

TASMAN EXPLORER



4 Nights Cruising + 13 Days Coach Touring New Zealand, Departing Melbourne Australia





Tasman Explorer

4 NIGHTS TRANS TASMAN CRUISE
13 DAYS COACH TOURING NORTH AND SOUTH ISLAND

Melbourne – Auckland – Rotorua – Napier – Wellington – Nelson – Christchurch – Glacier Country – Queenstown – Milford Sound – Dunedin – Aoraki Mount Cook – Christchurch

The 'Tasman Explorer' Departs Melbourne aboard the Golden Princess for four days and nights cruising the Tasman Sea before arriving in the port of Auckland where you will explore both islands of New Zealand at a leisurely pace with multiple night stays and days of leisure. This tour stays in central visitor locations using quality accommodation and visiting key attractions.

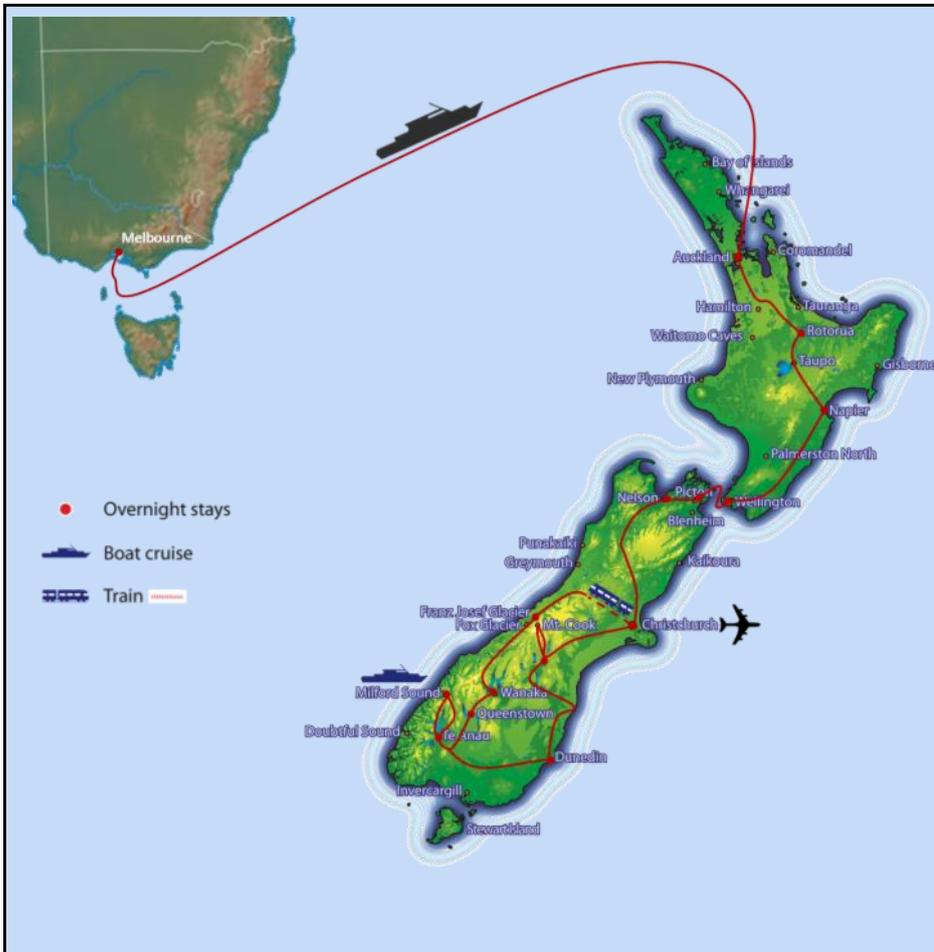
ITINERARY

Day 01 Sunday, 5 March 2017 (LD)
DEPART MELBOURNE
 4 Night Cruise sailing from Melbourne to Auckland aboard Golden Princess. Golden Princess has more ways to relax, dine, shop, play, swim, sun, dance and indulge than you can imagine, so you can experience the impressive options of a large ship while enjoying the intimacy of a small ship. Indulge in such first-class extras such as a museum-class art collection and the lavish Lotus Spa. Or simply spend the afternoon poolside with a choice of up to five sparkling pools. With so many options to choose from, you'll quickly regard this ship as a destination in itself.
Accommodation: Inside cabin aboard cruise ship- 4 Nights. Please note that all Buffet meals are included while on board the cruise however, optional meal upgrades are available on board at extra expense.

