

# Awe Inspiring Scenery of New Zealand

HIDDEN TREASURES TOURS IN CONJUNCTION WITH LEISURE TIME TOURS OF NZ

MARCH 8, 2017 – MARCH 19, 2017

FROM \$5,435

## MARCH 2017

**Wed 08**

### **WELCOME TO NEW ZEALAND**

(D)

Meet and greet upon arrival and transfer to the hotel.

Check in is 2:00 PM so rooms may not be ready upon arrival. Hotel can store luggage.

In the meantime, our group will visit **Ayrlies Garden**, one of the most celebrated private gardens in New Zealand.

A **welcome dinner** is included at the hotel this evening.

**Accommodation: Cophorne Hotel Auckland City**

**Thu 09**

### **AUCKLAND**

(B)

Breakfast at your hotel.

This morning our first stop will be to visit **Totara Waters Garden**, the private garden of Jocelyn Coyle.

After our time at Totara Waters, we visit the **Auckland Botanic Gardens** home to over 10,000 plant types. Here we enjoy a **guided tour** for an insight to some of the species that are home here.

On the way back to the hotel we take a **sightseeing tour through central Auckland**.

Tonight is free for you to explore the local restaurants, cafes and bars.

The tour host will always be available throughout the trip to dine with if you prefer dining with members of the group.

**Fri 10**

### **AUCKLAND – DUNEDIN**

(B)

Breakfast at your hotel.

This morning we will move to the South Island of New Zealand, commence with the “Edinburgh, Scotland of the South”, Dunedin.

The group will take an **early morning flight to Dunedin**, which is included in the tour price. Upon arrival, we will visit the **Dunedin Botanic Garden** for a **guided tour**. Guided by Botanic Garden curatorial staff and depending on the season, these tours can often be tailored to the specific interests of your group.

This is where we will also have our lunch (not included with tour).

Following our garden visit and lunch stop, we will have a brief city tour of Dunedin en route to our accommodation. Dinner is at your own leisure tonight.

**Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Dunedin City**

**Sat 11**

### **DUNEDIN**

(B,D)

Breakfast at your hotel.

This morning we will enjoy a **self-guided tour of Larnach Castle** before we enjoy a guided tour of the 14 hectares of gardens and grounds. Lunch will be served at the café at Larnach Castle (not included on tour).

After lunch, the group will drive out to Taiaroa Heads on the Otago Peninsula to join **Natures Wonders for a Wildlife Tour**. Here, amidst truly spectacular scenery, the world's rarest penguins, Hoiho the yellow-eyed, Koroa the little blue penguins along with the New Zealand fur seals and the Stewart Island Shags all live in harmony.

Tonight we dine with a decidedly Scottish air enjoying the **Haggis presentation** and **dinner in the hotel**.

**Sun 12**

### **DUNEDIN – TE ANAU**

(B)

This morning we depart the hotel and visit Wylde Willows Garden. Departing Dunedin, the group will

traverse across the south island to Te Anau and to our accommodation. You will have a few hours of leisure this afternoon.

The evening will provide the opportunity to carry out an optional excursion to view the Te Anau Glow worm Caves (cost not included in tour price), where you board a launch and travel across the lake to see the rushing underground water and glow worm grotto of Te Anau Caves.

**Accommodation: Distinction Te Anau Hotel**

**Mon 13**

(B,D)

**TE ANAU – DOUBTFUL SOUND**

This morning you will have a few hours of leisure time to explore Te Anau before departing to Manapouri for the overnight cruise of Doubtful Sound deep in Fiordland National Park. This is an amazing experience as you will spend the night on board the Fiordland Navigator in the pristine, virtually untouched Doubtful Sound. You will want to pack a smaller bag for this overnight excursion and we will leave our main suitcases with the bus. The night time on the fjord can be quite chilly, so pack warm layers. Experience the “Sound of Silence” when the vessels engines are turned off for the night in a remote bay deep in the wilderness. We will have the opportunity to kayak – so plan to dress warm for this overnight excursion. Dinner will be served on board.

**Accommodation: Navigator– Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise**

**Tue 14**

(B)

**DOUBTFUL SOUND - QUEENSTOWN**

We will enjoy an incredible morning waking up deep in Fjordland National Park. Breakfast will be on board. We return to the dock at Deep Cove to retrace our steps back to Manapouri, where we will reboard our coach for the trip to Queenstown. This afternoon you will have free time to explore Queenstown and enjoy dinner on your own at a local restaurant.

