

15D13n Seasons Symphony

Daily Departure & can be extended at any city

DAY01 Singapore/Christchurch

Depart Singapore for New Zealand Tour..

DAY02 Arrival in Canterbury Christchurch

On arrival in Christchurch - The South Island's largest city, Christchurch, take a short walk to International Antarctic Centre. After your Hagglund Ride, 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: Millennium Hotel or similar.

DAY03 Canterbury Christchurch – Greymouth – Pancake Rock – Greymouth

The TranzAlpine –Christchurch to Greymouth, rated one of the world's great scenic railway journeys!

The TranzAlpine scenic train journey travels between Christchurch & Greymouth, from one coast of New Zealand to the other. From your carriage you'll see the fields of the Canterbury Plains and farmland, followed by the spectacular gorges and river valleys of the Waimakariri River. Your train then climbs into the Southern Alps before descending through lush beech rain forest to the West Coast town of Greymouth – a great base for visits to Punakaiki and the always popular glaciers.

About 2.15pm, you will be pick-up for your Pancake Rock Tours. Paparoa National Park the most popular is the Pancake Rocks and Blowholes walk, suitable for families (20 minutes return), the other is the Truman Track (30 minutes return). The famous Pancake Rocks and Blowholes are just a 20 minute loop walk from where you park your vehicle on the main highway at Punakaiki. Looking like giant pancakes the curious limestone formations are especially spectacular at high tide in a westerly sea.

Take the left-hand branch at the first fork. It passes through a dark canopy of wind-shorn coastal forest where there are fine examples of nikau - New Zealand's only native palm. Tree ferns and kiekie vine feature among the tangle of subtropical species closer to the forest floor. In clear weather Aoraki//Mt Cook and other high peaks of the Southern Alps make a picture in the far south.

At the first fork on the track listen for the sound of activity at the Sudden Sound Blowhole a few metres straight ahead. This blowhole only sprays when the sea is very rough but it does emit a noise like a train in a tunnel as the sea surges through subterranean passages.

To the left of the fork the track descends to the Surge Pool where you look down on a dramatic spectacle as the sea powers in underneath, sometimes through a huge build-up of foam.

Nearby, the Chimney Pot Blowhole emits columns of spray as the sea gushes in through a narrow rock channel. The track crosses a bridge between pot and pool and climbs to a viewpoint above Putai - the biggest blowhole. Putai is more a fissure than a hole. When the sea thunders through the caverns below, a mixture of compressed water and air escapes upward as a wall of spray, visible for a long distance on stormy days.

Hotel: Kingsgate Hotel or similar

DAY04 Greymouth – Twin Glaciers – Lake Matheson – Glacier Country

Set off your journey South into South West New Zealand World Heritage Area huge rivers of ice, living remnants of the ice ages, carve a spectacular landscape from the snowfields of the Southern Alps to their terminal faces near sea level. Get up close and hear the glaciers creaking and cracking as they constantly grind down the valleys.

Near Fox Glacier is Lake Matheson, formed some 14,000 years ago from a huge sheet of trapped ice. On calm days, the deep, still waters provide a brilliant reflection of Mt Cook and Mt Tasman.

Hotel: Glacier Country or similar

DAY05 Glacier Country – Hasst – Wanaka (B/D)

By coach into the Westland World Heritage Park to Hasst Pass (Haast is located in the heart of the Te Wāhipounamu South-West New Zealand World Heritage Area. This incredible scenic landscape takes in

Westland Tai Poutini National Park, Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park to the east, and Fiordland and Mt Aspiring National Parks further south) then continue to Lake Wanaka.

The house is a stone and timber house featuring local schist stone, large Jarrah beams, native Beech flooring and Redwood panelling.

The grounds are in an early stage of development although they still produce colour at most times of the year. Fruit and nut production from the grounds is domestically prolific. **Usually the choice of fruit for breakfast is organically grown on the property.** We have apples, pears, plums, peaches, nectarines and apricots. These are frozen for the off season but in the fruit season they are cooked direct from the tree. This usually starts from plums before Christmas and ends with apples in early May. We also have almonds, walnuts and chestnuts.

