

Trafalgar Tours: Contrasts of New Zealand 2017

Day 1 - Arrive Auckland (2 Nights)

Welcome to Auckland! On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel (flights to arrive prior to 4pm). The afternoon is free for you to explore the city. You could visit the Sky Tower for amazing views of the city. Perhaps visit the Auckland Museum or go shopping in stylish Parnell. This evening join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Reception and dinner at 'Eight' at The Langham. Your personal degustation is prepared for you from the freshest, quality ingredients, including mouth-watering seafood and delicious desserts. Welcome Reception, Dinner

Day 2 - Auckland Sightseeing

Start the day with a sightseeing tour. You'll see Bastion Point, the War Memorial, Viaduct Harbour, the Auckland Harbour Bridge and more. Later, board your cruise on Auckland's Waitemata Harbour. Sit back and relax, the time is yours, it's the best way to see Auckland, the City of Sails! Buffet Breakfast

Day 3 - Auckland - Rotorua

Trace the Waikato River to the Waitomo Caves. Tour the amazing Glow Worm Grotto by boat with a Local Specialist and walk through the limestone caves. From here your journey continues to Rotorua, where you'll visit Te Puia (New Zealand's Maori culture and geothermal experience). A Maori Local Specialist will escort you through the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve with its mud pools and geysers. This evening enter the traditional world of the Maori. Enjoy a Hangi Be My Guest dinner accompanied by local wine, and a powerful and entertaining cultural performance, at the Tamaki Family Marae. Buffet Breakfast, Be My Guest Dining

Day 4 - Rotorua - Christchurch

Your morning sightseeing tour includes a visit to Rainbow Springs Nature Park, where with a Local Specialist you will discover native bush, ferns and trees that grow around the crystal clear mineral water springs. You may even spot a kiwi, New Zealand's national icon! Then visit the Agrodome Farm Show, the multi-award-winning stage show, for a Cultural Insight into agriculture in New Zealand. You'll see the art of sheep shearing, sheepdog demonstrations, cow milking, bottle-feeding of lambs and an exciting sheep auction. In the afternoon you'll fly to Christchurch. Buffet Breakfast

Day 5 - Christchurch - Franz Josef

Start the day with a spectacular train journey on the TransAlpine from Christchurch through the Southern Alps to Arthur's Pass. At the small town of Hokitika visit a New Zealand greenstone (jade) factory for a jewellery demonstration with a Local Specialist. Next you'll arrive at the magnificent Franz Josef Glacier. You'll have the opportunity to see it from the air on an optional scenic flight (weather permitting). Buffet Breakfast, Dinner with wine

Day 6 - Franz Josef - Queenstown (3 Nights)

Get your camera ready today as you'll experience some spectacular sights. Drive over the Haast Pass, past Thunder Creek Falls, Lakes Wanaka, Hawea and Dunstan. Enjoy the tastes of delicious stone fruit at Cromwell, the stone fruit capital. Next you'll visit the historic gold mining village of Arrowtown before arriving in Queenstown, where an orientation tour completes your day. This evening join your Travel Director for dinner at The Boatshed set in the historic New Zealand Railways Shipping Office built in 1936. Restored and relocated to its lakefront setting, The Boatshed, with its spectacular views of Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables mountain range, is the perfect venue for your exclusive Regional Meal with wine. Buffet Breakfast, Regional Meal

Day 7 - Milford Sound Cruise

Journey over the Devil's Staircase and along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau and its lake, the largest in the South Island. Travel through the rainforest of World Heritage Fiordland National Park, sighting glaciers and mountain ranges. Drive through the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel to the numerous photo opportunities afforded by the Mirror Lake, Pop's Lookout, Cleddau Valley and the Chasm, Mitre Peak and Bowen Falls before reaching mystical Milford Sound. Enjoy lunch while you cruise on this wonder of nature. Return to Queenstown this evening. Buffet Breakfast, Lunch

Day 8 - Queenstown Free Time

Today you may like to consider taking one of our Optional Experiences. You could ride the Shotover Jet boat, join a wine tour, play a round of golf, take a 4WD minibus excursion through Skippers Canyon, relax with a spa treatment at Millbrook Resort or just explore Queenstown on your own. This evening perhaps ride a gondola to the Skyline Restaurant for dinner. Buffet Breakfast

Day 9 - Queenstown - Christchurch

You'll be awestruck by the sensational alpine landscape of Mt. Cook National Park. You may wish to take an optional scenic flight over Mt. Cook (weather permitting). See Lake Pukaki, and at Tekapo you'll stop to view the charming Church of the Good shepherd. Later, you are welcomed into the home of Angie and Stan Taylor to enjoy a Be My Guest lunch in their 600 acre garden and gain an insight into the day to day operation of farm life. Then travel over the Canterbury Plains to Christchurch, where you'll join your Travel Director and new-found friends this evening for a Farewell Dinner. Buffet Breakfast, Be My Guest Dining, Farewell Dinner

Day 10 - Depart Christchurch

Your holiday concludes this morning after breakfast. You will be transferred to Christchurch Airport for your onward flight (flights anytime). Buffet Breakfast