

10 DAY DISCOVER NEW ZEALAND SOUTH ISLAND

DESTINATIONS

—
CHRISTCHURCH



TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1

Destination	Christchurch
Meals included	
Hotel	3 ★ Ibis Hotel Christchurch, or similar

Welcome to Christchurch, New Zealand's Garden City. Flights can arrive any time prior to 4.00pm and you will be transferred from the airport to your Christchurch hotel. After check-in, you can head out and explore Christchurch. Step back in time to a grand era of transport and relax as the Christchurch Tram takes you around the 'must-see' central attractions. The tram drivers provide a live commentary throughout the loop, identifying points of interest, historic architecture and the changes the city is under-going since the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes. This evening, meet your fellow travellers and your Travel Director at a welcome reception at your hotel.

DAY 2

Destination	Christchurch 🚗 Omarama
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	3 ★ Heritage Gateway Hotel, or similar

Today it's an easy start. At midmorning you will head out over the patchwork countryside of the Canterbury Plains to soak up some spectacular sightseeing. Sweeping views across the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo framed by a backdrop of rugged hills and snow-capped mountains provide stunning alpine photography opportunities. You will view the little stone-hewn Church of the Good Shepherd and the bronze statue of a collie dog, the touching tribute to the sheepdogs which helped develop the Mackenzie Country. You may want to take in Mount Cook National Park from the air this afternoon, on a scenic flight out over New Zealand's highest peak, the Southern Alps and on to Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers (Optional Experience – at own expense). Your day finishes in the heart of the Mackenzie Country at Omarama. Tonight, enjoy dinner at your hotel.

DAY 3

Destination	Omarama 🚗 Dunedin
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	Scenic Hotel Dunedin City, or similar

Your day starts with a journey along the Waitaki River, which marks the boundary between the regions of Canterbury and Otago, and with its large catchment it is an ideal source of hydro-electric power. From the Waitaki Valley you will then travel through to the township of Oamaru, with its stately tree-lined streets and its famous white limestone buildings. As well as shipping limestone to the bigger cities of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin for construction of their Town Halls and various churches, Oamaru locals made sure that their own town represented the best in limestone building the mid-late 1800's had to offer. This afternoon you will make your way down to the Southernmost New Zealand city, Dunedin. With the rest of your free afternoon you may wish to take part in an optional excursion to see more of the region. Take a Wildlife Cruise out to Otago Peninsula, visit the Speights Brewery – a New Zealand institution or ride the historic Taieri Gorge Railway.

DAY 4

Destination	Dunedin 🚗 Te Anau
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	4 ★ Distinction Luxmore Hotel, or similar

This morning you have some free time in Dunedin. You may want to journey out to the gorgeous Larnach Castle – New

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Zealand's only castle. Or you may just wish to roam around the beautiful grounds of New Zealand's first university, Otago University. Dunedin, also known as the Edinburgh of the South, has strong connections to its northern hemisphere sister city, even down to sharing many of the same street names – so take a wander down George Street, noting Dunedin's Scottish ancestry. This afternoon travel through lush green pastures, crossing sheep-filled farming land. New Zealand is internationally known for its sheep farming, and these are sights many visitors to this country recognise as typically 'New Zealand'. You are sure to find the perfect sheep photo here! As your journey continues, the rolling, grassy hills once again turn back into heavily forested, rugged mountains, and you meander your way up into the Fiordland National Park to the South Island's biggest lake and the town of Te Anau. This evening you have the opportunity to head out across the lake to the Glow Worm Caves for a tour (Optional Experience – at own expense). Tonight, enjoy dinner at your hotel.

DAY 5

Destination	Te Anau 🚗 Milford Sound 🚗 Queenstown
Meals included	Breakfast
Hotel	4 ★ Copthorne Hotel and Apartments Queenstown Lakeview, or similar

Today is one of those days where you will want to have your camera battery charged, and ready to go! After leaving Te Anau, you will journey through the Fiordland National Park and out to Milford Sound on one of the most scenic roads you could hope for. Travel through native rainforests, beech forests, alluvial flats and meadows. You will stop at Mirror Lakes where, as the name suggests, you can see the stunning mountain scenery perfectly reflected in the waters of the lakes. Then on to the Homer Tunnel, man's attempt to master the sheer rocky ranges, still left rough-hewn around the edges. As you emerge out the other side of the tunnel, you are presented with one of the world's most dramatic alpine drives, down through the Cleddau Valley. You will have a stop at the Chasm, where the roaring Cleddau River has carved its way through solid rock, and then it's on to Milford Sound, where you will cruise the waters of this natural wonder. Your cruise meanders down the sound, taking in the Bowen and Stirling Falls as they plummet from glacial hanging valleys sharply into the sea, and the sheer pinnacle of Mitre Peak, rising from the deep waters of the fiord. From the spectacular scenes of Milford Sound, you will travel on to the beautiful sights of Queenstown. An orientation tour skirting around the shores of Lake Wakatipu, takes you into the city centre.

