

Itinerary Recommendation

For Your New Zealand South and North Islands Tour

DAY 1

Christchurch

Arrival into the International Airport of Christchurch (South Island).

If requested, a Representative from Nonpareil Travel will meet and greet you and your group at the airport.

Transfer to Lodge. Settle in, rest.

Otahuna Lodge

Located just outside Christchurch and secluded by magnificent, century-old gardens, Otahuna is one of New Zealand's most important homes. Built in 1895 for Canterbury pioneer Sir Heaton Rhodes, the three-storey stately home was and is among the finest examples of Queen Anne architecture in Australasia.

In 2007, the Lodge underwent a significant four-month renovation that included the complete refurbishment of all the suites, the public areas and restoration of the beautiful 30-acre garden. Lovingly restored to its original grandeur, Otahuna boasts all the modern amenities expected of an exclusive lodge and offers discerning travellers an experience that is about more than just luxury.

The Victorian interior appears much as it was when the house was built, with the modern touches blending seamlessly in its seven suites. Super-king size beds and spectacular views complement the elegant ambience, while the rooms feature original fireplaces – some in the ensuite bathrooms.

Otahuna means, "little hill amongst the hills". From this elevated hideaway with views across the countryside you can set out to go horse riding, trekking, golfing, hot-air ballooning or fishing. Otahuna's chef has a passion for using only the freshest of New Zealand produce. The lodge also offers lifestyle programmes including a cooking school and gourmet retreat classes.

Location: 20 minutes drive from Christchurch International Airport and the city centre.

Dinner usually included in the tariff.

DAY 2

Christchurch - Lake Tekapo - Queenstown

Helicopter transfer Christchurch – Lake Tekapo (1.5 hours), landing at Lake Tekapo or at the Observatory Hill depending on landing permissions.

Breakfast.

Helicopters arrive to fly you from Otahuna lodge to Lake Tekapo. You experience the tranquillity of the Canterbury Plains, the beauty of the Southern Alps and the wilderness of the Tasman Glacier.

Mount John Observatory (Tour to the Observatory possible to organise if group is staying at Lake Tekapo district for the night)

Lake Tekapo has one of the most spectacular night skies in the world. The clarity and sheer numbers of stars visible to the naked eye amaze visitors from all over New Zealand and the world during Lake Tekapo's night.

Lake Tekapo's night sky has interested more than just the visitors. Canterbury University operates an astronomical observatory on top of Mt John, overlooking Lake Tekapo. The clear skies and low levels of local light pollution have helped astronomers put Mt John observatory on the international map with observations and discoveries of the southern sky.

Lunch. We suggest either ordering specially prepared lunch from Otahuna Lodge OR getting lunch at a café at the Observatory.

In the afternoon, further helicopter transfer to Queenstown (1 hour).

Azur Lodge, Queenstown.

Nine villas designed to let you absorb the incredible views in chic luxury and total privacy. Each 75sq metre villa has a private deck and lounge area, with gas fireplace, LCD television and DVD/CD stereo system.

Modelled on those of some of the world's great hotels, Azure bathrooms include dual vanities, rain forest showerheads and spa tubs positioned in the window to be enjoyed either indoor or outdoor. Chosen for your indulgence, each bathroom product is an experience to savour, from the luxurious towels and robes, to New Zealand made Linden Leaves amenities,

Azur's super king beds are dressed with the finest 300-thread count Egyptian cotton sheets milled in Germany and provided by Ploh, a specialist in luxury bedding. Ploh also supplies pure goose down filled pillows and duvets.

Such attention to detail promises an exceptional sleep experience.

DAY 3

Queenstown - Ida Valley - fishing, picnic

After breakfast, our private fishing guide will transport you to the lakes or streams for a good days fishing experience (mainly trout). Picnic lunch to be organised at the fishing site, if you have special culinary requirements, please do let us know.

Please note, that Day Fishing can be substituted for Queenstown/Glenorchy areas sightseeing, Wineries tours, a bit of Extreme (bungy jumping, for example) or even a helicopter trip to the Milford Sounds (fiords).

Night at Azur Lodge. **Dinner** might be organised at one of many restaurants of Queenstown.

