

# 8 DAYS NORTH & SOUTH ISLAND TOUR



Miles Holden

## Day-01 Arrive in Queenstown, New Zealand (D)

Arrive at Queenstown International Airport. Welcome to Queenstown! The adventure capital of New Zealand. Meet & greet on arrival and Enjoy a Gondola ride for a beautiful scenery from the Bob's Peak for a panoramic view of Queenstown with 2 Luge ride per person is included. Buffet dinner is at Stratosphere Restaurant. Enjoy free time on own leisure. Overnight at hotel.

## Day-02 Milford Sound Experience (B/L/D)

Take an unforgettable journey into the heart of Milford Sound, New Zealand's most famous tourist destination. You'll experience the world-famous fiord in all its natural glory – surrounded by dense rainforest, glacier-carved valleys and beautiful waterfalls. Leaving Queenstown, travel in comfort along the shores of Lake Wakatipu and into southern farmland to Lake Te Anau, the largest lake in the South Island. Travel along the lake and into Fiordland National Park. Enter the picturesque Eglinton Valley, a place of ancient alpine forest and gushing waterfalls and one of only a few road-accessible glacier valleys in New Zealand, and take advantage of the photo opportunities on offer along the Milford Road, like the stunning Mirror Lakes, where on a calm day the surrounding mountain ranges are perfectly reflected in the still waters, and Knobs Flat, where glaciers have carved their mark on the terrain.

At Milford Sound, board your 1 hour 45 minute cruise and set off to explore the region that Rudyard Kipling called the 'eighth wonder of the world'. Travel the length of the fiord and out to the Tasman Sea, gliding past glacier-scarred rock walls and waterfalls that tumble into the sea. Lush native forest clings to steep cliffs, while wildlife including seals, penguins and dolphins are regular visitors to the icy waters. Mountain ranges surround the fiord, including Mitre Peak which rises dramatically from the depths to a height of 1,692 metres above sea level.

Your cruise will take place on the newest and most luxurious cruise ship in Milford Sound. This impressive three-level catamaran has extensive outdoor decks so you can get up close to nature. Inside you'll find comfortable seating as well as unique glass roofs and HD screens projecting live outdoor footage, so you won't miss a thing. A gourmet buffet lunch featuring fresh local ingredients will be served on board (included in your tour). Along the way your captain will provide lively and informative commentary.

After your cruise, return to Queenstown by coach.

## Day-03: Queenstown Highlights (B/L/D)

Spend a morning exploring Queenstown on a guided tour, taking in some of the region's best sights and activities. Travel up the Queenstown Hill and enjoy spectacular bird's-eye views of Queenstown, Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkable. Your friendly local driver guide will provide entertaining and informative commentary throughout your tour. BBQ lunch at Walter Peak Homestead is included.

Discover the secrets of bungy-jumping with a behind-the-scenes tour of AJ Hackett's world famous Bungy Bridge and watch the jumpers from the viewing deck. Visit the award-winning Gibbston Valley Winery, founded by a pioneer of the Central Otago wine industry, and sample a selection of wines produced on site.

You can also browse the winery's well-stocked gift shop and the region's only cheesery. Have your camera at the ready as you are transported into Middle-earth at the Kawarau Gorge, film location for the 'Pillars of the Kings' in The Lord of the Rings. Then discover beautiful Arrowtown's captivating history and colonial architecture. Highlights are the Lakes District Museum and the Chinese miners' settlement, as well as plus boutique shopping, great cafés and restaurants. Chinese Dinner is included.

#### **Day-04: Queenstown – Cromwell – Omarama – Christchurch (B/L/D)**

Travel to the foothills of New Zealand's highest mountain, Aoraki / Mount Cook, on a full-day sightseeing tour from Queenstown to Christchurch.

Setting off from Queenstown, travel through ruggedly beautiful landscape and over the Lindis Pass into the Mackenzie Country. We make a brief stop at Mrs. Jones Orchard where passengers may purchase seasonal fruits.

