

Aotearoa (New Zealand)

Auckland, Rotorua, Christchurch, Wanaka, Queenstown

9 days / 8 nights

From

\$2,369

Per person/Double occupancy/Land package
For travel between October 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025/3*

Day 1: Auckland

On arrival at Auckland Airport, proceed to the Budget Rental Car counter and collect your rental car, then make your way to your accommodation.

Auckland is an exciting, sporting, and cultural city, sprawled on a narrow isthmus between two harbours. The Waitemata and Manukau Harbours are a main feature of the city, along with numerous volcanic cones such as Mount Eden and Rangitoto Island. The city's many beaches, marinas, and parks, make it ideal for outdoor pursuits such as yachting, rugby, cricket or a day at the beach.

Overnight: Auckland



Day 2: Auckland

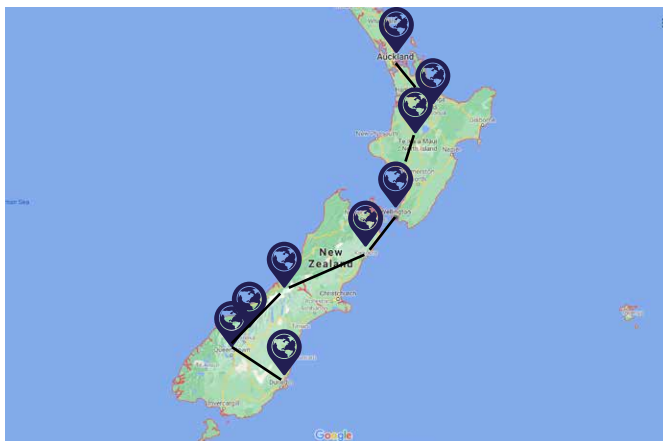
Full day at leisure:

Admission to the following sites is included: These tickets can be used whenever you choose.

Skytower : (Sky Deck and main observation deck) For a great overview of the city before heading out to explore.

Auckland War Memorial : Dedicated to those who have sacrificed their lives for their country. In one of New Zealand's most outstanding historical buildings, boldly situated in the Domain - a central city pleasure garden - you encounter exhibitions showcasing the artistic legacy and cultures of the peoples of the Pacific; the monumental carvings, buildings, canoes and taonga (treasures) of the Māori.

Overnight: Auckland



Aotearoa (New Zealand) - 9 days / 8 nights



Day 3: Auckland – Waitomo - Rotorua

Depart Auckland and travel south on State Highway – perhaps visit Manukau, with its large Polynesian community and the Otara Street Market. Travel over the Bombay Hills until you reach Hamilton with its sprawling public park featuring Italian Renaissance to Japanese and traditional Maori gardening styles. At Otorohanga follow the road signs to the Waitomo.

Please check in 30 minutes prior to departure.

Your guided tour begins at the upper entrance of the cave and proceeds along a low narrow passage to the Tomo, a deep limestone shaft. You will go through 250 metres of stunning underground scenery commencing with the impressive Cathedral. The highlight is a boat trip through the spectacular Glowworm Grotto. Marvel at Mother Nature's light display as you glide silently through the starry wonderland of the Grotto

Duration: 45mins.

Return to the highway and continue the 150km into Rotorua, located on a volcanic plateau famous for its geothermal activity.

After checking into your hotel, the rest of the day is at leisure until this evening's visit to Te Puia for a guided tour and Te Po Combo this evening.

Enjoy a guided tour of the valley and visit New Zealand's national carving and weaving schools, award winning interactive galleries, and see a kiwi bird up close.

Finally, visit the geyser and mud pools before the evening experience.

Te Po is Te Puia's authentic evening cultural experience - a feast of food, culture, and friendship. It begins every night at Te-Heketanga-a-Rangi (The Heavenly

Origins). Hear the stories of the past and see how these traditions live on today. Feeding guests is regarded by Maori as an honour and a sign of a tribe's mana (standing), so a sumptuous banquet is provided during the evening. This banquet combines contemporary cuisine with a traditional hangi (earth-cooked oven meal), where kai (food) is steam-cooked by hot rocks in the earth, giving it a delicious smoky flavour.

Overnight: Rotorua

Day 4: Rotorua - Christchurch (flight – not included)

This morning, before returning your car to the airport depot and catching your domestic flight to Christchurch, explore the Waimangu Thermal Valley home to the Waimangu Geothermal System - the newest in the World. Here you can see Frying Pan Lake, Inferno Crater, and some rare and unusual plants and regenerating rainforest.

Your admission included is for a Waimangu Valley Walk.

Upon arrival to Christchurch, pick-up your new car and make your way to your accommodation.

Overnight: Christchurch



Aotearoa (New Zealand) - 9 days / 8 nights



Day 5: Christchurch – Wanaka

It is about a 400km drive from Christchurch through to Wanaka so you may wish to get an early start. It is a beautiful drive through the endless expanse of the Canterbury Plains and along the foothills of the Alps to the turquoise glowing Lake Tekapo. There are a couple of experiences based in Tekapo (not included) but well worth doing - a flight over the Mount Cook National Park or you can drive to the summit of Mt. John where there are fantastic panoramic view of the Alps, glaciers and lakes.

