

The Classic Collection

The Classic Collection is our premiere touring option. With no more than 16 guests on any tour and such an incredible choice of things to do and places to see, we set out to give you plenty of time to sightsee, relax and savour the local lifestyle and culture.

Relax in stylish surroundings

Accommodation is usually high up on the list of importance on any holiday. At the end of a day's travel or activity, you'll want to freshen up and relax in a hotel that makes you feel at home. That's why the properties featured in our Classic Collection series have been very carefully chosen for their superior level of comfort, exceptional amenities, friendly staff and service and for their superb location.

We hope that you will take the opportunity to stay a few extra nights in the gateway cities, either at the beginning or end of your holiday. We particularly recommend this for travellers who may be arriving off long-haul flights. An extra day or two will certainly help you in getting over any jet lag and will ensure you are relaxed and refreshed before setting off on your journey around New Zealand.

Bed & Breakfast (price per person)	Share twin	Single
Auckland		
Duxton Hotel	\$130	\$230
Heritage Auckland Hotel	\$150	\$265
Christchurch		
Novotel	\$135	\$235
Heritage Christchurch Hotel	\$150	\$265
Wellington		
James Cook Grand Chancellor	\$135	\$240

Please note: Normal hotel check-in time is 2.00pm on the day of arrival. Whilst hotels will do all possible to accommodate an earlier check-in, this cannot be guaranteed.



More than just the usual sightseeing

Our Classic Collection tours include all the 'must-see' highlights of New Zealand plus many exclusive extras. We feature a fantastic mix of cultural, adventure & general sightseeing activities, some of which are only available to small groups.

On any given day, you could be cruising across a crater lake, swimming in natural thermal pools, flying over glaciers, mountains, waterfalls & rainforests, getting up close to & tasting ice from 500-year old icebergs, exploring spectacular fiords, experiencing the thrills of an action packed jet-boat ride or enjoying a guided heli-tour of an active volcanic island. Our trips feature them all!

But on those days when nothing is planned, we let you decide what you want to do.

Holidays are traditionally a great time to spread your wings & try something new but experience has shown that some of the best things in life involve the unexpected, which is why we don't plan everything for you. We believe it's important to have the right balance between a full, well-organised itinerary & the freedom to do your own thing, so within the framework of your journey with us, there is ample time and flexibility for your own personal exploration.

We offer excitement, leisure and adventure in their various forms and you can put them together to end up with the holiday you want! Your Tour Host will be only too pleased to advise & guide you as to all the options available.

Fabulous cuisine

We appreciate that individual appetites vary. Every day begins with a full cooked breakfast at your hotel and some tours may feature evening and specialty meals. When not included, we encourage you to seek out and enjoy the great variety of bistros, cafés and restaurants that offer indoor and al-fresco dining. After all, discovering new and exciting places to eat is a fun part of any travel experience!

Complimentary airport transfers

We offer all our guests complimentary, private limousine transfers on arrival and departure. Simply have your travel agent provide us with your flight details and we will meet you on arrival and see you to your first night's accommodation. At the end of your holiday, we'll make sure you get to the airport in plenty of time for your onward flight.



Pacific Escapade

18 Days – Auckland to Christchurch



Highlights & Inclusions

- Group size won't exceed 16 guests
- 17 nights superior hotel accommodation
- 2 night stopovers in Rotorua, Napier, Marlborough Sounds & Christchurch
- 4 nights in majestic Queenstown
- Accompanied throughout by professional, experienced Tour Host
- Full breakfasts daily, 1 lunch & 2 dinners
- Spectacular Coromandel Peninsula & Driving Creek Railway
- Twilight cruise across Lake Rotoiti to Manupirua Pools
- Exclusive Lake Tarawera cruise, Blue & Green Lakes and Te Wairoa Buried Village
- Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Reserve
- Huka Falls, Wairakei Geothermal region & Lake Taupo
- Guided Art Deco Walk, Napier
- Pukaha Mount Bruce, National Wildlife Centre
- Wellington, the nation's capital & Te Papa National Museum
- Scenic Interislander cruise
- Stunning Kenepuru Sound
- World famous TransAlpine Train through the magnificent Southern Alps
- Twin Glaciers of Franz Josef & Fox
- Historic Arrowtown and beautiful Southern Lakes District
- Optional tours & overnight cruises of Milford & Doubtful Sounds
- World-Heritage listed Mt Cook National Park
- See & touch glaciers & icebergs up-close on your Tasman Glacier Explorer expedition
- Lake Tekapo & the Church of the Good Shepherd
- Complimentary airport transfers by limousine

