

# FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL



*Your South Pacific Travel Specialists*

New Zealand  
**Coach Holidays**  
2022 / 23



3 Ways to Travel. 4 Styles of Touring

Valid for Departures September 2022 - May 2023

NEW  
TOUR

Uncover the iconic attractions of both the North and South Island

# 14 Day Signature Panorama

## No hidden extras

### PREPAID ATTRACTIONS

- Larnach Castle\*
- Milford Sound Cruise and Lunch
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- Lakes District Museum
- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Cruise on the Interislander Ferry
- Te Papa, NZ's National Museum
- Skyline Rotorua Gondola and Luge Ride
- Agrodome
- Thermal mud pools and geysers\*
- Te Puia traditional Māori Hāngi and Concert
- Hobbiton™ Movie Set Tour
- City sights tour of Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington and Auckland

\*Guided tour.

### COACH FEATURES

- 32 Premium Economy Comfort seats on a full-size coach
- 2 door access; seat back tray table; cup holder
- Restroom; daily onboard Wi-Fi allowance

### EXPERIENCE

- Return airfares from your homeport
- Personalised Meet and Greet on arrival
- Return airport transfers in New Zealand
- Professional Coach Captain
- Tour Leader
- 13 nights 4 star accommodation
- 3 two night stays
- Hotel portorage
- 1 rail journey
- 3 cruises
- All sightseeing and prepaid attractions
- Extensive Optional Tours Programme
- Classic Documentation Pack

### MEALS

- 13 cooked breakfasts including a specialty breakfast: Stratosfare Restaurant, Rotorua
- 11 sumptuous dinners including complimentary pre-dinner drink at the Welcome Dinner and 3 specialty dinners: Walter Peak Homestead, Queenstown; Māori Hāngi and Concert, Rotorua; Farewell Dinner including pre-dinner drink, Auckland
- 1 picnic lunch: Milford Sound Cruise
- 1 delicious Devonshire Tea: Larnach Castle
- Enjoy GPT Hotel Wine Time (discounted drinks)

Day 1: Dinner not included for anyone arriving later than 8pm.

(B) Breakfast. (L) Lunch. (D) Dinner. (SD) Specialty Dinner.

## Itinerary and Hotels

### DAY 1: Arrive Christchurch (D)

On arrival into Christchurch, you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink when you meet your Tour Leader and travelling companions for dinner.

**Hotel** Christchurch City Hotel

### DAY 2: Christchurch - Twizel (B,D)

After an introductory city sights tour depart Christchurch and travel through the southern Canterbury Plains to Lake Tekapo. See the brilliant turquoise water, The Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue. Marvel at the spectacular mountain ranges including Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak. The opportunity is available to enjoy a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the Southern Alps before travelling to Twizel.

**Hotel** MacKenzie Country Hotel

### DAY 3: Twizel - Dunedin (B,D)

Depart Twizel and see Lake Benmore, before following the Waitaki River to Oamaru, famous for its limestone. Continue south to Dunedin and enjoy a city sights tour followed by some free time.

**Hotel** Scenic Hotel Southern Cross

### DAY 4: Dunedin - Te Anau (B,D)

This morning travel out along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle where you hear of the tragic and scandalous history on a guided tour. Enjoy time to wander around this Garden of International Significance followed by a delicious Devonshire Tea. Farewell Dunedin and travel through Balclutha and Gore to Te Anau, gateway to Fiordland and your overnight stay. Today you may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional).

**Hotel** Distinction Luxmore Hotel (Deluxe Room)

### DAY 5: Te Anau - Milford Sound - Queenstown (B,L)

Depart Te Anau for a fascinating drive to Milford Sound where you board your launch for a cruise on this magnificent fiord. See the spectacular Bowen Falls and towering Mitre Peak as you enjoy a picnic lunch. This afternoon travel to Queenstown, overlooking magical Lake Wakatipu. Spend the next two nights at this year-round resort which offers a wide range of activities and attractions. This evening is at leisure, you may choose to dine at one of the many fine restaurants.

