

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.



Nikau

13 Days – Auckland to Christchurch / 9 Days – Auckland to Wellington



Highlights & Inclusions

- 12 or 8 nights superior hotel accommodation
- 2 night stopovers in Auckland, Rotorua, Napier, Marlborough Sounds & Christchurch
- Accompanied by professional Tour Host on days 3-11
- Full breakfasts daily, 2 lunches & 1 dinner
- 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 Mt Bruce National Wildlife Centre
- Wellington, the nation's capital & Te Papa National Museum
- Scenic Interislander cruise
- Stunning Kenepuru Sound
- 4WD & TranzAlpine Train High Country expedition with thrilling jetboat ride



Golden beaches, geothermal wonders, rolling farmlands, vineyards and olive groves combine with cosmopolitan cities to offer guests a thrilling tour of the North Island. For those travelling on to Christchurch, enjoy the Marlborough Sounds, Kaikoura coast and travel across the Southern Alps on the world-famous TranzAlpine Train.

Day 1 – Arrive Auckland

On arrival, you will be met by our representative & transferred by limousine to your city hotel. The 'City of Sails' is New Zealand's largest and most vibrant, offering an exciting array of cosmopolitan experiences.

Stay Heritage Auckland Hotel (2 nights)

Day 2 – Auckland at leisure [B]

Auckland's blend of islands, rainforest, Polynesian culture, glistening harbours and modern city environment creates an unbelievable lifestyle that is ranked amongst the highest in the world. Auckland provides visitors with so many wonderful experiences, plenty within easy reach of the downtown city centre. Today is a free day at leisure to relax & explore what Auckland has to offer.

Day 3 – Auckland, Coromandel Peninsula [B]

Today, travel south to the Coromandel Peninsula, a beautiful rugged area fringed with dozens of excellent beaches that separate the Pacific Ocean from the Hauraki Gulf. It is a place where many kiwis choose to escape the hustle & hype of city life and is home to many arts & crafts people who seek an alternative lifestyle. At the quaint township of Coromandel, we ride the Driving Creek narrow gauge railway to a fascinating artist colony before crossing the divide to the eastern side of the peninsula for our overnight stay in Tairua.

Stay Grand Mercure Puka Park Resort

Day 4 – 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 at our resort, 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 5 – Lake Tarawera Cruise & Te Wairoa Buried Village [B,L]

Today's highlight is an exclusive cruise aboard the luxury vessel 'Clearwater Spirit' across the pristine, clear waters of Lake Tarawera. You'll have the opportunity to soak in the thermal waters of Hot Water Beach and experience some of the country's best trout fishing before enjoying a gourmet picnic lunch. Visit the Blue & Green Lakes and then wander around the famous buried village of Te Wairoa.

Day 6 – Lake Taupo, Napier [B]

This morning, visit Wai-O-Tapu (meaning Sacred Waters), a wonderland of geothermal activity. Walk at your own pace and marvel at the reserves unique features that include the world famous Champagne Pool, geysers, bubbling mud, steaming ground, expansive vistas, huge volcanic craters and sinter terrace formations. Stop to view the mighty Huka Falls & Wairakei Geothermal project and then take time to wander around the popular lakeside resort of Taupo. Then, it's 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 7 – Discover Hawke’s Bay & surrounding area [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. [B]

Day 8 – Wairarapa, Mt Bruce & Wellington [B]

Travel this morning 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, including the Takahe, the rarest & most colourful of all New Zealand’s birds. The centre also houses tuatara, various lizards and native bats in its nocturnal house. Also watch out for the enormous eels and trout which loiter under the bridges, waiting for handouts. 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 9 – 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. This afternoon, travel across Cook Strait, the stretch of water that separates the North and South Islands of New Zealand. The journey across Cook Strait has a dramatic beauty all of its own. Both Islands can be viewed, including the magnificent Kaikoura ranges, and there is often the chance to see wildlife such as seabirds, dolphins, seals, whales and orca. On arrival in Picton, join your water taxi and transfer to your resort.

Stay The Portage Resort (2 nights)

[Passengers leaving the tour in Wellington today will be transferred to the airport for their onward flight].

Day 10 – 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 range of water and nature based experiences they put at your fingertips. The wide beach access is great for fishing, boating, sailing, swimming & sea-kayaking and there is a wealth of walks and meanderings in the immediate vicinity. There is also the opportunity to visit the vineyards & wineries that are located in the famous Marlborough wine region.

Day 11 – Kaikoura Coast, Christchurch [B]

Return by water taxi to Picton. Rejoin your coach and travel through Blenheim to Kaikoura, world-renowned as the 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 (2 nights)

Day 12 – 4WD High Country TranzAlpine Experience [B,L]

Travel by road through the Canterbury Plains to the Waimakariri Gorge in the foothills of the rugged Southern Alps. Travel by jet boat through the gorge deep into the Southern Alps to areas otherwise inaccessible. Rendezvous with the Unimog and travel in this unique 4WD vehicle to Mt Torlesse Station, viewing spectacular alpine scenery en-route. After lunch, travel by road to Arthur’s Pass National Park where you return to Christchurch aboard the world-famous TranzAlpine train.

Day 13 – Depart Christchurch [B]

Sadly, your holiday is at an end and you will be transferred to Christchurch airport today for your onward flight.

Departure Dates		
2011: Jan 01, 08, 15, 22; Feb 01, 05, 08, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26; Mar 05, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26; Apr 02, 09, 16, 23; May 14; Jun 11; Jul 09; Aug 06, 20; Oct 29; Nov 05, 12, 19, 26; Dec 03, 10, 17, 31		
2012: Jan 07, 10, 14, 21, 28, 31; Feb 04, 07, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25; Mar 03, 10, 13, 17, 24 31; Apr 07, 14, 21		
Prices – 9 days	Twin	Single
01 Jan - 30 Apr '11	\$3,870	\$4,939
01 May - 30 Sep '11	\$3,355	\$4,275
01 Oct - 30 Apr '12	\$3,945	\$5,029
Prices – 13 days	Twin	Single
01 Jan - 30 Apr '11	\$5,680	\$7,215
01 May - 30 Sep '11	\$4,855	\$6,135
01 Oct - 30 Apr '12	\$5,710	\$7,315