Explore all the 'must-see' areas of New Zealand as well as some of the special lesser-known regions on this classic 18-day holiday. We will take you on an extraordinary journey through some of the most spectacular scenery in the world. This trip includes some exclusive & exciting excursions yet still offers plenty of time for you to 'do your own thing'.

Day 1 – Arrive Auckland

On arrival, you will be met by our representative & transferred by limousine to your city hotel.

Stay Heritage Auckland Hotel

Day 2 – Auckland, Coromandel Peninsula (B)

The Coromandel Peninsula is a beautiful, rugged area fringed with dozens of excellent beaches & is a place where many kiwis choose to escape the hustle & hype of city life. At the quaint township of Coromandel, we ride the Driving Creek narrow gauge railway to a fascinating artist colony.

Stay Grand Mercure Puka Park Resort

Day 3 – Coromandel, Rotorua (B,D)

Travel along the Bay of Plenty coastline to Tauranga & Mt Maunganui. Then head inland across the volcanic plateau to the geothermal city of Rotorua, an area that has enchanted visitors from around the world for more than 160 years. On arrival, enjoy a twilight cruise across Lake Rotoiti to the natural mineral springs of Manupirua Pools before enjoying a lakeside BBQ dinner at your resort.

Stay Duxton Hotel Okawa Bay (2 nights)

Day 4 – Lake Tarawera Cruise & Te Wairoa Buried Village (B,L)

Today's highlight is an exclusive cruise across the pristine, clear waters of Lake Tarawera. Experience spectacular scenery and soak in the thermal waters of Hot Water Beach. This afternoon, visit the Blue & Green Lakes and the famous buried village of Te Wairoa.

Day 5 – Lake Taupo, Napier (B)

This morning, visit Wai-O-Tapu, a wonderland of geothermal activity. Walk at your own pace and marvel at the reserve's unique features that include the world famous Champagne Pool, geysers, bubbling mud, steaming ground, expansive vistas, huge volcanic craters and sinter terrace formations. Stop at the mighty Huka Falls & Wairakei Geothermal project, then wander around the popular lakeside resort of Taupo. Continue on to Napier, one of the world's finest Art Deco cities. Your local guide will bring this fascinating architecture to life on your walk around the town this afternoon.

Stay Te Pania Hotel (2 nights)

Day 6 – At leisure in the Hawke's Bay (B)

Widely regarded as the 'Tuscany of the South Pacific', this region boasts some of New Zealand's best and oldest wineries. You can enjoy a guided wine trail and taste some of the great wines produced locally, visit the world's largest mainland Gannet Colony, play a challenging round of golf at Cape Kidnappers, take to the skies on an early morning balloon ride over vineyards, olive groves and orchards or simply relax and enjoy your surroundings.

Day 7 – Wairarapa, Mt Bruce & Wellington (B)

Travel through the rural heartland of the Wairarapa region to Pukaha Mount Bruce, New Zealand's National Wildlife Centre. In this beautiful setting of native forest you will see the finest collection of New Zealand native birds to be found anywhere. Later, continue on to Wellington, the nation's capital, where you enjoy a brief sightseeing and orientation tour before checking into your accommodation.

Stay James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor





Day 8 – Picton & the Marlborough Sounds (B)

This morning is at leisure to explore what Wellington has to offer. A visit to Te Papa National Museum is highly recommended. Travel across Cook Strait by Interislander ferry to the picturesque fishing village of Picton. Join your water taxi for the transfer to your accommodation.

Stay The Portage Resort (2 nights)

Day 9 – Stunning Kenepuru Sound (B)

A free day to relax & marvel at the magic that is the Marlborough Sounds. Resort staff will share their love of the Sounds with you through the wide range of water and nature based experiences they put at your fingertips. There is also the opportunity to visit the vineyards & wineries located in the famous Marlborough wine region.