Day 02 Monday, 6 March 2017 (BLD)
Day 03 Tuesday, 7 March 2017 (BLD)
Day 04 Wednesday, 8 March 2017 (BLD)
AT SEA

Day 05 Thursday, 9 March 2017 (BD)
AUCKLAND / ROTORUA
 Arrive into the Port of Auckland where you will be met by your driver guide to start your New Zealand experience. Departing Auckland travelling south crossing the Bombay Hills through the dairy rich Waikato countryside to arrive at Rotorua, the Sulphur City. Rotorua has the most energetic thermal activity in the country with bubbling mud pools, gushing geysers, beautiful coloured hot springs and terrace formations created by mineral water. **This evening you will be treated to a traditional Hangi (feast) and Maori Concert. You are transferred from our hotel to visit Tamaki Maori Village for a Cultural Experience and Hangi Dinner.** Experience the warmth of the Maori people during an evening of ceremonial rituals, powerful cultural performance, storytelling & hangi feasting. Enter the pre-European Maori village, witness the earth being scraped carefully away from the hangi pit and enter their ancestral Meeting House to relax as their family entertain you with a powerful cultural performance before dining on the traditional **hangi buffet dinner** (Maori feast) cooked the traditional Maori way in an earth oven.
Distinction Hotel, Rotorua

Day 06 Friday, 10 March 2017 (B)
ROTORUA – NAPIER
 This morning **visit Te Puia – The New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley featuring the famous Pohutu Geyser.** Departing Rotorua, travel via New Zealand's largest pine tree forests to Taupo. En-route you take a **visit to the Wairakei Geothermal Steam Field.** This was a world-first, generating electricity by tapping a natural steam field then channelling the steam to a nearby power generation plant. Continuing to **view the mighty Huka Falls.** Huka in Maori translates to "snow" as the water here has





TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Port Tax and Cruise including all Meals on board the cruise
- Includes AUD\$100.00 cruise credit per cabin
- Fully inclusive cruise based on an inside cabin, departing Melbourne. *Upgrades available, see pricing for more details.*
- Returning economy class air fare ex Christchurch.
Note: Airline surcharges & taxes are not included
- Meet and Greet on arrival in New Zealand
- Quality accommodation, twin/double rooms, (single rooms available with single supplement) all with private facilities
- Cooked Breakfasts (B) and Dinners (D) where indicated on the itinerary, including two special dinners: Maori Hangi & Concert in Rotorua & Walter Peak Dinner at the Colonel's Homestead
- Tour Admissions as per itinerary, includes four Scenic Cruises, Trans Tasman crossing, Cook Strait & Queen Charlotte Sound, TSS Earnslaw Cruise on Lake Wakatipu and Milford Sound
- Ground Touring in a modern air conditioned coach
- Complimentary Travel Kit including, Travel Bag, Travel Wallet, Name Bar, Luggage Labels, and Map.
- *Please note; The cruise ship leg is operated and staffed by an American operator. Gratuities are not included within these prices and average \$12.00 per person per day on board.*

the appearance of snow falling as it is forced along from Lake Taupo through the falls on its journey along the Waikato River. This afternoon you continue to the 'Fruit Bowl' of New Zealand, Hawkes Bay – Napier.

Scenic Te Pania Hotel, Napier

Day 07 Saturday, 11 March 2017 NAPIER – WELLINGTON (BD)

Before departing *Napier, take a city sights tour, featuring beautiful Art Deco buildings* to give us an insight of why Napier is known as the Art Deco capital of the world. This afternoon we continue south to Wellington where we spend the rest of the day enjoying an informative sightseeing tour, including a *visit to Te Papa, (Our Place) New Zealand's national museum.*

James Cook Grand Chancellor Hotel, Wellington

Day 08 Sunday, 12 March 2017 WELLINGTON – NELSON (BD)

Today begins with a *cruise through Wellington Harbour* out onto the Cook Strait on the Interislander and through New Zealand's only true sound, the *picturesque Queen Charlotte Sound* into Picton. The bustling port of Picton is the terminal for inter-island ferries, and gateway to the 'Mainland', the South Island's self-proclaimed nickname. Reboarding our coach you continue to tour through to *Pelorous Bridge*. Here you can walk through the Beech and Podocarp Forest as well as view the many sculptured *boulders in the Pelorous River*. Continuing on for a tour of Nelson – this being the first city of New Zealand.

