



Ultimate New Zealand Experience

Luxury Coach, Rail & Doubtful Sound Cruise

4 October to 24 October 2022 (21 days)

Personally escorted from Warragul by Jacquey Turner



Maori Culture

New Zealand was settled in the 13th Century by Maori people, boat travellers from eastern Polynesia. Over several centuries, they developed a unique culture with distinctive language, mythology, crafts and expert warfare.

Stunning Scenery

The stunning and diverse terrains of New Zealand are truly spectacular and one of a kind. Mountains, volcanoes, glaciers, rivers, lakes and caves all form part of New Zealand's name as one of the most scenic locations in the world.





TUES 4 OCTOBER: MELBOURNE - AUCKLAND (D)

Our coach will depart Warragul in the early morning for our lunch time flight to Auckland. We will arrive in Auckland early evening and will be met and transferred to our hotel **CROWNE PLAZA**, or *similar*, for our two-night stay, where we will celebrate the end of a long day with a lovely dinner.

WED 5 OCTOBER: AUCKLAND (B D)

Today will be at leisure to explore Auckland. Sky Tower admission is included so you may like to take advantage of this during your leisure time. Tonight, we will get together for a complimentary pre-dinner drink before our Arrival/Welcome dinner.

THUR 6 OCTOBER: AUCKLAND - BAY OF ISLANDS (B D)

Today we board the luxurious Ultimate Coach and enjoy a city tour of Auckland, dubbed the “City of Sails”. Before heading north, we shall enjoy a visit and informative talk at the **Kauri Museum** in Matakoho, then travel via **Whangarei** to **Paihia**, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands. We shall have a guided tour of the **Waitangi Treaty Grounds**, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Maori tribes and the British.

On arrival at the Bay of Islands we shall check into the **SCENIC HOTEL BAY OF ISLANDS**, or *similar*, for a two-night stay.



FRI 7 OCTOBER: BAY OF ISLANDS – CAPE REINGA (B L)

Today we have a full day trip to the **Cape Reinga Lighthouse** at New Zealand’s northernmost tip, where the Tasman Sea meets the mighty Pacific Ocean. On the way we’ll discover the wild beauty of an untouched region rich in Maori culture and tradition. We travel back to Auckland along the shores of the **Ninety Mile Beach**. The rest of your evening is at leisure.

SAT 8 OCTOBER: BAY OF ISLANDS - AUCKLAND (B D)

This morning we explore the scenic beauty of the Bay of Islands aboard a luxury catamaran. We 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**, we travel south and call into the **Parry Kauri Park** to see a magnificent example of a Kauri Tree before returning to Auckland.

We shall then check into the CROWNE PLAZA AUCKLAND, for an overnight stay.

SUN 9 OCTOBER: AUCKLAND - ROTORUA (B D)

This morning we leave Auckland and travel to **Glenbrook Vintage Railway** for a nostalgic trip back in time on a beautifully restored vintage steam train. We visit the restoration workshop and on return to Glenbrook Station, morning tea will be served. We depart Glenbrook and travel through magnificent countryside of rolling hills and green pastures famous for dairying.

We continue to Rotorua to visit **Rainbow Springs Nature Park**, home to the world’s largest kiwi hatchery for a unique behind-the-scenes tour where over 1800 kiwi chicks have been hatched to date.

On arrival, we shall check into the REGENT OF ROTORUA for a two-night stay and have dinner at the hotel.

MON 10 OCTOBER: ROTORUA (B D)

Today begins with a gondola ride at the **Skyline Rotorua** for breakfast, spectacular views and also time for a thrilling luge ride! Next stop is the **Agrodome** for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment and education that’s unlike anything you’ve seen before.

Enjoy 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 **Māori Hāngi and Concert**.



TUES 11 OCTOBER: ROTORUA - WELLINGTON (B D)

We travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to the spectacular **Huka Falls** and then continue to **Lake Taupo** for some free time to enjoy this scenic lakeside town.

