

## New Zealand Guided Tours

### Southern Spectacular

**Operator:** AAT Kings Low Cost

**Days:** 9

**Start:** Christchurch

**Finish:** Christchurch

**Our price:** Check [www.experiencenz.com](http://www.experiencenz.com)

**Enquiries:** Email [travel@experiencenz.com](mailto:travel@experiencenz.com)



### Overview

AAT Kings 09 Day Low Cost Escorted Southern Spectacula gives you the opportunity to see Christchurch, Dunedin, Queenstown, Fox Glacier, Te Anau, Milford Sound and plenty more of the South Island.

### Highlights

- Garden City of Christchurch
- Church of the Good Shepherd
- Tour the sights of Dunedin
- Day of leisure in Queenstown
- View the spectacular Fox Glacier
- TranzAlpine train option

### Tour itinerary

**B** = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

#### Day 1: Arrive Christchurch

After your transfer from the airport and check-in to your hotel, you're free to explore Christchurch. You could visit Hagley Park, the Canterbury Museum, Christchurch Cathedral and the Botanic Gardens. There will be a welcome drink with your Tour Director and fellow travellers in the evening.

Hotel: Ibis, Christchurch.

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### **Day 2: Christchurch – Mt Cook**

Start the day your way - go shopping, ride the Christchurch Tram or simply relax. Later, travelling over the patchwork countryside of the Canterbury Plains, the spectacular sightseeing begins. Lake Tekapo and Lake Pukaki are first up. Next we'll visit the Church of the Good Shepherd before soaking up the sensational alpine landscape of Mt. Cook National Park - a scenic highlight! You may choose to take an optional scenic flight over Mt. Cook.

Hotel: Heritage Gateway Hotel, Omarama. **B D**

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### **Day 3: Mt Cook - Dunedin**

Our day starts along the Waitaki River with the Waitaki Hydro Power Scheme and Benmore Dam. We travel through Oamaru with its famous white limestone buildings to Dunedin, where we tour the city. Then you've got the afternoon to yourself - take a Wildlife Cruise, visit the Cadbury Chocolate Factory or ride the historic Taieri Gorge Railway.

Hotel: Kingsgate Hotel, Dunedin. **B D**

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### **Day 4: Dunedin – Te Anau**

After a morning of time to yourself, during which you might like to tour New Zealand's Larnach Castle, we head off across South Otago's fertile, sheep-filled farming land en route to Te Anau, on the shores of Lake Te Anau. Tonight you may choose to travel by boat to the Te Anau Glow Worm Caves.

Hotel: Kingsgate Hotel, Te Anau. **B D**

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### **Day 5: Te Anau – Milford Sound - Queenstown**

Today you'll be awe-struck by great sights from Fiordland National Park, to Milford Sound, where you will cruise on the waters of this natural wonder. Amazing photo opportunities await us as we see rainforests, ancient glaciers, mountain ranges and the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel. Along the way we'll see Mirror Lakes, Cloudu Valley, the Chasm, Mitre Peak, Bowen Falls, travel along the Devil's Staircase and the shores of Lake Wakatipu. At Queenstown we'll have an orientation tour on arrival and enjoy dinner with views over Lake Wakatipu and the Remarkables.

Hotel: Mercure Queenstown Resort, Queenstown, 2 nights. **B D**

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### **Day 6: Queenstown**

Explore exciting Queenstown your way, all day. From wine and garden tours to jet boat rides and white water rafting, Queenstown will surprise and exhilarate. An option to dine at the Skyline Restaurant on Bob's Peak ends the day. Access is via the steepest Gondola in the Southern Hemisphere. Experience a Kiwi Haka Maori Show as well! **B**

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### **Day 7: Queenstown – Fox Glacier**

First stop, Arrowtown, on the Arrow River. Second stop Cromwell and its sensational stone fruit. Then it's a trio of lakes - Lake Dunstan, Lake Hawea, Lake Wanaka. Through the Haast Pass, we view Thunder Creek Falls and enjoy a rainforest walk. Final stop, majestic Fox Glacier - a rare, still advancing glacier. Take the opportunity for an optional scenic flight over the glacier.

Hotel: Heartland Hotel Fox Glacier, Fox Glacier. **B D**

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### **Day 8: Fox Glacier - Christchurch**

We visit Hokitika, home of the native greenstone (jade), for a factory visit and jewellery demonstration first up. We travel through Greymouth, the largest town on the West Coast, to experience the Pancake Rocks and Blowholes at Punakaiki, before heading back to Christchurch.

Hotel: Ibis, Christchurch. **B D**

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### **Day 9: Depart Christchurch**

Today is yours, take your time exploring Christchurch famous for its gardens and for being the most English city outside of England. See Hagley Park and the Canterbury Museum - it's your last chance to experience New Zealand before we transfer you to Christchurch Airport for your onward flight. **B**

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