



New Zealand



Proposed Itinerary especially prepared for

My Little Swans ~ Family Itinerary

SOUTHERN
CROSSINGS



Welcome to New Zealand

Set in the azure seas of the South Pacific Ocean, New Zealand is renowned for its clean green environment and remarkable scenic beauty from rugged mountains and ancient glaciers to beaches, bays and bush. Discerning travellers from all over the world rate New Zealand a destination not to be missed.

New Zealand is more than magnificent landscapes, it is about a people and a society that has a vibrant and rich culture; a melding of a proud Maori heritage and modern European and Polynesian influences. New Zealanders themselves – friendly and open are proud of their country and its achievements. They have an egalitarian approach to life that visitors find refreshingly calming and welcoming.

New Zealand offers outstanding experiences – including wilderness fly fishing and deep-sea game fishing, hiking and helicopter adventures, diving, hiking, hot air ballooning, skiing and golfing tours, gourmet cuisine, wine trails, house and garden tours as well as sports, cultural and artistic activities. New Zealand is also known for its fine foods and wines. Seafood and top quality agricultural produce form the basis of the exciting and innovative Pacific Rim cuisine.

December 2012
Day 01

Upon arrival at Auckland International Airport you will be met by a representative of Southern Crossings who will hand over your New Zealand documentation and transfer you to your accommodation.

While at leisure we suggest the following optional activities:

- Auckland Museum and Maori Challenge Performance, the surrounding Domain and nearby Winter Garden*
- Sail the Waitemata Harbour aboard past America's Cup yachts NZL40 or NZL41*
- Auckland Art Gallery and The New Gallery
- Visit the Maritime Museum and enjoy dining out at the many restaurants, cafes and bars at the Viaduct Basin and Wynyard Quarter
- A trip to the top of the Sky Tower for magnificent views of Auckland and the Waitemata Harbour
- 360 degree Skywalk from Sky tower or Sky jump
- Kelly Tarlton's Antarctic Encounter and Underwater World
- Shopping in quaint and historic Parnell
- Cruise to Devonport - a charming historic seaside village with fine art and craft boutiques

ACCOMMODATION FOR ONE NIGHT IN ONE DOUBLE ROOM AND ONE TWIN ROOM INCLUDING BREAKFAST AT:
SOFITEL AUCKLAND VIADUCT HARBOUR
AUCKLAND

Auckland



Auckland – 'City of Sails' is regularly voted one of the best lifestyle cities in the world. Set on the shores of the Waitemata Harbour, Maori name for 'sparkling waters', the city boasts marine reserves, golden swimming beaches and black sand surf. As New Zealand's largest city, Auckland has a diverse ethnic mix providing a myriad of cultural experiences, reflected in the Pacific atmosphere and cuisine.

Day 02

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private car and driver and transferred to the nearby rental vehicle depot.

Collect your full-size automatic rental vehicle including daily insurance, unlimited kilometres, accident excess reduction and GPS.

Drive to your accommodation at Rotorua (approximately 3 hours drive)

During your stay at Treetops Wild Food Experience to enjoy a one-hour stroll through the bush to collect indigenous herbs and spices in the Lodge's open-plan kitchen. There, Treetops' talented Maori chefs combine the produce and indigenous ingredients of the forest to create a dazzling variety of unique dishes. And you'll learn how to reproduce the hangi or Maori pit-oven at home. Guests discover such indigenous tastes as tangy kawakawa and peppery horopito.

ACCOMMODATION FOR TWO NIGHTS IN ONE DOUBLE VILLA AND ONE TWIN VILLA INCLUDING PRE-DINNER DRINKS, DINNER AND BREAKFAST AT:
TREETOPS LODGE AND ESTATE
ROTORUA

Rotorua



Rotorua – heartland of New Zealand's Maori culture. Surrounded by steaming lakes, bubbling hot pools and bursting geysers, Rotorua is host to some of the world's most incredible earth forces, capturing all that is precious and unique – feel its spirit – *Manaakitanga*.