Trailways Hotel, Nelson

Day 09 Monday, 13 March 2017 NELSON – CHRISTCHURCH (BD)

Passing *Brightwater, the birth place of Lord Rutherford, the New Zealand science pioneer who split the atom*, travel through the Golden Downs Forest to Murchison through the Maruia Forest over the Lewis Pass then into *Hanmer Springs*. Time out here for lunch in this lovely alpine village (at own expense) before joining the upper reaches of the Canterbury Plains to Christchurch where you'll *enjoy the sights of the 'Garden City'* also known as "the most English city outside of England", en-route to our accommodation.

Château on the Park, Christchurch

Day 10 Tuesday, 14 March 2017 CHRISTCHURCH – FRANZ JOSEF (B)

From Christchurch *traverse the Southern Alps aboard the famous Tranz-Alpine rail journey to Arthurs Pass*. From your carriage you'll see the fields of the Canterbury Plains and farmland, followed by the spectacular gorges and river valleys of the Waimakariri River. Your train then climbs into the Southern Alps. Crossing Southern Alps, into the village of Arthurs Pass where you will be met by coach to continue your journey to the West Coast – or "the Coast" as locals call it, stopping in Hokitika where a visit is made to the *Greenstone and Glass Blowing factories*. Further south, tour the *Westland National Park, the home of Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers*. On arrival, time is available for optional scenic

flights, before continuing onto our accommodation for the night.

Scenic Franz Josef Hotel, Franz Josef

Day 11 Wednesday, 15 March 2017 FRANZ JOSEF – QUEENSTOWN (B)

Driving towards the southern end of the South Island's West Coast Road, there is a strong sense of entering a primeval land, and a feeling of total isolation. Arriving at Haast, you are surrounded by a landscape of rainforest, wetlands, sand dunes and surf-pounded shingle beaches. This wilderness forms part of the *South West New Zealand World Heritage Area*, so designated because South Westland and Fiordland have some of the most dramatic forest and mountain scenery and natural resources in the world. From the Westland National Park, travel through the Haast River valleys and over the Haast Pass to Makaroa and onto the upper reaches of Lake Wanaka. Travelling past *Lake Hawea*, reaching the popular *Lake Wanaka*, the starting point of the mighty Clutha River. This afternoon you travel via Cromwell following the Kawarau Gorge Road into Queenstown. Tonight is free for you to explore the local restaurants, cafes and bars.

Cophorne Lakefront Hotel, Queenstown – 2 nights

Day 12 Thursday, 16 March 2017 QUEENSTOWN (BD)

Today is at leisure. Visit the Remarkable's or Coronet Peak. Experience the thrill of a jet-boat ride along the Shotover or Kawarau Rivers. Perhaps a scenic 4 wheel drive excursion through Skippers Canyon, it's up to you. *Take a cruise this evening, across Lake Wakatipu on the steamer TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station to dine at the Colonel's Homestead.*

Day 13 Friday, 17 March 2017 QUEENSTOWN – TE ANAU (B)

Leaving Queenstown you skirt the shores of Lake Wakatipu, New Zealand's third largest lake. Travelling via Te Anau to reach the *beautiful Eglinton Valley* climbing to Homer Tunnel before descending through the spectacular Cleddau Canyon to reach *Milford Sound and enjoy a cruise of the Sound*. The Sound is dominated by the grandeur of *Mitre Peak and the Bowen Falls*. From Milford Sound you return to Te Anau reaching our overnight accommodation.

Distinction Luxmore Hotel, Lake Te Anau

Day 14 Saturday, 18 March 2017 TE ANAU – DUNEDIN (B)

Departing Te Anau, travel through some of New Zealand's most populated sheep country through to Lumsden and onto Gore before arriving in *Dunedin – "the Edinburgh of the South"*. Upon our arrival into Dunedin, you have the opportunity to board an optional train ride - the Taieri Gorge Train Excursion from the historic Dunedin Railway Station for a scenic train ride into the spectacular Taieri Gorge to Pukerangi and return.

Scenic Dunedin City Hotel, Dunedin

Day 15 Sunday, 19 March 2017

DUNEDIN – OMARAMA (BD)

This morning, visit *Olveston House* – an impressive turn-of-the-century house that is still home to all the lavish furnishings and art collections that have been collected from all corners of the world. Continue to then take in the sights of this old Scottish City before travelling onto Oamaru where you will have time to look at the *"White Stone City"* where the old buildings have been constructed with local limestone. Travelling inland through Benmore and Otematata, through Sailors Cutting before arriving at Oamaru.

