

2019-2020

FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL 
Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

NEW ZEALAND

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Mount Cook

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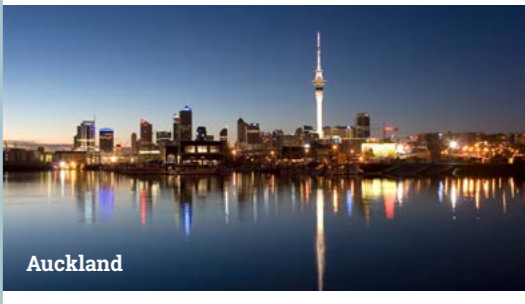


New Zealand Splendour

15 DAYS AUCKLAND → CHRISTCHURCH ZAAC



Te Puia Thermal Reserve



Auckland



Rotorua



Wellington



Dunedin



Te Anau

Auckland • Rotorua • Taupo • Wellington • Blenheim • Twizel • Dunedin • Te Anau • Milford Sound • Queenstown • Franz Josef Glacier • Punakaiki • Greymouth • Christchurch

From Auckland in the North Island to Dunedin in the South Island, this holiday offers a wealth of wonderful experiences. Cruise glorious Milford Sound, journey through towering pine forests and verdant pastureland, and fall asleep to the sound of waves crashing on the beach outside your hotel in rugged Punakaiki.

- ### HIGHLIGHTS
- Immerse yourself in Māori culture with the Tamaki family over dinner 🍷
 - Visit Te Puia Thermal Reserve
 - Wellington's city sights and Mt. Victoria
 - Sail the Cook Strait to Queen Charlotte Sound
 - Enjoy dinner with matching wines in Blenheim
 - Join a local family for a barbecue lunch at their home on Lake Tekapo 🍷
 - Marvel at the clear waters of Lake Tekapo and Lake Pukaki
 - Experience Milford Sound on a Nature Cruise
 - Taste Central Otago stone fruit at a local orchard
 - Discover Franz Josef Glacier
 - Visit a jade factory and see artists at work
 - Journey over the Southern Alps on the TranzAlpine Train
 - Cruise on the TSS Earnslaw to a high country farm for a gourmet barbecue dinner
 - Included Choice experiences 🍷

Day 1 Welcome to Auckland
After arrival in Auckland, the afternoon is at leisure for you to explore this vibrant, multicultural city. You might like to amble down Queen Street to the main shopping precinct, or on to Viaduct Harbour. This evening, meet your Travel Director for a Welcome Reception and dinner at your hotel. **Hotel: Stamford Plaza, Auckland. DW**

Day 2 Auckland – Rotorua
Join your Travel Director to discover the must-see sights of the city, including panoramic views from the Sky Tower, 328 metres above the city. Then cross the rolling hills of King Country to Rotorua, where your orientation tour takes in views of Lake Rotorua. Visit Te Puia, the Māori Arts and Crafts Institute, where talented students carry on age-old traditions of wood carving and weaving. A tour of Rotorua's active geothermal fields follows: see bubbling mud pools, spectacular geysers and crater lakes. 🍷 An evening of culture, history and scrumptious food awaits you at the Tamaki Māori Village. Learn about Māori art forms and traditions and enjoy an authentic Hangi Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: Millennium Hotel, Rotorua, 2 nights. B HD**

Day 3 Rotorua Included Choice
🍷 This morning, choose one from a range of Included Choice sightseeing experiences. Glide through the Glowworm Grotto on the Waitomo Caves Tour, take

an ancient forest zipline adventure with Canopy Tours, visit the Hobbiton Movie Set, or explore Rotorua and its sparkling lakes in an amphibious WWII-era Duck. **B**

Day 4 Rotorua – Wellington
Journey out through pine forests and farmland to a hidden little spot, Huka Falls. From here the road unfolds into a broad panorama of Lake Taupo. Travel south over the Central Plateau and along the Kapiti Coast to Wellington. Enjoy an exclusive guided tour of Te Papa Museum of New Zealand, then top off the night with a Highlight Dinner. **Hotel: James Cook Grand Chancellor, Wellington. B HD**

