



# Explore New Zealand!

(From Top to Bottom)

January 31 – February 13, 2023



**You are cordially invited!** Escape winter with Earthbound Expeditions on this custom, stunning adventure to New Zealand! Together, we will discover first-hand the rich culture and sheer beauty of this isolated island paradise. We'll cruise Auckland's spectacular bay, visit gushing geysers and learn about Maori history, music and dance in Rotorua. Then we continue south to the capital Wellington. There we'll visit the excellent Te Papa Museum and stunning Wellington Botanical Gardens. After, we'll travel south to Christchurch to board the scenic TranzAlpine Express. Ride the rails to Arthur's Pass and then continue on to Franz Josef town and Queenstown for a spectacular cruise on Milford Sound. Enjoy summertime in New Zealand on this amazing adventure "down under"!

## TRIP AT A GLANCE

- 1 Overnight flight to New Zealand  
(*You'll lose one day crossing the International Date Line*)
- 2 Nights Auckland
- 2 Nights Rotorua
- 1 Night Napier
- 2 Nights Wellington
- 2 Night Christchurch
- 1 Night Franz Josef town
- 3 Nights Queenstown
- 3 *Nights Sydney, Australia post-Tour option*
- 1 Night Return Flight Home



**EARTHBOUND  
EXPEDITIONS**

Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

P.O. Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800.723.8454 / T. 206.842.9775 / F. 206.238.8480

[www.EarthboundExpeditions.com](http://www.EarthboundExpeditions.com)

## JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Maori cultural center and feast \* Springtime garden visits \* A scenic TranzAlpine train journey from Christchurch to Arthur's Pass \* The geysers and hot springs of Rotorua \* A full day cruising through the fjords of the Southern Island \* Sheep shearing demonstration \* Three fun-filled days in Queenstown \* The National Museum of Wellington \* A small group of like-minded public radio travelers

## YOUR ADVENTURE INCLUDES

- \* An expert KIWI Earthbound Expeditions guide
- \* Transport by first class coach
- \* All breakfasts plus 14 additional multi-course meals
- \* Thirteen nights in four-star hotel accommodations
- \* Porterage (1 piece per person)
- \* Harbor cruise in Auckland
- \* Maori cultural center and feast
- \* Tranz-Alpine train journey from Christchurch to Arthur's Pass
- \* Milford Sound cruise through Southern Alps
- \* All sightseeing and attractions as listed in itinerary
- \* Gratuities for your drivers and guides



**NOT INCLUDED:** International airline tickets, airline luggage fees, any meals not mentioned, room/mini-bar service, gratuities for hotel staff, travel insurance, items of a personal nature and anything not listed in the “Included in your Journey” section above.

## TRIP FACTS

16 Days / 15 Nights (*when including air travel*)

\$5,599 per person double occupancy (land)

\$1,799 single supplement

*Depart the US by:* January 29, 2023

*Trip begins in Auckland:* January 31, 2023

*Trip ends in Queenstown:* February 13, 2023

*Post-tour extension to Sydney ends:* February 16, 2023.

## SAVE \$500

Reserve your space by September 15, 2022 and save \$300 \* Travel alumni save \$100

Pay your final balance by check and save \$100



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*Spend a Day Cruising Milford Sound, New Zealand*

## *The Adventure Begins...*

### **Air Travel Days: January 29 & 30 – Depart the US**

Remember, you'll lose one day crossing the International Date Line, but not to worry, you'll get it back upon your return to the USA.

### **Day 1: Tuesday, January 31 – Arrive in Auckland**

Upon arrival in New Zealand you will be met by your Earthbound Expeditions guide and transferred to your centrally-located hotel. To start off the day we'll enjoy a morning cruise on the beautiful Aitemata Harbor. Then enjoy a welcome lunch with your guide and fellow travelers. After lunch we'll officially check in to our hotel. This evening is free to rest and relax, or explore Auckland. *Sleep in Auckland (B, L - Breakfast will be served on board before landing.)*



### **Day 2: Wednesday, February 1 – Exploring Auckland:**

Enjoy an extensive city tour of Auckland which includes the quaint village of Devonport and takes in the views from atop Mt Eden, an extinct volcano. We'll also visit the Auckland Domain Winter gardens, where hot houses show off lush tropical plants and Eden Garden, featuring one of the largest collections of camellias in the Southern Hemisphere. The rest of the afternoon is free to enjoy the City of Sails at leisure. *Sleep in Auckland (B, L)*



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*Spend a day discovering Rotorua*