BBQ Lunch is included.

After lunch, we continue our journey to Christchurch via Tekapo. A brief stop for photo at Lake Pukaki lookout where you can see beautiful blue colour of the lake and view of Mt. Cook on a clear day. Enjoy the amazing alpine scenery. According to Māori legend, the boy Aoraki and his brothers once hit a reef in their canoe. When they climbed to the higher side of the tilting vessel, the cold south wind froze them, turning them into stone. Aoraki and family now form the Southern Alps, which you will see in all their glory on this tour.

In Lake Tekapo, you will also see the Bronze Sheep Dog Statue and the solitary Church of the Good Shepherd against the backdrop of this vivid blue glacier-fed lake. Arrive Christchurch in the evening.

Tonight, enjoy your Buffet Chinese Dinner in Local Restaurant.

#### **Day-05: Christchurch – Rotorua (B/L/D)**

Enjoy brief Christchurch City Tour. Discover the fascinating history of Christchurch on a half day city sightseeing tour. Take in the sights of the central city and its surrounds and see how this beautiful city is recovering from the devastating 2011 earthquake.

Your driver guide will tell you about the history of the city from its pioneering days to the present day. You will view some of the areas affected by the earthquakes, see how Christchurch is preserving some of its iconic heritage buildings and learn about the latest plans for restoration of the inner city.

Experience the natural beauty of Hagley Park, the Avon River and Botanic Gardens, as well as the recently reopened New Regent Street with its distinctive Spanish Mission style architecture.

Following your Christchurch city tour, we head towards the picturesque seaside village of Sumner where there is time to explore the beach and its interesting rock formations. From there we travel up the Port Hills to the historic Sign of the Takahe, a listed heritage building where you will enjoy panoramic views overlooking Christchurch City, the port of Lyttelton, the Canterbury Plains and the Southern Alps.

On the return journey we visit Mona Vale, one of Christchurch's most spectacular gardens. Take a leisurely stroll around the park and see why Christchurch is known as 'the Garden City'.

Western Lunch is included.

After lunch, transfer to Christchurch domestic airport for your flight to Rotorua. Welcome to North Island! Meet & greet by your local driver guide upon arrival.

Experience Te Po – an Indigenous Evening Experience (Enjoy a mouth-watering banquet of authentic Maori cuisine (Kai) and marvel at the breathtaking beauty of our geothermal valley under lights. Include a traditional welcoming ceremony (Powhiri) and intimate concert performance.

#### **Day-06: Rotorua – Hobbiton Movie Set - Auckland (B/L/D)**

Discover of Rotorua's best visitor attractions on this morning Rotorua sightseeing tour.

Then see our agricultural industry in action at the Agrodome, a working organic farm where you can find out all about farming life in New Zealand, watch a sheep shearing display and see sheep dog trials where the hard-working farm dogs show off their amazing skills.

New Zealand wildlife and natural scenery is on display at Rainbow Springs Nature Park, where you can get up close to all kinds of native flora and fauna including the famous kiwi, a flightless native bird. Wander through native forest and discover New Zealand birds, fish and lizards (including the ancient tuatara), as well as exotic animals from around the world. Buffet Lunch at Stratosphere.

Just outside the town of Matamata is your destination: Middle-earth! Sir Peter Jackson and his team knew this private farm would make the perfect spot to build the village of Hobbiton for the award-winning The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit movie trilogies. Take a guided tour and see the picturesque village you saw on screen in living colour before you.

See the Hobbit holes, the Green Dragon Inn, the Party Tree, the Mill and many other structures from the movies, while learning about how the set was built. You might even hear a few secrets from behind the scenes! Buffet Dinner at Fortuna Restaurant.

