

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

Discover the best of New Zealand's iconic regions and attractions in a small group

19 Day Ultimate Showcase

No hidden extras

PREPAID ATTRACTIONS

- Kauri Museum
- Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Hole in the Rock Dolphin Cruise
- Sky Tower
- Hobbiton™ Movie Set Tour and Lunch
- Skyline Rotorua Gondola and Luge Ride
- Agrodome
- Thermal mud pools and geysers*
- Te Puia traditional Māori Hāngi and Concert
- Te Papa, NZ's National Museum
- Cruise on the Interislander Ferry
- Cloudy Bay Estate Wine Tasting
- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- Lakes District Museum
- Milford Sound Cruise and Lunch
- Larnach Castle*
- City sights tour of Auckland, Napier, Wellington, Dunedin and Christchurch

*Guided tour.

COACH FEATURES

- 20 Business Class seats on a full-size coach
- 2 door access; dedicated seat side storage with 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
- 18 nights 4.5 star accommodation
- 4 two night stays
- Hotel portage
- 1 rail journey
- 4 cruises
- All sightseeing and prepaid attractions
- Extensive Optional Tours Programme
- Deluxe Documentation Pack

MEALS

- 18 cooked breakfasts including a specialty breakfast: Stratosfare Restaurant, Rotorua
- 15 sumptuous dinners including complimentary pre-dinner drink at the Welcome Dinner and 3 specialty dinners: Māori Hāngi and Concert, Rotorua; Walter Peak Homestead, Queenstown; Intimate Farewell Dinner, selected beverages, Christchurch
- 2 lunches including a Shire's buffet lunch: Hobbiton
- 1 Ultimate High 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 Auckland (D)

On arrival into Auckland you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink as you meet your travelling companions.

Hotel The Grand by SkyCity or similar

DAY 2: Auckland - Bay of Islands (B,D)

Board the luxurious Ultimate Coach, depart Auckland and travel to the Pary Kauri Park to see a magnificent example of a Kauri Tree. Enjoy a visit and informative talk at the Kauri Museum in Matakohē, then travel via Whangarei to Paihia, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands. Enjoy a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Māori tribes and the British.

Hotel Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands (2 nights)

DAY 3: Bay of Islands (Free Day) (B)

Today is a free day. Choose from the many optional activities available, including the Cape Reinga coach trip via Ninety Mile Beach or a spectacular scenic flight. This evening is also at leisure, you may like to enjoy a relaxing dinner cruise (optional).

DAY 4: Bay of Islands - Auckland (B,D)

This morning you will explore the scenic beauty of the Bay of Islands aboard a luxury catamaran. Cruise to Cape Brett and the famous 'Hole in the Rock', keep an eye out for dolphins and other marine life. On return to Paihia travel south via Whangarei before returning to Auckland.

Hotel The Grand by SkyCity or similar

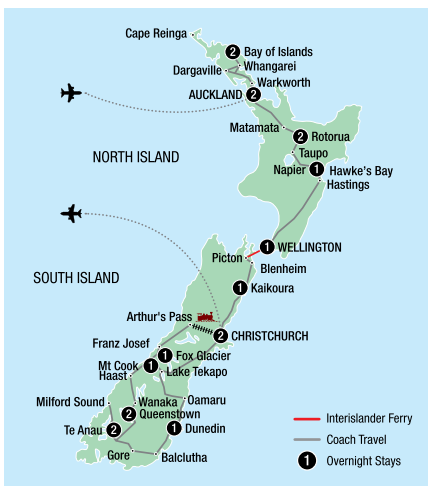
DAY 5: Auckland - Rotorua (B,L,D)

This morning enjoy a city sights tour including a visit to Sky Tower, one of New Zealand's most spectacular attractions. Continue through the picturesque countryside to Hobbiton for a buffet lunch. This is followed by 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.

