



# 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.

## 22 Days Great New Zealand Tour

**Tour Code:** AK27 SC

### Highlights:

- ❖ Private transfer on arrival with handover of documents
- ❖ Scheduled Seat-in-coach transportation throughout
- ❖ 21 night's accommodation
- ❖ Auckland City Tour
- ❖ Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- ❖ Hole in the Rock Cruise
- ❖ Miranda Shorebird Centre
- ❖ Rapaura Water Gardens
- ❖ Driving Creek Rail
- ❖ Hot Water Beach
- ❖ Te Puia – Maori Arts & Crafts Institute
- ❖ Rainbow Springs Kiwi Wildlife Park
- ❖ Agrodome Sheep Show
- ❖ Interisland Ferry Wellington – Picton
- ❖ Coastal Pacific Train Journey Picton – Christchurch (01 Apr-01 May & 24 Sep-31 Mar only)
- ❖ Tranz Alpine Train Journey Christchurch - Greymouth
- ❖ Franz Josef Glacier Valley Walk & Hot Pools
- ❖ Dart River Wilderness Safari
- ❖ Milford Sound Cruise



### Day 1 Arrive Auckland

On arrival at Auckland Airport you are met and transferred to your hotel

### Day 2 Auckland

This morning's tour takes you over the Auckland Harbour Bridge to enjoy views of the Hauraki Gulf and city skyline. Visit the Viaduct Harbour, Auckland Domain and Parnell Village, a trendy shopping area featuring a range of boutiques, craft and specialty stores. Followed by a drive along the scenic waterfront route of Tamaki Drive to Michael Joseph Savage Memorial Park with panoramic views over the picturesque Eastern Bays, Auckland city and the Waitemata Harbour

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**Day 3 Auckland – Paihia, Bay of Islands (220 km)**

This morning depart Auckland for your journey north to Paihia in the Bay of Islands. On arrival in Paihia enjoy a visit to the historic Waitangi Treaty House. It was here in 1840, that the Treaty of Waitangi was first signed between Maori and the British Crown. The Waitangi Treaty Grounds are rich in history and stories of the momentous events which shaped the nation. Explore the Treaty House and marvel at one of the world's largest carved war canoes. Take time to wander through the beautiful grounds of the Waitangi estate, complete with extensive gardens, bush tracks, beaches, and fabulous views over the Bay of Islands and beyond.

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**Day 4 Bay of Islands**

The subtropical Bay of Islands is a top New Zealand destination. It is known for its stunning coastal scenery and wildlife; its warm waters, sandy beaches and beautiful islands. Full day at leisure and time to enjoy the many sights and activities on offer.

***Recommended optional tour:** Take a guided tour to the northern tip of New Zealand, Cape Reinga. Eerie and unforgettable, magical and entrancing, the Cape casts its spell on those who venture here to enjoy the spectacular panoramic views and watch the Tasman Sea and the mighty Pacific Ocean crashing together. Discover the wild beauty of this vast and untouched region that is rich in Maori culture and tradition.*

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**Day 5 Bay of Islands – Auckland (220 km)**

This morning make your way to the Maritime Building on Paihia Wharf to join a Cape Brett "Hole in the Rock" cruise. Enjoy the large outdoor viewing decks on the cruise through sheltered waters and islands of the Bay. Keep a look out for dolphins and other marine life from the comfort of the purpose-built dolphin and whale watching catamaran. Enjoy the views on the cruise past the Cape Brett Lighthouse, before arriving at the majestic Hole in the Rock, where the skipper navigates through the narrow space and rock walls soar above.

This afternoon depart Paihia for your return journey to Auckland

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**Day 6 Auckland – Whitianga, Coromandel (189 km)**

Travel along the Seabird Coast to Miranda Shorebird Centre, home to many migratory birds. The Pacific Coast Highway leads you to the Coromandel Peninsula, renowned for its spectacular coastline and white sandy beaches. On reaching Thames, meander through Rapaura Watergardens abundant with native birds and bush all interspersed with garden art. In historic Coromandel Town ride aboard the narrow gauge train at Driving Creek Railway on a unique journey up steep grades, across trestle bridges, along spirals, through tunnels and replanted native kauri forest. Continue on to your accommodation.