DAY 6

Destination	Queenstown
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	4 ★ Copthorne Hotel and Apartments Queenstown Lakeview, or similar

Explore exciting Queenstown your way! Take the opportunity to encounter a Queenstown legend and ride the Shotover Jet Boat or venture out on a Skippers Canyon Scenic Tour. If laid-back and relaxed is more your idea of fun, then join a Wine Tour and sample some of Central Otago's award-winning wines or visit our native birds at Queenstown's Kiwi Birdlife Park. Your Travel Director will assist you in booking all of your chosen optional experiences. After a day of activity, sit back and enjoy a peaceful evening cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard New Zealand's oldest steamship, the TSS Earnslaw, to Walter Peak Station. Launched in 1912, the TSS Earnslaw is the largest and grandest vessel ever to ply Lake Wakatipu. Today, the TSS Earnslaw is believed to be the only coal-fired passenger carrying vessel still operating in the southern hemisphere. Partake in a gourmet BBQ Highlight Dinner at Walter Peaks' Colonel's Homestead and then enjoy an entertaining after-dinner farm show providing a glimpse into high-country farm life. On the cruise back to 98 Queenstown, join in a vintage sing-along or grab your partner for a dance across the polished wooden floors of the Earnslaw.

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DAY 7

Destination	Queenstown 🚗 Franz Josef
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	4 ★ Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier (Graham Wing), or similar

This morning you will leave the alpine wonderland of Queenstown behind, and begin the passage through Central Otago and out to Westland. On the way out of the Queenstown region, you will stop and visit the faithfully restored gold mining settlement of Arrowtown. As you amble down the beautiful tree-lined avenues, past the 19th century wooden buildings, you will feel like you have stepped into a movie set. From here you will travel over to Cromwell, situated next to the sparkling pristine waters of Lake Dunstan, where you will stop in at a local orchard for a taste of some of the town's delicious stone fruit. It is a day of gorgeous lakes, as after Dunstan, you will travel further into Central Otago and view the vivid blue waters of Lake Hawea, followed by Lake Wanaka, where the shoreline is charmingly lined by poplars and willows. Following an ancient greenstone trail, you will travel over Haast Pass, marking a change from the alpine scenery of the Southern Lakes, to the rainforest marvel of the wild West Coast. View the sheer drop of Thunder Creek Falls and the grand sight of Mt Hooker, flanked on three sides by extensive glaciers. Our final destination for today is the extraordinary rivers of ice that make up Franz Josef Glacier. You may want to get up close and personal with the glaciers on a helicopter flight. Your flight will hover over the snow face and may land high up in the valley so that you can walk across the ice fall – subject to weather conditions (optional – at own expense). Tonight, enjoy dinner at your hotel.

DAY 8

Destination	Franz Josef 🚗 Arthur's Pass 🚗 Christchurch
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	3 ★ Ibis Hotel Christchurch, or similar

If weather conditions are unfavourable, you will get another chance to fly up to the glaciers this morning or you might want to take a stroll through the small but lively Franz Josef village. Then you head off to the drift-wood strewn beaches of Hokitika. As well as being one of the few West Coast communities to embrace its coastal landscape, Hokitika struck it rich in the resource's stakes. Here you will visit a pounamu factory (native greenstone or jade), for the chance to see master carvers at work creating intricate pieces of jewellery and art. Maori tradition says it is bad luck to buy pounamu for yourself, so if you fancy a trinket of your own, make sure you have someone there to purchase it for you. From Hokitika, you will travel inland to the small settlement of Arthur's Pass. Here you will board the TranzAlpine train to Christchurch city. This spectacular train journey dates back to 1914 and is rated as one of the world's most scenic train trips. The train forges through tunnels and over viaducts with panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, icy rivers, beech forests, gorges and river valleys. This evening, join your Travel Director and Driver, and your new-found friends for a farewell dinner as you celebrate the last evening of the escorted leg of your tour.

