

AUCKLAND

FIVE DAY/FOUR NIGHT - AUCKLAND TO DUNEDIN

Tuesday 15 ARRIVE IN AUCKLAND/AUCKLAND - ROTORUA

- 0900 On arrival and after clearance of Customs and Immigration formalities you will join your coach for a brief overview of Auckland City which will include a stop at the summit of Mount Eden for views over the city and its two harbours.
- 1000 Leave Auckland and travel south, over the Bombay Hills and across the Hauraki Plains to Matamata. This area is renowned as a centre of New Zealand thoroughbred industry.
- 1230 Arrive at Longlands Farm where lunch is included.
- 1330 From Matamata travel over the Mamaku-Kaimai Forest Park to Rotorua.
- Visitors from around the world have been coming to Rotorua since the 1880s. Although it is still mainly a tourist centre it is also a commercial centre for much of the Bay of Plenty. The city is best known for its thermal activity with geysers, mud pools, hot pools and steam vents providing spectacular sights.
- Thermal waters are used to treat ailments as well as provide bathing and relaxation.
- The city and its environs have many other tourist attractions including the carving centre of Whakarewarewa where visitors can watch young Maoris being trained in the complex and traditional art. A variety of recreational facilities are provided on Lake Rotorua and scenic flights are also popular.
- 1430 Visit The Agrodome, where the stars of the show are the 19 rams of different breeds. As they trot onto the stage the presenter will give a brief description of each breeds commercial uses for meat and wool. He will also give an explanation of the differing grades and qualities of wool required by various industries.
- Once all of the rams are on stage a shearer will demonstrate the fine and often back-breaking art of separating a sheep from its fleece.
- The shearing will be followed by a display of the functions of a "huntaway" sheep-dog. A dairying display follows during which those who wish may try their hand a milking a cow. Weather permitting, the show concludes outside. In the paddock an "eye" dog will demonstrate its prowess at manoeuvring untrained sheep through gates, over a bridge and into a pen.
- 1545 Leave the Agrodome and travel to Te Puia.
- 1615 Visit Te Puia for a guided tour through the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute. Here young Maori carvers are taught the skills of their ancestors.

Also seen is a model Maori Village, and the Thermal Valley where you will see pools of bubbling mud, spouting geysers, silica terraces and steam pouring out of vents at your feet.

1730 Following the visit to Te Puia, transfer to your hotel.

Tuesday 15 ARRIVE IN AUCKLAND/AUCKLAND - ROTORUA - continued

Stay at: **THE HERITAGE-ROTORUA**

1830 This evening, attend a Maori hangi (feast) in your hotel. The food is cooked in the traditional Maori manner by natural steam in a pit in the earth. A wide selection of foods is generally provided including wild pork, lamb and sea foods.

Dinner will be followed by a Maori concert performance which includes many traditional action songs. Among these is the "poi" where the action is enhanced by the use of flaxen balls on strings - the item from which the song takes its name. Other action songs include the "haka," a fierce, challenging dance which is accompanied by a chant.

Wednesday 16 ROTORUA – QUEENSTOWN

After breakfast this morning you will be transferred to the airport.

0915 Depart Rotorua on Air New Zealand flight NZ 5001.

1220 Arrive in Queenstown.

From the airport travel past beautiful Lake Hayes to the entrance of the Kawarau Gorge and Gibbston Valley Wines.

Gibbston Valley Wines is an award-winning wine producer in New Zealand's Central Otago region. Our boutique winery offers a unique experience incorporating a fabulous winery restaurant, frequent wine tours and tasting events, an outstanding conference and incentive location and an excellent option for those considering Queenstown wedding venues.

Established in 1987, Gibbston Valley was the first commercial wine producer in the Central Otago region and the winery earned an internationally acclaimed reputation for our Otago Pinot Noir and other thriving grape varieties such as Chardonnay, Pinot Gris, Riesling and Pinot Blanc.

On arrival you will be taken on a tour of the Gibbston Valley wine cave which offers enthusiasts a chance to better appreciate the boutique wines produced by this award-winning winery and an opportunity to commemorate the revolutionary spirit of Central Otago's expert winemakers.

Blasted out of the solid schist rock of the Central Otago mountains, the Gibbston Valley Wine Cave provides the perfect natural environment to mature their award-winning wines. Experience the feeling of travelling underground 76 meters

into the Central Otago hillside within New Zealand's largest and most innovative wine cave.

A platter lunch and tasting of the vineyard's wines is included.

Leaving the winery, travel the short distance to the picturesque holiday settlement of Arrowtown.

Arrowtown is a former gold mining settlement that has retained much of its early pioneering character. There will be some time to stroll around the town or to browse the souvenir shops. Travel through the centre of Queenstown and along the lake front to your hotel.

