

New Zealand

16 February 2024 | 20 Days | Fly & small group tour package





Highlights & inclusions

- Return flights
- 19-night Ultimate Rail, Cruise, and Coach tour in 4.5* accommodation from Auckland to Christchurch
- 20 Business Class reclining leather seats with panoramic viewing
- Seat side personal storage providing easy access to your travel bag
- Personal audio control unit with multiple music channels and a complimentary set of headphones
- Stylish centre galley area equipped with refrigerated drinking fountain and fridge units
- Complimentary daily onboard Wi-Fi allowance and USB charging port
- Access to daily newspapers and range of glossy magazines
- Personalised meet & greet on arrival with return airport transfers in New Zealand
- 18 breakfasts (B), 2 morning teas, 2 lunches (L) and 14 dinners (D) including 3 speciality dinners (SD)
- 7 two-night stays
- 4 rail journeys
- 4 cruises with a Doubtful Sound overnight cruise
- All sightseeing and prepaid attractions with extensive optional activities
- An exclusive offer which includes a pre tour night in Auckland (value \$330 per couple), a GPT Touring Jacket (value \$78 per person) along with an extra tour discount
- All airport taxes

Day 1: 16 February 2024 Auckland

Welcome to Auckland the gateway to the stunning journey ahead!

After collecting your luggage and clearing customs you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel.

Stay: Crowne Plaza Auckland, 2 nights

Day 2: 17 February 2024 Auckland

Today is a free day to explore Auckland at leisure. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink as you meet your travelling companions

D

Day 3: 18 February 2024 Auckland – Bay of Islands

Board the luxurious Ultimate Coach and enjoy a city tour of Auckland, dubbed the 'City of Sails', before travelling to Matakohē to enjoy a visit and informative talk at the Kauri Museum. Travel via Whangarei to Paihia, situated in the beautiful Bay of Islands. Enjoy a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Māori tribes and the British.

Stay: Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands 2 nights

B, D

Day 4: 19 February 2024 Bay of Islands

Today is a free day. Choose from the many optional activities available, including the Cape Reinga coach trip via Ninety Mile Beach or a spectacular scenic flight. This evening is also free, you may like to enjoy an optional relaxing dinner cruise

B

Day 5: 20 February 2024 Bay of Islands – Auckland

This morning you will explore the scenic of the Bay of Islands including an island visit aboard a luxury catamaran. Cruise to Cape Brett and the famous 'Hole in the Rock', keep an eye out for dolphins and other marine life. On return to Paihia, travel south, call into the Parry Kauri Park to see a magnificent example of a Kauri Tree before returning to Auckland.

Stay: Crowne Plaza Auckland

B, D

Day 6: 21 February 2024 Auckland – Rotorua

This morning travel to Glenbrook Vintage Railway for a nostalgic 15 kilometre trip back in time on a beautifully restored vintage steam train. Visit the restoration workshop followed by a delightful morning tea. Depart Glenbrook and travel through magnificent countryside of rolling hills and green pastures famous for dairying. Continue to Rotorua to visit the National Kiwi Hatchery, for a unique behind the scenes tour of the world's largest kiwi hatchery.

Stay: Regent of Rotorua, 2 nights

B, D

Day 7: 22 February 2024 Rotorua

Today begins with a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua where spectacular views are on offer. There is also time for a thrilling luge ride! Next stop is Agrodome for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment and education that is unlike anything you have seen before. Enjoy some free time this afternoon before travelling to Te Puia to see the boiling mud pools and impressive geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening experience an entertaining Māori Hāngi and Concert

B, SD

Day 8: 23 February 2024 Rotorua – Wellington

Travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to the spectacular Huka Falls. Continue to Lake Taupo for some free time to enjoy this scenic lakeside town. Travel via the Tongariro National Park and then continue south to NZ's capital city, Wellington.

Stay: InterContinental Wellington, Premium Room, 2 nights

B, D

Day 9: 24 February 2024 Wellington

A highlight this morning will be time to explore Gallipoli: A Scale of War exhibition at Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum. Cutting edge technology brings



these stories to life through the eyes of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances. Reboard your Ultimate coach for an extensive city tour which showcases the history and culture on show. Enjoy free time this afternoon and this evening is also at leisure. **B**

Day 10: 25 February 2024 Wellington - Kaikōura - Christchurch

This morning board the Interislander Ferry, cross the Cook Strait and enjoy the scenery as you travel through the Marlborough Sounds to Picton. Join the Coastal Pacific, a truly spectacular rail journey that follows a thin wedge of land between the Pacific Ocean and the Kaikoura Ranges. Meet your Ultimate Coach in the fishing village of Kaikōura for the journey to the garden city of Christchurch.

