



## Grand Pacific Tours 16 Day Signature Highlights

The Grand Pacific 16 day Signature Highlights tour explores the top locations and attractions on both the North and South Islands. Starting in Christchurch visit the deep south and Fiordland National Park, Queenstown, the West Coast Glaciers before crossing the Southern Alps on board the TranzAlpine Scenic Train. Head north crossing the Cook Strait to the capital city of Wellington before 2 nights in the cultural and thermal wonderland of Rotorua. Another 2 nights in the tropical Bay of Islands before returning to Auckland, the City of Sails. A true highlights of New Zealand tour.

**\*\* Note for those travelling on September 6 2023: As the TranzAlpine Train is not operating on the noted tour departure dates, a reduction for the missed inclusion will be applied at the time of final payment, in case scheduling changes.**

Starts in: Christchurch  
Finishes in: Auckland  
Length: 16days / 15nights  
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: Comprehensive tour pack (detailed itinerary, driving, instructions, map/guidebooks, brochures)  
Included: Agrodome  
Included: Auckland City Tour  
Included: Larnach Castle  
Included: Rotorua Skyline Gondola and Luge Ride  
Included: Te Puia Maori Hangi & Concert  
Included: TSS Earnslaw cruise and dinner at Walter Peak high country farm, Queenstown  
Included: Waitangi Treaty Grounds  
: 15 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 9 dinners, 3 special dinners

Includes: All pick ups/drop offs at destinations  
Includes: 24/7 support while touring in New Zealand

Included: Arrowtown Lakes Distrit Museum  
Included: Christchurch City Tour  
Included: Milford Sound Cruise  
Included: Te Papa Museum of New Zealand

Included: TranzAlpine Train from Arthur's Pass to Christchurch

Included: Visit to Parry Kauri Park

Included: Wellington City Tour

## Day 1

On arrival into Christchurch, you will be met by a Grand Pacific Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre-dinner drink when you meet your Tour Leader and travelling companions for dinner.

Staying in Hotel Distinction Christchurch Hotel

- Standing amongst the buzz of the rejuvenated Cathedral Square, the Distinction Christchurch Hotel is an urban escape combining sophisticated smarts and familiar warmth, only a few minutes' walk from the Avon River, Botanic Gardens, Christchurch Casino and Cashel Mall. This 11 storey 4.5 star hotel offers refurbished Classic Rooms which combine luxury and relaxation for all holidaymakers. These spacious air-conditioned hotel rooms include the latest technology as well as double glazed windows to ensure a restful night's sleep. An ensuite bathroom with shower over bath and complimentary Distinction toiletries.
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## Day 2

After an introductory city sights tour depart Christchurch and travel through the southern Canterbury Plains to Lake Tekapo. See the brilliant turquoise water, The Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue. Marvel at the spectacular mountain ranges including Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest peak. The opportunity is available to enjoy a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the Southern Alps before travelling to Twizel.

Staying in Hotel Distinction Mackenzie Country

- Located in the heart of the Mackenzie region, a unique area of New Zealand's South Island where mountains meet the riverbeds sits a true country oasis. The Distinction Mackenzie Country features natural stonework and architecture that beautifully reflects and compliments the surrounding landscape. The hotel offers comfortably furnished guest rooms all featuring their own private balcony or patio from which to soak in the glorious mountain views. Featuring natural stone, roaring fires and expansive lawns, the Distinction Mackenzie Country is the ultimate place to unwind after a day experiencing the activities and sights the region has to offer.
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## Day 3

Depart Twizel and see Lake Benmore, before following the Waitaki River to Oamaru, famous for its limestone. Continue south to Dunedin and enjoy a city sights tour followed by some free time.

Staying in Hotel Scenic Hotel Southern Cross

- The Scenic Hotel Southern Cross is Dunedin's largest and most established hotel boasting 178 refurbished rooms and suites with modern style, exquisite quality, convenience and exceptional service. Just a short walk from the Octagon, railway station and close to Otago university, this perfectly located stylish inner city accommodation has everything you need for a relaxing and memorable stay.
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## Day 4

This morning travel out along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle where you hear of the tragic and scandalous history on a guided tour. Enjoy time to wander around this Garden of International Significance followed by a delicious Devonshire Tea. Farewell Dunedin and travel through Balclutha and Gore to Te Anau, gateway to Fiordland and your overnight stay. Today you may like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (optional).