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**Day 7 Coromandel - Rotorua (221 km)**

Renowned worldwide for its natural beauty - misty rainforests and pristine golden beaches, The Coromandel is blessed with hundreds of natural hideaways, making it an ideal place to slow down, relax and unwind. Enjoy the Coromandel scenery and beaches today. At Hot Water Beach an underground river of hot water flows from the interior of the earth to surface in the Pacific Ocean. Paddle your feet or soak in the natural hot water pools dug in the sand beside the ocean (tides permitting).

Later this afternoon continue on through farmland, Lakeland and forest until the distinctive smell of sulphur and constant steam drifts let you know you are in tempestuous, geothermal Rotorua

**Recommended optional extra:** Enjoy a memorable night of culture, song and dance followed by dinner cooked the traditional way on hot stones underground at a Maori Hangi & Concert.

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**Day 8 Rotorua**

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.

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**Day 9 Rotorua - Taupo - Napier (219 km)**

Travel today is south via Lake Taupo with the three volcanic mountains of Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe and Tongariro dominating the scenery. Enjoy the scenery as the road changes from forest to rugged mountain ranges and then to fertile vineyards as you continue on to the Hawke's Bay, known for its gourmet food and world-class wineries.

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**Day 10 Napier - Wellington (315 km)**

Enjoy the clean, green scenery as you travel south to New Zealand's capital city, Wellington.

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**Day 11 Wellington**

Spend today at 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 12 Wellington - Picton - Christchurch**

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 for your journey via Kaikoura to Christchurch (note train operates 01 Apr-01 May & 24 Sep-31 Mar only. Travel during 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 13 Christchurch - Greymouth – West Coast Glaciers (173 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 14 West Coast Glaciers**

This remote area has a ruggedly beautiful landscape of vast rainforests, gushing waterfalls and snow capped mountains. At Franz Josef Glacier your expert tour guide will take you on a Glacier Valley Walk alongside the mighty Waiho River bed following the glacier's 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 15 West Coast Glaciers - Wanaka (285 km)**

Today takes you on a memorable trip through some of the most magnificent scenery in New Zealand.

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**Day 16 Wanaka - Queenstown (113 km)**

Journey south over the Clutha and Cardrona Rivers and via Lake Dunstan to Cromwell. Continue through the Kawarau Gorge before arriving at New Zealand's adventure capital, Queenstown.

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**Day 17 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 ancient native beech forest and a 4WD safari ride with commentary on the surrounding countryside with views of scenery that has formed the epic backdrop for many international films, including 'The Lord of the Rings'.

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**Day 18 Queenstown - Milford Sound - Te Anau (406km)**

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. 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 19 Te Anau - Dunedin (298 km)**

Travel north to the charming city of Dunedin, first settled by the Scottish and renowned as the 'Edinburgh of the South'.

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**Day 20 Dunedin**

Spend today at leisure. Dunedin and Coastal Otago is often referred to as the eco-capital of New Zealand. It is a region of natural beauty overlaid with a fascinating cultural history. On Dunedin's doorstep you will find incredible wildlife including the world's rarest penguins and the world's only mainland breeding colony of Royal Albatross.

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**Day 21 Dunedin - Christchurch (363 km)**

River crossings are a feature of the journey today before the straight flat roads set amongst the Canterbury Plains lead you into Christchurch.

**Day 22 Departure Christchurch**

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

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

	BUDGET	STANDARD	SUPERIOR
<b>AK27 SC</b>			
SINGLE	7,397	8,386	8,541
TWIN / DOUBLE	4,911	5,436	5,844

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

	BUDGET	STANDARD	SUPERIOR
<b>AK27 SC</b>			
SINGLE	7,664	9,198	10,212
TWIN / DOUBLE	5,048	5,853	6,360

Note - there is an extra cost payable for a single person on the sic transfer Auckland/Coromandel including sightseeing - this cost will be added to all single person bookings & refunded after travel if more than 1 person travels on this tour – NZD288.00 Nett.

Rates are per person in New Zealand Dollars

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.

