

Magnificent New Zealand

Prices start from £5,095

Fully escorted 29-day tour

Tour highlights

- * Sightseeing tours include – Singapore, Christchurch, Dunedin, Milford Sound and Rotorua.
- * The exhilarating cruise at Otago Peninsula capturing the region's wildlife including blue and yellow-eyed penguins.
- * Cruising the calming waters at Milford Sound with its cascading waterfalls, diverse wildlife and the majestic Mitre Peak.
- * Enjoy a vintage steam cruise over the beautiful Lake Wakatipu for evening dinner at Walter Peak Station.
- * Take in the dynamic beauty of the glacier face at Franz Josef.
- * Crossing Queen Charlotte Sound is an opportunity to see the rare Hector's dolphins.
- * A privileged and intriguing visit to meet the Maori elder at Wairakei Terraces.
- * The inner earth's powerful forces are evident at Rotorua's Te Puia Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley with its bubbling mud pools and erupting geysers.
- * Bay of Islands' cruise to Cape Brett with its dramatic beauty and famous 'Hole in the Rock'.
- * Dinner at the top of Auckland's Sky Tower standing 328 metres high with breathtaking views of this 'City of Sails' and beyond.

Sentosa Island extension
Early booking offer £99pp

Karikari Peninsula extension also available



Tour itinerary

Day 1 Departure from London Heathrow

You are invited to join your Tour Manager in the executive lounge at London Heathrow. Relax with your travel companions before boarding your Singapore Airlines flight.

Meals: In-flight

Day 2 Singapore

This morning we arrive in Singapore where we've arranged an early check in at the elegant Swissôtel. The rest of the day is free.

Your Tour Manager invites you and your travel companions to raise a glass this evening as we gather for welcome drinks.

Day 3 Singapore

This morning, our tour of Singapore contrasts the modern and the ancient. We drive through the 'colonial heart' and visit the city's oldest and most important monument, the Thian Hock Keng Temple. We'll also take in Marina Bay and Merlion Park.

There's a chance to browse the stalls of Chinatown's handicraft centre and take in the aroma of freshly ground spices and colourful markets of Little India. We also take a peaceful walk through the Orchid Gardens with over 60,000 orchid plants comprising over 400 species.

The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy in this marvellous city, so why not take a wander through the bustling streets and absorb Singapore's culture and atmosphere?

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Swissôtel Stamford

Day 4 Depart Singapore

There's plenty of time today to do a little shopping or embark on an optional harbour cruise. We've arranged a late check out from your hotel, so you can relax before our flight this evening to the youngest county on earth, New Zealand.

Meals: Breakfast, In-flight

Day 5 Arrive Christchurch

After arriving in Christchurch, we'll enjoy a sightseeing tour of this attractive city en route from airport to our hotel.

Meals: In-flight Hotel: Heritage Hotel

Day 6 Christchurch

Today is free so why not explore the city's wide-open parks and beautiful gardens? Perhaps take a cable car ride to the top of Mount Cavendish for splendid views over Christchurch, Lyttleton Harbour and the Southern Alps or enjoy a stroll by the picturesque Avon River, along the edge of Christchurch's Botanic Gardens.

Your Tour Manager can also organise an optional excursion to Kaikoura with its lush pastures, snow covered mountain peaks and magical waters which are great for whale watching.

Mr & Mrs Evans, JOD customers say: "The scenery around Christchurch was spectacular with ice-capped mountains, lakes and coastline. We even saw some seals basking in the sunshine."

Day 7 Christchurch to Dunedin

Our journey today leads us via the roaming pastures of the Canterbury Plains down to the vibrant city of Dunedin and scenic Otago Peninsula. On route we visit the mystical Koekohe Beach home to the amazing and unusual Moeraki Boulders. It has been a full day so settle into this marvellous hotel here in Dunedin.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Southern Cross

Day 8 Dunedin

This morning we explore the city of Dunedin, known as the 'Edinburgh of the South' due to its historic links with Scotland.

We'll enjoy a cruise around the Otago Peninsula, home to abundant wildlife including blue and yellow-eyed penguins, albatross, sea lions and whales.

Later in the afternoon you have an option to board Dunedin's Taieri Gorge Railway. The scenery is breathtaking as the train climbs into the Taieri River Gorge.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Southern Cross

Day 9 Dunedin to Milford Sound

Our scenic journey continues from the hub of Fiordland capturing the region's beauty of Te Anau to the natural wonder of Milford Sound.

Later in the day we board our ship, the Milford Mariner, for an overnight cruise. This gentle voyage sails through calm waters of cascading waterfalls, wondrous wildlife and majestic rock faces including the mighty Mitre Peak. We anchor at Harrison Cove where you can take a canoe ride or a guided nature tour on the vessel's tender craft.

Mr Fieldhouse, JOD customer, says: "When we arrived at Milford Sound it hadn't rained for two weeks, so the waterfalls were not in full flow. That night it rained and the next day we saw the waterfalls in full effect - fantastic!"