DAY 4

Flight to Rotorua, North Island

Flight departure from Queenstown to Rotorua (North Island) with Air New Zealand.

Transfer to Treetops Lodge with a private vehicle.

Treetops Lodge.

Nestled amidst magnificent native forests and valleys, Treetops Lodge and Estate offers a uniquely New Zealand experience. With an elegant architectural style derived from New Zealand's pioneering past, The Lodge's timber and stone finishes echo the beauty and simplicity of the great outdoors.

Tucked away, the Villas are positioned within a stroll or golf buggy ride to the Lodge. Choose a secluded haven framed by native virgin forest or look out over lakes and wildlife on the Treetops Estate.

Exquisite furnishings adorn these luxurious quarters, featuring a bedroom, spacious bathroom with spa bath, lavish lounge with fireplace and small kitchenette.

At Treetops, you are touched by tranquillity and serenity. Once touched, you want to return to bask in the beauty of this luxurious, uniquely New Zealand lodge.

Villa Floor Areas:

The Valley Villas are 152.73m²/ 1644ft² each

The Forest Villas are 137.2m²/ 1476.8ft² each

Dinner is included in the tariff.

DAY 5

Rotorua – Waimangu - Lake Tarawera

After breakfast, our chauffeur will drive you to the Waimangu Volcanic Valley.

Points of World and National Significance:

- Waimangu Volcanic Valley is the only hydrothermal system in the world wholly created within written history. It is the world's newest geothermal system.
- It is the only hydrothermal system in the world wholly created as the direct result of a volcanic eruption – the Tarawera Eruption of 10 June 1886.
- Waimangu Volcanic Valley is the home of Inferno Crater, the world's largest Crypto Geyser.

You can take a leisurely 1-1.5 hour walk downhill visiting numerous volcanic and hydrothermal sites of the Valley.

You can add a 25 min Lake Rotomahana boat trip to the Waimangu Experience. During the boat trip, you will have a chance to see the ex-sites of the eighth Wonders of the World: Pink and White Terraces.

In the afternoon, individual cruise on Lake Tarawera. Relax on board of a luxury spacious catamaran: fish and, if you catch a trout, the captain will prepare the freshest sashimi for you. Jetski is also available.

The catamaran then stops at a natural hot water pool where you can sit and enjoy the geothermal springs. Meanwhile, your BBQ will be prepared on board and you will be invited to enjoy your lunch or dinner (salads, BBQ meats and fish are available – all specially prepared according to your request).

Please note: car transfer between Waimangu and the Boat Charter base are about 1 hour. Therefore, your group might choose a 5 min helicopter transfer from spot to spot.

An evening meal can be part of your stay at Treetops or it can be separately organised and booked at a restaurant in town.

DAY 6

Rotorua - White Island Volcano

Breakfast.

Helicopter excursion to the White Island – Marine Volcano.

White Island is one of the most fascinating and accessible volcanoes on earth, carrying with it an A grade level of scientific importance. As New Zealand's only live marine volcano, its unique features attract scientists and volcanologists worldwide.

The volcano is estimated to be between 100,000 and 200,000 years old. However, the small portion of the island that is visible above sea level has been in its present form for an estimated 16,000 years - evidence of a continually changing landscape.

Walking on White Island is like walking on the moon. Virtually no vegetation survives the harsh acidic environment inside the crater walls. Instead, lush beds of yellow and white sulphur crystals grow amongst hissing, steaming, bubbling fumaroles.

Dinner can be included in the tariff at Treetops.

DAY 7

Rotorua - Auckland

Flight with Air New Zealand from Rotorua to Auckland.

Transfer from the airport to Mollies Private Hotel 5*.

Overlooking Auckland Harbour Bridge, Mollies Boutique Hotel offers spacious luxury accommodation, a stroll from fashionable Ponsonby Road and 5 minutes to Auckland city CBD.

Expect impeccable service, gourmet dining, exquisite pampering and luxury accommodation.

Free time in town.

Dinner can be organised at Mollies or in one of the restaurants in the City.

DAY 8

Auckland

Breakfast.

Transfer to the Airport.

End of Programme. Departure.

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