

# NEW ZEALAND



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**SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS & TAILOR MADE HOLIDAYS**

**2018/19**



# Haere Mai

## Welcome to New Zealand

### SILVER FERN HOLIDAYS IS DEEPLY ROOTED IN NEW ZEALAND

#### THE LAND OF THE LONG WHITE CLOUD HAS BEEN OUR PASSION FOR OVER 30 YEARS.

I first visited New Zealand in 1982. During that working holiday, I followed roads less travelled to discover wonderful experiences like hiking over the Southern Alps, enjoying a beach BBQ with new found Kiwi friends and seeing the sun rise over the Pacific.

In those early days I helped with the grape harvest and slept in beachside shacks. Now my family and I enjoy discovering new wines at the cellar door and relaxing at boutique B&Bs.

In the last 30 years New Zealand has lost none of its pristine beauty and new-world optimism, and has added superb visitor facilities and professional hospitality standards to make it THE destination on everyone's bucket list.

The Silver Fern Holidays team and I want nothing more than to share our passion for, and knowledge of, New Zealand and help you to discover your own unique experiences.

Travel as a couple, with friends or alone. Join one of our escorted small group journeys or ask us to tailor-make an independent holiday. Bring your walking group or special interest club.

A Silver Fern Holidays trip to New Zealand promises an experience like no other. We look forward to sharing the very best of New Zealand with you, and helping you create amazing memories.



**John Lightwood**  
Founder

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#### FINANCIAL SECURITY & QUALITY ASSURANCE

##### ATOL

The air holidays and flights in this brochure are ATOL Protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is 5305.



##### Land Only Holidays

Are covered by a bond secured with ABTA.



Silver Fern Holidays

is a member of  
The Association of  
Independent Tour Operators.



# The Land of the Long White Cloud



## THE SEASONS IN NEW ZEALAND



**SPRING**  
September - November  
Average daytime temperature:  
16 - 19°C (61 - 66°F)



**SUMMER**  
December - February  
Average daytime temperature:  
20 - 25°C (68 - 77°F)



**AUTUMN**  
March - May  
Average daytime temperature:  
17 - 21°C (62 - 70°F)



**WINTER**  
June - August  
Average daytime temperature:  
12 - 16°C (53 - 61°F)



## THE BEST DESTINATION IN THE WORLD

A bold claim, but we are not alone in this view. New Zealand regularly tops the travel lists of the world's media, from Lonely Planet and Frommers guidebooks to Telegraph newspaper readers. Why? The scenery is jaw-droppingly beautiful: our photos do not do it justice. And all that beauty – from alpine glaciers to tropical beaches – is packed into a small country. New Zealand is about the same size as the UK and smaller than Italy or Japan, yet fewer than five million people live there.

## GO NOW!

You have always wanted to go to New Zealand, but never taken the plunge. What is stopping you? Fuel efficient and comfortable airplanes have revolutionised long haul flights.

Check out page 49, or our website for suggested routes and fantastic stopovers which make the journey 'down under' a rewarding part of your trip.

## TAKE YOUR TIME

We recommend at least three weeks for your trip. A typical split is a week on North Island and two on South Island. If you have more time you may want to spend it in Abel Tasman National Park or Fiordland, while North Island's Taranaki region is up and coming.

If you are tight on time, we can give you a taste of New Zealand in two weeks on an independent highlights tour or one of our escorted Small Group Journeys. And if you have family in New Zealand – perhaps grown-up children enjoying their gap year – we can also dovetail international flights and sightseeing with time spent with them.

## EASY TRAVELLING

Getting around New Zealand is easy, especially if you learned to drive on the left. Nonetheless, we recommend adding rail, coach or air travel to add variety, and the country's integrated transport system makes for seamless travel.

For example, the TranzAlpine rail journey from Christchurch over the Southern Alps is world-famous and when you arrive on the West Coast your hire car awaits! When you take the Interislander ferry to South Island, coach services are ready to take you on to Nelson or Christchurch.

## WHEN TO GO?

The climate of this island nation is hugely influenced by the sea so there is little difference between seasonal temperatures. In fact New Zealand's weather is famous for delivering all four seasons in one day!

While December, January and February are the most popular months they are also the most expensive, with high demand for hotels in summer. Consider travelling in New Zealand's autumn (March/April/May) and spring (September/October/November) for lower prices and fewer visitors. Whenever you travel, Mt Cook will be tipped with snow, and Rotorua's mud pools will be bubbling.

## FIND OUT MORE

Our website [silverfernholidays.com](http://silverfernholidays.com) is packed with additional information about New Zealand's regions, towns and attractions to inspire you further, from Northland to Stewart Island. You'll also find 'insider tips' from the locals, happy to share their recommendations.

There are photos and descriptions of our hand-picked accommodation across the North and South Islands, and suggestions for sightseeing in every destination, all tried and tested by our teams.

Before you fly, you'll also receive Silver Fern Holidays' Insider Guide to New Zealand which is packed with ideas for getting the most out of your trip, from ideas for activities to restaurant recommendations.



# He Tangata: the People

**A MAORI PROVERB ASKS 'HE AHA TE MEA NUI?' WHICH MEANS: WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE WORLD? THE ANSWER IS 'HE TANGATA, HE TANGATA, HE TANGATA' WHICH MEANS: IT IS PEOPLE, IT IS PEOPLE, IT IS PEOPLE.**

New Zealand's astonishing natural beauty is what draws visitors, but we believe that its people make a significant contribution to your holiday. Over the years we have established our own office in New Zealand and built close relationships with local guides and site-specific experts. We strive to remove that invisible wall between 'tourist' and 'local' to enhance your travels with unique experiences, so that you see New Zealand 'close up'.

## EXPERT ADVICE

We are proud to call ourselves experts on New Zealand. The Silver Fern Holidays team have lived there, worked there and we re-visit at least once a year.

Whether over the phone, on Skype or face to face in our Kiwi Lounge, your holiday starts when we listen to your New Zealand dreams. Then we can suggest the right combination of itineraries for you. Independent itineraries in this brochure range from two weeks to a month, and incorporate 'big ticket' sights such as the Southern Alps, but EVERYTHING can be tailored to suit your aspirations and your budget.

We understand that for some travellers New Zealand is a once-in-a-lifetime trip, and with Silver Fern Holidays, tailor-made need not mean expensive.

## UNRIVALLED FLEXIBILITY

We not only tailor-make independent touring itineraries; we can dovetail individual arrangements to create truly unique holidays.

For example, you might choose to combine one of our escorted small group tours with a couple of weeks of independent travel and a stay with relatives.

We can also add-on Australia, or one of the South Pacific islands, as well as exciting stop-overs (see page 49). Just tell us what you want to do and we can make it happen.

## CLOSE-UP EXPERIENCES

In addition to the 'big ticket' sights, our familiarity with New Zealand and our local knowledge means we will suggest authentic experiences other holiday companies do not offer, from trying your hand at sheep shearing to hearing a Maori legend from a direct descendant of one of the first settlers. These are the memories that will stay with you forever and some of the possibilities are outlined on the next page.

## LOCAL EXPERTS

Our New Zealand team are proud Kiwis, whether their heritage is Maori, European (Pakeha), Polynesian or Asian: New Zealand is a happy melting pot.

Some of our team members and local experts in New Zealand are pictured opposite. If you ask us to arrange a guided walk in Fiordland, book a boutique B&B in Wanaka, or a behind-the-scenes tour of Te Papa in Wellington, you can be sure of a warm welcome from a genuine local!

## 24/7 SUPPORT

When you're planning your trip we try to ensure you (or your travel agent) speak to the same person from initial enquiry to pre-travel document check.

When you land in New Zealand you're in the hands of our New Zealand team, who will meet you on arrival at Auckland or Christchurch. They are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week while you're travelling so that, day or night, there is someone to turn to in the unlikely event that your plans need to change.



1. Staff welcome for Doubtful Sound overnight cruise
2. Silver Fern UK Office
3. Silver Fern New Zealand Office
4. Milford Sound Cruise
5. Grace, Milford Track guide
6. Caroline and Suzie, Criffel Peak View, Wanaka
7. Waitangi Treaty Grounds guide
8. Paul from our UK office checking out Hobbiton
9. Aran and Reana, Whangarei Visitor Centre



# Unique Experiences

**WE WANT YOU TO NOT ONLY SEE NEW ZEALAND, BUT TO EXPERIENCE IT, HANDS-ON!**

To get out of the car, or coach, and get up close to its natural wonders; to engage with the many pastimes and activities the country has to offer and to enjoy the laid-back Kiwi lifestyle.

Whether you choose an independent touring itinerary or one of our escorted small group tours, make time for these smaller-scale, amazing experiences which will enhance your holiday. Here are some of our own favourites: depending on your itinerary, we can suggest more!



## Stargazing at Lake Tekapo

View the Southern sky through powerful telescopes from the observatory on Mount John, in the Aoraki Mackenzie Dark Sky Park. Astronomers from Canterbury University introduce you to the stars and constellations. An astro-photographer is also on hand to help you capture pictures of the night sky.



## Pedal an Electro Bike in Queenstown

Escape the Queenstown's bustle and head into the beautiful lakeland countryside on your super smart electric mountain bike. Wonderful trail rides to Arrowtown, Gibbston Valley winery, or Jack's Point.



## Behind the Scenes Tour at Te Papa National Museum

Follow one of the curators behind the current Te Papa exhibitions in Wellington. Explore Pacific cultures, botany collections or New Zealand history with an expert.



## Dining Out with a Local Family

Join a Kiwi family for a home-cooked meal washed down with a glass of local wine. You may be eating succulent lamb and fresh local veg including kumara (sweet potato). Save room for New Zealand's most famous dessert, pavlova.



## River Kayaking

Explore the Dart River deep into Mt Aspiring National Park in a fun inflatable kayak on this full day guided trip. Get up close with nature with a gentle paddle on glacier-fed clear waters.



## Join a Local Group for a Walk or Activity

If you'd like to head out on a trail with a group of local walkers, or join a particular outdoor event, let us know and we'll try and arrange a 'meetup' while you're in the area.



## Paddle a Maori War Canoe on the Waitangi River

Join members of Ngapuhi, New Zealand's largest tribal group, to paddle a 40-foot Waka Tua (war canoe) and gain a unique insight into the tribe's customs, rituals and traditions.



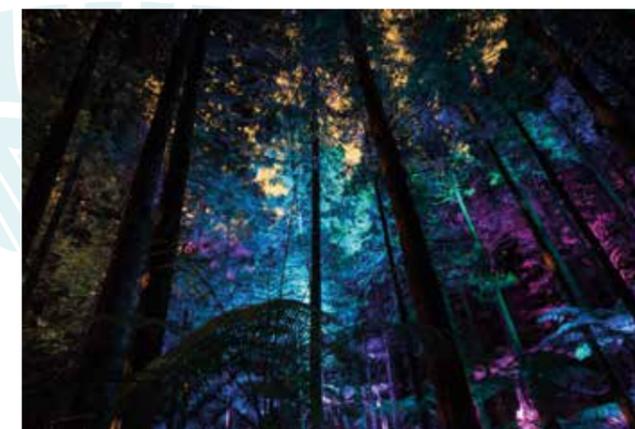
## Plant a Tree on Mou Waho Island

Travel with a wildlife expert across Lake Wanaka to magical Mou Waho island. There are no roads, buildings or inhabitants: just wildlife, including the flightless Buff Weka. Make your own contribution to New Zealand's environment by planting a native tree at the end of your visit.



## Head to the High Mountains

Head off into the high mountains above Lake Wanaka on an exhilarating 4WD adventure with breath-taking panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, glaciers and lakes.



## Rotorua's Redwood Forest by Night

This magical night-time experience offers the chance to explore the majestic redwood forest under the shroud of darkness, illuminated by artist David Trubridge's bespoke lighting creations.



# Kiwi hospitality to suit your style

"The accommodation you organised was superb, particularly the B&Bs in Wanaka (location and hosts), Queenstown (food) and Fox Glacier (view)."



## WHATEVER YOUR PREFERENCE, WE CAN MAKE A PERSONAL RECOMMENDATION.

In over 30 years of travelling around New Zealand we have slept in hundreds of beds from simple motels to luxurious lodges, as well as basic baches, the Kiwi name for a seaside holiday shack. Whatever your preference, we can make a personal recommendation.

To save time and shoe leather when sightseeing and seeking evening entertainment, we'll often recommend well-appointed, centrally located hotels in the larger cities and towns such as the Grand Millennium in Auckland and the Novotel in Queenstown.

In resorts popular with New Zealanders as well as international travellers, apartments are a great-value choice with the bonus of a fully equipped kitchenette and laundry room so that you can cook at home and catch up with some washing. The Quest Apartments in Napier are a good example.

'Boutique' is an over-used word in the hospitality industry, but whether you choose a hotel, lodge or guest-house in New Zealand you can expect a genuine welcome and personal service. We have spent a great deal of time seeking out small, friendly and memorable places to stay that reflect the warm hospitality the country has become so well known for, and we look forward to introducing you to them.

And when you're travelling through the lush pastures of the Waikato or the tussock plains of Otago, there is nothing like a home-cooked meal around a farmhouse table, with wide-ranging conversation, tips on local sights and even a chance to help out with the livestock!

**"We loved the interaction with locals everywhere we went, it made our trip much more interesting and enjoyable."**



1. Farmstay, Te Awamatu
2. Boutique Lodge, Rotorua
3. The Bay House, Westport
4. The Boot, Nelson

# Trains, planes, automobiles... & more

**WE CAN ARRANGE VIRTUALLY ANY FORM OF PRIVATE HIRE AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR YOU.**

We can book a comfortable car from Auckland airport that you can hand back in Wellington, or a 4x4 in Queenstown to take you over the Southern Alps.

New Zealand's rail system is one of the world's most scenic, from the TranzAlpine over Arthur's Pass to the Edwardian ingenuity of the single-track Raurimu Spiral down the Tongariro Plateau and we can arrange rail passes for both. You'll notice that our suggested itineraries often include some travel by train. Not only does this give you a break from driving, but it also allows you to fully appreciate the landscapes and enjoy travelling through some parts of the country that aren't accessible by road.

A motor-home combining accommodation with wheels offers flexibility, but we suggest a trial hire 'at home' before you commit, to ensure you're happy driving a larger vehicle.

If you would like someone else to take on the route-planning, choose one of our unique Small Group Journeys and discover New Zealand in the company of one of our local driver-guides and no more than 16 travellers in total.

And of course, all your travel arrangements within New Zealand are tailor-made for you, including internal flights which may save time. To date, there has been no travel request that we have been unable to satisfy, but we invite you to put us to the test!

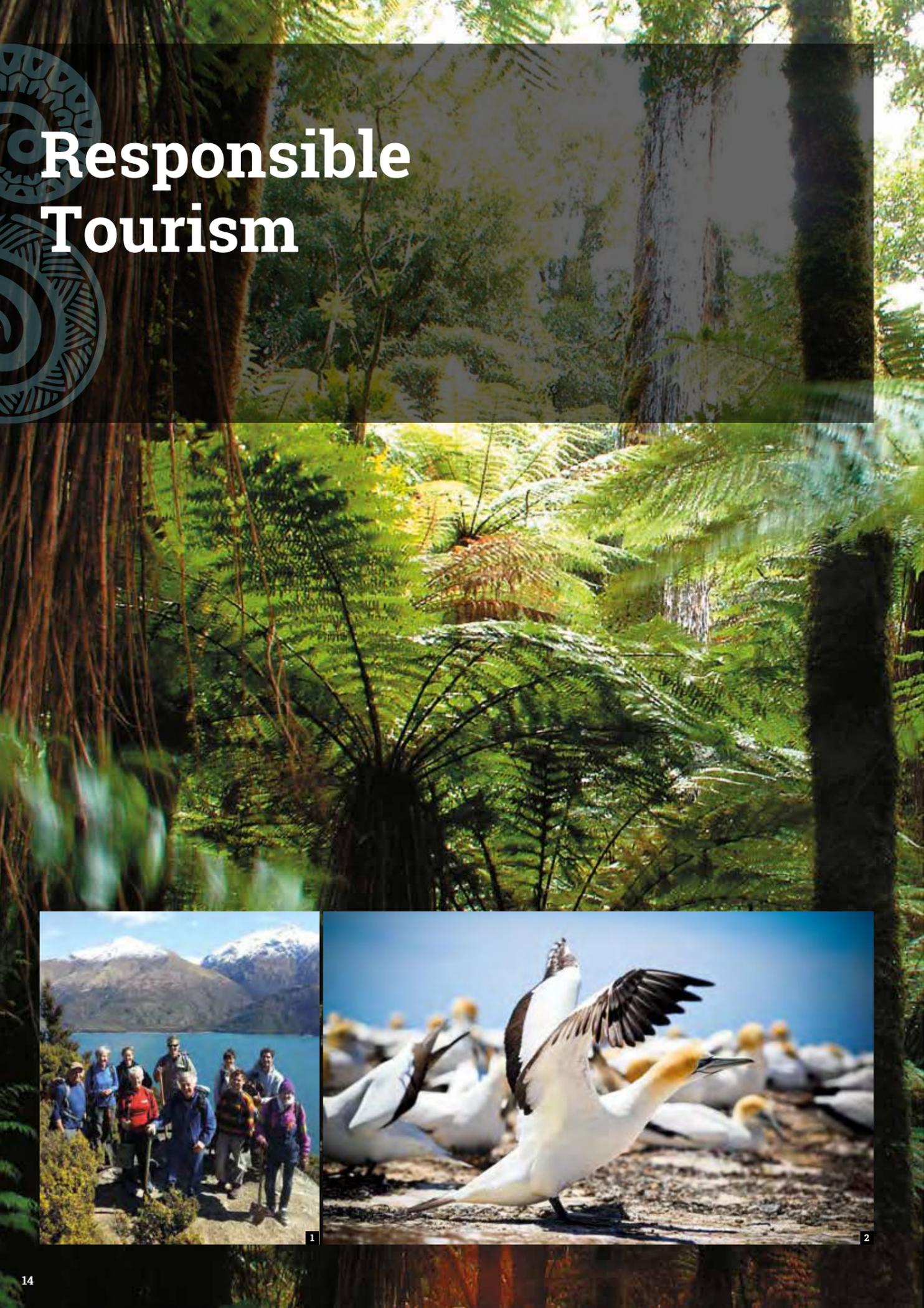
**"We had hire cars, caught buses, trains and boats and all the connections worked perfectly."**

1. TranzAlpine train
2. Yacht hire in the Bay of Islands
3. Mount Cook flight
4. Interislander ferry





# Responsible Tourism



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**A HUGE PART OF NEW ZEALAND'S APPEAL IS ITS PRISTINE NATURAL BEAUTY. THE WILDLIFE AND THE COUNTRY'S WELCOMING COMMUNITIES ARE ALSO KEY TO YOUR EXPERIENCE.**

As a travel company, we are conscious of the contradiction that exists between bringing international visitors to New Zealand, and the impact of tourism on this extraordinary country.

