

2017/2018



NEW ZEALAND

Small Group Tours



firstlighttravel.com

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL 
Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

Kia Ora and Welcome



Have you been dreaming of visiting New Zealand for years? Looking for something special for that “once in a lifetime” trip? Want to see the very best of New Zealand in a small friendly group? Then let’s talk...

Since 1970 we’ve been sharing our favourite holiday spots with visitors on our small group tours. We grew up here and now we’ve bottled a lifetime of Kiwi holiday memories into our tours. From North to South, you won’t miss a thing - Milford Sound, Queenstown, the Bay of Islands, Abel Tasman, Rotorua, Tongariro, the West Coast Glaciers and Aoraki Mt Cook, plus a few secret spots you may not know so well!

All you have to do is relax and enjoy every single moment secure in the knowledge that everything is taken care of. Just follow your “Kiwi Guide” from one unforgettable experience to the next - like sailing on an ancient geothermal lake or flying high above the mountains of Fiordland. We’ll spoil you with the very best New Zealand food and wine, you’ll make friends with the locals at home hosted lunches, and at the end of each memorable day, sleep soundly in hand-picked accommodation.



“I don’t think I know enough adjectives to describe this wonderful trip lead by our lovely guide. Thank you!”

Rhian Jones, Wales



Why travel with us?

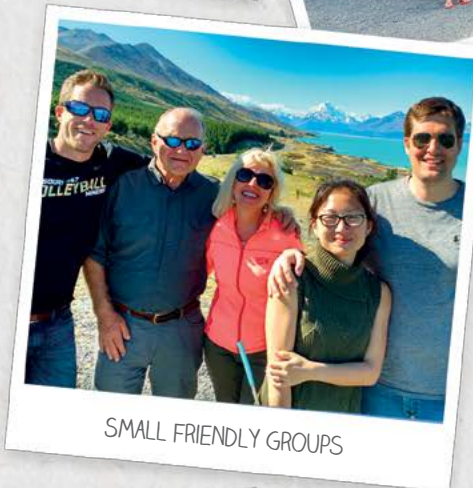
Here's what people tell us they like most about our small group tours



KIWI GUIDES



ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCES



SMALL FRIENDLY GROUPS

MEET THE LOCALS



ONE COUNTRY, TWO CULTURES



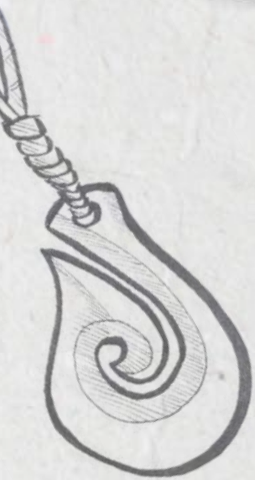
HOME HOSTED LUNCHES



PROUDLY FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1971



THE VERY BEST OF NEW ZEALAND



Meet the Family



Meet the Family

When you're talking about coming over to visit, you'll be chatting with Tanya or Caroline, born and bred Kiwis, here to help with anything at all. Making sure everything runs like clockwork when you're here, our man on the ground Steve has over 30 years' experience. At the helm of the good ship First Light Travel, mother and son team Ena and Miles take care of the grown up side of things and still love nothing more than sharing that "Kiwi Magic" with people.

Your Kiwi Guides







Our team of guides are all proud Kiwis with lots of great stories under their belts! You'll love hearing about Matt's years as a true blue West Coaster and Marilyn's favourite hidden huts - getting to know these Kiwi characters makes your New Zealand vacation that much more special. From morning till night, your Kiwi Guide will be at hand to help out with anything you need, as well as being your "best mate" here in New Zealand.



For your New Zealand "Trip of a Lifetime"



KEY

-  **Kakapo 23 Day Tour**
Starts Auckland finishes Christchurch
-  **Kaka 19 Day Tour**
Starts Auckland finishes Christchurch
-  **Kakariki 18 Day Tour**
Starts Auckland finishes Queenstown
-  **Kiwi 14 Day Tour**
Starts Auckland finishes Queenstown
-  **Kea 9 Day Tour**
Starts Queenstown finishes Christchurch
-  **Kotare 4 Day Tour**
Starts Auckland finishes Auckland



Kakapo

23 DAY NORTH & SOUTH ISLAND TOUR



Kakapo - 22 Night / 23 Day North & South Island Tour

Looking for something very special for your “Trip of a Lifetime”? Our “Kakapo” tour is the ultimate three-week itinerary, with all our favourite kiwi holiday spots bottled into one very special package. You’ll love the very best of New Zealand on our signature tour.

