

10 Days | New Zealand Signature South Island Tour

Christchurch - Franz Josef - Queenstown - Te Anau - Milford Sound - Dunedin - Mt Cook - Twizel - Lake Tekapo

From **\$6,229** Typically \$6,479 ✈ pp twin share



Fully escorted tour with flights from Australia

Enjoy 9 nights in 4-Star accommodation with breakfast daily

32 seater premium coach with expert driver & guide

A range of fantastic included meals, activities & much more

Description



For a LIMITED TIME ONLY receive the extremely popular GPT JACKET for FREE

New Zealand's South Island is renowned for its awe-inspiring landscapes, offering a diverse range of natural wonders that make it a paradise for nature lovers and adventurers alike. The island is dominated by the Southern Alps, a majestic mountain range that runs along its spine, creating dramatic vistas of snow-capped peaks, glaciers, and alpine lakes. Aoraki/Mount Cook, the highest mountain in New Zealand, towers over the landscape, drawing climbers and sightseers eager to experience its grandeur. The island's varied topography also includes golden beaches, deep fjords, and lush rainforests, providing a wide array of outdoor experiences for travellers.

Fiordland National Park, located in the southwestern part of the South Island, is one of the most iconic and breathtaking destinations in the country. It is home to Milford Sound and Doubtful Sound, two of the most famous fjords in the world, carved by glaciers over millennia. Milford Sound, often referred to as the "eighth wonder of the world," is renowned for its dramatic cliffs, cascading waterfalls, and serene, reflective waters. Visitors can explore the area by boat, kayak, or even on foot, taking in views of dolphins, seals, and rare bird species that inhabit the region. The tranquillity and untouched beauty of Fiordland make it a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a must-see for anyone visiting the South Island.

Queenstown, located on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, is known as the adventure capital of the world and is a hub for adrenaline-pumping activities. Whether it's bungee jumping, skydiving, jet boating, or skiing, Queenstown offers a thrill for every type of adventurer. During the winter months, the nearby Remarkables and Coronet Peak provide some of the best skiing and snowboarding in the Southern Hemisphere. In contrast, the summer brings opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, and scenic wine tours in the nearby Central Otago region, famous for its world-class Pinot Noir.

The South Island also boasts vibrant cities like Christchurch and Dunedin, each offering its unique cultural experiences. Christchurch, often referred to as the "Garden City," has undergone significant transformation since the 2011 earthquake, emerging as a city of innovation and resilience. It features a mix of contemporary art, historical landmarks, and beautifully restored parks like the Botanic Gardens. Dunedin, with its rich Scottish heritage, offers a blend of historic architecture and wildlife experiences. The Otago Peninsula, just outside Dunedin, is known for its rare wildlife, including albatross colonies and yellow-eyed penguins, making it a perfect spot for nature enthusiasts looking to explore beyond the city's cultural attractions.

In 2025, explore the best of the South Island with us and travel in premium comfort on a custom-designed coach. With an expert driver and guide, fantastic accommodation, plus a range of meals, included activities and more, this is your chance to explore the best of New Zealand in style.

Itinerary

Day 1

Australia ✈ Christchurch

On arrival into Christchurch, you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink when you meet your Tour Leader and travelling companions for dinner.

Hotel: Distinction Hotel Christchurch

Meals included: Dinner

***Flights included ex Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane only.**

Day 2

Christchurch 🚆 Arthurs Pass 🚆 Franz Josef

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 coach and travel to Hokitika, famous for its Greenstone before continuing to the township of Franz Josef where time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

Hotel: Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing)

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 3

Franz Josef 🚆 Queenstown

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

Hotel: Millennium Hotel Queenstown (2 nights)

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4

Queenstown (at leisure)

Today is a free day to explore Queenstown. Your Coach Captain and Tour Leader will assist with the many optional activities available. You may wish to enjoy the thrill of a jet boat ride or a heritage tour of the scenic Skippers Canyon. 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.

