

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

A spectacular tour of the North and South Island icons

14 Day Affordable Panorama

No hidden extras

PREPAID ATTRACTIONS

- Haggis Ceremony and Gift
- Larnach Castle*
- Milford Sound Cruise and Lunch
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- Lakes District Museum
- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Cruise on the Interislander Ferry
- Te Papa, NZ's National Museum
- Skyline Rotorua Gondola and Luge Ride
- Agrodome
- Thermal mud pools and geysers*
- Traditional Māori Hāngi and Concert
- City sights tour of Christchurch, Dunedin and Wellington

*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
- 13 nights 3.5 star accommodation
- 3 two night stays
- Hotel portorage
- 1 rail journey
- 3 cruises
- All sightseeing and prepaid attractions
- Extensive Optional Tours Programme
- Classic Documentation Pack

MEALS

- 13 cooked breakfasts including a specialty breakfast: Stratosfare Restaurant, Rotorua
- 11 sumptuous dinners including 3 specialty dinners: Haggis Ceremony, Dunedin; Walter Peak Homestead, Queenstown; Māori Hāngi and Concert, Rotorua
- 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.



TOUR CODE CGPN14

STYLE Classic Affordable Group
COACH 48 seat Classic
ACCOMMODATION 3.5 star

STARTS Christchurch
FINISHES Auckland

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

2022	2023
Sep 12	Jan 22
Oct 7, 18	Feb 4, 12, 14, 19, 25



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.

Hotel Heartland Hotel Cotswold or similar

DAY 2: Christchurch - Omarama (B,D)

After an introductory city sights tour depart Christchurch and travel through the southern Canterbury Plains to Lake Tekapo. See the brilliant turquoise water, The Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue. Marvel at the spectacular mountain ranges including Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak. The opportunity is available (time and weather permitting, optional) to enjoy a scenic flight over the Southern Alps before travelling to Omarama.

Hotel Heritage Gateway Hotel

DAY 3: Omarama - Dunedin (B,SD)

Depart Omarama and see Lake Benmore, before following the Waitaki River to Oamaru, famous for its limestone. Continue south to Dunedin and enjoy a city sights tour followed by some free time. Tonight, a Scottish evening will be presented

comprising of bagpipes, great food, special Haggis Ceremony and gift.

Hotel Dunedin Leisure Lodge
- A Distinction Hotel

DAY 4: Dunedin - Te Anau (B,D)

This morning travel out 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 this Garden of International Significance followed by a delicious Devonshire Tea. Farewell Dunedin and travel through Balclutha and Gore to Te Anau, gateway to Fiordland and your overnight stay. Today you may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional).

Hotel Distinction Luxmore Hotel (Superior Room)

DAY 5: Te Anau - Milford Sound - Queenstown (B,L)

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. This afternoon travel to Queenstown, overlooking magical Lake Wakatipu. Spend the next two nights at this year-round resort



Experience the wonder of the Milford Sound cruise.

Optional Activities



SHOTOVER JET

Enjoy a jet boat ride in the spectacular Shotover River Canyons, carved out over the ages by a vast volume of fast flowing water. Hold on tight and take a spin in the iconic Big Red for wall to wall action from start to finish.



FIORDLAND CINEMA

No visit to Fiordland is complete without taking in the breathtaking film, 'Ata Whenua - Shadowland'. Screened in a purpose-built theatre, you will take an unforgettable journey.

which offers a wide range of activities and attractions. This evening is free, you may choose to dine at one of the many fine restaurants.

Hotel Copthorne Hotel & Resort Queenstown Lakefront (2 nights)

DAY 6: Queenstown (Free Day) (B,SD)

Today is a free day for you to explore Queenstown at leisure. Your Coach Captain and Tour Leader are available to assist with the many optional activities available, including the thrill of a jet boat ride, a heritage tour to 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.

DAY 7: Queenstown - Arrowtown - Fox Glacier (B,D)

Travel to Arrowtown and visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue via the Haast Pass to the mighty West Coast, an area of stunning beauty. See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel north to the township of Fox Glacier. Time is available to experience a scenic flight (weather permitting, optional) over the spectacular glaciers.

Hotel Heartland Hotel Fox Glacier

DAY 8: Fox Glacier - Arthur's Pass - Christchurch (B,D)

Travel to Hokitika and visit the Greenstone Factory. Continue into Arthur's Pass and board the TranzAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. View rivers and valleys as you travel through the Waimakariri Basin, over massive viaducts and through the patchwork farmlands of the Canterbury Plains. On arrival into the elegant city of Christchurch, your coach will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel.

Hotel Heartland Hotel Cotswold or similar

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

Travel along the East Coast to the seaside village of Kaikōura. Enjoy the spectacular scenery as you travel through Marlborough Country, famous for its food and wine. Continue to Picton, where you will board the Interislander Ferry for your journey through the Marlborough Sounds and across Cook Strait to Wellington.

Hotel Ibis Wellington (2 nights)

DAY 10: Wellington (B)

A highlight this morning will be time to explore Gallipoli: A Scale of War exhibition at Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum. Cutting edge technology brings these stories to life through the eyes of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances. Reboard your coach for an extensive city tour which showcases the history and culture on show. Enjoy free time this afternoon and this evening is also free to choose your own dining arrangements.

DAY 11: Wellington - Taupo - Rotorua (B,D)

Depart Wellington and travel via Mt Ruapehu and Mt Tongariro to Lake Taupo. Visit the spectacular Huka Falls then onto the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua.

Hotel Sudima Lake Rotorua (2 nights)

DAY 12: Rotorua (B,SD)

Today begins with a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua. There is also time for a thrilling luge ride! Next stop is Agrodome for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment. Visit Te Puia to see the boiling mud pools and awesome geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening experience an entertaining Māori cultural performance followed by a delicious Hāngi meal.

DAY 13: Rotorua - Auckland (B,D)

Depart Rotorua and travel north to Auckland to enjoy an afternoon at leisure to discover the 'City of Sails'. This evening enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Hotel Rydges Auckland

DAY 14: Depart Auckland (B)

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

BEST VALUE \$\$\$

+ BAY OF ISLANDS

Stay an extra 2 nights and take in the Bay of Islands. Upgrade to the **16 Day Affordable Highlights. Full itinerary pages 80 - 81.**