Auckland - Hokianga Harbour - Bay of Islands - Auckland - Rotorua - Tongariro National Park - Napier - Wellington - Nelson - Abel Tasman National Park - Methven - Mount Cook - Queenstown - Milford Sound - Wanaka - Franz Josef Glacier - Punakaiki - Christchurch

DAY 1: Arrive Auckland

Transfer to your Viaduct Harbour hotel, the very best of the “City of Sails” at your doorstep.

DAY 2: Auckland - Waipoua Forest - Hokianga

Muriwai Gannet Colony, Kauri Museum & forest, dinner overlooking Hokianga Harbour.

DAY 3: Hokianga - Bay of Islands

Harbour cruise & sand boarding. Historic Stone Store & Waitangi Treaty Grounds.

DAY 4: Bay of Islands

Your choice of a cruise or swim with dolphins. Free afternoon to discover Russell.

DAY 5: Bay of Islands - Auckland

Kawiti glowworm caves, waterfront lunch in Whangarei. Free evening in Auckland.

DAY 6: Auckland - Bay of Plenty - Rotorua

Karangahake Gorge, Kiwifruit orchard, sailing on Lake Rotoiti to secluded hot pools.

DAY 7: Rotorua Activities

Free morning, hosted lunch at the Buried Village, Kiwi Encounter visit.

DAY 8: Rotorua Geothermal Area - Tongariro

Wai-o-Tapu thermal wonderland, Huka Falls, Mt Ruapehu and Tongariro National Park.

DAY 9: Tongariro - Napier

From World Heritage Tongariro & Lake Taupo to walking the Art Deco streets of Napier.

DAY 10: Napier - Wellington

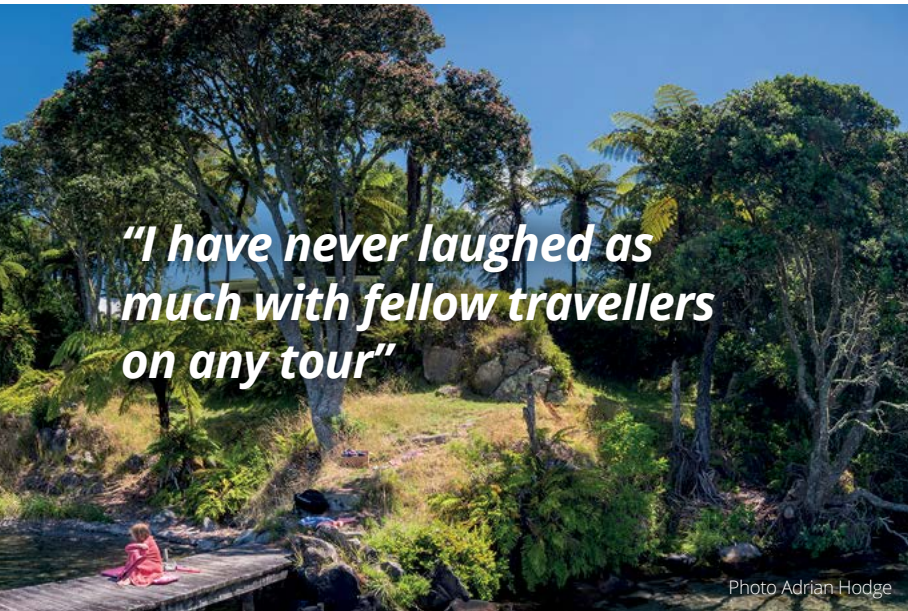
Idyllic Wairarapa and onto the capital. City sightseeing, Te Papa National Museum.

DAY 11: Wellington - Marlborough - Nelson

The Cook Strait Ferry, wine tasting & lunch near Renwick before heading to Nelson.