Our current environmental project is supporting the Abel Tasman Birdsong Trust.

That is why Responsible Tourism is at the core of everything we do, with policies and practices which cover all aspects of our business, ensuring that our holidays are undertaken in a manner which is environmentally, socially and culturally sound.

Silver Fern Holidays seeks to tread lightly, believing that low volume, low impact travel is the best way to conserve New Zealand's unique combination of natural beauty, wildlife and heritage.



We work with local suppliers recognised for their sustainable tourism practices and assessed under the Enviro Award criteria within New Zealand's Qualmark quality assurance scheme. We are proud to say that our main transport provider has one of the highest Enviro Award ratings in the country.

We feel strongly that our holidays should protect the environment by minimising pollution, and benefit the local communities by respecting local traditions, religion and heritage. That is why we work with small local businesses that share our philosophy.



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- 1. Tree planting, Mou Waho Island
- 2. Gannets, Cape Kidnappers
- 3. Dolphins, Bay of Islands
- 4. Bellbird, Abel Tasman



# Complete New Zealand

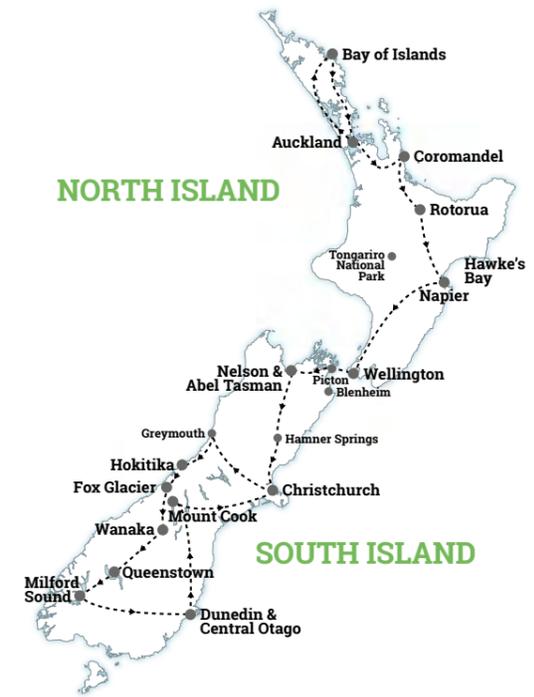
**32** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £4,210



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**This is the ultimate independent itinerary stuffed with unforgettable scenic highlights and experiences such as overnighting on Milford Sound. Accommodation is in outstanding hotels and boutique B&Bs. Transport includes one of the world's great rail journeys, on the TranzAlpine train from Christchurch.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE

Walking trails through Rotorua's spectacular Redwood Forest

A guided tour of Hawke's Bay wineries and sample some of the country's best chardonnays

Weta Workshop in Wellington to see Lord of the Rings props and costumes

Riding a horse along the sands at Punakaiki

Hiring an electric bike to explore the traffic-free path from Queenstown to Jacks Point

Panning for gold in the old mining settlement of Arrowtown

The evening silence and dawn breaking over Milford Sound on a special cruise

The natural hot pools at Hanmer Springs on a visit from Christchurch

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Arrive Auckland

We greet your flight and take you to your hotel. Time to stretch the legs and orientate yourself.

### Day 2 Auckland

Favourite views of the city are from the Sky Tower or, if you have no head for heights, take a harbour ferry to Devonport to see Auckland from the water.

### Day 3 Auckland to Bay of Islands

Collect your rental vehicle and head north to discover native kauri trees in the Waipoua Forest, especially the 51-metre tall Tane Mahuta.

### Day 4 Bay of Islands

You are spoilt for choice in Paihia: boat trips include a cruise to Cape Brett, while on dry land a guided tour of Russell reveals its rip-roaring past.

### Day 5 Bay of Islands

At award-winning Waitangi Treaty Grounds learn how New Zealand was 'born' out of a treaty signed here between Maori tribes and British settlers.

### Day 6 Bay of Islands to Coromandel

A journey of changing scenery, through Waikato farmland and beside the Firth of Thames, to the semi-tropical Coromandel Peninsula.

### Day 7 Coromandel

Discover sub-tropical natural wonders: bubbling springs at Hot Water Beach and majestic rocks at Cathedral Cove.

### Day 8 Coromandel to Rotorua

This geothermal wonderland is also a centre for Maori culture. Te Puia is a great introduction to the sights, sounds and smells of Rotorua! For dinner, try a traditional Maori Hangi, cooked in the earth.

### Day 9 Rotorua

Take time out for a world-class spa visit, or explore the steaming Waimangu Volcanic Valley.

### Day 10 Rotorua to Napier

Your route takes you south to vast Lake Taupo before heading to Hawke's Bay, and the Art Deco resort of Napier.

### Day 11 Hawke's Bay

Ditch the car for the day and hire a bike to discover Hawke's Bay wineries with cellar-door tastings.

### Day 12 Hawke's Bay to Wellington

The drive to Wellington takes you through the Wairarapa over Rimutaka Hill to arrive at New Zealand's capital.

### Day 13 Wellington

This modern city is easy to explore on foot. Te Papa is one of many excellent museums, or you may prefer the great outdoors, taking a cable car to the Kelburn Lookout.

### Day 14 Wellington to Picton to Nelson

Return your rental vehicle and take the Interislander ferry across the Cook Strait to the South Island. Picton is where you pick up your rental, or ask us to book a coach to take you to the gateway of Abel Tasman National Park.

### Day 15 Abel Tasman National Park

Board a coach, then hop on a local cruiser to explore this stunning coast, with options for shore trips and bush walks before returning to Nelson.

### Day 16 Nelson to Christchurch

Depart Nelson for Christchurch, by car or coach: if driving, drop off your car on arrival.

### Day 17 Christchurch to Greymouth to Hokitika

Board the TranzAlpine for one of the world's great rail journeys, over Arthur's Pass to Greymouth. Collect a rental car for the drive to the gold-mining town of Hokitika.

### Day 18 Hokitika to Fox Glacier

The Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers are surprisingly accessible, on foot or by air. Scenic flights may even land on snow high above!



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### Day 19 Fox Glacier to Wanaka

Follow the Haast Pass into Mount Aspiring National Park to arrive at the lakeside resort of Wanaka.

### Day 20 Wanaka

Follow an eco-guide in search of native wildlife like the flightless Buff Weka. This evening, enjoy a film at the town's Cinema Paradiso, with an eclectic choice of seats.

### Day 21 Wanaka

Take a hike! There are mountain and valley routes to suit all levels of fitness, or seek your thrills on a Matukituki River jet boat ride.

### Day 22 Wanaka to Queenstown

A leisurely drive to Queenstown today: take the Skyline Gondola to Bob's Peak for a panoramic view over South Island's adventure capital.

### Day 23 Queenstown

There are dozens of activities from bungee jumping to white-water rafting. Or soak up the scenery from the deck of the TSS Earnslaw as she steams up Lake Wakatipu.

### Day 24 Queenstown to Milford Mariner overnight

A memorable two days starts with a scenic coach journey into Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound. Board the Milford Mariner ship and learn from the on-board expert as you cruise this pristine marine wilderness.

### Day 25 Milford Mariner to Te Anau

Set the alarm to experience dawn breaking over the Sound. Disembark and return by coach to Te Anau to relax beside this stunning lake.



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### Day 26 Te Anau to Dunedin

Drive through sheep country to Dunedin, founded by Scottish settlers. Its eclectic architectural heritage includes a flamboyant railway station.

### Day 27 Otago Wildlife Excursions

Taiaroa Heads is the only mainland nesting site for Royal Albatross, while Little Blue Penguins nest on a beach nearby: together, they make a great day out.

### Day 28 Dunedin to Mount Cook

Head north, taking the coast road to puzzle over the Moeraki Boulders before turning inland to Mount Cook National Park.

### Day 29 Mount Cook

The Maori call Mount Cook Aoraki, 'the cloud piercer'. It is an inspiring sight, in any language.

### Day 30 Mount Cook to Christchurch

Leaving the mountains, pause at the Church of the Good Shepherd for a stupendous view down Lake Tekapo, then cross the tussock plains to the 'Garden City' of Christchurch.

### Day 31 Christchurch

We recommend a guided walking tour of this beautiful and brave city, reclaiming its place as South Island's premier destination.

### Day 32 Depart Christchurch

Return your rental vehicle at the airport depot and head for home, via Auckland.

## ACCOMMODATION

We arrange quality accommodation that we have seen for ourselves, balancing location, standards and availability. This tour price is based on 4-star central hotels in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, with a mix of independent hotels and charming B&Bs elsewhere. We will be delighted to discuss alternative accommodation at additional cost, for example boutique hotels and lodges.

## PRICES

Tour only	from £4,210
Tour and flight	from £5,210

Single supplement prices available on request.

Prices are per person based on two travelling/sharing including

- Meet & greet at Auckland airport
- Private transfer to your Auckland hotel
- 31 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- Intermediate car hire with unlimited kilometres & daily insurance
- Interislander ferry travel as foot-passengers
- TranzAlpine rail tickets
- Overnight Milford Mariner cruise (incl lunch, dinner)
- Coach & boat trip Nelson/Abel Tasman National Park

# Grand Tour of New Zealand

**27** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £3,795



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**Very much the Grand Tour encompassing the sub-tropical Bay of Islands, the wine region of Hawke's Bay, (or the volcanic central area of North Island), Abel Tasman National Park, the wild West Coast and the alpine splendours of the southern South Island.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE

A panoramic view of Auckland from the top of the Sky Tower: the SkyWalk and SkyJump are optional!

Swimming with dolphins in the warm waters of the Bay of Islands

Walking through the living landscape of Waimangu Thermal Valley

Coffee or lunch at one of the excellent bakeries in Greytown, Wairarapa

Cruising or walking in the stunning Abel Tasman National Park

Learning about New Zealand's gold rush at Hokitika Museum

Heli-hiking on the Franz Josef Glacier

The awesome sight of Mitre Peak and the natural beauty of Milford Sound on a day trip

1. Auckland
2. Waimangu Volcanic Valley
3. Hole in the Rock Cruise
4. Silver Fern travellers, Abel Tasman National Park
5. Franz Josef Glacier

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Haere Mai – Welcome!

We meet you on landing at Auckland and take you straight to your hotel. Depending on your journey, relax or start exploring!

### Day 2 Auckland

Many city sights are within a stroll of your hotel. Alternatively, take a ferry to Rangitoto Island for a walk and views across the Hauraki Gulf.

### Day 3 Auckland to Bay of Islands

Collect your rental car and drive over the Harbour Bridge to the seaside town of Paihia.

### Day 4 Bay of Islands

Enjoy a cruise to the 'hole in the rock' or take a ferry across to historic Russell.

### Day 5 Bay of Islands

Join a guided tour of Waitangi Treaty Grounds where, in 1840, agreement was signed between Maori and British, forming the nation of New Zealand.

### Day 6 Bay of Islands to Rotorua

Returning south, travel across the farmland of the Waikato to arrive at your accommodation in Rotorua.

### Day 7 Rotorua

Te Puia offers geothermal features and Maori culture within its reserve. Weaving and carving are demonstrated at the National Arts and Crafts Institute. We can recommend a Maori evening experience combining a traditional welcome, songs and feast (a hangi).

### Day 8 Rotorua to Hawke's Bay

Head to Taupo, the vast lake formed by a super-volcano thousands of years ago. This is a good spot for lunch before continuing to Hawke's Bay.

### Day 9 Hawke's Bay

Waking up in Napier, discover how this seaside resort was reinvented as an Art Deco icon. Outside the town, explore the oldest vineyards in New Zealand.

### Day 10 Hawke's Bay to Wellington

Travel to Wellington, NZ's capital. Eclectic cafés, street art, film sets or historic sights: there is something for everyone.

### Day 11 Wellington to Picton to Nelson

Drop off your rental vehicle before boarding the Interislander Ferry to Picton at the top of South Island. Take a coach to Nelson, famed for its sunny lifestyle and arts scene.

### Day 12 Abel Tasman National Park

The best way to appreciate the amazing beaches is by boat, so after a coach transfer, hop on a small cruiser for the day. Land on an idyllic beach and walk a section of the famous Abel Tasman Coastal Track, then re-join the boat at Torrent Bay. Return to Nelson.

### Day 13 Nelson to Christchurch

Depart by coach to drive via the Lewis Pass or Blenheim for an East Coast journey to Christchurch.

### Day 14 Christchurch to Hokitika

Enjoy one of the most scenic rail journeys in the world: the Tranz Alpine over the Southern Alps winds up and over Arthur's Pass then down to the west coast. Detraining at Greymouth, collect another vehicle to continue to the gold rush town of Hokitika.

### Day 15 Hokitika to Fox Glacier

There are few places where it is easy to view a 'river of ice' and here are two! There are various ways to get close to the Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers on foot and by air for a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



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### Day 16 Fox Glacier to Wanaka

Today take the Haast Pass through Mt Aspiring National Park to charming Wanaka. Stretch your legs on a lakeside walk or visit a craft gallery before dinner in one of the resort's highly-rated restaurants.

### Day 17 Wanaka

Play time! Wanaka offers a host of outdoor adventures from exhilarating waterfall climbs to jet-boat river rides.

### Day 18 Wanaka

Enjoy many leisurely walks or spend an afternoon with eco-expert Chris Riley discovering native flora and fauna on the lake.

### Day 19 Wanaka to Te Anau

Travel south, around Lake Wakatipu across Southland to Te Anau. Enjoy a walk beside the lake or a boat trip to visit the glow worm caves.

### Day 20 Milford Sound Day Excursion

A scenic journey by coach deep into Fiordland National Park before arriving at Milford Sound to board a small cruiser to view the natural wonders, up to Mitre Peak and the entrance to the Tasman Sea. Almost 250 years ago, Captain Cook sailed past the narrow mouth without discovering this amazing place.

### Day 21 Te Anau to Queenstown

Surrounded by majestic mountains and set on the shores of crystal clear Lake Wakatipu, the natural beauty and unique energy of the Queenstown region create the perfect backdrop for a holiday full of adventure, exploration or relaxation.



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### Day 22 Queenstown

As well as white-knuckle thrills, Queenstown offers gentle cycling, wine-tasting, a gondola ride and good shopping. A cruise on TSS Earnslaw up to Walter Peak sheep station for dinner is a favourite early evening option.

### Day 23 Queenstown to Mount Cook

Drive alongside the shores of Lake Pukaki into Mount Cook National Park. This is an International Dark Sky Reserve and at the Mount John Observatory you can see galaxies 'far far away'.

### Day 24 Mount Cook

Sir Edmund Hillary climbed these peaks before his ascent of Everest. Visit the Alpine Centre that bears his name, before following the Hooker Valley Track for superb views of Mount Cook.

### Day 25 Mount Cook to Christchurch

After enjoying the view from the Church of the Good Shepherd, step aside to see the statue which celebrates the working sheepdogs of the Mackenzie area, then cross the Canterbury Plains to Christchurch.

### Day 26 Christchurch

Following 2011's earthquake, the 'Garden City' is rebuilding, blending old with new to reclaim its place as the premier city of the South Island. A guided tour with a local is a must, then try a tram ride, or go punting!

### Day 27 Depart New Zealand

After breakfast transfer to Christchurch Airport to return your rental vehicle and board your flight home.

