

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**

Spirit of New Zealand

Highlights

✂ Flexible Holidays

Nelson is the gateway to wilderness drama in Abel Tasman National Park – opt to hike or cruise at your leisure.

📍 Iconic Sites

Spot blue penguins and fur seals exploring Stewart Island, also home to the country's southernmost settlement.

📷 Time For You

We cover the major sights, then let you choose your adventures in Wellington, Queenstown, Rotorua and Nelson.

🌱 Sustainable Travel

MAKING TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE For every guest lunch, we donate another to Eat My Lunch, ensuring underprivileged Kiwi kids don't go hungry during the day.

1 Welcome to Christchurch

You'll have time to relax before meeting your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Ibis.**

2 Christchurch – Omarama

Tour the city this morning, then travel over the Canterbury Plains to Lake Tekapo and view the Church of the Good Shepherd before continuing to Omarama in the heart of the Mackenzie Country, Mt. Cook National Park. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

3 Omarama – Dunedin Free Time

Travel via Oamaru to Dunedin for an orientation tour followed by time at leisure. **Hotel: Kingsgate. B**

4 Dunedin – Invercargill

You'll leave Dunedin and travel through lush green pastures, crossing sheep-filled farming land to Gore and on to Invercargill, New Zealand's southernmost city. This commercial hub is full of grand architecture and gardens. This afternoon you'll have free time to explore this city, and perhaps learn more about its obsession with motoring history. **Hotel: Kelvin, 2 nights. B**

5 Stewart Island

Board a ferry at Bluff and cruise to Stewart Island, known by the locals as Rakiura, which is the Māori reference to Glowing Skies. It has been described as rugged, pristine, and tranquil, and rightly so as 97% of the island is designated National Park and Conservation Estate. This means the birdlife, native flora & fauna and other natural environmental features have been able to thrive. You will gain an entertaining insight into the community and learn about the history and environment of the island on a Village and Bays tour. Later, you have free time. Perhaps join an optional experience on a guided sail around Paterson Inlet that will take you past unique places including Acker's Cottage, before docking at Ulva Island to admire the bird life and native flora. For a more active option you could hire an E-bike and explore the island for yourself. **B**

6 Invercargill – Queenstown

Enjoy a relaxed start before departing for Queenstown, where your afternoon and evening are at leisure. Known for its adventure, you could

take an optional experience Shotover Jet Boat ride or perhaps join a Wine Tour and sample some of Central Otago's award-winning wines. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

7 Queenstown Free Time

While Queenstown wears its Global Adventure badge proudly, it's also the perfect place to relax and explore. The town boasts great shopping, with iconic New Zealand design stores and boutique fashion. Or consider an optional experience to World Heritage Fiordland National Park for a cruise on magnificent Milford Sound, enjoying spectacular sights along the way. **B**

8 Queenstown – Franz Josef

Your first stop today is the old gold-mining settlement of Arrowtown. Travel on to witness the serenity of the region's vivid blue lakes, the most famous of which is pristine Lake Wanaka. Drive over the Haast Pass and take a rainforest walk to Thunder Creek Falls on your way to Franz Josef Glacier. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier, Graham Wing. B D**

9 Franz Josef – Punakaiki

Why not choose an optional experience and see Franz Josef Glacier from the air? Travel on to Hokitika, home of New Zealand's famous greenstone, for a factory visit and demonstration before arriving at your eco-friendly resort on the waterfront in Punakaiki. **Hotel: Punakaiki Resort. B D**

10 Punakaiki – Nelson

The Heritage Highway leads you to the Buller Gorge and Kahurangi National Park before arriving in Nelson. **Hotel: Rutherford, 2 nights. B**

11 Nelson Free Time

Today you'll have the option to journey to the top of the South Island and take a scenic cruise in the Abel Tasman National Park. **B**

12 Nelson – Wellington

Visit the seaside village of Picton then cruise on Queen Charlotte Sound before heading across Cook Strait to the North Island and Wellington, New Zealand's capital. Enjoy a city sights tour before an evening at leisure. **Hotel: Travelodge, 2 nights. B**

13 Wellington Free Time

Explore Wellington at your own pace today. **B D**



Tamaki Māori Village

Departure Dates

2022		2023	
Oct	06	Jan	05, 26
Nov	03, 24	Feb	02, 16
Dec	15	Mar	02, 09

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 Oct 2023 at aatings.com. Or contact your local travel agent.

Dining

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

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport
 Day 21 – flights to depart anytime from Auckland Airport
Flights are not included in the holiday price

14 Wellington – Napier

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'. On arrival in Napier a local guide will accompany you on a walking tour of this Art Deco city. Nowhere else in the world can you see such a concentration of buildings in the style of the 1930s. **Hotel: Scenic Te Pania. B L**

15 Napier – Rotorua

Today journey to Lake Taupo, then visit Huka Falls on your way to Rotorua. An evening of culture and history awaits you at the Tamaki Māori Village. Enjoy a cultural performance and an authentic Māori Hangi, steamed underground in the traditional way. **Hotel: Sudima, 2 nights. B HD**

16 Rotorua Free Time

Today is free for you to explore at leisure. **B**

17 Rotorua – Auckland

As you make your way into the heart of New Zealand's largest city, you will discover what it takes to make shape and become an All Black at The All-Blacks Experience. This interactive experience celebrates New Zealand's rugby heritage, achievements, and culture through exceptional innovation and technology. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B**

18 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Travel through Northland to the Bay of Islands. Tour the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, where New Zealand's founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi was signed in 1840. **Hotel: Copthorne Resort, Garden View, 2 nights. B D**

19 Bay of Islands Free Time

Today is free for you to explore at leisure. **B**

20 Bay of Islands – Auckland

Drive through lush farmland scenery on your return to Auckland. This evening, join your Travel Director and travelling companions for a Farewell Dinner. **Hotel: Holiday Inn Express. B FD**

21 Farewell from Auckland

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