Stonehaven is situated in the Mt. Barker area near the Cardrona River after the Cardrona valley expands through lateral and terminal moraines deposited at the end of the last ice age 8 to 10 thousand years ago. From the valley floor there is a panoramic view of the local mountains: from the mountains of the Cardrona valley including Mt. Cardrona itself and little Criffel to the south; the Hawea mountains to the east; Mt Maud, Mt Brown and Mt Gold to the North; to the mountains of the Matukituki valley and Mt Roy to the west.

Dennis Schwarz and Carolyn Schwarz have a deep and abiding interest in trees and have developed an arboretum over the last twenty years. This arboretum is about two hundred metres down Halliday Lane. Initially the planting was sited with landscape planning as the main accent but very quickly the accent changed to a tree collection. The landscaping principles remain. The accent of the arboretum is very strongly autumn colour. From the reds of the early rowans, red maples, sugar maples, Japanese maples and tupelo, to the early winter oranges of the willow leaf cherry and a South American beech and the early winter red of different South American beech.

The collection comprises some 500 species from 150 Genera. The greatest number of species occur in the genera of pinus (pines) with a slight accent on Mexican and nut pines; acer (maples) with the accent on hardiness and wind tolerance and producing glorious reds yellows and oranges; Sorbus (rowans) with a nationally significant collection and in general very well suited to our climate producing berries coloured from white through yellow and gold orange red pink and purple and foliage from yellow to purplish red. We have a growing collection of malus (crab apples) and many special trees of good colour.

Meals: Breakfast & dinner is inclusive at the homestay.

Hotel: Country Lodge homestays or similar

DAY06 Wanaka – Queenstown (B)

Transfer to coach depot by the host & continue your coach journey to Queenstown.

Hotel: Rees Hotel (Lake View on request – 3 pax base on 2 bedroom unit) or similar

DAY07 Queenstown – Milford Sound – Fiordland National Park Te Anau

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.

The eighth wonder of the world

Fiordland was well known to Maori, who have many legends recounting its formation and naming. Demi-god Tute Rakiwhanoa is said to have carved the rugged landscape from formless rock, hewing out the steep sided valleys with his adzes.

From the lakeside townships of Te Anau and Manapouri, you can experience Fiordland in the way that suits your travelling style. Adventurers can embark on kayaking tours of the lakes and fiords; hikers have access to a choice of well known walking challenges; scenery lovers can catch a scenic flight or enjoy lake and fiord cruises; divers can discover rare black corals growing just beneath the water's surface.

Hotel: Kingsgate or similar

DAY08 Fiordland Te Anau – Dunedin

By luxury coach travel from Fiordland National Park gateway city Te Anau, you go across Southland (has experienced remarkable growth and development in recent years and boasts a range of world-class facilities, many initiatives of regional benefit and an expanding range of visitor attractions that feature some of the most distinctive landscapes in the country Farming, forestry and horticulture form the region's economic base, but Southland also has a diversity of manufacturing for export. It is one of the fastest growing tourist regions in New Zealand due to its unspoilt nature and wide recognition of it being a place to restore the soul) to Dunedin.

Hotel: Kingsgate Hotel or similar

DAY09 Dunedin

This premier package includes the full Otago Harbour and Taiaroa Head Wildlife Cruise, scenic Otago Peninsula bus tour, and guided tours of the Royal Albatross Colony, the Yellow Eyed Penguin Reserve and a visit to wading bird habitats. Include a tour of Larnach Castle, one of Dunedin's great landmarks.



DAY10 Dunedin / Taieri Gorge Train – Queenstown

The Taieri Gorge Railway comprises 60 km of the Otago Central Railway of the New Zealand Railways, started in 1879 and closed in 1990. It takes you on a journey through the rugged and spectacular Taieri River Gorge, across wrought iron viaducts and through tunnels carved by hand more than 100 years ago.

With full commentary, photographic stops, comfortable heating in winter and on board refreshments the train offers year round, all-weather entertainment.

You can make the return journey to Pukerangi, or Middlemarch, or use the train as the one leg of your journey to or from Queenstown and Central Otago on our connecting 'Track & Trail' coach

Hotel: Rees Hotel (3 pax is base on 2 bedroom unit) or similar

DAY11 Queenstown

Today is a free day for you to join some optional tours.

Like LOTR Tours, Jet boat, white water rafting, The Earnslaw steamer cruises, etc.

