



## Ultimate NZ Adventure Tour

12 - 24 January

### Your Itinerary

#### Day 1 Auckland - Rotorua

Kia ora, meet your Tour Manager, Driver and fellow travellers at Auckland Airport. Travel south to Hobbiton and 'Middle-Earth' where we enjoy a tour of the movie site of Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit.

See the Hobbit holes, the mill and famous party tree and enjoy a cold drink at the Green Dragon. From here to Rotorua - the city famous for bubbling mud, spouting water and wonderful Maori Culture.

Tonight we have our first home-cooked meal a delicious duo of dinner and dessert. Later we get to know our fellow travellers and learn about the days ahead.

*Includes: Meet your tour crew | Overnight Rotorua | Visit Middle Earth | Dinner*

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#### Day 2 Rotorua

Te Puia, the premier Maori Cultural centre in New Zealand, a place of spouting waters, boiling mudpools, and steaming vents is our first stop today.

After Te Puia, we visit the Government Gardens before having time for souvenir shopping in the city. This afternoon is free, your choice! Maybe try White Water Rafting or spin down the hill in the Zorb. or just soak in the hot mineral waters of the Polynesian Spa (*all optional at your own cost*).

Tonight we are in for a very special night as we enter the world of Tamaki. Here we discover Maori art forms, ancient rituals and traditions, experience thrilling song and dance and then eat a delicious and authentic Maori Hangi.

*Includes: Breakfast | Te Puia Maori geothermal park | Maori Cultural Evening and Concert | Traditional Maori Hangi Dinner*

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#### Day 3 Rotorua - Wellington

It's off to Wellington today via Taupo and Tongariro National Park. Our first stop is a visit to the thunderous Huka falls situated on the beautiful Waikato River.

After lunch in Taupo we pass the three volcanoes, Mount Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngauruhoe and travel south to the capital city of New Zealand, Wellington.

We see the famous Beehive and Parliament buildings before visiting Te Papa (Museum of New Zealand).

Tonight, dinner is your choice at one of the many cafes and restaurants within walking distance of our accommodation.

*Includes: Breakfast | Huka Falls | Tongariro National Park*

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#### Day 4 Wellington - Kaikoura

This morning we take the Interislander Ferry - cruising between the North and South Islands.

Have your camera handy as the journey through the Marlborough Sounds is spectacular. We arrive in Picton, the gateway to the South Island, and from here we make our way to the coastal township of Kaikoura.

*Includes: Breakfast | Interislander Ferry | Picton | Dinner*

#### Day 5 Kaikoura - Motueka

Kaikoura is well known for its abundance of marine life and this morning you have an opportunity to experience the unforgettable sight of whales or go swimming with dolphins (*at your own cost*).

If you don't feel like getting wet, there is also an optional boat trip to view these amazing creatures instead.

This afternoon we make our way to Motueka, home for our next two nights and situated beside the beautiful Abel Tasman National Park.

*Includes: Breakfast | Optional Whale Watching or Dolphin Swimming | Dinner*

#### Day 6 Motueka

We rise and shine bright and early to take advantage of this paradise.

We take a water taxi to see the beautiful golden beaches, peaceful coves and lagoons, offshore islands and wildlife, followed by a picnic lunch on the beach.

Tonight we enjoy a home-cooked meal and some fun evening activities.

*Includes: Breakfast | Water Taxi | Abel Tasman National Park | Picnic Lunch | Dinner*

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#### Day 7 Motueka - Franz Josef

Have your cameras ready as our drive takes us through the Buller Gorge and the spectacular West Coast. We visit the famous Punakaiki (Pancake Rocks) and have time to explore the rocks and blowholes before making our way to Shanty Town, here we learn

about the gold mining history of the area.

We continue to Hokitika where we stop to watch expert carvers create beautiful Pounamu (New Zealand Jade) jewellery and learn about the history and tradition of this special stone.

From here we travel to Franz Josef where we stay overnight. You may wish to take a Scenic Helicopter (at a very special NZET price) and experience the awe-inspiring scenery of Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers as you climb to 6000ft.

Tonight head out for a walk to find Glow worms.

*Includes: Breakfast | Shanty Town | Greenstone carving demonstration | Punakaiki (Pancake) Rocks | Pizza Night*

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#### Day 8 Franz Josef - Wanaka

This morning we visit beautiful Lake Matheson before travelling through the Haast Pass to Wanaka.

We arrive in Wanaka, a place of breathtaking lakes and mountains. Our first stop is at Puzzling World, the world's first modern-style maze and a deceptive, frustrating, confusing and definitely out of the ordinary experience!

Later we have some free time before dinner at our accommodation.

*Includes: Breakfast | Puzzling World | Haast Pass | Dinner*

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#### Day 9 Wanaka - Te Anau

Today we drive into the mystical wilderness of Fiordland National Park and take a scenic cruise on Milford Sound. Keep an eye out for penguins, albatross and sleeping seals.

Later we travel back to stay at our accommodation on the shores of Lake Te Anau and enjoy our evening meal.

*Includes: Breakfast | Milford Sound Cruise | Dinner*

#### Day 10 Te Anau - Queenstown

Today we're off to Queenstown - the 'Adventure Capital' of New Zealand and home to the latest and greatest adventure activities from bungee jumping, skydiving and jet boating to whitewater rafting and canyon swinging.

Our first stop is the famous AJ Hackett base, the birthplace of bungee and one of the most famous attractions in Queenstown.

We watch the secrets of bungee and then for those of you who dare - you have time for an optional 43m bungee off Kawarau Bridge! It's then time to capture our awesome crew with a group photo before we make our way to visit the historic Arrowtown. After this, it's a short drive into the heart of Queenstown and our accommodation.

*Includes: Breakfast | Secrets of Bungy AJ Hackett Bungy Centre | Arrowtown | Dinner*

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#### Day 11 Queenstown

Today is free to enjoy some of the many activities on offer ranging from the Canyon Swing to Parasailing or Tandem Skydiving. Or you may choose a 4 Wheel drive into the heart of the Mt Aspiring National Park to see the sites from the Lord of the Rings or simply spend time exploring this beautiful alpine town. The choice is yours (*at your own cost*).

Later we take the Gondola to the top of Bobs Peak and have 2 luge rides through the forest tracks.

Dinner tonight is your choice.

*Includes: Breakfast | Gondola and 2 luge rides*

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#### Day 12 Queenstown - Christchurch

We have a spectacular drive today, stopping to view Mt Cook followed by the famous Church of the Good Shepherd.

We arrive in Christchurch late afternoon and tonight, we have a party night for our last night together on tour.

*Includes: Breakfast | Church of the Good Shepherd | Final dinner night*

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#### Day 13 Christchurch - Home

This morning you are dropped at Christchurch airport where we are depart with an amazing bunch of new friends and 'ferntastic' memories!