



FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL

# NEW ZEALAND

2024-2025 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 Spotlight

## Highlights

### ✂ Flexible Holidays

Queenstown is home to more than 150 bars and restaurants. If you don't know where to look, ask your Travel Director for recommendations. Enjoy downtime at your own pace.

### 📍 Iconic Sites

The TranzAlpine train ride has been described as one of the most scenic cross-country jaunts in the world. But don't take our word for it...

### 🌿 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER | 🌿 Dark Sky Project is committed to preserving our night skies by connecting manuhiri (visitors) to the relevance of the night sky via scientific and cultural experiences.

### 🏞 Natural Wonders

The West Coast, or 'the Coast' as locals call it, is an untamed natural wilderness of rivers and rainforests, glaciers and geological treasures.



Church of the Good Shepherd

## 9 DAYS 10 Included Experiences

### Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct <b>22</b>	Jan 14, 21, <b>28</b>	Jan 12, <b>19</b> , 26
Nov <b>12, 19</b>	Feb 04, 11, <b>18, 25</b>	Feb 02, 09, <b>16</b> , 23
Dec <b>10, 17</b> , 24, 31	Mar 03, 10, <b>17</b> , 24, 31	Mar 02, 09, <b>16</b> , 23, 30
	Apr 21, 28	
	Jun 02, 30	
	Jul 28	
	Sep <b>15, 29</b>	
	Oct 06, 13, <b>20</b> , 27	
	Nov <b>03</b> , 10, <b>17</b>	
	Dec 01, <b>08</b> , 15, 22, 29	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit [aatkings.com/lcqr](http://aatkings.com/lcqr) or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

### Dining

8 Full buffet breakfasts B      1 Highlight Dinner HD  
3 Dinners D                              1 Farewell Dinner FD

### Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 9 – flights to depart any time from Christchurch Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price

#### 1 Welcome to Christchurch

Since its 2010/11 earthquakes, Christchurch has reinvented itself in more ways than one. Discover how if you choose to step back in time aboard the Christchurch Tram, linking some of the city's most legendary attractions. It's time tonight to meet your travelling companions for a Welcome Reception. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden.**

#### 2 Christchurch – Omarama

On your city tour view the mind-bending Transitional Cathedral, made largely of cardboard, and Turanga, the gold-clad central library. From here, your outlook is the Canterbury Plains: the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo, the quaint Church of the Good Shepherd, snow-capped mountains and atmospheric towns. Your Indoor Dark Sky Astronomy Experience at Tekapo, hosted by passionate guides, will forever change the way you see the night sky. You'll see for yourself it may be one of the quietest spots on the planet, yet it has one of the busiest skies in the universe. **Hotel: Heritage Gateway. B D**

#### 3 Omarama – Dunedin

If you've ever wanted to see New Zealand's oldest public gardens, today you're in luck. Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and limestone buildings, stands proud before you journey further south toward the Edinburgh of the South: Dunedin. It's easy to while away the afternoon in the city's atmospheric art-lined alleys. Or venture further afield to discover the wildlife that thrives in this pretty pocket of the country – fur seals and penguins among them. Thirsty? Visit Speight's Brewery, a New Zealand institution. **Hotel: Scenic Dunedin City. B**

#### 4 Dunedin – Te Anau

Dunedin's Scottish ancestry is everywhere you look, from the manicured grounds of Otago University to the city's main George Street. Rolling green hills dotted with doe-eyed sheep are replaced by soaring mountains as you weave your way into Fiordland National Park and the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. Soak up the serenity – it doesn't get any better than this. **Hotel: Luxmore. B D**

#### 5 Te Anau – Queenstown

From the moment you step outside today, nature rules. Your route through Fiordland National Park is an intoxicating union of beech forests, alluvial flats, meadows and mirror-like lakes. Gin-clear rivers carve the countryside, with all roads leading to Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. Cruising this World Heritage listed expanse will give you goosebumps, a string of waterfalls creating a misty curtain across sheer escarpments. Look out for dolphins – they're a common sight here. **Hotel: Copthorne Hotel & Resort, 2 nights. B**

#### 6 Queenstown Free Time

Take today at your own pace. Like things fast and furious? Feel the wind in your hair on a high-octane jet boat ride, perhaps. There's a reason why Queenstown is known as the adventure capital of the country. Nature lover? Discover some of New Zealand's feathered friends at a wildlife centre. Wherever you wander, make sure you're back in time to glide across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Highlight Dinner and farm show. **B HD**

#### 7 Queenstown – Franz Josef/Waiau

Try and keep count of today's lakes. Leaving Lake Wakatipu behind, Arrowtown appears on the horizon. We know you'll want to linger in the movie-set-like streets, lined with trees and character-filled boutiques. But Lake Dunstan awaits, as do its orchards. Pause to refuel on flavour-packed stone fruit. Then there's Lake Hawea followed by Lake Wanaka, with its Instagrammable shoreline of poplars and willows. Over the Haast Pass to the town of Franz Josef, where, this afternoon you may choose to fly over Franz Josef Glacier/Kā Roimata o Hine Hukatere. **Hotel: Scenic Franz Josef Glacier. B D**

#### 8 Franz Josef/Waiau – Christchurch

Swap snow for pounamu (native greenstone or jade) in Hokitika. Just when you thought your adventure couldn't get any better, you'll aboard the TranzAlpine train bound for Christchurch, through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. **Hotel: Wyndham Garden. B FD**

#### 9 Farewell from Christchurch

New Zealand's South Island never fails to wow. We hope you find the words to describe this epic New Zealand tour to your family back home. **B**



Milford Sound/Piopiotahi Cruise

