

FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL



*Your South Pacific Travel Specialists*

# NEW ZEALAND

2022-2023 GUIDED HOLIDAYS



**FIRST CHOICE** 3-17 day Fully Curated Experiences **From page 24**

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# New Zealand Marvel

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

There's nothing quite as cool as flying over, then landing on, Franz Josef Glacier. It's an optional experience you won't want to miss.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

Just try not to be dazzled cruising around Milford Sound in World Heritage listed Fiordland National Park.

### 📷 Time For You

Wine and dine, cruise and soak – you'll have plenty of time to explore Queenstown and Rotorua at your leisure.

### ♻ Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE 🌱 Kiwi kids in need are gifted a lunch for every guest lunch we serve up, thanks to our commitment to the Eat My Lunch initiative.

## 1 Welcome to Christchurch

On arrival in Christchurch there's time for relaxing or exploring. This evening, your holiday begins at a Welcome Reception with your Travel Director and fellow travellers. **Hotel: Ibis.**

## 2 Christchurch – Franz Josef

Board the iconic TranzAlpine train for one of the world's great rail journeys. Pass through the lush pasture-land of the Canterbury Plains to the rugged gorges and ice-fed streams and lakes of the Southern Alps. Arrive at Arthur's Pass and continue to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's famous greenstone. Your destination is the extraordinary rivers of ice that make up Franz Josef Glacier. You may like to get up close and personal with the glaciers on an optional experience helicopter flight. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier, Graham Wing. B D**

## 3 Franz Josef – Queenstown

Drive over the spectacular Haast Pass, passing the 96-metre Thunder Creek Falls, and serene Lakes Wanaka, Hawea and Dunstan. Stop at the town of Cromwell and enjoy delicious stone fruit. Next, you'll visit the historic gold-mining settlement of Arrowtown, where over seventy buildings from the gold-rush era are still beautifully preserved. You'll arrive in Queenstown in time for an orientation tour. **Hotel: Cophorne Hotel and Resort, 2 nights. B**

## 4 Queenstown Free Time

Explore New Zealand's adventure capital today. There are jet-boat rides for thrill-seekers, and wine tours or intimate cafés for those who enjoy a more leisurely pace. Enjoy a peaceful cruise this evening across Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and an entertaining after-dinner show offering glimpses of high-country farm life. **B HD**

## 5 Queenstown – Te Anau

Travel the highway known as the Devil's Staircase and along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to the town of Te Anau. On your journey to Milford Sound you'll be awestruck by the native rainforests and rugged mountains of Fiordland National Park. Your cruise on the Sound provides views of

cascading waterfalls, hanging glacial valleys, and towering Mitre Peak. Return to lakeside Te Anau, where this evening you can consider an optional experience visiting the Te Anau Glowworm Caves.

**Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

## 6 Te Anau – Dunedin

Journey through lush green sheep-grazing country on your way to Dunedin this morning. The afternoon is yours to enjoy as you please. Sit back and relax, or consider an optional experience. Perhaps 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 – Oamaru

Consider an optional experience to visit Larnach Castle this morning. 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, which marks the boundary between the regions of Canterbury and Otago. Your day finishes in the heart of the Mackenzie Country at Oamaru. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway Hotel. B D**

## 8 Oamaru – Christchurch

Journey through the awe-inspiring Aoraki/Mt. Cook National Park. See majestic Lakes Pukaki and Tekapo, and stop to view the Church of the Good Shepherd. Later, traverse the fertile Canterbury Plains through Fairlie and Geraldine to Christchurch. **Hotel: Ibis. B D**

## 9 Christchurch – Picton

Travel along the rugged Pacific Ocean coast this morning to Kaikoura, where an optional whale-watching flight is available. Pass the pink-tinged crystallisation ponds of the Lake Grassmere Salt Works, then travel on to the pretty seaside village of Picton. **Hotel: Picton Beachcomber Inn. B D**

## 10 Picton – Wellington

Cruise tranquil Queen Charlotte Sound, then cross the Cook Strait to Wellington on the North Island. Take a city tour before enjoying some free time. Later, visit Te Papa Museum of New Zealand, where you'll have time to explore the many fascinating exhibits. **Hotel: Travelodge. B**



TSS Farnslaw

## Departure Dates

2022		2023	
Apr	04, 11	Jan	02, 09, 16, 23, 30
May	02	Feb	06, 13, 20, 27
Sep	05	Mar	06, 13, 20, 27
Oct	03, 17, 24, 31		
Nov	07, 21, 28		
Dec	05, 12, 19, 26		

A limited number of single rooms are available. Ask your local travel agent at time of booking.

See available prices and departure dates from 01 Apr 2023 at [aatkings.com](http://aatkings.com). Or contact your local travel agent.

## Dining

13 Full buffet breakfasts B      5 Dinners D  
 1 Lunch L                              1 Farewell Dinner FD  
 2 Highlight Dinners HD

## Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport  
 Day 14 – flights to depart anytime from Auckland Airport  
**Flights are not included in the holiday price**

### 11 Wellington – Rotorua

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 along the scenic Kapiti Coast through lush dairy-farming country to Tongariro National Park and snow-capped Mt. Ruapehu. Panoramic views of Lake Taupo will unfold around every corner. View mighty Huka Falls and pass the Wairakei Geothermal Power Station. Enjoy an evening of fun and laughter and gain an insight into traditional Māori culture followed by a Hangi Highlight Dinner at the Tamaki Māori Village. **Hotel: Ibis, 2 nights. B L HD**

### 12 Rotorua Free Time

Relax or explore Rotorua at your own pace. Perhaps visit Rainbow Springs Nature Park and take a behind the scenes tour through the National Kiwi Hatchery, hatching over 55% of kiwis nationwide. **B**

### 13 Rotorua – Auckland

Explore the Waitomo Glowworm Grotto by boat, and walk through towering limestone caverns. Later, you'll follow the noble Waikato River into Auckland. Take an orientation tour of the city before joining your Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B FD**

### 14 Farewell from Auckland

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