We then drive on via the **Tongariro National Park** and continue south to the capital city of Wellington where we will check in to the INTERCONTINENTAL WELLINGTON, *or similar*, for a two-night stay.

WED 12 OCTOBER: WELLINGTON (B)

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.

We reboard our coach for an extensive city tour which showcases the history and culture on show. Included today is a ticket for the Wellington Cable Car. Enjoy free time this afternoon and this evening is also at leisure.



THUR 13 OCTOBER: WELLINGTON - CHRISTCHURCH (B D)

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 **Kaikōura Ranges**. We meet our coach in the fishing village of **Kaikōura** for the journey to the garden city of Christchurch. On our arrival, we shall check into THE GEORGE, *or similar*, for two nights.

FRI 14 OCTOBER: CHRISTCHURCH (B)

Today we 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, one of Christchurch's leading attractions. This evening is also free to enjoy one of the many eateries near our hotel.

SAT 15 OCTOBER: LAKE BRUNNER - FOX GLACIER (B L D)

This morning board the **TranzAlpine**, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. We travel over massive viaducts, river valleys and spectacular gorges as we ascend to **Arthur's Pass** located in the centre of the Southern Alps.

We then board our 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.

Our overnight accommodation will be the **DISTINCTION FOX GLACIER**, *or similar*.



SUN 16 OCTOBER: FOX GLACIER - QUEENSTOWN (B)

We see the snow-capped peaks of the **Southern Alps** as we travel south along the West Coast. We continue via the **Haast Pass**, an area of stunning beauty. We will experience the untouched natural beauty of the South West World Heritage Area of New Zealand by a fully enclosed jetboat.

We then continue south to **Arrowtown** to visit the Lakes District Museum then continue to picturesque Queenstown, a year-round resort situated on the shores of magical **Lake Wakatipu**.

Our hotel for the next two nights is the HERITAGE QUEENSTOWN.

This evening is free and you may choose to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

MON 17 OCTOBER: QUEENSTOWN (B D)

Today is a free day for you to explore Queenstown with many optional activities available.

This evening we 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, we enjoy a short farm tour then reboard the TSS Earnslaw for a sing along by the piano as we cruise back to Queenstown.

TUES 18 OCTOBER: DOUBTFUL SOUND OVERNIGHT CRUISE (B L D)

Today we travel via **Te Anau** to **Manapouri** and will enjoy a picnic lunch as we cruise across this glacial lake. A short ride over the **Wilmot Pass** brings us to the boarding point to join the **Fiordland Navigator** for an amazing overnight experience.

As we cruise through the pristine beauty of **Doubtful Sound**, naturalist guides will provide commentary and point out the resident wildlife. When evening falls, we enjoy a delicious carvery buffet prepared freshly by the onboard chef.

WED 19 OCTOBER: DOUBTFUL SOUND - TE ANAU (B D)

We start the day with a hearty breakfast before heading back to **Deep Cove** for the trip back to **Manapouri**. We return to the wharf for the journey back to **Te Anau** where you can enjoy the afternoon at leisure. You may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional).

Tonight, we will stay at the DISTINCTION TE ANAU HOTEL & VILLAS, *or similar*.



THUR 20 OCTOBER: TE ANAU - DUNEDIN (B D)

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

On arrival in Dunedin will will check into the **DISTINCTION DUNEDIN HOTEL** for a two-night stay.

FRI 21 OCTOBER: DUNEDIN (B D)

Today we travel along the Otago Peninsula to **Larnach Castle**. On our guided tour, we will hear the tragic and scandalous stories, followed by time to wander around this Garden of International Significance. We will enjoy an Ultimate High Tea served in the Grand Ballroom before returning to Dunedin for a city tour followed by a visit to **Olveston Historic Home**, a prosperous merchants' home from the turn of the century.

The afternoon is free to explore at leisure.

SAT 22 OCTOBER: DUNEDIN - CHRISTCHURCH (B FD)

This morning we travel to the city of **Oamaru**, famous for its limestone. We then 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. On arrival we will check into **THE GEORGE, or similar**, for the next two nights.

