

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**

BEST BUYS 8-21 day Flexible Guided Holidays **From page 34**

Southern Spectacular

Highlights

Local Connection

Ever wondered about Southern Alps life on the land? Enjoy afternoon tea with farmers Angie and Stan to go behind the scenes.

Insider Knowledge

Your guide on a cruise around Milford Sound knows the best waterfalls, where to spot dolphins and which rare flora is in season.

Cultural Immersion

If the setting of 1860 Walter Peak Station doesn't wow you, then the BBQ dinner and farming demonstration will.

Sustainable Footprints



The Pomona Island Charitable Trust's mission is to restore NZ's largest inland island. Help by contributing to AAT Kings' Sustainable Tourism Commitment.

1 Welcome to Christchurch

Welcome to new Zealand's Garden City. This afternoon you can relax or explore. You may like to step back in time to a grand era of transport and relax on the Christchurch Tram as it takes you around the must-see central attractions. Meet your Travel Director and fellow travellers this evening for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Distinction.**

2 Christchurch – Twizel

Enjoy a Christchurch city sights tour and see how Christchurch is rebuilding after the devastating earthquakes of 2010 and 2011. Later, travel over the patchwork countryside of the Canterbury Plains and soak up some spectacular views. Visit the home of Angie and Stan Taylor for a Be My Guest afternoon tea, and hear about a lifetime spent farming in the Southern Alps. See Lakes Tekapo and Pukaki, and view the famed Church of the Good Shepherd. Continue to the outdoor-adventure hub of Twizel. **Hotel: MacKenzie Country. B BG DW**

3 Twizel – Dunedin

Your day starts with a journey tracing the Waitaki River, which marks the boundary between the regions of Canterbury and Otago. Explore the historic town of Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and celebrated limestone buildings, then make your way to Dunedin, home to many fine examples of Victorian and Edwardian architecture. This afternoon, spend your time at leisure or consider an optional experience. Tour imposing Larnach Castle, take a wildlife cruise out to the Otago Peninsula or experience an interactive tour of famous Speight's Brewery. **Hotel: Scenic Southern Cross. B DW**

4 Dunedin – Te Anau

Travel through lush green pastures, crossing sheep-filled farming land. As your journey continues, the rolling, grassy hills once again turn back into heavily forested, rugged mountains, and you'll meander into Fiordland National Park to the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. This afternoon, learn about the conservation efforts of the Pomona Island Charitable Trust, which aims to restore New Zealand's largest inland island to its natural state. Get up close to the island on a boat ride on Lake Manapouri. Soak up the amazing surrounds, spot a few trout, and learn

about this unique environment and fascinating history. This evening consider an optional experience and cruise across the lake to the Te Anau Glowworm Caves. **Hotel: Distinction Te Anau. B DW**

5 Te Anau – Queenstown

Your experience in magnificent Milford Sound today is sure to be one of the highlights of your holiday. Travel first through native rainforests and lush meadows to Mirror Lakes and the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel, and marvel at the stunning Cleddau Valley. Your unforgettable Milford Sound cruise takes in cascading waterfalls, hanging glacial valleys, and the sheer pinnacle of Mitre Peak. After disembarking, travel on to beautiful Queenstown. **Hotel: Millennium, 2 nights. B**

6 Queenstown Free Time

You have a final day in New Zealand's adventure capital to do as you choose. You could consider an optional experience. If you're feeling energetic you have the option of riding the exhilarating Shotover Jet boat. For a more laid-back experience, a minibus excursion will take you through spectacular Skippers Canyon, or an Appellation Central Boutique Wine Tour with Lunch. This evening, settle into a peaceful cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak High Country Farm, for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and an entertaining farm show. **B HD**

7 Queenstown – Franz Josef

Stop to visit the faithfully-restored gold-mining settlement of Arrowtown, and enjoy the serenity of the region's vivid blue lakes. Drive over the spectacular Haast Pass, passing the 96-metre Thunder Creek Falls on your way to the extraordinary Franz Josef Glacier. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier, Douglas Wing. B DW**

8 Franz Josef – Punakaiki

Consider an optional experience helicopter flight over the glaciers, or you may wish to take a stroll through the small but lively Franz Josef village. Travel on to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's famous greenstone. Continue 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 DW**



Punakaiki Pancake Rocks

Departure Dates

2022		2023	
Apr	05, 12, 19, 26	Jan	03, 10, 17, 24, 31
May	03	Feb	07, 14, 21, 28
Jun	14	Mar	07, 14, 21, 28
Jul	05	Apr	04
Sep	13, 20, 27		
Oct	11, 18, 25		
Nov	01, 08, 15, 22, 29		
Dec	06, 13, 20, 27		

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. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

9 Full buffet breakfasts B 1 Highlight Dinner HD
 1 Lunch L 5 Dinners with wine DW
 1 Be My Guest Afternoon Tea BG 1 Farewell Dinner FD

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport
 Day 10 – flights to depart anytime from Christchurch Airport
Flights are not included in the holiday price

9 Punakaiki – Christchurch

Join your personal guide for a tour of Monteith’s Brewing Company, including tastings at the brewers’ table, before sitting down to lunch. Afterwards, board the iconic TranzAlpine train in Greymouth and embark on one of the world’s great train journeys, passing through magnificent landscapes ranging from the fertile farmlands of the Canterbury Plains to rugged gorges and pristine ice-fed streams and lakes. Back in Christchurch, join your Travel Director for a Farewell Dinner.
Hotel: Distinction. B L FD

10 Farewell from Christchurch

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



TSS Earnslaw at Walter Peak High Country Farm

