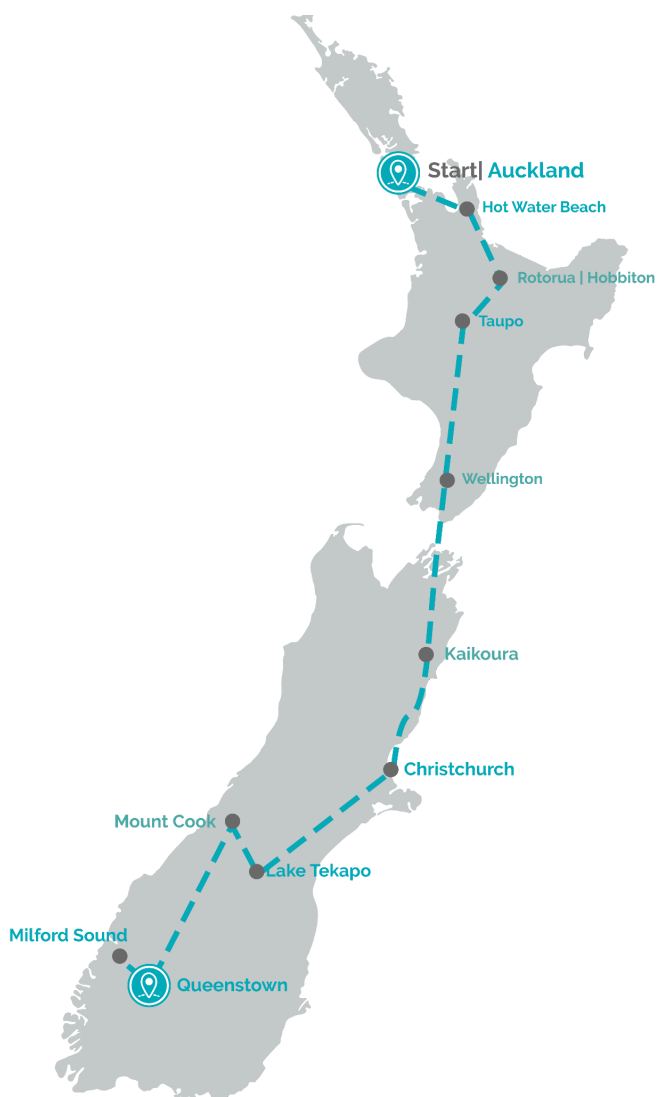


ULTIMATE NEW ZEALAND HIGHLIGHTS

21-DAY / 20-NIGHT NEW ZEALAND HIGHLIGHTS GROUP TOUR

Experience the very best of New Zealand with our ULTIMATE Highlights tour. This fast-paced adventure takes you from Auckland to Queenstown, with stops at iconic locations like Hobbiton, Rotorua, Wellington, Mount Cook, and Queenstown. Sail through the 8th wonder of the world, visit the Lord of The Rings movie set, experience a geothermal wonderland, explore Maori Village and much more!



INCLUSIONS:

- ULTIMATE Group Leader
- Welcome Dinner + Drink
- 20 nights accommodation
- All coach & ferry travel
- Auckland City Tour
- Cathedral Cove & Hot Water Beach Day Trip
- Hobbiton Movie Set Tour
- Visit Huka Falls
- Experience a traditional Maori Village at Te Pa Tu
- Visit Hell's Gate Geothermal Spa
- Enjoy an after Catamaran Cruise on Lake Taupo and discover the Maori Rock Carvings
- Kaikoura Whale Watching Experience
- Stargaze at a 2 night Lake Tekapo Retreat
- Visit the Good of the Shepherd Church
- Day trip to Mt Cook - New Zealand's tallest mountain
- Queenstown Bar Crawl
- Day trip to 8th wonder of the world - Milford Sound
- Queenstown Summit Walk
- Optional activities available
- Select meals included

We recommend a budget of \$100 NZD per day for extra meals/additional activities.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 | Welcome to New Zealand

Kia Ora and welcome to New Zealand! Today our New Zealand Highlights Tour kicks off in Auckland. We will visit all the local sights and hotspots of New Zealand's largest and busiest city. Today you'll also meet all your new travel buddies and your group leader will give you a rundown on what's happening over the next few weeks! This evening we meet back again for our welcome dinner.