This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner.





SUN 23 OCTOBER: CHRISTCHURCH (B)

This morning we will take a walk down to the river to enjoy a unique opportunity to board a classic Punt at the **historic Antigua Boat Sheds**. We glide along the beautiful Avon River to absorb the beauty of Hagley Park. The rest of the day is at your leisure.

This evening you may choose to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

MON 24 OCTOBER: DEPART CHRISTCHURCH (in flight meal)

Time to say goodbye! We will have an early morning transfer to the airport for our flight home after a memorable New Zealand holiday. On arrival in Melbourne, we will be met by our coach and transferred back to Warragul.

JACQUEY TURNER, your TOUR LEADER, has more than 36 years' experience as a highly successful travel agent and tour guide. Jacquely's attention to detail and personal care ensures that everyone travelling in her group will have a most enjoyable holiday experience.



"I thoroughly enjoy escorting tour members to so many wonderful places in the world and I am especially looking forward to showing you around stunning New Zealand. The sights, sounds and history all contribute to a fabulous experience but most importantly it is the people that you meet and have the privilege of travelling with that has the most lasting impression. We always have lots of fun and continue to enjoy the memories for many years."

4.5 STAR HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Carefully handpicked a collection of stylish hotels are part of this luxurious experience. You will be treated to a very high standard in each location.

Each of the hotels used offer a premium level of comfort, extensive guest facilities and excellent location.

All accommodation detailed in the itinerary is subject to change, if necessary, to a hotel of a similar or higher standard.

Ultimate New Zealand Experience

Tour Cost: \$11,229 per person on a twin share basis
 \$3,415 per person - single supplement

Upgrade to premium economy or business class – cost on application
Should you select to travel on flights other than the included group flights, or upgrade to business/first class, payment for the air fares will be required at the time of booking the flights.

Payment Details:

Full Deposit: **\$500 per person - to secure place on tour
 Full deposit is refundable until minimum numbers are reached – ie. 16 guests
Final payment due by: Wednesday, 20 July 2022
Information Night: Wednesday, 20 July 2022 – 6pm
 All costs are based on the exchange rate prevailing as at 15 Sept 2021



THE ULTIMATE COACH

Be dazzled by this state-of-the-art full-size coach (13.5 metres long) which would normally house 48 seats and has been configured with only 20 luxury leather seats complete with incredible amenities.

Onboard the coach, the luxuries extend through a wide range of features including:

- 20 luxury leather fully reclining seats, with adjustable headrest and calf support for added comfort.
- Panoramic viewing, air conditioning and seat belts.
- Wood grain timber tray table with built in cup holder.
- Seat side personal storage area providing easy access to your travel bag.
- Personal audio control unit with multiple music channels and a complimentary set of headphones.
- Individual USB point for charging your camera, mobile phone, iPod and iPad.
- Stylish centre galley area equipped with refrigerated drinking fountain and fridge units.
- Complimentary daily on-board Wi-Fi allowance.
- Onboard restroom.

INCLUSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sky Tower
- Kauri Museum
- Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Cape Reinga Day Trip
- Hole in the Rock Dolphin Cruise
- Glenbrook Vintage Railway
- National Kiwi Hatchery Tour
- Skyline Rotorua Gondola and Luge Ride
- Agrodome
- Thermal mud pools and geysers
- Te Puia traditional Māori Hāngi and Concert
- Wellington Cable Car
- Te Papa, NZ's National Museum
- Cruise on the Interislander Ferry
- Coastal Pacific Rail Journey
- International Antarctic Centre
- Christchurch Tram
- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Punting on the Avon
- Haast River Safari
- Lakes District Museum
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- HIGHLIGHT Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise
- Olveston Historic Home*
- Larnach Castle
- Pleasant Point Rail Experience
- City sights tour of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin
- Punt on the Avon River

COACH FEATURES

- 20 Business Class seats on a full-size coach
- 2 door access; dedicated seat side storage with tray table; cup holder, panoramic windows
- Restroom; daily onboard Wi-Fi allowance

