



## The Canterbury Charm Tour

Begin this short stay in Christchurch where you can take the day at leisure and take a punt down the Avon River. You can experience the region's flavors the next day by visiting the Waipara Valley, famous for White Wine. In the morning venture over the Banks Peninsula to the historic French Settlement of Akaroa. Take the afternoon at leisure, before headed out at dusk to see some of the local Penguins on a 4WD adventure. Next up you will take to the seas and meet some more of the locals. The harbour is famous for it's friendly Dolphins which you should get to see aboard the Canterbury Cat! Take the evening to explore the old French Settlement with many delicious eateries and antique stores. Departing back through the hills to Christchurch, dinner awaits aboard the Christchurch Tram. Take the next morning at your own pace before departing Christchurch.

Starts in: Christchurch  
 Finishes in: Christchurch  
 Length: 6days / 5nights  
 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: All coach transport  
 Includes: All pick ups/drop offs at destinations  
 Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring  
 Included activity: Punting on the Christchurch Avon River  
 Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course  
 Included activity: Waipara Valley Wine Trail with Leisure Tours - Lunch Included  
 Included activity: Private Transfer Christchurch Accommodation to Akaroa with Christchurch  
 Included activity: Pohatu Penguin Evening Tour by 4WD  
 Included activity: Akaroa Harbour Nature Cruise with Black Cat  
 Included activity: Private Transfer Akaroa to Christchurch Accommodation with Christchurch Touring  
 Included activity: Kai Bites Share with Amiki Cultural Food Tours - Includes Lunch  
 Included activity: Private Transfer from Christchurch Accommodation to Christchurch International Airport with Christchurch Touring Company  
 1 lunch, 1 special dinner

## Day 1



### Welcome to Christchurch City

New Zealand's garden city is steadily being transformed into a vibrant urban destination. Encompassing a large green belt, it is known for its wide tree lined avenues and lush gardens. A great way to explore the city or easy way to see the sights or ride the historic trams across town to the renowned botanic gardens and the unique cardboard Transitional Cathedral, that's right it is built of cardboard!

### Art in Christchurch

Christchurch is a city brimming with art, from exhibitions and galleries to vibrant street art throughout the city. While you're here, take time to explore the city's rich artistic offerings, starting with the Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū. With a diverse range of works on display, from old masters to contemporary art, there's something for everyone. The gallery also hosts regular events, including talks, museum tours, and film screenings. Don't miss The Arts Centre Te Matatiki Toi Ora, a vibrant hub for arts, culture, education, creativity, and entrepreneurship. This collection of heritage buildings houses museums, boutique galleries, eateries, retailers, and offices. Beyond the conventional galleries, the city's streets are an open-air art gallery. Christchurch has gained a strong reputation as the home of street art, with colorful murals from inspiring artists appearing across the inner city. Be sure to look out for the ever-evolving street art, including the Riverside Mural, Rauora Park's spray cans, and the urban aesthetics of the YMCA building.

### Punting on the Christchurch Avon River

Relax and enjoy the tranquil Christchurch Botanic Gardens as you are expertly guided along the Avon River on a classic punting tour. You will be set aboard a handcrafted flat-bottomed boat, poled along by your punter in Edwardian attire from the platform at the rear of the boat. You will enjoy the spectacular flora that the Garden City is famous for from a unique perspective amidst fresh air.

### 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.



## Day 2



### Waipara Valley Wine Trail with Leisure Tours - Lunch Included

This tour explores 3 of North Canterbury's boutique vineyards. Travel 45 minutes north of Christchurch through the New Zealand countryside to the Waipara Valley, well known for its warm, dry climate and rich alluvial soils, ideal for superior wine production. Over 40 vineyards and wineries pepper the landscape of the valley, with Pinot Noir, Riesling, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc dominating local plantings. You will stop for tastings at Pegasus Bay, Waipara Springs, Greystone Winery and Waipara Hills Winery. If for any reason one of these wineries is closed on the day or your tour an alternative winery in the Waipara Valley will be included. This activity also has lunch included at Waipara Springs Winery. The platter lunch includes tastes of both a regional and New Zealand flavour and is the perfect accompaniment to some of these wineries fine wines.

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Meals included: Lunch





## Day 3



### Private transfer Christchurch Accommodation to Akaroa

You will be collected from your accommodation in Christchurch and transferred to Akaroa.

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### Akaroa & the Banks Peninsula

The Banks Peninsula lies just around 1 hour from Christchurch city centre. Formed by ancient volcanic eruptions, the region's first settlers were Maori who recognised its potential for shelter and food. The sealers and whalers followed them, and European colonists founded and settled Akaroa, Little River and Lyttelton and many of the Peninsula's other bays. Abounding with wildlife and history, it's a great place to spend the day exploring.

The jewel is Akaroa, which lies just over 70 kilometres from central Christchurch, and the drive to this picturesque harbour town is a wonderful experience in itself, as it can either take you via the port of Lyttelton and along the bays or over the Summit Road of the Port Hills.

The well-signposted tourist routes will guide you on a loop around the peninsula and through some spectacular and rugged farmland scenery. As you approach the small settlement of Duvauchelle, you are greeted by New Zealand's oldest hotel.

The town of Akaroa has rather a French feel with many flags flying and cottages and streets with distinctly non-kiwi names. The reason being that 63 Frenchmen arrived here to settle the Banks Peninsula under the French Flag, only to find the British had beaten them by 5 days. Their influence on architecture, combined with a Victorian seaside feel, makes the town a delightful place to spend an afternoon. There are many activities, such as nature cruises and swimming with dolphins. Be sure to visit the quirky The Giant's House, a unique and whimsical garden and mosaic sculpture gallery.