### **Day 3: Thursday, February 2 – South to Rotorua**

Depart Auckland and drive through magnificent countryside to Longlands Dairy Farm for a tour followed by a delicious home-cooked lunch. Then we set off for Rotorua for a visit to Paradise Valley Springs. Here you can walk through the tree top canopy of native Tawa Trees, hundreds of years old. *Sleep in Rotorua (B, L, D)*

### **Day 4: Friday, February 3 – Thermal pools and a Maori Performance in Rotorua**

Today explore the Living Maori Village of Whakarewarewa. Your local guide, a descendent of generations of guides from the region, will educate and delight you with stories of the Village and valley. See how locals use the natural geothermal energy for everyday use, and experience traditional dances and songs from a resident haka group – Te Pakira. This evening you will experience an entertaining Maori feast. *Sleep in Rotorua (B, D)*

### **Day 5: Saturday, February 4 – To Napier via Huka Falls and Garden Visits in Taupo**

Today we travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to view the mighty Huka Falls before continuing to Lake Taupo with a garden visit (or two!) along the way. We'll also visit the Taupo Museum, with its re-creation of '100% Pure New Zealand Ora – Garden of Wellbeing', New Zealand's gold medal-winning entry in the 2004 Chelsea Flower Show, which showcases central North Island flora. After an independent lunch, we will continue on to Napier, "The Art Deco Capital of the World", which was destroyed by an earthquake in 1931. We'll enjoy a historical walking tour before checking in to our waterfront hotel. Tonight, we'll dine together at a local eatery. *Sleep in Napier (B, D)*



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*Enjoy the Trans-Alpine Train Experience*

### **Day 6: Sunday, February 5 – Napier to Wellington via a Winery Visit**

After breakfast, we'll head South towards Wellington. En-route we'll visit a winery in order to sample some of New Zealand's finest wines. With 84% of the country's sauvignon blanc plantings, Marlborough is New Zealand's (some say the world's) sauvignon blanc capital. With robust aromas and crisp flavors of gooseberry and capsicum, this varietal has been a glittering success for New Zealand. The region's second VIP grape is pinot noir. Acclaim is mounting for Marlborough's fragrant, mouth-filling reds which are richly flavored and supple. Other Marlborough wine specialties include fresh, vibrantly fruity chardonnays and crisp Rieslings.

Enjoy a tasting and a light lunch before continuing south and arriving in Wellington in the late afternoon. This evening is free to explore Wellington. *Sleep in Wellington (B, D)*

### **Day 7: Monday, February 6 – Wellington's Cultural Center**

Today our extensive city tour will highlight Wellington's tremendous history and culture. Then we'll soak up a little history, art and culture at the Te Papa Museum. There is something for everyone here and you won't want to miss this museum which helps unravel the many mysteries of this land.

Your afternoon is free, but if you're looking for an excursion, we can highly recommend the cable car ride to the Wellington Botanic Garden! Here you can see the protected native forest, specialized plant collections, colorful floral displays and views over the city. Also, the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa – the national museum and art gallery – is exceptional and well worth a visit. *Sleep in Wellington (B)*

### **Day 8: Tuesday, February 7 – Ferry and Coach South to Christchurch**

After breakfast we depart by ferry for the South Island. Crossing the "big ditch" takes just a few hours. Upon arrival, we'll board a scenic coastal train and make our way to Christchurch. Relax and sit back as the coastal scenery opens up. We'll have dinner upon arrival in Christchurch. *Sleep in Christchurch (B, D)*



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*The South Island*

**Day 9: Wednesday, February 8 – Exploring Christchurch**

Called the Garden City, Christchurch is also one of five cities in the world known as a ‘gateway to Antarctica.’ The city acts as a conduit to the icy continent, sharing and championing Antarctic geography, history and culture. Today we’ll visit the best gardens of the city and the Antarctic Center. *Sleep in Christchurch (B, L)*

**Day 10: Thursday, February 9 – TranzAlpine Train from Christchurch to Arthur’s Pass**

In a country known for spectacular scenery, today is tops! This morning we’ll board the TranzAlpine train for a stunning alpine adventure from Christchurch to Arthur’s Pass. Known as one of the most famous and beautiful train rides in the world, we’ll traverse the fertile farmlands of the Canterbury Plains and have thrilling vistas over deep gorges. Our plan is to disembark at Arthur’s Pass (having seen the most beautiful scenery) and board our private motor coach to Greymouth for lunch. From Greymouth we’ll continue by motor coach to Franz Josef town. *Sleep in Franz Josef town (B, L, D)*

**Day 11: Friday, February 10 – Franz Josef town to Queenstown**

This morning we continue south from Franz Josef town to Queenstown. It’s a beautiful drive and we’ll stop for lunch along the way. The late afternoon and evening are yours to enjoy Queenstown independently. *Sleep in Queenstown (B, L)*