**Accommodation: Heartland Hotel Queenstown**

**Wed 15**

(B,D)

**QUEENSTOWN**

Today we visit the private home and gardens of celebrated artist, DaVella Gore, The Stoneridge Chapel and Water Garden. From here we will visit historic Arrowtown - a quaint town with plenty of shops and historic remains from the Gold Rush days.

Next we visit Gibbston Valley Winery, famous for New Zealand’s largest and most innovative wine cave.

Wine tasting is included and lunch is at your own expense.

This evening we cruise across Lake Wakatipu on the steamer TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station to dine at the Colonel’s Homestead.

**Thu 16**

(B,D)

**QUEENSTOWN – MT COOK**

Today we depart Queenstown and travel north over Lindis Pass into the Mackenzie Country. Here we pass along the shores of Lake Pukaki to Mt Cook Village in the heart of the South Alps – and home to New Zealand’s tallest peak – Aoraki Mt Cook. Time here for a walk along some of the shorter alpine trails – or just take time to sit, breathe in the clear alpine air and wonder at the spectacular scenery.

Dinner in the hotel restaurant.

**Accommodation: Hermitage Hotel – situated at Mt Cook**

**Fri 17**

(D)

**MT COOK – CHRISTCHURCH**

Time this morning to enjoy a walk or other activities in Mt Cook National park.

Leaving Mt Cook we make a stop at Lake Tekapo and visit the very scenic Church of the Good Shepherd and the statue of the Collie dog then we head north to visit some of the local gardens around Ashburton and Longbeach. First is a visit to the famous Trott’s Garden followed by Akaunui, the delightful garden of Diana and Ian Mackenzie. We depart Ashburton early afternoon and travel north to Christchurch stopping en route to visit Suzette Gardens in Rakaia. Tonight is free for you to explore the local restaurants, cafes and bars in Christchurch.

**Accommodation: Chateau on the Park**

HIDDEN TREASURES TOURS

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**Sat 18**

(B,D)

**CHRISTCHURCH**

This morning we visit Ohinetahi, the famous private garden of Sir Miles Warren located on Banks Peninsula. We then continue on to Akaroa and see the Giants House, an historic Akaroa house with terraced gardens. Time to wander about the French settlement of Akaroa. Returning to Christchurch the group will visit the Botanic Gardens. We will enjoy our farewell dinner at Curators House in the Botanic Garden.

**Sun 19**

(B)

**DEPARTURE**

Sadly, all great trips must come to an end. Flights should be arranged back to the states departing from Christchurch. We are happy to arrange optional excursions for anyone interested. Safe travels home!!!

**PRICING**

*Register on or before August 1, 2016*

Cost per person based on double occupancy: \$5,435

Cost per person based on single occupancy: \$6,655

*Register after August 1, 2016*

Cost per person based on double occupancy: \$5,635

Cost per person based on single occupancy: \$6,855

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- Meet & Greet at Auckland Airport
- Arrival and Departure transfers are based on one group arrival and one group departure transfer. Should members of the group require transfers outside of group arrival/departure times, we can assist with additional transfers at passengers additional expense.
- 10 nights accommodation as listed all with private facilities. Prices are based on twin share. Single rooms are available with Single Supplement Surcharge (no forced singles). Accommodation is subject to availability, and we reserve the right to find alternative accommodation if there is no availability at the time of the booking.
- 1 night on board Milford Mariner – en-suite cabins
- Baggage assistance at each hotel
- All Tour Admissions as per itinerary
- Cooked Breakfasts (B), Lunches (L), and Dinners (D) where indicated on the itinerary – unless otherwise Breakfasts and Dinners will be provided at your touring accommodation.
- Private Coach Charter in modern air conditioned coach with English speaking driver/guide

**PRICE EXCLUDES:**

- Any necessary flights to/from New Zealand
- Any applicable airline surcharges or airport departure taxes.
- Use of hotel rooms before/after normal check in/out times or pre-registration
- Any services not mentioned in the itinerary
- Any optional, suggested or recommended excursions.
- Any other meals not specified in the itinerary.
- Morning and afternoon teas are not included unless specified.
- Travel insurance is not included, but is highly recommended for all travelling passengers.
- Gratuities and items of a personal nature, such as medical or hospital expenses, mini bar, beverages, hotel portage, laundry service, room service, internet usage and telephone calls.
- Any further Government taxes or duties that may be introduced.

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