



Great Journeys of New Zealand - Classic Alpine Highlights Tour (Northbound)

Join us on this guided scenic tour beginning in the Adventure Capital, Queenstown. Follow the wild West Coast before traversing the mighty Southern Alps on the TranzAlpine train, disembarking in the Garden City, Christchurch. Experience a perfect tour for creating your own adventure in your free time while having the structure of a guided expert. Meet like-minded travellers and share this journey of a lifetime on a truly magnificent expedition.



Starts in: Queenstown
 Finishes in: Christchurch
 Length: 7 days / 6 nights
 Accommodation: Hotel 3 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: West Coast Treetop Walkway Experience
 Included: TranzAlpine Train
 Included: Pounamu (Greenstone) Experience & Hokitika Gorge Walk
 Included: Christchurch Tram



Day 1



Welcome to Queenstown

Welcome to Queenstown, the Adventure Capital of New Zealand! Famed for its striking mountain ranges, enchanting vineyards, diverse dining options, and the picturesque Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown offers a unique experience. Upon settling in your hotel and acquainting yourself with the welcome letter from your Tour Director, take the opportunity to explore! The beachfront beckons, retail therapy awaits, and the beautiful rose gardens are a must-see. Head out on the TSS Earnslaw Steamship Cruise for a memorable meal and show of iconic Kiwi experiences such as sheep shearing and dog herding. Take in the views against the stunning backdrop of the lake. The journey begins at this evening's welcome reception with your fellow travelers and Tour Director.

Your accommodation: 3-3.5 Star Hotel

Meals included: Dinner

Day 2



Explore Queenstown

Enjoy a free day to explore everything Queenstown has to offer. Today we highly recommend that you join an excursion to the 8th Wonder of the World: Milford Sound/Piopiotahi. It truly is a remarkable experience! Milford Sound/Piopiotahi is a scenic escape approximately three hours from Queenstown. The natural landscape will engulf you as you waltz through plunging valleys and under towering peaks. This could possibly be one of the most scenic drives you'll experience in your lifetime! Take this encounter to the next level by soaring like the Piopio (ancient bird) by plane or helicopter. Whether you've decided to hop aboard the steamship lake cruise on the iconic TSS Earnslaw or marvel at the power of ancient roaring rivers - tonight you have the night to indulge in Queenstown's exciting nightlife. Sip cocktails and indulge in the sparkling views of Lake Wakatipu.

Your accommodation: 3-3.5 Star Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3



The Southern Lakes to Franz Josef

Today you'll be exploring the mountainous Haast Pass. With changing landscapes around every bend, this journey of about five hours to Franz Josef will be one of the most scenic drives you may ever take. Marvel at the beaches, crystal blue lakes and rivers, mountain peaks, lush vineyards, charming plains and glaciers as your Tour Director guides you between local hidden gems. Stop in unique locations only the locals tend to stop at. Tonight, is a free evening to experience Franz Josef. Schedule an amazing helicopter flight to the spectacular Franz Josef Glacier, go on nature walk or tap into some natural tranquility at the local hot pools.

Your accommodation: 3-3.5 Star Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 4



Explore the West Coast

Franz Josef Glacier is quite special in that it survives in coastal rainforest temperatures. Before you head off up the coast, why not set off on a nature walk? No matter which one you choose, you'll get a fantastic view of the vast valley and maybe even a sneak peak of Franz Josef Glacier itself. Aboard the private coach, you'll journey further along the coastline, reaching the TreeTop Walk. This elevated adventure will get you acquainted with the locals - the ancient Rimu and Kamahi trees of course. This evening, you'll have free time to explore the beach at your leisure.

Your accommodation: 3-3.5 Star Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5



The TranzAlpine Scenic Train

Escape into the Southern Alps aboard the world-famous TranzAlpine scenic train. Comfortably resting in plush, reclined seats, you will be surrounded by panoramic views. Start the journey by passing through the engineering marvel of the Otira Tunnel before emerging into a new landscape. Travel beneath the Great Divide before a brief photo opportunity at Arthur's Pass. As you soar on the edges of the ice fed Waimakariri River, you'll see epic vistas in all directions while breathing fresh mountain air in the open carriage. Just a few hours later, you'll arrive into 'The Garden City'.

Your accommodation: 3-3.5 Star Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6



Explore Christchurch

Christchurch, the hub for South Island exploration is also a wonderful city that blends modern architecture and technology with the existing 19th-century Anglican 'gothic revival' architectural influence. Often remembered for its earthquake in 2011, the city is rebuilding itself as a multicultural haven. So, without further delay, jump on the historic tram to learn the history, tales, and culture of Ōtautahi Christchurch. Enjoy your free time as you explore the Arts Centre, Quake City Museum, Christchurch Art Gallery, Riverside Markets and Botanical Gardens. Ride on the city tram to uncover Christchurch's great history, or relax as you punt on the Avon River. There is also a multitude of delicious cafés tucked into quaint side streets we're sure you will love. If you are in the mood for something different, set off for Akaroa, an 'incroyable' French coastal settlement just an hour and half from the city centre. A farewell dinner awaits as you join your fellow travellers once again to tell them about the exciting places you have discovered.

Your accommodation: 3-3.5 Star Hotel

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 7



Depart Christchurch

Your journey will end after enjoying a final breakfast at your hotel. You will be transferred to Christchurch Airport for your departing flight.

Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Guided Coach & Train Tours
Starts:	Queenstown
Finishes:	Christchurch
Tour length:	7
Accommodation:	Hotel 3 star
Car/transport type:	

Accommodation summary

Day 1	3-3.5 Star Hotel
Day 2	3-3.5 Star Hotel
Day 3	3-3.5 Star Hotel
Day 4	3-3.5 Star Hotel
Day 5	3-3.5 Star Hotel
Day 6	3-3.5 Star Hotel