

# FREEDOM OF NEW ZEALAND

FRANZ JOSEF • MILFORD SOUND • ABEL TASMAN • RAGLAN • QUEENSTOWN

## THE OFFER

Perfection is hard to achieve, but New Zealand comes pretty close. Soaring redwood forests and golden sand beaches, majestic mountains and valleys that almost call out to be explored... every step within this beautiful country leads to another highlight or unexpected thrill. And that's just in the great outdoors. The cities are a whole other story. Ready to experience it for yourself?

For 16 sensational days, you'll go behind the scenery to uncover what makes New Zealand tick. The people, the history, the culture and the natural beauty - it's all covered and then some. Enjoy a sunset cruise in Raglan, feel dwarfed by the redwoods of Whakarewarewa, delve into Maori culture at Lake Aniwhenua, and spend a morning cruising gorgeous Abel Tasman National Park. Explore the Art Deco streets of Napier, embrace the urban cool of Wellington, kick back in the lakeside mecca of Queenstown, and get to know the quirky city of Christchurch. Did someone say a day cruise on Milford Sound and hike to Franz Josef Glacier? They're both included too!

Package includes 15 nights quality accommodation, 14 meals, experienced tour guide and more.

16 DAY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

FROM

\$4399

PER PERSON TWIN SHARE



## 16 DAY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR | FREEDOM OF NEW ZEALAND

### THE ITINERARY

#### Day 1 Arrive Auckland

Welcome to Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland) the city of sails, the largest city in New Zealand and home to approximately 2 million people. The magic of Auckland is the diversity of Auckland is immense from culture to the environment, there are over 44 volcanoes in the area, 2 harbours; one on the east coast and the other just 8kms away on the west coast, hence the name City of Sails which dates back to when the Maori arrived. Take the afternoon or early evening to explore after you make your way to the Quadrant Hotel in central Auckland.

**Overnight: Quadrant Hotel or similar**

**Meals included: None**

#### Day 2 Auckland to Raglan

This morning we'll be leaving Auckland and heading to Raglan. Raglan is New Zealand's answer to Byron Bay. A coastal town known as a surfing mecca and is popular with creative and artistic folks. Before we head into the town, we'll make a stop at the Bridal Veil Falls. Bridal Veil is an impressive plunge waterfall with beautiful surroundings. Once you've snapped all the photos you need, we'll cruise into Raglan where you'll get settled at your hotel before boarding a Sunset Cruise around Raglan Harbour.

**Overnight: Sunset Motel Raglan or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast;Dinner**

#### Day 3 Raglan to Rotorua

Rise and shine this morning in beautiful Raglan. Head out for a world class cup of coffee and some breakfast at one of the amazing Raglan cafes while soaking up the vibe of this gorgeous west coast town. Afterwards, we drive to Waitomo,

famous for the spectacular Waitomo Glowworm Caves. This is a unique opportunity to see thousands of twinkling glow worms as you take a serene boat journey through the caves. Get up close and personal with these intriguing creatures and be amazed by the sheer number of glimmering lights in the darkness.

Afterwards, we continue to the thermal wonderland of Rotorua. Known as the North Island's geothermal hot spot, Rotorua is one of the best places to explore... even if your nostrils tell you otherwise! We'll stop at the Whakarewarewa Forest for a walk amongst the giant California Redwoods planted over 100 years ago before checking in at our hotel. If you want to see some geothermal activity for free, head across the road to Kuirau Park to see boiling mud pools and steaming lakes.

**Overnight: Millennium Rotorua or similar**

**Meals included: None**

#### Day 4 Rotorua to Taupo (via Lake Aniwhenua)

This morning is yours to enjoy breakfast and relax before we venture off the beaten track to the shores of Lake Aniwhenua in Murupara. Kohutapu Lodge is owned by a local Maori family who are passionate, not only about showcasing their Maori tribal heritage but also about making a difference in the local area. Murupara is an impoverished community that has been transformed for the better through tourism and commercial development. Through community-driven initiatives and a clear vision to provide more opportunities for the local youth, Kohutapu Lodge has paved the way for change in the area.

Begin the experience with a guided tour of the sacred Maori rock carvings before arriving at the Lodge to witness the preparation of a ground cooked hangi and tasting it for



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yourself!

After lunch, we'll depart for the lush, green Whirinaki rainforest for a guided tour along the Rongoa trail. Spot native endangered birds and ancient medicinal plants, and learn more about the history of the forest, including the myths and legends before enjoying a hot kawakawa tea in the forest and a final karakia. This evening, we drive to Taupo where you'll have the option to grab dinner.