Hotel: Millennium Hotel Queenstown

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 5

Queenstown 🚆 Te Anau

Enjoy a leisurely start this morning before travelling to Arrowtown, an old gold mining village where you visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland. Today you may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional).

Hotel: Distinction Luxmore Hotel Te Anau (2 nights)

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 6

Te Anau Milford Sound Te Anau

Depart Te Anau for a fascinating drive to Milford Sound where you board your launch for a cruise on this magnificent fiord. See the spectacular Bowen Falls and towering Mitre Peak as you enjoy lunch onboard. This afternoon return to Te Anau where some free time is available. You might like to cap off your Fiordland experience by watching the breathtaking film, *Ata Whenua - Shadowland*, which screens at the Fiordland Cinema (optional).

Hotel: Distinction Luxmore Hotel Te Anau

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 7

Te Anau Dunedin

Travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin, known as the 'Edinburgh of the South', and enjoy a city tour. Travel along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle where you will hear of the tragic and scandalous history on a guided tour. Enjoy time to wander around this Garden of International Significance followed by a delicious Devonshire Tea.

Hotel: Scenic Hotel Southern Cross

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 8

Dunedin Mt Cook Twizel

Farewell Dunedin and travel to Oamaru, famous for its limestone. Follow the Waitaki River and see Lake Benmore as you continue to marvel at Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak. The opportunity is available to enjoy a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the Southern Alps. Travel to Twizel for your overnight stay.

Hotel: Mackenzie Country Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 9

Twizel Christchurch

Continue to Lake Tekapo, view the brilliant turquoise water, the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue before arriving in Christchurch for a city tour. This evening enjoy a pre-dinner drink and reminisce on memories shared with your new friends at the farewell dinner.

Hotel: Distinction Christchurch Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 10

Christchurch

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a memorable New Zealand holiday.
Want to stay longer? Ask us how today!

Meals included: Breakfast

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

Fully escorted tour includes transfers in New Zealand, 32 -seat premium coach travel, 4-Star accommodation, most meals, sightseeing, and attractions

- Professional Coach Captain & Experienced Tour Leader
- Flights from either Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane with Air New Zealand (please contact us for a quote from regional Australia)
- 9 nights in premium 4-Star accommodation
- Personalised "meet and greet" on arrival
- Return airport transfers in New Zealand
- All sightseeing and prepaid attractions
- Extensive optional activities
- Signature documentation pack

Meals:

- 9 cooked breakfasts, 1 lunch, 8 dinners and a delicious Devonshire Tea experience at Larnach Castle

Pre-Paid Included Tours:

- TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw
- Lakes District Museum
- Milford Sound Cruise and Lunch
- Larnach Castle and Devonshire Tea
- Dunedin City Sights Tour
- Christchurch City Sights Tour

Pre & Post Accommodation:

- Christchurch: from \$200 pp twin share / \$400 Single Room per night
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Exclusions

- Meals not mentioned
- Any additional requests
- Travel Insurance
- Laundry
- Items of a personal nature, such as souvenirs

Important Information: All departure dates are guaranteed*

Room Types: Twin or double, maximum occupancy of 2

Child Policy: Children under 16 years are not permitted

Passport & Visa Requirements: All visitors require a passport to enter New Zealand. Your passport must be valid for at least three months beyond the date that you intend to leave New Zealand. For Australian citizens travelling on an Australian passport, you do not need a visa or permit to visit New Zealand. Visitors from visa-waiver countries must request an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) prior to travelling to New Zealand. For visitors from non-visa waiver countries, it is recommended you contact your Travel Agent or NZ Immigration for full entry requirements. If you are not an Australian Citizen or permanent resident, you may also have to pay for an International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL). Please check with your Travel Agent for up to date immigration requirements

**unless government-mandated border restrictions are in effect*

Travel Insurance: We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#)