DAY12 Queenstown – Mt Cook National Park

You will be transferred to coach depot & then travel up north over the Lindis Pass to reach Mt Depart Queenstown and travel through the rugged and beautiful landscape of Otago. Cross the Lindis Pass into the Mackenzie Country to visit Mount Cook Village at the base of New Zealand's highest mountain Aoraki / Mount Cook. Here there is time to experience an optional scenic helicopter or skiplane flight with a snow landing (weather permitting). At 3754 metres, New Zealand's highest mountain, Aoraki Mount Cook is dazzling, yet there are 27 other mountains in this alpine backbone which peak at over 3050 metres, and hundreds of others not far short of that – all making up the famous Southern Alps.

Hotel: Hermitage Hotel (motel wing) or similar.

DAY13 Mt Cook National Park – Lake Tekapo (B)

Continue your journey via the Church of the Good Shepherd on the shores of Lake Tekapo.

This is a unique opportunity to visit a fully functioning scientific observatory where astronomers from the University of Canterbury (New Zealand) and Nagoya University (Japan), amongst others, are conducting fascinating research using large 1-metre and 1.8-metre telescopes.

Our experienced guides will describe the exciting new MOA (Microlensing Observations in Astrophysics) project which uses the largest telescope in New Zealand (see image right) to observe over fifty million stars each clear night, searching for dark matter and new planetary systems orbiting other stars.

Enjoy the stunning panoramic views while learning about the spectacular geographical features of the Mackenzie basin, its alpine lakes, glacial deposits and mountain ranges. Your guide will also relate the history of the area, recounting infamous tales of sheep stealing and lupin spreading!

Take time out and relax in the surrounds of our ultra-modern glass Astro Café and enjoy fresh food and great coffee while sitting 300 metres above the turquoise waters of Lake Tekapo. Stargazing tours depart nightly from our office in the Lake Tekapo township. We will take you to our observatory high above the village where we will explore features of the majestic Southern Sky.

Tonight you will see the million stars – if weather is good! We provide the equipment and the guidance, all you need to bring are keen eyes, warm clothes and a desire to see, learn, and experience!

Navigating our way through the Southern Sky using various telescopes and the naked eye, we will show you amazing sights such as our own Milky Way Galaxy, the Southern Cross, Alpha-Centauri – our closest neighbouring star at only 4.3 light years away – and Sirius, the brightest star in our sky.

Behold and learn about our closest neighbouring galaxies, the Magellanic Clouds, which grace our night sky along with constellations such as Orion the Hunter and Scorpius. You may also have the opportunity to see star clusters like the beautiful Jewel Box; awe-inspiring planets; nebulae, immense clouds of gas and dust; and distant galaxies which test the limits of human imagination.

Hotel: Godley Resort Lake View (subject to availability – book early) or similar.

DAY14 Lake Tekapo – Christchurch

Travel up north across the Canterbury plains - heart of the South Island is a region of sweeping plains, rolling hills and unspoiled coastline. Set against a backdrop of the spectacular Southern Alps, the Central South Island is diverse, authentic, and full of unexpected discoveries. The Central South Island is the ideal destination for your next holiday. Including the towns of Fairlie, Geraldine, two hours drive south of Christchurch.

Hotel: Millennium Hotel or similar.

DAY15 Christchurch – Singapore

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



Inclusive:

- ⇒ Detail itinerary and comprehensive tour wallet.
- ⇒ Thirteen nights accommodation – room only basis
- ⇒ Breakfast at Glacier Country Hotel, Country Lodge stay & Hermitage
- ⇒ Antarctic Centre & Hagglund ride
- ⇒ Tranz Alpine train.
- ⇒ Pancake Rock
- ⇒ Twin Glacier
- ⇒ Lake Matheson
- ⇒ Milford Sound cruise
- ⇒ Taieri Gorge Train
- ⇒ Wildlife Cruise – Royal Albatross, Yellow Penguins & Larnach Castle
- ⇒ Stargazing night tours
- ⇒ All coach & train journeys. All transfers

15D13N Season Symphony	01APR09 – 30SEP09			01Oct09 – 31Mar10 01Oct10 – 31Mar11			01APR10 – 30SEP10		
	TWN	TRP	SGL	TWN	TRP	SGL	TWN	TRP	SGL
Room only	4389	4829	5599	4669	5039	6029	4489	4999	5989
With Breakfast	4798	4768	5968	5038	5398	6408	4858	5358	6358

*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!!) - For this tours; once accommodations confirm minimum Deposit NZ\$1000 per pax – Non Refundable!*