## ACCOMMODATION

We arrange quality accommodation that we have seen for ourselves, balancing location, standards and availability. This tour price is based on 4-star central hotels in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch with a mix of independent hotels and charming B&Bs elsewhere; we also offer the opportunity to enjoy a rural homestay. We will be delighted to discuss alternative accommodation at additional cost, for example boutique hotels and lodges.

## PRICES

Tour only	from £3,795
Tour and flight	from £4,795

Single supplement prices available on request.

Prices are per person based on two travelling/sharing including

- Meet & greet at Auckland airport
- Private transfer to your Auckland hotel
- 26 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- Intermediate car hire with unlimited kilometres & daily insurance
- Interislander ferry travel as foot-passengers
- Coach travel Picton/Nelson & Nelson/Christchurch
- TranzAlpine rail tickets
- Milford Sound day excursion (incl lunch)
- Coach & boat trip Nelson/Abel Tasman National Park

# Best of New Zealand

**23** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £3,475



See the best of New Zealand in three weeks taking in the thermal splendours of Rotorua on the North Island and the majestic alpine scenery of Fiordland in the South, with some unforgettable experiences en route.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE

The volcanic island of Rangitoto on a day trip from Auckland

A boat trip through subterranean caves where glow worms live

Relaxing in the naturally hot spa pools of Rotorua

A Hangi, the traditional Maori feast cooked in the earth's own heat

Tramping the Tongariro Alpine Crossing, New Zealand's finest one day walk

Discovering old and new Wellington on a walking tour

Swimming in the crystal clear coves of the Abel Tasman National Park

A flight around Aoraki Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak

The majesty of Doubtful or Milford Sound on a nature-focused cruise

A thrilling jet-boat ride in Queenstown

1. The Remarkables, Queenstown
2. Te Puia, Rotorua
3. Punting on the River Avon, Christchurch
4. Chateau Tongariro
5. Milford Sound

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Arrive Auckland

We greet you on arrival at the airport and take you to your hotel where you can relax before getting to know the 'City of Sails'.

### Day 2 Auckland

A great start to city sightseeing is to ascend the Sky Tower: a SkyWalk is optional! Nearby Queen Street is the main strip and you could end your day with a waterfront dinner in the new Wynyard Quarter.

### Day 3 Auckland to Waitomo to Rotorua

Collect a rental vehicle and head south to Waitomo Glow Worm caves before being welcomed to a real New Zealand home. Your hosts are delighted to show off the farm, and share a home-cooked dinner with you before you enjoy a good night's sleep.

### Day 4 Rotorua

From the Buried Village to Whakarewarewa, Te Puia and Waimangu: all fascinating attractions that blend the two aspects that make Rotorua a must: Maori culture and geothermal activity. We can also recommend an authentic Maori hangi for dinner!

### Day 5 Rotorua to Tongariro National Park or Napier

On the road south, make time to see the Lady Knox Geyser at Wai O Tapu Geothermal Park. Stop in Taupo for lunch before entering Tongariro National Park, a starkly beautiful volcanic landscape. (Alternatively head east to the Art Deco town of Napier.)

### Day 6 Tongariro National Park or Napier

Often described as the finest one day walk in NZ, the Tongariro Crossing is a full day traverse of the 'saddle' between Mts Tongariro and Ngauruhoe. Shorter walks are also possible. A round of golf on an all-weather course, or a soak in a natural hot pool are other options.

### Day 7 Tongariro or Napier to Wellington

Travel through country towns to Wellington, still the 'coolest little capital in the world' thanks to its combination of location, architecture, café culture and laid-back lifestyle. Drop off your rental vehicle before a stroll through Civic Square to a Queens Wharf restaurant.

### Day 8 Wellington to Picton to Nelson

Board the Interislander ferry to cruise to the South Island, boarding a coach in Picton for the transfer to Nelson, the sunniest town in New Zealand.

### Day 9 Abel Tasman National Park

It would be easy to gush about the beauty of Abel Tasman National Park! Golden beaches, turquoise water and pristine native bush combine to create a natural paradise you can explore by boat, kayak or on foot. We have plenty of tips for you.

### Day 10 Nelson to Punakaiki

Collect a rental vehicle and drive through the challenging Buller Gorge to Westport, with a stop for seal-spotting at Cape Foulwind. Follow the rugged coast to Punakaiki to see the weird blowholes at Dolomite Point.

### Day 11 Punakaiki to Hokitika

Today your route takes you down the West Coast, through Greymouth, to Hokitika, keeping the Tasman Sea on your right and the Southern Alps on your left.

### Day 12 Hokitika to Franz Josef

Hokitika, once a gold rush town, is now a haven for craftspeople and a good place to buy pounamu (greenstone) carvings. Arrive in Franz Josef in time to see the glacier on a guided hike or helicopter trip: landing on the Tasman Glacier is an unforgettable experience!



### Day 13 Franz Josef to Wanaka

Travel south through native rainforest, over mountain streams into the rugged beauty of the Haast Pass. Continue round the shores of glacial Hawea and Wanaka lakes to Wanaka township.

### Day 14 Wanaka

One of our favourite destinations, the snow-capped peaks, long river valleys and lush forest are centred around the beautiful lake. There are 'tramping' opportunities for every experience level.

### Day 15 Wanaka

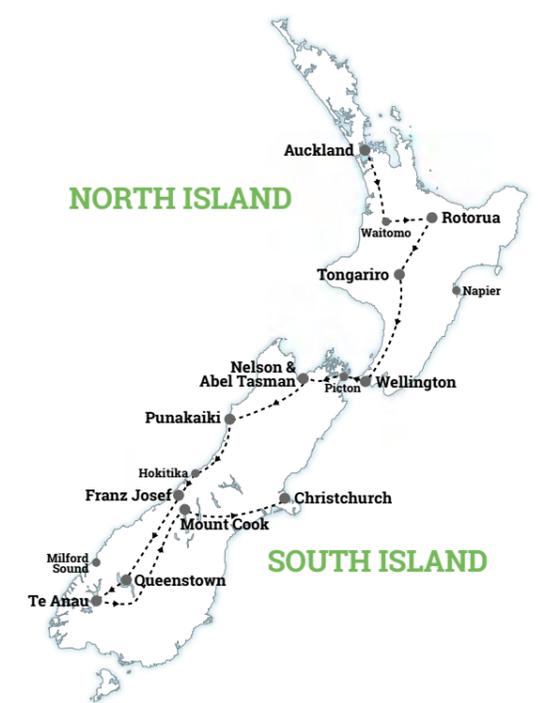
A jet boat trip or a waterfall climb are both guaranteed to set the pulses racing. In the evening, take a seat at Cinema Paradiso: they range from slouchy sofas to a modified Morris Minor!

### Day 16 Wanaka to Te Anau

Travel through Central Otago, around the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau, one of Fiordland's most beautiful lakes. Round off the day with a lakeside stroll.

### Day 17 Te Anau to Milford Sound to Te Anau

You have a choice of memorable trips today: either Doubtful or Milford Sound. Stupendous scenery and untouched nature revealed by expert guides during an unforgettable boat trip, returning to Te Anau late afternoon.



### Day 18 Te Anau to Queenstown

Drive to Queenstown, sometimes called the 'Switzerland of the Southern Hemisphere' and superbly set on Lake Wakatipu.

### Day 19 Queenstown

So much to do, so little time! Stroll in well-kept gardens, cruise Lake Wakatipu or try an adrenalin activity like bungy jumping or off-road 4X4 tour.

### Day 20 Queenstown to Mount Cook to Twizel

Drive through Mackenzie Country to Lake Pukaki and up to Mt Cook Village. Short walks to Kea Point or into the Hooker Valley offer wonderful mountain views. Descend to Twizel to overnight.

### Day 21 Twizel to Christchurch

Make an early stop at the Church of the Good Shepherd, whose altar window frames Lake Tekapo. Cross the tussock plains, so evocative of sheep country, through Fairlie and Geraldine to arrive in Christchurch.

### Day 22 Christchurch

Following 2011's earthquake, this Garden City is rebuilding, blending old (Botanic Gardens, River Avon and the Tram) with new (the Cardboard Cathedral and countless pop-up bars) to reclaim its place as the premier city of the South Island.

### Day 23 Depart Christchurch

Transfer to Christchurch Airport for your flight home, or ask us about dovetailing this itinerary with one of our Small Group Journeys to extend your time in New Zealand.

## ACCOMMODATION

We arrange quality accommodation that we have seen for ourselves, balancing location, standards and availability. This tour price is based on 4-star central hotels in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, with a mix of hotels and charming B&Bs elsewhere, while the homely farmstay is a taste of rural life. We will be delighted to discuss alternative accommodation at additional cost, for example boutique hotels and lodges.

## PRICES

Tour only	from £3,475
Tour and flight	from £4,475
Single supplement prices available on request.	

Prices are per person based on two travelling/sharing including

- Meet & greet at Auckland airport
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- Coach travel Picton/Nelson

# South Island Spectacular

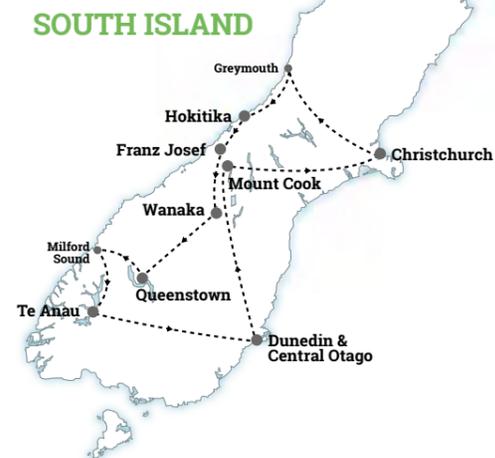
**14** DAYS SOUTH ISLAND  
FROM £2,595



1



2



**The South Island deserves its own tour, so much is there to see and do. From the action packed adventure playground of Queenstown to the remote tranquillity of Milford Sound, and the majestic peaks of the Southern Alps, this is a memorable journey through some of New Zealand's most iconic landscapes**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE

A guided heli-hike into the dramatic alpine landscape of Franz Josef Glacier

Blow your mind with a visit to Puzzle World in Wanaka

A vintage steamship cruise on Lake Wakatipu

A cricket match at the Hagley Oval in Christchurch

Walking along the Matukituki Valley to discover views of the Rob Roy Glacier

A memorable visit to Milford Sound, one of the most beautiful sights in New Zealand

A scenic railway journey through the Taieri Gorge from Dunedin

New Zealand's French colony at Akaroa

Whalewatching from Kaikoura by boat or from the air

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Arrive Christchurch

We meet your flight and transfer you to your hotel: the rest of the day is free for you to relax or explore.

### Day 2 Christchurch to Greymouth to Hokitika

Board the TranzAlpine train for one of the world's great rail journeys, across the Southern Alps, over Arthur's Pass and down to the West Coast. This scenic route requiring numerous viaducts and tunnels was an engineering triumph when it was completed in 1923.

Collect your rental vehicle at the railway station and take an afternoon drive down the rugged West Coast to Hokitika. This gold mining era town still has a frontier feel: open artists' workshops offer carved jade and other Maori crafts.

### Day 3 Hokitika to Franz Josef

Travel into Westland National Park, which extends from the surf-pounded beaches of the West Coast to the stunning snow-capped Southern Alps.

Arrive in the little township of Franz Josef, which provides easy access to the glacier, terminating in rainforest only 300 metres above sea level! Many people book a thrilling helicopter flight (weather permitting) to not only fly over rivers of ice, but land on a snow-field at the top!

### Day 4 Franz Josef to Wanaka

Drive past Fox Glacier to Lake Matheson, where a clear day rewards you with superb reflections of the Mt Cook range. Continue through the Haast Pass into Mt Aspiring National Park and follow the shores of Lake Wanaka to the friendly township of the same name.

Arrive in Wanaka and enjoy a lakeside walk or a stroll around this pretty town. There are several excellent restaurants, from perennial favourite Relishes to the tapas at Kika (we recommend advance booking).

### Day 5 Wanaka

Explore the lake on a cruiser or kayak. Take a self-guided hike along the Matukituki Valley or drive to Glendhu Bay for beautiful views. For a natural high, there are jet-boat thrills and sky-diving trips. Relax in the evening at Cinema Paradiso, a classic movie theatre with an interesting choice of seating!

### Day 6 Wanaka to Queenstown

An easy drive today over the Crown Range through orchards and farmlands to Queenstown. This is South Island's busiest resort for good reason: it is the country's adventure playground, and now offers a huge choice of exciting activities. From winter ski through summer activities to autumn grape harvests, Queenstown is a year-round destination with something for everyone.

### Day 7 Queenstown

A free day to explore as you wish! Hire a bike to pedal a section of the National Cycle Trail, or take a scenic cruise on the steamship TSS Earnslaw. Bungy jumping and white-water rafting are two of the hair-raising thrills that local operators offer. Or walk by the lake, take a cable car up to the Skyline restaurant for lunch and a wine-tasting tour in the afternoon: it's up to you.



3

### Day 8 Queenstown to Milford to Te Anau

It is almost impossible to visit South Island and not make the pilgrimage to Milford Sound, one of the most remotely beautiful places in the world. Most visitors opt for a coach trip, to avoid the challenging drive deep into Fiordland National Park. The easiest way to appreciate the jaw-dropping scenery and natural beauty is from a boat out to Mitre Peak and the mouth of the Sound onto the Tasman Sea, a narrow opening missed by Captain Cook almost 250 years ago! On your return, overnight at Te Anau.

### Day 9 Te Anau to Dunedin

Roll through New Zealand's sheep country to Dunedin. Founded by the Scots, given the Gaelic name for Edinburgh, this stone city has some striking buildings: our favourite is the exuberant Railway Station with its decorative tiles. Real ale drinkers will enjoy a tour of Speights Brewery.

### Day 10 Otago Wildlife Excursions

New Zealand has some extraordinary wildlife and just outside the city, the Otago Peninsula provides the opportunity to see Royal Albatross on their only mainland nesting site. Nearby you may see yellow-eyed penguins, fur seals and sea lions!

### Day 11 Dunedin to Mount Cook to Twizel

Time to head along the coast road, pausing at the 65 million year old Moeraki Boulders. Turn inland to Mt Cook National Park and take a short walk to Kea Point, or further along the Hooker Valley for wonderful views of New Zealand's highest mountain. Overnight in the country township of Twizel.



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### Day 12 Twizel to Christchurch

We challenge you to drive past the Church of the Good Shepherd at Lake Tekapo without stopping for a photo! The intense blue of the lake is thanks to its glacial waters. Cross the Canterbury Plains towards Christchurch and on arrival, drop your rental vehicle at the downtown depot.

### Day 13 Christchurch

Pre-earthquake features that earned Christchurch its label as the most English city outside of England remain including punts on the River Avon and the Botanic Gardens. But the city is changing almost every day with new buildings like the amazing 'cardboard' Cathedral, while bars and restaurants pop up almost over-night – ask us for a recommendation for your final evening in New Zealand. Possible day trips to Kaikoura, or Akaroa.

### Day 14 Depart Christchurch

After breakfast we transfer you by private car to Christchurch Airport for your flight home.

## ACCOMMODATION

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## PRICES

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Tour and flight	from £3,595

Single supplement prices available on request.

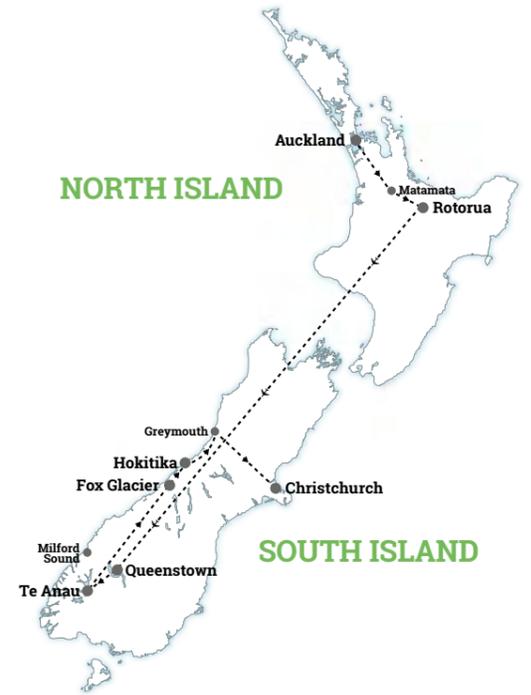
Prices are per person based on two travelling/sharing including

- Meet & greet at Christchurch airport
- Private transfer to your Christchurch hotel
- 13 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- Intermediate car hire with unlimited kilometres & daily insurance
- TranzAlpine rail journey over Southern Alps

1. Soft pedalling, Queenstown  
2. Wanaka River Journeys  
3. Whale watching, Kaikoura  
4. Fly fishing, the South Island  
5. Dunedin Railway Station

# New Zealand Highlights

**14** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £2,160



**If you're short on time and want to see as many of New Zealand's highlights as possible, then our suggestion is to take in Auckland and Rotorua on the North Island before flying to Queenstown, South Island to see the wonders of Fiordland. Return via the West Coast to Christchurch.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE

A ferry trip across Auckland's harbour to Devonport

Taking a bungee jump off the Sky Tower for a unique view over Auckland!