Day 03

While at leisure we suggest the following optional activities:

- Scenic helicopter flight over Mt Tarawera and White Island*
- Lake Tarawera boat charter / excursion*
- Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and Te Puia Thermal Reserve
- Agrodome Farm Show
- Rainbow Springs Kiwi Wildlife Park featuring unique flora and fauna and endangered and native species
- Rotorua Museum of Art and History
- Picnic at the scenic Green and Blue Lakes
- Polynesian Spa – Thermal Pools and Beauty Retreat
- White water rafting - one option includes the highest commercially rafted waterfall in the world
- Buried Village of Te Wairoa
- Mitai Maori Village – an indigenous cultural experience
- Waimangu Volcanic Valley and Cruise on Lake Rotomahana
- Orakei Korako Cave and Thermal Park
- 'Zorbing' – downhill ride in a large inflatable ball
- Gondola and Luge rides
- Visit Ohinemutu, an intricately carved Maori meeting house and 1901 Tudor-style church set by Lake Rotorua
- Waiotapu Thermal Wonderland (30 minutes south of Rotorua, en route to Taupo)
- Drive to Lake Taupo – New Zealand's largest lake and world's trout fishing capital (45 minutes drive)

SUGGESTED EXCURSIONS - COST NOT INCLUDED*

HELICOPTER EXCURSIONS



The diverse landscape of the Rotorua region is best enjoyed by air. Enjoy a scenic flight offering views of the Waimangu Thermal Valley, view dormant volcano, Mount Tarawera with expansive views of domes and craters formed during the 1886 eruption. Most memorable is a visit to White Island – an active volcano! Land and enjoy a guided tour taking you past steaming fumaroles and bubbling activity, to the edge of the crater lake to view the roaring volcanic vent known as 'PJ'.

CRUISING



Whilst in Rotorua, enjoy a cruise on Lake Tarawera – let your skipper explain the stories and traditions of the local Maori people as you cruise the crystal clear waters searching for trophy sized rainbow trout. This area is centered around the historic Pink and White Terraces which were tragically lost in the 1886 eruption of Mt Tarawera. Sit back, relax and take in your surroundings of untouched native bush which lies at the foot of the majestic mountain.

PRIVATE TOURING



Experience Rotorua's many attractions in the company of a local guide. Some highlights include Rainbow Springs, featuring unique flora, fauna, endangered and native species; Te Puia thermal area with world famous Pohutu Geyser, silica terraces and bubbling mud pools. Rotorua Museum offers an insight into this fascinating thermal area – the lavishly designed Tudor-style building opened as a spa in 1908 and was later refurbished as the Museum it is today.

Day 04

This morning drive to Rotorua Airport and return your rental vehicle prior to your onward flight.

Fly Rotorua to Wellington (cost not included).

On arrival at Wellington Airport you will be met by your private car and driver for an introductory sightseeing tour of our Capital City including a visit to Te Papa - New Zealand's National Museum, where you can explore the great stories of this fascinating land and the people who live here, and is recognised as a world leader in the new wave of innovative and interactive museum experiences, having achieved an international reputation for excellence.

Highlights include the stories of New Zealand's indigenous people, the Māori, which are celebrated in Mana Whenua, featuring many beautiful Taonga (treasures). Te Marae offers the chance to experience a unique and beautiful contemporary Marae (meeting house) designed and created by leading Māori carvers.

Wellington



Wellington ~ New Zealand's Capital City, cultural centre and recently dubbed as 'the coolest little capital city in the world'. Nestled between a dramatic harbour and bush clad hills, this thriving characteristic city is home to a feast of attractions including theatre, arts, parks and museums.

Day 04 continued

Continue with your private car and driver to your accommodation at Palliser Bay (approximately 2 hours journey).

