

Wonderland

Auckland to Christchurch • 17 or 14 Days from \$5935

Commencing in Auckland, journey to the beautiful Bay of Islands where you'll spend two nights in this National Maritime Park. Travel through the North Island to the geothermal city of Rotorua. Continuing to the capital city of Wellington, you'll then join a spectacular cruise across Cook Strait and through the Marlborough Sounds to Blenheim. Travel on the renowned TranzAlpine train through gorges, river valleys and across the magnificent Southern Alps. See the rugged West Coast and Franz Josef Glacier before proceeding to Queenstown, an adventurers' paradise. Cruise the full length of Milford Sound and discover Dunedin with our Exclusive Experiences options, where you choose the activity.



This itinerary effective 1 April 2010

Day 1. Arrive Auckland, Exclusive Experiences

On arrival in Auckland, be met and transferred to your hotel. This afternoon select your touring activity. Perhaps climb to the top of Auckland Bridge for stunning views, visit the Auckland Museum or the Maritime Museum, take a Pride of Auckland cruise on Waitemata Harbour or enjoy a City Sights tour. Alternatively, you may like to visit Kelly Tarlton's Underwater World, enjoy a Wilderness Adventure in the Waitakere Rainforest, or indulge in a relaxing Bliss Reflexology treatment.
Stay: Auckland, Skycity Hotel.

Day 2. Auckland, Bay of Islands (BD)

Cross Auckland's Harbour Bridge, travel along the Hibiscus Coast and visit the Matakoho Pioneer Museum. Continue to the Waipoua Kauri Forest Reserve and see the majestic kauri tree, Tane Mahuta, Lord of the Forest. On arrival in the Bay of Islands, tour historic Waitangi Reserve.
Two Night Stay: Bay of Islands, Paihia Pacific Resort.

Day 3. Bay of Islands, Exclusive Experiences (B)

Today choose the activity that interests you most. Options include a visit to the top of New Zealand at Cape Reinga, a tour of historic Russell and a visit to the Kerikeri Basin to browse through its arts and crafts.

Overnight Cruise option available tonight.*

Day 4. Bay of Islands, Auckland Theme Dinner (BD)

This morning explore the Bay of Islands on a cruise to Cape Brett and the Hole in the Rock. Returning to Paihia, rejoin the coach and travel back to Auckland. This evening enjoy dinner and spectacular views high above the city at The Observatory Restaurant. **14 Day passengers (NCC14) arrive** in Auckland today, and choose from our range of **Exclusive Experiences**.

Stay: Auckland, Skycity Hotel.

Day 5. Auckland, Waitomo Caves, Rotorua, Theme Dinner (BD)

Travel south to the Waitomo Caves for a tour of the underground limestone caverns. Join a silent boat ride and glide through a mystical grotto lit by thousands of glow-worms. Then continue to Rotorua. Tonight enjoy a Maori Hangi feast and performance of song and dance.
Two Night Stay: Rotorua, Heritage Hotel.

Day 6. Rotorua, Exclusive Experiences (BD)

Today choose a touring activity to match your interests. Among other options available are a 4WD Bush Safari, a relaxing treatment at the Polynesian Spa and a visit to Rotorua's iconic attractions including Te Puia Thermal Reserve and the Agrodome for a sheep show.

Country Homestay option available tonight.

Day 7. Rotorua, Wellington (BD)

Follow the Thermal Explorer Highway to the heart of the North Island and view Wairakei steam valley, where thermal energy is harnessed in the world's second largest geothermal power plant. Visit Huka Falls and Lake Taupo, then travel across the volcanic plateau of World Heritage-listed Tongariro National Park on your way to Wellington.
Stay: Wellington, James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor.

Ride the TranzAlpine train through the Southern Alps



Colourful lupins in Mt Cook National Park



Image courtesy of Tourism New Zealand – Haast River Safari

Enjoy a thrilling river boat ride on the Haast River