Tour Start: 6pm

Includes: Welcome Dinner

Accommodation: Lylo Hostel (or Similar)

Day 2 | Auckland City Orientation & Free Day

Today you'll get to explore Auckland, New Zealand's largest and most vibrant city. Your Group Leader will take you on an orientation tour, introducing you to the city's must-see sights & local hotspots. Afterwards, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy at your own pace - relax, explore the city further, or soak up Auckland's lively atmosphere.

Includes: Guided City Orientation

Accommodation: Lylo Hostel (or Similar)

Day 3 | Cathedral Cove & Hot Water Beach

You will head to the Coromandel Peninsula on a guided day trip. Known for its pristine beaches and volcanic springs, here you'll visit Cathedral Cove Beach which is one of New Zealand's most iconic photo spots, Cathedral Cove is renowned for its picture-perfect archway. That evening you'll arrive at Hot Water Beach, a natural geothermal hotspot where you can create your very own spa! Dig yourself a hole in the sand, the hole will fill with hot water and relax, watching the sunset.

Includes: Cathedral Cove & Hot Water Beach Day Trip

Accommodation: Lylo Hostel (or Similar)

Day 4 | Hobbiton

Get ready for another full day of adventure! Depart Auckland to The Shire for your guided Hobbiton Movie Set Tour. This award-winning attraction was made famous by the popular Lord of the Rings and Hobbit movies. Here you'll see all the Hobbiton highlights including charming Hobbit holes, hear all the behind-the-scenes secrets and enjoy a complimentary drink at the iconic Green Dragon Inn. You will also have lunch included! At the end of the day you'll carry on your journey southbound to Rotorua.

Includes:

Hobbiton Movie Set Guided Day Trip

Day 5 | Rotorua

Today we arrive in Rotorua, famous for its rich Māori culture and unique geothermal landscapes. Once settled in, you'll have free time to relax or explore the town at your own pace before tomorrow's activities begin.

For those looking for an adrenaline rush, there are activities available at an additional cost, including white water rafting and the chance to tackle the world's tallest commercially rafted waterfall.

Accommodation: Rock Solid Backpackers (or Similar)

Days 6 | Rotorua: Hell's Gate Geothermal Spa & Te Pā Tū

Today you will also be given a day ticket to the famous Hell's Gate Geothermal Mud Spa, for a full Geothermal experience! This includes a guided bush walk around the geothermal wonderland followed by a 2 hour mud spa experience in the natural hot springs. Hell's Gate is nicknamed as the place where the centre of the Earth meets the sky!

Tonight you will experience a traditional Māori Village experience. Te Pā Tū presents culture and cuisine, while proudly sharing Māori history and traditions. In this unique and interactive experience, you will enjoy traditional maori performances, indulge in local activities and learn all about the rich history!

Includes:

Hell's Gate Geothermal Spa

Te Pā Tū Maori Village Experience with banquet dinner

Accommodation: Rock Solid Backpackers (or Similar)

Day 7 | Rotorua to Taupo

Your next stop is Taupo, home to Australasia's largest river! Lake Taupo is roughly the size of Singapore and not only that, it leads to Huka Falls, New Zealand's most powerful waterfall. Your Group Leader will take you on a guided walk to the Huka Falls Lookout.

Accommodation: Finlay Jack's Hostel (or Similar)

Day 8 | Taupo Catamaran Cruise

Today you'll experience the beauty of Lake Taupo on a private afternoon catamaran cruise. Relax onboard as you sail across the crystal-clear water, enjoy the chance to swim, take in the sunset, and cruise past the famous Māori Rock Carvings.

Includes:

Māori Rock Carvings Catamaran Cruise

Accommodation: Finlay Jack's Hostel (or Similar)

Day 9 | Taupo to Wellington

Today we journey south to Wellington, New Zealand's vibrant capital city. Known for its creative culture, waterfront setting, and lively atmosphere, Wellington is the perfect place to relax and unwind after the past few adventure-filled days.

Once we arrive, you'll have a free evening to explore the city's buzzing arts, food, and nightlife scene before joining the group for dinner together.

Includes:

Group Dinner

Accommodation: Little Drifter Wellington (or similar)

Day 10 | Wellington

Today is yours to explore Wellington at your own pace. Visit the famous Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, ride the iconic Wellington Cable Car to the Botanic Gardens, or take in panoramic views from Mount Victoria Lookout.

You can also explore the lively atmosphere of Cuba Street and Hannahs Laneway, known for their cafés, craft beer, local eats, and nightlife, or visit the famous Wētā Workshop to discover the magic behind some of New Zealand's biggest films.

