



## North to South Fishing Adventure

Experience New Zealand fishing at its best with this 10 day fishing adventure! You'll begin your trip in the capital city of Wellington, famous for its vibrant, creative culture, before catching the Interisland Ferry across the stunning Cook Strait. Enjoy a full day fishing in the Tasman Bay with Nelson Fishing Charters, and a 3 hour cray and fishing charter in Kaikoura. Relax on a harbour nature cruise in the beautiful Akaroa before heading inland to Lake Tekapo for a spot of fly fishing. Moving on to Queenstown, you will cruise to Walter Peak High Country Farm on a vintage steamship to enjoy a gourmet BBQ dinner, prepared right in front of you! Your final day fishing will be on Lake Wakatipu, where you will visit some of the best trout fishing spots in the Otago/Southland region.

Starts in: Wellington  
Finishes in: Queenstown  
Length: 10days / 9nights  
Accommodation: Hotel 4 star  
Can be customised: Yes

This itinerary can be customised to suit you perfectly. We can add more days, remove days, change accommodations, mix it up, add activities to suit your interests or simply design and create something from scratch. Call us today to get your custom New Zealand itinerary underway.



### Inclusions:

Includes: Late model rental cars

Includes: Unlimited kms

Includes: Airport & ferry terminal rental car fees

Includes: Comprehensive tour pack (detailed itinerary, driving instructions, map/guidebooks, brochures)

Included activity: Private transfer Wellington airport to your accommodation (IST)

Included activity: Interislander Ferry Wellington to Picton with Premium Plus Lounge

Included activity: Fishing Charter with Kaikoura Fishing Tours

Included activity: TSS Earnslaw Cruise and Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ Dinner

: 9 breakfasts, 1 special dinner

Includes: Fully inclusive rental car insurance (excess may apply)

Includes: GPS navigation

Includes: Additional drivers

Includes: 24/7 support while touring New Zealand

Included activity: Electronic Travel Guide and In-Country Support App

Included activity: Queen Charlotte Sounds Fishing Charter - 4 Hour Excursion

Included activity: Akaroa Harbour Nature Cruise with Black Cat

Included activity: Queenstown Fishing - 3 Hour Fishing Experience - (Shared Charter)

## Day 1



### Private transfer Wellington airport to your accommodation

You will be met on arrival at Wellington airport and transferred to your accommodation.

### Welcome to Wellington

Wellington City is New Zealand's capital. It sits on a wonderful deep natural harbour and is surrounded by bush clad hills. The city centre itself is quite compact (only around 1 square kilometre) and so exploring on foot is relatively easy. From your city centre accommodation you can easily stroll the cafes and restaurants around Courtenay Place and if you arrive early enough New Zealand's national museum, Te Papa, is also close by.

### Your accommodation: Bolton Hotel Wellington

The Bolton Hotel offers contemporary apartment-style accommodation in the heart of Wellington. Just steps from the Parliament buildings and central business district, Bolton Hotel is conveniently close to the best of the city's shops, cafes and restaurants and is within walking distance of Wellington's vibrant waterfront.



## Day 2



### Interislander Ferry Wellington to Picton with Premium Plus Lounge

The 92 km ferry journey between Wellington and Picton, taking around 3 hours, is hailed as one of the world's most beautiful ferry rides. Departing Wellington Harbour, you'll pass landmarks like Pencarrow Head with New Zealand's oldest lighthouse, Red Rocks' seal colony, and Oterangi Bay, famous for its record wind speed. From the Cook Strait, marvel at views of the Kaikōura Ranges and spot dolphins and seabirds. An hour of the trip winds through the stunning Marlborough Sounds, featuring bush-clad mountains, tranquil bays, and crystal-clear waters—a photographer's dream. The journey concludes in the charming town of Picton at the end of Queen Charlotte Sound. When not soaking up the views from the deck, relax in the Premium Plus lounge, offering complimentary drinks, snacks, internet, and luxurious seating for the most comfortable way to cross the Cook Strait.

### Collect Rental Car

Choose a car to best suit your needs from our fantastic rental car range. From compact economy, hatchbacks to prestige SUVs.

### Picton to Blenheim

It is a short 30 minute drive, as you'll follow the valley south to arrive in Blenheim, located in the heart of Marlborough - New Zealand's largest wine producing region. Go through acres of leafy green vines and marvel at the magnificent 'dry hills' of Marlborough in the distance.

