



# New Zealand *your way*

**Itinerary Type:** Seat in Coach touring itinerary for the independent traveller.

Seat-in-coach touring offers a cost competitive way of travelling around the country by using a mixture of daily tourist coach services and the point to point national bus network. Commentary is usually available on the tourist coach services. All transfers to and from hotels are included. Itineraries are suitable for the Independent Traveller. Travellers who prefer to be part of one group with an escort and guided services should book a set departure Escorted Coach Tour.

## 15 Days Simply the Best

**Tour Code:** AK26 SC

### **Highlights:**

- ❖ Meet & Greet Service
- ❖ Scheduled Seat-in-coach transportation throughout
- ❖ 14 night's accommodation
- ❖ Waitomo Glowworm Caves
- ❖ Te Puia – Maori Arts & Crafts Institute
- ❖ Rainbow Springs Kiwi Wildlife Park
- ❖ Agrodome Sheep Show
- ❖ Maori Hangi Dinner & Concert
- ❖ Interislander Ferry crossing
- ❖ Coastal Pacific Train Journey Picton-Christchurch (01-30 Apr & 29 Sep-31 Mar only)
- ❖ Tranz Alpine Train Journey Christchurch-Greymouth
- ❖ Franz Josef Glacier Valley Walk & Hot Pools
- ❖ Dart River Wilderness Safari
- ❖ Milford Sound Cruise
- ❖ Taste of Invercargill & Catlins Tour



### **Day 1 Arrive Auckland**

On arrival at Auckland Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

### **Day 2 Auckland - Waitomo Caves - Rotorua (350 km)**

Travel south past rolling green hills and pastureland to the Waitomo Caves region. Beneath the surface of this ancient limestone region lays a labyrinth of caves and underground rivers. Expert guides provide historical and geographical commentary before you drift silently in a boat under the milky way of millions of glow worms on the cavern roof above you. Continue through farmland, lakeland and forest until the distinctive smell of sulphur and constant steam drifts let you know you are in tempestuous, geothermal Rotorua.

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**Day 3 Rotorua D**

Experience Māori culture at Te Puia and take a tour through a thermal valley full of forceful geysers and bubbling mud pools. View woodcarving and weaving schools and see how these ancient arts are being passed on to a new generation. Explore Rainbow Springs Kiwi Wildlife Park, where you can get up close to the native flora and fauna. Then see New Zealand's agricultural industry in action at the Agrodome, a working farm where you can view a sheep shearing display and sheep dog trials. This evening enjoy a memorable night of culture, song and dance followed by dinner cooked the traditional Maori way on hot stones underground.

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**Day 4 Rotorua - Wellington (452 km)**

Travel today is south via Lake Taupo. Follow the lakeshore before passing through Tongariro National Park where the three volcanic mountains of Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe and Tongariro dominate the scenery and on to Wellington, New Zealand's capital city.

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**Day 5 Wellington**

Today is spent at your leisure. Wellington is compact, cultured and full of character. Nestled between harbour and hills, the downtown area is ideal for explorations on foot. Wellington is noted for its live theatre, art galleries, restaurants and cultural activities. On the waterfront is Te Papa Tongarewa, New Zealand's national museum, one of the best interactive museums in the world.

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**Day 6 Wellington - Picton - Christchurch (344 km)**

This morning transfer to the Interislander ferry to cruise across the Cook Strait and through the Marlborough Sounds to Picton. Connect with the Coastal Pacific train which journeys via Kaikoura to Christchurch (note train operates 01-30 Apr & 29 Sep-31 Mar only. Travel outside this time will be by scheduled seat-in-coach). On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

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**Day 7 Christchurch – Greymouth - West Coast Glaciers (180 km)**

This morning transfer to the train station. All aboard the Tranz Alpine train for a stunningly scenic journey through the rugged Southern Alps to Greymouth. Travel this afternoon, down the wild, west coast. This remote area has a ruggedly beautiful landscape of vast rainforests, gushing waterfalls and snow capped mountains.

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**Day 8 West Coast Glaciers**

Today, at Franz Josef Glacier your expert tour guide will take you on a Glacier Valley Walk alongside the mighty Waiho River bed following the glaciers path of retreat in this remarkable landscape. Here you will learn about the glacier's history. Near the terminal face, you will be rewarded with spectacular views of the rapidly changing terminal face of the glacier. After your tour, relax in the Glacier Hot Pools, a haven of natural tranquility, nestled in the lush rainforest.

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**Day 9 West Coast Glaciers - Queenstown (350 km)**

Today takes you on a memorable trip through some of the most magnificent scenery in New Zealand. You will journey through native beech forest and over the Southern Alps before arriving in New Zealand's adventure capital, Queenstown.

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**Day 10 Queenstown**

Today's fully guided tour takes you for a scenic drive along the edge of Lake Wakatipu to Glenorchy where you will board a Dart River jet boat for a journey through the Dart River's braided river system surrounded by breathtaking snow-capped mountains, ancient native forest, waterfalls, and glacier valleys frozen in time. The ride is followed by an easy guided walk through forest and a 4WD safari ride with commentary on the surrounding countryside and views of scenery that have formed the epic backdrop for many international films, including 'The Lord of the Rings'.

