

### **Asia Discovery Tours**

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# 16 Day Highlights of North and South Island of New Zealand (Tour Code: NHT)

Discover some of New Zealand's most scenic spots with this 16-day highlights itinerary. Wander through world-known town Hamilton and witness the movie set from The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. Gaze in awe at glow-worm filled caves and geothermal wonders. Explore Fox Glacier before visiting New Zealand's adventure capital Queenstown. Enjoy a visit to the truly majestic Milford Sound and relax on an atmosphere of "Edinburgh of the South" in Dunedin.



## Day 01, 15 Aug. 2022: Sydney or Melbourne – Auckland (D.)

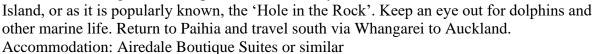
Depart Australia in the morning and arrive at Auckland in the evening. Upon arrival we are transferred to our hotel for an overnight stay. This evening we have an included welcome dinner. Accommodation: Airedale Boutique Suites or similar.

Day 02, 16 Aug: Auckland – Bay of Islands (B. D.) We depart Auckland and travel to the Parry Kauri Park to see a magnificent example of a Kauri Tree. Enjoy a visit and informative talk at the Kauri Museum in Matakohe, then travel via Whangarei to Paihia, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands. Enjoy a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Maori tribes and the British. This evening we have an included dinner.

Day 03, 17 Aug: Bay of Islands – Auckland (B. D.) This morning we cruise through the beautiful Bay of Islands aboard a luxury catamaran to Cape Brett, where a historic lighthouse keeps watch over Piercy

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands, Paihia

or similar



#### Day 04, 18 Aug: Auckland – Hamilton – Rotorua (B. D.)

This morning we enjoy a city sightseeing tour including a visit to Sky Tower, one of New Zealand's most spectacular attractions. We continue through the picturesque countryside to Hamilton, which is the largest inland city in New Zealand. You will explore the most charming places in the city, while hearing fascinating facts and legends. And then continue to drive to Hobbiton. Following this we enjoy a guided tour of the movie set from The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. We will learn how this beautiful piece of farmland was transformed into 'The Shire from Middle Earth'. Dinner this evening is included. Accommodation: Holiday Inn Rotorua or similar

#### **Day 05, 19 Aug: Rotorua (B. D.)**



Our day begins with a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua. For those who wish, there is also time for a thrilling luge ride (not included). Our next stop is the Agrodome, where we enjoy farming, entertainment and education. We have some free time this afternoon before travelling to Te Puia to see the boiling

mud pools and awesome geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening experience an entertaining Maori Hangi and Concert. Accommodation: Holiday Inn Rotorua or similar

### Day 06, 20 Aug: Rotorua – Auckland – Christchurch (B. D.)

We say goodbye to Rotorua and transfer to the airport in Auckland for our flight to the

South Island. Upon arrival we are met and commence an afternoon city tour of Christchurch. If time permits we will visit the Christchurch Botanical Gardens.

Accommodation: Rydges Latimer Hotel or similar



#### Day 07, 21 Aug: Christchurch – Greymouth (B. D.)

This morning, cross the Arthur's Pass National Park to the scenic West Coast Region. Then take the bus to the largest town on the west coast, beautiful Greymouth, which used to be a gathering place for Maori.

**Accommodation:** Kingsgate Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar in Greymouth

#### Day 08, 22 Aug: Greymouth – Hokika – Fox Glacier – Haast (B. D.)

After breakfast, drive to Pancake Rocks and the small town of Hokitika. Then go to the golden town, visit the old site of the gold mine, and experience the fun of gold rushing. Then head to the town of Fox Glacier and visit the nearby Fox Glacier after lunch (at your own expense). From the west side of the Southern Alps, look out over Mount Tasman and Mount Cook, and the banks of the glaciers which run down the Southern Alps like waterfalls. The



most special feature of this New Zealand Glacier is that it is only a few kilometres away from the coastal road. Tourists can go directly to the ice tongue area of the glacier to see the most active areas. You will witness the wonders and mysteries of the majestic glaciers. You can also take a helicopter at your own expense to reach the top of the glacier and experience the view from the top.