Day 5 Wellington – Blenheim
Discover more of Wellington this morning. Perhaps visit the Parliament buildings and the 'Beehive', home to New Zealand's politicians. Later, cruise the Cook Strait into tranquil Queen Charlotte Sound and travel on to the villages of Picton and sunny Blenheim. Enjoy a Highlight Dinner prepared from local produce and matched with fine Marlborough wines. **Hotel: Chateau Marlborough, Blenheim. B HD**

Day 6 Blenheim – Christchurch
Travel to Kaikoura, where sperm whales can often be seen not far from shore (an optional whale-watching flight is available). On arrival in Christchurch see the extensive work carried out to rebuild the city after the earthquake of 2011. **Hotel: Distinction Hotel, Christchurch. B**

Day 7 Christchurch – Twizel
🍷 Visit Morelea, the home of Angie and Stan Taylor, on the shores of Lake Tekapo. Enjoy a Be My Guest barbecue lunch in their garden and gain an insight into a lifetime spent farming in New Zealand. View the famed Church of the Good Shepherd on your way to Twizel. **Hotel: MacKenzie Country Inn, Twizel. B BG DW**

Day 8 Twizel – Dunedin Included Choice
Call in at the harbour-side township of Oamaru with its celebrated white limestone buildings. Next, make your way to New Zealand's southernmost city, Dunedin. 🍷 This afternoon, choose one from a range of Included Choice sightseeing experiences. Tour stately Larnach Castle, ride the historic Taieri Gorge railway, take a wildlife cruise, or experience an interactive tour of famous Speight's Brewery. **Hotel: Scenic Hotel Southern Cross, Dunedin. B DW**

Day 9 Dunedin – Te Anau
Today, travel through lush green sheep-grazing country on your way to Te Anau, on the shores of Lake Te Anau. **Hotel: Distinction Hotel, Te Anau. B DW**

Day 10 Te Anau – Queenstown
Experience the magnificence of Fiordland National Park today. Explore the length of Milford Sound on a Nature Cruise. Learn about the history of the region and benefit from the knowledge of your specialist nature guide. After disembarking, travel on to beautiful Queenstown. **Hotel: Millennium Hotel, Queenstown, 2 nights. B**

Day 11 Queenstown Included Choice
🍷 Today, choose one from a range of Included Choice sightseeing experiences. Ride the thrilling Shotover Jet, take a gondola to Bob's Peak for amazing views of Queenstown and Lake Wakatipu then visit Kiwi Birdlife Park, or take an excursion through Skippers Canyon. Enjoy a peaceful cruise this evening across Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner. **B HD**

Day 12 Queenstown – Franz Josef
Stop to visit the faithfully-restored gold mining settlement of Arrowtown. Enjoy the tastes of stone fruit at Cromwell, before travelling over Haast Pass and view the sheer drop of Thunder Creek Falls on your way to the extraordinary Franz Josef Glacier. You may want to view the glacier on an optional experience helicopter flight. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier, Douglas Wing, Franz Josef. B DW**

Day 13 Franz Josef – Punakaiki
You may wish to get up close and personal with the glacier on an optional experience helicopter flight. Travel to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's famous greenstone, then on to Punakaiki. You'll spend the night in an eco-friendly resort right on the waterfront. **Hotel: Punakaiki Resort. B DW**

Day 14 Punakaiki – Christchurch
Join your personal guide for a tour of Monteith's Brewing Company, including tastings at the brewers' table, before sitting down to lunch. Afterwards, board the iconic TranzAlpine train in Greymouth and embark on one of the world's most scenic rail journeys. Back in Christchurch, join your Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner. **Hotel: Distinction Hotel, Christchurch. B L FD**

Day 15 Farewell from Christchurch
Say farewell to your fellow travellers when your holiday comes to an end this morning after breakfast. **B**

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