

# NEW ZEALAND

## The Jewel of the Pacific

12 DAYS | Choose your dates

*Discover the hidden jewels of New Zealand's North and South Islands on this exciting 12-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, caves and hot springs to museums, wineries and fine dining, 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.
- Tour Hobbiton to see where "The Hobbit" and "The Lord of the Rings" were filmed.
- Sample the wines and have lunch at a vineyard in Marlborough, New Zealand's famed wine region.
- Explore the golden beaches and turquoise water of the Abel Tasman National Park via hiking and optional kayaking.
- Spend the night aboard the Milford Mariner cruising on the Milford Sound, once dubbed the eighth wonder of the world by Rudyard Kipling.



TE PUIA GEOTHERMAL VALLEY BY ROBERT LINSDELL

## ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### DAY 1 - AUCKLAND

Welcome to New Zealand and its largest city, Auckland, often referred to as the “city of sails.” Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your accommodations, with the remainder of the day at leisure. Tonight enjoy dinner at your hotel. *Overnight at Grand Millennium (or similar). (D)*

### DAY 2 - AUCKLAND

This morning visit Auckland’s youngest and largest volcano, Rangitoto, which formed during an eruption only 600 years ago. The 853-foot peak is a steep-sided scoria cone formed by the accumulation of scoria lava thrown out by fire fountaining from its large central crater. Take a 25-minute cruise across the spectacular Waitemata Harbor, and upon arrival join up with the local guide to explore the rugged lava crops and native bush while the guide talks about the history and geology of this island. This afternoon, take a ferry to Waiheke Island, where you can choose between taking a tour of the island or enjoying a relaxing lunch in a local vineyard. *Overnight at Grand Millennium (or similar). (B)*

### DAY 3 - ROTORUA

Today your driver will pick you up after breakfast and you’ll journey across the rolling farmland of the Waikato region to the mystical Waitomo Caves. Take a guided tour in the spectacular Glowworm Cave, with its majestic and ornate cave decorations,

the deep limestone shaft known as *tomo*, and the equally magnificent Cathedral cavern, where New Zealand’s own opera diva Kiri te Kanawa once performed. From here head to Hobbiton for a tour of “The Hobbit” and “The Lord of the Rings” filming locations. Continue on to Rotorua, where you’ll check in and have dinner tonight at your centrally located hotel. Rotorua was the first home of the Maori people when they arrived in Aotearoa (“Land of the Long White Cloud”) in the 13th century. *Overnight at Novotel (or similar). (BD)*

### DAY 4 - ROTORUA

This morning visit Te Puia Geothermal Valley. Here, the hot rocks located close to the surface heat groundwater, which boils to the surface as hot springs. When the water rises as steam it bursts out of the ground. Learn about traditional Maori arts and crafts, see weavers in action, and maybe try this



AUCKLAND SKYLINE

for yourself. Then explore the Government Gardens Museum, with the afternoon at leisure to perhaps visit the beautiful Redwood Forest or take a trip to The Buried Village to see New Zealand's very own Pompeii. 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 traditional Hāngī, a meal cooked in an earthen oven underground—a unique and tasty experience! *Overnight at Novotel (or similar). (BD)*

#### DAY 5 - WELLINGTON

This morning visit Kiwi Encounter for the chance to see conservation in action. Kiwi eggs are taken from the forest and hatched in a safe environment. Once the chicks are big enough to survive they are placed back in the forest. Later transfer to the Rotorua airport to connect with your flight to the capital, Wellington. Upon arrival in Wellington your local guide will transfer you to your centrally located hotel. Dinner is at your leisure tonight. *Overnight at Hotel Amora (or similar). (B)*

#### DAY 6 - WELLINGTON

This morning visit Te Papa (The Museum of New Zealand). Your guide will take you through the museum focusing on New Zealand's natural history. Later enjoy free time with options such as taking the cable car for great views over the city, walking through the beautiful botanical gardens, or visiting Zealandia Wildlife Sanctuary. Tonight try dinner at one of the many cafés and restaurants within walking distance of the hotel. *Overnight at Hotel Amora (or similar). (B)*

