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SWAIN
DESTINATIONS



**100% PURE
NEW ZEALAND**

NEW ZEALAND



Someday, you will climb to the top of a glacier. Someday, you will skydive over green hills and blue waters. Someday, you will see the sun rise in the Southern Hemisphere...

*In New Zealand, you can make
“someday” everyday.*

In a country that is anything you want it to be, your “bucket list” becomes your “what’s next” list. Choose your own adventure and see how New Zealand can be anything and everything that you ever wanted.



Welcome to the NORTH ISLAND

The North Island of New Zealand serves as the gateway to this picturesque country. From the magnificent Waitemata Harbour that surrounds Auckland, to the charming harborside towns sprinkled throughout the waters of the Bay of Islands and Bay of Plenty, the landscape of the North Island ranges from lush rainforests to charming coastal hamlets.

Here lies a rich heritage of the local Māori people, which can be felt throughout the region. There is a variety of wildlife waiting to be spotted, including the rare kiwi, as well as white heron, seal and penguin colonies. For wine enthusiasts, the North Island has no shortage of award-winning wineries.



Auckland

Auckland is a unique city that redefines urban living. The mix of contemporary and Polynesian culture creates an atmosphere that has contributed to the music, art and cuisine of Auckland. Explorers can journey through the expansive rainforest of pohutukawa trees or stroll along the black sand beaches that line the coast. In Auckland, every day is a new adventure.

Rotorua

Immersing yourself in all of nature's glory in Rotorua is unavoidable. Spend the day at a wellness spa, wind your way through the rainforest on a mountain bike, or visit a Māori Village to learn about their traditions and lifestyle.

Napier

A city lost in history, Napier is an architecturally stunning destination. After a massive earthquake in the 1930s, much of the city was rebuilt in Art Deco style, which has been carefully maintained ever since.

Wellington

Those seeking a more cosmopolitan flavor will appreciate New Zealand's eclectic capital city, Wellington. Spectacular views of the harbor and city wait atop Makara Peak, where explorers can hike to the viewing platforms. After a scenic stroll, eat at one of the many gourmet restaurants and cafés.

Nelson

Nelson is the sunniest place in all of New Zealand, and the beaches are perfect for absorbing the hues of the lush rainforests and shimmering waters. Enjoy wine from local vineyards paired with the famous Nelson Bay scallops. Creativity mixes into Nelson's scenery with resident artists and galleries, some highlighting Māori culture.

Franz Josef

Bundle up for a tour of the frosty blue Franz Josef Glacier. This unique eight-mile-long ice mass is almost 1,000 feet thick and receives up to 90 feet of snowfall each year. Grab an ice pick and warm jacket for a guided walking tour, or soar above on a helihike.

Christchurch

This award-winning city has a contagious Kiwi energy and tons of local attractions. Shop and dine at the Re:START Mall, innovatively made entirely from old shipping containers or trek through lush Orana Wildlife Park or visit 150-year-old Botanic Gardens.

Dunedin

A city with a Scottish flair and heritage, Dunedin is a cultural experience waiting to be uncovered. The architecture has helped maintain the city's Victorian charm. Dunedin is also a great place to spot rare wildlife like penguin colonies and the Northern Royal Albatross.