Staying in Hotel Distinction Luxmore Hotel Lake Te Anau (Deluxe Room)

- Conveniently located in the heart of Te Anau's town shopping centre and a short stroll from the South Island's largest lake - Lake Te Anau. Escape into the serene surroundings of Distinction Luxmore Hotel before heading out to explore the world-famous beauty of Fiordland including Milford Sound. Enjoy staying in the Deluxe Rooms which are well appointed modern rooms with a Fiordland interior design theme. The hotel offers an excellent standard of service and the team at Distinction Luxmore will make your stay in Te Anau comfortable and enjoyable.
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## Day 5

Depart Te Anau for a fascinating drive to Milford Sound where you board your launch for a cruise on this magnificent fiord. See the spectacular Bowen Falls and towering Mitre Peak as you enjoy lunch. This afternoon travel to Queenstown, overlooking magical Lake Wakatipu. Spend the

next two nights at this year-round resort which offers a wide range of activities and attractions. This evening is free, you may choose to dine at one of the many fine restaurants.

Staying in Hotel Millennium Hotel Queenstown (2 nights)

- Right in the heart of the action, Millennium Hotel Queenstown is just minutes from Queenstown central shopping and entertainment district and offers accommodation with scenic views of Queenstown city and mountains, providing the perfect backdrop to your trip. Millennium Hotel Queenstown is a 4-star plus and Enviro-Gold Qualmark rated hotel. All rooms at Millennium Hotel Queenstown are designed for complete relaxation with its inviting bed and cosy ambience, it's a good nights rest for sure.

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## Day 6

Today is a free day for you to explore Queenstown at leisure. Your Coach Captain and Tour Leader are available to assist with the many optional activities available, including the thrill of a jet boat ride or a heritage tour of the scenic Skippers Canyon. This evening board the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station. Sit back, relax and enjoy a delicious gourmet barbecue dinner featuring a menu of seasonal, fresh and locally sourced food at the Colonel's Homestead. After dinner enjoy a short farm tour then reboard the TSS Earnslaw for a sing along by the piano as you cruise back to Queenstown.

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## Day 7

Travel to Arrowtown and visit the Lakes District Museum. Continue via the Haast Pass to the mighty West Coast, an area of stunning beauty. See the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you travel north to the township of Franz Josef. Time is available to experience a scenic flight (optional, weather permitting) over the spectacular glaciers.

Staying in Hotel Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier (Douglas Wing)

- Only a breath away from the spectacular Franz Josef Glacier, in the heart of the village and edge of the Westland World Heritage Park, lies the Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier offering everything you need to explore this dramatic region in style and comfort. The professional and friendly staff pride themselves on making your stay enjoyable and comfortable.

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## Day 8

Travel to Hokitika and visit the Greenstone Factory. Continue into Arthur's Pass and board the TranzAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. View rivers and valleys as you travel through the Waimakariri Basin, over massive viaducts and through the patchwork farmlands of the Canterbury Plains. On arrival into the elegant city of Christchurch, your coach will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel.

Staying in Hotel Sudima Christchurch Airport

- Christchurch is a popular gateway to New Zealand's spectacular South Island. This immaculate Hotel situated at the Airport is an ideal base for those who are visiting Christchurch. This 4-star hotel is well equipped to make your stay comfortable.

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## Day 9

Travel along the East Coast to the seaside village of Kaikōura. Enjoy the spectacular scenery as you travel through Marlborough Country, famous for its food and wine. Continue to Picton, where you will board the Interislander Ferry, relax in the comfort of the Queen Charlotte Lounge. Enjoy your journey through the Marlborough Sounds to Wellington.

Staying in Hotel James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor (Executive Room) (2 nights)

- The James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor presents an engaging selection of rooms, thoughtful amenities and gracious hospitality from the heart of Wellington's city centre. Recently refurbished this leading accommodation and venue provider is located on The Terrace in

New Zealand's thriving capital city nearby to all major attractions. You will stay in the Executive rooms which are located on the higher floors and showcase contemporary furnishings, deluxe bathrooms with walk-in showers and Forest & Bird amenities.

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## Day 10

A highlight this morning will be time to explore Gallipoli: A Scale of War exhibition at Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum. Cutting edge technology brings these stories to life through the eyes of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances. Reboard your coach for an extensive city tour which showcases the history and culture on show. Enjoy free time this afternoon and this evening is also free to choose your own dining arrangements.