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### Pohatu Penguin Evening Tour by 4WD

Pohatu is the largest Australasian Little Penguin colony on mainland New Zealand. Much work has gone into protecting the White-flipped Penguins from introduced predators. You'll join a guided tour to view these birds in their natural habitat. This evening tour gives you the chance to observe the birds returning from hunting at sea and you'll be involved in the monitoring programme of the nesting boxes to learn more about the conservation work. The best time for penguin viewing is the breeding season between the end of August and January. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information please see [here](#).

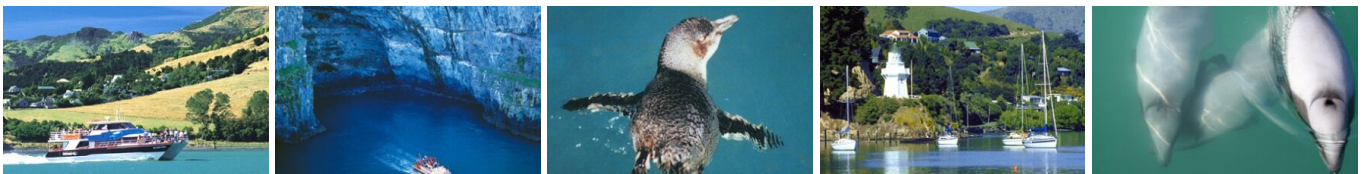
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### Your accommodation: Akaroa Village Inn - Bruce Waterfront Deluxe Apartments

Located right on the beach front road at Akaroa the Bruce Apartments offer luxury and convenience in the harbour town of Akaroa.



## Day 4



### 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.

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Located right on the beach front road at Akaroa the Bruce Apartments offer luxury and convenience in the harbour town of Akaroa.



## Day 5



### Private Transfer Akaroa to Christchurch Accommodation with Christchurch Touring

You will be collected from Akaroa and be transferred to your accommodation in Christchurch.&nbsp;

#### Explore Christchurch

Following earthquakes that razed its centre and much of the outlying suburbs, Ōtautahi-Christchurch is well into a billion-dollar makeover. In the middle of the Canterbury Plains, bordering the Pacific Ocean, New Zealand's newest city is an ideal gateway to exploring the middle of the South. Go punting on the Avon River, take a historic tram ride, catch the gondola to the rim of an extinct volcano or do all three! See the world's only Cardboard Cathedral and for nature enthusiasts - wander the renowned Christchurch Botanic Gardens, or head to Oxford Terrace in the city to find a great spot to eat or drink. Drive an hour in any direction to ski, mountain bike, wine taste, whale-watch, bungy jump or play golf. Take the winding Port Hills road to the French settlement of Akaroa & Banks Peninsula and tour the vines in Waipara for an authentic New Zealand wine-tasting experience. &nbsp;

#### Kai Bites Share with Amiki Cultural Food Tours

Discover cultural treasures hidden in plain sight and savor the city's diverse flavors with this two-and-a-half-hour inner-city walk featuring kai stops, the perfect way to explore Ōtautahi Christchurch. This tour includes the Ōtautahi Hikoi stops and embraces the principles of manaakitanga (hospitality) and whanaungatanga (connection), emphasising the importance of sharing kai (food) in Māori culture. The cultural food tour celebrates the diversity of modern-day Ōtautahi-Christchurch. From historic tales of gathering mahinga kai along the riverbanks to sampling some of our finest contemporary flavours, this tour offers a sensory journey like no other.

#### Your accommodation: Sudima Christchurch City

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Meals included:      Speciality Dinner



## Day 6



### A second day to explore Christchurch City and surrounds

A relaxing way to spend your second day in Christchurch is with a day trip to the village of Akaroa or the wine growing region of Waipara. The historic French settlement of Akaroa sits on a picturesque harbour and is a beautiful place to relax, soak in its history and play in the harbour. Two of the most popular activities are the Akaroa Harbour nature cruise or swimming with the rare Hector's dolphin. If you prefer fresh mountain air and an adrenalin rush, Christchurch is a great base to explore the Southern Alps. Enjoy an early morning hot air balloon ride, or a full day Alpine Safari, with jet boating, a 4WD farm tour and the spectacular TranzAlpine Scenic Train journey included.

#### SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Christchurch Botanic Gardens tour

Established in 1863, Christchurch's 75-acre Botanic Gardens host the finest collection of exotic and indigenous plants to be found anywhere in New Zealand. Operating a continuous daily service, the Botanic Gardens Tour allows you to discover the natural beauty, history, and culture of this central city oasis while at the same time being taken around the gardens in all weather, comfort, and style. The professionally-guided tours allow you the flexibility of staying on the shuttles for the full circuit or alternatively, you can choose to "hop on or hop off" at any of the clearly-identified stops around the Gardens.

### Private Transfer from Christchurch Accommodation to Christchurch International Airport with Christchurch Touring Company

A private transfer will collect you from your accommodation and transfer you to Christchurch International Airport in time for your departing flight.

## Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Independant Bus & Coach
Starts:	Christchurch
Finishes:	Christchurch
Tour length:	6
Accommodation:	Hotel 4 star
Car/transport type:	

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## Accommodation summary

Day 1	Sudima Christchurch City
Day 2	Sudima Christchurch City
Day 3	Akaroa Village Inn - Bruce Waterfront Deluxe Apartments
Day 4	Akaroa Village Inn - Bruce Waterfront Deluxe Apartments
Day 5	Sudima Christchurch City