



NEW ZEALAND SPLENDOR

Auckland to Christchurch – 15 -Days, 1 country, 26 meals, from \$5775 per person



DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES	DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES
1	Arrive Auckland	Spend the day discovering this North Island Hotspot, the City of Sails	8	Twizel - Dunedin	Journey along Waitaki River, stopping at Waitaki Hydro Power Scheme & Benmore Dam. Your choice- Larnach Castle, Taieri Gorge Railway, Speight's Brewery and more
2	Auckland – Rotorua	Sightseeing Tour, Glow Worm Grotto of Waitomo. Embark on tour of limestone caves with “local specialist” and Lake Rotorua tour	9	Dunedin - Te Anau	See Scottish Dunedin then on to Milford Sound. Opt experience: Glow Worm Cave
3	Rotorua	Your choice – Thermal Reserves, Hobbiton movie Set or WWII-era Duck ride. Tonight, dive in to Maori Culture and traditional foods	10	Te Anau - Queenstown	Journey through rainforest, ancient glacier and mountain ranges, through Homer Tunnel to cruise on beautiful Milford Sound
4	Rotorua – Wellington	Journey to the raging waters of Huka Falls that feed Lake Taupo. Evening tour of Te Papa Museum followed by a regional meal savoring local flavors	11	Queenstown -	Opt choices today – jet boat, luge ride, Kiwi Birdlife Park, etc. Evening cruise on TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak High Country Farm for BBQ and after-dinner farm show.
5	Wellington – Blenheim	Free time to explore the Capital of Cool, then cross Cook Strait to seaside Picton before arriving in Blenheim for a regional meal of local produce and the famous Marlborough regional wines	12	Queenstown - Franz Josef	Gold mining, juicy stone fruit experience and glacier/lakes/falls at Mt. Aspiring Nat'l Park
6	Blenheim - Christchurch	Learn about the whaling heritage of Kaikoura with possible whale sightings from the shore. Then Cross the colorful Canterbury Plains.	13	Franz Josef - Punakaiki	Jade factory & jewelry demo by a master carver. Then to limestone rocks & blowholes.
7	Christchurch- Twizel	Be My Guest BBQ lunch with locals & learn about farming in New Zealand. Optional experiences: Franz Josef/Fox Glaciers, Cook Mt. scenic flight	14	Punakaiki - Christchurch	Board the TranzAlpine train for one of the world's most scenic journeys across the Southern Alps. Farewell dinner.
			15	Christchurch	Journey home after morning breakfast

**Join us as we tour New Zealand from Auckland to Christchurch
February 11 – February 25, 2020
Tour fares starting at \$5775 per person**

Your adventure through New Zealand's soul-stirring natural landscapes will take you past spectacular glaciers and alpine peaks, culminating in a vintage encounter with TSS Earnslaw on Lake Wakatipu.

This trip is operated in conjunction with Trafalgar's sister company and South Pacific Specialists, AAT Kings.

*Pricing is for the tour only, is based on double occupancy and is subject to change based on availability and current specials offered at the time of booking. Air and insurance are not included.

For more information and details contact:

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ALL THIS IS INCLUDED:

- **CONNECT WITH LOCALS** - Join your hosts Angie and Stan Taylor in their home for a barbecue lunch and hear about a lifetime spent farming in New Zealand. (Day 7)
- **DIVE INTO CULTURE** - Discover Visit Te Papa Museum of New Zealand, and learn about the traditions of the Māori. (Day 4)

Full Itinerary

Day 1 ARRIVE AUCKLAND – Auckland extends a warm welcome as you transfer to your hotel and spend the day discovering why this North Island hotspot has justifiably earned its reputation as the City of Sails.

Day 2 AUCKLAND - ROTORUA (2 NIGHTS) – See the iconic and unexpected sights of Auckland during a sightseeing tour, then head south to the Glow Worm Grotto of Waitomo. Admire the luminescent walls that guide your boat tour through its glimmering depths in the company of a 'Local Specialist' and embark on a walk through the limestone caves to see its exquisite natural formations. Continue to the heritage hub of Rotorua, where you'll take an orientation tour against the backdrop of Lake Rotorua.

Day 3 ROTORUA SIGHTSEEING – Today your choice of sightseeing: unwind at the Polynesian Spa; visit Te Puia and tour through the Whakawerawera Thermal Reserve; take a fascinating tour to discover the wizardry behind the Hobbiton movie set or explore Rotorua and its three lakes in an amphibious WWII-era Duck. Tonight, Māori culture and traditions take centre stage on a visit to the Tamaki Maori Village. 'Dive into Culture' as you wander through the ancient forest village and learn about the Māori way of life, followed by a concert featuring local performers. You'll also have an opportunity to savour the flavours of an authentic Hangi Regional Meal, steamed underground in the traditional way.

Day 4 ROTORUA – WELLINGTON - Cross forest-clad landscapes and lush farmland to the raging waters of Huka Falls, which feeds New Zealand's largest lake, Lake Taupo. Continue your journey south, over the central plateau and along the rolling Kapiti Coast to New Zealand's capital city, Wellington. This evening, you'll 'Dive into Culture' during an exclusive guided tour of Te Papa Museum of New Zealand followed by a Regional Meal savouring local flavours.

