

DAY 1: AUCKLAND

Arrive at any time.

Optional Activities: Auckland Sailing: America's Cup Experience (Pre Tour)

Accommodations: CityLife Auckland(or similar)

DAY 2: AUCKLAND

Take an orientation walk in Auckland, one of the most multicultural cities in the Southern Hemisphere. We'll then catch a ferry to beautiful Waiheke Island, a haven of world-class vineyards and idyllic beaches. Visit wineries to learn about New Zealand's burgeoning wine industry and the history of viticulture in the country while sampling some of the local blends.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Optional Activities: Maritime Museum Visit

Accommodations: CityLife Auckland(or similar)

DAY 3: AUCKLAND/ROTORUA

Drive to the lakeside town of Rotorua, situated over an active geothermal zone and known for its volcanic features and rich Maori heritage. Stop en route at the Waitomo Glowworm Caves, and take a boat ride through this spectacular underground realm to see thousands of flickering glowworms light up in the dark.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Accommodations: Millennium Rotorua(or similar)

DAY 4: ROTORUA

On a full-day excursion, head to the Maori-owned Kohutapu Lodge, our base for exploring New Zealand's indigenous culture. See ancient rock carvings and learn about their spiritual significance to the Maori people, both past and present. Watch as a hangi lunch is prepared the traditional way--buried in an underground pit—and enjoy the resulting feast with your Maori hosts. After lunch, take a walk through the 800-year-old podocarp trees in Whirinaki Rainforest, learning the history of the forest and spotting endemic birds and medicinal plants. Return to Rotorua for an optional evening meal or a well-deserved soak in the hot springs.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Optional Activities: Hot Springs

Accommodations: Millennium Rotorua(or similar)

DAY 5: ROTORUA/CHRISTCHURCH

Enjoy time at leisure this morning before catching a flight to Christchurch on New Zealand's South Island. Take some time to explore this small city on your own.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Accommodations: Distinction Christchurch Hotel(or similar)

DAY 6: CHRISTCHURCH/FRANZ JOSEF

Board the TranzAlpine train—one of the world's most scenic rail routes—for a breathtaking journey through verdant plains, beech forests, and majestic, misty mountains. After a whistle stop at Arthur's Pass—the highest pass in the Southern Alps— continue to the end of the line in Greymouth, gateway to the West Coast. Continue on a private vehicle to a rainforest lodge near the town of Franz Josef, our home for the next two nights.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Accommodations: Rainforest Retreat(or similar)

DAY 7: FRANZ JOSEF

Discover the natural wonders of the Franz Josef area on your own today. Opt to embark on a walk in the area; soak in natural hot pools surrounded by spectacular mountain scenery; and more.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Optional Activities: Franz Josef Kayaking, Hiking

Accommodations: Rainforest Retreat(or similar)

DAY 8: FRANZ JOSEF/QUEENSTOWN

Set out towards Queenstown on a drive along the South Island's magnificent west coast. Stop at tranquil Lake Matheson, where, on a clear day, you can capture a postcard-perfect image of New Zealand's highest peaks reflected in the water. Continue to Queenstown, pausing for short walks through the rainforest and visits to picturesque waterfalls.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Accommodations: Peppers Beacon Hotel(or similar)

DAY 9: FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK DAY TRIP

Discover the glacially carved wilderness of Fiordland National Park on a cruise. Glide past shimmering waterfalls and towering cliffs, and look out for bottlenose dolphins, fur seals, and little blue penguins with our naturalist guides. Travel back to shore, head to Queenstown for the night.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Accommodations:Fiordland Navigator Boat(or similar)

DAY 10: QUEENSTOWN

After breakfast spend the rest of the day at leisure in this fun-loving lakeside town, known as the adventure capital of the world. Opt to visit a vineyard for a tour, or simply wander around, cafe hopping and sightseeing.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Optional Activities: Vineyard Tour

Accommodations: Peppers Beacon Hotel(or similar)

DAY 11: QUEENSTOWN

The day is yours to explore Queenstown. Choose to cruise lake Wakatipu on a historic steamer; experience a thrilling jet boat ride; or visit a local winery to sample the region's award-winning vintages. This evening, enjoy a cable car ride to the top of Bob's Peak for panoramic vistas of Lake Wakatipu and the Southern Alps and then have dinner together as a group.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Optional Activities: Earnslaw Steamship Cruise, Shotover Jet Boating, Vineyard Tour

Accommodations: Peppers Beacon Hotel(or similar)

DAY 12: QUEENSTOWN

Depart at any time.

Meals Included:Breakfast