### Your accommodation: Scenic Hotel Marlborough

Scenic Hotel Marlborough offers the ultimate in modern comfort and service. Located in the heart of sunny Marlborough, this Blenheim hotel is just a few minutes walk from the centre of Blenheim with some of New Zealand's finest food and wine virtually on your doorstep.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 3



### Queen Charlotte Sounds Fishing Charter - 4 Hour Excursion

This Sounds Connection 4 hour fishing excursion will take you and your guests adventuring into the amazing Queen Charlotte Sound with a local, experienced skipper. You will venture a little further and see some of the spectacular scenery that the Marlborough Sounds is famous for. MV Tory is a 35-foot vessel designed specifically for fishing in the Marlborough Sounds. It has good cover and is suitable for all ages. All fishing gear, tackle and bait is included in the charter price.

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Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 4



### Blenheim to Kaikōura

Cross Marlborough and head towards one of the most spectacular coastlines of the South Island, the Kaikōura Coast. The road hugs the shore for around 50 kms and offers many chances to view native wildlife. To the east is the South Pacific Ocean and to the west the towering Kaikōura Ranges. Kaikōura Township is a bustling little place with many cafes, restaurants and shops, but the main reason for visiting here is the wildlife and it's one of the only places in New Zealand you can see whales year round.

### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Ocean's Cabin with Whale Watch Kaikōura

Experience New Zealand's only marine-based whale-watching company. Whale Watch Kaikōura offers a once-in-a-lifetime, up-close encounter with the giant Sperm Whale. You are also likely to encounter New Zealand fur seals, dolphins, and albatross. Depending on the season you may also see Pilot, Blue, and Southern Right whales as well as migrating humpbacks. Often orcas can be spotted here and the world's smallest dolphin, the Hector's, occasionally makes an appearance.

### Your accommodation: The Factory

Located on the beachfront at Hapuku, 10 minutes North of Kaikoura The Factory offers luxury accommodation in the 100-year-old Hapuku Dairy Factory with dramatic views of snow-covered mountains on one side and the ocean on the other.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 5



## Fishing Charter with Kaikoura Fishing Tours

On this incredible charter you will have the opportunity to catch a variety of fish, including the crayfish (New Zealand lobster) which are plentiful around the Kaikoura coastline. The name Kaikoura, given to this area by Maori, literally translates to food (kai) and lobster (koura), reflecting the abundance of this food source in the area. Easy to catch fin fish include sea perch, which are particularly abundant, delicious to eat and can often be caught two at a time on a double rig leader. Blue cod are also abundant, and are regarded as one of the finest eating fish in New Zealand. Other fish, such as Terakihi, Gurnard and Grouper are often caught, but the thrill for many is when it comes time to haul in the crayfish pots. When these are hauled to the surface, more often than not they contain crayfish. You then help to re-bait the pot, sort and measure the crayfish (to comply with New Zealand fisheries regulations), and are able to take some home with you.

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Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 6



### Kaikoura to Akaroa

The drive from Kaikoura to Christchurch continues to follow the spectacular coastline before heading inland and through North Canterbury's major wine region, the Waipara Valley. You are also introduced you to the South Island's most numerous inhabitant, the sheep. A great detour to take is the side trip to Hanmer Springs for a relaxing dip in the thermal pools.

Arriving into Christchurch City puts you close to the airport and the International Antarctic Centre and a visit is highly recommended. Here you can get as close to experiencing life on the frozen continent without actually visiting plus see New Zealand little blue penguins and ride in a Haaglund Tracked vehicle.

The Banks Peninsula offers a great contrast to the South Island's largest city. Just around a 1 1/2 hours drive from the city centre are rolling green hills, streams, golden sand beaches and small settlements that offer a unique insight into New Zealand's history and development.

Just on the other side of the Port Hills is Lyttelton, a busy port town that was crucial to the development of Christchurch and the Canterbury Plains. Following the road around the beautiful natural harbour the names, such as Magazine Bay, Battery Point, Corsair Point and Governors Bay, remind of the importance the navy placed on this harbour.

The Banks Peninsula itself is actually the remains of a long extinct volcano, the rim of which collapsed some time ago allowing the sea to flood into and create what is now the Akaroa Harbour. In 1840 French colonists settled in Akaroa in a bid to stake a claim for the South Island.

