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Exploring New Zealand's Wonders

featuring the North & South Islands

19 DAYS From ~~\$5,599~~ **\$5,399 pp*** Save up to **\$200**

About This Tour

From geothermal springs and ice fields to stunning fjords and Maori culture, experience New Zealand at its best. Spend two nights discovering the sun-soaked Bay of Islands. Stand in awe of the giant kauri tree. Spend 2 nights in Christchurch and see how the city is reinventing itself. Admire the ice fields and glaciers surrounding Mt. Cook. Stay in Dunedin, a little slice of Scotland in the South Pacific. Cruise Milford Sound in dramatic Fiordland. Savor a captivating 3-night stay in Queenstown, the "Adventure Capital of the World." The vibrant lifestyle of the Pacific Islands welcomes you.

Your Tour Includes





- 7 Handpicked Accommodations

- 25 Meals
- 2 Choice on Tour Options

Included Highlights

- Auckland
- Bay of Islands
- Rotorua
- Maori Cultural Experience

Your Tour at a Glance

Stay 	19 Days 18 Nights
Meals 	25 Meals 16 Breakfasts 2 Lunches 7 Dinners
Activity 	2 What's This?
Travel Style 	Explorations What's This?

Customize Your Tour

Post Tour Fiji 3 nights \$599.00 pp
Land Portion [View Post Tour](#)

Optional Excursions Starting at \$145.00
[View Excursions](#)

Itinerary

Day 1: Depart from Home

Cross the International Dateline and begin the adventure of a lifetime by skipping a day ahead.

Hotel	Culinary
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Day 2: Auckland, New Zealand - Tour Begins

Your tour opens in Auckland, the “City of Sails,” consistently rated one of the world’s best places to live. Auckland’s Polynesian population instills into its chic atmosphere the vibrant feel of the Pacific Islands. This evening, join your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner.

Hotel	Culinary
JW Marriott Auckland	Dinner

Day 3: Auckland

Come to know the best of Auckland during a panoramic city tour featuring the America’s Cup Village, the War Memorial, bustling Queen Street, and the Auckland Harbour Bridge. The afternoon is yours to explore New Zealand’s largest city on your own. Perhaps you will choose to go on an optional America’s Cup sailing experience.

Hotel	Culinary
JW Marriott Auckland	Breakfast

Day 4: Auckland - Bay of Islands

Depart Auckland and travel north to the Bay of Islands, your home for the next 2 nights. This sun-soaked region boasts more than 144 islands and warm waters with abundant marine life. Visit the Waitangi Treaty House, the site where Maori and British leaders signed the 1840 treaty establishing New Zealand as a nation.

Hotel

Copthorne Hotel **Culinary**
and Resort Bay of Breakfast & Dinner
Islands

Day 5: Bay of Islands

Begin the day with a cruise that features the bay's famous Hole in the Rock. Look out at the Cape Brett Lighthouse, standing nearly 500 feet above sea level at the edge of the Cape Brett Peninsula. The rest of the day is yours to independently explore Paihia - the quaint town known as "the jewel of the Bay of Islands."

Hotel

Copthorne Hotel **Culinary**
and Resort Bay of Breakfast
Islands

Day 6: Bay of Islands - Matakohē - Rotorua

Leave the sparkling waters of the Bay of Islands behind and head to Matakohē in the heartland of the North Island. Make a stop at the Kauri Museum and come to know the stories surrounding the giant kauri tree that can live for 2,000 years. Discover how the early settlers used this abundant tree to build a life for themselves. Later, continue on to the town of Rotorua, known for geothermal activity and Maori culture.

Hotel

Millennium Hotel
Rotorua

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 7: Rotorua

Find yourself amid the dramatic geothermal landscape of Rotorua, known as the Maori capital of New Zealand. Visit Whakarewarewa, a Maori cultural and geothermal experience. Explore an authentic Maori village where people live using natural geothermal resources to cook, bathe and heat their homes as they have done for centuries. In the evening, experience ceremonial Maori rituals at an authentic Hangi dinner and performance.

Hotel

Millennium Hotel
Rotorua

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Day 8: Rotorua - Wellington

Today we travel to Wellington, a coastal city nestled against the mountains. Embark on a tour of New Zealand's capital city, known as the "Windy City." See the Beehive – New Zealand's Parliament; historic St. Paul's Church; and the Old Government Building, the largest wooden building in the Southern Hemisphere.