DAY 9

Destination	Christchurch 🚗 Akaroa 🚗 Akaroa Harbour 🚗 Christchurch
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel	3 ★ Ibis Hotel Christchurch, or similar

Today you visit the beautiful unspoilt old French whaling depot of Akaroa. Stop at the Hill Top to experience panoramic views of Akaroa Harbour and visit the Cheese Factory at Barry's Bay to sample some fine New Zealand cheeses. In the afternoon enjoy a 2 hour harbour cruise on the Canterbury Cat, sightseeing dolphins, penguins and seals.

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DAY 10

Destination	Christchurch
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A

Your holiday concludes this morning or make your own arrangements to continue your journey.

DISCOVER CHRISTCHURCH DOUBLE DECKER CITY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Learn about Christchurch's fascinating history from the pioneering days through to modern day times and learn how Christchurch is recovering from the devastating February 22 earthquake which has now become a major event in New Zealand's history.

On tour we will view some of the areas affected by the earthquakes, see how Christchurch is preserving some of its iconic heritage buildings and hear about the exciting vision to rebuild and restore the inner city.

Your experience includes a tour around central Christchurch on New Zealand's only Open Top Double Decker and a 2 hour Tour on a closed top Double Decker visiting places of interest in greater Christchurch.

Duration: Tour departs at 09.00am or 03.00pm

Inclusions: 2 hour Double Decker City Tour and 24 Hour Hop on Hop Off pass

CHRISTCHURCH TRAMWAY EXPERIENCE

Welcome aboard the Christchurch Tram and step back in time to a grand era of transport. The Christchurch Tram is a unique, elegant and environmentally friendly way to see the city. Allow us to take you around the 'must-see' central attractions - get on and off as you please at any of our seventeen stops. A full circuit takes 50 minutes and the Trams run approximately every 15 minutes. This quality experience combines the heritage of the trams with the culture of the Garden City.

Enjoy a journey in style through the changing face of Christchurch's city centre on board our beautifully restored vintage Trams. The Tram is a unique experience of history and sightseeing. The journey takes you to the appropriate stops for Punting on the Avon, the Grand Tour, and the Caterpillar Tour of the Christchurch's Botanic Gardens. The Art Gallery, meandering Avon River, Gothic style Arts Centre and Museum are just some of sights to be seen from the comfort of your Tram or accessed from any of the ten stops en route.

Opening hours: 09.00am to 06.00pm

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Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 9 days escorted tour of New Zealand's stunning South Island
- Travel on board the TranzAlpine, one of New Zealand's most scenic rail journeys
- Incredible sightseeing, venture into an untouched world of Milford Sound on a scenic cruise, travel on Lake Wakatipu aboard the TSS Earnslaw and visit Walter Peak Station, visit the beautiful unspoilt old French whaling depot of Akaroa, spot dolphins, penguins and seals while on an Akaroa Harbour cruise
- 9 nights accommodation in 3 and 4 star hotels
- 8 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 5 dinners

SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience Christchurch and see how it has been rebuilt from the devastation of earthquakes
- Enjoy a cruise on Milford Sound, one of New Zealand's iconic natural wonders
- Continue the drive to Queenstown, driving the mesmerising Crown Range.
- Enjoy a peaceful evening cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard New Zealand's oldest steamship, the TSS Earnslaw
- Spend time in Queenstown, New Zealand's adventure capital
- Travel on board the TranzAlpine, considered one of the world's greatest train journeys
- Visit the beautiful unspoilt old French whaling depot of Akaroa
- Spot dolphins, penguins and seals while on a cruise of Akaroa Harbour

TRAIN INFORMATION

TranzAlpine, between Greymouth and Christchurch

Scenic Class carriage experience combines comfort and panoramic views, making our trains the perfect way to explore New Zealand.

At the heart of our Scenic Class experience are spacious reclined seats, panoramic windows, glass shelves and skylights. These details bathe our carriages in light and bring New Zealand's famous landscapes to your seat.

Our Scenic Class carriages deliver extremely wide viewing angles by spacing the seating out. This spaciousness also creates generous amounts of legroom and comfort.

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE

Inspiring Vacations has been globally recognised and awarded for its handling of COVID-19 during the pandemic. The safety and wellbeing of

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our guests is our highest concern during this time of uncertainty, and we are continuously monitoring the evolving COVID-19 situation.

We have adopted the advice of the WHO to ensure all customers can travel with the knowledge of how to travel safely and with confidence.

Australian owned and operated with 100% Australian Customer Service support

We are proudly 100% Australian owned and operated, with our head office located in Melbourne, Victoria. When you make your booking, you will receive dedicated and ongoing support from our team of travel professionals throughout your booking, up until you are due to depart.

