

from **\$3,160**



Marlborough Vineyards

15 Day New Zealand Explorer

"A most enjoyable and relaxing 17 days. Would recommend to anyone. We did not have to lift a finger if we didn't want to"

Tour B54 – July 06

Scottish Piper, Dunedin



Day 1 – Christchurch/Mt Cook/Omarama

Your tour departs from the Pavilions Hotel, 42 Papanui Road at 8.00am. A **city sights tour** will highlight the main attractions of Christchurch before travelling across the Canterbury Plains into MacKenzie Country. View the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Collie Dog statue at Lake Tekapo. Opportunity to fly over the Southern Alps with Air Safaris (optional), before continuing to Mt Cook National Park. Admire the majesty of Mt Cook before travelling on to Omarama. *Heritage Gateway Hotel (1 night)*

Day 2 – Omarama/Dunedin

Pass large hydro lakes as you travel down the Waitaki Valley to Oamaru and Dunedin the "Scottish" city. An early arrival allows for a choice of excellent optional activities. Combine a Monarch harbour cruise or Newton's Citibus tour to see albatross, penguins and seals. Board the Taieri Gorge Railway or explore the city yourself. This evening prior to Dinner you will be treated to a traditional **Scottish Haggis Ceremony**, complete with piper, address to the Haggis and gift. *Cargills Hotel (1 night)*

Day 3 – Dunedin/Lake Manapouri/Te Anau

Visit historic **Olveston House**, then cross rich farmlands to the agricultural towns of Gore and Lumsden. Visit Lake Manapouri before arriving at Lake Te Anau. *Fjordland National Park Hotel (1 night)*

Day 4 – Te Anau/Milford Sound/Queenstown

Follow the Eglinton and Hollyford Valleys, pass through the Homer Tunnel and descend into the Cleddau Canyon to reach majestic **Milford Sound**, dominated by Mitre Peak. A **launch cruise** takes you to the open sea and the Bowen and Stirling Falls. Return to Te Anau and on to Mossburn,

then skirt the shores of Lake Wakatipu to reach Queenstown. Dinner tonight is at the **Skyline Restaurant**, where both the dining and the views are unsurpassed. *Rydges Hotel (2 nights)*

Day 5 – Queenstown

A day to explore the many delights of this alpine resort. Try the famous Shotover Jet, an excursion to Skippers Canyon or a steamer cruise aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw. Alternatively, explore Queenstown's many boutiques and galleries – your Coach Captain will be pleased to advise.

Day 6 – Queenstown/Haast Pass/Fox Glacier

Pass picturesque Lake Hayes on to an area steeped in fascinating history relating to early settlement and the goldmining era, to Lake Wanaka, a picture postcard resort on the lakes edge with a spectacular mountain backdrop. Pass Lake Hawea and the upper reaches of Lake Wanaka to Makarora, cross the Haast Pass into the Mt Aspiring and Westland National Parks. Drive north along the coast to the magnificent Glacier region and visit the National Park Headquarters or take the optional guided walk to the glacier's terminal face. *Fox Glacier Hotel (1 night)*

Day 7 – Fox Glacier/Greymouth/Christchurch

Time for an optional helicopter flight over the glacier then on to Franz Josef. Snowcapped Southern Alps dominate the skyline as you pass dense bush, tiny landlocked lakes and small pockets of farmland. Visit a **Greenstone (Jade) factory** where craftsmen cut and polish giant boulders to create fine jewellery. Now join the **Tranz Alpine train** for one of the most spectacular rail journeys in the world. Through rainforests to Otira, snowcapped peaks of the Southern Alps, the rugged Gorges of the Waimakariri river and across the Canterbury Plains to Christchurch. *Pavilions Hotel (1 night)*