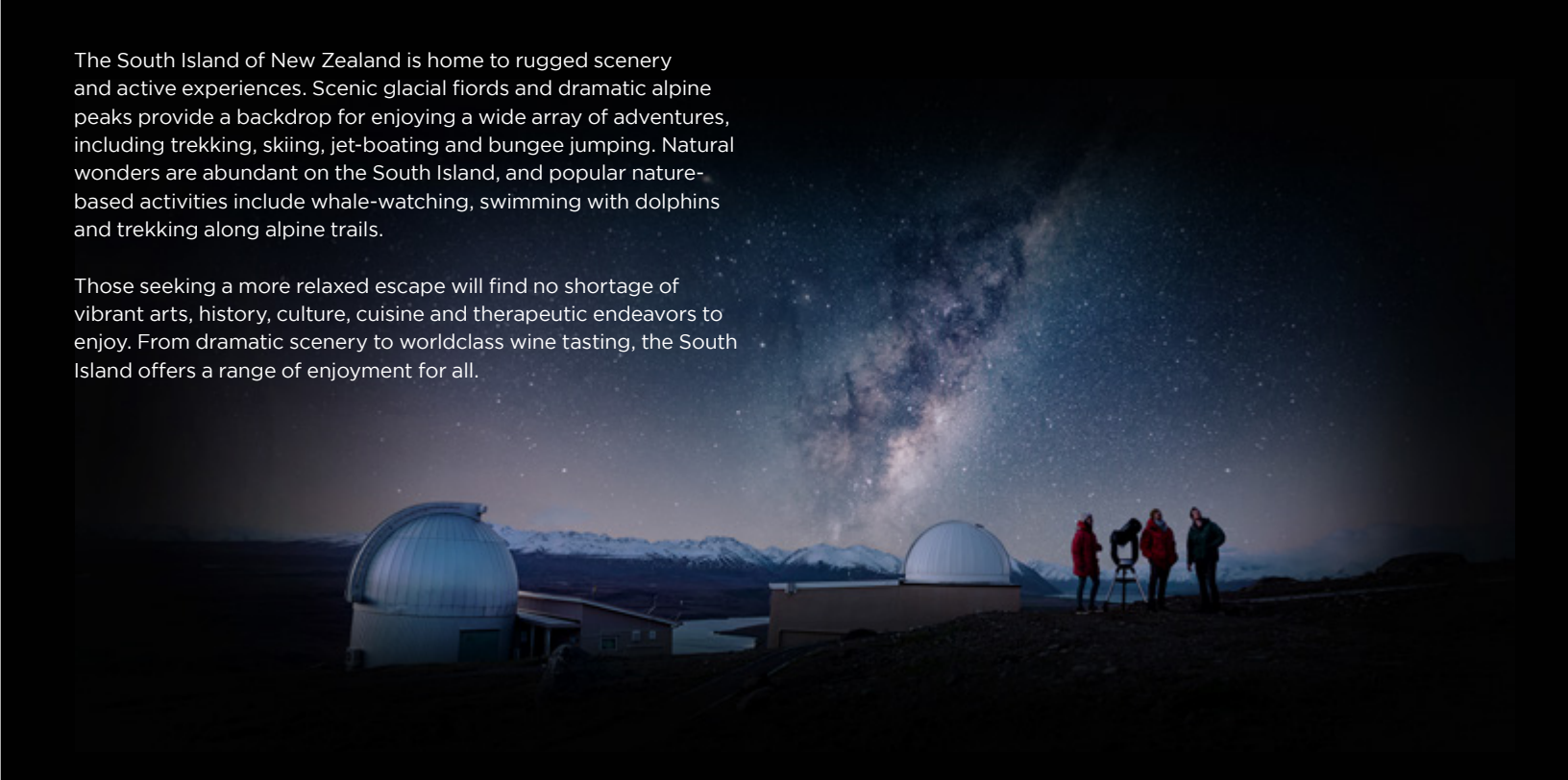
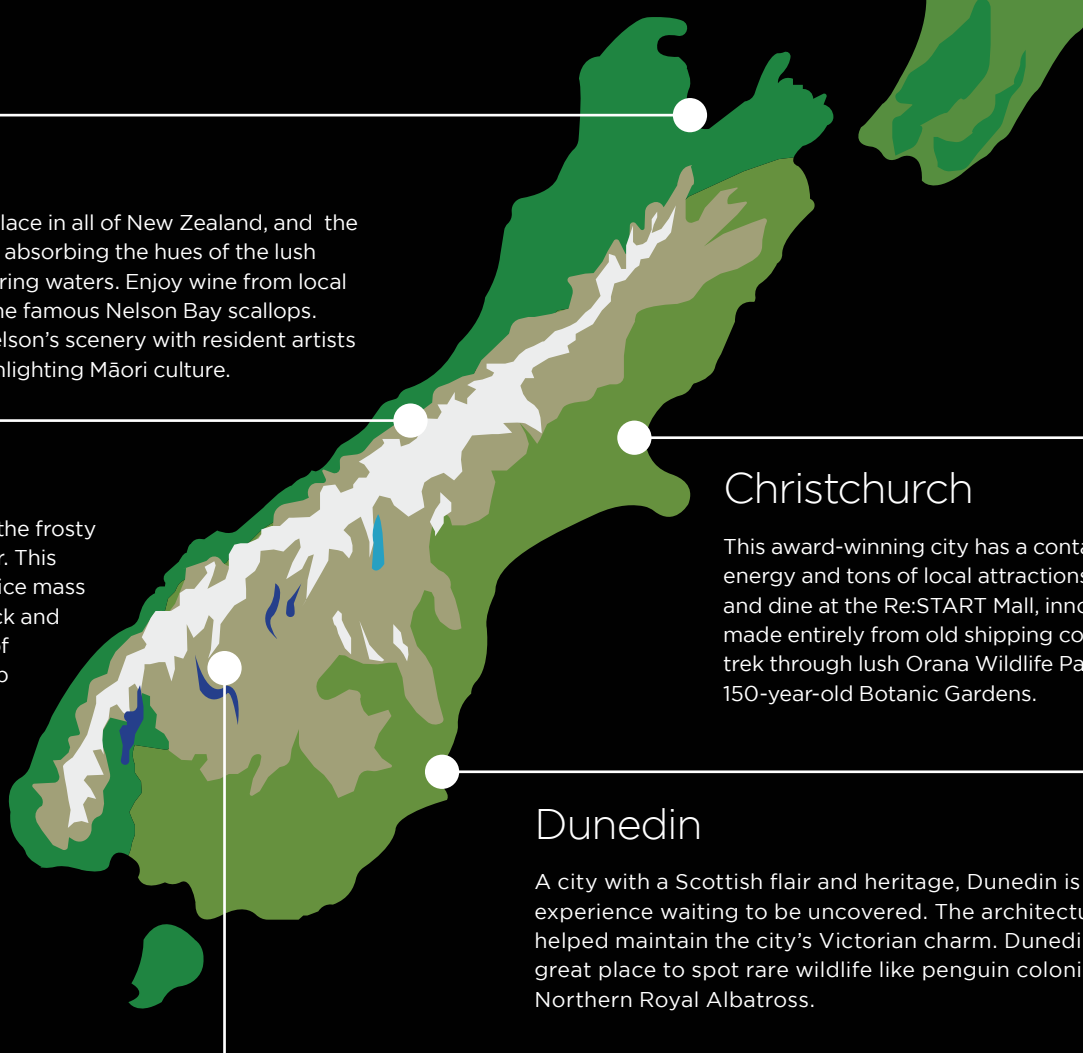
Queenstown

