

# New Zealand rail journey

Depart Cairns 6th October at 10.50AM arrive Auckland 6.35PM – air New Zealand

Commence the following tour with Travelmarvel in Auckland on the 6th October and ending in Christchurch on the 20th October

## Day 1 – Arrive Auckland

Arrive in the 'City of Sails' and be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. Tonight, enjoy a special Welcome Dinner as you get to know your fellow travellers. **Stay Two Nights:** Rydges Auckland (D)

## Day 2 Auckland, Glenbrook Vintage Steam Train

This morning travel to Glenbrook. Take a journey through the beautiful rural Franklin countryside before stopping at the Pukeoware Depot to explore the workshop, view other historic locomotives, and enjoy a morning tea. Re-board and travel back to Glenbrook before returning to Auckland by coach. (B)

Insider Experience: Ride the historic Glenbrook Vintage Steam Train.

## 3 Auckland, Rail Cruise Experience, Rotorua

After breakfast, board your coach and head towards the Mamaku Ranges for a special rail experience. In Rotorua, visit Te Puia Cultural Centre, and tour the Māori Arts and Crafts Institute before an evening of traditional culture and food. **Stay Two Nights:** Sudima Rotorua (B/D)

Insider Experience: Enjoy a unique self-drive Rail Cruising experience. In your hybrid vehicle, you will have a first-class view of the ranges, with an audio guide to inform you about the region.

## 4 Rotorua

Rotorua captures the essence of New Zealand with its geothermal geysers, fascinating Maori culture and rich heritage. Your sightseeing continues with a visit to one of New Zealand's best-loved attractions, the Agrodome, and then enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore further or simply relax. (B)

## 5 Rotorua, The Northern Explorer Train, Wellington

This morning, travel by coach to Otorohanga to board the Northern Explorer train. Afterwards, continue through to Ohakune where you will travel by coach to Wellington. **Stay Two Nights:** Travelodge Hotel Wellington (B/D)

Insider Experience: Ride the Northern Explorer Train for a captivating journey, past a variety of different landscapes.

## 6 Wellington

After breakfast today, set off on a sightseeing tour of the city's best-loved landmarks and sights, including New Zealand's national museum - Te Papa Tongarewa. This innovative and interactive museum celebrates the treasures of the country. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure to explore the city. Perhaps get a panoramic view of the city and harbour at the Mount Victoria Lookout. You may prefer to simply take a leisurely walk around the waterfront. (B)

## 7 Wellington, Picton, Coastal Pacific Train, Christchurch

This morning, step aboard the Interislander ferry to cruise from Wellington Harbour across Cook Strait and through the Marlborough and Queen Charlotte sounds to Picton. After your Coastal Pacific journey re-board your coach to travel to Christchurch. **Stay:** Christchurch, Quality Hotel Elms (B/D)

Insider Experience: View the beautiful Pacific coastline from the Coastal Pacific Train.

## 8 Christchurch, TranzAlpine Train, Fox Glacier

This morning after breakfast, journey along the Waimakariri River and travel across the Southern Alps within Arthur's Pass National Park. Upon arrival at Greymouth, you will disembark and travel by coach to the incredible natural surrounds at Franz Josef and Fox glaciers. **Stay:** Heartland Hotel Fox Glacier

(B/D)

**Insider Experience:** On your TranzAlpine journey, considered to be one of the world's greatest rail adventures, you will follow the Waimakariri River and travel across the Southern Alps within Arthur's Pass National Park.

**9 Fox Glacier, Queenstown**

Enjoy a day of truly beautiful scenery as you travel to the alpine resort of Queenstown. Known as the country's 'adventure capital'. Queenstown is also renowned for its world-class culinary scene. This evening you may like to sample some of the region's fresh flavours at one of the many restaurants in walking distance from your hotel (own expense). Stay Two Nights: Queenstown, Copthorne Hotel and Apartments Queenstown Lakeview (B)

**10 Queenstown**

Today you have the freedom to simply relax or choose one of Travelmarvel's exciting Select Experiences. For the adventurous, perhaps head out on a jet boat ride. The Shotover Jet Boat roars through dramatic river canyons within centimetres of sheer rock walls. (B)

**11 Queenstown, Milford Sound, Te Anau**

Follow The Remarkables mountain range and Lake Wakatipu to Fiordland National Park. Today, enjoy a memorable cruise on Milford Sound. Stay: Kingsgate Te Anau (B/D)

**Insider Experience:** Cruise the full length of Milford Sound, a magnificent fiord with views of waterfalls, dense rainforest and sheer cliffs.

**12 Te Anau, Dunedin**

The Taieri Gorge Railway is today's highlight as you head to Dunedin. Stay: Scenic Hotel Dunedin City (B/D)

**Insider Experience:** Travel through spectacular Southland countryside from Dunedin to Pukerangi on the Taieri Gorge Railway. The train snakes through incredible landscapes on a track which highlights engineering marvels.

**13 Dunedin, Seaside Train, Mt Cook, Lake Tekapo**

Ride the Seaside Train, and journey north to view the Moeraki Boulders. Rejoin your coach to Oamaru and visit the tiny Church of the Good Shepherd on the shores of immense Lake Tekapo. Later, arrive at your resort. Stay: Lake Tekapo, Peppers Bluewater Resort (B/D)

**Insider Experience:** Board the Seaside Train today and travel along the edge of the Otago Harbour, and along the Pacific Coast.

**14 Aoraki/Mt Cook, Christchurch**

Head into the stunning scenery of Aoraki/ Mt Cook National Park. Later, head back to Christchurch for a special Farewell Dinner. Stay: Christchurch, Commodore Hotel (B/D)

**Insider Experience:** View majestic Aoraki/Mt Cook, the highest point in Australasia.

**15 Depart Christchurch**

Your tour concludes after breakfast with a transfer to the airport. (B)

Depart Christchurch 20th October at 3.50PM arrive Brisbane 4.55PM – air New Zealand

Depart Brisbane 20th October at 7.40PM arrive Cairns 10.05PM – Qantas

Cost per person \$6755.00 and includes the following:

- Airfares
- Airport taxes
- 15 day tour including breakfast daily, 9 dinners and sightseeing as per itinerary