

Rail & Cruise Experiences of New Zealand

Christchurch to Auckland



Trip Code: NRR16

Trip Highlights



TranzAlpine Train

Enjoy the views on one of the world's greatest rail journeys as you travel across New Zealand's Southern Alps.



Taieri Gorge Railway

Watch as the ever-changing Southland countryside glides past your window aboard the Taieri Gorge Railway.



Forgotten World Rail Cruising

Take control of your own personal railcart and enjoy the scenery of rolling hills and verdant farmland.

Travel & Accommodation



Sky Waka Gondola

Journey into the clouds on New Zealand's longest gondola for afternoon tea with spectacular views over Mt Ruapehu.



Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise

Board a spectacular overnight cruise on Doubtful Sound and discover rugged peaks, pristine rainforest and hidden islets.



New Zealand's Cultural Flavours

Savour feature dinners including a traditional Hangi feast in Rotorua.

Inclusions

- Experiences in 17 destinations
- Finest dining a total of 26 meals
- Services of an APT Tour Director and Driver

TRIP NOTES

- Itinerary and inclusions are subject to change
- Prices are for land/rail only. Flights not included

- Freedom of Choice inclusions in two locations
- 15 nights hand-picked accommodation
- Return airport transfers and porterage
- International/domestic flights not included in tour price

Map & Itinerary



Signature Experiences

Designed Exclusively for APT guests

S SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

These once-in-a-lifetime moments allow you to experience an unforgettable world of exclusive moments, incredible cultures and charming surprises

IFREEDOM OF CHOICE™ - DINING

Choose from a variety of included dining options sure to tantalise the tastebuds of every guest

FREEDOM OF CHOICE™ - SIGHTSEEING

Personalise your holiday with a choice of included sightseeing options sure to leave you with lifelong memories

DAY 1

Arrive Christchurch

Arrive in Christchurch and be transferred to your hotel. Enjoy a tour of the city's sights before a Welcome Dinner this evening.

Stay: Christchurch, The Commodore

Christchurch, TranzAlpine Train, Franz Josef 🛞

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Board the TranzAlpine train for one of the world's greatest rail adventures.

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Take in the dramatic icy surrounds of the Franz Josef Glacier.

Disembark the TranzAlpine Train and travel by coach to Franz Josef.

Stay: Scenic Hotel Franz Josef

Daily :

Breakfast
Dinner

Franz Josef, Queenstown 🌗

FREEDOM OF CHOICE™ - Dining

Tonight, perhaps sample quality crafted beer at Canyon Food & Brew Co. Alternatively, take a scenic gondola ride to the Skyline Restaurant for dinner with a view. You may prefer a cruise aboard the TSS Earnslaw, a vintage steamboat, or dine amid the stylish surrounds of the Elements Restaurant.

Enjoy breathtaking scenery as you travel along the Haast River to Queenstown, where this evening you will choose where to dine.

Stay: Two Nights, Novotel Queenstown Lakeside

Daily :

Breakfast
Dinner

day 4

Queenstown

FREEDOM OF CHOICE[™] - Sightseeing

Choose your activity today. Visit where The Lord of the Rings was filmed; enjoy a cruise on Lake Wakatipu; take a Skippers Canyon adventure; join a river safari along Dart River; or enjoy a winery tour.

Choose from a range of sightseeing options today.

Daily :

Breakfast

Queenstown, Doubtful Sound (S)

S SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Board a spectacular overnight cruise on the beautiful Doubtful Sound.

Journey through Fiordland National Park then, board a cruise across Lake Manapouri and travel to Doubtful Sound, the second largest fiord within the national park.

Stay: Doubtful Sound overnight cruise

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Daily : 

Breakfast
Dinner
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DAY 6

Doubtful Sound, Dunedin

Leave the Fiordland region and travel to Dunedin, the 'Edinburgh of the South'.

Stay: Two Nights, Distinction Dunedin Hotel

Daily :

Breakfast
Dinner

day 7

Taieri Gorge Railway, Dunedin 🛞

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Journey through the picturesque Southland countryside aboard the Taieri Gorge Railway.

Step aboard the Taieri Gorge Railway.

Daily :

Breakfast

Dunedin, Seasider Train, Aoraki Mt Cook 🛞

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Board the Seasider train and travel along Otago Harbour and Port Chalmers.

S SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Board the Coastal Pacific train and enjoy a journey through the rugged east coast to Christchurch.

After a scenic coastal train journey on the Seasider Train, head north to see the unusual Moeraki Boulders then to Oamaru and World Heritage-listed Aoraki Mt Cook National Park. Visit the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre.

Stay: Aoraki Mt Cook, The Hermitage Hotel

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Daily : 
    Breakfast
    Dinner
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day 9

Aoraki Mt Cook, Lake Tekapo, Christchurch

Drive along the shores of Lake Pukaki to Lake Tekapo. Visit the tiny Church of the Good Shepherd then continue to Christchurch.

Stay: Rydges Latimer Christchurch

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Daily : 

Breakfast
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day 10

Coastal Pacific Train, Picton, Wellington 🛞

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Step aboard the Interislander ferry to cruise across the Cook Strait.

Enjoy a journey through the rugged east coast to Picton. Cross Cook Strait and through the Marlborough and Queen Charlotte sounds to Wellington.

Stay: Two Nights, InterContinental Wellington

Daily :
 Breakfast
 Dinner

Wellington

See the sights of Wellington, then ride Wellington's iconic Cable Car for spectacular views over this scenic coastal city.

Daily :

Breakfast

day 12

Featherston, Tongariro National Park 🛞

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Explore the fascinating Fell Locomotive Museum in Featherston this morning.

This afternoon, travel to Tongariro National Park. Then, enjoy a chairlift ride to the top of Mount Ruapehu.

Stay: Chateau Tongariro Hotel

Daily :

Breakfast
Dinner

day 13

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Tongariro National Park, Rail Cruising Experience, Rotorua

S SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

This evening, enjoy a traditional Hangi feast and performance.

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Board a self-drive cart rail along a decommissioned railway line in Taumarunui.

Discover Whanganui National Park, before travelling to Rotorua.

Stay: Two Nights, Millennium Rotorua

Daily :
 Breakfast
 Lunch
 Dinner

Rotorua (S²)

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Perhaps experience one of New Zealand's best-loved attractions, the Agrodome, with its entertaining sheep shearing demonstration, dog trials and animal nursery then visit the Te Puia Thermal Reserve; alternatively, choose to visit Wai-O-Tapu or experience Middle-earth during a tour of the Hobbiton Movie Set.

Spend this morning on your Freedom of Choice activity. The afternoon and evening are free for you to explore at your leisure.

Daily :

Breakfast

Rotorua, Glenbrook Vintage Railway, Auckland 🛞

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

Step back in time as you experience the history of Glenbrook Vintage Railway.

This morning, travel to Glenbrook. Travel to Victoria Avenue and Waiuku, before enjoying a stop at the Pukeoware Depot. This afternoon, take in the sights of Auckland on a guided tour before a Farewell Dinner this evening.

Stay: Grand Millenium Auckland

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Daily : 
    Breakfast 
    Dinner
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day 16

Depart Auckland

Today you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

Daily :

Breakfast