**Overnight: Taupo Acapulco or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch**

#### Day 5 Taupo to Napier

This morning we'll head to the majestic Huka Falls before we venture along the Napier-Taupo Highway to what is widely regarded as the 'Tuscany of the Southern Pacific'. The stunning Hawke's Bay region boasts some of the best wineries around. Known for its perfectly preserved Art Deco facades, Napier is often referred to as a 1930's film set. You have the option to stroll along the tree-lined promenade this evening and sample some fresh seafood from one of the many restaurants.

**Overnight: Scenic Hotel Te Pania or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 6 Napier to Wellington

Onwards to Wellington, the 'coolest little capital in the world!' Wellington packs a lot of character into its downtown district, with funky restaurants and bars along Cuba Street and Courtenay Place. Fill your afternoon by browsing through the exhibits at Te Papa National Museum, grab a craft beer at an edgy brewery, climb to the top of Mt Victoria for panoramic views or take a stroll along the waterfront and Oriental

Parade. Oh and, most importantly for those who seek 24/7 caffeine, you'll be glad to know that Wellington's coffee culture and cafe scene is considered one of the best in NZ.

**Overnight: Distinction Wellington or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 7 Wellington to Nelson

Catch an early Bluebridge Ferry across the Cook Strait and through the magnificent Marlborough Sounds to the South Island. If the weather's good, head out to the viewing deck to witness some incredible scenes before arriving in Picton and setting off through the picturesque Marlborough region. Then we continue to Nelson, a quirky town known for local arts and crafts stores, and art galleries.

Optional paid activities: Wine tasting (usually NZD \$5-10).

**Overnight: Rutherford Hotel or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 8 Nelson

Travel to the seaside resort town of Kaiteriteri and spend the morning cruising the stunning Abel Tasman National Park - a coastal paradise known for its golden sand beaches. See the iconic Split Apple Rock and call into the most popular beaches along the coastline as you sail up to Totaranui and back. This afternoon we'll take the scenic route back to Nelson and head to the Mapua Wharf for a wine tasting and a platter in the sunshine.

**Overnight: Rutherford Hotel or similar**

**Meals included: Lunch**

#### Day 9 Nelson to Hokitika



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This morning we'll travel through the Buller Gorge, home of New Zealand's longest swing bridge. Onwards, gaze at untamed beaches and spectacular rainforest as we drive down the incredibly scenic 'wild' West Coast. We'll stop at Cape Foulwind to visit the fur seal breeding colony before stopping shortly after at the Punakaiki Pancake Rocks and Blowholes to take a walk around these fascinating geological formations.

We'll then drive through Greymouth, a historic town known for jade hunting, gold mining and dramatic river floods before arriving in the vibrant, artistic town of Hokitika. We'll visit the amazing Greenstone and Glass blowing factories and watch some talented artists at work before getting settled in at your hotel.

**Overnight: Beachfront Hotel Hokitika or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 10 Hokitika to Franz Josef

Travel south along the coast to the Westland National Park, home of the Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers. This remarkable part of the country was shaped by the dynamic glaciers and boasts lush temperate rainforest growing beneath towering mountains. Get settled into the Franz Josef village and explore this quaint town and its many local eateries and bars.

**Overnight: Rainforest Retreat Motels or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 11 Franz Josef

Get ready to experience the Franz Josef Glacier, an iconic highlight of the West Coast. Take a short drive to the beginning of the track. Hike through native bush and across glacial streams to the terminal face of the glacier for spectacular photos or just hang out at the Retreat and relax in

one of NZ's largest spa pools. Alternatively, if the weather is nice you can book a Helicopter up to the top of the Glacier for some first-class views!

**Overnight: Rainforest Retreat Motels or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 12 Franz Josef to Queenstown

It's another scenic journey today with plenty of photo stops – your family aren't going to be the only ones who think your travel photos are world-class! First up is the amazing mirror-like Lake Matheson for a short walk. Travel inland through the mountainous Haast Pass and alongside beautiful Lake Hawea and make our way to Queenstown, known in New Zealand as the 'Adventure Capital of the World' and the spiritual home of bungee jumping. We stop at Kawarau Bridge on our way into town a.k.a. the first commercial bungee jumping site in the world. If you're feeling brave you can tick the bungee off your bucket list or if you'd prefer to just watch then you can cheer on some willing strangers from the viewing platform!