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner Hotel: Milford Mariner

Day 10 Milford Sound to Queenstown

This morning we disembark and continue our journey to Queenstown via the historic gold-rush region of Arrowtown, with its pretty tree-lined streets, speciality stores and quirky boutiques. Later this afternoon we arrive in Queenstown nestled on the shore of Lake Wakatipu and surrounded by magnificent mountains.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Heritage Hotel

Day 11 Queenstown

Queenstown's beauty is captured on the city's many garden tours. If you have a head for heights, another idea for your free day is the scenic Skyline Gondola. This cable car ride soars above the region's landscape with breathtaking views over the mountains and tranquil Lake Wakatipu.

This evening cruise across the lake on board the vintage steamer TSS Earnslaw for dinner at Walter Peak Station.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Heritage Hotel

Day 12 Queenstown

Today is yours to simply unwind. Take advantage of your sumptuous hotel with its glorious pool and spa or take in the fresh Alpine air.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Heritage Hotel

Day 13 Queenstown to Franz Josef

This morning our scenic route weaves around this sprawling mountain terrain with its snow capped hills as we travel through Wanaka to the deep forest and magnificent glaciers at the World Heritage Westland National Park.

Settle in at the Te Waonui Retreat, nestled amongst the native rainforest here in Franz Josef.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Te Waonui Retreat

Day 14 Franz Josef

Franz Josef is often regarded as the star of the West Coast glaciers.

Your Tour Manager can help organise many of the optional excursions and advise you on some of the fantastic walks, including the dynamic glacier face route. Take an exhilarating optional helicopter trip over the glacier and Southern Alps. Alternatively experience a blissful state of relaxation with a soak in one of the hot springs nestled in this lush rainforest.

Christina Riley, JOD Travel Advisor says: "Franz Josef is a place of stunning scenery. My first view of the glacier was simply breathtaking and a memory that will stay with me forever. I highly recommend the optional helicopter excursion!"

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Te Waonui Retreat

Day 15 Franz Josef to Nelson

Our journey today takes you up to the northern tip of New Zealand's South Island, Nelson. Along this leisurely route we will visit Hokitika and Punakaki best known for its spectacular Pancake Rocks and Blowholes. We then drive through Buller Gorge to our hotel in the lovely city of Nelson on Tasman Bay.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Rutherford



Moeraki Boulders, Dunedin



Mount Cook

Day 16 Nelson

You have a free day to explore at your own pace. Nelson has many fascinating art galleries and exhibitions including the Suter Gallery. Engage in the region's surrounding beauty on Botanical Hill, one of Nelson's most popular walks incorporating the leafy Maitai River Valley. There is also an optional excursion to the Abel Tasman National Park with its stunning coastal scenery including tranquil Awaroa Bay.

This evening you are invited to have dinner at one of the renowned vineyards and sample some of the local wines.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Rutherford Hotel

Day 17 Nelson to Wellington

Our scenic route this morning passes through the region's vineyards to Picton, situated at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound. With luck you may even spot rare Hector's dolphins on our ferry ride over to Wellington!

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Copthorne Oriental Bay

Day 18 Wellington

You have a free day to explore Wellington's wealth of sights, including the superb Te Papa Museum of New Zealand, with its amazing artefacts and exhibits. The vibrant waterfront boasts wonderful shopping and café bars.

The gorgeous Botanical Gardens are classified as a Garden of National Significance with colourful floral displays and views over the city.

Roger Lord, JOD Tour Manager says: "Wellington has the best botanical gardens I have ever seen - and I've seen a fair few on my travels. Even those who aren't green-fingered can't help but be inspired."

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Copthorne Oriental Bay

Day 19 Wellington to Napier

Our drive today takes you a little further north to Napier, known as the city of Art Deco. This region has such a concentrated variety of buildings in the style of the 1930s. It is a fascinating and memorable stay, complemented by the location of your hotel on Hawke's Bay.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Scenic Hotel Te Pania

Day 20 Napier

You have a full day to appreciate this charming and atmospheric region on one of the unique guided walking tours or by Deco Bus along Marine Parade, Napier Hill and the original port of the city.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Scenic Hotel Te Pania

Day 21 Napier to Rotorua

Today we visit Wairekei Terraces to meet a Maori elder. Listen to intriguing stories as we take a leisurely guided tour of Wairakei Terraces Walkway and perhaps a visit to the Honeymoon Pool, famous for its therapeutic and healing powers.

Later in the evening we are guests at the Maori village for a traditional Maori dinner feast and concert, where we'll join in with the wonderful customs, rituals and chants.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Millennium Rotorua

Day 22 Rotorua

Rotorua's unique volcanic landscape and natural hot springs are evident at our visit to Te Puia Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley with its bubbling mud pools and gurgling geysers. The power of the inner earth reaches the surface with such a force at the valley's most active geyser named 'Pohutu' meaning 'big splash'.

