

KIWI EXPERIENCE

SMALL GROUPS, BIG ADVENTURES AUTHENTIC NEW ZEALAND EXPERIENCES

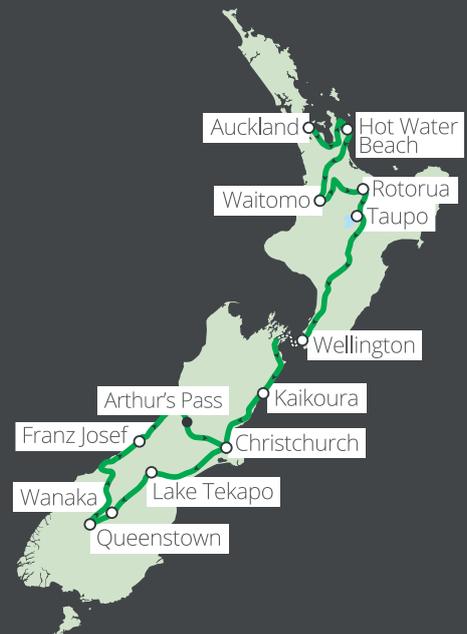
17 DAY TOUR

NORTH & SOUTH ISLAND

▶ Start Auckland ▶ Finish Christchurch

The most immersive experience possible! From the secluded beaches and volcanic craters in the north, to the mountains, glaciers and fiords of the south. Adventure activities aplenty throughout the trip. From Auckland to Christchurch and everything in between, this tour has New Zealand covered.

FROM NZ \$2799



On the night before your tour starts, accommodation is included at: TMACS Hostel, Auckland. If you'd like, feel free to join us for a group welcome meeting at 6pm the night before the tour departure in the lobby.

DAY 1

Auckland ▶ Hot Water Beach

Departing Auckland at 9am from TMACS, we head south east to the pristine beaches of the Coromandel and the world famous Cathedral Cove (included). Here you have the option to kayak around this stunning coastline (optional activity) as well as the opportunity to visit Hot Water Beach (included); a unique surf beach where if you catch the tide right, you can dig a hole in the sand to create your own personal spa pool.

ACCOMMODATION: Hot Water Beach Holiday Park

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Soak up the vibe of the Coromandel & visit Cathedral Cove
- ▶ Visit Hot Water Beach to dig your own hot pool



DAY 2

Hot Water Beach ▶ Karangahake Gorge ▶ Waitomo

Leaving the gorgeous Coromandel behind we'll venture into the enchanting Karangahake Gorge nestled among the Kaima ranges, for a hike (included) amongst the walkways and old mining tunnels. If that isn't enough fun for one day, then never fear, next we'll be heading over to Waitomo for a magical tour of the world famous glow-worm caves (Included!). For those feeling a little more adventurous you will have the opportunity to upgrade to a Black Water Rafting trip.

ACCOMMODATION: Top 10 Holiday Park Waitomo

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Hike through the Karangahake Gorge
- ▶ Experience the magical Glowworm Caves in Waitomo



DAY 3

Waitomo ▶ Hobbiton ▶ Rotorua

Saying goodbye to those glowing little critters, we'll get on the road to Rotorua, passing through The Shire of Hobbiton where you'll have the opportunity to discover the Hobbiton movie set. We'll then roll on through to Rotorua; a mystical land of bubbling mud pools, rocketing geysers and natural hot springs. First we'll stop off at Kuirau Park (included) walk for a relaxing mud pool, before leaving you with the remainder of the day to experience Rotorua your way. Optional activities (which are not included) are: lugging down the SkyLine, White Water Rafting, Hells Gate, Waiatapu, Mountain biking through the Redwoods, Zorb, Polynesian spa or Kiwi Encounter.