ACCOMMODATION FOR TWO NIGHTS IN ONE DOUBLE COTTAGE SUITE AND ONE TWIN COTTAGE SUITE INCLUDING PRE-DINNER DRINKS, DINNER AND BREAKFAST AT:
WHAREKAUHAU COUNTRY ESTATE
PALLISER BAY

Day 05

This morning enjoy a 4WD farm safari to introduce you to the workings of this remote coastal ranch, which has been included today.

While at leisure we suggest the following optional activities available at the lodge during your leisure time:

- Archery
- Clay Target Shooting
- Jet boating
- ATV Quad Bikes
- Horse Trekking
- Spa Treatments
- Scenic helicopter flights
- Martinborough Vineyards Tour
- Coastline Tour
- Seal colony/Lighthouse Tour

Palliser Bay



Wharekauhau Estate and its three adjoining properties at Palliser Bay comprise a 5000 acre working sheep station of forests, lakes, mountains, bush and open country as well as 16 miles of dramatic coastline which offers endless opportunities for recreation.

Day 06

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private car and driver and transferred to Wellington Airport prior to your onward flight (approximately 2 hours journey).

Fly Wellington to Blenheim (cost not included).

On arrival at Blenheim Airport collect your -size automatic rental vehicle including daily insurance, unlimited kilometres, accident excess reduction and GPS.

Drive to your accommodation at Kaikoura (approximately 2 hours drive).

ACCOMMODATION FOR TWO NIGHTS IN A TWO BEDROOM
TREE HOUSE INCLUDING DINNER AND BREAKFAST AT:
HAPUKU LODGE
KAIKOURA

Kaikoura



Kaikoura - Kai ~ food, Koura ~ crayfish. The seaside settlement of Kaikoura situated on a peninsula on the rugged east coast of New Zealand's South Island is overlooked by majestic often snowcapped mountains, a dramatic backdrop for the picturesque village. Renowned for its eco tourism and recognised as nature's playground offering something for everyone.

Day 07

An exhilarating Whalewatch excursion has been included which will provide the opportunity of viewing Sperm whales, dolphins and fur seals (approximately 3 hours duration).

While at leisure we suggest the following optional activities:

- Swim with the Dolphins or Seals*
- Scuba diving*
- Horse trekking and hiking
- Bird watching cruise
- Visit the Maori Leap Cave
- 4WD Quad Bike adventure tour
- Bush Walks and Art Trails
- Kaikoura Winery for spectacular clifftop views
- Day excursion to Hanmer Springs Natural Thermal Pools

WHALEWATCH EXCURSIONS



Every whale watch tour is unique, whether by sea or air, and the sightings vary. Giant Sperm Whales are year-round residents. A typical cruise may encounter New Zealand Fur Seals, pods of Dusky Dolphins and the Wandering Albatross. You may also see Humpback Whales, Pilot Whales, Blue Whales and Southern Right Whales. Kaikoura often hosts the world's largest dolphin - the Orca - and is home to the world's smallest and rarest - the Hector's.

SUGGESTED EXCURSIONS - COST NOT INCLUDED*

DOLPHIN SWIMMING



The dusky dolphins inhabit the coastal waters off Kaikoura all year round, making the region a unique place in the world where dolphins can be encountered every day, weather permitting. The cruise operator has developed their tours for those wishing to enhance their understanding of dolphins in their natural environment. For those not wishing to swim, there is the opportunity to spectate from the boat, giving visitors wonderful views of these acrobatic mammals.

MAORI TOURS



Discover cultural similarities and bask in the warmth of Maori hospitality, with its own distinctive flavour. Travel on a personal and intimate journey into the Maori world - Kaikoura is an area of immense natural beauty and rich Maori history. The stories of ancestors will echo through the voices of today; stories that will leave you smiling and amazed. Half day tours are available as either a small group tour or on a private basis.

Day 08

This morning drive to Christchurch Airport and return your rental vehicle prior to your onward flight (approximately 3 hours drive).