Queenstown is the archetype for all things Kiwi. Its quirky personality and reputation for adventure draw in thrill seekers from around the world to the banks of the lightning-bolt-shaped Lake Wakatipu. Surrounded by towering mountains, Queenstown offers world-class skiing in the winter and hiking in the summer.

Welcome to the SOUTH ISLAND

The South Island of New Zealand is home to rugged scenery and active experiences. Scenic glacial fiords and dramatic alpine peaks provide a backdrop for enjoying a wide array of adventures, including trekking, skiing, jet-boating and bungee jumping. Natural wonders are abundant on the South Island, and popular nature-based activities include whale-watching, swimming with dolphins and trekking along alpine trails.

Those seeking a more relaxed escape will find no shortage of vibrant arts, history, culture, cuisine and therapeutic endeavors to enjoy. From dramatic scenery to worldclass wine tasting, the South Island offers a range of enjoyment for all.



Our Favorite Experiences on the NORTH ISLAND



West Auckland Wine Tour

Enjoy a day of wine, food and stunning coastal scenery. Visit a handful of selected wineries from the historic Kumeu wine region. Take in the rolling green farmland and native bush scenery.



Auckland Māori Luxury Tour

Experience Auckland and its fascinating Māori culture with an indigenous guide. Tour Auckland's cityscapes, volcanoes, historic Devonport and the amazing West Coast with its subtropical rainforest and black sand beaches.



Rotorua Canopy Tour

Experience the thrill of flying above untraversed native forest in this three-hour zipline adventure. Then, join local Kiwi guides in hand-feeding native birds while they share knowledge of the bird song, flora and fauna.