1700 Arrive at your hotel.

Stay at: **HERITAGE-QUEENSTOWN**

Wednesday 16 ROTORUA – QUEENSTOWN - continued

This area has captured hearts and imaginations since the first Maori came in search of pounamu (greenstone) and the giant Moa bird.

More recently, gold miners, adventurers, filmmakers, wine enthusiasts, Hollywood stars and US Presidents have been drawn to this magical region and its intense alpine energy

Adventure for fun, accessible adventure, adventure for relaxation. Queenstown is renowned for adventure. But there's much, much more. Queenstown is a sophisticated holiday resort set in the magnificent landscapes of the Southern Alps of New Zealand. More about activities in Queenstown

Born as an 1860's gold mining camp, 140 years later Queenstown has a compact and sophisticated downtown area tucked into a picturesque bay on the shores of Lake Wakatipu. Dwarfed by the surrounding mountains, there are amazing views from everywhere. There's also a permanent buzz in the downtown area where you'll find a lively café/bar scene and excellent shopping.

Your evening is free to try one of the many restaurants which Queenstown has to offer.

Thursday 17 IN QUEENSTOWN

0745 Following breakfast you will be taken by coach along the scenic western arm of Lake Wakatipu to the small town of Glenorchy.

0845 Join the Wilderness Safari which allows you to discover and explore every aspect of this magnificent area through a combination of exciting wilderness jet boating, informative guided walk and picturesque back-country 4WD.

Surrounded by breathtaking snow-covered peaks, hidden valleys, waterfalls and glacial valleys frozen in time, you'll be thrilled by an exciting jet boat journey

navigating the ever-changing shallow channels of the Dart Rivers braided river system.

Your jet boat driver will stop along the way to highlight points of interest and discuss the natural and cultural significance of this exceptional area.

Your knowledgeable, entertaining and informative guides will take you on a guided walk through ancient native Beech forest where you'll be fascinated by our unique flora and fauna as well as discover why New Zealand is in a very real sense the 'Ark' of ancient Gondwanaland.

You'll also journey by 4WD safari vehicle along a back-country route hearing stories about the surrounding countryside and stopping to view some of New Zealand's most spectacular scenery that has formed the epic backdrop for many international movies, including 'The Lord of the Rings'.

1200 Arrive back at Glenorchy and transfer to Glenorchy Lodge for lunch.

1215 A special set menu lunch is included at Glenorchy Lodge with wine, beer or fruit juice.

1330 Depart from Glenorchy Lodge and return to Queenstown.

1430 Arrive back in Queenstown.

Your time is free in Queenstown to relax or enjoy shopping at some of Queenstown's excellent emporiums.

Thursday 17 IN QUEENSTOWN - continued

1530 You will be transferred to the Steamer Wharf.

1600 At the Steamer Wharf to join your dinner excursion.

No visit to Queenstown is complete without a visit to Walter Peak high country sheep & cattle station.

Depart from Queenstown for a 40 minute cruise aboard the 1912 vintage steamship TSS "Earnslaw" on scenic Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak. A chance to watch the sun set over spectacular mountains and enjoy the tranquillity of the cruise aboard the gracious old "Lady of the Lake".

Prior to dinner at Walter Peak, you'll have ample time to inspect the Colonel's Homestead with its beautiful furniture & antiques. Soak up the atmosphere of the established gardens & the magnificent setting of Beach Bay ... a chance to see sheep dogs in action & the opportunity to view the sheep & the Scottish Highland cattle at close quarters. There is time for a pre-dinner drink (own cost) in the Colonel's Bar before being tempted by a superb three course carvery dinner served from a buffet in the Colonel's House.

During the return to Queenstown, listen to the pianist play a few old favourites from yesteryear, making this a very pleasurable experience amidst the warm and comfortable surroundings, a legacy provided by the coal fired furnaces.

1900 Approximately – arrive back in Queenstown and transfer to your hotel.

Note: **Departure at 1800 is waitlisted. If this becomes confirmed the return will be at 2100.**

Friday 18 IN QUEENSTOWN

After breakfast join the four-wheel drive vehicles for today's excursion.

Explore the magical side of New Zealand and understand why this beautiful country was chosen to portray Middle-earth. The Queenstown area featured prominently in the filming of the incredibly popular Lord of the Rings trilogy.

The perfect tour for those that want the thrills of an off road adventure but also want to discover exciting Lord of the Rings film locations and those who delight in beautiful scenery. The Wakatipu Basin tour takes you to The Remarkables, which were used as various mountains throughout the trilogy including the Misty Mountains. Travelling part way up this beautiful mountain range you get a birds eye view onto Deer Park Heights, which was used for the refugees of Rohan and the Battle of the Wargs scenes.