Heritage Gateway Hotel, Oamaru

Day 16 Monday, 20 March 2017 OMARAMA – CHRISTCHURCH (BD)

Today is a day for spectacular sights as you head north to skirt the shore of Lake Pukaki to *Mount Cook, New Zealand's highest mountain*. Time is available to enjoy an optional scenic flight over the ancient rivers of ice and the West Coast Glaciers (weather permitting – a highly recommended option). Travelling to Tekapo, you'll witness the *magnificent blue waters of Lake Tekapo*. Visit the *Church of the Good Shepherd and the statue of the Collie dog*, before travelling the *vast Mackenzie Basin*, over Burke's Pass through Fairlie, Geraldine, Ashburton and across the Canterbury Plains into Christchurch.

Château on the Park, Christchurch

Day 17 Tuesday, 21 March 2017 CHRISTCHURCH – HOME PORT (B)

Farewell from New Zealand. After breakfast you will be *transferred from the hotel to Christchurch International Airport* for your flight back home.

PACKAGE TOUR PRICES AUD:

Cruise, Land + Air Share Twin/Double	\$A5,140.00
Single Supplement	\$A1,840.00
<i>Cruise accommodation based on an inside cabin. (No outside views.)</i>	
Deposit due at time of booking	\$A500.00

CRUISE OPTIONAL UPGRADES AUD:

Outside Cabin - Share Twin/Double	\$A70.00
Single Supplement Plus Extra (Obstructed view)	\$A135.00
Outside Cabin - Share Twin/Double	\$A315.00
Single Supplement Plus Extra (Unobstructed view)	\$A620.00
Balcony - Share Twin/Double	\$A565.00
Single Supplement Plus Extra	\$A1,320.00
Suite - Share Twin/Double	\$A880.00
Single Supplement Plus Extra	\$A1,750.00

Booking Terms & Conditions

And also some handy touring information....

Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

It is understood by Leisure Time Tours that the terms and conditions of travel are accepted by the passenger when the required deposit has been paid.

Seat Changes

Passengers rotate seats in the coach daily so that all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy forward and window seating. All passengers are expected to participate as a booking condition.

Itineraries

Itineraries were correct at the time of printing, but are subject to change without notice. This could come about due to road or weather conditions, or any changes imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary. If a passenger amends their itinerary by starting or concluding the itinerary earlier or later or during an itinerary then it becomes their responsibility to arrange tour or flight connections as necessary.

Activities and Optional Tours

Leisure Time Tours does not operate the attractions mentioned in our touring brochure, therefore will not be responsible for any injury, actions, loss, damage or acts of negligence committed by the operators mentioned in this brochure arising from these attractions.

Tour Escort

Minimum numbers apply for a group escort to travel with the group departure.

Smoking

Due to government regulations, smoking is not permitted inside tourist coaches. Smokers will find that the frequent stops made for sight-seeing provide the ideal opportunity to smoke. If passengers require a smoking room for their accommodation we will pass this request onto the accommodation – we can not guarantee that this will be available.

Single Passengers

Passengers may opt for a guaranteed single room by paying the single supplement, but if passengers wish to travel in a twin room with another passenger of the same gender then smoking is not permitted in their room. If someone is not compatible with the person they have been matched up with, all additional costs incurred to assist with changing the room type to a guaranteed single room will be at the passenger's expense and will be subject to availability. Acceptance of a twin share basis is subject to the individual's medical condition being suitable for this type of arrangement.

Health and Fitness

Passengers should be in good health and able to walk moderate distances to fully appreciate all of the sightseeing opportunities in the itinerary. By paying the deposit passengers acknowledge that you are of reasonable health and are considered to be fit to travel, and are not travelling contrary to medical advice. Leisure Time Tours reserves the right to cancel a booking or to remove a passenger from a tour if their health or fitness interferes with any other passenger's experiences or the day to day running of the tour. Passengers bringing a quantity of medication with them are advised to carry a doctor's certificate to avoid possible problems with customs officials. Doctor's prescriptions are needed to obtain certain drugs in both Australia and New Zealand.

Travel Insurance

Leisure Time Tours strongly advises all passengers to purchase a travel insurance policy. An important part of planning the holiday is to purchase a comprehensive travel insurance policy as it may prevent passengers from spending extra money in case of an emergency and will help passengers feel protected during the holiday.

Price Amendments

Prices were correct at the time and date of printing, however Leisure Time Tours reserves the right to amend the price subject to any changes in price imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary or major fluctuation in the exchange rates, or increases in government or other levies. The final tour cost will be guaranteed not to change once the full and final payment has been received. Tour Price excludes drinks, telephone calls, travel insurance and items of a personal nature.

