



ADVENTURE PAST TIMES

New Zealand's Queen Charlotte Track and Marlborough Sounds 10-Day Walking Holiday

Christchurch to Wellington

2020-21

10 Days

From \$7,145 NZD

pp

Trip Code: DWNZQ10

Inclusions

- 9 night's luxury stays in boutique lodges and city hotels plus travel on the Coastal Pacific train from Christchurch to Picton
- Enjoy locally-inspired gourmet dining – a total of 19 meals (9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 5 Dinners) including wine with dinner during Queen Charlotte Track walk
- Walk through pristine locations including Queen Charlotte and Kenepuru Sounds
- Cruise the Interislander ferry with breathtaking views from the South to the North Island
- Carry day packs only in a small group of up to 20 guests accompanied by your APT Walking Leader and local walking guides
- Guests (and luggage) travel between accommodation and trail-heads aboard a comfortable vehicle with an expert Driver-Guide
- Discover the Marlborough wine region, with a delicious lunch including wine tastings
- Spend time discovering the New Zealand capital of Wellington with a walk or electric bike tour

TRIP NOTES

- Itinerary and inclusions are subject to change
- Guests must be fit and healthy with the ability to walk over a variety of terrains for a maximum of 8 hours in one day (with regular breaks)
- Guests to bring their own day packs and walking poles (if required)
- Gear list provided prior to departure
- 15kg luggage limit on the Queen Charlotte Walk (excess luggage can be stored in Picton)
- Price includes return airport transfers
- Prices are for land tour only, flights not included

Map & Itinerary



DAY

1

Arrive Christchurch

Arrive into Christchurch Airport where you'll be met and transferred to your hotel. This evening meet your APT Walking Leader and fellow guests at a welcome reception and briefing.

Stay: Novotel Christchurch or similar

DAY

2

Christchurch To Picton

An early start this morning, stepping on board the Coastal Pacific train for a scenic ride to the town of Picton, the gateway to the Marlborough Sounds. Enjoy the incredible views as your train travels breathtakingly close to the Pacific Ocean on this iconic rail journey along the east coast of New Zealand's South Island. Arrive into Picton this afternoon and transfer to your hotel. Later attend a pre-walk briefing before enjoying dinner at the hotel.

Stay: Picton Yacht Club

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Dinner

DAY

3

Picton, Queen Charlotte Track To Endeavour Inlet

Board a ferry this morning and cruise to Motuara Island, a bird sanctuary, where you'll set off on a short walk to the island's lookout for 360 degree views of the Marlborough Sounds. Reboard the ferry and head to Ship Cove, looking out for dolphins on the way. Here you'll begin the first section of the Queen Charlotte track, walking through stunning beech and fern forests to Endeavour Inlet, and the welcome site of the Furneaux Lodge, where you will be treated to a gourmet dinner of chef-prepared local produce and Marlborough wine.

Walking distance, 15 kilometres (5 hours)

Stay: Endeavour Inlet, Furneaux Lodge

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Lunch ● Dinner

DAY

4

Queen Charlotte Track, Endeavour Inlet To Punga Cove

Today, your walk takes you from the native bush surrounds of Endeavour Inlet, pausing to discover remnants of long-ago settlements and learning about the area's mining history. Continuing along the track, some sections hug the coast while others delve into pristine native forests. Take time to enjoy the spectacular coastal views and enjoy a gourmet picnic lunch which is guaranteed to be accompanied by an outstanding vista. This afternoon, arrive at Punga Cove and check in to Punga Cove Resort where your room has a sea view and a delicious gourmet meal with local wine will be served this evening.

Walking distance, 11.5 kilometres (4 hours)

Stay: Punga Cove Resort

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Lunch ● Dinner

DAY

5

Queen Charlotte Track Punga Cove To Torea Bay

Today you may choose to embark on the most challenging but rewarding section of the walk, or perhaps opt to spend the day at leisure before boarding a boat take you around Queen Charlotte Sound the Portage Hotel. The walkers will embark on a trek across the ridgeline from Punga Cove to Torea Saddle, with breathtaking views overlooking the Queen Charlotte and Kenepuru Sounds. After a full day on the track, unlace your hiking boots in a sea view room at the Portage Hotel, located on the waterfront with sublime views of the turquoise expanse of Torea Bay. Enjoy a delicious dinner of contemporary New Zealand cuisine paired with Marlborough region wine.

Walking distance, 23 kilometres (8 hours)

Stay: Torea Bay, Portage Hotel

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Lunch ● Dinner

DAY

6

Queen Charlotte Track, Torea Bay To Anakiwa, Blenheim

Set off from the Portage Hotel after a delicious breakfast, for the last day of the Queen Charlotte Track walk. Once again the scenery is majestic and after some initial hilly rises, the track will take you through easy sections of open farmland and native bush. The full day's walk includes a gourmet picnic lunch and plenty of rest breaks to enjoy the epic views. Arrive at Anakiwa Jetty where a boat will take you back to Picton, followed by a transfer to the town of Blenheim, in the heart of the Marlborough wine-growing region.

Walking distance, 20.5 kilometres (7 hours)

Stay: Two nights, Blenheim, Hotel Durville or similar

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Lunch

DAY

7

Blenheim

This morning you may choose to rest and relax or perhaps set off and explore the town of Blenheim which has a rich Polynesian cultural heritage. Enjoy a local-flavoured lunch at a winery and tastings in the afternoon.

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Lunch

DAY

8

Blenheim To Wellington

This morning, travel to Picton where you'll board the Interislander Ferry. Cruise across Cook Strait traversing the stunning waters of Marlborough and Queen Charlotte sounds while taking in breathtaking surrounds. Arrive into Wellington, the nation's capital, and transfer to your luxurious art-inspired hotel. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon and evening at leisure.

Stay: Two Nights, Wellington QT Hotel

Daily : ● Breakfast

DAY

9

Wellington

Today enjoy a discovery of the delightful city of Wellington on either a walking or electric bike tour. Enjoy the sights of the harbour city's busy waterfront fringed by colourful timber houses all gracefully overlooked by Tangi-te keo (Mt Victoria). Celebrate the end of your New Zealand Walking holiday with a Farewell Dinner this evening.

Daily : ● Breakfast ● Dinner

DAY
10

Depart Wellington

This morning after breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home.

Daily : ● Breakfast