Stay: The George, 2 nights **B, D**

Day 11: 26 February 2024 Christchurch

Today visit the International Antarctic Centre designed to provide an informative account of life in Antarctica. This is followed by an introductory city tour of Christchurch. This afternoon includes a journey on board the Christchurch Tram at your leisure. This evening is free to enjoy one of the many eateries near your hotel. **B**

Day 12: 27 February 2024 Christchurch - Arthur's Pass - Fox Glacier

This morning board the TranzAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. Travel over massive viaducts, river valleys and spectacular gorges as you ascend to Arthur's Pass located in the centre of the Southern Alps. Board your Ultimate Coach and travel to Hokitika, famous for its Greenstone before continuing via Franz Josef to the township of Fox Glacier where time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

Stay: Distinction Fox Glacier **B, D**

Day 13: 28 February 2024 Fox Glacier - Queenstown

See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel south along the West Coast. Continue via the Haast Pass, an area of stunning beauty before arriving at Arrowtown to visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue to picturesque Queenstown, a year-round resort situated on the shores of magical Lake Wakatipu. This evening is free, and you may choose to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

Stay: Heritage Queenstown, 2 nights **B**

Day 14: 29 February 2024 Queenstown

Today is a free day for you to explore Queenstown with many optional activities available. This evening board the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station. Sit back, relax, and enjoy a delicious gourmet barbecue dinner featuring a menu of seasonal, fresh, and locally sourced food 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 you cruise back to Queenstown. **B, SD**

Day 15: 01 March 2024 Queenstown - Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise

Today travel via Te Anau to Manapouri. Enjoy lunch as you cruise across this glacial lake. A short ride over the Wilmot Pass brings you to the boarding point to join the Fiordland Navigator for an amazing overnight experience. As you cruise through the pristine beauty of Doubtful Sound, naturalist guides will provide commentary and point out the resident wildlife. When evening falls enjoy a delicious carvery buffet prepared by the onboard chef.

Stay: Fiordland Navigator **B, L, D**

Day 16: 02 March 2024 Doubtful Sound - Te Anau

Start the day with a hearty breakfast before heading back to Deep Cove for the

trip to Manapouri. Return to the wharf and meet your Ultimate Coach for the journey to Te Anau where you will enjoy an afternoon at leisure. You may like to take an optional tour to visit the Te Anau Glow-worm Caves. Hotel Distinction Te Anau Hotel & Villas. **B, D**

Day 17: 03 March 2024 Te Anau - Dunedin

Travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin, famous for its stunning Edwardian and Victorian architecture dating back to the gold rush of the 1800s. Today Dunedin is New Zealand's oldest university city.

Stay: Distinction Dunedin Hotel, 2 nights **B, D**

Day 18: 04 March 2024 Dunedin

Travel along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle. On a guided tour you will hear the tragic and scandalous stories followed by time to wander around this Garden of International Significance and an Ultimate High Tea served in the Grand Ballroom. Return to Dunedin for a city tour followed by some free time. Optional activities available include a tour of the Speight's Brewery, which produces New Zealand's most popular beer, see wildlife in their natural habitat or take a tour of Olveston Historic Home, containing many treasures of a bygone era. **B, D**

Day 19: 05 March 2024 Dunedin - Christchurch

This morning travel to the city of Oamaru, famous for its limestone. Continue north to Pleasant Point Museum and Railway for a short rail experience followed by lunch and time to explore the preserved heritage of the South Canterbury railway. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner with selected beverages and your newfound friends.

Stay: The George **B, L, SD**

Day 20: 06 March 2024 Christchurch

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a memorable New Zealand

20 Days New Zealand

2024 Departure 16 February – 06 March	From (Flights included)
Ex Sydney, Brisbane or Melbourne Per Person Twin Share	\$10,960
Ex Hobart, Launceston or Devonport Per Person Twin Share	\$11,270
Ex Canberra	\$11,280
Ex Perth	\$11,475
Single Supplement	add \$3,395



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*Conditions apply: Prices are correct as at 21 December 2022, per person (pp) twin share in AUD, inclusive of air taxes and subject to availability at the time of booking. A non-refundable deposit of \$2500 per person is due 2 days after booking to cover deposit and airfare. Final payment is due no later than 01 December 2023. Tours are based on reaching a minimum number. Travel insurance is highly recommended and available at an additional cost. Itinerary is subject to change. Payment by credit card may attract a merchant fee. Service fees not included. Further conditions may apply, see in-store, or visit racttravel.com.au. Members Travel Group Pty Ltd trading as RACT Travel | ABN 45 144 538 803 | A11470