Our last visit today is the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute with stories, music and dance all relevant to Maori culture.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Millennium Rotorua

Day 23 Rotorua to Bay of Islands

Our journey continues north to the subtropical Bay of Islands. Today we have an exclusive experience with the Ngaphui Tribe including the fascinating 'Waka' canoe ride on the Waitangi River to the thunderous Haruru Falls. Experience spellbinding storytelling, chants and rituals from New Zealand's indigenous people.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Copthorne Bay of Islands



Franz Josef glacier



Bay of Islands

a wonderful voyage of discovery. The surrounding landscape is also impressive as we sail toward Cape Brett with its commanding scenery, including the unmissable 'Hole in the Rock'.

Later in the day enjoy some free time. Perhaps take in the serenity of your waterfront hotel.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Copthorne Bay of Islands

Day 25 Bay of Islands

Today is free to explore at your own pace. If you need suggestions for things to do or see your Tour Manager can assist.

Maybe visit the picturesque township of Russell with its charming atmosphere or venture to the northern tip of the Aupouri Peninsula, where you'll see the solitary landmark of Cape Regina Lighthouse.

Mr & Mrs Draper, JOD customers, say: "The Bay of Islands was so beautiful we didn't want to leave! A wonderful holiday from start to finish."

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Copthorne Bay of Islands

Day 26 Bay of Islands to Auckland

Our journey down to the city of Auckland takes you to the charming village of Matakoho through the scenic Waipora Forest. Our stop at the Kauri Museum reveals stories of New Zealand's heritage and pioneering days, as well as an insight into the native giant kauri tree whose hardwood forests are amongst the oldest in the world.

Meals: Breakfast Hotel: Skycity Grand

Day 27 Auckland

You have a full day to explore the 'City of Sails'. You'll find some fantastic shopping opportunities including the fashionable suburb of Parnell, with its stylish boutique shops and Victorian buildings. Tonight you are invited to a farewell dinner at the amazing Orbit Restaurant, situated 328 metres high at the top of Auckland's Sky Tower. The restaurant has an enchanting atmosphere and offers breathtaking views of the city and beyond as it revolves.

Mr Sapsford, JOD customer, says: "We saw and learnt so much on our trip that we would have missed if we'd tried to do this on our own. It was nice to have stops of two or three nights in most places. The free time included in the itinerary was one of the reasons we chose Journeys of Distinction."

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner Hotel: Skycity Grand

Day 28 Auckland departure

There's still time for a little last minute shopping or sightseeing before we board our flight home to London Heathrow via Singapore.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 29 Arrive London Heathrow

With new friends made and wonderful memories, your Singapore Airlines flight arrives into London Heathrow this afternoon.

Your tour hotels

For full details of all the hotels featured on this tour please see pages 42-47.

Tour extensions

Karikari Peninsula

At the end of your tour, relax in the scenic beauty of the Karikari Peninsula at the luxurious Carrington Resort & Heritage hotel. The resort features an 18 hole gold course, miles of secluded beaches, the Karikari estate winery and 900 acres of wildlife wetlands.

3 nights from £645pp based on twin/double share, including return scheduled flights, return transfers, lodge room with daily breakfast. Single supplement: £380



Carrington Resort & Heritage Hotel

Early booking offer

Sentosa Island Stopover just £99

As an incentive for you to book early on our Magnificent New Zealand tour we are pleased to offer a 2-night extension on Sentosa Island, Singapore for an amazing £99 per person. This is a great way to break your journey home and relax on the shores of the South China Sea or explore the exciting city of Singapore. The newly-refurbished Shangri-La Rasa Sentosa Resort offers excellent facilities, spacious rooms and a large pool. Included in the price:

- * 2-nights bed and breakfast at the luxurious Shangri-La Rasa Sentosa Resort with late checkout until 4pm on day of departure

- * Return transfers

£99pp based on twin/double share
Single supplement £99

There is no expiry date to this offer, but only a limited number of rooms are available at these special prices and the offer is only available using the scheduled return date on this tour
Usual price £220pp based on twin/double share.

Single supplement: £170



Sentosa Island

Departure dates & prices

Magnificent New Zealand

Departure date	Price per person
2011 29 October	£5,395
18 December	£5,695
2012 17 January	£5,595
11 February	£5,445
03 March	£5,395
03 April	£5,095

Prices per person, based on double/twin share.
Single supplement: £1,495

Flight upgrades
Supplement for Singapore Airlines Club and First Class available on request

Independent arrival – see page 4 for details
Deduct £700 from the tour price above

Your 29-day tour includes:

- * The services of your JOD Tour Manager
- * Return scheduled flights on Singapore Airlines
- * Invitation to the airport executive lounge at London Heathrow
- * Quality hotels throughout – hand-picked for location and high standards
- * 29 breakfasts
- * 13 dinners including a dinner in a South Island vineyard and in the Sky Tower in Auckland
- * Sightseeing tours of Singapore, Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington, Napier and tours into some of New Zealand's best national parks
- * Travel by luxury air-conditioned coach
- * Luggage service throughout
- * All local and state taxes
- * Airport taxes including air passenger duty

Flying time

London to Singapore 12½ hours
Singapore to Christchurch 9 hours

Time difference
GMT + 12 hours

Average monthly temperatures see page 51.