EXPERIENCE

- Personally escorted throughout entire tour (subject to 16 confirmed passengers)
- All airport transfers throughout tour
- Return economy airfares and taxes: Melbourne to Auckland and Christchurch to Melbourne.
- Coach transfer from Warragul to Melbourne airport and return.
- Personalised Meet & Greet on arrival
- Waterproof Touring Jacket (valued at \$79)
- Throughout New Zealand, Ultimate Small Group Tour Coach with 20 luxury leather reclining seats on a full size vehicle,
- Professional Coach Captain
- All tipping of tour director, drivers and local guides for included tours
- Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise
- 19 nights 4.5 star hotel accommodation
- 4 rail journeys
- 4 cruises
- 8 two night stays
- Hotel portorage
- All sightseeing and pre paid attractions

MEALS

- 19 cooked breakfasts including a specialty breakfast: Stratosfare Restaurant, Rotorua
- 15 sumptuous dinners including Complimentary pre-dinner drink at the Welcome Dinner and 3 specialty dinners: Māori Hāngi and Concert, Rotorua; Walter Peak Homestead, Queenstown; Intimate Farewell Dinner, selected beverages, Christchurch
- 3 lunches, 2 delicious morning teas including High Tea at Larnach Castle..

EXCLUSIONS

- Comprehensive Travel Insurance
- Expenses of a personal nature like laundry, telephone/fax calls, alcoholic beverages, medical expenses
- Any meals not included in the itinerary

SPECIAL NOTES

- Flight schedules to be advised
- The order of the sightseeing may vary depending on local conditions.

CANCELLATION FEES: Notice of cancellation must be made in writing to Gippsland Travel Centre and cancellation fee charged cannot be credited to another booking.

No of days prior to tour departure	Cancellation fee as a % of tour cost
65 days or more prior to departure	loss of deposit
between 7 and 64 days prior to departure	75% of tour cost
Less than 7 days prior to departure	100% of tour cost

GIPPSLAND TRAVEL ESCORTED TOURS TERMS & CONDITIONS

INTRODUCTION:

This contract is governed by Gippsland Travel Centre Pty Ltd and all members of the travelling parties as listed on your itinerary.

Gippsland Travel Centre acts as the agent selling and coordinating products on behalf of a third-party travel supplier/s. A separate contract with the supplier/s will apply and will be governed by the supplier's Terms and Conditions. Gippsland Travel cannot guarantee the performance of any third-party supplier/s. Gippsland Travel may receive fees, commissions, gifts or financial incentives from third party supplier/s under this contract.

COVID POLICY

If the tour cannot operate due to COVID-19 state border closures and restrictions, the tour will be rescheduled and any funds paid will be transferred to the new tour date.

Due to the ongoing and evolving Covid-19 situation in Australia we have been advised by our suppliers that all guests must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. Fully vaccinated means that there has been at least 14 clear days from the second dose and the date of our departure.

Those who have a medical exemption from receiving the Covid-19 vaccine can still travel. Guests will be required to show a Covid-19 vaccine medical contraindication prior to our departure

LATE BOOKINGS

Higher deposit payments are required for late bookings. A guarantee of full payment is required at the time of booking for all bookings received within 4 weeks of departure.

FLIGHT SCHEDULES

Airlines schedules are subject to change without notice. Voluntary date changes will incur fees. Gippsland Travel is not liable for delays or disruption of air travel.

BOOKINGS SOLD ON A SHARE BASIS

Bookings may be accepted on a share room basis on the proviso that the person requesting the share reservation agrees that while every effort will be made to match suitability of the passengers there is no guarantee that a share room can be provided. If a share room is not available at the time of final payment, either the single room alternative, at an additional cost, or the cancellation conditions detailed in your itinerary will apply.