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## Day 11

Depart Wellington and view the snowcapped peaks of Mt Ruapehu and Mt Tongariro as you travel to Lake Taupo. Visit the spectacular Huka Falls then travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua.

Staying in Hotel Pullman Rotorua (City View Room) (2 nights)

- Situated in the heart of the city and moments away from the lakefront, Pullman Rotorua is the perfect base to explore the region's geothermal paradise.

A Pullman stay is an entire experience with 130 luxurious rooms and suites, energising gym, vibrant dining and a chic bar. Pullman is surrounded by surreal scenery and iconic attractions. Discover shooting geysers, bubbling mud, natural hot springs and magical forests.

Experience a contemporary open-plan room design inspired by the region's geothermal origins. Windows let in the daylight and views overlooking the vibrant city. The room features a plush Pullman king-size bed and local artwork.

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## Day 12

Today begins with a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua. There is also time for a thrilling luge ride! Next stop is Agrodome for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment and education that is unlike anything you've seen before. Enjoy some free time this afternoon before visiting Te Puia to see the boiling mud pools and awesome geysers that Rotorua is famous for. This evening experience an entertaining Māori Hāngi and Concert.

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## Day 13

This morning depart Rotorua and travel north to Whangarei to the Bay of Islands. This afternoon enjoy a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Māori tribes and the British.

Staying in Hotel Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands (2 nights)

- Any time of year is ideal for escaping to the Bay of Islands in the 'Winterless North', and this property, situated at the entrance to the seaside town of Paihia, is the perfect resort-style retreat.
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The entire property has been extensively refurbished and expanded, and the attention to detail is sure to impress. The island-influenced architecture with expansive sub-tropical gardens, water features, extensive guest facilities and easy walking access to Paihia's main local attractions makes this 4-star Hotel a standout.

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## Day 14

Today you will cruise through the beautiful Bay of Islands aboard a luxury catamaran to Cape Brett, where a historic lighthouse keeps watch over Piercy Island, or as it is popularly known, the 'Hole in the Rock'. Keep an eye out for dolphins and other marine life before returning to Paihia for a free afternoon. A range of optional activities are available, or you may choose to relax and enjoy the pleasant atmosphere of the waterfront. This evening is also free, you may like to enjoy a relaxing dinner cruise (optional).

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## Day 15

Depart the Bay of Islands this morning and travel via Whangarei and Dargaville to Matakoho. Enjoy a visit and informative talk at the Kauri Museum before continuing to Auckland for a city sights tour. This evening enjoy a pre-dinner drink and reminisce on memories shared with your new friends at the farewell dinner.

Staying in Hotel Sudima Auckland City

- Sudima Auckland City is a brand new 4.5-star hotel in the heart of the city. It's conveniently located within easy walking distance of Auckland's bustling shopping, arts, dining and entertainment. Sudima Auckland City's central location makes it a perfect base for exploring Auckland city and beyond.

You will stay in the superior room which features a luxurious bed and ensuite bathroom. An Amazon Echo sits by the bedside, giving you access to local information, music, news and more. You will find all the necessary amenities like tea and coffee facilities, iron and mini-fridge to name a few.

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## Day 16

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a memorable New Zealand holiday.

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## Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	Guided Coach Tour
Starts:	Christchurch
Finishes:	Auckland
Tour length:	16
Accommodation:	Hotel 4 star
Car/transport type:	

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## Included activities

Includes	12 dinners
Includes	1 picnic lunch
Includes	All breakfasts
Includes	Airport transfers
Includes	Experienced Tour Leader
Includes	Interislander ferry crossing
Includes	TranzAlpine Train from Arthur's Pass to Christchurch
Includes	Hole in the Rock Dolphin Cruise
Includes	Matakohe Kauri Museum
Includes	Entrance to Agrodome and show
Includes	Rotorua Skyline Gondola and luge ride
Includes	Larnach Castle
Includes	TSS Earnslaw cruise and dinner at Walter Peak high country farm, Queenstown
Includes	Auckland City Sights Tour
Includes	Thermal mud pools & geysers
Includes	Wellington City Sights Tour
Includes	Te Papa Museum of New Zealand
Includes	Dunedin City Sights tour
Includes	Christchurch City Sights tour
Includes	Traditional Maori Hangi & Cultural Evening
Includes	Lakes District Museum

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## Accommodation summary