Flexible Date Change Option

Book now, change later with our Flexible Date Change option. You may select this \$99pp option at time of purchase, giving travellers the flexibility to change your date without penalty (subject to availability, less third party costs incurred, plus any applicable surcharges for the new date selected).

Date change must be requested prior to 65 days before your original selected departure date*. Once inside 65 days of departure, date changes are not permitted.

*some packages may have a varied period in which you can request a date change due to limitations with the third-party provider.

Please refer to our 'Book with Confidence' section for terms and conditions.

The Flexible Date Change option does not cover cost incurred for components not fulfilled by Inspiring Vacations or in the event extra services have been booked with Inspiring Vacations outside of the standard package, including but not limited to airfares, pre/post accommodation or insurance.

Cooling off period

If you change your mind within 7 days of making your booking online, you can request a refund of your initial deposit payment as part of our cooling off period.

Once your purchase date falls outside of the 7 day period, our standard terms and conditions will apply. Please ensure that any request to

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cancel your booking is received via email to support@inspiringvacations.com, including the reason for cancellation.

Fine Print

HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

Deposit & Payments

- Book now and secure your package with a \$450 deposit per person.
- Pay a 2nd instalment of \$1,196 per person within 28 days.
- You will then be invoiced for final payment 65 days prior to departure.

Booking Process

- 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password
- Then select the red 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected
- Select your Departure Date, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests
- Click the red 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab
- Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment. You may also pay via BPAY (not available within 70 days of departure)
- Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking
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- Your booking is on request and will be confirmed by Inspiring Vacations once all components of your package have been secured with our partners, please see below for further information

Booking On Request

- Your Inspiring Vacations package is made up of multiple components and travel partners. Once your booking is made and passenger details form submitted, we will begin to confirm all of your arrangements. Please note, this process can take several business days to complete.
- Once all elements have been confirmed we will send you an email confirmation, if we are unable to confirm we will provide

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you with alternative dates or offer a full refund of your deposit or re-credit your account if a travel credit was used.

- Please DO NOT book any additional services, such as flights, until we have confirmed your Inspiring Vacations package in writing. Inspiring Vacations will not be liable for any fees or charges incurred to change or cancel components not booked by Inspiring Vacations should your selected package be unavailable.

OPTIONAL TOURS

To enhance your journey, we are offering guests a choice of the following optional activities (prices are per person):

- Christchurch (Day 10): Discover Christchurch Double Decker City Highlights Tour - \$60
- Christchurch (Day 10): Christchurch Tramway Experience - \$26

Optional tours can be selected once you have finalised your tour purchase and paid your deposit. When completing your Passenger Booking Form, you will be asked if you would like to add Optional Tours, where any applicable cost will be added to your final balance. If you choose not to select them at this time, you can choose to add them later by logging in to your Account online or speaking with your Dedicated Support Agent for assistance.

Please note that you must select your Optional Tours no later than 65 days before departure, after which you will be required to purchase them on tour. Please keep in mind that anything purchased on-tour is subject to availability. We appreciate your understanding.

EXCLUSIONS

- No meals, unless stated in the itinerary
- International Flights
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary
- Personal expenses
- Optional activities
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Fitness Requirements

While the tour itinerary should give you some guidance and overview to the expected requirements, to determine if this tour is right for you we categorise each of our tours in terms of their intensity. These guidelines are to ensure that each tour group is conducted as expected and to ensure the overall satisfaction of all Inspiring Vacations customers.

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As a general rule, portage is not included, therefore at all times you are expected to handle your own luggage where help may not be available.

This particular tour is categorised as a "3".

3 – Moderate Tour: A good level of fitness and mobility is required, as this tour includes a moderate level of physical activity and is considered a medium-fast paced tour. You should be able to walk up and down stairs and able to walk reasonable distances of approximately 2 kilometres per day or more with ease. Any physical ailments you may have must be disclosed at the time of booking to determine your suitability. If you have any form of walking aids, other than a walking stick or hiking poles, then this tour is not suitable.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Single supplement is \$1,556 per person in addition to the twin-share price.

Triple Share

Not available.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is required to protect yourself against the unexpected.

We have partnered with nib to offer our customers competitive rates for their travel insurance. You can book comprehensive or budget cover simply by clicking [HERE](#) to arrange your policy.

Tour Documentation

Final documentation including, e-tickets and hotel details, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Group Size

Maximum 49

Children

Children must be 5 years old or above and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.

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