Gannet Safari

Travel from Napier to Te Awanga to experience the world's largest, most accessible gannet colony. Get within a few feet of these remarkable birds while taking in the scenery from your position at the brink of the cliff's edge.

Our Favorite Experiences on the SOUTH ISLAND



Kaikoura Whale Tour

Travel through the rolling hills to Kaikoura, where mountains meet the sea. Take a whale watching cruise to look for the giant sperm whale the area is known for. A stop will be made at a vineyard for wine tasting.



Heli Hike

Travel by helicopter to the Franz Josef Glacier with a guided walk among ice caves, pinnacles and seracs. Highlights of this excursion include the Franz Josef icefall and a glacier landing for majestic scenic views.



Dart River Wilderness Safari

Enjoy an exhilarating jet boat ride, a guided forest walk and a backcountry ride in a 4WD safari vehicle. Specialist guides bring the variety of landscapes, flora and fauna from the area to life.



Milford Ultimate Heli Flight

Discover a labyrinth of valleys and mountains while flying over the Southern Alps. See Lake Te Anau as you follow the Milford Track. Experience a glacier landing before lunch at a miner's cottage hidden in the mountains.



New Zealand's

Sub-Tropical Paradise

For most travelers who dream of one day exploring New Zealand's landscapes, their thoughts likely drift toward the mountain peaks, glacial rivers, blue alpine lakes, and the black sand beaches bordered by frigid seas. Many parts of both the North and South Island country do contain these wonders; however, there's a mellower side that is less visited but no less beautiful known as the Bay of Islands.

Helena Bay

The Bay of Islands is known to the Kiwis as the "winterless North." This sub-tropical region found at the very top of the North Island rarely sees temperatures dip below 60 degrees, even in the winter. In the summertime, high temperatures hover between 72-80 degrees. Few places take advantage of this temperate region's wonderful geography as well as the luxury lodge Helena Bay.

Helena Bay is located by the sea, only a 45-minute helicopter flight from the city of Auckland. The lodge's five waterfront suites are the perfect location for soaking in the scenery. Also, there is access to an array of aquatic adventures including stand-up paddle boarding, kayaking, swimming, and small craft boating.

The opportunities for fun on land are no less abundant on the property's 800 acres. Before Helena Bay was turned into the picture of luxury for travelers, it was a sheep farm. Today, cattle are raised on the property and the lodge keeps miniature donkeys, alpacas, and chickens as pets. Guests can also go off-the-beaten path via a mountain bike, climbing the rolling hills and discovering secluded beaches. If the weather is poor, the fully equipped indoor gym, heated lap pool, sauna, and steam room should keep the active crowd satisfied.

Amazing Cuisine

Michelin-starred Ristorante Don Alfonso of Southern Italy operates in Helena Bay. The philosophy is respecting the local food culture while incorporating the age-old traditions of the Sorrento Peninsula and Amalfi Coast. A good deal of the produce for each meal is grown on-site.

As New Zealand's newest luxury lodge, Helena Bay is still under the radar. However, with the unrivaled Kiwi experience offered, it won't be long before the waiting list fills up quickly.



A Journey through New Zealand

16 nights



What's Included:

- Private airport transfers
- 1 night Auckland
- 3 nights Treetops Lodge
- Helicopter transfer to Wharekauhau Lodge
- 3 nights Wharekauhau Lodge
- Martinborough Wine Tour
- 3 nights Blanket Bay
- Milford Ultimate Helicopter Tour
- Dart River Wilderness Safari
- 3 nights Otahuna Lodge
- Akaroa & Swim with Dolphins Experience
- Meals: 12 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 12 dinners

Days 1-2: Fly USA to Auckland

Today will begin your customized itinerary. Fly to Auckland, New Zealand, crossing the International Date Line.

Days 3: Auckland

Auckland, City of Sails, is located between two stunning harbors and is the country's largest urban area. Tour the city learning about important historic sites and the fascinating Māori culture along the way.

Days 4-6: Treetops Lodge

Treetops Lodge is a tranquil paradise in a valley of 2,500 acres just 8 miles from Rotorua, New Zealand's famed thermal region. Nestled in magnificent natural surroundings, Treetops Lodge boasts an elegant architectural style that is derived from New Zealand's pioneering past. Timber and stone finishes echo the beauty and simplicity of the great outdoors at Treetops Lodge.