See the Victorian Bathhouse and stroll Rotorua's lakeside gardens

Climbing over the Southern Alps on one of the world's most scenic train rides

Riding an electric bike along Queenstown's traffic-free cycle paths

Discovering Lake Wanaka's wildlife with an eco-expert and planting a tree

Taking a helicopter flight around Aoraki Mount Cook

Learning about Hokitika's rip-roaring past as a gold-rush town

Punting on the River Avon

The amazing architecture of Christchurch's Cardboard Cathedral

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Haere Mai: welcome!

We greet you at the airport, and whisk you to your central hotel, with restaurants and city sights on the doorstep. Stretch your legs on a stroll down to the harbour.

### Day 2 Auckland

Exciting Auckland is a melting pot of cultures from Polynesian and European to Asian. It is surrounded by sea, extinct volcanoes, and bush-clad ranges. Top tips for sightseeing are a stroll in Aotea Square, a trip up the Sky Tower and a ferry across the harbour. For an overview of the country's history and Maori culture, the Auckland Museum is excellent.

### Day 3 Auckland to Matamata to Rotorua

Collect your hire car and head over the Bombay Hills through rolling farmland to Matamata. This rural community is now known by another name: Hobbiton. If you haven't seen Peter Jackson's films, drive on to Rotorua, but Lord of the Rings fans have a treat in store on a guided visit to the original film location, complete with Bag End and the Party Tree.

### Day 4 Rotorua

Rotorua forms part of the 'Pacific Rim of Fire' and thermal activity is everywhere! Easily accessible to the town are the bubbling mud pools and geyser at Te Puia; close by are other fascinating sites like the Buried Village, or the thermal spa at Hell's Gate.

Rotorua is also home to Maori tribes and on a short trip like this, an evening of songs, legends and dance – including the famous haka – is a must. Enjoy a traditional hangi feast cooked in the earth by 'free' geothermal heat. A memorable evening!

### Day 5 Rotorua to Queenstown

Drop off your vehicle at Rotorua airport and board a flight to South Island. On arrival at Queenstown, pick up another car and start exploring! Surrounded by mountains and set on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, the beauty and energy of Queenstown offers something for every traveller. The resort offers sophisticated bars, good restaurants and shops: it is very much a year-round destination.

### Day 6 Queenstown

Today is free for you to pack in as many activities as you wish! Perhaps a white-knuckle jet-boat ride, parasailing, a bungee jump or white-water rafting? There are 4WD tours into the wild, guided bush walks, cycle trails, horse-riding and wine-tasting. Take a gondola to Bob's Peak for panoramic views, or a trip on a vintage steamship. Whatever your interest, we can arrange most activities in advance.

### Day 7 Queenstown to Te Anau to Milford to Te Anau

Follow the eastern shore of Lake Wakatipu through Southland countryside to Te Anau. Here, board a coach for a great day trip to Milford Sound. The route through Fiordland National Park is winding so let someone else drive! On arrival, board a cruiser to explore the steep-sided Sound clad in dense rainforest, with cascading waterfalls. A picnic lunch is included, and an expert guide explains the Sound's natural features.

### Day 8 Te Anau – Wanaka

Return to Queenstown and choose your route to Wanaka. One option is through Cromwell's fruit orchards. The more challenging drive is New Zealand's highest road over the Crown Range. Wanaka is where New Zealanders holiday in summer, at the gateway to Mt Aspiring National Park. There are several excellent restaurants, from perennial favourite Relishes to the tapas at Kika (we recommend advance booking).



### Day 9 Wanaka

A free day and night to draw breath! Relax on a lakeside stroll, linger in a café, then catch a film at Cinema Paradiso where the quirky seats include sofas and an adapted Morris Minor.

Alternatively, take an eco boat trip to Mou Waho island in search of the flightless Buff Weka, or a self-guided walk in the Matukituki Valley. A guided 'via ferrata' climb, skydiving, canyoning, and – in season – skiing and snowboarding are more active options.

### Day 10 Wanaka to Fox Glacier

Leave via Lake Hawea and take the Haast Pass through the Southern Alps to the Tasman Sea. Your West Coast journey reveals rainforest, bush-fringed lakes and surf-pounded beaches. On arrival, take a walk to the viewing platform to see the glacier's terminus.

### Day 11 Fox Glacier to Hokitika

Weather permitting, there is time for a scenic flight: a helicopter ride over the glacier's reveals amazing features and views of Aoraki/Mt Cook. Longer flights can land on snow for an even more memorable experience!

Head north to Hokitika. This former gold-mining town is home to artists and craftspeople, and is a good place to buy authentic gifts, such as greenstone (called pounamu by the Maori).



### Day 12 Hokitika to Greymouth to Christchurch

Drop your rental vehicle at Greymouth railway station in time to board the famous TranzAlpine train, which takes you up and over the Southern Alps on a line carved through the mountains by railway pioneers. The 4 ½ hour scenic journey features an 8-mile tunnel, sweeping bends and viaducts.

On arrival, transfer by private car and driver from Christchurch Railway Station to your accommodation.

### Day 13 Christchurch

Discover the city once described as 'the most English outside England' thanks to its gothic cathedral, colonial houses and punting on the River Avon. Now after the earthquake Christchurch is re-inventing itself with exciting new buildings, pop-up bars and ethnic restaurants. We recommend a guided walk with a local to understand the city's past, present and future.

### Day 14 Depart New Zealand

Our driver and private vehicle transfers you to Christchurch airport for your homeward flight. We hope you will return for a longer adventure one day!

## ACCOMMODATION

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## PRICES

Tour only from £2,160

Tour and flight from £3,160

Single supplement prices available on request.

Prices are per person based on two travelling/sharing including

- Meet & greet at Christchurch airport
- Private transfer to your Christchurch hotel
- 13 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- Intermediate car hire with unlimited kilometres & daily insurance
- Domestic flight Rotorua/Queenstown
- TranzAlpine rail service

1. Cruising the Marlborough Sounds
2. Hobbiton
3. Brown's Boutique Hotel
4. Mou Waho Island
5. Heli-hike Mount Cook

# Tour with us



## SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

### OUR ESCORTED TOURS ARE UNIQUE: CREATED, EXCLUSIVELY BY US FOR OUR GUESTS.

Not only are the itineraries unique; we take a unique approach to touring, balancing superb inclusions with free time. A maximum of 16 guests ensures personal service and flexibility, and we like to get you off the vehicle and up close to the real New Zealand!

Silver Fern Holidays' escorted tours are very special, not only because our itineraries are different, but because we take a very different approach to touring. So instead of a standard 'coach tour' you can enjoy a flexible, in-depth, comfortable, good-humoured and unforgettable journey.

We have named each itinerary after a native tree or flower, many of which you may encounter while travelling with us.

Our 'master journey' we call Tane Mahuta, the Mighty Kauri, a superb 21 day tour that packs in the maximum number of unforgettable experiences. If you don't have 21 days to spare, or if you wish to combine an escorted journey with tailor-made arrangements, then pick one of our shorter tours which join and leave the main tour during our three week adventure through New Zealand.

"If it were possible to award six stars to Silver Fern Holidays I would."





## WHY TOUR WITH SILVER FERN HOLIDAYS

### SMALL GROUPS

Our 16-seater vehicles are agile enough to explore roads less-travelled, approaching New Zealand's most beautiful sights – both iconic and hidden gems – from a different angle. We can get off the beaten track just as easily as we can cruise Highway 1. Our vehicles are also very comfortable, with good legroom, headroom and picture windows so you can see where you're going. And as we think New Zealand should be experienced close-up, we encourage you to get out of your seat and into the landscape at every opportunity!

### GREAT LEADERS, EXPERT GUIDES

New Zealanders are rightly proud of their country and aware that visitors have travelled a long way. Their first question is often an anxious 'What do you think of it?' They are always

delighted to hear your enthusiastic reply. Kiwis are passionate about showing visitors the best of New Zealand so not only are our hand-picked leaders safe drivers in all conditions, but they are also happy personalities, full of knowledge, enthusiasm, insights and practical advice. At some points we meet up with a local guide to add his or her expertise to enhance your experience. These include Kiwis who are wildlife, eco, geothermal or Maori specialists with whom you can engage on a personal level.

### FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES

With a small group we can be more flexible about each day's timetable, creating opportunities for surprise encounters and time for stops en route. So if someone spots a Takahe we can stop for a photo; if there's a new exhibition at a museum we can linger longer and if it's 90 degrees in the shade we can cool down at the beach before we hit the road again.

Our itineraries range from 10 to 21 days so there's one to suit you, and we are also flexible enough to top and tail any tour with tailor-made arrangements to fit in with your individual requirements.

### GOOD COMPANY

In a group of no more than 16 it is easy to find common ground with like-minded travellers and at the same time enjoy a variety of dinner table conversations. Our small group size also means we can dispense with 'coach tour' admin like asking you to wear a name badge, and good manners and good humour are more important to us than strict time-keeping. Discovering New Zealand in this way is a very special experience, with the potential for serendipitous surprises, a lot of laughs and perhaps new friends for life.

### GETTING CLOSE-UP

Because we are few in number, we can go places and see things that are simply not practical for 'coach tour' groups of 40 or more. So while we include all the 'must-see' sights in our itineraries, we also add smaller-scale adventures that only a small group can experience. You'll never forget your first view across Auckland harbour, or of Aoraki/Mount Cook, but your happiest memories may well be of our guided walk through the Waimangu Valley, comparing wine notes in Hawke's Bay or enjoying a leisurely lunch in a Coromandel cafe.

### HOSPITALITY

Our itineraries include a wonderful mix of hotels, lodges and home-stays along the way, because we are not confined to using mass-market hotels. Sometimes we choose a large city hotel because of its central location, but wherever

possible we opt for smaller, family-run properties with their own character, including carefully hand-picked B&B's and rural homestays so that you can enjoy some real Kiwi hospitality.

### GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

All our tour dates are guaranteed departures, whether we travel with two or four passengers, or a full complement of 16, so you can make your international travel plans accordingly, without concerns as to whether your holiday will go ahead.



# Tane Mahuta

**21** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £5,590



Join us for this Small Group Journey to explore the highlights of the North and South Islands. Unleash your adventurous spirit in the adrenaline capital of Queenstown, cruise Milford Sound and make the most of the abundance of walking opportunities the country has to offer as you travel through New Zealand's fabulous landscapes.

## PRICES INCLUDE

Tour only	from £5,590
Tour and flight	from £6,590
Single supplement	from £1,550

- Comfortable touring in 16-seater vehicle
- Services of our Driver-Guide and, where applicable, Local Experts
- 20 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- 5 evening meals
- Sightseeing & entrance fees listed opposite under Experiences Included

For a full list of dates and prices please refer to our website [www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys](http://www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys)

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Auckland

Haere mai – Welcome! Arrive into Auckland and spend the rest of the day getting to know the 'City of Sails' and your fellow travellers.

City Hotel

### Day 2 Auckland to Bay of Islands

Leaving Auckland, we travel up Northland's west coast where our Maori guide leads us deep into the Waipoua Forest to see Tane Mahuta, the largest kauri tree in the world. Afternoon journey east to the pretty seaside town of Paihia.

Local Bed and Breakfast

### Day 3 Bay of Islands

We start the day in Russell, where our guide explains how drunken sailors and whalers made this pretty port infamous in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The afternoon is at leisure to discover the natural wonders of the Bay of Islands (a dolphin cruise perhaps?) or short beach walks.

Local Bed & Breakfast

### Day 4 Bay of Islands to Coromandel Peninsula

A visit to the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, where Maori tribes signed an agreement with British settlers in 1840 and the country of New Zealand was 'born'. After, head south to the Firth of Thames, where we stop at the Miranda Shorebird Centre.

Private Hotel

### Day 5 Explore the Coromandel Peninsula

Tides permitting, dig your own spa pool at Hot Water Beach and take a delightful walk to the marine reserve of Cathedral Cove.

In the evening enjoy a BBQ with your fellow travellers.

Private Hotel

### Day 6 Coromandel Peninsula to Rotorua

We travel south to Rotorua and begin our visit with a guided walk in the pretty Government Gardens. After, a chance to see bubbling mud-pools and gushing geysers at Te Puia.

City Hotel

### Day 7 Rotorua

A morning walk through the Waimangu Volcanic Valley, followed by an afternoon at leisure. Evening visit to local marae to listen to ancient legends and hear about modern Maori life. An evening Maori cultural concert and Hangi end the day in style.

City Hotel

### Day 8 Rotorua to Napier

Today we head south, past Huka Falls to Lake Taupo. Arrive in Art Deco Napier mid-afternoon and take a guided walking tour of this colourful city.

This evening we share a very special dinner at the Mission Estate Winery.

Private Hotel

### Day 9 Napier to Wellington

This morning we travel south through the Wairarapa to Wellington.

An afternoon tour brings 'the coolest little capital' city to life. After, take the cable car for great views over the harbour or visit Te Papa, the National Museum.

City Hotel

### Day 10 Wellington to Nelson

We board the Interislander Ferry to cruise through the Queen Charlotte Sound to South Island, landing at Picton and travelling on to Nelson.

Stretch your legs on a section of the Centre of New Zealand Walkway, beside the Matai River.

Local Bed & Breakfast

### Day 11 Abel Tasman National Park

Paradise found! Abel Tasman National Park is a mosaic of golden coves and turquoise lagoons sheltered by forested ranges. We board a small cruiser for a day of exploration.

Local Bed & Breakfast



### Day 12 Nelson to Franz Josef

Travelling down the West Coast, take a stroll out to Cape Foulwind in search of fur seals and blue penguins. Reach Westland National Park in the afternoon, where the Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers terminate.

Country Hotel

### Day 13 Franz Josef to Wanaka

After a morning stroll around Lake Matheson, with its stunning reflections of the mountains, head over the Haast Pass along the river road, deep into Mt Aspiring National Park, before continuing to Wanaka.

Local Bed & Breakfast

### Day 14 Wanaka to Te Anau

Beautiful Wanaka is where New Zealanders come to relax, and the morning is free for exploring, hiking or a boat trip. Later we head to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland National Park.

Country Hotel

### Day 15 Te Anau to Milford Sound

We take a scenic coach journey through the majestic National Park to arrive at one of the world's most magical places: Milford Sound. A morning cruise on the Sound is followed by a short guided walk with an experienced and knowledgeable nature guide.

Country Hotel

### Day 16 Te Anau to Queenstown

Today, journey via Kingston and Lake Wakatipu to Queenstown for two nights.

This is the adventure playground of New Zealand, and also scenically spectacular.

City Hotel



### Day 17 Queenstown

Thrill seekers may zip-line from Bob's Peak or go white-water rafting, but if you prefer a more relaxed day, take a lake cruise on the classic steamship TSS Earnslaw or a stroll through Queenstown Gardens.

City Hotel

### Day 18 Queenstown to Mt Cook National Park

Today we drive via Arrowtown, a former goldmining settlement, and then drive in parallel with the eastern flanks of the Southern Alps to overnight near Mount Cook.

Country Hotel

### Day 19 Mount Cook to Ashburton

Drive alongside Lake Pukaki to Mount Cook Village for a choice of easy walks in the Hooker Valley, so we can see Aoraki (the Maori name for Mt Cook) at closer quarters. Later, we drop you at a local homestead for an evening of real Kiwi hospitality and home-cooked food.

Rural Homestay

### Day 20 Ashburton to Christchurch

Arriving in Christchurch we embrace the city's past, present and future with a walking tour of the city. This is the final part of our journey so tonight we relax together over a farewell dinner that showcases the best of New Zealand food and wine.

City Hotel

### Day 21 Depart Christchurch

If you are leaving New Zealand today, transfer to Christchurch Airport. Or extend your stay in Christchurch for a few days and arrange onward independent touring by car or TransAlpine train.