Fly Christchurch to Queenstown (cost not included)

On arrival at Queenstown Airport collect your full-size automatic rental vehicle including daily insurance, unlimited kilometres, accident excess reduction and GPS and drive to your accommodation (approximately 20 minutes drive).

ACCOMMODATION FOR THREE NIGHTS IN A TWO
BEDROOM HOTEL VILLA ON A ROOM ONLY BASIS AT:
MILLBROOK RESORT
ARROWTOWN
NEAR QUEENSTOWN

Queenstown



Queenstown - 'Adventure Capital of the World'. Set on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, amidst the towering peaks of the Southern Alps, the scenery provides a perfect backdrop for endless activities and an idyllic haven in which to relax.

Day 09

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private helicopter to enjoy an excursion to majestic Milford Sound. Fly through the grandeur of the Alps over rainforests, frozen lakes and majestic Milford to touchdown on an age old glacier. The views of the glaciers are overwhelming, with their many crevasses and blue and green ice falls. You will then return to Queenstown with views of New Zealand's southern lakes en route (approximately 90 minutes duration).

Milford Sound



Majestic Milford Sound, one of New Zealand's most spectacular areas and a natural wonder of world fame, whatever the fiord's mood, teeming with rain or with sun glistening on deep water, it will inspire you. In the foreground of the fiord, stands Mitre Peak, a remarkable presence dominating the skyline.

Day 10

While at leisure we suggest the following optional activities:

- Jetboat excursion or Fun Yak trip on the scenic Dart River*
- Steamer cruise aboard the TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak*
- Private guided tours - visit a variety of leading boutique wineries and vineyards for which Central Otago is renowned - Amisfield, Chard Farm, Peregrine Wines, Lake Hayes and Gibbston Vineyards*
- Golf at Millbrook Resort, Kelvin Heights or Jacks Point*
- Hot air ballooning*
- Day hike to nearby Routeburn National Park*
- Visit the sites and surreal landscape where the 'Lord of the Rings' was filmed*
- Exciting jetboat ride on the Shotover River
- Gondola Ride to Bob's Peak for breathtaking views
- Visit the historic and picturesque Gold Mining Settlement of Arrowtown
- Horse riding through rolling alpine countryside
- Rail Trail by day
- For the more adventurous - bungee jumping, sky diving, parapenting, heli-surfing, river surfing, rock climbing, white water rafting
- Old Cromwell Town – self guided tour visiting local artists, historic buildings, shopping for gourmet preserves and fine homeware (45 minutes drive from Queenstown)

SUGGESTED EXCURSIONS - COST NOT INCLUDED*

DART RIVER JETBOATING



This, the longest and most sensational jet boat journey available in the Queenstown area, is an adventure that will take you all the way from the head of mighty Lake Wakatipu into the World Heritage listed pristine Mount Aspiring National Park. There are three exciting adventures to choose from, whether it's non-stop jet boat action, combining jet boat action with a leisurely forest walk, or adding tranquil downstream 'Fungaking' for a family adventure.

ADVENTURE EXCURSIONS



Queenstown offers some of the best activities in the Southern Hemisphere and we have access to specialist guides who customise trips designed to suit your requirements and move along at your own pace. Choose from a variety of half or full day excursions to include activities such as hiking, mountain biking, hunting, bungee jumping, white water rafting, canyoning, paragliding, quad biking, jet boating, skiing, sky diving, rural encounters, family friendly touring and more!

Day 11

This morning drive to Queenstown Airport and return your rental vehicle prior to your onward flight (approximately 20 minutes drive).

Fly Queenstown to Auckland (cost not included).

Depart Auckland

NEW ZEALAND ARRANGEMENTS CONCLUDE

*Please note for optional activities marked with an * we suggest
Reservations made in advance.*



Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbour, Auckland

The Sofitel Auckland, Viaduct Harbour is New Zealand's newest five star hotel.

