



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

Southern Wonders

9 DAYS

CHRISTCHURCH RETURN

LRQC

7 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES



HIGHLIGHTS



FLEXIBLE HOLIDAYS

Explore Dunedin, New Zealand's southernmost city. You'll have plenty of activities to choose from on your free afternoon.



ICONIC SITES

No visit to the South Island is complete without viewing the famous Church of the Good Shepherd.



TIME FOR YOU

Enjoy free days and afternoons on this guided holiday, so there is plenty of down-time.



SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

Your visit to Fiordland National Park will contribute to protecting New Zealand wilderness and native birdlife in the area.



START

END

1 Number of night stays

• Sightseeing stops



WHY YOU'LL LOVE THIS TRIP:

- The natural wonders of New Zealand's South await you
- Dine at Walter Peak High Country Farm
- Discover Lake Tekapo's picturesque scenery
- Traverse the Southern Alps by rail on the TranzAlpine

1 Welcome to Christchurch

Explore Christchurch, 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 with your Travel Director and fellow travellers. **Hotel: Ibis.**

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 pasture land of the Canterbury Plains to the rugged gorges and pristine ice-fed streams and lakes of the Southern Alps. Arrive 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. B D**

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 in 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. 🏡 An orientation tour of Queenstown, which sits on the shores of crystal-clear Lake Wakatipu among dramatic mountain ranges, completes your day. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel and Resort, 2 nights. B**

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 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**

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 provides views of 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. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

6 Te Anau – Dunedin Free Time

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, or consider an optional experience. Perhaps tour imposing Larnach Castle, take a wildlife cruise out to the Otago Peninsula to spot penguins and the Royal Albatross or experience an interactive tour of famous Speight's Brewery. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

7 Dunedin – Omarama

✂️ This morning you have some free time in Dunedin, where 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. B D**

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. This evening, join your Travel Director and new-found friends at a Farewell Dinner. **Hotel: Ibis. B FD**

9 Farewell from Christchurch

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



Christchurch



Franz Josef



Queenstown



Te Anau



Dunedin

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