Day 8 – Christchurch/Kaikoura/Blenheim

Join the **Tranz Coastal train** for a kaleidoscope of scenery across fertile Canterbury farmland through the Hundalee Ranges. Follow the Pacific coastline, with the Kaikoura mountains forming a rugged backdrop to the west, passing tiny holiday settlements and Kaikoura, famous for whale-watching. Arrive in Blenheim early afternoon. A short tour of the area includes a visit to **Montana Winery**. Enjoy a hosted tour of the winery, learn about and taste a range of the famous local wines (purchase if you wish) followed by **afternoon tea**. *Blenheim Country Hotel (1 night)*

Day 9 – Blenheim/Picton/Wellington

Drive to Picton, nestled on the shores of the Marlborough Sounds, to board the **Interislander Ferry**. Sail through picturesque Queen Charlotte Sound, sheltered waterways, remote bays and isolated holiday homes. Across Cook Strait and into Wellington Harbour for spectacular views of New Zealand's Capital City. A **city tour** will incorporate the summit of Mt Victoria for panoramic views of the city and harbour, the Houses of Parliament and the distinctive "Beehive", Wellington Cathedral, city centre and Oriental Bay. Also explore the city yourself. Don't miss **Te Papa**, the "Museum of New Zealand", or take a ride on the famous Cable Car. *Bay Plaza Hotel (1 night)*

Day 10 – Wellington/Taupo/Rotorua

Drive to Paekakariki with views of Kapiti Island and on a clear day, the South Island. Cross the Himitangi Plains, through the towns of Levin and Foxton to Bulls. Across rolling farmland to the central North Island National Park, dominated by the volcanic cone of Mt Ruapehu. Follow the Desert Road to Lake Taupo, New Zealand's largest lake and famous for trout fishing. Stop at **Huka Falls** skirting massive pine forests to reach Rotorua, centre of Maori culture. *Sudima Hotel Lake Rotorua (2 nights)*



Milford Sound Road



Wellington Boat Houses

Day 11 – Rotorua

A sightseeing tour visits the **Agrrodome** for a display featuring New Zealand's various sheep breeds with a shearing demonstration. See pools of brown and rainbow trout at **Rainbow Springs Park** and even native birds including the Kiwi. Visit **Te Puia**, the Maori Arts and Crafts Centre and Thermal Reserve, with boiling mud, silica terraces and Pohutu Geyser. The spectacular **Skyline Gondola** offers superb views over city, lake and mountains and for a little excitement, try a **Luge ride** with our compliments. Time for optional activities this afternoon before a **Maori hangi** (meal) with selection of traditionally prepared meats and vegetables plus conventional dishes, followed by a **concert** featuring Maori songs, chants and the stirring haka (entire group).



Harbourside Dining, Auckland

Day 12 – Rotorua/Waitomo/Auckland

Cross the Mamaku Ranges to the Waikato region, noted for dairy farming and world famous horse studs. At **Waitomo**, a guide will escort your group underground to the limestone caverns and **glow-worm grotto**. On through Hamilton to Ngaruawahia, centre for the region's Maori people, then alongside the Waikato River before crossing the Bombay Hills to reach New Zealand's largest city – Auckland. A **city tour** will visit the summit of **Skytower**, at 328m the tallest building in the Southern Hemisphere for superb city and harbour views, the downtown area and Waterfront Drive. *Rydges Hotel (1 night)*

Day 13 – Auckland/Bay of Islands

Cross Auckland's Harbour Bridge and drive north along the Hibiscus Coast to Matakohē and the **Kauri museum** telling the story of the Kauri tree and the regions early settlement, the displays are superb and their story fascinating. Continue north through Kawakawa to Paihia, where we

meet our local **Maori guide**, a descendant of the original settlers to the region, who will provide a comprehensive insight and history of the Bay of Islands before a visit to New Zealand's birthplace, **Waitangi**. A self guided tour through the famous Treaty House, the Maori Meeting House and giant war canoe all set in spectacular grounds overlooking the bay. *Hotel Paihia (2 nights)*

Day 14 – Bay of Islands

A day free for you to relax and enjoy the many optional activities available. Your Coach Captain will happily assist with details. A full day Tour to Cape Reinga, New Zealand's northern most point and Ninety Mile Beach or explore historic Russell, New Zealand's first settlement and visit its original Church, Mission House and Museum.