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**Day 11 Queenstown - Milford Sound - Te Anau (406 km)**

Today is a full day journey into the heart of Milford Sound. Experience the world famous fjord, rich in dense rainforest, glacier carved valleys and beautiful waterfalls. You will journey past the stunning Mirror Lakes and Eglinton Valley, a place of ancient alpine forest and gushing waterfalls. At Milford Sound, board your scenic cruise to see the wonders of Mitre Peak, glacier-scarred rock walls and waterfalls that tumble through valleys and crash into the sea far below. Later today continue on to Te Anau.

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**Day 12 Te Anau - Invercargill (160 km)**

Today travel further south to Invercargill. On arrival in Invercargill, join a seat in coach tour of Invercargill's significant Heritage Buildings, Parks and Gardens. Travel via the Southern Scenic Route to explore the South Catlin's Coast. Highlights include stunning New Zealand native forest, dramatic coastline, Curio Bay Petrified Forest and Porpoise Bay.

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**Day 13 Invercargill - Dunedin (210 km)**

Continue to Dunedin, first settled by the Scottish and renowned as the "Edinburgh of the South".

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**Day 14 Dunedin - Christchurch (363 km)**

This morning is free for optional tours before travelling north to Christchurch. River crossings are a feature of the journey before the straight flat roads set amongst the Canterbury Plains lead you into Christchurch.

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**Day 15 Depart Christchurch**

A transfer to the airport is included for your departure flight.

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**VALIDITY: 01 APRIL - 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>SUPERIOR</b>
<b>AK26 SC</b>			
SINGLE	5,355	6,374	6,934
TWIN / DOUBLE	3,804	4,348	4,628

**VALIDITY: 01 OCTOBER 2017 - 31 MARCH 2018**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>SUPERIOR</b>
<b>AK26 SC</b>			
SINGLE	5,780	7,016	7,507
TWIN / DOUBLE	4,071	4,696	4,942

Rates are per person and in New Zealand Dollars

Note - there is an extra cost payable for a single person on the afternoon taste of Invercargill & south Catlin's tour - this cost will be added to all single person bookings & refunded after travel if more than 1 person travels on this tour - NZD283.00 Nett.

Package rates may not be applicable over special events and during Public Holidays - rates are subject to confirmation at the time of booking.

The rates quoted include a charge for our services of facilitating and arranging ("Facilitation Services") the tour for you and the provision of information about aspects of the tour.

All travel to be completed within date periods specified above.

Twin rooms may not be available at all properties. If a twin room is required extra costs may apply.

Triple room rates are available on application.

Child rates are available on application.

<b>Location</b>	<b>BUDGET CLASS</b>	<b>STANDARD CLASS</b>	<b>SUPERIOR CLASS (or best available)</b>
<b>Auckland</b>	Auckland City Hotel	Copthorne Hotel Auckland City	Grand Millennium
<b>Bay of Islands</b>	Kingsgate Hotel Autolodge Paihia	Kingsgate Hotel Autolodge Paihia	Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands
<b>Blenheim</b>	Colonial Motel	Scenic Hotel Marlborough	Chateau Marlborough
<b>Christchurch</b>	Ibis Christchurch	Chateau on the Park	Novotel Christchurch Cathedral Square
<b>Coromandel - Pauanui</b>	Pauanui Pines Motor Lodge	Pauanui Pines Motor Lodge	Grand Mercure Puka Park
<b>Coromandel - Whitianga</b>	Aotearoa Lodge - Standard Studio	Aotearoa Lodge - Superior Studio	Oceans Resort Whitianga
<b>Dunedin</b>	Kingsgate Hotel Dunedin	Mercure Dunedin Leisure Lodge	Distinction Dunedin
<b>Franz Josef</b>	Punga Grove	Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier – Graham Wing	Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier – Douglas Wing
<b>Hokitika</b>	Beachfront Hotel – Driftwood Sup	Beachfront Hotel – Oceanview Room	Beachfront Hotel – Oceanview Room
<b>Invercargill</b>	Balmoral Lodge Motel	Kelvin Hotel	Ascot Park Hotel
<b>Kaikoura</b>	The White Morph	Quality Suites Kaikoura	Fairways at Ocean Ridge
<b>Mt Cook</b>	Aoraki Court Motel	Hermitage Aoraki Mount Cook – Superior Room	Hermitage Aoraki Mount Cook - Premium Room
<b>Napier</b>	Quest Napier	Scenic Hotel Te Pania	The Crown
<b>Nelson</b>	Quality Inn	Trailways Hotel	Rutherford Hotel Nelson
<b>Punakaiki</b>	Punakaiki Resort	Punakaiki Resort	Punakaiki Resort
<b>Queenstown</b>	Aspen Hotel	Copthorne Hotel Resort Lakefront	Millennium Queenstown
<b>Rotorua</b>	Ibis Rotorua	Sudima Hotel Lake Rotorua	Millennium Rotorua
<b>Te Anau</b>	Kingsgate Hotel Te Anau	Distinction Luxmore	Distinction Te Anau Hotel & Villas
<b>Tongariro NP</b>	Skotel Alpine Resort	Skotel Alpine Resort	Chateau Tongariro Hotel
<b>Wanaka</b>	Mercure Oakridge Resort – Standard Room	Mercure Oakridge Resort – 1 Bedroom Apartment	Edgewater
<b>Wellington</b>	Ibis Wellington	Hotel Grand Chancellor James Cook	Rydges Wellington

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Updated:AOT-200317