

# THE JEWELS OF NEW ZEALAND

*Discover the hidden jewels of New Zealand on this exciting 15-day journey. Starting in Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, and ending in the "Adventure Capital of the World," Queenstown, this program will introduce you to the unique wildlife and flora of one of the most geographically isolated parts of the world. From volcanoes and hot springs to glaciers and blowholes, and penguins and seals to dolphins and whales, New Zealand promises striking sightseeing opportunities for all to enjoy.*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Rangitoto Island and hike the lava fields of a shield volcano for a taste of New Zealand's fascinating geology.
- Experience the culture of the Maori people during a visit to the village of Tamaki where you will enjoy a traditional Hangi feast.
- Gear up for a unique opportunity to hike on Frans Josef Glacier and witness the effects of global warming first-hand.
- Board a catamaran to witness the immensity of giant sperm-whales as they re-oxygenate on the surface before diving, average of 45 minutes in Hikurangi Trench.
- Explore the golden beaches and turquoise water of the Able Tasman National Park via kayaking and hiking.
- Spend the night aboard the Milford Mariner cruising on the Milford Sound, once dubbed the eighth wonder of the world by Rudyard Kipling.

**CUSTOMIZE**  
THIS PROGRAM

**15 DAYS | 14 NIGHTS**

CHOOSE YOUR DATES



**HOLBROOK**  
TRAVEL



## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 - DEPART UNITED STATES

Depart U.S.

### DAY 2 - INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

During the flight, cross the international dateline, an imaginary line on the surface of the earth that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole and defines one calendar day from the next. Crossing the international dateline adds one day (24 hours) traveling west and subtracts one day (24 hours) traveling east.

### DAY 3 - AUCKLAND

Welcome to Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, often referred to as the "city of sails". Upon arrival and after clearing customs, meet the tour manager and the driver, who will begin the exploration with a drive up to the top of one of Auckland's 48 volcanoes. Continue to the hotel for a sumptuous brunch. Then, this afternoon embark on a hikoi (walk) of Auckland to learn about the history of the city from the Maori perspective during visits to the highlights of the city. *Overnight at Mercure Hotel. (LD)*

### DAY 4 - ROTORUA

This morning visit Auckland's youngest and largest volcano Rangitoto, which formed only 600 years ago. The 850 feet high peak is a steep sided scoria cone formed by an accumulation of scoria that was thrown out by fountaining fire from its large central crater. Take a 25 minute cruise across the spectacular Waitemata Harbor before meeting the local department of conservation ranger. Explore the rugged lava crops and native bush and learn about the history and geology of the island. There is an optional 15 minute walk to the summit that offers spectacular views over the Hauraki Gulf. This afternoon travel south to Rotorua, the geothermal capital of New Zealand. Lunch and dinner on own today. *Overnight at Sudima Hotel. (B)*

### DAY 5 - WHIRINAKI

This morning visit Te Puia Geothermal Valley. The hot rocks located close to the surface heat ground water, which boils to the surface as hot springs. When the water rises as steam it bursts out of the ground. Explore the Government Gardens Museum and have some time at leisure to visit the beautiful Redwood Forest or take a trip to The Buried Village to see New Zealand's very own Pompeii. Optional tours are available at an additional cost. Tonight visit the Maori village of Tamaki, and experience a traditional Maori welcome followed by an opportunity to learn some of the games and crafts of pre European Maori. Interact with local Maori to learn a little more about the effects of colonization on the local population. Dinner is a Hangi cooked in an earth oven, a unique experience and very tasty. *Overnight at Sudima Hotel. (BLD)*

### DAY 6 - WELLINGTON

This morning travel to the Whirinaki Forest along with its unique podocarp forest. Podocarp forests are a mixture of tall podocarps and smaller trees (hardwoods) with an understory of shrubs, plants and ferns. Light-loving podocarps reach for the forest canopy, while shade tolerant species thrive in the darker lower levels. The forest is dominated by towering examples, such as kahikatea, totara and matai. Here you will find frost flats, riverbeds, forest clearings, wetland vegetation and sub alpine shrub land on the high ridge. Hike through the valley with a local naturalist who will share stories of the forest and point out the unique vegetation. Continue the exploration with a visit to Huka Falls and Lake Taupo before traveling through Tongariro National Park for great views of the three volcanoes. *Overnight at West Plaza Hotel. (BLD)*

### DAY 7 - KAIKOURA

This morning take the Interislander Ferry from the North Island to the South Island. Travel over the Cook Strait and into the Marlborough Sounds to Picton and continue south to the market town of Kaikoura. Situated on the coast, Kaikoura is the first community in the country and the second in the world to achieve Green Globe Benchmark status. Tonight after dinner we meet one of the local counselors who has been integral in ensuring that Kaikoura maintains its green status. *Overnight at Bella Vista Motel. (BLD)*