DAY 12: Abel Tasman National Park

Your choice, a cruise or cruise/walk combo in Abel Tasman. Stay again in Nelson.



DAY 13: Nelson - Methven

Traverse the Southern Alps as we skirt the mountains to the alpine hamlet of Methven.

DAY 14: Methven - Akaunui Homestead - Aoraki Mt Cook

Farm visit & lunch, Lake Tekapo, Pukaki, on to Mt Cook.

DAY 15: Aoraki Mt Cook - Queenstown

Free time for walking/glacier trips. On to Queenstown.

DAY 16: Queenstown - Milford Sound - Queenstown

A memorable day, coach, cruise and fly Milford Sound.

DAY 17: Queenstown Activities

Free day for activities or relaxing.

DAY 18: Queenstown - Arrowtown - Wanaka

Arrowtown, historic Cardrona, hosted lakeside lunch.

DAY 19: Wanaka - Franz Josef Glacier

World Heritage Highway from Lake Wanaka & the Haast Pass to Glacier Country & the West Coast.

DAY 20: Franz Josef Glacier - Okarito

Kayak or boat cruise, glacier valley walk or heli hike.

DAY 21: Franz Josef - Punakaiki

The Wild West Coast, from Glacier Country to the Pancake Rocks, with plenty of stops along the way.

DAY 22: Punakaiki - Christchurch

Cross the alps at Arthur's Pass, on to Christchurch.

DAY 23: Depart Christchurch

Relaxing morning, airport transfer for those heading home today.

2017/18 Dates

Start Auckland finish Christchurch

11 Oct '17 - 02 Nov '17	27 Jan '18 - 18 Feb '18
25 Oct '17 - 16 Nov '17	31 Jan '18 - 22 Feb '18
01 Nov '17 - 23 Nov '17	03 Feb '18 - 25 Feb '18
08 Nov '17 - 30 Nov '17	07 Feb '18 - 01 Mar '18
15 Nov '17 - 07 Dec '17	10 Feb '18 - 04 Mar '18
22 Nov '17 - 14 Dec '17	14 Feb '18 - 08 Mar '18
29 Nov '17 - 21 Dec '17	17 Feb '18 - 11 Mar '18
13 Dec '17 - 04 Jan '18	21 Feb '18 - 15 Mar '18
20 Dec '17 - 11 Jan '18	24 Feb '18 - 18 Mar '18
27 Dec '17 - 18 Jan '18	28 Feb '18 - 22 Mar '18
06 Jan '18 - 28 Jan '18	03 Mar '18 - 25 Mar '18
10 Jan '18 - 01 Feb '18	07 Mar '18 - 29 Mar '18
14 Jan '18 - 05 Feb '18	14 Mar '18 - 05 Apr '18
17 Jan '18 - 08 Feb '18	21 Mar '18 - 12 Apr '18
21 Jan '18 - 12 Feb '18	04 Apr '18 - 26 Apr '18
24 Jan '18 - 15 Feb '18	11 Apr '18 - 03 May '18

\$NZ 10,990 pp twin

\$NZ 13,490 pp single

Inclusions: All accommodation, transport, included activities & entrance fees. All breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners. NZ Sales Tax.

About our tours

Where do we stay?

After a great day out exploring being comfortable each night is really important. You'll sleep soundly in hand-picked accommodation, places we know and stay in ourselves. Our hotels are generally 4 star and just a short walk to town.

What are the meals like?

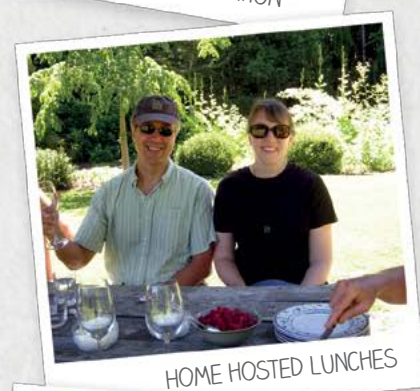
Lots of people tell us they love our home hosted lunches! We visit real Kiwis in their homes to share lunch at their table. Breakfasts are buffet style, always with hot cooked fare and fresh fruit and cereal. Most dinners are free for you to choose from the full range of options close by, but we do have a couple of celebration dinners included.