Unbeknown the British had already declared sovereignty and a long drawn out dispute ensued with the British eventually being given government. However the French stayed and made this stunning part of the South Pacific their home and still to this day the town boasts French street names and every year a French Festival is held.

The Harbour itself is teeming with wildlife and a nature cruise is a must do activity. One of the world's smallest and rarest dolphins, hectors dolphin, are often seen and cruises also offer excursions with the chance to swim amongst them.

### Akaroa Harbour Nature Cruise with Black Cat

Experience majestic scenery and stunning wildlife daily on a Black Cat Akaroa Harbour Nature Cruise. You'll see the rare, native dolphin – the Hector's or New Zealand Dolphin. There's also the chance to spot the world's smallest penguin, the White Flipped Little Blue Penguin, Fur Seals and other sea birds.

Other cruise highlights are some majestic volcanic cliffs (including the impressive Cathedral Cave) and signs of Akaroa's fascinating past including early Maori, French and British settlements.

### Akaroa to Christchurch (via Lyttelton)

Head to Christchurch today crossing the hills with spectacular views of the harbour. We recommend taking the slightly longer but much more scenic route around Lyttelton Harbour. Just turn at Gebbies Pass Road and follow the road as it passes by the bays named after the areas naval past such as Corsair and Governors Bay. Take the tunnel into the city.

### Your accommodation: Sudima Christchurch City

Sudima Christchurch City is a brand new 5-star boutique hotel, ideally located on Victoria Street. Amidst an array of cafes, restaurants and bars, stay only a martini olive pips' throw from beautiful Hagley Park and Christchurch's CBD. Experience the garden city in comfort and style.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 7



### Christchurch to Lake Tekapo

Today you head into the heart of the South Island. After crossing the vast Canterbury Plains, you will reach the township of Geraldine, which offers an ideal refreshment stop before you head into Mackenzie Country.

Passing through places such as Beautiful Valley it's not hard to understand where the names originate. Ascending Burkes Pass and onto the high country plateau and the picturesque town of Lake Tekapo, the first of the large Southern Lakes. It's a great place to take a scenic flight, enjoy a guided horse trek, a boat trip on the pristine lake or just enjoy the magnificent views.

### Fishing at Lake Tekapo

Lake Tekapo, in the heart of the Mackenzie Country, is a very beautiful, turquoise coloured lake that provides good fishing for both brown and rainbow trout. It is the Northern most lake in the upper Waitaki basin and is mostly fed by snow melt, causing the light turquoise colour from the glacial silt. Lake Tekapo holds good numbers of trout and some reaching very impressive weights. There are a number of small creeks and rivers which generally flow clear providing excellent fishing at the point they enter the lake.

For the shoreline angler, some of the best fishing is to be found around the mouths of these small streams. Most anglers however prefer to troll a lure from a boat. There is good access to the southern shore via State Highway 8. The Lilybank road provides good access at several points along the eastern shore and the Godley Peaks road provides access near Lake McGregor and towards the northern end of the lake.

### Your accommodation: Peppers Bluewater Resort

Peppers Bluewater sits overlooking stunning Lake Tekapo and the Southern Alps and is just a short walk to the small towns facilities. Also close by is the Tekapo Springs Day Spa, a great place to relax after a day exploring. Facilities include an on site restaurant and bar.

Meals included: Breakfast



## Day 8



### Lake Tekapo to Queenstown

Lake Pukaki is just another 30 minutes drive from Lake Tekapo and as you approach the lake you are often rewarded with spectacular views the full length of the lake and into Aoraki Mount Cook National Park. At 3754 metres Aoraki Mount Cook is New Zealand highest mountain and the peak can often be seen from the visitor centre at the southern end of Lake Pukaki. Twizel, just south of Mount Cook was the location of many Lord of the Rings movie scenes and a little further on is Omarama, the gliding capital of New Zealand. Wrinkly Rams is a local cafe with great coffee and fresh homemade food. The Lindis Pass is one of New Zealand's highest roads with the summit reaching 971 metres. The tussock covered hills offer an unusual contrast as you pass from the Mackenzie Basin and into Central Otago.

Bendigo, just off the main highway, was one of Otago's original gold mining settlements and well marked paths will guide you to explore the remains of stone cottages and other buildings from this bygone era.