Days 7-9: Wharekauhau Lodge

Board a domestic flight from Rotorua to Wellington. Then, take a helicopter transfer from Wellington Airport to Wharekauhau. Wharekauhau Lodge offers a relaxed, yet ultimately luxurious environment to soak in some New Zealand hospitality. Set on over 5,000 acres of private land including rivers, forests and lakes, it commands spectacular vistas of the Pacific Ocean. The following day, visit Martinborough and some of the 29 boutique wineries situated around this rural village.

Days 9-12: Blanket Bay

Board a domestic flight to Queenstown. Upon arrival into Queenstown you will be met by your driver for a private transfer to Blanket Bay, situated at the northern end of Lake Wakatipu. Next day, discover a labyrinth of valleys and mountains as you take a helicopter tour west over the Main Divide of the Southern Alps. See Lake Te Anau and follow the Milford Track past the Sutherland Falls on this extensive tour to Milford Sound. On your final day at Blanket Bay, take a spectacular 90-minute jet-boat journey through the Dart River system where you'll be surrounded by snow-covered peaks, hidden valleys and waterfalls.

Days 13-15: Otahuna Lodge

Board a domestic flight to Christchurch; upon arrival into Christchurch you will be met with your private transfer vehicle that will take you to Otahuna Lodge. Built in 1895 for Sir Heaton Rhodes, a high-profile pioneer of Canterbury, the homestead is considered one of the best examples of unspoiled Queen Anne architecture in New Zealand. The following day, enjoy a tour of Akaroa and surrounds before embarking on unique, specially designed boats for a chance to spot Hector's Dolphins. You may watch the dolphins just feet away, get fantastic photos and, if conditions permit, go dolphin swimming.

Day 16: Fly Christchurch to USA

You will be transferred to the airport for your departure flights.

The Wonders of Rotorua

Like many visitors before me, I was amazed by New Zealand's diverse landscapes, crystal-clear waters and welcoming people. However, **there's one particular place I fell in love with: Rotorua.**



Rotorua is the spiritual heart of the North Island, home to a thriving Māori community, beautiful landscapes and, most famously, a unique geothermal environment. This is a must-visit destination for those seeking a glimpse of the Kiwi lifestyle, hospitality and culture.

In Rotorua, nature is never far away. Walk along the edge of the lake and you will find yourself in carefully-preserved native woods that seamlessly coexist with the surrounding streets. In the summer, this green microcosm is fragrant with manuka flowers, though the lake itself smells vaguely of sulphur. Keep walking, and you will come across the sulphur springs themselves, bubbling from beneath the ground and emitting steam.

A short drive away from city center, you will find the majestic Whakarewarewa Forest, or "The Redwoods." This mixed landscape of native ferns and North American redwoods is a perfect setting for hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking. Another fun experience is taking the Skyline Gondola to the top of Mount Ngongotaha for some walking trails with amazing views.

The next item on the agenda—whitewater rafting—was the most exhilarating experience in Rotorua. Our guides provided thorough instructions before we set off on the river, and in no time at all, we were paddling into the canyon. Our support team included a kayaker scout and a lifeguard raft, so tackling the rapids and the first two waterfalls felt perfectly safe—even for beginners. Yet even with the expert guidance, I couldn't stop my heart from racing when we approached the mighty Tutea Falls. Were we going to flip over? Our guide didn't think so: the lifeguard raft that went ahead descended without screams. Somewhat reassured, we got down to the floor and braced ourselves, as our raft slowly approached the waterfall and tipped over the edge.

Immediately engulfed by the rushing water, we were in the most sensory-deprived free fall I've ever experienced! For a split second, my ears, nose and mouth were full of water; there was no light or sounds, only immense downward pressure. Then it was all over. We were at the base of the waterfall, safe and upright, with everyone managing to stay in their place. I would do definitely do this again in a heartbeat!

No trip to Rotorua is complete without meeting the Māori people and learning about their heritage. We visited Ohinemutu Village, a living Māori community that has resided on the shores of Lake Rotorua for 800 years. We met our guide on the Marae (meeting grounds), and set off together on a walking tour of the village. We learned the history of the tribe, including how they adapted the geothermal energy and biochemistry of the hot springs to heat their homes and treat all kinds of ailments, from common colds to joint inflammation.