Day 10 – Kaikoura Coast, Christchurch (B)

Travel through Blenheim to Kaikoura, the world-renowned whale-watching centre of New Zealand. Later, we continue south to the “Garden City” of Christchurch, regarded as the most English of New Zealand cities.

Stay Heritage Christchurch Hotel

Day 11 – Spectacular TransAlpine Train, Franz Josef & Fox Glaciers (B)

Today board the TransAlpine train for “The Great New Zealand Rail Adventure”, rated as one of the most scenic train journeys in the world. The TransAlpine winds its way over massive viaducts, through spectacular river gorges and tracks its way up and across the spectacular Southern Alps via the alpine village of Arthur’s Pass. Travel along the dramatic West Coast to the township of Fox Glacier for our overnight stay.

Stay Te Weheka

Day 12 – Haast, Wanaka, Queenstown (B)

There is the opportunity to experience an optional scenic flight over this remarkable region before our departure this morning (subject to weather conditions). Today, view incredible scenery as you travel past the untouched native forests and pristine lakes of the World Heritage Westland National Park and Haast Pass. Time to wander around the popular lakeside townships of Hawea and Wanaka before travelling to Queenstown, a beautiful alpine resort regarded as New Zealand’s premier holiday destination.

Stay Heritage Queenstown Hotel (4 nights)

Day 13, 14 & 15 – Explore Queenstown & the Fiordland National Park (B)

Enjoy three full days to experience this magnificent resort. Surrounded by majestic mountains, Queenstown boasts adventure activities in all forms, from extreme to relaxed exploration. Here you can take a thrilling jet boat

ride, pan for gold, raft the white water rapids, take a wine trail, fish for trout, play golf or 4WD sheer canyons. It is also a great base from which to explore the Fiordland National Park, and optional day tours & overnight cruises to the awesome Milford & Doubtful Sounds are available.

Day 16 – Arrowtown, Mt Cook National Park (B,D)

Set beneath the rugged Crown Range is Arrowtown, a fascinating collection of mining cottages with an atmosphere straight out of last century. Enjoy some time to stroll through this historic village, once a haven for the gold prospectors of the 1860’s. Later, we travel up the western side of Lake Pukaki to the Mt Cook National Park, a World Heritage listed site. The park covers over 70,000 hectares of breathtaking alpine scenery. Optional ski-plane & helicopter flights are available subject to weather conditions.

Stay Mt Cook Hermitage Hotel

Day 17 – Tasman Glacier, Lake Tekapo, Christchurch (B)

Experience the Tasman Glacier in the most unique way possible. An experienced guide will whisk you away in a stable MAC Boat to explore the melting ice-face of the glacier. Touch & taste 400-year old icebergs that have been carved into the murky waters of the lake. Visit beautiful Lake Tekapo and view the tiny Church of the Good Shepherd before crossing the vast Canterbury Plains to the ‘Garden City’ of Christchurch.

Stay Heritage Christchurch Hotel

Day 18 – Depart Christchurch (B)

Sadly, your holiday is at an end and you will be transferred to Christchurch airport today for your onward flight. Here, we bid you ‘Haere Ra’, a fond farewell and hope you leave with many happy memories of your stay.

Departure Dates		
2011: Jan 02, 09, 16, 23; Feb 02, 06, 09, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27; Mar 06, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27; Apr 03, 10, 17, 24; May 15; Jun 12; Jul 10; Aug 07, 21; Oct 16*, 23*, 30; Nov 06, 13, 20, 27; Dec 04, 11, 18		
2012: Jan 01, 08, 11, 15, 22, 29; Feb 01, 05, 08, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26; Mar 04, 11, 14, 18, 25; Apr 01, 08, 15, 22		
Prices	Twin	Single
01 Jan - 30 Apr '11	\$7,945	\$10,345
01 May - 30 Sep '11	\$6,885	\$8,999
01 Oct - 30 Apr '12	\$8,099	\$10,599

*Tours operate in reverse direction i.e. Christchurch to Auckland.

