

2018-2019

# NEW ZEALAND

## Inspiring Journeys

Small group  
boutique  
journeys

p20

## Guided Holidays

Our signature  
fully-guided holiday  
experiences

p32

## Short Breaks

4-7 day breaks  
with your choice of  
accommodation

p66



TranzAlpine Train journey



# Southern Wonders

9 DAYS | CHRISTCHURCH RETURN | LRQC

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Journey past crystal clear lakes & towering mountains through Mt. Cook National Park
- View Church of the Good Shepherd on the shores of Lake Tekapo
- Stay on the shores of Lake Te Anau
- Travel past ancient glaciers, spectacular mountains & magical rainforest en route to Milford Sound
- Cruise on mystical Milford Sound
- Let loose in New Zealand's 'adventure capital' Queenstown
- Sail on Lake Wakatipu aboard steamship TSS Earnslaw
- Indulge in a unique dinner experience in Colonel's Homestead at Walter Peak
- Visit the old gold mining village of Arrowtown
- Taste Central Otago's famous stone fruit in Cromwell
- Travel through the magnificent rainforest of Haast Pass
- Discover fascinating Franz Josef Glacier
- Visit a greenstone factory & watch the jade artists at work
- Journey over the Southern Alps on the TranzAlpine Train
- Experienced Travel Director and Driver Guide

Fresh air, magnificent scenery and outdoor activities are just some of the attractions that await you in 'the land of the long white cloud'. Sample the delicious fresh stone fruit of Cromwell. Feel the soft fleece of sheep at Walter Peak High Country Farm. And hear from an artisan the meaning behind each piece of intricately carved greenstone.

### Day 1: Welcome to Christchurch

Christchurch is the largest city in New Zealand's South Island. The old city centre shows evidence of a rich English heritage, boasting some of the finest Gothic architecture outside of Britain. You'll have time at leisure this afternoon: you might like to take a stroll along the banks of the Avon River before a Welcome Reception and dinner with your Travel Director and fellow travellers. [Hotel: Ibis Hotel, Christchurch. D](#)

### Day 2: Christchurch – Franz Josef

This morning, board the iconic TranzAlpine train and take one of the world's great rail journeys. Pass through magnificent landscapes ranging from the lush pastureland of the Canterbury Plains to the rugged gorges and pristine ice-fed streams and lakes of the Southern Alps. Alight at Arthur's Pass, the highest settlement on the South Island, and continue to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's famous greenstone. Pounamu (its Māori name) is of great cultural significance in Māori culture and was prized for its strength, durability and beauty. Continue to Franz Josef Glacier (optional scenic flight is available). [Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier \(Graham Wing\), Franz Josef. B D](#)

### Day 3: Franz Josef – Queenstown

Drive over the spectacular Haast Pass this morning, passing the 96-metre Thunder Creek Falls, and serene Lakes Wanaka, Hawea and Dunstan. Stop at the town of Cromwell and enjoy the tastes of the delicious stone fruit for which the region is known. Next, you'll visit the historic gold-mining settlement of Arrowtown, where more than 70 original buildings from the gold-rush era are preserved, before arriving in Queenstown. An orientation tour of the town, which sits on the shores of crystal-clear Lake Wakatipu among dramatic mountain ranges, completes your day. [Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, Queenstown, 2 nights. B](#)

### Day 4: Queenstown Free Time

Explore New Zealand's adventure capital at your own pace today. There are jet boat rides and white water rafting for the thrill-seekers, and wine tours or intimate cafés for those who enjoy a more leisurely rhythm. You might like to visit the picturesque Queenstown Gardens and enjoy its beautiful tulips in spring or glorious roses in summer. Take a peaceful cruise this evening across Lake Wakatipu aboard the century-old TSS Earnslaw, the only remaining commercial passenger-carrying coal-fired steamship in the Southern



# FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL

Your South Pacific Travel Specialists



Hemisphere. Your destination is Walter Peak High Country Farm, where you'll enjoy a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and entertaining after-dinner show offering glimpses of high-country farm life. **B HD**

### Day 5: Queenstown – Te Anau

This morning you'll travel the iconic stretch of highway known as the Devil's Staircase, and along the shores of serene Lake Wakatipu to the town of Te Anau. On your way to Milford Sound you'll be awestruck by the towering native rainforests and rugged mountains of Fiordland National Park. Your cruise on the magnificent Sound takes in cascading waterfalls, hanging glacial valleys, and the sheer pinnacle of Mitre Peak – it's sure to be one of the highlights of your New Zealand adventure. Return to lakeside Te Anau, where this evening you'll have the option of visiting the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (own expense). **Hotel: Luxmore Hotel, Te Anau. B D**

### Day 6: Te Anau – Dunedin

Journey through lush green sheep-grazing country on your way to Dunedin this morning. After a city tour, the afternoon is yours to enjoy as you please. Sit back and relax, ride the historic Taieri Gorge railway or perhaps take a wildlife cruise to spot penguins and Royal Albatross. **Hotel: Scenic Hotel Dunedin City. B D**

### Day 7: Dunedin – Omarama

This morning during a tour of the city you'll have the opportunity to visit the stately home known as Larnach Castle. Then set out for the historic town of Oamaru, with its elegant tree-lined streets and celebrated white limestone buildings. Later, follow the course of the mighty Waitaki River, passing the monumental Waitaki Hydro Power Scheme and Aviemore on your way to Omarama. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway Hotel, Omarama. B D**

### Day 8: Omarama – Christchurch

Travel through the awe-inspiring Aoraki/Mt. Cook National Park. At 3,724 metres, Aoraki/Mt. Cook is New Zealand's highest mountain. Stop at serene Lake Tekapo, and view the famous Church of the Good Shepherd, whose altar window frames a perfect view of the Southern Alps beyond the lake. Later, traverse the fertile Canterbury Plains and return to the vibrant city of Christchurch, where your holiday began. **Hotel: Ibis Hotel, Christchurch. B**

### Day 9: Farewell from Christchurch

Bid farewell to your fellow travellers when your holiday comes to an end this morning after breakfast. **B**

CONTACT US TODAY FOR THE BEST PRICES AND SERVICES

EMAIL US

OR PHONE US NOW

+64 9281 4481