Accommodation: Little Drifter Wellington (or similar)

Day 11 | Wellington to Kaikoura

Now is the time to make the journey to the south island. You will board the Interislander Ferry across the Cook Strait with your group and head to relaxed and beautiful seaside town of Kaikōura, which is New Zealand's home of marine wildlife and the undisputed BEST fish 'n' chips in New Zealand!

Includes:

Ferry ticket

Accommodation: Dusky Lodge Hostel Kaikoura (or similar)

Day 12 | Kaikoura - Whale Watching

Today you will experience a proper bucket list activity - an included Whale Watching cruise! Take a 2 hour trip around the bay enjoying all the marine wildlife - enjoy seeing heaps of Whales, sometimes we even see some dolphins and Orcas too!

Includes:

Kaikoura Whale Watching Experience

Accommodation: Dusky Lodge Hostel Kaikoura (or similar)

Day 13 | Kaikoura to Christchurch

Today we arrive in Christchurch, where you'll have some free time to explore. A great starting point is the lively city centre, home to one of New Zealand's most iconic laneways - a vibrant precinct filled with bars, restaurants, and boutique shops, with the famous Christchurch tram running right through its heart, adding to the city's unique charm and character.

Accommodation: Little Drifter Christchurch (or similar)

Day 14 | Christchurch to Lake Tekapo

This morning you'll leave Christchurch behind and make the scenic drive to Lake Tekapo. Check into your lakefront hostel with front row views of the famous ice-blue Tekapo waters. Spend the afternoon visiting the iconic Church of the Good Shepherd or take a dip in the Tekapo Hot Springs. Tonight, wrap up warm - you'll be heading out for your group stargazing experience under some of the clearest skies in the southern hemisphere.

Included: Group stargazing experience

Accommodation: Stay in Tekapo Backpackers (or similar)

Day 15 | Lake Tekapo

A free day to make the most of Tekapo at your own pace. Head back to the Hot Springs if you missed them yesterday, take a walk along the lake shore, or simply sit back and take in one of the most beautiful landscapes in New Zealand. Tonight you have another chance to soak up those incredible star-filled skies.

Accommodation: Stay in Tekapo Backpackers (or similar)

Day 16 | Mount Cook

Today you'll leave Tekapo behind to make your way south to Queenstown. On the way you'll make a stop venturing the foothills of New Zealand's highest mountain, Mount Cook. This fully guided half-day trip will have you enjoy the scenery of the Southern Alps and take a group tour around the base. You can decide to upgrade to an Alpine Scenic Flight if you wish. Then carry on your journey to New Zealand's Adventure Capital - Queenstown!

Includes:

Fully guided day trip to Mount Cook

Day 17 | Queenstown

Welcome to Queenstown: The backpacker and adrenaline capital of New Zealand. Check into your ski lodge-style hostel and get your bearings in this incredible lakeside town. Tonight, join your group on a local bar crawl through Queenstown's legendary nightlife scene.

Includes:

Queenstown Bar

Accommodation: Nomads Queenstown (or similar)

Day 18 | Milford Sound

Today you'll head out on a full day trip to Milford Sound - one of the most breathtaking places on earth. Board your boat for an unforgettable cruise through the 8th wonder of the world, taking in dramatic landscapes, huge waterfalls and towering mountains. You'll return to Queenstown in the evening with plenty of time for one last night out.

Includes:

Milford Sound Day Trip with boatcruise

Accommodation: Nomads Queenstown (or similar)

Day 19 | Queenstown

Time to explore Queenstown with plenty of epic, once-in-a-lifetime experiences on offer. For thrill-seekers, this is your chance to take on some of New Zealand's most iconic adventures - from a 15,000 ft skydive over incredible alpine scenery to the legendary Nevis Bungy, the tallest bungy jump in the Southern Hemisphere.

Whether you're chasing adrenaline or simply soaking up the scenery, Queenstown offers endless ways to make the most of your day.

Note: Activities at an extra cost

Accommodation: Nomads Queenstown (or similar)

Day 20 | Queenstown

Your final day in Queenstown and your last chance to squeeze in anything you haven't done yet. Pick up some souvenirs, grab a meal with your new friends and take it all in one last time. The New Zealand Highlights Adventure comes to an end tomorrow morning.

Accommodation: Nomads Queenstown (or similar)

Day 21 | Tour End

Today our New Zealand Highlights Adventure comes to an end and we bid farewell to our new friends and this incredible country

Tour End: 10am