Exchange rate fluctuations

Until Leisure Time Tours receives full payment, your tour price is subject to exchange rate fluctuations. We consider anything over 4% a major fluctuation, and in this instance we will absorb up to the first 4% before surcharging.

Payments

A deposit of \$A500.00 per person is required on booking to confirm the seat at the time of booking. All balance payments must be received by the agent no later than 45 days prior to tour commencement.

Flights

Airlines require all Trans Tasman flights to be ticketed within 5 days of booking. If the tour package includes flights, then ticketing will be completed once the deposit payment has been received. A further deposit to cover the associated taxes and levies is also required at the time of the booking. Airfares/ tickets are non-refundable and non-transferrable. Tickets requiring re-issue due to a mis-spelling of names on the advice given to the agent will incur a re-issue fee of \$A150.00 per person per change. A handling charge of \$A150.00 per passenger will be levied for lost airline ticket.

Airline Taxes

Airline taxes and surcharges are not included in the advertised prices. Tax amounts are subject to change therefore will be confirmed at the time of booking. In the interim please use \$A145.00 per person as a guideline.

New Zealand Airport Transfers

New Zealand airport transfers are included on all of our Tours. If however passengers have made independent pre/post tour arrangements outside of the itinerary then transfers are not included.

Luggage Allowances & Restrictions

Although every effort is made to handle guests luggage carefully, we cannot be responsible, assume liability or accept claims for loss or damage to luggage and personal effects due to breakage, theft, or fair wear and tear through hotel, airline and group carrier handling.

Therefore, it is important for protection that passengers make certain they have adequate travel insurance to cover these eventualities.

Travel Kits

Each passenger will receive a complimentary Leisure Time Tours Travel Kit. This will include a Travel Bag for carry on luggage. Please note that this bag and contents must not weigh more than 7kgs (15lbs). Within the travel wallet passengers will find luggage labels and a name bar. Please ensure that the luggage is properly identified with these luggage labels. We encourage passengers to wear their name bar at all times on tour as it enables airlines and tourist operators to identify that passengers are part of our group. It is also much easier for other passengers to identify and to get to know each other.

Checked Baggage

Due to space limitations aboard the motor coaches and the on-tour flights used in New Zealand & Australia, each passenger is permitted only one average-sized piece of checked baggage weighing a maximum of 20kg (44lbs), plus their carry on luggage in the Leisure Time Tours Travel Bag provided.

Clothing and Packing

Passengers will find casual clothing of all types comfortable and relaxing. Lightweight drip-dry clothing is ideal. Warmer clothing for evenings will be handy. As New Zealand can experience 'four seasons in one day' layering is key. Regular laundry facilities are available throughout the tour. For special dinners many guests like to dress up, but by all means be comfortable; on the remaining nights "smart casual" is suggested. We recommend that passengers pack their prescription medicines (an adequate supply to last through the journey) along with the travel documents and a change of clothing in the carry-on bag to avoid any inconvenience in the event that a flight or luggage is delayed.

Passports & Visas

All visitors require a passport to travel to and to enter New Zealand or Australia which must have a minimum validity of 6 months remaining. It is a good idea to carry a photocopy of the 'Photo Page' of their passport, as well as to leave photocopies of the travel documents and identification papers with someone at home.

Entry to New Zealand

Australian passport holders do not require visas; neither do Australian permanent residents with current resident return visas. All other visitors to New Zealand must possess a return or onward ticket to a country to which you have right of entry.

Customs and Immigration

Compliance with any Australian and/ or New Zealand immigration, customs and/ or quarantine regulations is the client's responsibility. Leisure Time Tours cannot, under any circumstances, be held liable nor responsible if applicable rules and regulations are not observed.

Amendments, Cancellations and Refunds

Leisure Time Tours reserves the right to amend or reschedule the tour due to the result of circumstances outside the company's control. Leisure Time Tours also reserves the right to cancel the tour due to insufficient numbers and in this instance a substitute date will be offered or a full refund will be made available.

Refund Schedule

- 60+ days prior to tour commencement a loss of deposit plus any applicable airline cancellation fees
 - 31-59 days prior to tour commencement receives a 50% refund.
 - 30 days or less prior to tour commencement receives no refund.
 - No Refunds on any unused portions of itinerary.
- If you wish to cancel and transfer to a new departure date, the above cancellation fees will apply

Contact us.....



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We look forward to hearing from you