Overlooking Auckland's Viaduct Harbour, the hotel celebrates its maritime location with sweeping marina views and spacious promenades leading to bustling restaurants and shopping districts nearby.

Meticulously planned, the guest rooms and suites offer space to relax and revitalize in contemporary style. For complete rejuvenation, the hotel offers a luxury spa wellness centre with a gym and indoor pool.

Treetops Lodge and Estate is an award winning, elite Lodge located in the heart of New Zealand's world famous therapeutic thermal region and trout fishing capital, Rotorua.

A sanctuary and haven with scenic views set in 2,500 acres of secluded, 800-year old virgin forest and game reserve, Treetops offers a 'sophisticated safari'. With an unparalleled range of activities and exhilarating experiences at the doorstep, including 7 trout streams, 4 lakes, 70 kilometres of hiking, mountain bike and horse riding trails for guests to enjoy whilst amongst the tranquillity and splendor of the environment.

Offering a uniquely New Zealand experience, Treetops' elegant architectural style is derived from the country's pioneering past. Timber and stone finishes echo the beauty and simplicity of the great outdoors. The Lodge comprises 4 suites and 8 ultra-luxurious villas, each with its own unique character.

The estate's seclusion setting and superb facilities also lends itself as an inspirational setting for hideaway retreats. Fine cuisine is an integral part with flavoursome and healthy dishes created by talented chefs using the finest game and local produce. Dining is complemented by an array of premium New Zealand wines.

Treetops is the ultimate hideaway where luxury surroundings and outstanding service ensure a very memorable stay.

Treetops Lodge and Estate

Horohoro, Rotorua



Wharekauhau Country Estate is a luxury Lodge situated on a 5000-acre working farm on the south east coast of the North Island at Cape Palliser. Framed by the Rimutaka Ranges to the west, and Palliser Bay to the east, the Lodge is surrounded by ancient, native forests, spectacular beaches, bountiful rivers and tranquil lakes that facilitate a smorgasbord of outdoor activities. Sumptuously furnished, twelve charming cottages dotted throughout the extensive grounds enjoy magnificent ocean views and offer complete privacy and seclusion.

The main Lodge is modelled on the lines of an Edwardian country mansion with grand hall, open wood burning fireplaces, mullioned windows and country style kitchen. A number of onsite activities include tours of the sheep station and the coast, horseback rides, clay target shooting, and spa treatments.

Many guests take the opportunity to visit the renowned Martinborough wine growing region, an easy drive from Wharekauhau. Martinborough's wines are internationally acclaimed, particularly its Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. A leading honeymoon destination, relaxing resort, romantic retreat, wedding location, spa resort, or virtually any occasion, Wharekauhau provides luxury accommodation offering the chance for guests to enjoy unique New Zealand country hospitality.

Wharekauhau Country Estate Palliser Bay





Hapuku Lodge

Kaikoura

With contemporary design which is complement to the breathtaking scenery, Hapuku Lodge perfectly positions guests to take advantage of Kaikoura's activities.

The Lodge sits between the mountains and the ocean, on a deer stud and olive farm, 7 miles north of Kaikoura.

Featuring custom designed, handmade furniture, Hapuku Lodge offers accommodation including six well-appointed guest rooms in the main lodge building, a separate apartment, and five luxury Tree Houses nested 30 feet in the treetops.



Millbrook Resort

Arrowtown, near Queenstown

Nestled in an impressive alpine amphitheatre of snow – capped mountains, Millbrook Resort provides a wide variety of accommodation options, ranging from well-appointed Village Inn rooms, Villa Suites, Apartment styled Hotel Villas, self contained Cottages, to private and exclusive Fairway Homes.

Facilities include an 18-hole championship golf course, three award-winning restaurants, bar, premier spa facility and the complimentary Health and Fitness centre with Jacuzzis, tennis courts, indoor heated swimming pool, and complimentary fitness classes.