### DAY 8 - KAIKOURA

This morning embark on a scenic boat ride in search of sperm whales that are typically found here. During the afternoon you will be at leisure to explore

the town or participate on other tours offered in this region. At an additional cost, you can go swimming with wild dusky dolphins, or participate in Maori walking tours. Lunch and dinner on own today. *Overnight at Bella Vista Motel. (B)*

### DAY 9 - KAIKOURA

Today spend the day in the beautiful Abel Tasman National Park. Kayak into one of the smaller bays and then hike out. For those who prefer the water taxi, that is also an option. Abel Tasman is the youngest national park but one of the most scenic. This evening have dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight at Bella Vista Motel. (BLD)*

### DAY 10 - HOKITIKA

Today follow the winding Buller River as it flows through the Buller Gorge to the west coast. Continue to Tauranga Bay to observe the fur seals before arriving in Charleston to board the Rainforest Train into the Nile River canyon. Explore the enormous cave system, ancient stalactites and stalagmites, and galaxies of glowworms. Continue the day with a visit to Punakaiki blowholes, stratified limestone formations which look like petrified pancakes, where undersea caverns and blowholes create spectacular water spouts (especially during high tide). Travel through the town of Greymouth to Hokitika, the first area on the west coast to be colonized by the Europeans in 1865, for overnight and dinner. Lunch is on own today. *Overnight at The Beachfront Hotel. (BD)*

### DAY 11 - WANAKA

This morning, head down the west coast stopping at Franz Josef for a hike through the valley to the face of the glacier. The glacier has been receding since 2003 and is nearly back to the level it was in 1984. During the walk, witness telltale signs of the rocks and sediments carried down the valley by previous advances of the glacier. The guide will tell stories of the area and discuss geological aspects of both the Franz and Fox Glacier. This afternoon travel through the UNESCO World Heritage Park to Wanaka, where you will have some time to relax during a lakeside walk. Lunch and dinner on own today. *Overnight at The Oakridge. (B)*

### DAY 12 - QUEENSTOWN

Today drive from Wanaka to Queenstown with a visit to the town of Cromwell, situated on the banks of Lake Dunstan, en route. The original town was flooded to create the Clyde Dam hydroelectricity plant. Some of the historic buildings were moved to the new town and can now be visited. The whole area is known for its fabulous fruit and latterly wine. Visit two wineries and enjoy lunch at one of them. From here continue to Queenstown with a visit to the historical "Gold Town" of Arrowtown before arriving at the hotel. Breakfast and lunch are included today. *Overnight at Scenic Hotel. (BL)*

### DAY 13 - QUEENSTOWN

Queenstown is dubbed the "Adventure Capital of the World" because of the variety of exciting, unique activities available in the region. Today you are at leisure to choose your fun! Options include a jet boat tour into the spectacular Mount Aspiring National Park, where you can hike, bungee jump, visit a 12 D motion theater, go on ATV tours, participate in Heli Tours and much more! This afternoon take the gondola to the top of Bob's Peak followed by a buffet dinner with breathtaking views. Breakfast and dinner are included today. *Overnight at Scenic Hotel. (BD)*

### DAY 14 - KAIKOURA

Today travel through Fjordland National Park to Milford Sound; en route, stop at Lake Anau before traveling through the Homer Tunnel, an engineering feat to the private marina. Upon arrival to the dock, board the Milford Mariner for an overnight cruise in Milford Sound. As we travel through Milford Sound, marvel at the towering cliffs dotted with hanging beech trees, and the fascinating wildlife. Settle into Harrison Cove and tender ashore to explore the coastline in search of penguins and nesting birds. Enjoy a sumptuous dinner, followed by a lecture on the area by a local naturalist. Breakfast and dinner are included today. *Overnight aboard cruise. (BD)*

### DAY 15 - QUEENSTOWN

This morning disembark and drive back to Queenstown. Free time for shopping before the flight to Auckland to connect with international departure. Breakfast is included today. Please note that the flight from Queensland is not included in the program price and should be coordinated with international flights. (B)

*This program can be customized.*

## PROGRAM PRICING

**\$4,250 (20 participants + 2 leaders)**

**\$4,650 (12 participants + 1 leader)**

### Includes:

- Activities
- Accommodations
- Meals as stated in the itinerary
- Full-time local guide
- In-country transportation
- Carbon offsetting

**Not included:** Internal air from Queenstown to Auckland for departure back to USA, international airfare, gratuities, travel/trip cancellation insurance, optional activities, items of a personal nature, alcoholic beverages, any applicable visa fees/departure taxes.

