

2019-2020

FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL



Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

NEW ZEALAND

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BEST SELLER

FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL

Your South Pacific Travel Specialists



Milford Sound

The Long White Cloud

22 DAYS CHRISTCHURCH → AUCKLAND

NZIJ



Redwoods Treewalk

Tamaki Māori Village

TranzAlpine Train

Christchurch • Franz Josef Glacier • Queenstown • Milford Sound • Dunedin • Wellington • Hawke's Bay • Rotorua • Auckland • Bay of Islands

Embark on an enchanting expedition through the North and South Islands that provides the perfect balance of relaxation and adventure. Explore extraordinary landscapes and the age-old legends of the Māori as you encounter exhilarating New Zealand as few have seen it before.

HIGHLIGHTS

Discover

- Franz Josef with a Glacier Valley Walk
- The buzzing resort town of Queenstown
- New Zealand's vibrant capital Wellington

Explore

- Glowworm Caves in Waitomo
- Milford Sound on a nature cruise and kayaking

Immerse

- Traditional Māori Life at Whakawerawera Living Village
- Take a guided walk through the sacred Waipoua Forest
- Tour the grounds and castle of the Larnach Family in Dunedin

Relax

- Spa treatment in Queenstown
- In the beauty of the Bay of Islands
- In the healing waters of Rotorua's mineral springs

Day 1 Welcome to Christchurch

Your New Zealand adventure begins in the Garden City. Join your Journey Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception to kick-off your journey of a lifetime. **Hotel: Hotel Montreal, Christchurch.**

Day 2 Christchurch – Franz Josef

✈️ Traverse the Canterbury Plains on board the TranzAlpine train. Admire the vivid hues of greenstone (jade) on a visit to Hokitika where you will meet a local artisan for a jewellery carving demonstration. Continue to Franz Josef Glacier. Your eco-friendly accommodation is set in the pristine wilderness, with an emphasis on relaxation and rejuvenation. Your only priority – relaxing in Franz Josef's geothermal hot pools. **Hotel: Te Waonui Forest Retreat, Franz Josef, 2 nights. B DW**

Day 3 Franz Josef Glacier

After a relaxed start, you'll explore the area with a local guide, who'll explain the history behind Franz Josef Glacier. **B DW**

Day 4 Franz Josef – Queenstown

✈️ It's time for adventure as you board a purpose-built fully enclosed jet boat and journey down the Haast River. After a lunch stop in Makarora and later the historic gold-mining village of Arrowtown, the adventure capital of Queenstown awaits. **Hotel: Crowne Plaza, Queenstown, 3 nights. B DW**

Day 5 Queenstown Journey Select

✔ Today, select your choice of sightseeing: consider a day indulging in the region's vintages on a wine tour. View the Lord of the Rings film locations and scenery of Queenstown, and Glenorchy on a scenic tour, or spend time in the spa indulging in a relaxing massage. **B**

Day 6 Queenstown Free Time

Earn your adventurer stripes braving some of Queenstown's most daring activities. ✕ This evening, enjoy a memorable Local Dining Experience at one of Queenstown's fine dining restaurants. **B DE**

Day 7 Queenstown – Milford Sound

Venture deep within Fiordland National Park. Drive through the Homer Tunnel and emerge into a photographer's paradise, where glaciers and peaks give way to the unexpected beauty of Mirror Lake. Stop to explore the wonder of the Chasm before arriving at Milford Sound Lodge, with its exquisite views of the Cleddau Valley. **Hotel: Milford Sound Lodge, 2 nights. B DW**

Day 8 Milford Sound Cruise

✈️ Wake up to the startling beauty of Milford Sound. A nature guide will share their knowledge of the fiordland and the wildlife that call it home, before boarding the Southern Discoveries vessel for a half day exploration of Milford Sound. You'll have the opportunity to go sea kayaking in Harrison Cove. **B L DW**

Day 9 Milford Sound – Dunedin

Embark on a journey through the fertile sheep-dotted pastures of South Otago and Te Anau. Stop in Gore at lunchtime before arriving in Dunedin. **Hotel: Distinction Hotel, Dunedin, 2 nights. B DW**

Day 10 Dunedin

Join an exclusive tour of Larnach Castle before an afternoon at leisure. **B**

Day 11 Dunedin – Christchurch

Travel up the east coast of the South Island returning to Christchurch for an in-depth sightseeing tour. **Hotel: Hotel Montreal, Christchurch. B DW**

Day 12 Christchurch – Wellington

Against the backdrop of snow-capped peaks, you'll arrive in Kaikoura. Continue to Picton, the launch pad for your cruise across the Cook Strait to Wellington. **Hotel: Sofitel, Wellington, 2 nights. B DW**

Day 13 Wellington Journey Select

✔ Today, select your choice of sightseeing: you may wish to experience Weta Cave, home of the creative wizards behind The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. Take a walking tour around Wellington with a local guide or a guided tour of Te Papa Museum of New Zealand. **B**

Day 14 Wellington – Hawke's Bay

Travel through the fertile farming land of the Wairarapa on to Napier in Hawke's Bay. Enjoy time to relax after the day's adventures before joining your Journey Director for dinner at your hotel. **Hotel: Porters Boutique Hotel, Hawke's Bay, 2 nights. B DW**

Day 15 Hawke's Bay

Join a local guide for a city tour. You'll see several types of Art Deco architecture, the style in which Napier was rebuilt after a devastating earthquake in 1931. ✕ This evening, enjoy wine-tasting and dinner at one of the region's renowned wineries. **B DE**

Day 16 Hawke's Bay – Rotorua

Travel past Lake Taupo and visit spectacular Huka Falls before you arrive in Rotorua.

✎ Visit Whakarewarewa Living Village for insights into the lives of the Māori community and their special bond with this ancient land. ✕ ✎ This evening, enjoy a Māori Hangi feast and concert at the Tamaki Māori Marae. **Hotel: Pullman, Rotorua, 2 nights. B DE**

Day 17 Rotorua

Your first stop is Rotorua's natural splendour, Rainbow Springs Nature Park. Next up, ascending to the Redwoods Treewalk, enjoy an elevated view of these redwood giants from a series of 23 suspension bridges linking the majestic trees, a completely unique perspective. **B**

Day 18 Rotorua – Auckland

Begin your day with a dazzling show during an exclusive five-star Eco Glowworm experience. Later in Auckland, get your bearings during a city tour, then spend the rest of the day at leisure to explore. **Hotel: Sofitel, Auckland. B**

Day 19 Auckland – Bay of Islands

The golden sands of Orewa seem to stretch endlessly heading north to the native forest of Waipoua. ✎ Join a local Māori guide and head deep into the forest, immersing yourself in the fascinating legends behind these giant trees. Finally, journey through the Bay of Islands. **Hotel: Copthorne Resort, Bay of Islands, 2 nights. B DW**

Day 20 Bay of Islands Free Time

✎ Make the most of your extended stay in the Bay of Islands and consider an optional experience. Your Journey Director will assist you in tailoring an option for you. **B**

Day 21 Bay of Islands – Auckland

✈️ Set forth through the Bay of Islands Maritime Park, and explore some of the 144 islands in the bay. Return to Auckland for a memorable Celebration Dinner this evening. **Hotel: Sofitel, Auckland. B CD**

Day 22 Farewell from Auckland

Bid a fond farewell to your fellow travellers as your epic New Zealand Inspiring Journey has come to an end. **B**

Franz Josef

Bay of Islands

Auckland

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