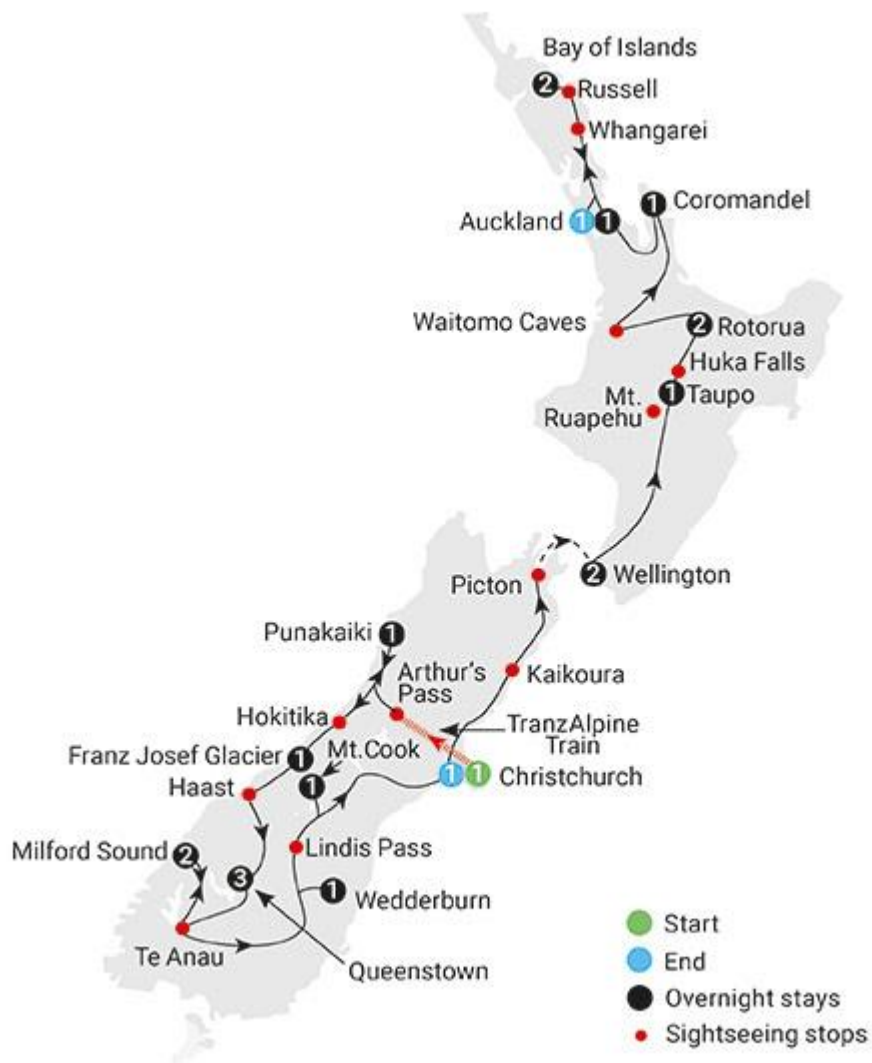


The Long White Cloud



Itinerary

1 October 2018 - 30 September 2019

Day 1

Welcome to Christchurch

Your New Zealand adventure begins in Christchurch, the Garden City. Spend the afternoon at leisure, before joining your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a welcome drink and dinner to kick-off your journey of a lifetime.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Christchurch

Included Meals: Dinner with wine

Day 2

Christchurch – Punakaiki

Traverse the Canterbury Plains on board the TranzAlpine train. The gentle chug-chug in extraordinary surrounds gives way to more epic scenery as you board the coach at Arthur's Pass and travel to Punakaiki to see the Pancake Rocks and Blowholes. Your home tonight is in an eco-friendly resort on the waterfront.

Hotel: Punakaiki Resort

Included Meals: Breakfast and dinner with wine

Day 3

Punakaiki – Franz Josef

Admire the vivid hues of greenstone (jade) on a visit to Hokitika for a jewellery carving demonstration. Continue to Franz Josef Glacier. Spend tonight in the pristine wilderness. Your only priority – relaxing in Franz Josef's geothermal hot pools.

Hotel: Te Waonui Forest Retreat

Included Meals: Breakfast and dinner with wine

Day 4

Franz Josef – Queenstown

Today, meander through the Haast Pass and along the pebble-laden shores of Lakes Wanaka and Hawea, stopping in Makarora and the historic gold-mining village of Arrowtown. The adventure capital of Queenstown awaits and you'll have an opportunity to explore it during an orientation tour.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Queenstown, 3 nights

Included Meals: breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 5

Queenstown Free Time

Calling all thrill seekers! Today's the day to earn your adventurer stripes braving some of Queenstown's most daring activities. Or indulge your more serene side with a round of golf or relaxing spa treatment. This evening, enjoy a memorable Highlight Dinner at one of Queenstown's fine dining restaurants.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Queenstown

Included Meals: Breakfast and highlight dinner

Day 6

Queenstown Free Time

Another daring day awaits in New Zealand's adrenalin capital. Consider a day indulging in the region's vintages at the Gibbston Valley Winery, or board a jet boat for an exhilarating ride

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Queenstown

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 7

Queenstown – Milford Sound

Venture to Te Anau and then deep within the Fiordland National Park. Drive through the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel and emerge into a photographer's paradise where glaciers and peaks give way to the unexpected beauty of Mirror Lake. You'll stop to explore the wonder of the Chasm Walk before arriving at Milford Sound Lodge, with its exquisite views of the Cleddau Valley.

