

A Cook's Tour presents:

A Taste of New Zealand Itinerary

January 24 to February 7



January 24 **Auckland**

Welcome reception and dinner

Lodging: Sofitel Harbor Hotel

meals: dinner

January 25 **Auckland**

City tour & seafood cooking lesson and dinner at Auckland Seafood School (a fun way to learn about the abundance of fresh seafood throughout New Zealand)

meals: breakfast & dinner

January 26 **Auckland**

Day trip to Waiheke Island (one of the smallest wine producing regions of the world) for a tour and tasting at three distinct wineries)

meals: breakfast & lunch

January 27 **Napier**

Overland drive in private motor coach through the countryside to the coastal city of Napier, known for its unique art deco architecture. Lunch stop at Lake Taupo (gigantic lake formed by ancient volcanic eruption).

Lodging: Scenic Hotel Te Pania

meals: breakfast, lunch & dinner

January 28 **Napier**

Hawke Bay wine tour with stops at the "Cellar Door" of two historic and one new producer with a garden lunch and visit to the "Arataki Honey House"

meals: breakfast & lunch

January 29 **Wellington**

Overland drive by orchards, vineyards, meadows and small towns to the picturesque village of Martinborough (burgeoning wine region) for lunch at the Union Square before continuing across the mountains to Wellington.

Afternoon visit to waterfront and Te Papa Museum.

Lodging: Sofitel

meals: breakfast & lunch

January 30 **North to South**

Enjoy the morning on your own to revisit Te Papa or the botanical gardens, walk along the water or shop along the retail avenue between the hills and harbor. All within easy walking distance. At mid afternoon board the InterIsland Ferry for the 3-hour scenic crossing of Cooks Straight to the South Island.

Lodging: Chateau Marlborough

meals: breakfast & dinner

January 31 **Marlborough Vineyards and Sound**

The day begins with visits and tastings at two of Marlboroughs iconic vineyards. Next it's lunch by the shore at Havloc on Marlborough Sound. Then we board a small vessel for a cruise in the picturesque channels of the "Sound" learning about the aquaculture this region is famous for.

meals: breakfast & lunch

February 1 **Queenstown**

A late morning flight brings us to Queenstown, where our naturalist guide Watsy is waiting to introduce us to the 'great outdoors' of New Zealand recreation capital. We'll visit historic Arrowtown, see the original bungy jumping site (if you are adventuresome, we'll watch you!). We'll be in the heart of stunningly beautiful Queenstown by mid-afternoon.

Lodging: Queenstown Park Boutique Hotel

meals: breakfast & dinner

February 2 **Queenstown**

A day on your own. Recreational opportunities abound and individual arrangements will be made for any activity you prefer. Or you can relax at a spa day and ride the gondola to the nearest peaks and be spoiled by the view.

meals: breakfast & dinner

February 3 **Milford Sound**

Day trip through mountains and meadows to the incredible Milford Sound for a narrated 3-hour lunch cruise. It's a long day but one you will savor when back in Queenstown at sunset.

meals: breakfast & lunch

February 4 **Mount Cook**

Watsy will drive us through mountains, waterways and natural beauty to the Glacier covered peaks of Mount Cook National Park. You will have time for an energizing walk among several well marked trails that allow you to go at your own pace and enjoy the beauty surrounding you on every side.

Lodging: historic Hermitage Lodge

meals: breakfast & dinner

February 5 **Christchurch**

A final overland drive takes us through the mountains into the coastal plains that surround Christchurch. Enjoy an afternoon ride on the iconic Tram that circumnavigates the center of his historic city.

Lodging: Novitel Cathedral Square

meals: breakfast & lunch

February 6 **Christchurch**

Tour of Christchurch and time to shop as you prepare for the end of our journey.

meals: breakfast & dinner