## EXPERIENCES INCLUDED

- Maori guided experience in Waipoua Forest
- Guided tour of Russell's rip roaring past
- Entrance to Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Visit to Miranda Shorebird Centre
- BBQ dinner in the Coromandel
- Entrance to Te Puia geothermal reserve & Maori Arts & Crafts Centre
- Guided walk & boat trip Waimangu Thermal Valley
- Marae (meeting house) visit to hear Maori legends, Maori cultural performance and hangi feast
- Guided walking tour of Art Deco Napier
- Dinner with wine at Mission Estate winery
- Take the Kelburn cable car for views over Wellington
- Interislander Ferry crossing Wellington/Picton
- Excursion by boat Abel Tasman National Park
- Guided walk on section of Milford Track
- Milford Sound cruise and lunch
- Meet the locals on a rural homestay
- Farewell Dinner in Christchurch restaurant

## OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

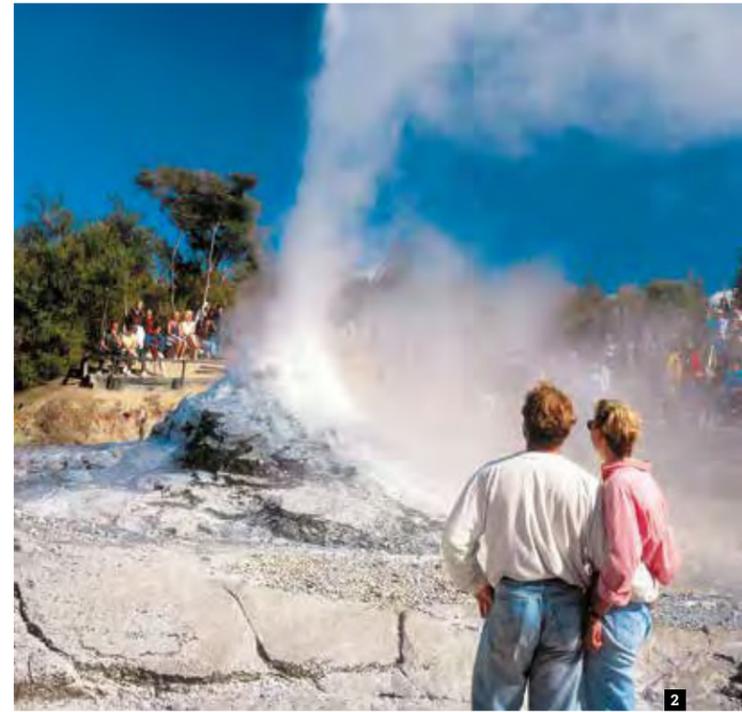
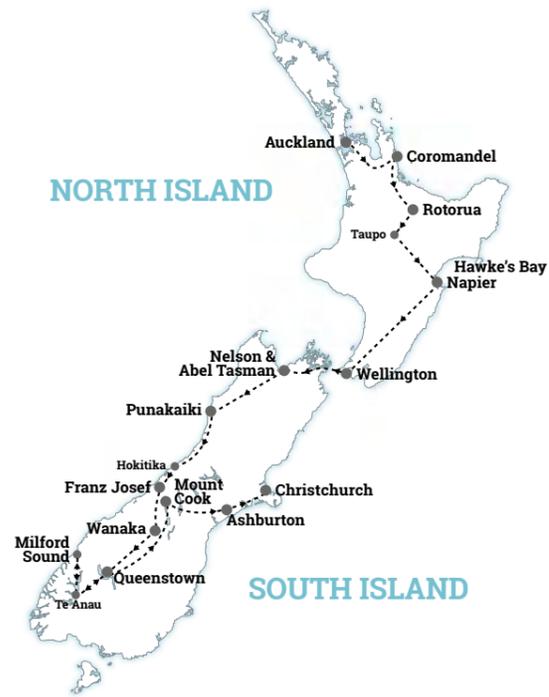
- View Auckland from the top of the Sky Tower
- Swim with dolphins in the Bay of Islands
- Dig your own natural spa 'pool' on Hot Water Beach (tide permitting)
- Sample craft beers in Nelson
- See a glacier up close, on foot or by air
- Discover Lake Wanaka's wildlife with an eco-expert
- Take a bungee jump in Queenstown
- Enjoy a cruise on a vintage steam ship
- Visit Lord of the Rings film locations
- Pan for gold
- Walk in the footsteps of Sir Edmund Hillary
- See New Zealand's bluest lake
- Visit Christchurch's 'cardboard cathedral'

# Pohutakawa

**19** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £5,210



1



2

**This Small Group Journey takes you through some of our favourite places and spaces in the North and South Islands, discovering fantastic coastlines and immersing you in Maori culture and history.**

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Auckland

Welcome! Today you are able to relax at your city centre hotel, or discover Auckland independently. Take the lift up the Sky Tower, or a ferry across the harbour to Devonport: both offer superb views of the 'City of Sails'.

City Hotel

### Day 2 Auckland to Coromandel

An afternoon departure from Auckland, pausing beside the vast Firth of Thames to spot migrating and native birds. We arrive on the Coromandel's east coast in time for a stroll beside the sea.

Private Hotel

### Day 3 Coromandel

We help you to discover this beautiful coast with two recommendations. Hot Water Beach has warm springs beneath the sands: if the tide is right, dig out your own 'pool' for a natural spa session. A walk to the much-photographed Cathedral Cove (a marine reserve) is another highlight. Dinner is a convivial BBQ with fellow travellers.

Private Hotel

### Day 4 Coromandel to Rotorua

We travel to New Zealand's geothermal centre: the town of Rotorua. This is also one of the best places to encounter Maori culture. After a guided walk in Government Gardens, we visit Te Puia to see spouting geysers and bubbling mud.

City Hotel

### Day 5 Rotorua

Enjoy a walk through the Waimangu Volcanic Valley, a living geothermal site. We also visit a local Marae (meeting house) to hear Maori legends. The evening culminates in a stirring Maori concert and a traditional Hangi dinner, cooked in the ground.

City Hotel

### Day 6 Rotorua to Napier

Our journey takes us via Lake Taupo to Napier, set on Hawke's Bay. A local guide tells the dramatic story of this fantastic Art Deco town, which rivals Miami for its 1930s architecture. Hawke's Bay is wine country, and this evening we dine at the Mission Estate Winery.

Private Hotel

### Day 7 Napier to Wellington

Depart for Wellington, and after an introductory tour, there is time for independent sightseeing. There are some excellent museums, old and new. Or discover cafe culture and stroll along the waterfront.

City Hotel

### Day 8 Wellington to Nelson

All aboard the Interislander Ferry to cross the Cook Strait, charted by Captain Cook almost 250 years ago. Landing at Picton, we transfer to Nelson, where we can stretch our legs on a walk beside the Matai River.

Local Bed & Breakfast

### Day 9 Abel Tasman National Park

Abel Tasman National Park is a paradise of golden coves and blue lagoons sheltered by forested ranges. The best way to discover the area is by boat, with optional walks in the native bush.

Local Bed & Breakfast

### Day 10 Nelson to Franz Josef

We take the lesser-known Buller Gorge route to emerge on the west coast near Cape Foulwind. Westland National Park is the home of the Fox and Franz Josef glaciers and there are several ways to get close to these 'rivers of ice', from guided hikes to helicopter trips (weather permitting).

Country Hotel



3

### Day 11 Franz Josef to Wanaka

If the weather is kind, the mountain reflections in Lake Matheson are well worth seeing. Then we take the Haast Pass deep into Mt Aspiring National Park and on to Wanaka.

Local Bed & Breakfast

### Day 12 Wanaka to Te Anau

The lakeside resort of Wanaka is one of New Zealand's best-kept secrets. Boat trips, eco-adventures and a choice of hikes are among your options before we head south to Fiordland.

Country Hotel

### Day 13 Te Anau to Milford Sound

Te Anau is a great base from which to visit Milford Sound. Our scenic journey through Fiordland National Park ends at the awe-inspiring Sound where we include a memorable cruise and a short guided walk with an expert nature guide.

Country Hotel

### Day 14 Te Anau to Queenstown

A morning departure for Queenstown, the adventure capital of New Zealand, spectacularly set on amazing Lake Wakatipu and surrounded by mountain peaks. No wonder film-makers flock to the area!

City Hotel

### Day 15 Queenstown

Enjoy your free day! Thrill-seekers are spoilt for choice with everything from bungee jumping to white-knuckle river rides on offer. Less frenetic options include a cruise on the steamship TSS Earnslaw, a Lord of the Rings themed excursion, wine-tasting and cycling.

City Hotel



4



5

### Day 16 Queenstown to Mt Cook National Park

A visit to pretty Arrowtown before we leave; its origins as a gold-town clear to see. Then our journey takes us along the eastern foothills of the Southern Alps to overnight at Twizel.

Country Hotel

### Day 17 Mount Cook to Ashburton

A scenic drive beside Lake Pukaki takes us back into the mountains, for an easy walk in the Hooker Valley and a final view of Aoraki Mt Cook. Then we descend to the Canterbury Plains – farming country – and deliver you to one of our local hosts for an informal evening of Kiwi hospitality.

Rural Homestay

### Day 18 Ashburton to Christchurch

This most English of antipodean cities, known for its botanic gardens and punting on the River Avon was shaken to its core in 2011, but with typical Kiwi spirit, a new Christchurch is being created. Our final dinner together showcases the best of New Zealand food and wine.

City Hotel

### Day 19 Depart Christchurch

Time to say farewell to your fellow travellers. You may be flying home from Christchurch, or extending your time in New Zealand: either way, we can take care of all your arrangements.

## EXPERIENCES INCLUDED

- Visit to the Miranda Shorebird Centre
- Barbecue dinner in the Coromandel
- Entrance to Te Puia Geothermal Reserve and Maori Arts and Crafts Centre
- Guided Walk and Boat Trip to Waimangu Thermal Valley
- Maori Cultural Performance and Hangi Feast
- Guided walking tour of Art Deco Napier
- Dinner with wine at Mission Estate winery
- Take the Kelburn Cable car for views over Wellington
- Interislander Ferry crossing Wellington/Picton
- Excursion by boat in Abel Tasman National Park
- Guided walk on a section of the Milford Track
- Milford Sound cruise and lunch
- Meet the locals on a rural homestay
- Farewell dinner in Christchurch restaurant

## OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Visit Auckland Domain, Museum and Winter Gardens
- Easy walks to Cathedral Cove
- See the Victorian Bathhouse and lakeside gardens, Rotorua
- View fur seals at Cape Foulwind
- Helicopter to land on the Tasman Glacier
- Head to the high mountains on a 4WD into Mount Aspiring National Park
- Jetboat through the Karawau Gorge
- Dine at the Skyline restaurant high above scenic Queenstown
- Walk the beautiful Hooker Valley, Mount Cook
- Take a Punt on the River Avon, Christchurch
- Stroll the Botanical Gardens and Hagley Park, Christchurch

## PRICES INCLUDE

Tour only	from £5,210
Tour and flight	from £6,210
Single supplement	from £1,490

- Comfortable touring in 16-seater vehicle
- Services of our Driver-Guide and, where applicable, Local Experts
- 18 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- 5 evening meals
- Sightseeing & entrance fees listed opposite under Experiences Included

For a full list of dates and prices please refer to our website [www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys](http://www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys)

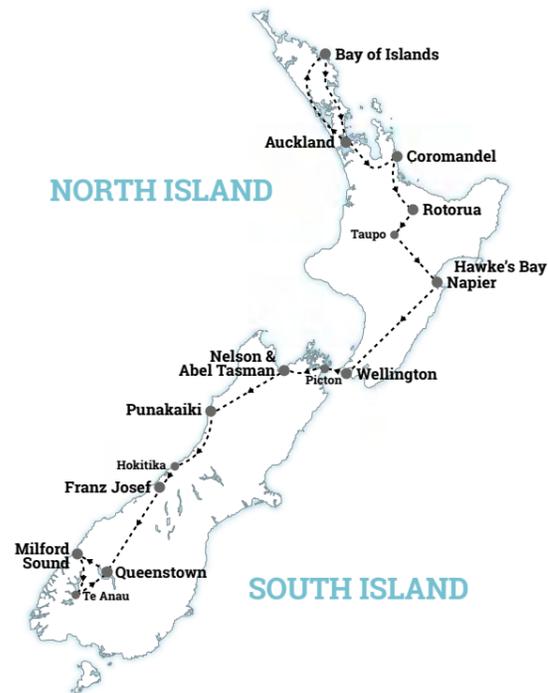
- 1. Mount Cook National Park
- 2. Geothermal area, Rotorua
- 3. Christchurch Tram
- 4. Tamaki, Rotorua
- 5. Art Deco Napier

# Kowhai

**17** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £4,694



1



2

Explore the wide sandy beaches of the Coromandel coastline; dip your toes in the azure blue waters of Abel Tasman National Park after a guided hike through the sub-tropical bush, and journey deep into Fiordland National Park to cruise on Milford Sound – one of our all-time “must-do” experiences on a trip to the South Island.

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1 Auckland**

Haere mai – Welcome to the City of Sails! If your flight lands today you have time to relax, though Auckland is easy to explore on foot, local bus and, for some of the best views, by ferry.

*City Hotel*

**Day 2 Auckland to Bay of Islands**

Leaving Auckland, we travel into Northland and deep into the Waipoua Forest, one of the last strongholds of the native kauri tree which European settlers logged almost to extinction. Our Maori guide introduces us to the 51-metre tall Tane Mahuta or ‘lord of the forest’. Today’s journey ends at Paihia.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 3 Bay of Islands**

We enjoy a guided tour of Russell, and hear how drunken sailors and whalers gave this pretty port a terrible reputation in the 19th century. The afternoon is at leisure to discover the natural wonders of the Bay of Islands, with plenty of options from coastal walks to swimming with dolphins!

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 4 Bay of Islands to Coromandel Peninsula**

We visit the historic Waitangi Treaty Grounds, where Maori tribes signed an agreement with British settlers in 1840, and the nation of New Zealand was ‘born’. The site, with lawns stretching down to the bay, includes an award-winning visitor centre. After, we head south, via Auckland, to the Firth of Thames where millions of seabirds gather.

*Private Hotel*

**Day 5 Explore the Coromandel Peninsula**

Hot Water Beach is famous for the hot springs beneath its sands: if the tide is right, you can scoop out your own ‘pool’ for a natural spa experience. A walk to the marine reserve of Cathedral Cove is also recommended. In the evening enjoy a BBQ with your fellow travellers.

*Private Hotel*

**Day 6 Coromandel Peninsula to Rotorua**

We travel south to Rotorua, the heart of Maori culture and a town of bubbling mud and geyser activity! We begin our visit with a guided walk in the pretty Government Gardens, then visit Te Puia, which showcases Maori arts and crafts as well as the geothermal sights.

*City Hotel*

**Day 7 Rotorua**

We stretch our legs in the Waimangu Volcanic Valley this morning, with a boat trip on Lake Rotomahana. At a local Marae (meeting house) we hear ancient legends from a modern Maori and in the evening enjoy Maori music and dance, and a traditional Hangi dinner.

*City Hotel*

**Day 8 Rotorua to Napier**

Today we head south, past Huka Falls to Lake Taupo, then east to the colourful seaside town of Napier. Rebuilt after a disastrous fire in the 1930s, this is the most complete Art Deco town in the Southern Hemisphere. This evening we share a special dinner at the Mission Estate Winery, one of the oldest in Hawke’s Bay.

*Private Hotel*

**Day 9 Napier to Wellington**

This morning we travel south through the Wairarapa to Wellington. Our introductory tour brings ‘the coolest little capital’ city to life. Afterwards, you are spoilt for choice: a cable car ride for harbour views, Te Papa the national museum, the city’s film district and a waterfront walk are just four options.

*City Hotel*



3

**Day 10 Wellington to Nelson**

We board the Interislander Ferry to cruise to the South Island, threading through spectacular Queen Charlotte Sound to land at Picton. The next stop is Nelson, gateway to Abel Tasman National Park, with a chance to stretch our legs on an attractive part of the New Zealand Walkway trail.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 11 Abel Tasman National Park**

Abel Tasman National Park is a magical mosaic of golden sands and turquoise lagoons backed by native bush. We board a small cruiser for a memorable day’s exploring, which includes the option to ‘tramp’ to beautiful Torrent Bay.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 12 Nelson to Franz Josef**

Travelling down the west coast, take the opportunity to walk on Cape Foulwind in search of fur seals, before arriving at Franz Josef, where New Zealand’s most accessible glaciers terminate. This afternoon there is time for an optional scenic flight, weather permitting.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 13 Franz Josef to Wanaka**

After a morning stroll around Lake Matheson, which perfectly mirrors the mountain peaks on a sunny day, we take the river road over the Haast Pass and travel into Mt Aspiring National Park, before arriving in Wanaka.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*



4



5

**Day 14 Te Wanaka to Te Anau**

The lakeside resort of Wanaka is where New Zealanders come to relax. Active options include a wonderful half-day walk to Diamond Lake and the Rocky Mountain Trail. A boat trip to Mou Waho island nature reserve is also recommended. Later we head to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland National Park.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 15 Te Anau to Milford Sound**

Few coach journeys are as scenic as the one we take today, through the majestic temperate rainforest to one of the world’s most magical places: Milford Sound. A morning cruise is followed by a short guided walk with an experienced nature guide.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 16 Te Anau to Queenstown**

Today, journey via Kingston and Lake Wakatipu to Queenstown, famous for its hair-raising activities and spectacular setting. It is also a sophisticated resort with excellent shops and restaurants, and a fitting end to your tour!

*City Hotel*

**Day 17 Depart Queenstown**

Queenstown is well-connected to the rest of New Zealand, and for onward travel to Australia, so we say farewell today.

