

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



TOUR CODE SGPNI9

STYLE Signature Mid-Size Group
COACH 32 seat Premium Economy
ACCOMMODATION 4 star

STARTS Auckland
FINISHES Wellington

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

2022	2023
-	Mar 11



Enjoy authentic experiences of New Zealand's North Island

9 Day Signature North Island

No hidden extras

PREPAID ATTRACTIONS

- Kauri Museum
- Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Hole in the Rock Dolphin Cruise
- Sky Tower
- Hobbiton™ Movie Set Tour and Lunch
- Skyline Rotorua Gondola and Luge Ride
- Agrodome
- Thermal mud pools and geysers*
- Te Puia traditional Māori Hāngi and Concert
- City sights tour of Auckland, Napier, Wellington

*Guided tour.

COACH FEATURES

- 32 Premium Economy Comfort seats on a full-size coach
- 2 door access; seat back tray table; cup holder
- Restroom; daily onboard Wi-Fi allowance

EXPERIENCE

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

MEALS

- 8 cooked breakfasts
- 6 sumptuous dinners including complimentary pre-dinner drink at the Welcome Dinner and 2 specialty dinners: Māori Hāngi and Concert, Rotorua; Farewell Dinner including pre-dinner drink, Wellington
- 1 Shire's buffet lunch: Hobbiton
- 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 Auckland (D)

On arrival into Auckland, you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink when you meet your Tour Leader and travelling companions for dinner.

Hotel Sudima Auckland City

DAY 2: Auckland - Bay of Islands (B,D)

Depart Auckland and travel to the Parry Kauri Park to see a magnificent example of a Kauri Tree. Enjoy a visit and informative talk at the Kauri Museum in Matakoho, then travel via Whangarei to Paihia, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands. Enjoy a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Māori tribes and the British Government in 1840.

Hotel Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands (2 nights)

DAY 3: Bay of Islands (Free Day) (B)

Today is a free day. Choose from the many optional activities available, including the Cape Reinga coach trip via Ninety Mile Beach or a spectacular scenic flight. This evening is also free, you may like to enjoy a relaxing dinner cruise (optional).

DAY 4: Bay of Islands - Auckland (B)

This morning cruise through the beautiful Bay of Islands aboard a luxury catamaran to Cape Brett, where a historic lighthouse keeps watch over Piercy Island, or as it is popularly known, the 'Hole in the Rock'. Keep an eye out for dolphins and other marine life. Return to Paihia and travel south via Whangarei to Auckland. This evening is also free to explore the many eateries surrounding your hotel.

Hotel Sudima Auckland City

DAY 5: Auckland - Rotorua (B,L,D)

This morning enjoy a city sights tour including a visit to Sky Tower, one of New Zealand's most spectacular attractions. Continue through the picturesque countryside to Hobbiton for a buffet lunch. This is followed by a guided tour of the Movie Set from The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. Your guide will recount details of how this beautiful piece of farmland was transformed into The Shire from Middle Earth.

Hotel Pullman Rotorua (City View Room. 2 nights)



You will be immersed in the traditions and customs of Māori culture in Rotorua.

Optional Activities



SALT AIR

Fly by helicopter over the crystal-clear turquoise waters found in the world-famous Bay of Islands to the 'Hole in the Rock'. From above explore the townships of Russell, Paihia and Waitangi.



ART DECO GUIDED WALK

In Napier take a guided walking tour and hear how the town was transformed from the 1931 earthquake devastation to world renowned Art Deco architecture.

DAY 6: 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 the Agrodome for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment and education that is unlike anything you've seen before. Enjoy some free time this afternoon before travelling to Te Puia to see the boiling mud pools and awesome geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening experience an entertaining Māori Hāngi and Concert.

DAY 7: Rotorua - Napier - Masterton (B,D)

Depart Rotorua and travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to Huka Falls and Lake Taupo. Continue to Napier known as 'The Art Deco Capital', where a city tour will showcase an impressive collection of art deco buildings. Enjoy some free time to explore the fascinating architecture before travelling through the Wairarapa, an emerging cool-climate wine region.

Hotel Copthorne Hotel & Resort Solway Park Wairarapa (Superior Room)

DAY 8: Masterton - Greytown - Wellington (B,SD)

Enjoy a leisurely start before travelling to Greytown. Drive through the scenic Rimutaka Mountain Range into Wellington for a city tour of the nation's capital. This evening enjoy a pre-dinner drink and reminisce on memories shared with your new friends at the farewell dinner.

Hotel James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor (Executive Room)

DAY 9: Depart Wellington (B)

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



See the world-famous Farm Show at Agrodome starring a cast of talented animals.



In Akaroa enjoy a Nature Cruise and keep an lookout for the rare Hector's Dolphins and other sea birds.

Itinerary and Hotels

(B) Breakfast, (L) Specialty Lunch, (D) Dinner, (S) Specialty Dinner.