Rate is based on double occupancy for participants; single supplements may be available for an additional cost (limited availability). Valid for travel until December 2016.

## THE FINE PRINT

Early check-in is based on hotel availability and is at the discretion of the hotel; participants will be able to store luggage at the hotel until their rooms become available. Early check in can only be guaranteed by booking/paying for an additional night at the hotel. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due upon booking and no later than four months prior to departure. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are not refundable.

Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call Travel Insured at 800-243-3174 or visit [travelinsured.com](http://travelinsured.com). Holbrook Travel's agency number is 15849.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### Mercure Hotel

Located in the heart of the Auckland waterfront district, Mercure Auckland overlooks the spectacular harbor and bustling city. The Hotel is situated within walking distance of shopping, restaurants, and the Viaduct Harbour.

**Room amenities:** Work desk, data port, air conditioning, coffee/tea maker, TV, telephone, iron, radio, opening windows, manual temperature controls, hair dryer, bathroom with tub.

**Facility amenities:** Wi-Fi, fitness center, copy/print service, porter, fax machine, safe deposit box at reception, laundry service, restaurant.

### Sudima Hotel

Set on the shores of beautiful Lake Rotorua, Sudima Lake Rotorua is the largest hotel in Rotorua. Adjacent to the world famous Polynesian Spa, Rotorua Museum and Government Gardens, the hotel is a short stroll from Rotorua's vibrant city centre.

**Room amenities:** Coffee/tea maker, direct dial phone, high-speed internet access, AM/FM clock radio, TV, hair dryer, heating, opening windows, mini-fridge, iron/ironing board, safety deposit box.

**Facility amenities:** Heated swimming pool, private spa, massage therapist, high-speed internet access, laundry facilities, currency exchange, babysitting services, wheelchair access, restaurant, bar.

### West Plaza Hotel

The West Plaza Hotel occupies the prime position for business or pleasure in Wellington. The hotel is within walking distance of the major government

departments, commercial offices, and conference and event centers of the CBD.

**Room amenities:** Color TV, flat rate Wi-Fi, direct dial telephone, work desk, coffee/tea maker, wake-up call service, hair dryer, iron/ironing board, clock radio, heat detectors.

**Facility amenities:** Porters, on-site parking (\$20 per night), laundry/dry cleaning service, safety deposit boxes at reception, 24-hour room service, flat rate Wi-Fi, wheelchair access.

### Bella Vista Motel

The Bella Vista Motel is located on the hill above the Township and is handy to all amenities. The motel is within walking distance of the Town Centre, Information Centre, Kaikoura Whale Watch Station, and Takahanga Marae.

**Room amenities:** Electric blankets, heating, kitchenette or tea/coffee and toast units, porta-cots, highchairs, Sky TV, Wi-Fi, complimentary morning newspaper and milk.

**Facility amenities:** Morning newspaper, off street parking, continental breakfast, laundry service, outside barbecue, fax/copy services, EFTPOS and credit card facilities, high-speed internet service.

### Beachfront Hotel

The Beachfront Hotel Hokitika is located in central Hokitika on New Zealand's West Coast and offers a wide range of quality accommodations, full dining services and event facilities.

**Room amenities:** Wi-Fi, iron/ironing board, private bathroom, hair dryer, TV, fridge, telephone, work desk, tea/coffee maker.

**Facility amenities:** Wi-Fi, restaurant, cafe, bar, function rooms, bottlestore, secure bike storage shed.

### The Oakridge

Grand Mercure Oakridge Resort Lake Wanaka is a 4 star hotel set in a stunning mountain landscape offering spectacular views of New Zealand's Southern Alps.

**Room amenities:** Balcony, private bathroom, coffee/tea maker.

**Facility amenities:** Outdoor rock pools, gym, spa, Wi-Fi, restaurant, bar, copy/print service, free parking.

### Scenic Hotel

Scenic Suites' elevated position gives fantastic views of the Southern Alps and over Lake Wakatipu. Scenic's premium location allows guests to head out and explore the many attractions Queenstown has to offer and then return to enjoy the comfort and impressive style of the hotel.

**Room amenities:** Sky TV, Wi-Fi, hair dryer, iron, coffee/tea making appliances, balcony.

**Facility amenities:** Restaurant, bar, room service, currency exchange, Wi-Fi, laundry, free parking.

### Milford Mariner

The Milford Mariner is a purpose built vessel designed to replicate a traditional trading scow and is perfectly suited to cruising the fjords. The cruise style is relaxed, allowing plenty of time to view the fjord's spectacular waterfalls, rainforest, mountains and wildlife.