**EXPERIENCES INCLUDED**

- Maori guided experience in Waipoua Forest
- Guided tour of Russell’s rip-roaring past
- Entrance to Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Visit to the Miranda Shorebird Centre
- Barbecue dinner in the Coromandel
- Entrance to Te Puia Geothermal Reserve and Maori Arts and Crafts Centre
- Guided Walk and Boat Trip to Waimangu Thermal Valley
- Maori Cultural Performance and Hangi Feast
- Guided walking tour of Art Deco Napier
- Dinner with wine at Mission Estate winery
- Interislander Ferry crossing Wellington/Picton
- Excursion by boat in Abel Tasman National Park
- Guided walk on a section of the Milford Track
- Milford Sound cruise and lunch

**OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

- Cruise Waitemata Harbour, Auckland
- Explore the pretty town of Devonport
- Take a dolphin cruise in the Bay of Islands
- Swim or kayak at Cathedral Cove, Coromandel
- Visit Te Papa, the National Museum of New Zealand, Wellington
- Walk the Centre of New Zealand trail, Nelson
- Photograph the beautiful reflections of Mount Cook at Lake Matheson
- Enjoy a thrilling jetboat ride up the Matukituki River
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on a vintage steamship
- Take afternoon tea at Walter Peak Station
- Watch the sun set over the Remarkable Mountains from the Skyline restaurant, Queenstown

**PRICES INCLUDE**

Tour only	from £4,694
Tour and flight	from £5,694
Single supplement	from £1,478

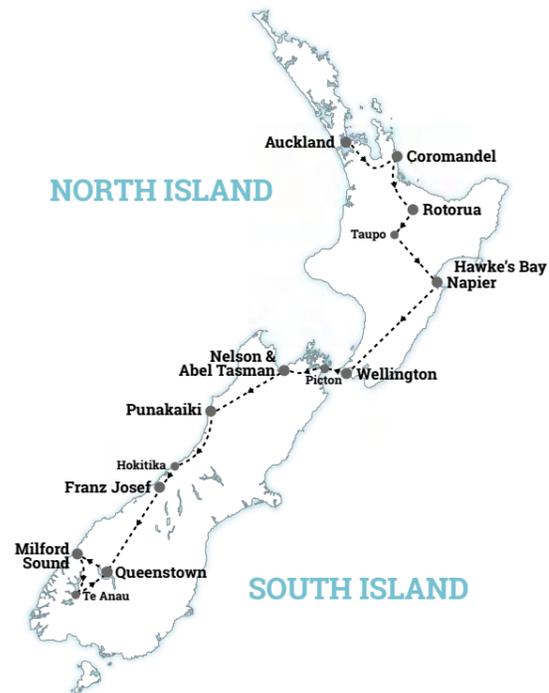
- Comfortable touring in 16-seater vehicle
- Services of our Driver-Guide and, where applicable, Local Experts
- 16 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- 3 evening meals
- Sightseeing & entrance fees listed opposite under Experiences Included

For a full list of dates and prices please refer to our website [www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys](http://www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys)

1. Abel Tasman National Park
2. Coromandel
3. Inside a glacier at Franz Josef
4. Troll figure at Weta Workshop
5. Local Bed and Breakfast

# Rimu

**15 DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS**  
FROM £4,430



Join us for this Small Group Journey to explore the highlights of the North and South Islands; unleash your adventurous spirit in the adrenaline capital of Queenstown, cruise Milford Sound and make the most of the abundance of walking opportunities the country has to offer, as you travel through New Zealand's fabulous landscapes.

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1 Auckland**

We greet your flight and transfer you to your hotel, which is within easy reach of city sights. The smart bars and restaurants of Viaduct Harbour are a great introduction to this exciting city.

*City Hotel*

**Day 2 Auckland to Coromandel Peninsula**

Today's journey takes us through the lush farmlands of the Waikato and along the coast to spot some of New Zealand's spectacular birdlife during a visit to the Miranda Shorebird Centre, before we reach our welcoming hotel on the east coast of the Coromandel.

*Private Hotel*

**Day 3 Explore the Coromandel**

The Coromandel Peninsula is surrounded by the Pacific, with unspoiled beaches and rainforest walks. If the tides are right, wallow in your own natural 'spa pool' at Hot Water Beach. Cathedral Cove is a favourite spot with Instagrammers, but more importantly is a pristine marine reserve and well worth the walk. In the evening we provide the ingredients for a 'hands on' BBQ meal together.

*Private Hotel*

**Day 4 Coromandel to Rotorua**

No trip to New Zealand is complete without the sight, sound and occasional sniff of Rotorua! The locals live in harmony with some active geothermal features, as we will learn on our introductory walk. There is nowhere better place to hear mud bubble, sniff sulphur and gasp at a geyser than at Te Puia, which we visit in the afternoon.

*City Hotel*

**Day 5 Rotorua**

After a walk through the Waimangu Volcanic Valley where new silica terraces are slowly re-forming, we take you a local Marae to understand more about Maori culture past and present. And no visit to Rotorua would be complete without experiencing a Maori welcome, stirring songs and a traditional meal, called a Hangi.

*City Hotel*

**Day 6 Rotorua to Napier**

Today we head south, with a stop at Huka Falls and vast Lake Taupo before heading to the east coast and the Art Deco town of Napier. Our local guide explains how this seaside resort became the Miami of the Rotorua to Napier. This is one of the premier wine-producing areas and this evening we dine together, with a glass of wine, at the historic Mission Estate Winery.

*Private Hotel*

**Day 7 Napier to Wellington**

This morning we travel through the rural Wairarapa region to Wellington. An afternoon tour brings 'the coolest little capital' city to life, and there is time to sample the city's café culture or take in quirky landmarks like the City-to-Sea Bridge and the Beehive parliament building.

*City Hotel*

**Day 8 Wellington to Nelson**

We cruise in the wake of Captain Cook, the first person to discover that North and South Islands are separated by a body of water. The Interislander ferry takes a scenic route through Queen Charlotte Sound to Picton. Back on our wheels, we head for the town of Nelson where New Zealand's first rugby match was played in 1870. Relax with a riverside walk.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*



**Day 9 Abel Tasman National Park**

Some claim that Abel Tasman is the most beautiful of New Zealand's 14 amazing National Parks. Certainly the combination of shallow lagoons, golden beaches and virgin forest is hard to beat. The best way to explore is by boat, so we charter a small cruiser that can drop into small coves for swimming and shore walks.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 10 Nelson to Franz Josef**

We leave Abel Tasman's paradise behind for the 'wild' West Coast, and make a stop at the aptly-named Cape Foulwind. Passing through the frontier-style town of Hokitika we come to the famous Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers in Westland National Park. There are several ways to see the glaciers close up (weather permitting) including exciting helicopter flights.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 11 Franz Josef to Wanaka**

A photo opportunity at Lake Matheson is worth a short side-trip before we leave: the still waters act as a perfect mirror to the mountain peaks. Today's route winds through the Southern Alps, taking the Haast Pass road beside the river until we enter Mt Aspiring National Park and run beside spectacular Lake Wanaka.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*



**Day 12 Wanaka to Te Anau**

Wanaka's natural beauty and exciting activities make it a favourite with Kivis for their own outdoor adventures, though few international visitors stay here. During our time you might take a jet-boat ride on the river, visit an island nature reserve, or enjoy one of the most beautiful short walks on South Island. Later, we head to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland National Park.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 13 Te Anau to Milford Sound**

The journey to iconic Milford Sound takes us over mountain ridges, through rainforest, past waterfalls and mirror-like lakes: all part of today's unforgettable experience. On arrival at this truly awesome place, we enjoy a cruise towards Mitre Peak and the mouth of the Sound, followed by a short guided walk with an experienced nature guide.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 14 Te Anau to Queenstown**

Today, we drive via Kingston and along Lake Wakatipu to sophisticated Queenstown. This is the final night of your tour, and there is no shortage of smart bars and good restaurants in which to celebrate your last evening.

*City Hotel*

**Day 15 Depart Queenstown**

Whether you are heading for home, or travelling on to your next destination, we must say Haere ra, farewell!! (Do ask about extending your holiday with tailor-made arrangements.)



**EXPERIENCES INCLUDED**

- Visit to the Miranda Shorebird Centre
- Barbecue dinner in the Coromandel
- Entrance to Te Puia Geothermal Reserve and Maori Arts and Crafts Centre
- Guided Walk and Boat Trip to Waimangu Volcanic Valley
- Maori Cultural Performance and Hangi Feast
- Guided walking tour of Art Deco Napier
- Dinner with wine at Mission Estate winery
- Take the Kelburn cable car for views over Wellington
- Interislander Ferry crossing Wellington/Picton
- Excursion by boat in Abel Tasman National Park
- Guided walk on a section of the Milford Track
- Milford Sound cruise and lunch

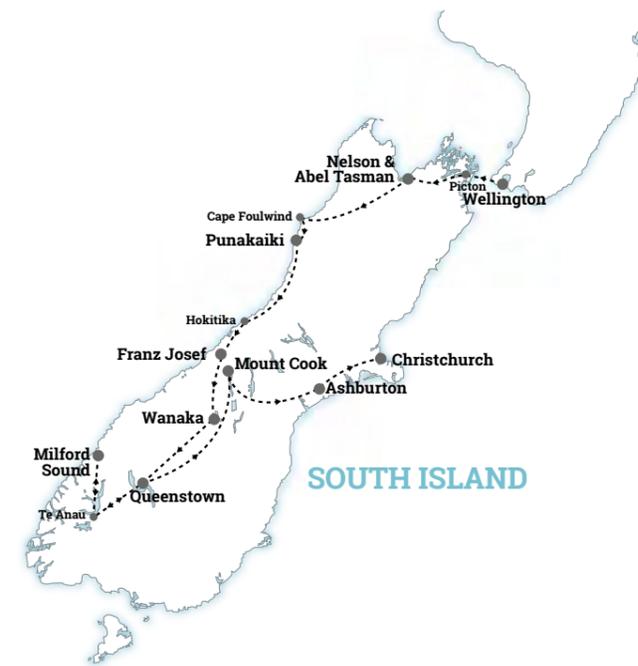
**OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit Auckland Museum, Domain and Winter Gardens
- Dig your own spa pool at Hot Water Beach
- View the Pancake Rocks at Dolomite Point, Punakaiki
- See a glacier close up on foot or by air
- Discover Lake Wanaka's wildlife with an eco expert
- Take a 4WD into the high mountains of Mount Aspiring National Park
- Enjoy the thrills of the Shotover Jet, Queenstown
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on a vintage steamship
- Dine at the Skyline, Queenstown, with great views to the Remarkable Mountains

1. Kayaking, Abel Tasman National Park  
2. Geothermal area, Rotorua  
3. Wine tasting in Hawke's Bay  
4. Vintage cars, Napier  
5. Te Papa, Wellington

# Mount Cook Lily

**13** DAYS SOUTH ISLAND  
FROM £3,584



**This tour squeezes more jaw-dropping scenery into 13 days than any other! The South Island has an unparalleled variety of landscapes, from the majestic Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers, to the stunning views across Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown, to the Remarkable Mountains.**

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1 Wellington**

Whether you have just arrived in New Zealand, or are joining us after travelling in North Island, today you can relax before meeting your friendly driver-guide in the evening.

*City Hotel*

**Day 2 Wellington to Nelson**

South Island here we come! This morning we sail on the Interislander Ferry across the Cook Strait, discovered by Captain James Cook almost 250 years ago. Our voyage winds through Queen Charlotte Sound to the port of Picton, then we transfer to Nelson. The town attracts artists, craftsmen and foodies and claims to be the craft brewing capital of New Zealand.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 3 Abel Tasman National Park**

Nelson is the gateway to Abel Tasman National Park, whose beautiful coastline of sandy bays and shallow lagoons is best accessed by boat. So we swap wheels for water, with opportunities to swim and stroll. If you are feeling energetic, we can land you at Bark Bay for a superb hike through native bush to Torrent Bay to meet up with the boat again.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 4 Nelson to Franz Josef**

The transition from semi-tropical Tasman to the cool West Coast may be a shock! Brave the 'foul winds' on Cape Foulwind when we emerge from the Buller Gorge: it is worth it to see fur seals or blue penguins on the rocks. Today's journey ends at Franz Josef, the perfect base from which to see one of New Zealand's two most accessible glaciers. There are numerous options for getting up close to the Fox and Franz Josef 'rivers of ice', including viewing platforms and guided walks. Some activities are weather-dependent, such as scenic flights. We can recommend different options and durations, from five minute trips to flights which actually land in a snow-bowl at the top of a glacier!

*Country Hotel*

**Day 5 Franz Josef to Wanaka**

Lake Matheson is a worthwhile side-trip from Franz Josef for its reflective qualities. After this Instagram opportunity we climb up and through the Southern Alps following the Haast Pass beside the river and winding through Mt Aspiring National Park to Lake Wanaka.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

**Day 6 Wanaka to Te Anau**

Wanaka is where New Zealanders come to relax, and it is gaining a reputation for outdoor adventures that make the most of the lake and mountain environment. One of the best half-day walks in New Zealand is here: the Diamond Lake and Rocky Mountain Trail. An eco-themed boat trip to Mou Waho island offers a chance to see unique New Zealand wildlife like the flightless Buff Weka. Later, we drive south to overnight close to Te Anau, one of Fiordland's largest lakes.

*Country Hotel*

**Day 7 Te Anau to Milford Sound**

Te Anau is the ideal base from which to undertake an expedition to Milford Sound. There can be few coach journeys more scenic! Dense rainforest, tumbling waterfalls, mirror lakes and a winding road brings us to Milford Sound. This 'secret' Sound has such a narrow sea-entrance that Captain Cook sailed past it twice without discovering it. A cruise across the Sound towards Mitre Peak is a memorable experience. We also enjoy a short guided walk with a local nature guide to learn more about this pristine wilderness.

*Country Hotel*



**Day 8 Te Anau to Queenstown**

A morning departure for Queenstown, superbly set on Lake Wakatipu's eastern shore. Best-known as the home of bungee jumping, it now offers a breath-taking choice of white-knuckle adventures. But there are gentler enjoyments too: wine-tasting, a gondola ride, walking and cycling. The town also has a good choice of bars and restaurants to suit all budgets.

*City Hotel*

**Day 9 Queenstown**

A free day for relaxing or sightseeing: the steamer TSS Earnslaw offers an effortless way to enjoy the scenery from the comfort of this vintage cruiser. Film fans may like to see where Lord of the Rings was filmed: many locations are instantly recognisable during a fun 4WD safari. Queenstown also offers excellent shops and spa facilities for those who simply want to relax.

*City Hotel*

**Day 10 Queenstown to Mt Cook National Park**

After a short stop in pretty Arrowtown – originally a gold-rush camp and today a genteel village – we skirt the eastern foothills of the Southern Alps and overnight close to Lake Pukaki.

*Country Hotel*



**Day 11 Mount Cook to Ashburton**

We head up to Mount Cook Village where a statue of Sir Edmund Hillary looks towards the peaks he climbed in preparation for his Everest ascent. A walk in the Hooker Valley usually allows a superb view of Aoraki Mt Cook. Later, we drop you at a local rural homestay for an evening of real Kiwi hospitality.

*Rural Homestay*

**Day 12 Ashburton to Christchurch**

Christchurch may not be what it was: a piece of 'old England' on the River Avon. But as we see the city is re-building to balance the old (the botanic gardens and punting) with the new (the Cardboard Cathedral). This is the final night of our tour, and we come together for a farewell dinner that showcases the best of New Zealand food and wine.

*City Hotel*

**Day 13 Depart Christchurch**

We wish you a safe onward journey, whether you are flying out of Christchurch or extending your stay in New Zealand with us, or with family.

**EXPERIENCES INCLUDED**

- Interislander Ferry crossing Wellington/Picton
- Excursion by boat in Abel Tasman National Park
- Guided walk on a section of the Milford Track
- Milford Sound cruise and lunch
- Meet the locals on a rural homestay
- Farewell dinner in Christchurch restaurant

**OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES**

- Visit Old St Paul's Church, or writer Katherine Mansfield's house: two of Wellington's hidden gems
- Explore Nelson's art galleries and cooperative craft outlets
- Photograph Mount Cook's reflections in beautiful Lake Matheson
- See a glacier on foot or by air
- Discover Lake Wanaka's wildlife with an eco expert
- Venture into the Matukituki Valley for amazing views of Rob Roy Glacier
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on a vintage steamship
- Enjoy a cycle ride to Jack's Point, Queenstown
- Walk the beautiful Hooker Valley while at Mount Cook
- See New Zealand's bluest lake
- Visit Christchurch's Cardboard Cathedral



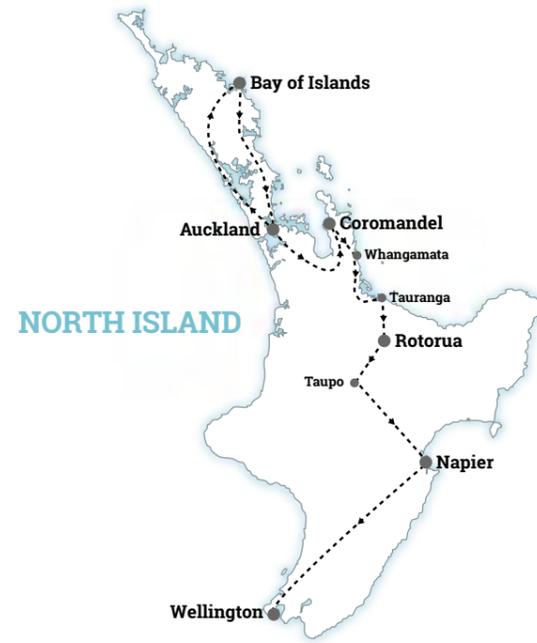
1. Milford Sound
2. Walking above Lake Wanaka
3. Mount Cook Lily
4. On the beach, Abel Tasman National Park
5. Local Bed and Breakfast

# Koromiko

**10 DAYS NORTH ISLAND**  
FROM £2,594



1



2

**This tour takes in the stunning sights of North Island, on a journey past ancient kauri trees to the sparkling Pacific waters of the Bay of Islands. Further south, you'll visit the Art Deco town of Napier, and enjoy the wonderful wines of the Hawke's Bay region, before arriving in Wellington, "the coolest little capital in the world".**

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 Auckland

Haere mai – Welcome! Arrive in Auckland, drop your bags and stretch your legs. Our central hotel means you are close to Aotea Square and the Sky Tower, with the waterfront about 20 minutes' walk. Meet up with your driver-guide and fellow travellers, then get a good night's sleep before our tour starts.

