




Enjoy an Ultimate escape to New Zealand's dramatic South Island

# 10 Day Ultimate South Island Escape

-  Suggested arrival/departure
-  TranzAlpine Train
-  Overnights



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## >> NO HIDDEN EXTRAS

### PRE PAID ATTRACTIONS

- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- Lakes District Museum
- Milford Sound Nature Cruise & Lunch
- Larnach Castle\*
- City sights tour of Christchurch & Dunedin

\*Guided tour.

### ULTIMATE SMALL GROUP TOURING

- Return airfares from your homeport
- Personalised meet & greet on arrival
- Return airport transfers in New Zealand
- Ultimate Small Group Tour Coach with 20 luxury leather reclining seats on a full size vehicle, 2 door access and panoramic windows
- Professional Coach Captain
- 9 nights 4.5 star hotel accommodation
- 2 two night stays
- Hotel portorage
- 2 cruises
- All sightseeing and pre paid attractions
- GST (New Zealand Goods and Services Tax)
- Comprehensive documentation pack
- **BONUS** Group photo



### MEALS

- 9 cooked breakfasts
- 8 sumptuous dinners including 2 specialty dinners: Walter Peak Homestead, Queenstown; Farewell Dinner, selected beverages, Christchurch
- 1 picnic lunch
- 1 Ultimate High Tea: Larnach Castle

Note: Dinner on Day 1 not included for anyone arriving later than 8pm.

## >> ITINERARY

(B) Breakfast. (L) Lunch. (D) Dinner. (SD) Speciality Dinner.

### DAY 1: Arrive Christchurch (D)

On arrival into Christchurch you will be met by a representative who will transfer you to your hotel. Meet your travelling companions over a complimentary pre dinner drink.

**Hotel** The George or similar

### DAY 2: Christchurch - Arthur's Pass - Fox Glacier (B,D)

This morning board the TranzAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world.

Travel over massive viaducts, river valleys and spectacular gorges as you ascend to Arthur's Pass located in the centre of the Southern Alps. Board your Ultimate coach and travel to Hokitika, famous for its Greenstone before continuing via Franz Josef to the township of Fox Glacier where time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

**Hotel** Distinction Fox Glacier

### DAY 3: Fox Glacier - Queenstown (B)

See the snow capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel south along the West Coast. Continue via the Haast Pass, an area of stunning beauty before arriving into picturesque Queenstown, a year round resort situated on the shores of magical Lake Wakatipu. This evening is free and you may choose to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

**Hotel** Heritage Queenstown (2 nights) or similar

### DAY 4: Queenstown (Free Day) (B,SD)

Today is a free day with plenty of sightseeing options to choose from. You may wish to enjoy the thrill of a jet boat ride, a heritage tour of the scenic Skippers Canyon or get up close to a Kiwi bird. This evening board the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station. Sit back, relax and enjoy a gourmet barbecue dinner which the chef will prepare in front of you at the Colonel's Homestead. After dinner enjoy a short farm tour then reboard the TSS Earnslaw for a sing along by the piano as your cruise back to Queenstown.

### DAY 5: Queenstown - Te Anau (B,D)

Enjoy a leisurely start this morning before travelling to Arrowtown, an old gold mining village where you visit the Lakes District Museum. This innovative museum is heavily involved in the protection of the historic buildings scattered around town. Continue to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland. Today you may like to visit the Te Anau Glow Worm Caves (optional).

**Hotel** Distinction Te Anau Hotel & Villas (2 nights)

### DAY 6: Te Anau - Milford Sound - Te Anau (B,L,D)

Depart Te Anau for a fascinating drive to Milford Sound where you board your launch for a nature cruise on this magnificent fiord. See the spectacular Bowen Falls and towering Mitre Peak as you enjoy a picnic lunch onboard. This afternoon return to Te Anau where some free time is available. You may like to visit the Fiordland



Cinema, specially constructed to screen the locally filmed movie *Ata Whenua - Shadowland* which will take you on an unforgettable journey (optional).

#### DAY 7: Te Anau - Dunedin (B,D)

Travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin known as the 'Edinburgh of the South'. Enjoy an informative city tour followed by some free time to explore at leisure. Options available include a tour of the Speight's Brewery, which produces New Zealand's most popular beer, see Albatross in their natural habitat or take a tour of Olveston Historic Home, containing many treasures of a bygone era.

**Hotel** Distinction Dunedin

#### DAY 8: Dunedin - Mt Cook (B,D)

Travel along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle, hear the tragic and scandalous stories on a guided tour. There is time to wander around this Garden of International Significance followed by an Ultimate High Tea served in the Grand Ballroom. Farewell Dunedin and travel to Oamaru famous for its limestone. Follow the Waitaki River and see Lake Benmore as you travel to Mt Cook.

**Hotel** The Hermitage Hotel (Aoraki Wing)

#### DAY 9: Mt Cook - Christchurch (B,SD)

This morning marvel at Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak. The opportunity is available to enjoy a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the Southern Alps. Continue to Lake Tekapo and view the brilliant turquoise water, visit the Church of the Good Shepherd and see the Sheep Dog Statue before arriving into Christchurch for an introductory city sights tour. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner including selected beverages with your new found friends.

**Hotel** The George or similar

#### DAY 10: Depart Christchurch (B)

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a memorable New Zealand holiday.



TOP TO BOTTOM: Relax in the luxury, leather reclining seat as you take in the stunning scenery; Christchurch the gateway to the South Island; the Milford Sound Cruise continues to be the highest rated South Island attraction by our travellers.