**Overnight: Heritage Queenstown or similar**

**Meals included: Breakfast**

#### Day 13 Queenstown

Today you'll hop aboard a Coach which will take you to the stunning Milford Sound. You'll take a Cruise across this impressive Sound and see towering Mitre Peak, plus rainforests and waterfalls as well as spotting some amazing wildlife like Fur Seals, Penguins and Dolphins. Once you've snapped as many pics as you possibly can, it's back to Queenstown. We recommend checking out the buzzy nightlife and many restaurants Queenstown has to offer.

**Overnight: Heritage Queenstown or similar**



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### THE ITINERARY

**Meals included: None**

#### Day 14 Queenstown

You've got a full day in the adventure capital today. With beautiful mountain scenery and plenty of outdoor activities, it's easy to understand why so many holidaymakers refuse to leave this place.

**Overnight: Heritage Queenstown or similar**

**Meals included: None**

#### Day 15 Queenstown to Mount Cook

Depart Queenstown early to drive over the Lindis Pass through the beautiful Mackenzie Country and past the vivid blue waters of Lake Pukaki. Then, we head north to our amazing overnight stop Lake Tekapo, an electric blue lake framed by the Southern Alps. See the famous Church of the Good Shepherd, a quaint stone church right on the edge of the lake. In the afternoon, take a hike up to the Mount John Observatory to see the incredible views. Or if you'd rather just have a self-care afternoon, then the Tekapo Hot Springs is the perfect place to relax. Tonight, if skies are clear, head outside to experience one of the best stargazing spots in the country.

**Overnight: Mount Cook Lodge or similar**

**Meals included: None**

#### Day 16 Mount Cook to Christchurch

Our final destination is Christchurch where the tour will end. If you have time at the end of your tour, there's plenty to explore in Christchurch. Spend your afternoon wandering the city streets and laneways to discover creative street art and hidden eateries. Take a walk down Hereford St to discover the 'Cardboard' Cathedral and the earthquake memorial

of 185 White Chairs. If you have a bit more time, visit the Christchurch Botanic Gardens and see how Christchurch earned its nickname as the Garden City or visit the Canterbury Museum to learn about the past, present and future of the region.

**Meals included: Breakfast**



## 16 DAY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR | FREEDOM OF NEW ZEALAND

### TOUR INCLUSIONS

#### HIGHLIGHTS

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##### Visit Raglan, New Zealand's answer to Byron Bay

Admire beautiful Raglan Harbour aboard a sunset cruise

Experience the magic of Waitomo Caves

Enjoy a Maori cultural experience at Lake Aniwhenua

Walk amongst the giant redwoods in Whakarewarewa Forest

Admire the majestic cascade of Huka Falls

Stroll around Napier, known for its perfectly preserved Art Deco façades

Get to know Wellington, the 'coolest little capital in the world'

Take the Bluebridge Ferry across the Cook Strait and through the magnificent Marlborough Sounds to the South Island

Spend the morning cruising the stunning Abel Tasman National Park

See the Punakaiki Pancake Rocks and Blowholes

Witness the sleeping giant that is Franz Josef Glacier

Enjoy time in Queenstown, New Zealand's adventure capital

Breathe in the serenity of Milford Sound on a day cruise

See Lake Tekapo, an electric blue lake framed by the Southern Alps

Visit Christchurch, affectionately known as 'the Garden City'

#### ACCOMMODATION

15 nights quality accommodation

#### DINING

14 meals including 10 breakfasts, 2 lunches (1 speciality), 1 afternoon tea, and 1 dinner

#### TOUR ESSENTIALS

Experienced tour guide

#### TRANSPORT

Private luxury coach transport

Inter-island ferry

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

\*Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

## BOOKING INFORMATION

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. The Passenger Information Form must be completed within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

*Please note: this tour requires a minimum of 20 passengers to operate and departures are not guaranteed until this minimum number is met. Please refrain from booking travel arrangements such as flights prior to receiving a confirmation email that your departure date has hit minimum numbers and is now guaranteed. This confirmation email will be sent at least 60 days prior to the departure date, and if minimum numbers are not met a date change or refund will be offered.*

On purchasing this Travel Offer you are bound by the General Terms and Conditions, in addition to the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

### Covid-19 Booking Policy

- TripADeal Tour packages are non-refundable. If your Tour package is affected by Covid-19 related travel restrictions and you are unable to travel, you will receive either a free date change (credit that is specific to your original package and purchase value) or an open credit less any non-recoverable supplier fees to the value of your original purchase for use on any other package available via the TripADeal website.