ACCOMMODATION: YHA Rotorua

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Māori culture, history and art at Te Puia
- ▶ Geothermal walk across the geyserland and lakes in Rotorua



DAY 4

Rotorua ▶ Tamaki Māori Village

Today is going to be pretty special as we head off around midday to visit the Tamaki Māori Village where you will be immersed in the traditions and cultural values of the Māori people. Participate in a pōwhiri (welcoming ceremony), learn about the history of the marae (village) and the Rotorua-area from a local Māori guide before feasting on some top kai (food) from the hāngi pit. Afterwards, gather around a blazing bonfire where you will enjoy Māori myths and legends before relaxing in a private forest spa pool and retiring for the night in a traditional carved wharemoae (sleeping house).

ACCOMMODATION: Tamaki Māori Village

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Māori cultural night
- ▶ Traditional hāngi dinner at Tamaki Māori village



DAY 5

Tamaki Māori Village ▶ Taupo

Onto Great Lake Taupo we go, taking in a walk to the pounding Huka Falls (included) before heading up river to the more tranquil Spa Park to experience a geothermal natural spa (included). In Taupo there is lots to do, just tell us what you're in the mood for and we'll get you there. The lake itself (actually an extinct volcano crater) is a sight to behold from the shoreline (included), but the more adventurous might want to take the opportunity to sail across the lake on a yacht to the Māori rock carvings, or even get a birds-eye view by skydiving above it.

ACCOMMODATION: Taupo Urban Retreat

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Huka Falls and walkway to a natural spa



DAY 6

Free day in Taupo

Taupo's central location mean it's a hop, skip and a jump away from other world class activities which we give you the option to experience on day six. Head up the Sky Waka to experience Mount Ruapehu or hike the Tongariro Alpine Crossing; a dramatic landscape of stunning contrasts created by extinguished lava flows and emerald lakes. It's no surprise Tongariro is often described as one of New Zealand's best one-day hikes.

ACCOMMODATION: Taupo Urban Retreat



DAY 7

Taupo ▶ Wellington

For the final day of our tour, we'll cruise through the southern end of the North Island to the capital, Wellington. Here you can experience Mount Victoria (included) and then passengers have the opportunity to experience the national museum, Te Papa and get amongst the thriving craft beer scene.

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Soak up the vibe of the capital Wellington



DAY 8

Wellington ▶ Kaikoura

Today you'll kick off by experiencing what's regarded as one of the most beautiful inter-island crossings in the world, the Cook Strait (included). Arriving into the top of the South Island we'll journey through the dreamy Marlborough region, home to more vineyards than your eyes can see. Stopping off for a tasting (or two...) along the way (included) to Kaikoura to spot unique marine life and experience local Kiwi cuisine.

ACCOMMODATION: Dusky Lodge or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Ferry Transfer
- ▶ Wine Tasting in Marlborough



DAY 9

Kaikoura ▶ Christchurch

Start the day with a sleep-in or for the more adventurous head out to sea to witness spectacular marine life such as dolphins, whales, albatrosses and so much more (extra activity). Around mid-morning, we'll head up the Kaikoura Peninsula walkway to walk among a large seal colony (included). After a morning experiencing a real-life Planet Earth episode we'll cruise to the diverse city of Christchurch, where we will go on a walking tour of the city (included) to learn about the street art, see the blooming botanical gardens, and learn about the history of a city that's experienced so much in recent times.

ACCOMMODATION: YHA Christchurch or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ See a large seal colony
- ▶ Walking tour in Christchurch



DAY 10

Christchurch ▶ Lake Tekapo

Saying goodbye to Christchurch we'll hit the road and cruise into the magnificent Mackenzie Country, home to Lake Tekapo. Here we will visit the charming stone Church of the Good Shepherd (included), sat next to the breathtakingly blue waters of the lake framed with colourful lupins. As night falls, we will visit the 'Dark Sky Project' situated amongst the UNESCO Dark Sky reserve. (Included!)