With great enthusiasm our guide answered questions on how the tribe handles matters of life and death, marriage and family, religion, local politics, civil rights, and even appearances of Māori actors in Hollywood movies. I felt so privileged to have this knowledge shared with me. Next up was the Mitai Māori Village, a reconstructed traditional village with an outdoor theater for cultural performances. This is a large group tour, with a Hangi dinner and concert where charismatic hosts act out a traditional way of life.

In Rotorua, there's something for everyone, from cultural immersion to active adventures. So between landing in Auckland and pushing your physical limits in Queenstown, consider experiencing this geothermal, natural, and unique wonder!



Kiwi Culture

16 nights



What's Included:

- 13 nights accommodations
- 13-day Budget car rental
- Auckland Māori tour
- Eco-Thermal tour
- Hangi Dinner and Concert
- Capital Tastes Walking tour
- Māori Highlights tour
- Interislander ferry (Wellington to Picton)
- Marlborough Icons tour
- Christchurch City Garden tour
- Gourmet Wine tour
- 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches 1 dinner

Days 1-2: Fly USA to Auckland

Today will begin your customized itinerary. Fly to Auckland, New Zealand, crossing the International Date Line.

Days 3-5: Auckland

Auckland, City of Sails, is located between two stunning harbors and is the country's largest urban area. Tour the city learning about important historic sites and the fascinating Māori culture along the way.

Days 5-7: Rotorua

Drive approximately four hours to Rotorua with an optional stop at the famous Waitomo Caves and Glowworm Grotto. Alternatively, take the road via the Coromandel Peninsula for some breathtaking scenery. This evening, enjoy a Hangi Dinner and concert—a spiritual experience with Marae protocol, entertainment, Māori culture and feasting.

Days 7-9: Wellington

Drive through the center of the North Island to Wellington, New Zealand's capital and gateway to urban and rural culture. Considered the café capital, Wellington will allow you to discover fresh tastes as you are introduced to local favorites on a walking tour of the city. Next, onto a cultural experience at the Te Papa Museum for a highlights tour of Māori culture.

Days 9-11: Blenheim

Board the Interislander ferry from Wellington to Picton, one of the world's great scenic cruises. Tour the renowned Marlborough wine region, stopping for tastings at two of the area's wineries, including the iconic Cloudy Bay.

Days 11-13: Christchurch

Drive past the snow-capped peaks of the Kaikoura Ranges and through the Marlborough region to Christchurch. Christchurch is considered New Zealand's most English City, and no visit here is complete without a tour of the gardens and surrounding areas.

Days 13-16: Queenstown

Drive further south to Queenstown, New Zealand's adventure capital. Stop at Lake Tekapo and take an optional scenic flight over Mt. Cook. Nestled beside the waters of Lake Wakatipu, at the foot of the Remarkables Mountain Range, Queenstown is a year-round resort.

Join a gourmet wine tour to savor the hidden delights of the world's southernmost winegrowing region in comfort and style. A mix of spectacular New Zealand scenery, fascinating regional history and a chance to visit a selection of delightful boutique wineries are the rewards of a truly great day out!

Day 15: Fly Queenstown to USA

Return your rental car before boarding your flight to the USA.

Adventure and Indulgence in Otago

Wild Wire Wanaka

I found that even novice climbers could scale the rock face at Twin Falls in New Zealand. After a brief safety lesson with Wild Wire Wanaka, I climbed hundreds of feet to the top of the waterfall. On the way up, I admired the gorgeous views of lush rolling hills and towering snow-capped mountains. Although it was as easy as climbing a ladder, the sense of exhilaration it provided was unmatched.



Cloudy Bay Shed

After traveling past acres of vineyards, I arrived at the perfect place to sample locally-grown wine – the Cloudy Bay Shed. Luxurious decor highlighted the beauty of the region by featuring natural wood and stone, creating a cozy yet upscale ambiance. Then, I sat down at the table for lunch and wine pairing, where personalized touches made me feel like a VIP. The stunning Otago countryside unfurled out in front of me. I took in the view as I enjoyed some of Cloudy Bay’s most popular wines along with a five-course farm-to-table meal.