**Room amenities:** Quad-share bunk-style compartments with shared bathroom facilities.

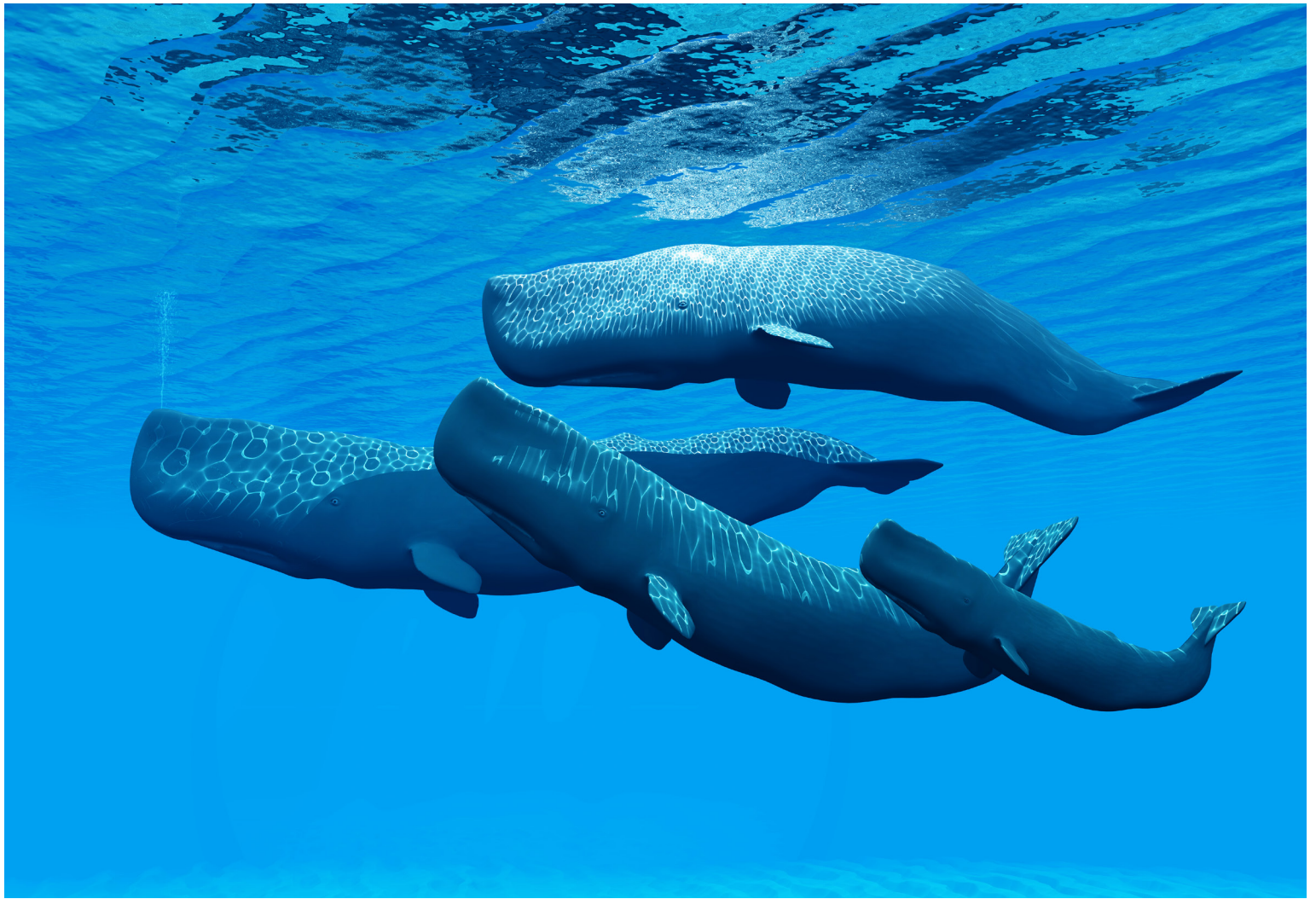
**Facility amenities:** Spacious viewing decks, dining saloon, bar, observation lounge, evening buffet meal, cooked breakfast, kayaking and tender craft, specialist nature guide.



*This program includes carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe.*

*Learn more at [holbrooktravel.com/ClimateSafe](http://holbrooktravel.com/ClimateSafe).*





#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit [holbrooktravel.com](http://holbrooktravel.com) or reach a travel consultant at 800-451-7111 or [travel@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:travel@holbrooktravel.com)

#### PHOTOS

From top: Sperm whale family, Milford Sound, Rotorua, dolphin, Queenstown, Tongariro National Park.