Continue via Omarama with its picture-book landscape, sheep and mountain peaks dominate the scenery. The last stage is crossing Lindis Pass where a photo stop is a must.

Wanaka faces north across Lake Wanaka, to views of the surrounding mountains, which are often reflected on the Lake's surface on calm Days. Poplars and willows grow around the Lake's edge, affording a colourful show during Autumn. Wanaka is best known for boating, fishing and skiing at the Cardrona and Treble Cone ski-fields.

Overnight: Wanaka

Day 6: Wanaka – Queenstown

Today, a short drive takes you to Queenstown, passing through the towns of Lowburn, Cromwell and Gibbston.

Queenstown is the South Island's most popular resort, set alongside the shores of Lake Wakatipu, under the gaze of the Remarkables Ranges. See the contrast of smooth glacier rounded hills and jagged mountain summits that reach high above the ancient ice floor. The town is renowned for its jet boating, bungee-jumping, skiing, and awe-inspiring scenery. Local story has it that the gold prospectors of the 19th century pronounced the town as "fit for any Queen", and so she was called Queenstown.

Recommended: Optional tour on the TSS Earnslaw paddlewheeler up to Walter Peak Farm High Country Farm. It is a chance to view the countryside from a different perspective and includes a BBQ lunch at the Colonel's Homestead – departure time is 12 noon from Steamer Wharf.

Overnight: Queenstown



Aotearoa (New Zealand) - 9 days / 8 nights



Day 7: Queenstown – Milford Sound – Queenstown

Milford Sound, with its stunning surroundings, is at the heart of Te Wahipounamu World Heritage Area. Luxuriant rainforest clings to sheer rock walls washed with waterfalls. In the foreground stands Mitre Peak dominating the skyline. Whatever the fiord's mood, teeming with rain or with sun glistening on deep water, it will inspire you.

Travel from Queenstown along the shores of Lake Wakatipu and through rolling countryside to Te Anau. After a short break at Te Anau, continue via the spectacular Milford Road to Milford Sound. Board the Milford Mariner for a relaxing cruise of Milford Sound. The cruise provides excellent viewing opportunities and plenty of time is available to enjoy waterfalls, rainforest, mountains, and wildlife.

Overnight: Queenstown

Day 8: Queenstown

Day at leisure. Admission included to Skyline Gondola. For a great overview of the city before heading out to explore - Ride the gondola to Bob's Peak for a stunning view over the lake and Queenstown.

Overnight: Queenstown

Day 9: Depart Queenstown

Today you say farewell to this lovely city as you return your rental car to Queenstown Airport and check in for your departure flight.

The Package Includes:

- 8 nights accommodation in hotels as specified, double occupancy
- Goods & Services Tax 15%
- Budget Rent a Car: CVAR (G) - Compact Auto SUV Vehicle (1-2 pax) - Inclusive Rates (contact us for details)
- Admission to:
 - Auckland: Total Tower Experience - Sky Tower/ Sky Deck
 - Auckland Museum: General Admission Only
- Waitomo Caves Tour
- Te Puia: Te Po Combo
- Waimangu Thermal Valley: Self-guided Walk
- Milford Sound Nature Cruise/Coach Option
- Skyline Queenstown: Gondola ride

The package does not include:

- International or domestic flights
- Personal expenses; gratuities
- Meals or beverages unless mentioned in the inclusions
- Drinks during meals (except water/tea/coffee)
- Parking fee at hotel, if applicable
- Road toll and car ferry fee, if applicable
- Fuel for rental car
- Additional rental car charges (such as Airport pickup charges)
- Insurance excess and additional accessories (such as GPS unit, child car seat)
- Public holiday/special event/Chinese New Year surcharges

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Hotels or similar:

City	3*	4*	5*
Auckland (2)	Adina Apartments – Studio Room	Grand Millennium – Superior Room	Skycity Grand – Grand Harbour View
Rotorua (1)	Sudima Lake Rotorua – Superior Room	Millennium Rotorua - Superior room	Regent of Rotorua – Boutique Suite
Christchurch (1)	Breakfree on Cashel – City Urban Premium	Distinction Hotel – Classic Room	The George – Executive Room
Wanaka (1)	Oakridge Resort – Standard Room	Edgewater Hotel – Hotel Suite	Tin Tub Luxury Lodge – Lodge Room B&B
Queenstown (3)	Heartland Queenstown – Standard Room	Millennium Queenstown – Superior Room	Queenstown Park Boutique – Gondola Room B&B

Land package 9 days / 8 nights, per person

Dates	3* Double occupancy	4* Double occupancy	5* Double occupancy
August 1 - September 30, 2024	\$ 2,599	\$ 2,799	\$ 3,499
October 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025	\$ 2,369	\$ 2,869	\$ 4,099

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