Hotel Regent of Rotorua (2 nights)

DAY 6: 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 Agrodome for an action-packed hour



 **TOUR CODE** UGPS19

STYLE Ultimate Small Group
COACH 20 seat Business Class
ACCOMMODATION 4.5 star

STARTS Auckland
FINISHES Christchurch

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

2022	2023
Sep 11, 26	Jan 19
Oct 14	Feb 4, 22
Nov 12	Mar 1, 23
Dec 4	Apr 17
	May 7



of farming entertainment and education that is unlike anything you've seen before. Enjoy some free time 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 7: Rotorua - Napier (B,D)

Depart Rotorua and travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to Huka Falls and Lake Taupo. Continue to Napier known as 'The Art Deco Capital', where the most comprehensive collection of art deco buildings in the world can be found. Hear informative commentary of the city's fascinating history. Enjoy some free time this afternoon to explore the city, you might choose to do a guided walk (optional).

Hotel Scenic Hotel Te Pania

DAY 8: Napier - Wellington (B,D)

Travel south this morning into Wellington for a city tour of the nation's capital which will highlight the history and culture on show here. At Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum, there is time to explore Gallipoli: A Scale of War exhibition. Cutting edge technology brings these stories to life through the eyes of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances.

Hotel InterContinental Wellington (Deluxe Room)

DAY 9: Wellington - Picton - Kaikōura (B,D)

This morning board the Interislander Ferry and enjoy the scenery as you travel through the Marlborough Sounds to Picton. Board your Ultimate Coach for the short journey to Blenheim, where you will experience a unique wine and cheese tasting set amongst the wine barrels at Cloudy Bay Estate, one of the original winemakers in the Marlborough region. Continue south to Kaikōura.

Hotel Sudima Kaikōura

DAY 10: Kaikōura - Christchurch (B)

This morning enjoy a leisurely start in this seaside village, where the mountains meet the sea. Kaikōura is renowned as one of the best places to see Sperm whales and other marine mammals. There is an opportunity to take a scenic flight to view the year-round population of Sperm whales (optional, weather permitting). Continue onto the garden city of Christchurch

Hotel The George

DAY 11: Christchurch - Arthur's Pass - Fox Glacier (B,D)

This morning board the TranzAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. Travel over massive viaducts, river valleys and spectacular gorges as you ascend to Arthur's Pass located in the centre of the Southern Alps. Board your Ultimate Coach and travel to Hokitika, famous for its Greenstone before continuing via Franz Josef to the township of Fox Glacier where time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

Hotel Distinction Fox Glacier



Enjoy an overnight stop in Napier, known as 'The Art Deco Capital'.

DAY 12: Fox Glacier - Queenstown (B)

See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel south along the West Coast. Continue via the Haast Pass, an area of stunning beauty before arriving into picturesque Queenstown, a year-round resort situated on the shores of magical Lake Wakatipu. This evening is at leisure, you may choose to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

Hotel Heritage Queenstown (2 nights)

DAY 13: 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 of scenic Skippers Canyon or 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 14: Queenstown - Te Anau (B,D)

Enjoy a leisurely start this morning before travelling to Arrowtown, an old gold mining village where you visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland. Today you may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional).

Hotel Distinction Te Anau Hotel & Villas (2 nights)

DAY 15: Te Anau - Milford Sound - Te Anau (B,L,D)

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 onboard. This afternoon return to Te Anau where some free time is available. You might like to cap off your Fiordland experience by watching the breathtaking film, Ata Whenua - Shadowland, which screens at the Fiordland Cinema (optional).

DAY 16: Te Anau - Dunedin (B,D)

Travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin known as the 'Edinburgh of the South'. Enjoy a city tour followed by some free time at leisure.

Hotel Distinction Dunedin Hotel

DAY 17: Dunedin - Mt Cook (B,D)

Travel along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle, hear the tragic and scandalous stories on a guided tour with time to wander around this Garden of International Significance. This is followed by an Ultimate High Tea served in the Grand Ballroom. Farewell Dunedin and travel to Oamaru famous for its limestone. Follow the Waitaki River and see Lake Benmore as you travel to Mt Cook.

Hotel The Hermitage Hotel (Aoraki Wing)

DAY 18: Mt Cook - Christchurch (B,SD)

This morning marvel at Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak. The opportunity is available to enjoy a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the Southern Alps. Continue to Lake Tekapo and view the brilliant turquoise water, the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue before arriving in Christchurch. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner including selected beverages with your newfound friends.

Hotel The George

DAY 19: Depart Christchurch (B)

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