

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL



Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

Immersive Small Group Journeys



2020 / 2021

Australia • New Zealand

The Long White Cloud

Be awed as you traverse New Zealand's North and South Islands, from the hot pools of Franz Josef, an exclusive TreadRight experience in Rotorua, to the brave depths of Queenstown, the adventure capital. Explore extraordinary landscapes and ancient heritage, as you encounter exhilarating New Zealand as few have seen it before.



Footwhistle Cave, New Zealand

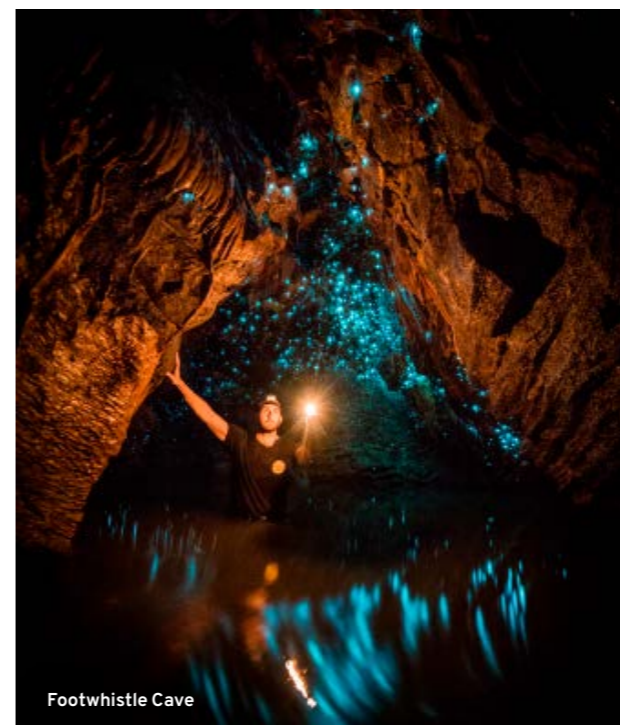
Enjoy a cup of restorative Kawakawa tea after exploring the twilight Footwhistle Cave.



Casita Miro



Huka Falls



Footwhistle Cave

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

Discover

Hike the path of where the Franz Josef glacier once stood, and wander through New Zealand's vibrant capital Wellington.

Explore

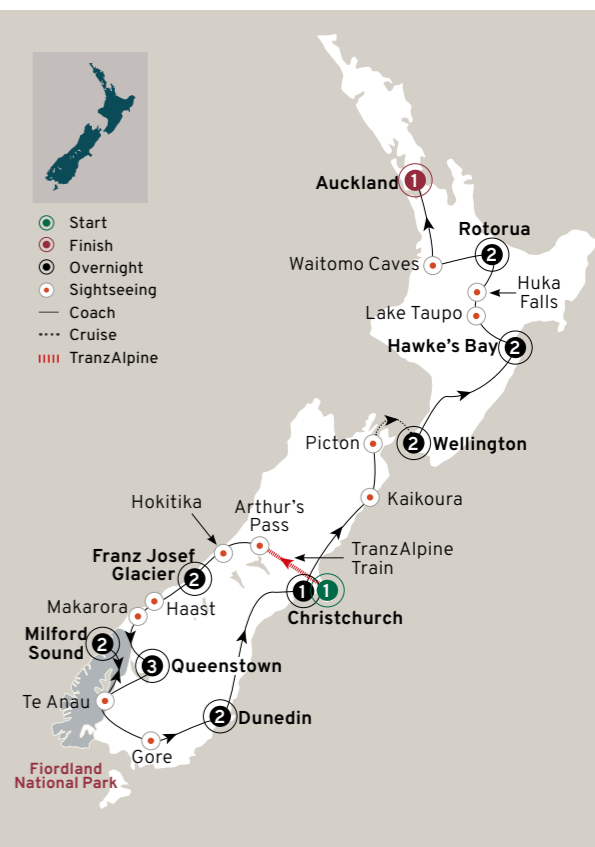
Visit the magical Glowworm Grotto in Waitomo, then take a guided walk through the Redwoods Forest.

Immerse

Learn about Rainbow Springs kiwi hatchery programme, and tour the grounds and castle of the Larnach Family in Dunedin.

Relax

Unwind in Rotorua's healing waters, and wake up to the beauty of Milford Sound when staying at the bespoke Milford Sound Lodge.





Redwoods Treewalk

Day 1: Welcome to Christchurch

On arrival, board a private transfer to your hotel. Tonight, enjoy a Welcome Reception.

Hotel Montreal

Day 2: Christchurch – TranzAlpine – Franz Josef



Travel through the Southern Alps aboard TranzAlpine train. From Arthur's Pass, visit the small town of Hokitika, and meet a local greenstone (jade) carver. Continue to Franz Josef, where you'll spend two nights in an eco-friendly retreat nestled in the wilderness.

