

## *8 Days A touch of Chocolate, Garden & Wine*

Daily Departure & can be extended at any city

### **DAY01 Singapore – New Zealand**

#### **DAY02 Arrival in Canterbury Christchurch**

On arrival in Christchurch - The South Island's largest city, Christchurch is an entertaining mixture of refined lifestyle and cultural excitement, you will be transferred to your hotel. The tranquil Avon River meanders through the city and adjacent Hagley Park, historic buildings house a lively arts community and restored trams make it easy for visitors to get around. Heritage sites, museums and art galleries, Tram & Botanic Garden and enjoy the highly developed restaurant scene you may like to visit after check in. Hotel: Camelot or similar

#### **DAY03 Canterbury Chocolate & Garden**

After being greeted with a remarkable real hot chocolate, we spend two hours with the most amazing chocolatier who has a terrific sense of humour and who will guide you through learning about the history of high quality chocolate - tasting and rating as we go. You will also taste the most pure and expensive chocolate on the planet (she is NZ's only seller) - a rare and special treat!

Next she will teach you and give you hands on experience (lots of it) on how to work with chocolate and you will get to make your own chocolate treats to take away with you.

Once we are all cleaned up, we finish with a pure chocolate fondue which introduces a whole lot of new chocolate taste sensations - think blue cheese amongst others..!

You will have the opportunity to purchase the tools and chocolate used on your tour as our chocolatier has put together an attractive take away kit which includes fine chocolate, tools, moulds and small recipe and tips booklet - a great souvenir or gift for others.

After the chocolate overload (or heaven) we will drive to Hagley Park, one of New Zealand most beautiful, for a refreshing walk before sitting down to coffee and a light lunch before moving off to a fudge factory.

Here we watch the creation of one of world's favourite confections made the good old fashion way with condensed milk and real flavours. We get to taste the fudge hot and ask plenty of questions about the process unfolding before us.

Afternoon – Hop onto a Caterpillar Garden Self Guided Tours offers informative and fully guided electric shuttle tours through Christchurch's spectacular city centre Botanic Gardens. Established in 1863, the gardens span an area of 21 hectares hosting without doubt the finest collection of exotic and indigenous plants to be found anywhere in New Zealand.

Operating a continuous daily service, Caterpillar Garden Tours allows visitors to discover the natural beauty, history and culture of this central city oasis while at the same time being taken around the gardens in all weather, comfort and style.

The professionally-guided tours have been designed to allow visitors the flexibility of staying on the shuttles for the full circuit to embrace the flora and fauna of the gardens at their leisure. Alternatively visitors can choose to "hop on or hop off" at any of the clearly-identified stops around the Gardens.



#### **DAY04 Canterbury Christchurch – Mt Cook National Park – Queenstown**

Travel by road to Mount Cook, Australasia's highest mountain, through the spectacular scenery of the Canterbury Plains, the foothills of the Southern Alps from Geraldine to Fairlie and through the MacKenzie Basin, with its brown snowgrass-covered landscape which has an almost desert like aspect, to Lake Tekapo.

Obtain an idyllic photograph of the Church of the Good Shepherd on Lake Tekapo with its backdrop of magnificent alpine scenery.

Next to Lake Pukaki where the Tasman Valley opens into the MacKenzie Basin with Mount Cook and the surrounding snow covered peaks in the background.

Follow journey to Queenstown - is an internationally recognised four seasons alpine and lake resort. With a wide variety of things to see and do, it is perfect for adventurers and leisure seekers alike.

Hotel: Kingsgate or similar

#### **DAY05 Milford Sound**

Milford Sound is simply stunning. It is a natural wonder of world fame. In Maori legend, the fiords were created not by rivers of ice, but by Tu Te Raki Whanoa, a godly figure who came wielding a magical adze and uttering incantations. Milford Sound (Piopiotahi) is without doubt his finest sculpture.

Whatever the fiord's mood - teeming with rain or with sun glistening on deep water - it will inspire you. Nowhere else in Fiordland do the mountains stand as tall, straight out of the sea. In the foreground of the fiord stands the legendary Mitre Peak, a remarkable presence dominating the skyline.

The Milford Road (between Te Anau and Milford) travels through some of the world's most impressive alpine scenery. Our experienced drivers love sharing some of the breathtaking highlights and there is plenty of time for photo opportunities.

**DAY06 Arrowtown, Bungy Bridge, LOTR site + Kawarau Jet & Underwater Observatory**

We depart and head to Queenstown Hill for the first of several photo stops. The view point offers panoramic vistas over town, Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables Mountain Range. (10 minute stop) The most spectacular photo opportunity in Queenstown. Spectacular panoramic views over the town centre, Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables Mountain Range. Remember to bring your camera for picture postcard photo opportunities.