#### DAY 7 - NELSON

This morning taking the Interislander Ferry through Wellington Harbor, over the Cook Strait, and into the beautiful Marlborough Sounds to Picton Gateway, and then on to the South Island where your driver/guide will meet you. Marlborough wines are known the world over (especially the sauvignon blanc), and today after

sampling some of the wines enjoy lunch among the vines. Later continue to Nelson, where dinner is at your leisure tonight. *Overnight at Hotel Rutherford (or similar). (BL)*

#### DAY 8 - NELSON

Today your driver/guide will pick you up from your hotel and transfer you to Kaiteriteri Beach. Join the sea shuttle to travel into beautiful Abel Tasman National Park, where you'll spend the day. Choose one of three walks on offer. Kayaking is also available at an additional cost. Later, head back to your hotel. Dinner tonight is at your leisure. *Overnight at Hotel Rutherford (or similar). (B)*

#### DAY 9 - QUEENSTOWN

This morning transfer to the airport to connect with your flight to Queenstown. Your guide will be there to meet you upon arrival. First stop is a visit to historic Arrowtown, which rose to fame when gold was discovered in the Arrow River in 1962. Miners from all over the world arrived to make their fortune, and the population grew to 7,000. Today Arrowtown still has some buildings remaining from this time and is a picturesque town with lovely shops and cafes to enjoy. Travel into Queenstown and take a small tour of the town before checking into



your centrally located hotel. Dinner tonight is your choice; there are many different types of restaurants to choose from, all of which are within walking distance from your hotel. *Overnight at Scenic Suites (or similar). (BD)*

#### DAY 10 - QUEENSTOWN

Spend today at leisure or take one of the many optional excursions on offer (at extra cost). Try the Dart River jet boat safari, take a wine tasting tour of the Central Otago vineyards, hire a bike, or if you feel adventurous, try a bungee jump. Tonight take a gondola to the top of Bob's Peak, with time to take in the fantastic views over the remarkable mountain range, Lake Wakatipu, and the town before enjoying a fantastic buffet dinner. *Overnight at Scenic Suites (or similar). (BD)*

## DAY 11 - MILFORD SOUND CRUISE

A magical day is in store as your drive takes you deep into the mystical wilderness of Fiordland National Park. Pass through the famous Homer Tunnel before emerging into the sound, which runs 9.3 miles inland from the Tasman Sea and is surrounded by sheer rock faces rising almost 4,000 feet. Lush rainforest clings to these cliffs while penguins, seals and dolphins frequent the waters. Join the Milford Mariner, where you have a very special dinner, bed and breakfast experience with time to enjoy the spacious viewing decks. Marvel at the towering cliffs and thundering waterfalls while cruising to the open sea, with a nature guide to point out the sea life and unique flora and fauna. Anchor for the night in sheltered Harrison Cove and have time to do a little exploring of your own in the vessel's kayaks and tender craft. *Overnight aboard Milford Mariner. (BD)*

## DAY 12 - QUEENSTOWN/DEPARTURE

After breakfast take the spectacular drive via the Devil's Staircase to Queenstown, where you will be dropped off at the airport to catch your domestic flight back to Auckland and then connect with your international flight home. *(B)*

## PROGRAM PRICING

**\$4,998** per person (based on two people in double occupancy)

Price includes accommodations, meals as mentioned, private transportation, and activities and entrance fees as mentioned.

Price does not include international or internal airfare, airport taxes, gratuities, meals not indicated, alcoholic beverages, optional activities, or items of a personal nature.

Valid for travel Sept. 2017 – May 10, 2018.

## THE FINE PRINT

*Rates are based on availability of the hotel; if room type is not available, your agent can make necessary itinerary and price changes. Rates for other hotels in the area are available. Holiday surcharges may apply. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due upon booking. 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. Traveltrip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call Travel Insured at 800-243-3174 or visit [www.travelinsured.com](http://www.travelinsured.com). Holbrook Travel's agency number is 15849.*