Day 15 – Bay of Islands/Auckland

A **launch cruise** will take you across the Bay and world acclaimed fishing grounds to Cape Brett and the famous **"Hole in the Rock"**. Returning to Paihia, board your Coach for the journey south through Whangarei and Warkworth passing the satellite tracking station. Shortly Auckland city and Harbour come into view. Your tour will conclude at approximately 5.30pm.



Jetboating, Queenstown



Punting on the Avon, Christchurch

TOUR PRICES PER PERSON	COST
01 May 2007 to 30 Sep 2007	\$3,160
01 Oct 2007 to 30 Apr 2008	\$3,680
01 May 2008 to 30 Sep 2008	\$3,280
Breakfast (14) Supplement add	\$240
Dinner (12) Supplement add	\$360
Single Room Supplement add	\$955

TOUR	START MON	FINISH MON
S45	07 May 07	21 May 07
S48	28 May 07	11 Jun 07
S49	04 Jun 07	18 Jun 07
S50	18 Jun 07	02 Jul 07
S52	02 Jul 07	16 Jul 07
S53	09 Jul 07	23 Jul 07
S54	23 Jul 07	06 Aug 07
S56	06 Aug 07	20 Aug 07
S58	20 Aug 07	03 Sep 07
S59	27 Aug 07	10 Sep 07
S10	03 Sep 07	17 Sep 07
S11	10 Sep 07	24 Sep 07
S12	17 Sep 07	01 Oct 07
S13	24 Sep 07	08 Oct 07
S132	29 Sep 07	13 Oct 07 (1)
S14	01 Oct 07	15 Oct 07
S15	08 Oct 07	22 Oct 07
S16	15 Oct 07	29 Oct 07
S17	22 Oct 07	05 Nov 07
S18	29 Oct 07	12 Nov 07
S19	05 Nov 07	19 Nov 07
S20	12 Nov 07	26 Nov 07
S21	19 Nov 07	03 Dec 07
S22	26 Nov 07	10 Dec 07
S23	03 Dec 07	17 Dec 07
S24	10 Dec 07	24 Dec 07
S25	17 Dec 07	31 Dec 07
S26	24 Dec 07	07 Jan 08

S27	31 Dec 07	14 Jan 08
S28	07 Jan 08	21 Jan 08
S29	14 Jan 08	28 Jan 08
S30	21 Jan 08	04 Feb 08
S31	28 Jan 08	11 Feb 08
S32	04 Feb 08	18 Feb 08
S33	11 Feb 08	25 Feb 08
S34	18 Feb 08	03 Mar 08
S35	25 Feb 08	10 Mar 08
S36	03 Mar 08	17 Mar 08
S362	08 Mar 08	22 Mar 08 (1)
S37	10 Mar 08	24 Mar 08
S38	17 Mar 08	31 Mar 08
S39	24 Mar 08	07 Apr 08
S40	31 Mar 08	14 Apr 08
S41	07 Apr 08	21 Apr 08
S42	14 Apr 08	28 Apr 08
S43	21 Apr 08	05 May 08
S44	28 Apr 08	12 May 08
S45	05 May 08	19 May 08
S46	12 May 08	26 May 08
S47	19 May 08	02 Jun 08
S48	26 May 08	09 Jun 08
S50	09 Jun 08	23 Jun 08
S52	23 Jun 08	07 Jul 08
S54	07 Jul 08	21 Jul 08
S55	14 Jul 08	28 Jul 08
S57	28 Jul 08	11 Aug 08
S59	11 Aug 08	25 Aug 08
S60	18 Aug 08	01 Sep 08
S61	25 Aug 08	08 Sep 08
S62	01 Sep 08	15 Sep 08
S11	08 Sep 08	22 Sep 08
S12	15 Sep 08	29 Sep 08
S13	22 Sep 08	06 Oct 08
S14	29 Sep 08	13 Oct 08

(1) Start Saturday Finish Saturday



Waka (War Canoe), Waitangi