*Please note: Date change credits are subject to availability and not guaranteed until confirmed by TripADeal.*

*Please note: All additional charges are payable direct to your Travel Consultant in AUD (unless otherwise stated).*

## OFFER ESSENTIALS

Travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 20th of March 2022.

This travel offer is priced for one person based on twin share.

### Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers a mandatory single supplement of \$1500 applies.

### Departure Dates

Please see the TripADeal website for current departure dates.

## ACCOMMODATION

### Accommodation Used

#### 4 Star (self-rated)

- Auckland: Quadrant Hotel or similar
- Rotorua: Millennium Hotel or similar
- Taupo: Acapulco Motor Inn or similar
- Napier: Scenic Hotel Te Pania or similar
- Wellington: Distinction Wellington or similar
- Nelson: Rutherford Hotel or similar
- Hokitika: Beachfront Hotel Hokitika or similar
- Franz Josef: Rainforest Retreat or similar
- Queenstown: Heritage Queenstown or similar
- Mount Cook: Mt Cook Alpine lodge or similar

#### 3 Star (self-rated)

- Raglan: Raglan Sunset Motel or similar

*Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type, and are subject to availability based on seasonality. Properties will be confirmed, no later than two weeks prior to travel.*

### Maximum Room Capacity

2 (subject to availability).

### Child Policy

- No child discounts. Full price applies for all

children travelling with their parents.

*Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors allowed.*

### Triple Share

Not available.

### Bedding Configuration

Twin/double (subject to availability).

### Adjoining / Interconnecting Rooms

Subject to availability and at the hotels discretion. Please enquire on booking if you require this option.

## GENERAL TOUR INFORMATION

Minimum group size 20, maximum group size 36 per vehicle.

## EXCLUSIONS

- Flights / Transfers
- Visa fees and requirements (A visa is not required if travelling on an Australian Passport)
- Meals/beverages not stated in the itinerary
- Gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance (Strongly recommended)

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### What to Bring

Camera, Sturdy walking shoes/boots, Warm clothing, Waterproof jacket, Hat & Sunscreen, Bathers/towel, Water bottle, Toiletries, Motion sickness tablets, Insect repellent

## TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

### Tour Guide

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction in which he or she is guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves the group at the end of the tour, they do not travel with the

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

group.

## Tour Leader

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides in each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village, and offer information on the place visited on the bus, however they are not required to have specific knowledge on art, architecture, or history. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and if caught doing so, can be fined.

*Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when particularly required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.*

## CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

New Zealand is home to a wide range of climates. As a result, its weather can be somewhat unpredictable. The far north has subtropical weather during summer, while inland alpine areas of the South Island can be as cold as -10°C (14°F) in winter. However, most of the country lies close to the coast, which means mild temperatures year-round.

## COACH TOUR

### Meals

14 meals are included in the tour, for all other meals; lunches and dinners the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify TripADeal of any dietary requests/requirements. Please note; we will do our best to meet your requests/requirements, however cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

### Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on the tour. With regards to luggage, you must carry your own luggage from the coach to the hotel room and back to the coach. The driver will assist with the uploading and off-loading of the luggage from the coach.

## OTHER

### Fitness Level Required / Mobility

Our vehicles are not equipped with wheelchair access, so unfortunately our tours are currently not suitable for wheelchair users and those less mobile.

*Please note: an average level of fitness will be required. If you have any concerns please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.*

### Sightseeing

*Please note: In the event entrance to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary where possible, will be adjusted or a similar activity will be offered in its place (subject to availability).*

## VISAS

### New Zealand

A tourist visa is not required for Australian Passport holders.

*Please note: Passengers who are not Australian citizens must check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required. It is also important to note, some areas of employment such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations may have additional restrictions in applying for Visas. This may in turn affect the type of application required.*

### Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

- Changes - \$100.00 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

### Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

• If the incorrect name has been advised to TripADeal, charges of \$100.00 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

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by Covid-19 related travel restrictions and you are unable to travel, you will receive either a free date change (credit that is specific to your original package and purchase value) or an open credit less any non-recoverable supplier fees to the value of your original purchase for use on any other package available via the TripADeal website.

*Please note: Date change credits are subject to availability and not guaranteed until confirmed by TripADeal, not the property you are due to stay with.*

### Supplier Fees

In the event the Travel Offer you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/ or a travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the Travel Offer due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/accommodation partners. TripADeal has committed to these costs as your Agent and will endeavour to recover all funds committed and/or paid for your Travel Offer, but this may not be possible in all circumstances. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these outcomes to you. In the event, TripADeal is unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee. This fee is not revenue-raising and is paid to or withheld by our suppliers when recovering payments.