Te Waonui Forest Retreat, 2 nights

Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 3: Franz Josef Glacier



This morning, explore Franz Josef, where a local guide explains the history behind the imposing Franz Josef Glacier.

Breakfast



Shotover Jet

Day 4: Franz Josef – Arrowtown – Queenstown



Discover the mighty Haast River this morning, as you journey its lengths in a fully enclosed river jet boat. Enjoy lunch at Makarora, then explore the heritage gold-settlement of Arrowtown, before a short orientation of breathtaking Queenstown.

Hotel St. Moritz, 3 nights

Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 5 & 6: Queenstown at Leisure



Enjoy two full days to discover beautiful Queenstown. Perhaps a wine tour, or even an adrenaline-filled activity. On your second night, enjoy a Local Dining Experience in one of Queenstown's most exclusive restaurants.

Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 7: Queenstown – Te Anau – Milford Sound



Travel south along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau and then through the rainforest of World Heritage Fiordland National Park. Tonight, stay at magnificent Milford Sound Lodge, with views of the magical Cleddau Valley.

Milford Sound Lodge, 2 nights

Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 8: Milford Sound



Wake up to the awe-inspiring beauty of Milford Sound. Learn about Fiordland with your local expert, then sail this magnificent area, seeing endemic wildlife, an Underwater Observatory - or breathtaking kayaking!

Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 9: Milford Sound – Gore – Dunedin

Depart majestic Fiordland National Park for the picturesque South Otago. Travel through the musical town of Gore, before arriving in Dunedin, the country's most southern city.

Distinction Dunedin Hotel, 2 nights

Breakfast, dinner with wine



Milford Sound

Day 10: Dunedin



This morning, join an exclusive tour of Larnach Castle. Spend the afternoon at leisure, perhaps cruise the Otago Peninsula.

Breakfast

Day 11: Dunedin – Omarau – Timaru – Christchurch



Travel up the east coast through Omarau. Back in Christchurch, take a sightseeing tour, and learn of its history.

Hotel Montreal

Breakfast, lunch, dinner with wine

Day 12: Christchurch – Kaikoura – Wellington

Travel along the Pacific coast to the whale-watching capital of Kaikoura. Continue to the seaside village of Picton. Later cross the Cook Strait to Wellington for a city sightseeing tour, and then visit the enriching Te Papa Museum of New Zealand.

Sofitel Wellington, 2 nights

Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 13: Wellington at Leisure



Today see Wellington your way. Why not visit the Weta Cave, home of the creative wizards behind The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies or go on a walking tour around Wellington.

Breakfast

Day 14: Wellington – Hawke's Bay



Travel through the dairy farming land of Manawatu to Napier in Hawke's Bay. This evening, enjoy wine-tasting and Local Dining Experience at one of their world-famous wineries.

Porters Boutique Hotel, 2 nights

Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 15: Napier (Relaxed Start)

Enjoy a relaxed start before you venture out to explore Napier. Join a local guide for a walking tour where you'll gain an insight into the city's Art Deco style. This evening, enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 16: Hawke's Bay – Rotorua



Enjoy a leisurely start before continuing the journey to nearby Rotorua. Visit the spectacular Huka Falls, before arriving in Rotorua for a sightseeing tour. Later, visit the Whakarewarewa Living Village for an insight into Māori life. This evening, your

Choose this journey if you'd love to experience:

- Crossing the Canterbury Plains on the TranzAlpine
- Immersing yourself in traditional Māori life
- Dining at one of Hawke's Bay renowned wineries
- The Fiordland National Park

Dining

18 Breakfasts

1 Lunch

8 Dinners with wine

3 Local Dining Experiences

1 Celebration Dinner

Local Dining Experience is an authentic Māori Hangi and concert at the Tamaki Māori Village.

Pullman, 2 nights

Breakfast, Local Dining Experience

Day 17: Rotorua



Ascending to the breathtaking Redwoods Treewalk, enjoy an elevated bird's eye view of the 115-year old redwood giants. Next stop is Rainbow Springs Nature Park. Discover native flora that grows around the crystal clear mineral water springs and you might even spot a kiwi or two.

Breakfast

Day 18: Rotorua – Auckland



Make your way to the famous Waitomo Caves for an exclusive 5-star Eco Glowworm experience. Later, travel through the dairy farming district of Waikato, and onto Auckland. This evening, toast your trip together at a Celebration Dinner.

Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour

Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

Day 19: Farewell from Auckland

Time to say farewell as your Inspiring Journey comes to an end and you are transferred to Auckland Airport for your onward flight.

Breakfast

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+64 92814481