The tour then follows a route along the Frankton Arm and into the Wakatipu Basin, past stunning Lake Hayes, home of several protected bird species. Then on into the mouth of the Kawarau Gorge, one of many filming locations for The Lord of The Rings – Pillars of the Kings: Be transported to Peter Jackson’s Middle Earth at the Kawarau Gorge, film location for the Pillars of the Kings. Beautiful views of river & mountains, Great for photo.

On crossing the Kawarau river there are great views of our next stop, the world famous AJ Hackett Bungy Bridge, the birthplace of bungy jumping as we know it. Here we join the "Secrets of Bungy Tour" a 20 minute tour that gives a behind the scenes look at how bungy jumping started, the technology used and it allows access to restricted viewing areas to watch live bungy jumping action. The photo op. is up close and very personal. Get a behind the scenes look at how bungy jumping started, how bungy cords are made and privileged access to restricted viewing platforms. Fantastic photos of the Kawarau Suspension Bridge, the bungy jumping platform and all the live bungy action.

A short drive up the road takes us to Gibbston Valley Winery, one of the pioneering vineyards in the region which has gone on to win world acclaim for the fine wines it produces. The Pinot Noir Reserve 2000 was voted the World’s Best Pinot Noir in the 2001 International Wine Challenge held in London. There is the opportunity to taste a selection of 4 wines, browse around the wine shop delicatessen

Next stop is the historic gold mining settlement of Arrowtown, one of the "Must-Do" activities for those visiting the area. The picturesque town retains its old world charm through careful preservation of its colourful history and colonial style architecture. The Lakes District Museum located in the old Bank of New Zealand building is well worth a visit. It has fine exhibits of early European settlement and the gold-rush era of the mid 1800's. Ample time to wander around the shops and cafes in the main street or follow the marked trail through the Chinese Settlement. The picturesque town retains its old world charm through careful preservation of its colourful history and colonial style architecture. Highlights are the Lakes District Museum, Remarkables Sweet Shop and the great shops and cafes in the high street. .

Afternoon make your way to Main Town Pier in the centre of Queenstown. Across the pristine waters of Lake Wakatipu and through the tranquil beauty of the willow lined Kawarau River, the Jet boat then speeds into the shallow, fast moving braids of the Shotover River. The 43 kilometre, hour long adventure highlights the magnificent diversity of Queenstown’s waterways. Unique glimpses of local life are afforded as the homes lining the lakeshore flash by, before passengers take in stunning views of the Remarkables mountain range and natural land formations. But it’s not just the views and river gardens – the excitement begins on the Shotover River, where your driver’s skills are challenged as he navigates the shallow, braided channels of this world-renowned river. At speeds of up to 85 kilometres per hour, in water often less than 10cm deep – this is where the Jet boat comes into its own.

When you return to the Main Town Pier you’ll descend beneath the lakes surface to view the Underwater Observatory where you can feed the fish that thrive close to the shore. Photos from your trip can be purchased here as mementos of your unique Jet boat adventure.

In an unforgettable Jet boat experience you’ll be transported from the sophisticated downtown area into the channels of two of New Zealand’s most scenic rivers.

**DAY07 Queenstown – Canterbury Christchurch**

You will be transferred to coach depot & then travel up north over the Lindis Pass into the Mackenzie Country. Continue your journey to Christchurch

Hotel: Camelot or similar

**DAY08 Christchurch – Singapore**

You will be transferred to airport for your home sweet home.

**Inclusive:**

- \*Detail itinerary and comprehensive tour wallet.
- \*Six nights accommodation – room only basis.
- \*Chocolate tours
- \*Garden Caterpillar
- \*Milford Sound day trip
- \* Arrowtown, Bungy Jump Bridge + LOTR site
- \*Jet Boat & Underwater Observatory
- \*All coach travel. All transfers.

8D6N A touch of Chocolate, Garden & Wine	01APR10 – 30SEP10			01OCT09 – 31MAR10 01OCT10 – 31MAR11			01APR11 – 30SEP11		
	TWN	TRP	SGL	TWN	TRP	SGL	TWN	TRP	SGL
Room only	1999	1969	2639	2139	2089	2859	2059	2019	2769
With Breakfast	2228	2188	2858	2358	2318	2288	2278	2258	2988

*Note: Rates is in NZD and Subject to our In-House Ex-change Rates. Are rates are subject to changes without prior notice.*

*## For reservation, please call for appointment. – Depart Nov to Mar please book early (less than one month is Urgent Booking – Admin Charge may apply!!)*