What about optional activities?

In each place we visit there's time for you to enjoy the best activities and attractions. Many people book these before they arrive, or your Kiwi Guide can help you too. All the iconic activities you've heard about are here - Maori concert & hangi in Rotorua, food & wine in Napier, Zealandia eco sanctuary in Wellington, glacier flights in Mount Cook or jet boating in Queenstown, just to name a few...

Travel Style

We have a mix of single and multi night stays, for example, on our 23 Day Kakapo tour there are four two night stays and one three night stay. We break driving up with plenty of photo stops and short walks. Often we travel for half the day with the other half free for activities or relaxing. Days normally start around 8am, but you get a few sleep ins too. We arrive at our hotels at least an hour before dinner, often earlier. Groups are very friendly and social, a lot of people say it's like travelling with a group of old friends!



Photos James Heremaia & Sara Orme



Who are our trips for? What about single travellers?

Take a look at our galleries online and if you can see yourself enjoying time with these guys, you'll fit right in. Our guests tend to come from the US, UK, Canada, Aussie, Western Europe plus places like Singapore and Hong Kong. Most people are over 50, but it's not about age it's about attitude. Pretty much every trip has single travellers or parents travelling with adult children.

Flexibility

We know everyone's idea of a dream holiday is a little different so we've built plenty of flexibility into our trips. Getting out walking, food and wine, action and adventure, perhaps Lord of the Rings? There's something for everyone.

What's included in our tours?

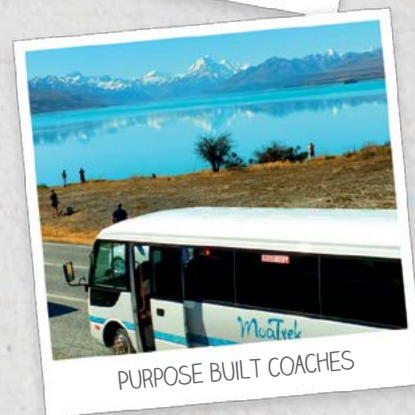
All land travel, accommodation, portorage and airport transfers. All breakfasts, a selection of home hosted lunches and dinners as per your itinerary. All sightseeing and activities as per itinerary. Services of your Kiwi Guide.

How do we travel around?

Travel is in our late model (2014 or newer) purpose built, midsize tour coaches. One of the great things about our coaches is that we can get off the beaten track to places that the big tour coaches just can't go.

Terms and Conditions

Go online for our full tour booking terms and conditions, including payment, cancellation and insurance information.



Find out more about our tours at firstlighttravel.com or give the friendly First Light Travel team a call



Special Experiences and People

What do guests tell us they love most about our tours?

It comes down to two things - once in a lifetime experiences and spending time with great people.



TANE MAHUTA, LORD OF THE FOREST



WALKING IN MT COOK NATIONAL PARK



SAILING ON LAKE ROTOITI



Your "Trip of a Lifetime"

For many of our guests visiting New Zealand is something they have been dreaming of for years, decades even. It's an important trip, often for a special occasion. It means a lot to us and we consider it a great privilege that you have chosen First Light Travel. Travel is a big part of our lives too, we know what makes a great experience and it's really important to us that your trip is everything you want it to be! From the planning stage through to the tour itself, we'll be here to help every step of the way.

We'll leave the last word to Ena, who started it all back in 1971:

"We love showing you places we've been going since we were kids and introducing you to our mates!"

GOT A QUESTION?

Pick up the phone and give the friendly First Light Travel team a call.

USA / Canada Freephone: **1 877 282 2577**

Australia Freephone: **1 800 140 318**

UK Freephone: **0808 234 1395**

From anywhere else: **+64 9 281 4481**

READY TO BOOK?

🌐 Book online at [firstlighttravel.com](https://www.firstlighttravel.com)

☎ Or give us a call





First Light Travel Small Group Tours For your New Zealand "Trip of a Lifetime"

Cover photo: Rob Suisted Back cover photo: Julian Apse



Give us a call, we'd love to chat!

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