Hotel: Milford Sound Lodge, 2 nights

Included Meals: Breakfast and dinner with wine

Day 8

Milford Sound

Wake up to the startling beauty of Milford Sound. This morning, board the Southern Discoveries vessel for a half day exploration of Milford Sound. Sail out to the Tasman sea looking for wildlife and an opportunity to go sea kayaking in Harrisons Cove.

Hotel: Milford Sound Lodge

Included Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner with wine

Day 9

Milford Sound – Wedderburn

This morning, embark on a journey from the rainforests of Fiordland through Te Anau and the rolling hill country of Southland to the hills of Central Otago. Arrive in Wedderburn and head out to a high country farm to learn about life on the plains. Finish your day with dinner at the local pub.

Hotel: Wedderburn Cottages

Included Meals: Breakfast and dinner with wine

Day 10

Wedderburn – Mt. Cook

Today explore the town of Naseby to learn the history of this gold mining town. From here it's on towards the spectacular scenery of the Southern Alps and Lake Pukaki before arriving in Aoraki Mount Cook National Park. Enjoy dinner against the backdrop of the highest mountain in the southern hemisphere.

Hotel: The Hermitage Hotel

Included Meals: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 11

Mt. Cook – Christchurch

Discover the shores of Lake Tekapo and the Church of the Good Shepherd today, before returning to Christchurch for an indepth sightseeing tour.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Christchurch

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 12

Christchurch – Wellington

Against the backdrop of snow-capped peaks, you'll arrive in the whale-watching capital of Kaikoura. Consider a scenic whalewatching flight (own expense). Continue to the picturesque port town of Picton, the launch pad for a serene sailing across the Cook Strait to trendy Wellington.

Hotel: Sofitel Wellington, 2 nights

Included Meals: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 13

Wellington Free Time

Spend your day delving into the coffee culture and gourmet delights of Wellington – consider a cable car ride for a bird’s-eye view of the city – today is yours to enjoy the city on your terms.

Hotel: Sofitel Wellington

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 14

Wellington – Taupo

Follow the spectacular Kapiti Coast to Tongariro National Park, home to remarkable volcanic peaks. Departing the caldera, stop to admire the raging Huka Falls before arriving in Taupo.

Hotel: Hilton Lake Taupo

Included Meals: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 15

Taupo – Rotorua

Continue to nearby Rotorua to gain insights into the fascinating rituals and traditions of the Māori people. Tonight, **indulge in the mouthwatering flavours of a traditional Hangi Highlight Dinner** cooked in the ground using geothermal steam.

Hotel: Princes Gate Hotel, 2 nights

Included Meals: Breakfast, highlight dinner

Day 16

Rotorua

Ascending to the Redwoods Treewalk, enjoy an elevated bird’s eye view of these redwood giants. Next up is Rotorua’s natural splendour – revealed in the crystal clear mineral springs and native flora of Rainbow Springs Nature Park. **Visit Whakarewarewa Living Village for insights into the lives of the Māori community** and their special bond with this ancient land.

Hotel: Princes Gate Hotel

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 17

Rotorua – Coromandel

Begin your day with a dazzling show during an exclusive five-star Eco Glowworm experience. Later, visit Matamata, of The Lord of the Rings fame. This epic journey continues to Coromandel, where you'll stay in Tree Hut Chalets.

Hotel: Grand Mercure Puka Park Resort

Included Meals: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 18

Coromandel – Auckland

Enjoy a relaxed start before heading to Auckland. Get your bearings during a city tour, then spend the rest of the day discovering why it's deemed one of the world's most livable cities.

Hotel: Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour Hotel

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 19

Auckland – Bay of Islands

The golden sands of Orewa seem to stretch endlessly heading north to the native forest of Waipoua. Join a local Māori guide and head deep into the forest, immersing yourself in the fascinating legends behind these giant trees. Finally, journey to your waterfront resort in the Bay of Islands.

Hotel: Copthorne Resort Bay of Islands, Water View Rooms, 2 nights

Included Meals: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 20

Bay of Islands

Set off by ferry to Russell. Embark on a guided walking tour of the town and explore its centuries-old seafaring heritage.

Hotel: Copthorne Resort Bay of Islands, Water View Rooms

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 21

Bay of Islands – Auckland

Set forth across the Bay of Islands, cruising to the Māori's sacred Hole in the Rock to witness how it resists the power of the sea. Return to Auckland for a memorable Farewell Dinner.

Hotel: Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour Hotel

Included Meals: Breakfast, dinner with wine

Day 22

Farewell from Auckland

Bid a fond farewell to your newfound friends as your epic New Zealand Inspiring Journey has come to an end.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Please Note: Itinerary, departure dates & prices may be subject to change.

Highlights

Discover

- Stunning Milford Sound in the heart of Fiordland National Park
- New Zealand's capital Wellington
- Experience Franz Josef Glacier
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Explore

- Journey on the iconic TranzAlpine Train
- Historic goldrush Arrowtown

Immerse

- Visit a jade factory and see artists at work
- Experience the Redwoods Treewalk
- Gain an insight into Māori life at Whakarewarewa Living Village

Relax

- Cruise in the Bay of Islands
- Stay in chalets and cruise on sparkling Milford Sound

Inclusions

- Hand-picked accommodation
- Travel by luxury coach
- Airport transfers (see flight information below)

Dining

- 21 Full buffet breakfasts
- 1 Lunch
- 12 Dinners with wine
- 2 Highlight Dinners
- 1 Farewell Dinner

Flight Information

Any flights referred to in the itinerary are at the client's expense and are not included in the land content price.

Day 1 Flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm into Christchurch Airport

Day 22 Flights to depart anytime from Auckland Airport

What to bring

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sunglasses, sunscreen and hat
- Water bottle
- Camera
- Jacket in cooler months