DAY 1: Arrive Christchurch (B)

On arrival into Christchurch you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink when you meet your Tour Leader and travelling companions for dinner.

Hotel Christchurch City Hotel (2 nights)

DAY 2: Christchurch - Akaroa - Christchurch (B)

After an introductory city sights tour, enjoy a scenic drive to the historic French village of Akaroa, with time to wander through the charming galleries and craft stores. This afternoon set off on a Nature Cruise in the hope of spotting the rare Hector's Dolphin and keep an eye-out for penguins and other sea birds. Following your cruise, return to Christchurch where the evening is free to dine at one of the city's many restaurants.

DAY 3: Christchurch - Moana - Hokitika (B, S, L, D) (B, L)

This morning board the TiersAlpina, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. Travel over massive viaducts, river valleys and spectacular gorges before descending through the Okaia Tunnel to Moana, on the banks of picturesque Lake Brunner. Enjoy lunch at Kingfisher Restaurant, before travelling to the Brunner Mine Site, the location of the 1908 mine explosion. This afternoon in the coastal town of Hokitika, visit a local gallery, for the opportunity to pick up a gift or souvenir. Hotel Beachfront Hotel Hokitika (Ocean View Room)

DAY 4: Hokitika - Punakaiki (S, L, L, D) (L)

Today, take in the natural beauty of the Hokitika Gorge on a short walk descending through the hardwood forest that will lead you to a swing bridge which crosses the Hokitika River. Continue north to Greymouth, home of Morrell's Brewing Co. where you will sample locally brewed beers over lunch. This afternoon travel along the Great Coast Road to the world-famous Punakaiki Pancake Rocks and Blowholes.

Hotel Punakaiki Resort (Sea View Floor)

DAY 5: Punakaiki - Nelson (B, D) (L)

Journey north along the coast to Teunanga Bay and Cape Foulwind, named by Captain Cook in 1770 when he encountered nasty weather. A short walk along the rocky headland will showcase the rugged coastline and sea life often on show amongst the rocks. Travel inland via the Buller Gorge and Murchison to Nelson, one of the sunniest cities in New Zealand. This afternoon enjoy an orientation tour of the city followed by a visit to the Nelson Classic Car Museum where you will marvel at an incredible collection of iconic cars. Hotel Rutherford Hotel (Premium Room, 2 nights)

DAY 6: Nelson - Abel Tasman National Park - Nelson (B, S, L) (L)

Travel to Kaitiaki, gateway to the Abel Tasman National Park and join a cruise along the park's picturesque coastline. At Anchorage Bay a barbecue lunch will be served. Re-join your coach and depart for Nelson via the vineyards. This evening is free for you to dine at one of the local restaurants in town.



Enjoy the scenery of the stunning Houtiake Gorge.

DAY 7: Nelson - Blenheim (2,34,13)

Today travel via Havelock and the wine-growing region of Marlborough. Visit the Oriska Aviation Heritage Centre, home to one of the largest private collections of WW1 Aircraft, brought to life in sets created by the internationally acclaimed WingNut Films and Wata Workshop. Head back into town where you will enjoy lunch at a local Blenheim beer garden before a short drive to Cloudy Bay Estate. Established in 1986, Cloudy Bay was one of the original wineries in the region. Enjoy a personalised tasting experience in the Barrel Room followed by time to wander through the superb, manicured grounds and towering gum trees, which will surely be a highlight. **Hotel Scenic Hotel Marlborough (2 nights)**

DAY 8: Blenheim - Marlborough Sounds - Blenheim (11,11)

Enjoy a leisurely start to the day before travelling to Picton where time is available to explore this picturesque port. Board a luxury vessel at Picton Marina and cruise the spectacular Queen Charlotte Sound to Fumaseu Lodge whilst enjoying the informative commentary on this stunning

region. At Fumaseu Lodge a delicious lunch will be served followed by time to enjoy the peaceful surroundings. There is access to kayaks and short walks around the property. On the return cruise to Picton a cheese platter featuring local produce is served accompanied by a glass of Marlborough wine, the perfect end to your Marlborough Sounds adventure. Board the coach for the short journey back to Blenheim where the evening is free to dine at one of the local restaurants.

DAY 9: Blenheim - Kaikoura (1,1)

Farewell the Marlborough region and journey to Kaikoura. Visit the Kaikoura Museum, which features an exhibition depicting the impact of the 2018 earthquake. This afternoon you may like to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the coastline to see the many species of whales that migrate through this area. **Hotel Seaside Kaikoura**

DAY 10: Kaikoura - Christchurch (11,10)

Depart Kaikoura and head to Christchurch to visit the International Antarctic Centre, designed to provide an informative account of life in Antarctica. This evening enjoy a pre-dinner drink and reminiscence on memories shared with your new friends at the farewell dinner. **Hotel Christchurch City Hotel**

DAY 11: Depart Christchurch (1)

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