

9 Day Southern Spectacular

Featuring the Popular Sights & Activities of the South Island

TOURING MAP:



TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- ◆ Meet and Greet on arrival in New Zealand
- ◆ New Zealand Airport Transfers
- ◆ Quality hotel accommodation, twin/double rooms, (single rooms available with single supplement) all with private facilities
- ◆ Cooked Breakfasts (B) and Dinners (D) where indicated on the itinerary, including a special dinner: Dinner at Walter Peak Station
- ◆ Tour Admissions as per itinerary, including 2 Scenic Cruises: TSS Earnslaw Cruise on Lake Wakatipu and Milford Sound
- ◆ Touring in a modern air conditioned coach and where possible we will provide a complimentary Roadside Morning Tea from the coach
- ◆ Complimentary Travel Kit including, Travel Bag, Travel Wallet, Name Bar, Luggage Labels, and New Zealand Map

2014/15 GUARANTEED DEPARTURE DATES:

12 September, 26 September, 12 October, 28 October, 14 November, 30 November, 27 January, 17 February, 01 March, 15 March, 03 April, 17 April, 03 May

PER PERSON TOUR PRICES (NZD):

Land Only Share Twin	\$NZ3,090.00
Single Supplement Extra	\$NZ955.00
Deposit due at time of booking	\$NZ500.00
Balance of tour payment due 6 weeks prior to tour commencement	

DAILY ITINERARY:

Day 1 ARRIVE – CHRISTCHURCH (D)
Welcome to New Zealand! *You are met on arrival at the Christchurch International Airport* before being transferred to your hotel.
Quality Hotel Elms, Christchurch

Day 2 CHRISTCHURCH – FRANZ JOSEF (BD)
From Christchurch *we traverse the Southern Alps aboard the famous Tranz-Alpine rail journey to Arthurs Pass.* From your carriage you'll see the fields of the Canterbury Plains and farmland, followed by the spectacular gorges and river valleys of the Waimakariri River. Your train then climbs into the Southern Alps. Once we have crossed into the Southern Alps we are met at the village of Arthurs



Pass by our coach to continue our journey to the West Coast – or the Coast as locals call it, stopping in Hokitika where a visit is made to the *Greenstone and Glass Blowing factories.* Further south we tour the *Westland National Park, the home of Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers.* On arrival, time is available for optional scenic flights, before continuing onto our accommodation for the night.
Scenic Franz Josef Hotel, Franz Josef

Day 3 FRANZ JOSEF – QUEENSTOWN (B)
Driving towards the southern end of the South Island's West Coast Road, there is a strong sense of entering a primeval land, and a feeling of total isolation. Arriving at Haast, you are surrounded by a landscape of rainforest, wetlands, sand dunes and surf-pounded shingle beaches. This wilderness forms part of the *South West New Zealand World Heritage Area*, so designated because South Westland and Fiordland have some of the most dramatic forest and mountain scenery and natural resources in the world. From the Westland National Park we travel through the Haast River valleys and over the Haast Pass to Makarua and onto the upper reaches of Lake Wanaka. Travelling past *Lake Hawea* we reach the popular *Lake Wanaka*, the starting point of the mighty Clutha River. This afternoon we travel via Cromwell following the Kawarau Gorge Road into Queenstown. Tonight is free for you to explore the local restaurants, cafes and bars.
Copthorne Lakefront Hotel, Queenstown – 2 nights

Day 4 QUEENSTOWN (BD)
Today is at leisure. Visit the Remarkable's or Coronet Peak. Experience the thrill of a jet-boat ride along the Shotover or Kawarau Rivers. Perhaps a scenic 4 wheel drive excursion through Skippers Canyon, it's up to you. *This evening we take a cruise across Lake Wakatipu on the steamer TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station to dine at the Colonel's Homestead.*

Day 5 QUEENSTOWN – TE ANAU (BD)
Leaving Queenstown we skirt the shores of Lake Wakatipu, New Zealand's third largest lake. Travelling via Te Anau we reach the *beautiful Eglinton Valley* climbing to Homer Tunnel before descending through the spectacular Cleddau Canyon to reach *Milford Sound where we enjoy a cruise of the Sound.* The Sound is dominated by the grandeur of *Mitre Peak and the Bowen Falls.* From Milford

Sound we return to Te Anau reaching our overnight accommodation.
Distinction Luxmore Hotel, Lake Te Anau

Day 6 TE ANAU – DUNEDIN (BD)
Departing Te Anau we travel through some of New Zealand's most populated sheep country through to Lumsden and onto Gore before arriving in Dunedin – "the Edinburgh of the South". Upon our arrival into Dunedin, you have the opportunity to board an optional train ride - the Taieri Gorge Train Excursion from the historic Dunedin Railway Station for a scenic train ride into the spectacular Taieri Gorge to Pukerangi and return.
Scenic Dunedin City Hotel, Dunedin

Day 7 DUNEDIN – OMARAMA (BD)
This morning we visit *Oliveston House* – an impressive turn-of-the-century house that is still home to all the lavish furnishings and art collections that have been collected from all corners of the world. We continue to then take in the sights of this old Scottish City before travelling onto Oamaru where we have time to look at the *'White Stone City'* where the old buildings have been constructed with local limestone. It was from Oamaru that New Zealand's first frozen meat was shipped in 1882 taking over three months to reach England, and thus began New Zealand's most important export industry. Travelling inland through Benmore and Otematata, through Sailors Cutting we arrive at Oamaru.
Heritage Gateway Hotel, Oamaru

Day 8 OMARAMA – CHRISTCHURCH (BD)
A day for spectacular sights. We head north to skirt the shore of Lake Pukaki to *Mount Cook, New Zealand's highest mountain.* Time is available to enjoy an optional scenic flight over the ancient rivers of ice and the West Coast Glaciers (weather permitting – a highly recommended option). Travelling to Tekapo we witness the *magnificent blue waters of Lake Tekapo.* Here we visit the *Church of the Good Shepherd and the statue of the Collie dog*, before travelling the *vast Mackenzie Basin*, over Burke's Pass through Fairlie, Geraldine, Ashburton and across the Canterbury Plains into Christchurch. *Quality Hotel Elms, Christchurch*

Day 9 CHRISTCHURCH – HOME PORT (B)
Farewell from New Zealand. After breakfast you will be *transferred from the hotel to Christchurch International Airport* for your flight back home.