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*Enjoy dinner at the Stratosfare Restaurant in Queenstown*

**Day 12: Saturday, February 11 – Queenstown and Milford Sound:** Don't forget your camera today! Today is a full day excursion to Milford Sound. Bounded by steep cliffs and dense rainforest, Milford Sound is by far the best known of all of the fjords in New Zealand, and the only one that can be accessed by road. Rain or shine, Milford Sound continues to captivate even the most experienced traveler. At the pinnacle of Milford Sound is the iconic Mitre Peak - standing a proud 5,000 feet above sea level, it is certainly an impressive sight to behold. We'll comfortably travel the length of the fjord to open ocean and return today.

*Sleep in Queenstown (B, L)*

**Day 13: Sunday, February 12 – Free Day in Queenstown and Stratosfare Restaurant**

Queenstown is New Zealand's adventure capital! Today is yours to get out and explore your surroundings. Options include: jet boating, canyoning, white water rafting, paragliding, fishing, biking, and bungee jumping! This evening, enjoy a gondola ride and farewell dinner at the Stratosfare Restaurant. *Sleep in Queenstown (B, D)*

**Day 14: Monday, February 13 – Return home with a lifetime of memories, or travel on to Sydney, Australia!**

Having experienced some of the finest scenery and gardens in New Zealand, it's time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the Queenstown airport for your flight home after a memorable holiday. For those returning to the USA, you will arrive home the same day. For those traveling on to Sydney, Australia, more adventure awaits! Details on the following page.



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*Enjoy 3 Nights in Sydney!*

## *Sydney, Australia Post Tour Extension*

Monday, February 13 – Thursday, February 16, 2023

\$1,595 per person, double occupancy  
\$375 single supplement

### **POST-TOUR INCLUDES**

- Air transport on Air New Zealand, one-way to Sydney
- Airport transfers and city orientation upon arrival in Sydney
- Three nights' accommodation in a centrally located 4-star hotel
- Breakfast daily
- Evening dinner cruise on Sydney Harbor

**Not Included:** Any items not mentioned above

**Note about the post-tour extension:** Sydney is a stunning and safe world-class city, and very easy to navigate independently. The post-tour extension has been created for your convenience and it's perfect for those travelers who have always wanted to visit Sydney and are comfortable exploring the city without a guide.

## **QUESTIONS & RESERVATIONS**

**800.723.8454**

[Info@earthboundexpeditions.com](mailto:Info@earthboundexpeditions.com)



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## *Know Before You Go*

**Physical requirements:** In order to make the most of your trip, you should be able to walk independently for one to two miles, often over uneven cobblestones and be able to stand for a period of time during walking or museum tours or visits to other sights. You must be able to maneuver luggage onto trains and buses.

**Dress:** In general, we suggest “casually smart” dress and a good pair of walking shoes. You may leave your formal attire and your treasured family heirlooms at home. You should also check the average monthly temperatures for your destination before you go. For average temperatures see: [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com)

**Travel Insurance:** Earthbound Expeditions strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance coverage. We include information on trip insurance in your deposit information.

**Hosted Journeys:** If a host or special guest is unable to attend as planned, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to find another host who has similar interests, talents and expertise. The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

**About Earthbound Expeditions:** With 50 + years of field experience and over 500 tailor-made journeys created, we are proud to be America's premier public radio travel provider. Since 2004, we are privileged to have provided life-changing adventures for travelers to Europe, Africa, Asia, New Zealand, Australia, Turkey, Cuba, Central, North and South America.

**Terms & Conditions:** Please read Earthbound Expeditions full [terms and conditions](#).



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**Carbonfund.org**

*Proud Partners Since 2008*

Earthbound Expeditions offers customized overseas adventures for universities, museums, garden clubs, and numerous public radio stations. Earthbound Expeditions is committed to supporting environmental education, local small businesses and providing guests with a one-of-a-kind, authentic travel experience. Whenever possible, Earthbound reserves locally-owned hotels, utilizes the talents of local lecturers, and dines in family-owned establishments.

#### **Environmental Commitment**

Through Earthbound Expeditions' proud partnership with the Carbonfund.org, Earthbound Expeditions makes annual donations so as to help offset a guest's carbon footprint. For every guest who signs up on an Earthbound Expedition, a donation will be sent to the Carbonfund.

The Carbonfund.org motto, "Reduce what you can; offset what you can't" fits perfectly with Earthbound Expeditions' long-established philosophy of supporting locally-owned businesses, promoting education and embracing the concept of "slow" travel.



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