**Accommodation:** Heartland Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar in Hearth

#### Day 09, 23 Aug: Haast – Lake Wanaka – Queenstown (B. D.)

After breakfast, drive to Lake Wanaka, the fourth largest lake in New Zealand. Surrounded by Lake Wanaka in the majestic Southern Alps, you will be immersed in this hidden paradise. Along the way pass through the fruit town of Cromwell, you can buy seasonal fresh fruit at your own expense. Arrive in Queenstown, which is hailed as a holiday honeymoon resort by the world. You will experience dreamlike romance and warmth on the shores of Lake

Wakatipu. In the afternoon, take the cable car to Bob's Peak to see Queenstown, and overlook the town of Glenorchy, located at the end of the lake

**Accommodation:** Copthorne Hotel\*\*\*\* or similar

#### Day 10, 24 Aug: Queenstown (B. D.)

Today is at leisure to explore Queenstown. This evening we will board the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake



Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station. Sit back, relax and enjoy an included dinner at the Colonel's Homestead. After dinner enjoy a short farm tour then reboard the TSS Earnslaw for a sing along by the piano as we cruise back to Queenstown. Accommodation: Copthorne Hotel & Resort Lakefront or similar

#### Day 11, 25 Aug: Queenstown – Arrowtown – Te Anau (B. D.)

We enjoy a leisurely start this morning before travelling to Arrowtown, an old gold mining village. In Arrowtown we will visit the Lakes District Museum and then continue to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland.

Accommodation: Distinction Luxmore Hotel or similar

#### Day 12, 26 Aug: Te Anau – Milford Sound – Te Anau (B. L. D.)



Today we have a fascinating drive to Milford Sound and have an included cruise on the magnificent fiord. See the spectacular Bowen Falls and towering Mitre Peak as we enjoy a picnic lunch onboard. This afternoon we return to Te Anau for some time at leisure, before our included dinner.

Accommodation: Distinction Luxmore Hotel or similar

#### Day 13, 27 Aug: Te Anau – Dunedin (B. D.)

This morning we travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin, known as the 'Edinburgh of the South' and enjoy an included city tour. Afterwards we travel along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle and hear of the tragic and scandalous history on a guided tour. We have some time to wander around this Garden of International Significance. And then we are returning to Dunedin.

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Southern Cross or similar

#### Day 14, 28 Aug: Dunedin – Twizel (B. D.)

We farewell Dunedin and travel to Oamaru, which is famous for its limestone. Then

we follow the Waitaki River and see Lake Benmore. Weather permitting, we might be able to take in the views of Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak, as we continue towards Twizel for an overnight stay. Dinner this evening is included. Accommodation: MacKenzie Country Inn or similar

## Day 15, 29 Aug: Twizel – Akaroa – Christchurch (B. D.)



This morning we depart Twizel for Christchurch. Enroute we see the brilliant turquoise water of Lake Tekapo, the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue. We then travel to Akaroa to visit The Giant's House, which is a Garden of International Significance. The grounds are an extraordinary wonderland and include a fully integrated combination of art works and gardens. Afterwards we continue to Christchurch. This evening we enjoy an included farewell dinner. Accommodation: Rydges Latimer Hotel or similar

#### Day 16, 30 Aug: Christchurch – Australia (B.)

We are transferred to Christchurch Airport for our flights home. End of tour.

**Departure Date: 15 August 2022** 

Tour Price: \$6,980 per person twin or double share (small group tour)

Single supplement: \$1,780

#### This tour price includes:

- 1. Return air-ticket with airport tax and fuel surcharge from Sydney or Melbourne to New Zealand;
- 2. New Zealand domestic flight from Auckland to Christchurch;
- 3. Fifteen-night accommodation at 4 star hotels as indicated in the itinerary or similar;
- 4. Meals as stated in the itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch and D = Dinner);
- 5. Entrance fees for all the sightseeing spots as mentioned in the itinerary;
- 6. Transfer and transport all through as per the itinerary;
- 7. English-speaking guide (if the group size is 6 .

#### This tour price excludes:

- 1. Travel insurance;
- 2. Personal expenses;
- 3. Gratuities to the driver/guide (\$120 per person for the whole trip. Please pay the gratuities to your guide in New Zealand);
- 4. Any meals not specified in the itinerary;
- 5. Any optional tours.