Nevis Catapult

Walking across the bridge that spanned the Nevis Canyon, I began to understand why Queenstown is the adventure capital of the world. When I reached the catapult, my adrenaline spiked. After being thoroughly strapped in, I was lifted over the vast canyon. I felt that mix of elation and fear that only comes when you are at the edge of a roller coaster drop. Finally, my fear dissolved into delight as I flew into the canyon. I stayed suspended there, enjoying the extraordinary vantage point.



Skyline Gondola Queenstown

From the heart of downtown Queenstown, I jumped into the cabin of the gondola that steadily made its way up the mountainside to the Skyline complex. Drifting past thickets of brush, steep rockfalls and towering trees, the aerial view of the city started to appear. At the top, Skyline has a restaurant, cafe, gift shop, luge and also bungee and paragliding facilities. Enjoying a flat white, looking out over Lake Wakatipu was the perfect way to end my stay in Otago.

Ultimate South Island Adventure

14 nights



What's Included:

- Roundtrip airport transfers
- 3 nights Blenheim
- Budget rental vehicle
- 2 nights Nelson
- Beaches, Kayak & Walk
- 2 nights Franz Josef
- Franz Josef Heli-Hike
- 4 nights Queenstown
- NZONE Tandem Skydive
- Quad Safari
- Milford Highlights
- Dart River Wilderness Safari
- Meals: 11 breakfasts, 2 dinners

Day 1-2: Fly USA to New Zealand

Today will begin your customized itinerary. Fly to Auckland, New Zealand, crossing the International Date Line.

Days 3-5: Bay of Many Coves

Upon arrival into Auckland, you will prepare for your flight to Blenheim. In the Blenheim Airport, a driver will meet you in the baggage claim area to transfer you to the Picton Ferry Terminal. Your accommodation is Bay of Many Coves, located in the heart of the Marlborough Sounds, just 30 minutes by water taxi from Picton. Sailing, hiking, kayaking or just relaxing in the hot-tub or by the pool are available.

Days 6-7: Te Koi—The Lodge at Bronte

Transfer by ferry to Picton, where you will pick up your rental vehicle to drive to Nelson. Your accommodation is Te Koi—The Lodge at Bronte, an exclusive lodge nestled on the edge of the Waimea Estuary on Nelson's historic Bronte Peninsula. The following morning, explore the spectacular Kaiteriteri coastline on a half-day guided kayak trip. Swapping kayak for walking shoes, join the Vista Cruise to the golden sands of Anchorage Beach.

Days 8-9: Franz Josef

At your leisure for this eight-hour drive that takes you down the coast to the Franz Josef glacier area. Your accommodation is Te Waonui Forest Retreat, a natural, sustainable luxury lodge in the heart of the rainforest. The next day, take a scenic flight to the glacier for a two-hour guided hike among some of the most pristine and awe-inspiring scenery available. Enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding mountains and with plenty of photo opportunities.

Days 10-13: Queenstown

Take a five-hour scenic drive from Franz Josef to Queenstown. Your accommodation is Queenstown Park Hotel, a centrally located yet secluded 19-room hotel that complements Queenstown's majestic mountain backdrop. The following day, prepare for a tandem skydive over the Remarkables mountain range and Lake Wakatipu, followed by an exhilarating ATV excursion to Queenstown Hill. Next afternoon, take a scenic flight through Milford Sound, out to the West Coast and the surrounding Southern Alps glacier areas, showing off what the diverse environment really has to offer. The remainder of the day is at your leisure to explore Queenstown. For your final day in Queenstown, take a spectacular 90-minute jet-boat journey through the Dart River system where you'll be surrounded by snow-covered peaks, hidden valleys and waterfalls.

Day 14: Queenstown to USA

Today you will drive to the Queenstown Airport and drop off your rental vehicle before your departure flight back to the USA.

Your Next Step



Create your personalized itinerary, visit swaindestinations.com/bucketlist/new-zealand

or speak with one of our New Zealand experts:
1-866-787-2005





Start Planning Your Adventure Today!

Call 1-866-787-2005 or visit www.swaindestinations.com/new-zealand

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