**Day-07: Auckland – Waitomo – Auckland (B/L/D)** Take a full-day tour to the fascinating Waitomo Glowworm Caves in the Central North Island and Auckland City Tour. After driving through the lush farmland of the Waikato and King Country regions, you'll be taken on a 45-minute guided tour through the world famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves. Wander through subterranean caverns formed over 30 million years ago and learn about stalagmites, stalactites, helictites and other spectacular rock formations. Take a boat ride through the enchanting Glowworm Grotto, where thousands of glowworms light up the darkness like tiny stars. After your tour of the caves BBQ Lunch at Roselands Restaurant is included.

Time permitting; discover first-hand why Auckland is regarded as one of the best places in the world to live, with a half-day tour experiencing its scenic highlights. Travel through the city centre to the Auckland Harbour Bridge, enjoying views of the Hauraki Gulf and city skyline. Visit the Viaduct Harbour and Auckland's famous Queen Street before continuing to the Auckland Domain. The city's oldest park, the Domain sits on an extinct volcano and features tropical gardens, duck ponds and public art, as well as the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

Ride along the scenic waterfront route of Tamaki Drive to Michael Joseph Savage Memorial Park, where you can enjoy a panoramic outlook over the picturesque Eastern Bays, Auckland city and the Waitemata Harbour before returning to downtown Auckland. Western Dinner at Orbit Restaurant and admission to Auckland Tower are included.

**Day-08: Auckland Departure / Overseas (B)**

Your tour ends with breakfast this morning. Say goodbye to marvelous New Zealand and take with you the most unforgettable and lasting memories of this wonderful place. Transfer to Auckland International Airport for your flight check-in bound for home.

- End of tour services -

**PRIVATE TOUR**

DEPARTURE DATE	TOUR COST US\$
23-31 MARCH 2019	ADT 3,990   CHD 3,590
06-14 APRIL 2019	ADT 3,990   CHD 3,590
14-22 APRIL 2019	ADT 3,990   CHD 3,590
27APR – 05MAY 2019	ADT 3,990   CHD 3,590

**Please note:** Information concerning tour inclusions and resort/hotel facilities has been compiled as accurately as possible. However there may be times when certain amenities, facilities and/or inclusions are not available. Such situations may be dictated by weather conditions, maintenance/refurbishment, local regulations and national or religious holidays. While we will endeavor to advise clients of any changes to itinerary inclusions, we cannot accept responsibility for any such situations which are outside our control.

**INCLUSIONS:**

- Return Economy Airfare on Qantas Airlines
- All Airline Taxes & Surcharges
- New Zealand Good & Services Tax
- Accommodation with Daily Breakfast Inside Hotel
- Private Coach Touring with English Speaking Driver Guide
- Meals as specified
- Daily Bottled Water Inside Coach
- Daily tipping
- Free Travel Insurance (for up to 60yo only)
- Round trip Private Airport Transfers (In ZQN Apt & Out AKL Apt)

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- English Speaking Local Guide
- Any extra meals
- Drinks ordered during meals
- Optional tours and activities not mentioned on the brief itinerary
- New Zealand Airport Departure Tax if any (at the moment there is none)
- Items of a personal nature such as phone calls, pay movies, room services, mini bars laundries or other expenditures during the tour.

**HOTEL SELECTIONS:  
4 STAR:**

**Sky City Hotel** or similar  
<https://www.skycityauckland.co.nz/>

**Millennium Hotel** or similar  
<https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/rotorua/millennium-hotel-rotorua/>

**Novotel Queenstown Hotel** or similar  
<https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-5308-novotel-queenstown-lakeside/index.shtml>

**Novotel Christchurch Hotel** or similar  
<https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-6592-novotel-christchurch-cathedral-square/index.shtml>



**Flight Details:**

QF020 MNLSYD 2000 0610+1  
QF121 SYDZQN 0940 1440  
SURFACE  
QF140 AKLSYD 0650 0830  
QF019 SYDMNL 1210 1830