HEALTH & FITNESS

A minimum level of fitness is required to be able to participate on a Gippsland Travel Tour, you are required to at least:

- Be able to walk at least 1 hour on uneven surfaces without the use of any walking aid (walking stick for stability is acceptable)
- Walk up flights of stairs and short, steep hills
- Stand for 20 minutes without needing to sit down, often in hot/humid climates
- Carry your own hand luggage / handle your own suitcase when portage is not supplied eg. at airports.
- Get on and off various modes of transport without assistance, including small boats. Assistance will be offered where necessary.

Passengers must inform us of any medical conditions which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. At our discretion we can exclude you in a tour or in any activity if we consider that you are unable to safely participate in that tour or activity or if we consider your participation may place the safety of other guests at risk.

You will be requested to supply a letter from your doctor indicating your prescription medication and your reason for taking it, which shall be carried, in the event of an emergency. This information will remain confidential and can be supplied in a sealed envelope.

PASSPORT and VISA

A valid passport is required for all international travel. Currently an Entry Permit is required for New Zealand. If you do not hold an Australian passport, you may require a resident return visa.

Some countries require a visa to be issued before you depart Australia.

Gippsland Travel will advise you of all passport and visa requirements for this tour.

The Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regularly updates travel advice on various destinations. We recommend that you refer to www.dfat.gov.au for the latest updates before choosing to travel and prior to departure.

UNUSED PORTION OF THIS TOUR

We regret refunds will not be given for any unused activities of this tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation or transfers.

GENERAL CONDUCT

Gippsland Travel reserves the right to remove a traveller from a tour if they are acting in a way that interferes with the general operation of the tour or compromises the general enjoyment of the tour by other travellers in any way

ITINERARY CHANGES and ITINERARY VARIATIONS

Gippsland Travel reserves the right to amend the hotels, itinerary and excursions if deemed advisable or necessary due to adverse weather conditions, road conditions or other unforeseen circumstances. Any necessary alternative arrangements will be made to a similar standard.

Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of Gippsland Travel make it necessary to change airlines, hotels or amendments to daily activities. We will inform you of any changes as soon as they occur.

FORCE MAJEURE:

Force Majeure means the occurrence of an event that is beyond Gippsland Travel's reasonable control and which could not have been reasonably prevented by Gippsland Travel. Force majeure includes, but is not limited to: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, outbreaks of infectious disease or any other public health crisis, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, natural catastrophes and natural disasters (including but not limited to flooding, fire, earthquake, landslide), adverse weather conditions, high or low water levels; government directed travel restrictions or omissions, changes in laws or regulations, national strikes, explosion, generalised lack of availability of raw materials or energy, nuclear or other industrial accident causing environmental pollution or contamination; change in law, meaning, enactment, amendment (including repeal) in the law or administration of any law in Australia or any jurisdiction or territory relevant to the booking contract, which includes changes in statute, regulation, determination, by-law, declaration, licence and the common law as applicable from time to time.

For the avoidance of doubt, Force Majeure shall not include (a) financial distress nor inability of either party to make a profit or avoid a financial loss, (b) changes in market prices or conditions, or (c) a party's financial inability to perform its obligations hereunder.

In the event that a Force Majeure is declared, the customer will be bound by the third-party supplier/s Terms and Conditions, if applicable.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:

Subject to Australian Consumer Law, Gippsland Travel does not accept any liability in contract, tort or otherwise for any injury, damage, loss, delay, additional expense or inconvenience caused by a third-party supplier/s over who we have no direct control. Gippsland Travel is not liable for Force Majeure or any other event which is beyond our control or which is not preventable by us.

TERMINATION OF BOOKING CONTRACT OR CHANGE OF TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS DUE TO FORCE MAJEURE

If Gippsland Travel, in its reasonable opinion, considers that any Force Majeure event prevents Gippsland Travel (whether directly or through its employees, contractors, subcontractors and agents) from lawfully or safely providing any products or services subject of the booking contract with you, Gippsland Travel may immediately by written notice; (a) terminate the booking contract (in whole or part of); or (b) change your travel arrangements as reasonably practicable to ensure your safety and invoice for any additional costs.

GOVERNING LAW

These booking conditions are governed by the law in force in Victoria, Australia.

