

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

Showcasing nature's best in the majestic South Island

10 Day Classic South Island



 **TOUR CODE** CGPS10

STYLE Classic Group
COACH 48 seat Classic
ACCOMMODATION 4 star

STARTS Christchurch
FINISHES Christchurch

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

2022	2023
Sep 21	Jan 31
Oct 14, 27	Feb 18, 23, 28
Nov 14, 23	Mar 5, 8, 13, 23
	Apr 2, 23
	May 4, 11



No hidden extras

PREPAID ATTRACTIONS

- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- Lakes District Museum
- Milford Sound Cruise and Lunch
- Larnach Castle*
- Haggis Ceremony and Gift
- City sights tour of Dunedin and Christchurch

*Guided tour.

COACH FEATURES

- 48 seats on a Classic touring coach
- 2 door access; overhead travel bag storage
- Restroom; panoramic viewing

EXPERIENCE

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

MEALS

- 9 cooked breakfasts
- 8 sumptuous dinners including 2 specialty dinners: Walter Peak Homestead, Queenstown; Haggis Ceremony, Dunedin
- 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.

Itinerary and Hotels

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

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 meet your Tour Leader and travelling companions for dinner.

Hotel Distinction Christchurch Hotel

DAY 2: Christchurch - Arthur's Pass - Franz Josef (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 coach and travel to Hokitika, famous for its Greenstone before continuing to the township of Franz Josef where time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

Hotel Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing)

DAY 3: Franz Josef - Queenstown (B)

See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel south along the West Coast to Fox Glacier. 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 free to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

Hotel Mercure Queenstown Resort (Lake View Room. 2 nights)

DAY 4: Queenstown (Free Day) (B,SD)

Today is a free day to explore Queenstown. Your Coach Captain and Tour Leader will assist with the many optional activities available. You may wish to enjoy the thrill of a jet boat ride, a heritage tour of the scenic 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.



Whilst cruising in the magnificent Milford Sound, see the spectacular Bowen Falls.

Optional Activities



HAAST RIVER SAFARI

Enjoy the opportunity to experience the untouched natural beauty of the South West World Heritage Area of New Zealand while travelling in a unique custom designed, fully enclosed Jet boat.



MOUNTAIN SCENIC SPECTACULAR

On a 40 minute helicopter flight you will view the incredible natural phenomenon of the towering ice formations and vast size of the Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers.

DAY 5: 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 Luxmore Hotel (Deluxe Room. 2 nights)

DAY 6: 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 7: Te Anau - Dunedin (B,SD)

Travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin known as the 'Edinburgh of the South' and enjoy city tour. Travel along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle where you will 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. Tonight, a Scottish evening will be presented comprising of bagpipes, great food, special Haggis Ceremony and gift.

Hotel Scenic Hotel Dunedin City

DAY 8: Dunedin - Mt Cook - Twizel (B,D)

Farewell Dunedin and travel to Oamaru famous for its limestone. Follow the Waitaki River and see Lake Benmore as you continue to 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. Travel to Twizel for your overnight stay.

Hotel MacKenzie Country Hotel

DAY 9: Twizel - Christchurch (B,D)

Continue to Lake Tekapo and view the brilliant turquoise water, the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue before arriving into Christchurch for a city tour. This evening enjoy dinner with your newfound friends.

Hotel Sudima Christchurch Airport

DAY 10: Depart Christchurch (B)

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



Auckland, on New Zealand's North Island, is a multi-cultural hub of food, wine, music, art and culture.

DAY 11: Christchurch - Arthur's Pass - Franz Josef (S,D) 

This morning board the TransAlpine, 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 coach and travel to Hokitika, famous for its Greenstone before arriving at the township of Franz Josef where time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers. **Hotel Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing)**

DAY 12: Franz Josef - Queenstown (S)

See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel south 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 free to dine at one of the many fine restaurants. **Hotel Millennium Hotel Queenstown (2 nights)**

DAY 13: Queenstown (Free Day) (S,D,C)

Today is a free day to explore Queenstown. Your Coach Captain and Tour Leader will assist with the many optional activities available. 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 - Milford Sound Overnight Cruise (S,D) 

This morning travel to Arowhenua and visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue via Te Anau to Milford Sound and board the Milford Mariner for your amazing overnight cruise. There is plenty of time to view the fiord's spectacular waterfalls, rainforest, mountains and wildlife - you're bound to encounter seals and if you're lucky maybe dolphins and penguins. As evening falls enjoy a delicious conveyer buffet prepared freshly by the onboard chef. **Overnight Milford Mariner**

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

Start the day with a hearty breakfast before heading back out to the Teanan Sea (weather permitting) to explore more of the fiord. Return to the wharf to meet your coach and enjoy the scenic drive to Te Anau where you will enjoy an afternoon at leisure. You may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional). **Hotel Distinction Luxurious Hotel (Deluxe Floor)**

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

Travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin, famous for its stunning Edwardian and Victorian architecture dating back to the gold rush of the 1800s. Today Dunedin is New Zealand's oldest university city. **Hotel Scenic Hotel Southern Cross (2 nights)**

DAY 17: Dunedin (S,D,C)

This morning travel 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 the Garden of International Significance followed by a delicious Devonshire Tea. Return to Dunedin for a city tour followed by some free time. Optional activities you might be interested in include a tour of Speights Brewery or the chance to see wildlife in their natural habitat. Tonight, a Scottish evening will be presented comprising of bagpipes, great food, Haggis Ceremony and gill.

DAY 18: Dunedin - Christchurch (S,D)

This morning visit Oveston Historic Homes, a prosperous merchants' home from the turn of the century before travelling to Caneru, famous for its limestone. This evening enjoy dinner with your newfound friends. **Hotel Distinction Christchurch Hotel**

DAY 19: Depart Christchurch (S)

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



Pohukia Geyser in Rotorua is the largest in New Zealand and can reach heights of up to 50 metres.



On the Explorer Ferry cross the Cook Strait and travel through the Marlborough Sounds to Picton.

Optional Activities



CAPE REINGA WANDER

A full-day trip takes you to the iconic Cape Reinga lighthouses at NZ's most northern tip. Discover the wild beauty of the region, rich in Māori culture and tradition.



TWIN GLACIER HELICOPTER FLIGHT

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



TE ANAU GLOWWORM CAVES

Tour of the mysterious world of underground