**Hotel** Millennium Hotel Queenstown (2 nights)



**TOUR CODE** SGPP14

**STYLE** Signature Mid-Size Group  
**COACH** 32 seat Premium Economy  
**ACCOMMODATION** 4 star

**STARTS** Christchurch  
**FINISHES** Auckland

### GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

**2022**      **2023**  
 Sep 15      Mar 18





Te Marae, located within Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum.

## Optional Activities



### TWIN GLACIER HELICOPTER FLIGHT

Fly over both the Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers, plus the ice flow high into the upper reaches. Land in the snow and survey the path that the glacier has carved below you.



### KIWI BIRDLIFE PARK

In the heart of Queenstown there is an opportunity to see a real life Kiwi as well as over twenty other kinds of endangered New Zealand native birds and reptiles.

### DAY 6: Queenstown (Free Day) (B,SD)

Today is a free day for you to explore Queenstown with many optional activities available. You may wish to enjoy the thrill of a jet boat ride, a heritage tour to Skippers Canyon or to get up close to a Kiwi bird. This evening board the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station. Sit back, relax and enjoy a delicious gourmet barbecue dinner featuring a menu of seasonal, fresh and locally sourced food at the Colonel's Homestead. After dinner enjoy a short farm tour then reboard the TSS Earnslaw for a sing along by the piano as you cruise back to Queenstown.

### DAY 7: Queenstown - Franz Josef (B,D)

Travel to Arrowtown and visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue via the Haast Pass to the mighty West Coast, an area of stunning beauty. See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel north to the township of Franz Josef. Time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

**Hotel** Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing)

### DAY 8: Franz Josef - Arthur's Pass - Christchurch (B,D)

Travel to Hokitika and visit the Greenstone Factory. Continue into Arthur's Pass and board the TransAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. View rivers and valleys as you travel through the Waimakariri Basin, over massive viaducts and through the patchwork farmlands of the Canterbury Plains. On arrival into the elegant

city of Christchurch, your coach will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel.

**Hotel** Christchurch City Hotel

### DAY 9: Christchurch - Picton - Wellington (B,D)

Travel along the East Coast to the seaside village of Kaikōura. Enjoy the spectacular scenery as you travel through Marlborough Country, famous for its food and wine. Continue to Picton, where you will board the Interislander Ferry for your journey through the Marlborough Sounds and across Cook Strait to Wellington.

**Hotel** James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor (Executive Room. 2 nights)

### DAY 10: Wellington (B)

A highlight this morning will be time to explore Gallipoli: A Scale of War exhibition at Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum. Cutting edge technology brings these stories to life through the eyes of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances. Reboard your coach for an extensive city tour which showcases the history and culture on show. Enjoy free time this afternoon and this evening is also free to choose your own dining arrangements.

### DAY 11: Wellington - Taupo - Rotorua (B,D)

Depart Wellington and view the snow-capped peaks of Mt Ruapehu and Mt Tongariro as you travel to Lake Taupo. Visit the spectacular Huka Falls then travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua.

**Hotel** Pullman Rotorua (City View Room. 2 nights)

### DAY 12: Rotorua (B,SD)

Today begins with a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua where spectacular views are on offer. There is also time for a thrilling luge ride! Next stop is the Agrodome for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment and education that is unlike anything you've seen before. Free time is available this afternoon before travelling to Te Puia to see the boiling mud pools and awesome geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening experience an entertaining Māori Hāngi and Concert.

### DAY 13: Rotorua - Auckland (B,SD)

This morning depart Rotorua and travel through the picturesque countryside to Hobbiton for a guided tour of the Movie Set from The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. Your guide will recount details of how this beautiful piece of farmland was transformed into The Shire from Middle Earth. Continue north to Auckland for an orientation tour. This evening enjoy a pre-dinner drink with your new friends at the farewell dinner.

**Hotel** Sudima Auckland City

### DAY 14: Depart Auckland (B)

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a memorable New Zealand holiday.