Hotel

Novotel Wellington Breakfast & Dinner

Day 9: Wellington

Explore the Te Papa Tongawera Museum, a fascinating center dedicated to art, history, and the Maori culture before enjoying an afternoon and evening at leisure. With your free time, perhaps you'll consider a ride on the

Wellington Cable Car to the suburb of Kelburn for stunning panoramic views of the city.

Hotel **Culinary**

Novotel Wellington Breakfast

Day 10: Wellington - Picton - Christchurch

Board a ferry and sail across Cook Strait. Experience what is considered to be one of the most beautiful ferry rides in the world. Arrive in Picton on the South Island where you will have free time for lunch. Continue along the breathtaking east coast to the largest city on the South Island, Christchurch.

Hotel **Culinary**

Breakfast

Day 11: Christchurch

Christchurch, the “Garden City,” is recreating itself after a devastating earthquake in 2011. See firsthand how this city is evolving on a sightseeing tour that highlights the city’s magnificent gardens and elegant park district. Pay a visit to Willowbank Wildlife Reserve, a leader in the conservation of New Zealand species. Here, you’ll have the chance to view New Zealand’s “Big 5” – kiwi, kaka, tuatara, kea, and takahe – up close and personal.

Hotel **Culinary**

Breakfast

Day 12: Christchurch - Mt. Cook Region

Journey through New Zealand’s unspoiled wilderness and arrive in the Mt. Cook region, where permanent ice fields and glaciers blanket the ragged peaks. The Maori word for Mt. Cook is Aoraki, which means “cloud piercer.” This is where famed New Zealand mountaineer Sir Edmund Hillary honed his

skills before conquering Everest. You can take a nature walk, enjoy an optional glacier flightseeing tour (weather permitting), or simply meditate on the beauty of the Southern Alps.

Hotel	Culinary
The Hermitage	Breakfast & Dinner

Day 13: Mt. Cook Region - Dunedin

Travel to Dunedin, situated on the southeast coast of New Zealand. One of the earliest European settlements on the islands, Dunedin holds proudly to its Scottish heritage and traditions. Enjoy time to explore this cultural city on your own.

Hotel	Culinary
Scenic Hotel	Breakfast
Southern Cross	

Day 14: Dunedin

Start your morning with a panoramic tour, visiting Larnach Castle and Baldwin Street – the world’s steepest public road. Later, spend time at the Royal Albatross Centre, the only mainland breeding location in the world for these otherworldly birds. Albatrosses are the focus in many seafaring myths, and their epic wingspan can reach nearly 10 feet.

Hotel	Culinary
Scenic Hotel	Breakfast
Southern Cross	

Day 15: Dunedin - Queenstown

Enjoy the rugged grandeur of the Hollyford Valley and the Homer Tunnel as you head to Queenstown, a mountainside town set against the shores of Lake Wakatipu. The rest of your day is yours to explore the city dubbed the

“adventure capital of the world.”

Hotel

	Culinary
Novotel	
Queenstown	Breakfast
Lakeside	

Day 16: Queenstown - Milford Sound - Queenstown

During a cruise of the beautiful Milford Sound, you will see why this fjord is one of the most visited sites on the South Island. With rock faces that rise nearly 4,000 feet on either side, the scenery will take your breath away. On your return to Queenstown, perhaps you will consider an optional scenic flight, allowing you to see the landscape from an entirely new perspective.

Hotel

	Culinary
Novotel	
Queenstown	Breakfast & Lunch
Lakeside	

Day 17: Queenstown

Cruise Lake Wakatipu surrounded by Queenstown’s stunning landscape aboard an iconic coal-fired steamship. Then, enjoy a BBQ lunch lakeside followed by a sheepdog demonstration before sailing back. Later, it’s your choice! Go bird watching at the Kiwi Birdlife Park -OR- take a gondola to Bob’s Peak for stunning views of the area. Gather for a farewell dinner and enjoy a locally sourced meal.

Hotel

	Culinary
Novotel	
Queenstown	Breakfast & Lunch
Lakeside	& Dinner

Day 18: Queenstown - Tour Ends

Your adventure comes to a close today, leaving you with many pleasant memories of a wonderful trip.

Hotel

Culinary

Breakfast

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