Day 5 WELLINGTON – BLENHEIM - Explore the Capital of Cool on your terms this morning with some free time to see such highlights as the Parliament buildings or savour the aromas of Welly's coffee culture. This afternoon, take to the tranquil waters of Queen Charlotte Sound after crossing Cook Strait. You'll visit seaside Picton and stop in Blenheim where this evening your Regional Meal is prepared from local produce, paired with the delicate Sauvignon Blanc flavours that have made the Marlborough wine region famous.

Day 6 BLENHEIM – CHRISTCHURCH - Delve into the whaling heritage of Kaikoura, where sperm whales can often be seen not far from shore. Journey along the Pacific Ocean coast and across the colourful Canterbury Plains to Christchurch, a city revealing an effortless fusion of modern verve and the elegance of yesteryear.

Day 7 CHRISTCHURCH – TWIZEL - Visit Morelea to 'Connect with Locals' over a Be My Guest barbecue lunch, meeting your hosts Angie and Stan Taylor who will share insights into a lifetime spent farming in New Zealand. The flavours of Angie's famous pavlova will linger as you continue to the soul-stirring landscapes of Lake Tekapo to view the little stone-hewn Church of the Good Shepherd. Consider taking to the skies on an Optional Experience scenic flight over Mt. Cook, the Southern Alps and on to Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers. Mountain country beckons and your final stop today is in the heart of Mackenzie Country.

Day 8 TWIZEL - DUNEDIN SIGHTSEEING - Journey along the Waitaki River, taking a brief stop at the Waitaki Hydro Power Scheme and Benmore Dam. Continue to the township of Oamaru with its famous white limestone buildings and then on to soaring spires of Dunedin. This afternoon, your choice of sightseeing: tour Larnach Castle, New Zealand's only castle; ride the historic Taieri Gorge Railway; take the Monarch Wildlife Cruise or embark on an interactive tour of the Speight's Brewery.

Day 9 DUNEDIN - TE ANAU - Delve into the Scottish heritage of Dunedin, exploring its youthful student atmosphere before journeying across lush pastoral lands to the village of Te Anau, the gateway to the natural splendour of Milford Sound. Tonight, consider an Optional Experience to the Te Anau Glow Worm Caves, where you'll cruise through ancient limestone caves and admire their luminous show.

Day 10 TE ANAU - QUEENSTOWN (2 NIGHTS) - Keep your camera at hand as you journey through the natural wonderland of rainforest, ancient glacier and mountain ranges. Continue through the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel, and past Mirror Lake, Pop's Lookout, Cleddau Valley and the Chasm. Cruise the startlingly beautiful Milford Sound, slicing through its tranquil waters past such highlights as Bowen Falls and Mitre Peak. Later, travel over the Devil's Staircase and along the shores of Lake Wakatipu en route to the adventure capital of Queenstown.

Day 11 QUEENSTOWN SIGHTSEEING - Prepare for a thrill a minute on your choice of sightseeing: ride the Shotover Jet boat; take a gondola to Bob's Peak for thrilling luge rides; visit Kiwi Birdlife Park or take a 4WD minibus excursion through Skippers Canyon. This evening cruise across Lake Wakatipu aboard New Zealand's oldest steamship, the TSS Earnslaw, to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a gourmet barbecue Regional Meal at the Colonel's Homestead. Enjoy an entertaining after-dinner farm show providing a glimpse into high-country farm life, then return to Queenstown to sample the festive nightlife.

Day 12 QUEENSTOWN - FRANZ JOSEF - Delve into the rich gold mining heritage of Arrowtown before savouring the juicy flavours of apricots, peaches and plums in Cromwell, New Zealand's stone fruit capital. Your journey to the icy depths of Franz Josef Glacier will see you pass a trio of lakes - Dunstan, Hawea and Wanaka - as well as Haast Pass and Thunder Creek Falls in Mt. Aspiring National Park.

Day 13 FRANZ JOSEF – PUNAKAIKI - Your first stop is Hokitika, New Zealand's greenstone (jade) centre, where you'll admire the delicate stone-craft, during a visit to a local factory and jewellery demonstration by a master carver. Travel to Punakaiki next, to see the limestone Pancake Rocks and Blowholes channelling the force of the Tasman Sea. This evening, you'll stay at one of Trafalgar's 'Stays with Stories', an eco-friendly resort on the waterfront.

Day 14 PUNAKAIKI – CHRISTCHURCH - Board the TranzAlpine train at Arthur's Pass for one of the world's most scenic journeys across the Southern Alps bound for Christchurch. Your journey across New Zealand's North and South Islands almost at its end, you'll indulge in a Farewell Dinner with newfound friends.

Day 15 DEPART CHRISTCHURCH – Your vacation concludes this morning after breakfast. You will be transferred to Christchurch Airport for your onward flight (flights anytime).