ACCOMMODATION: Lakefront Lodge Tekapo or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Church of the Good Shepherd
- ▶ Dark Sky Project, Lake Tekapo



DAY 11

Tekapo ▶ Mt Cook ▶ Wanaka

Cruising past the 'powerade factory' Lake Pukaki (you'll know what we mean when you see it) we head for Mount Cook village where we will hike the Hooker Valley Walk (included) which has breath-taking views which will break your internet and blow your mind. Here you will have the opportunity to experience the Tasman Glacier by helicopter or take a scenic flight through the Aoraki National Park. From mid - morning, we will continue to cruise through the National Park, through the stunning Lindis Pass through to Wanaka.

ACCOMMODATION: YHA Wanaka or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Hooker Valley Walkway
- ▶ Wanaka & Roys Peak hike shuttle



DAY 12

Wanaka ▶ Queenstown

Here in Wanaka, we will have the morning to hike the famous Roys Peak (included), snap 'That Wanaka tree' or climb Mount Iron (included). For the more daring in the group there's the option to experience via ferrata 'Wild Wire' or hit up the lakeside trails on a mountain bike. Late afternoon, you can catch your breath in the back of the bus as we cruise through the Crown ranges and head for the adrenaline fuelled Queenstown. We'll end the day heading up the Gondola (included) for a tasty dinner at the 'Skyline' overlooking Queenstown.

ACCOMMODATION: Nomads Queenstown or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Queenstown Skyline Gondola & dinner
- ▶ Roy's Peak Shuttle



DAY 13

Free day in Queenstown

On day 6 you will have a full day to fill with activities that suit all budgets and appetites for adventure. Try your hand at activities such as white water rafting, bungee jumping, skydiving, jet-boating or paragliding... if you dream it, it probably exists here in Queenstown. Speak to your Guide who will be able to point you in the right direction.

ACCOMMODATION: Nomads Queenstown or similar



DAY 14

Free day in Queenstown

Today we will head out into the heartlands of Otago to the picturesque town of Glenorchy to experience a scenic landscape brimming with southern charm.

ACCOMMODATION: Nomads Queenstown or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Glenorchy tour



DAY 15

Queenstown ▶ Franz Josef

Leaving bright and early we leave behind Queenstown and set off for Franz Josef. This is one of the most scenic drives of your tour. We'll cruise by the breath-taking Lake Hawea, past the aptly named 'Blue Pools' and visit the pounding Thunder Creek Falls before visiting Lake Matheson; a spot that makes a mockery of Instagram filters. We'll then arrive in Franz Josef where we'll retire to a wilderness hostel deep in the rainforest itself.

ACCOMMODATION: Rainforest Lodge or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Scenic drive
- ▶ Visit the Thunder Creek Falls & Lake Matheson



DAY 16

Free day in Franz Josef

Today free day in Franz Josef where you have the opportunity to experience a Heli-Hike to the famous Glacier or you can explore this lush corner of New Zealand (for free) on foot and hit up the many trails in the area. For those wanting something a little more special to take home with them; passengers can head up the road to nearby Hokitika to carve their own greenstone necklace (pounamu).

ACCOMMODATION: Rainforest Lodge or similar

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Explore the glacial valleys of Franz Josef & carve your very own pounamu pendant



DAY 17

Franz Josef ▶ Christchurch

On your final day we will cruise through the Arthur's Pass National Park, a landscape of two halves. On the eastern side you'll see wide, shingle-filled riverbeds and vast swathes of beech forest. Descend the western side and you venture through dense rainforest alongside and over deeply gorged rivers. Along this road we will stop off at the Devil's Punch Bowl and the breath-taking Castle Hill. (Included.) You tour will end in Christchurch, a small city with a big heart.

Included Experiences:

- ▶ Arthur's Pass National Park
- ▶ Devil's Punch Bowl, Castle Hill



17 DAY NORTH & SOUTH ISLAND SCHEDULE 2019 / 2020

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
4th November	2nd December	6th January	1st February	2nd March	3rd April	2nd May
		10th January	3rd February	9th March	6th April	3rd May
		13th January	7th February	16th March	10th April	
		20th January	10th February	30th March	13th April	
		27th January	17th February			
			24th February			