

experience **new zealand**

when it comes to travel, your experience counts



[View web site](#)

NEW ZEALAND GUIDED
TOURS

Southern Experience



Tour Summary

Tour name: Southern Experience

Days: 09

Spectacular Sightseeing Experiences

- The Christchurch Tram
- View mighty Mt Cook
- Church of the Good Shepard
- Larnach Castle Dunedin
- Cruise on Milford Sound
- Day at leisure in Queenstown
- See Bowen Falls and Mitre Peak
- View Franz Josef Glacier
- Cruise on the TSS Earnslaw across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station
- Discover the beauty of the Southern Alps onboard the TranzAlpine train



OPTIONAL Maori Cultural Experience

Transportation

- Tour by luxury air-conditioned coach with 2-door access, restroom, seat belts, reclining seats and panoramic windows

Professionally Escorted

- Tour with an experienced, professional Tour Director and Tour Driver

Dining Inclusions

- Full Buffet Breakfasts (8) **(B)**
- Exciting Highlight Dinner (1) **(HD)**
- Hotel Dinners (5) **(D)**

Accommodation

- Twin share rooms with private facilities in centrally located hotels

Plus

- Welcome drink
- All purpose travel bag and map
- Airport transfers (Day 1 Christchurch Airport to hotel - flights to arrive prior to 4.00pm; Day 9 to Christchurch Airport - flights anytime)
- Hotel portorage included

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Christchurch

We meet and transfer you from the airport to your hotel. Check in then explore Christchurch for yourself. An evening Welcome Drink offers the chance to meet your Tour Director and travel companions.

Hotel: The Heritage Hotel, Christchurch.

Day 2: Mt Cook

Your day begins with a ride on the Christchurch Tram. Then you've got time to go shopping or relax. En route today we'll see Lake Tekapo, Lake Pukaki, visit the Church of the Good Shepherd and soak up the spectacular alpine scenery of Mt Cook National Park. You can also take an optional scenic flight over Mt Cook (weather permitting).

Hotel: MacKenzie Country Inn – Deluxe Rooms, Twizel. **B D**

Day 3: Dunedin

On our way to Dunedin, we see the Waitaki Hydro Power Scheme, Benmore Dam and the famous white limestone buildings of Oamaru. At Dunedin we tour the city, then you've got the afternoon to yourself – take a Wildlife Cruise, visit the Cadbury Chocolate Factory or ride the Taieri Gorge Railway, it's your choice.

Hotel: Southern Cross Hotel, Dunedin. **B D**

Day 4: Dunedin – Te Anau

A guided tour of New Zealand's only castle – Larnach Castle and its gardens starts the day with your own time in town. Then we head to Te Anau across fertile farming land to the shores of Lake Te Anau, the largest lake in the South Island. Tonight, if you choose to, you can see the Te Anau Glow Worm Caves.

Hotel: Village Inn, Te Anau. **B D**

Day 5: Milford Sound

Today is a feast for the senses. Be wowed and awestruck by the beauty of the World Heritage Fiordland National Park. Keep your camera close by as we see Mirror Lakes, Pop's Lookout, Cloudu Valley, The Chasm, the hand-made Homer Tunnel, Mitre Peak, Bowen Falls and stunningly photogenic Milford Sound. The Devils Stair Case and Lake Wakatipu pass us by. We arrive at Queenstown for an orientation tour and group photo. The dinner option

tonight is the Skyline Restaurant on Bob's Peak – sensational views over Queenstown and a bonus 🥰 Kiwi Haka Maori Show, plus you'll ride the steepest Gondola in the Southern Hemisphere just to get there! A top night.

Hotel: Millennium Hotel, Queenstown, 2 nights. **B**

Day 6: Queenstown 'Free Time'

Explore Queenstown your way. Go wild with jet boat rides or white water rafting. For the less adventurous there are wine and garden tours. For dinner we'll travel across Lake Wakatipu and back on the TSS Earnslaw, New Zealand's oldest steam ship, to Walter Peak Sheep Station for a carvery meal and sheep shearing demonstration.

B HD

Day 7: Queenstown – Franz Josef

The historic gold mining town of Arrowtown is our first stop today. The second stop is Cromwell and its sensational stone fruit. We'll see a trio of lakes – Lake Wanaka, Hawea and Dunstan. Travel over the Haast Pass, view the amazing Thunder Creek Falls, take a small rainforest walk, then it's on to the spectacular Franz Josef Glacier – the world's most accessible glacier. Take the opportunity of a scenic flight over it, if you choose.

Hotel: Franz Josef Glacier Hotel, Franz Josef. **B D**

Day 8: TranzAlpine – Christchurch

We'll visit Hokitika, home of the native greenstone (jade), where we'll visit the factory and see a jewellery demonstration. Continuing on we head up the West Coast to Greymouth, inland to Arthur's Pass where we climb aboard the TranzAlpine – one of the top 6 train journeys in the world – and travel through the picturesque Southern Alps to Christchurch.

Hotel: The Heritage Hotel, Christchurch. **B D**

Day 9: Depart Christchurch

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