. Experience natural wonders, from the luminous glowworms of the Footwhistle Cave and the native forest redwood giants, to an eco-tour of Jurassic rainforest.

### Day 1: Welcome to Wellington

Upon arrival at Wellington Airport you'll be transferred by private car to your hotel. Spend time at leisure or explore on your own. This evening, join your Journey Director for a Welcome Reception and dinner.

**HOTEL** QT Wellington, 2 nights  
**MEALS** Dinner with wine

### Day 2: Wellington at Leisure

Discover Wellington your way. You could visit the urban eco-sanctuary of Zealandia/Te Māra a Tāne, home to some of New Zealand's most rare and extraordinary wildlife. Go on a guided city walking tour around Wellington or explore the country's fascinating culture, nature, heritage and art at Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand.

**MEALS** Breakfast

### Day 3: Wellington – Hawke's Bay

Travel through the dairy farming land of Manawatu to Napier in Hawke's Bay. This evening, enjoy dinner with wine at Craggy Range winery, in the shadow of the spectacular Te Mata Peak. Spend the evening in your accommodation surrounded by the area's majestic hills.

**HOTEL** Porters Boutique Hotel, 2 nights  
**MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 4: Napier (Relaxed Start)

Relive the glamour and style of the jazz era with a luxurious vintage car tour. Your driver will provide fascinating commentary as you are driven in style through Napier and surrounding areas. You'll learn about the earthquake that destroyed the city in 1931 and hear stories of the people that led the rebuild of Napier in the Art Deco style.

**MEALS** Breakfast, dinner with wine

### Day 5: Hawke's Bay – Rotorua

Enjoy a leisurely start before continuing the journey to Rotorua. This afternoon you will have a guided cultural eco-tour of Whirinaki Forest, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. Armed with a packed lunch and with your local expert guide discover this vast, Jurassic, podocarp rainforest on a guided cultural walking tour, including Rongoa trail, rakau rangatira, history, possibly sight some native and endangered birds, whakatauki, forest bathing and hot kawakawa tea to end.

**HOTEL** Millennium Rotorua  
**MEALS** Breakfast, lunch



Whirinaki Forest Footsteps

### Day 6: Rotorua – Redwoods Treewalk

Ascending to the breathtaking Redwoods Treewalk, enjoy an elevated bird's eye view of the 120-year-old redwood giants and view the beautiful surrounds of the forest from a unique perspective. Next stop is the National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa, the national leader in kiwi husbandry, and learn about their kiwi hatchery programme that is proudly supported by TreadRight. Tonight, visit Te Pā Tū Māori Experience. Tū Te Rā is a celebration of the abundant harvest of this season, and explores concepts, rituals, and stories of ancient Māori warfare and peace in a feast of culture and cuisine. Enjoy a forest kai horotai (seasonal canapés) and complementary chef choice aperitif, and a seasonal three-course dinner.

**HOTEL** Pullman Rotorua  
**MEALS** Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

### Day 7: Rotorua – Caveworld Waitomo – Auckland

Make your way to the famous Caveworld Waitomo for an exclusive 5-star Eco Glowworm experience. Your guide sets the scene for a cave experience where you will see glowworms, cave formations and appreciate the beauty of Footwhistle Cave. Later, travel through the dairy farming district of Waikato, and on to Auckland. This evening, toast your tour together at a Celebration Dinner.

**HOTEL** QT Auckland  
**MEALS** Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

### Day 8: Farewell from Auckland

Say farewell to your fellow travellers as your Inspiring Journey comes to an end and we transfer you by private car to Auckland Airport for your onward flight.

**MEALS** Breakfast

## DEPARTURES

2023	2024	2025
Oct 20	Jan 12, 19	Jan 17
Nov 17	Feb 09, 16	Feb 07, 14
	Mar 15	Mar 14
	Oct 18	
	Nov 15	

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and definite departure dates visit [inspiringjourneys.com/nzni](https://inspiringjourneys.com/nzni) or contact your local travel agent. A limited number of single rooms are also available.

## INCLUSIONS

- Small group (average 16 guests)
- 7+ Unforgettable experiences
- 13 included meals
- 7 Nights premium accommodation

## INCLUSIONS

### NZNI: WELLINGTON TO AUCKLAND

- Flights are not included in holiday price.
- Return private vehicle airport to hotel transfers are included in the holiday price.
- Flight Information:  
Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Wellington Airport  
Day 8 – flights to depart anytime from Auckland Airport