*City Hotel*

### Day 2 Auckland to Bay of Islands

Leaving Auckland, we travel through Northland, which at its narrowest point is little more than 20 kms across, following Highway 12 west then heading into the Waipoua Forest. Our Maori guide tells the tale of Tane Mahuta, the 'lord of the forest' whose spirit is embodied in the tallest kauri tree in the world. After this 'forest bathing' experience, we head east to tranquil Paihia.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

### Day 3 Bay of Islands

We cross the bay to Russell, known in the early 19th century as 'the hell-hole of the Pacific' thanks to the awful behaviour of sailors and whalers on shore leave! Our local guide brings it to life on our guided tour of what is now an elegant and upmarket town! The afternoon is at leisure for you to discover the Bay of Islands' natural attractions, ranging from coastal walks to swimming with dolphins.

*Local Bed & Breakfast*

### Day 4 Bay of Islands to Coromandel Peninsula

In the 1830s the Crown's representative built a house at Waitangi, where green lawns run down to the sea. In 1840 Maori leaders came here to sign an agreement with Britain, making this the most important site in New Zealand history. Today the Visitor Centre and traditional carvings of the Te Whare Runanga (House of Assembly) superbly interpret history. After, we head south, passing through Auckland, and continuing to the Firth of Thames, where we stop at the Miranda Shorebird Centre before finding our hotel on the Coromandel coast.

*Private Hotel*

### Day 5 Coromandel Peninsula

This sub-tropical peninsula boasts beautiful beaches and ancient forests. Gold miners and logging gangs plundered the Coromandel in the 19th century but now logging and rail tracks provide walkers with access to the bush. There are warm springs here too, and many visitors like to scoop out a natural 'spa' pool on Hot Water Beach, when the tide is right. Alternatively, a coastal walk to Cathedral Cove is rewarded with a juxtaposition of sand, sea and rock: the perfect photo to share online with family and friends back home.

In the evening enjoy a BBQ with fellow travellers: we provide the ingredients, you provide the appetite.

*Private Hotel*

### Day 6 Coromandel Peninsula to Rotorua

Leaving the Coromandel we take the Pacific Coast Highway along the Bay of Plenty, named by Captain Cook on his First Voyage to New Zealand almost 250 years ago, then turn inland. Rotorua is a magnet for visitors to the North Island, this thriving town being both a centre of Maori culture and a geothermal hot spot! Our local guide explains more during our walk starting from the colonial-style Government Gardens. Then we visit Te Puia, where it is easy to see bubbling mud, boiling springs and spouting geysers at close quarters. It also houses the country's Maori Arts & Crafts Institute, which ensures the old skills of weaving and carving are passed on. Te Puia also offers an opportunity to see the shy, flightless bird that is New Zealand's mascot, at the kiwi conservation project

*City Hotel*



3

### Day 7 Rotorua

The Waimangu Volcanic Valley combines natural beauty with a changing geothermal landscape, as we discover on this walk and cruise across Lake Rotomahana. The area was devastated by the eruption of Mount Tarawera in 1886, which destroyed some sights, but created others: this landscape is constantly evolving. Later, we visit a local Marae to listen to ancient legends and hear about modern Maori life. Our final Maori experience is an evening of stirring Maori songs and a Hangi feast, baked in the hot earth!

*City Hotel*

### Day 8 Rotorua to Napier

Today we head south, past Huka Falls to mighty Lake Taupo, created by the eruption of a super-volcano over 2,000 years ago. Then it is on to Hawke's Bay in the east, and Napier. A local guide explains how this coastal town was devastated by earthquake and fire in 1931, and swiftly rebuilt in the latest architectural style. We call it Art Deco and now Napier rivals Miami as the most complete Art Deco town in the world. Hawke's Bay is New Zealand's oldest wine-producing centre, with premium whites the main focus. Tonight we enjoy an excellent dinner together, with a glass of wine, at one of the oldest producers, the impressive Mission Estate Winery.

*Private Hotel*



4



5

### Day 9 Napier to Wellington

This morning we travel through the rural Wairarapa region to Wellington, the compact capital city. Wellington successfully blends old (wooden Old St Paul's church, the cable car) and new (the City to Sea Bridge, the Beehive parliament) with great coffee shops and restaurants, one of which will be the ideal choice for your last night with us.

*City Hotel*

### Day 10 Depart Wellington

If you are travelling home today we bid you 'haere ra' or farewell! Do ask for independent touring ideas if you wish to discover more of 'the land of the long white cloud'.

## EXPERIENCES INCLUDED

- Maori guided experience in Waipoua Forest
- Guided tour of Russell's rip-roaring past
- Entrance to Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Visit to the Miranda Shorebird Centre
- Barbecue dinner in the Coromandel
- Entrance to Te Puia Geothermal Reserve and Maori Arts and Crafts Centre
- Guided walk and boat trip in Waimangu Volcanic Valley
- Maori Cultural Performance and Hangi Feast
- Guided walking tour of Art Deco Napier
- Dinner with wine at Mission Estate winery

## OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

- View Auckland from the top of Sky Tower
- Take a ferry to the pretty town of Devonport
- Swim with dolphins in the Bay of Islands
- Easy beach walks at Cathedral Cove, Coromandel
- Dig your own natural spa pool on Hot Water Beach
- Visit Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum, Wellington
- Enjoy fine dining in a Wellington waterside restaurant
- Visit Weta Caves, the Lord of the Rings studio, Wellington
- Visit Wellington's Zealandia, the world's first fully-fenced eco-sanctuary



6

## PRICES INCLUDE

Tour only	from £2,594
Tour and flight	from £3,594
Single supplement	from £794

- Comfortable touring in 16-seater vehicle
- Services of our Driver-Guide and, where applicable, Local Experts
- 9 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- 3 evening meals
- Sightseeing & entrance fees listed opposite under Experiences Included

For a full list of dates and prices please refer to our website [www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys](http://www.silverfernholidays.com/smallgroupjourneys)

1. Waitangi Treaty Grounds
2. Wellington
3. Waitangi
4. Tane Mahuta in the Waipoua Forest
5. Auckland Harbour
6. Wine tasting, Napier

# A Walker's Paradise



1

## NEW ZEALAND IS A COUNTRY MADE FOR WALKING

Wide open spaces, spectacular mountain ranges, sparkling river valleys and pristine forests create a natural paradise for lovers of the great outdoors.

You'll find a huge variety of walking opportunities, from relaxed strolls along coastal paths to more energetic treks, from a 'ten minute stretch' to a full day hike or – as they say in New Zealand – a tramp!

Our managing director John Lightwood has been walking in New Zealand for over 30 years, and we are proud to be the leading organiser of Independent walking holidays in New Zealand. (We also arrange trips for walking groups.)

We have several Independent walking itineraries, including our Easy Walking holiday on pages 44-45 and more challenging options (see our website).

Our holidays can be tailor-made to include any of the superb Day Walks such as the Queen Charlotte Track in the Marlborough Sounds to the Pouakai Crossing in North Island's less-visited Egmont National Park.

And of course, there are the world-famous Great Walks, which are detailed opposite.

- 1. Hooker Valley, Mount Cook
- 2. Milford Track
- 3. Routeburn Track



2



3

# The Great Walks

## NEW ZEALAND'S GREAT WALKS ARE ICONIC TRACKS MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

To complete one of the Great Walks takes between three and six days. For the most rewarding experience we recommend a guided expedition, led by experts and including comfortable accommodation and good, hearty meals. It should go without saying that the Great Walks require a reasonable level of fitness and appropriate footwear (but we will say it anyway).

The Department of Conservation controls the number of walkers in these fragile environments, which in peak season would otherwise come under intolerable pressure. Early booking is strongly advised so that we can ensure you are booked onto what will no doubt be the experience of a lifetime!

The most popular guided Great Walks in New Zealand are summarised here. You'll find more detail on our website.

### The most popular guided track walks in New Zealand are:



#### Milford Track

Often described as 'the finest walk in the world' (5 days). A trek of alpine peaks, through primeval forests to the beautiful Milford Sound.



#### Routeburn Track

An alpine wilderness adventure of great scenic diversity (3 days), through Fiordland and Mt Aspiring National Parks.



#### Grand Traverse

The Greenstone Valley walk and Routeburn walk combine to become New Zealand's premier trek (6 days).



#### The Hollyford Track

A track of scenic diversity in Fiordland National Park from the mountains to the sea (3-5 days)



#### The Abel Tasman Coastal Track

Located in the North West corner of the South Island, a magnificent coastal walk (3-5 days).



#### Queen Charlotte Walkway

A wonderful coastal trail winding along forested shores and peninsulas with outstanding views of the Marlborough Sounds (4-5 days).

# Explore New Zealand on Foot

**24** DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLANDS  
FROM £3,495



**A superb holiday for all walking abilities, touring mainly by car, with recommended short walks and full day treks in the National Parks, and the option of a guided 'Great Walk' in Fiordland.**

## OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE

Hiking to the top of Rangitoto Island for great views of the Hauraki Maritime Gulf

Visiting Te Puia, the Maori Arts & Crafts Centre and geothermal park

Sharing a traditional Hangi meal in Rotorua, cooked in the heat of the earth

Admiring spectacular Huka Falls

A 360° view of Wellington from Mt Victoria Lookout

Spotting dolphins chase the bow wave of the Interislander Ferry

Wild swimming in Abel Tasman National Park

Watching a movie in Wanaka from the comfort of a converted Morris Minor

Wine-tasting at Amisfield or Gibbstown Valley, two of Queenstown's premier wineries

The beauty of Glenorchy, where the award-winning TV series Top of the Lake filmed

Exploring Te Anau's glow worm caves by boat

Taking a helicopter flight around Aoraki Mt Cook

Star spotting in the southern hemisphere's only International Dark Sky Reserve

## ITINERARY

### Days 1 – 2 Auckland

Arrive at Auckland airport to a warm welcome from our staff, before a private transfer to your hotel (two nights). Explore city centre sights, and limber up with a walk on Mount Eden, a public park with walking trails and panoramic views over the city. Alternatively, take a ferry to one of the islands in the Hauraki Maritime Gulf which offers good walks and views.

### Days 3 – 4 Rotorua

Collect your rental car and drive south across the rolling farmlands of the Waikato. Choose a route via Waitomo's Glow Worm Caves, or the 'Hobbiton' film set at Matamata. There is a wide choice of geothermal and Maori-centred experiences in Rotorua, from natural hot spas to Hangi feasts. A favourite optional excursion is a walk through the Waimangu Volcanic Valley: the 4.8 kms/3 mile route passes steaming Waimangu Cauldron, Echo Crater, Frying Pan Lake and Cathedral Rock before arriving at the shore of Lake Rotomahana.

### Days 5 – 6 Tongariro National Park

Drive around vast Lake Taupo and into Tongariro National Park (two nights). This austere beautiful landscape is dominated by Mts Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe. The 16kms/10 mile track between the peaks is known as the Tongariro Crossing and the country's finest one-day walk. Walks to Taranaki Falls or Tama Lakes are shorter scenic options.

### Day 7 Tongariro to Wellington

Drive South through the rural Manawatu region and down the Kapiti Coast to Wellington for one night. We suggest taking cable car ride up Mt Victoria for great views of the harbour, and a visit to Te Papa, New Zealand's premier museum and showcase of the country's art and history.

### Day 8 Wellington to Picton to Nelson

Leave your car at the Wellington rental location and board the Interislander Ferry for a cruise across the Cook Strait to Picton. Collect your South Island vehicle and continue to Nelson (two nights), a laid-back town of artists and craftspeople.

### Day 9 Nelson

Explore New Zealand's self-proclaimed sunshine city, or head out to Kaiteriteri for a full-day trip into the Abel Tasman National Park. Short coastal walks include the track between Medlands Beach and Bark Bay – a great place for a swim – then on to Bark Bay Falls and Swing Bridge. Return to Nelson after an amazing day out!

### Day 10 Nelson to Hokitika

A drive through the Buller Gorge brings you to the wild West Coast. The limestone of the Paparoa National Park has been shaped by water and wind to create striking natural features. You might take a 5kms/2 mile walk on Cape Foulwind, or a 2kms/1¼ mile walk out to Dolomite Point to see the blowholes. Overnight at Hokitika.

### Day 11 Hokitika to Fox Glacier

Stretching from the dramatic blue-white peaks of the Southern Alps down to lush forest just 200 metres above sea level, the Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers are an awesome sight. One night here gives you time to undertake a guided hike to get up close to one of the glaciers. Scenic flights, some of which include a snow landing, are another option.



### Days 12 – 13 Wanaka

Drive through the Haast Pass into Mt Aspiring National Park, perhaps pausing at Lake Matheson for a short walk along its forested shore (2kms/1 mile) and the picturesque town of Wanaka (two nights). From Wanaka, the Matukituki Valley opens up a range of routes including the 19kms/12 miles hike for views of the Rob Roy Glacier, Mt Tyndall and the Shotover Saddle.

### Days 14 – 16 Queenstown

A short drive to Queenstown (three nights), set on beautiful Lake Wakatipu. There is a huge range of activities and excursions to choose from. Recommended walks range from the lakeside Bob's Cove (4.5kms/3 miles) route to the steepish Queenstown Hill summit for panoramic views (4kms/2.5 miles). The full day Moonlight Trail over Ben Lomond saddle to Arthur's Point follows the gold-miner's route (14.5kms/9 miles) with ascents to 645m and descents to 1060m.

### Day 17 – 19 Te Anau

Your base for three nights is Te Anau, at the gateway to Fiordland National Park. The lakeside township offers numerous walks, boat trips and excursions, including unforgettable visits to either Milford or Doubtful Sound. To tackle the Routeburn or Milford Tracks – both 'Great Walks' supervised by the Dept of Conservation – ask us to pre-book a guided package.



### Day 20 Te Anau to Mt Cook

By way of Mackenzie country, drive to the doorstep of Mt Cook National Park for two nights. At 3755m Mt Cook is the highest mountain in New Zealand: Maori call it Aoraki 'the cloud piercer'.

### Day 21 Mt Cook

A chance to walk in the footsteps of Sir Edmund Hillary. The Hooker Valley offers wonderful views to the south face of Mt Cook. The full walk is 14kms/9 miles, crossing two swing bridges to reach the terminal of the Hooker Glacier. Shorter walks also available.

### Days 22 – 23 Mt Cook to Christchurch

Head across the Canterbury Plains to end with two nights in the Garden City. Time to stroll the banks of the River Avon, visit the Botanic Gardens, or simply indulge in some last-minute souvenir shopping, or take a drive out to the Port Hills for views to Lyttleton Harbour. Side-trips to go whale-watching at Kaikoura, or swim with dolphins at Akaroa are other options.

### Day 24

Transfer to the airport for your homeward flight or extend your trip to visit family/friends 'down under'.

## ACCOMMODATION

We arrange quality accommodation that we have seen for ourselves, balancing location, standards and availability. This tour price is based on 4-star central hotels in Auckland and Christchurch, with a mix of independent hotels and charming B&Bs elsewhere; we also offer the opportunity to enjoy a rural homestay. We will be delighted to discuss alternative accommodation at additional cost, for example boutique hotels and lodges.

## PRICES

Tour only from £3,495

Tour and flight from £4,495

Single supplement prices available on request.

Prices are per person based on two travelling/sharing including

- Meet & greet at Auckland airport
- Private transfer to your Auckland hotel
- 23 nights accommodation in quality Hotels and B&Bs
- Breakfast each day
- Intermediate car hire with unlimited kilometres & daily insurance
- Interislander Ferry travel as foot passengers
- Silver Fern maps and walk notes

1. Walking in the Mount Cook region
2. Milford Track
3. Taking a break, Mount Aspiring National Park
4. Father and son, Huka Falls
5. Tongariro National Park

# Special Interest

**WHETHER YOUR PASSION IS FOR WINE, GOLF, BIRDWATCHING OR SPORT, WE CAN TAILOR A HOLIDAY TO SUIT..**

- 1. Skiing in the Remarkables
- 2. Pohutukawa flower, North Island
- 3. Viewing Albatross, Otago Peninsula
- 4. Golf, Queenstown

There is more to New Zealand than awesome scenery. Its wines are world-famous and many wineries welcome cellar-door sales. Perhaps Monty Don inspires you to visit New Zealand gardens? Would you like to play golf on Lydia Ko's home course? Tolkien fans can visit dozens of film locations, and New Zealand offers fabulous skiing in July, August and September.

