

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL   
*Your South Pacific Travel Specialists*

# NEW ZEALAND

2021-2022 GUIDED HOLIDAYS



 **FIRST CHOICE** 3-17 day Fully Curated Experiences

 **BEST BUYS** 8-21 day Flexible Guided Holidays

# Essence of New Zealand

 18 DAYS

 CHRISTCHURCH → AUCKLAND

 LCQA

13 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

## HIGHLIGHTS



FLEXIBLE HOLIDAYS

With three nights in Queenstown, you have plenty of time to tailor your holiday with our optional experiences.



ICONIC SITES

Explore the unique culture of the North Island and the stunning scenery of the South Island.



TIME FOR YOU

With more two-night stays than any other New Zealand guided holiday, there is plenty of time to relax.



SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

Lunch is supplied through Eat My Lunch, an organisation that has given over 1.5 million lunches to Kiwi kids.



-  START
-  END
-  1 Number of night stays
-  Sightseeing stops



Te Anau Glowworm Caves



[firstlighttravel.com](http://firstlighttravel.com)

## WHY YOU'LL LOVE THIS TRIP:

- Visit iconic Queenstown, Milford Sound and Rotorua
- Feel the power of thundering Huka Falls
- Spot wildflowers alongside iconic lakes Tekapo and Pukaki
- Tour Art Deco Napier on foot and visit Tamaki Māori Village

### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

You'll have time to relax before meeting your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Ibis.**

### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

Drive over the rich alluvial farmlands of the Canterbury Plains to Lakes Tekapo and Pukaki. 📍 Pause to view the iconic Church of the Good Shepherd before revelling in the alpine landscape of Mt. Cook National Park. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

### 3 Omarama – Dunedin Free Time

Travel along the Waitaki River via Oamaru, with its famous white limestone buildings, to Dunedin, a region of unique landscapes and fascinating cultural history, for an orientation tour and free time. **Hotel: Kingsgate. B**

### 4 Dunedin Free Time – Milford Sound

📍 Journey through native rainforests, alluvial flats and meadows. Stop at Mirror Lakes, where you can see the stunning mountain scenery perfectly reflected in the crystal waters. Then on through the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel. As you emerge, you are presented with one of the world's most dramatic alpine drives, down through the Cleddau Valley to Milford Sound. Your magical overnight cruise meanders down the Sound, taking in Bowen and Stirling Falls and the sheer pinnacle of Mitre Peak. **Cruise: Overnight Milford Sound. B D**

### 5 Milford Sound – Queenstown

Depart for Lake Te Anau. Explore the famous Te Anau Glowworm Caves by boat, before travelling to Queenstown, the adventure capital. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel and Resort, 3 nights. B**

### 6 Queenstown Free Time

✂️ Today is yours to explore at your own pace. **B**

### 7 Queenstown Free Time

✂️ While Queenstown wears its 'Global Adventure Capital' badge proudly, it's also the perfect place to relax and explore. The town boasts great shopping with luxury brands, iconic New Zealand design stores, and boutique fashion. **B**

### 8 Queenstown – Franz Josef

Your destination is the wild West Coast of the South Island. Visit the gold mining settlement of Arrowtown, and then travel over Haast Pass and view the sheer drop of Thunder Creek Falls on your way to Franz Josef Glacier. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier, Graham Wing. B D**

### 9 Franz Josef – Punakaiki

Explore this astounding glacier on foot or from the air this morning (both optional). Travel to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's famous greenstone, then on to Punakaiki to view the intriguing Pancake Rocks and Blowholes. You'll spend the night in an eco-friendly resort right on the waterfront. **Hotel: Punakaiki Resort. B D**

### 10 Punakaiki – Nelson

The Heritage Highway leads you through a scenic wilderness to the plunging Buller Gorge and pristine Kahurangi National Park. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B**

### 11 Nelson Free Time

📍 On this day at leisure have the opportunity to journey to the top of the South Island and enjoy a relaxing cruise in the Abel Tasman National Park, or perhaps take a short bush walk, relax in sunny Nelson or explore the many arts and craft shops. **B**

### 12 Nelson – Wellington

Visit the seaside village of Picton with free time to explore. Cruise on tranquil Queen Charlotte Sound before heading across Cook Strait to the North Island and Wellington, New Zealand's capital. 📍 Enjoy a city sights tour before an evening at leisure. **Hotel: Travelodge, 2 nights. B D**

### 13 Wellington Free Time

Wellington is celebrated as the country's creative and culinary capital and today is yours to explore at your own pace. **B D**

### 14 Wellington – Napier

📍 Your special packed lunch today won't only be wholesome, it will also feed a Kiwi child who may otherwise go without, through the charity 'Eat My Lunch'. Travel through the dairy farming land of Manawatu to Napier, a city whose unique concentration of beautiful Art Deco architecture is due to its rebuilding after the 1931 earthquake. 📍 Enjoy a walking tour with a local guide. **Hotel: Scenic Te Pania. B L**

### 15 Napier – Rotorua

Journey to Lake Taupo, the largest lake in New Zealand, and then visit mighty Huka Falls on your way to Rotorua, where a sightseeing tour will include views of Lake Rotorua. 📍 An evening of culture, history and delicious food awaits you at the Tamaki Māori village. Wander through the ancient forest village and learn about Māori art forms and traditions, followed by a cultural performance. Experience an authentic Māori Hangi, steamed underground in the traditional way. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B HD**

### 16 Rotorua Free Time

✂️ Today is yours to explore at your own pace. **B**

### 17 Rotorua – Auckland

Travel through the lush dairy-farming district of Waikato en route to Auckland, where you'll take a tour of the city. **Hotel: VR Queen Street. B**

### 18 Farewell from Auckland

Your holiday comes to an end this morning after breakfast. **B**



Christchurch



Dunedin



Milford Sound



Franz Josef

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Tamaki Māori Village