Travelling from The Remarkables we head to the Kawarau Gorge where the filming took place for the Argonath, or Pillars of the Kings.

Leaving the Kawarau Gorge the trip heads to Arrowtown where the loss of The One Ring at Gladden Fields was filmed. Near Arrowtown you will experience some true off road adventure.

Following a historic gold mining road up the Arrow River you will cross the river to get to the Ford of Bruinen. At this point you can indulge in morning tea and try your hand at a spot of gold panning.

Friday 18 IN QUEENSTOWN - continued

From Arrowtown you will travel to the entrance of Skippers Canyon where you will be offered spectacular panoramic views of the Wakatipu Basin and over Skippers Canyon.

For Lord of the Rings fans, this is the trip where Nomad Safaris really does take you There and Back again. This scenic sightseeing tour includes recognisable film locations and stunning natural scenery. The Glenorchy Safari of the Scenes takes you from Queenstown to Glenorchy stopping at breath-taking viewpoints along the way.

Beyond Glenorchy follow the Dart River to the spectacular filming location for Isengard. This location offers stunning views of Mt Earnslaw. Heading to Paradise to discover the location for the Forest of Lothlorien. Leaving Glenorchy and returning towards Queenstown you will stop at 12 Mile Delta to explore the location of the Ithilien Camp.

The Safari of the Scenes - Glenorchy also includes locations from Xmen Origins: Wolverine, and The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian.

A picnic lunch is included during the tour.

Arrival back in Queenstown will be in the late afternoon.

1900 Transfer to Gantley's Restaurant for dinner.

1930 A degustation dinner with matched wines is included at Gantley's.

2115 Transfer back to the hotel.

Saturday 19**QUEENSTOWN - DUNEDIN**

0730 Leave Queenstown and travel through the rugged Kawarau Gorge to Cromwell. At Cromwell you will see Lake Dunstan, newly created by the construction of the Clyde hydro-electric dam. From Cromwell the route is by way of the fruit growing areas of Central Otago to Alexandra and then passes through the town of Ranfurly to Kyeburn.

Turn south, with the Rock and Pillar Range to your right and follow the course of the Taieri River to Middlemarch.

1030 Arrive at Pukerangi.

1100 Board the Taieri Gorge Excursion Train.

En route you will be amazed by the work of the pioneers who constructed this remarkable track through some of New Zealand's most rugged and unspoiled landscape. At close hand you will see the intricate work of the hardy railway gangs. You will also marvel at the skills of the stonemasons who carved the high bridges and the engineers who produced the lattice work of the soaring viaducts of this historic route.

Stops will be made during the course of the journey where you may alight and take photographs. On arrival in Dunedin the train journey will conclude at the Dunedin Railway Station. This building is a superb example of Victorian architecture.

1525 Arrive at Dunedin. On arrival you will be transferred to join the ship at Port Chalmers.

FIVE DAY/FOUR NIGHT - AUCKLAND TO DUNEDIN inclusions & exclusions

INCLUSIONS:

- 1 Meet and assistance on arrival
- 2 Charter tour coach with experienced, English-speaking driver/guide for all transfers, local sightseeing and touring per the itinerary.
- 3 Accommodation:
 - The Heritage-Rotorua for 1 night inclusive of Maori Hangi and Concert, room and cooked breakfast
 - The Heritage-Queenstown for 3 nights inclusive of room and breakfast
- 4 Meals outside hotels:
 - Lunch and farm tour at Longlands Farm
 - Set menu lunch at Glenorchy
 - Carvery dinner at Walter Peak Station.
 - Buffet dinner at the Skyline Restaurant
 - Pub lunch at the Strath Taieri Hotel
- 5 Sightseeing and admissions:
 - Paradise Valley Springs, the Agrodome and Te Puia in Rotorua
 - Tour and tasting at Gibbston Valley Wines
 - Dart River Wilderness Safari jet boat tour
 - Walter Peak dinner cruise in Queenstown
 - "Safari of the Scenes" Lord of the Rings Tour
 - Taieri Gorge Excursion Train from Middlemarch to Dunedin
- 6 Economy class air fare from Rotorua to Queenstown ***subject to change***
- 7 For 2-Costs only 1 ship's escort, free of charge and inclusive of the above items
- 8 New Zealand Goods & Services Tax of 15.0 percent on the above items.

EXCLUSIONS:

- 1 Wines, liquors, mineral waters, morning and afternoon teas, telephone calls, laundry charges or any other items of a personal nature.
 - 2 Gratuities to drivers, hotel or restaurant staff
 - 3 Air fares, except as stated in Item 6 of the inclusions.
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