Our Independent touring holidays can all be adjusted to reflect your personal passion, and for groups of 6 or more we can create a totally bespoke tour. Popular themes include gardens, birdwatching, golf, wine, 'middle earth' and wildlife. We can even organise a tour of New Zealand by motorbike!



# Cycling Holidays



## NGA HAERENGA, THE NEW ZEALAND CYCLE TRAIL

Peddalling through some of New Zealand's most breath-taking scenery must be one of the best ways to immerse yourself in the landscape – through native bush, around pristine lakes, beside glacial rivers and wetlands and along stunning coastlines: a truly exhilarating experience!

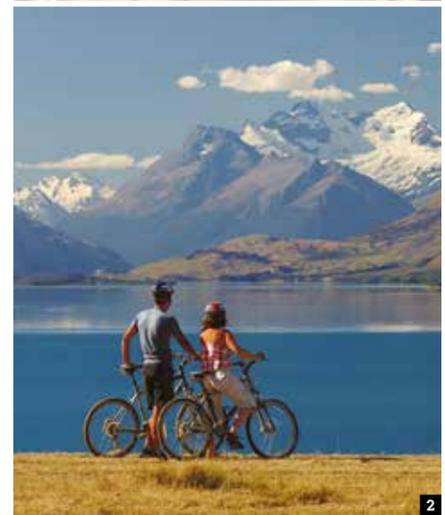
Now there's a whole new network of off-the-road trails for you to enjoy and explore, all part of the Nga Haerenga – New Zealand's National Cycle Trail. So switch to two wheels for flat and easy day rides, with great views, on the Hauraki Rail Trail from Thames to Paeroa on the Coromandel, North Island. On South Island you can follow the Queenstown trail around Lake Wakatipu which takes in the Gibbston Wine Area, the former gold-mining centre of Arrowtown and the stunning landscapes of Lake Hayes, Frankton and the Remarkables.

- 1. Through the vineyards, Blenheim
- 2. Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown
- 3. Otago Central Rail Trail

For more energetic cycling or mountain biking, a ride through the ancient forests on the Timber Trail, Central North Island, or across the open river valleys and gorges of the Old Ghost Road on the West Coast for a reminder of a bygone era and of gold-digging dreams.

There are currently 22 Great Rides the length and breadth of New Zealand, and these day or multi-day tours can be incorporated into any tailor-made holiday.

*Nga Haerenga is an ongoing project, so please refer to our website for updates on newly opened cycle routes.*



# Captain Cook



**CAPTAIN JAMES COOK  
FIRST LANDED IN NEW  
ZEALAND IN 1769**

**THE 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
MAKES 2019 THE YEAR  
TO DISCOVER HIS  
'UNKNOWN SOUTHERN  
LANDS'**



On 8 October 1769 HMS Endeavour dropped anchor off the east coast of what we now call New Zealand.

Polynesian explorers had arrived in the 13th century, and called themselves Maori. Dutchman Abel Tasman sailed the west coast in 1642, receiving a less than friendly reception from Maori war canoes. But it was 120 years before New Zealand was re-discovered, when Yorkshire's own James Cook landed in Poverty Bay and started to chart 'the land of the long white cloud'.

The 250th anniversary is a great excuse to discover Eastland, a corner of New Zealand rarely explored by international visitors.

Gisborne is the modern town that grew up on Poverty Bay, where a statue of the great man turns its back on the sea to gaze into this new land.

The Bay of Plenty – named by Cook for the productive 'gardens' tended by the Maori – is another rewarding spot, renowned for beautiful beaches.

The Cook Strait, Ship Cove in the Marlborough Sounds and the remote Dusky Sound are other sites associated with Cook's pioneering voyages.

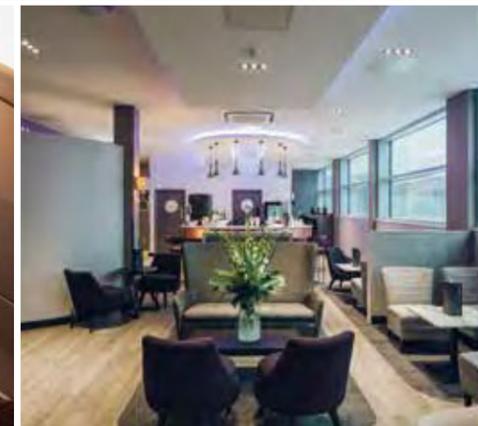
If you would like to follow in Cook's footsteps we will be delighted to discuss the options, which include add-ons in Tahiti and Australia.



1. Cook's statue in Gisborne
2. Sydney
3. Singapore
4. San Francisco

# Getting you there

**MAKING THE JOURNEY A  
REWARDING EXPERIENCE**



New Zealand may be on the other side of the world, but there is no need for your journey to be an endurance test! The choice of routes, airlines and seating classes grows every year. We can make travelling to New Zealand part of the fun and our expertise means we can access the best fares, whatever your budget. A great choice of stopovers means that you should arrive in New Zealand rested and ready to make the most of your holiday. Many travellers opt to break the journey to New Zealand in the key hubs of Hong Kong, Bangkok, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Los Angeles or San Francisco.

For a trip of a lifetime, why not visit Australia before or after your New Zealand holiday? We can tailor-make fabulous Antipodean itineraries combining both beautiful countries. Paradise island escapes in Fiji, Hawaii and the Cook Islands are increasingly popular, and we can extend stopovers in Asia or North America

We also offer optional services to smooth your journey, such as executive taxi transfers from your front door, regional departure add-ons, pre-flight airport hotels and VIP lounge access.

And when you book a tailor-made package including international flights, not only are all your holiday arrangements ATOL-protected, but we also meet you on arrival in New Zealand to talk you through your holiday arrangements and hand over your local travel documents.

## Image credits

We would like to thank Tourism New Zealand, our hoteliers and guides, and staff for the use of images in this brochure.



# Booking Form

AGENT STAMP

HOLIDAY TITLE		POINT OF DEPARTURE		DEPARTURE DATE	RETURN DATE
IF YOU ARE MAKING YOUR OWN TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS PLEASE GIVE DETAILS BELOW					
Date of arrival into New Zealand:		Arrival time:		Flight Number:	
Date of departure from New Zealand:		Departure time:		Flight Number:	
FIRST NAME (as on your passport)	SURNAME	PREFERRED NAME	D.O.B	PASSPORT NO.	INTERNATIONAL TICKET NO.
PREFERRED ROOM Twin/Double/Single/Family					

NEXT OF KIN Name (please print)	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone (Day)	(Evening)

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED MY PAYMENT OF:

NO. OF PEOPLE.....X DEPOSIT £250 (PER PERSON)      £.....

Our preferred method of payment is by BACs.  
Our account details are: Sort code 20-50-21, Account number 33907775

MEDICAL CONDITIONS WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF

Postcode

Telephone (Day) (Evening)

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Email

Mobile Telephone Number (if any) when travelling in New Zealand

I HAVE ARRANGED MY OWN INSURANCE COVER (details below)

My Insurance Company:

Policy Number

Telephone Number of Insurance Company

Signed

Date

ON BEHALF OF THE ABOVE NAMED PERSONS, I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND AGREE TO SILVER FERN HOLIDAYS BOOKING CONDITIONS. I AM OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

Signed

Name (please print)

Address

Postcode

Telephone (Day) (Evening)

Email

Mobile Telephone Number (if any) when travelling in New Zealand

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS BOOKING FORM TO:  
SILVER FERN HOLIDAYS, MINSTER CHAMBERS, CHURCH STREET, SOUTHWELL, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG25 0HD

# Booking

Your contract is with Roads Less Travelled trading as Silver Fern Holidays. ATOL 5305 ABTA Y001X

All bookings are made and accepted in accordance with the terms set out in these conditions.

**1. Booking Confirmation**  
Once you have chosen your holiday, please complete the booking form and send it to us together with a deposit of £250 per group member. Your booking is accepted by us when we issue and send you a confirmation invoice. If a booking cannot be confirmed, the deposit will of course be returned.

**2. Balance of Payment**  
The balance of your invoice is due to be paid 8 weeks prior to the start of your holiday. If you book your holiday less than 8 weeks before your proposed departure date, the full price of your holiday (including any insurance premiums) must be paid at the time of booking. Failure to pay the balance by the specified time will result in the cancellation of your holiday and we will then impose the relevant cancellation charge as set out below.

**3. If you wish to alter your booking**  
Subject to availability, and an administration fee of £25 per person, you may change your holiday arrangements after the issue of a confirmation invoice. If you wish to make a change to your holiday, we will do our best to accommodate you, but any change will be subject to availability and subject to you covering any associated costs of the amendment imposed by our suppliers. We treat as a cancellation and rebooking any transfer to another holiday within 8 weeks of departure.

**4. If you wish to cancel your booking**  
Should you wish to cancel your holiday, you may do so by writing to us, but no cancellation will be effective until such written notice is received by us. If you cancel, you will be liable to pay the following cancellation charges:

Period before departure date in which cancellation is made	<b>Charge</b>
More than 56 days	<b>Deposit</b>
More than 42 days	<b>45% of holiday price</b>
15-41 days inclusive	<b>60% of holiday price</b>
14 days or less	<b>100% of holiday price</b>

**5. If we alter or cancel your holiday plans**  
(i) We reserve the right to make changes to your holiday arrangements after we have confirmed your booking and if we do so, we will use our best endeavours to inform you before departure and make suitable alternative arrangements.

(ii) Any change we make to your holiday will be either major or minor. A major change is a change to your flight departure time of more than 12 hours, a change of departure airport (except between Gatwick and Heathrow) or a change to a lower category of accommodation. Any other change is a minor change. If there is a minor change, we will do our best to notify you of this, but we are not under any obligation to do so or to pay you compensation. If there is a major change, we will advise you as soon as is reasonably possible. You will then have the choice of accepting the change, taking an alternative holiday (and where this is of a lower price, we will refund the difference, but where it is of a higher price, you will be expected to pay the difference), or withdrawing from the contract and accepting a full refund of all monies paid. In addition, in appropriate cases, (on the assumption that the full balance has been paid) we will pay you compensation which is reasonable given the circumstances in question. Compensation will not be considered appropriate, for example, in cases where a major change has to be made as a result of force majeure (as defined below).

(iii) If we have to cancel your holiday before the date of departure, you will have the choice of taking an alternative holiday (and where this is of a lower price we will refund the difference, but where this is of a higher price, you will be expected to pay the difference) or withdrawing from the contract and accepting a full refund of all monies paid. In addition, in appropriate cases, (on the assumption that the full balance has been paid) and where such cancellation is not due to underbooking or force majeure (as defined below), we will pay you compensation which is reasonable given the circumstances in question. Where such cancellation is due to underbooking, we will inform you within 56 days of the departure date.

(iv) Underbooking is the situation in which the minimum number of bookings required to run a holiday programme is not met. Force majeure is unusual and unforeseeable circumstances beyond our control, the consequences of which neither we nor our suppliers could avoid, examples of which are war or threat of war, riots, civil strife, terrorist activity, industrial disputes, natural or nuclear disaster, fire or adverse weather conditions, level of water in rivers or other similar events beyond our control.

**6. Surcharges**  
We will not impose any surcharges on the price of tour arrangements less than 30 days before departure. In addition, if surcharges become necessary before that time, we will absorb an amount up to the first 2% (excluding insurance premiums and any amendment charges) of any surcharges that apply. Surcharges may be imposed to cover increases in transportation costs, including the cost of fuel, dues, taxes or fees chargeable for services such as landing taxes or embarkation or disembarkation fees at ports or airports, or the exchange rates applied to the particular package. If this means paying more than 10% of the holiday price, you will be entitled to cancel your holiday with a full refund of all monies paid to us except for any premium paid for insurance and amendment charges. Should you decide to cancel because of this, you must exercise your right to do so within 14 days of the date of our invoice.

**7. Silver Fern's liability to the Client**  
(i) We accept liability under Regulation 15(1) of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations ("the Regulations") subject to the defences in Regulation 15(2) of the Regulations, set out at sub-paragraph (ii) below, the limitations set out in sub-paragraphs (iii) to (v) below, and the condition precedent set out in sub-paragraph (vi) below.

(ii) When you suffer any loss, damage, personal injury or death as a result of our failure to perform or improper performance of the holiday contract we shall be liable to pay you compensation, except where the cause of the failure is not our fault or that of our servants, agents or suppliers, and is your own fault, or the actions of someone unconnected with your holiday arrangements, or due to unusual or unforeseeable circumstances or events which neither we, nor our servants, agents or suppliers could have reasonably anticipated or reasonably avoided even with the exercise of due care.

(iii) We are permitted to limit the amount of compensation we will pay you in the event of a claim. Where any claim arises out of loss or damage suffered during the course of rail travel, sea travel, road travel or hotel accommodation, the amount of compensation you will receive will be limited in accordance with the provisions of any relevant International Conventions, namely the Berne Convention 1961, the Athens Convention 1974, the Geneva Convention 1973 and the Paris Convention 1962. Copies of these Conventions are available for inspection at our offices.

(iv) Under Regulation 15(4), we are entitled to limit the amount of compensation we will pay you in the event of a claim, where that claim concerns non-personal injury. It is impossible to assess in advance the exact sums which may be payable to you. We will do our best to assess the appropriate sums due to you in the circumstances of your particular complaint.

(v) Any sums received by you from suppliers such as from airlines due to the Denied Boarding Regulations 1992 (in this case sums paid by the airline constitute the full amount of your entitlement to compensation for all matters flowing from the airline's actions) will be deducted from any sum paid to you as compensation by us. Further, if we pay you any compensation, you shall, if required by us in writing, assign to us any rights of action that you may have against any third party who is in any way responsible for the failure to perform or improper performance of the holiday contract.

(vi) Finally, it is a condition precedent of such acceptance of liability that you follow the procedures for the notification of complaints set out below in clause 9.

(vii) Other than as set out above, and as is detailed elsewhere in these booking conditions, we shall have no legal liability to you in respect of personal injury or death (unless caused by our negligence), or in respect of any other damage which you suffer arising directly or indirectly from any aspect of holiday arrangements booked with us.

**8. Complaints**  
If you have a complaint during your holiday, you must notify our host or local representative immediately and they will do their best to resolve the problem. Should it not be possible to resolve your complaint on the spot and you wish to write to us after your holiday, this must be done no later than 28 days after your return. Full details should be provided and an investigation will then be made. We aim to settle all complaints amicably.

**9. Excursions**  
Excursions Our representatives may, at your request, make arrangements for excursions locally on your behalf. However, please note that if they do, the contract for the provision of the excursion will be between you and the supplier of the excursion and not between you and us. Therefore, when you purchase an excursion locally, your contract is with the local company and we have no liability whatsoever for anything which may go wrong on the excursion.

**10. Special Requests**  
If you have any special requests, you should inform us of such requests at the time of booking. We will advise the relevant supplier of your requirements but we cannot guarantee that such requests will be met. Furthermore, we have no liability to you if such requests are not met.

**11. Suppliers' Conditions**  
Airlines and other transport and accommodation providers have their own booking conditions or conditions of carriage and you will be bound by these as far as the relevant supplier is concerned. Some of these conditions may limit or exclude liability on the part of the relevant supplier. Where relevant, copies of such conditions may be available for inspection at our offices, or at the offices of the relevant supplier.

**12. Transport Delays**  
There is no guarantee that flights or other transportation will depart at the time specified, and we do not have any liability to you for any delay which may arise. Where such delay does arise, the relevant airline or other transport provider may provide refreshments and take any further appropriate action, but we will not have any responsibility to do so.

**13. Baggage and personal effects**  
All baggage and personal effects are, at all times at your risk. We will not be responsible for any loss, damage or accident to any luggage or personal property.

**14. Images**  
You accept any images of you taken whilst on any of our holidays may be used by us for marketing in any format current or yet to be invented.

**15. Insurance**  
You must be suitably insured either through us or with another insurer offering at least equivalent cover before we accept your booking. We can arrange insurance for you, endeavouring to get the best policy to suit your individual needs. Please contact us for further information.

**16. Financial Protection**  
When you buy an ATOL protected flight or flight inclusive holiday from us you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong.

We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought or a suitable alternative (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable).

If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme. Law and Jurisdiction

Your contract with us and any matters arising from it shall be subject to English law and to the jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.

**17. Data Protection**  
In order to process your booking and ensure that your travel arrangements run smoothly and meet your requirements, we need to use the information you provide such as name, address, passport details, any special needs / dietary requirements etc. We take full responsibility for ensuring that proper security measures are in place to protect your information. However, we must pass the information on to the relevant suppliers of your arrangements such as airlines, hotels, transport companies etc. The information may also be provided to public authorities by our suppliers, for customs / immigration purposes or as required by law. Where such information is required, if we do not receive this in time, your booking may have to be cancelled or an administration fee may be levied by the supplier and we reserve the right to pass this cost on to you. Additionally where your holiday is outside the European Economic Area (EEA), controls on Data Protection may not be as strong as the legal requirements in this country. We will not, however, pass any information on to any person not responsible for part of your travel arrangements. This applies to any sensitive information that you give us such as details of disabilities, or dietary / religious requirements. If we cannot pass this information to the relevant suppliers, whether in the EEA or not, we cannot process your booking. In making your booking, you consent to this information being passed on to the relevant persons.