Cromwell sits at the head of the Kawarau Gorge. Cromwell old town has restored buildings from before the valley was flooded to create Lake Dunstan for the hydro systems. The sheer cliffs of the Kawarau Gorge guide you towards Queenstown and Gibbston - one of New Zealand's premier wine growing regions. At the famous historic Kawarau Bridge you can take a bungy jump or just watch others if you would rather.

Approaching Queenstown the impressive Remarkables mountain range come into view and then beautiful Lake Wakatipu as you head towards the alpine resort town of Queenstown, the adventure and activity capital of New Zealand.

### TSS Earnslaw Cruise and Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ Dinner

Enjoy a quintessential Kiwi experience, a delicious gourmet BBQ buffet meal, and a farm demonstration in a stunning lakeside setting. Take in the stunning views of Lake Wakatipu and its surroundings as you cruise across the lake to the historic Walter Peak high country farm aboard the TSS Earnslaw Steamship. Enjoy the ambiance of the heart of the stately homestead while your Colonel's Homestead Restaurant chef prepares a gourmet BBQ dinner. Your seasonal menu includes an extensive selection of local New Zealand produce, including succulent meats and a selection of delicious vegetables and salads. Complete your meal with your choice of delicious desserts, or New Zealand cheeses. After dinner, watch the farm dogs in action with a sheep-herding demonstration and say hello to the other farm animals. Finally, cruise home under the southern stars and enjoy the fresh night air as the lights of Queenstown draw ever closer.

### Your accommodation: Millennium Hotel Queenstown

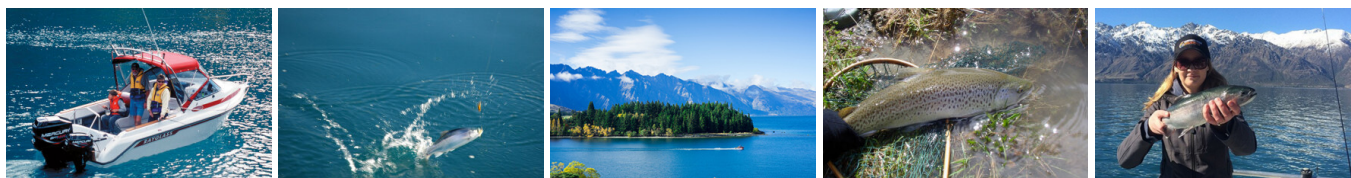
Right in the heart of the action, the Millennium Hotel is just minutes from Queenstown's central shopping and entertainment district. Outdoor activities such as bungy jumping, white water rafting and jet boating are just some of the easily accessible activities nearby in New Zealand's adventure capital.

Meals included: Breakfast, Speciality Dinner



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## Day 9



### Queenstown Fishing - 3 Hour Fishing Experience - (Shared Charter)

A lot can happen in three hours... and joining a small group on this charter, fishing alongside seasoned fishermen, will prove just that. With local knowledge of target areas, the Queenstown Fishing crew are excellent fishing mentors to any visitor. Relax, laugh, catch, and make the most of your time on Lake Wakatipu.

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Meals included: Breakfast



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## Day 10



### Return your vehicle to Queenstown Airport

Explore more of Queenstown before dropping your rental car at the airport depot and continuing your onward journey.

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### Farewell from Aotearoa-New Zealand

Bid farewell to New Zealand, taking with you unforgettable memories of its breathtaking landscapes and incredible adventures. In Maori, it is said mā te wā, which is not goodbye, it is see you soon!

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## Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	South Island Self Drive
Starts:	Wellington
Finishes:	Queenstown
Tour length:	10
Accommodation:	Hotel 4 star
Car/transport type:	

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## Included activities

Includes	1 dinner
Includes	All breakfasts
Includes	Private airport transfers
Includes	Interislander ferry crossing
Includes	Nelson Fishing Charters Full Day Trip
Includes	Kaikoura Crayfish and Fishing Charter
Includes	Akaroa Harbour Nature Cruise
Includes	TSS Earnslaw cruise and dinner at Walter Peak high country farm, Queenstown
Includes	Queenstown Fishing

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## Accommodation summary

Day 1	Bolton Hotel Wellington
Day 2	Scenic Hotel Marlborough
Day 3	Scenic Hotel Marlborough
Day 4	The Factory
Day 5	The Factory
Day 6	Sudima Christchurch City
Day 7	Peppers Bluewater Resort
Day 8	Millennium Hotel Queenstown
Day 9	Millennium Hotel Queenstown