



ADVENTURE ASSOCIATES

www.AdventureAssociates.net

PO Box 16304 • Seattle WA 98116 • 206-932-8352

info@AdventureAssociates.net



NEW ZEALAND SOUTH ISLAND ACTIVE ADVENTURE FOR WOMEN

Often referred to as the Jewel of the Pacific, New Zealand is a land of rich diversity and magnificent scenery! Our itinerary explores some of the very best of New Zealand's stunningly beautiful South Island: dense rainforests, glaciated mountains, crystal clear lakes, sandy beaches and emerald oceans! This all-women's adventure begins and ends in "The Garden City" of Christchurch and includes biking through Marlborough wine country, bush walking in sub-tropical rainforests and dramatic coastal bluffs, an overnight cruise on Doubtful Sound, sea kayaking and camping in pristine bays, whale watching and birding excursions. Our accommodations range from wine country villas to alpine lodges and charming B&Bs. With free time in the adventure capitol of Queenstown, our itinerary is full yet the pace is flexible enough to allow for plenty of time to relax and absorb the beauty of this friendly country. Don't miss this opportunity for an unforgettable Kiwi adventure!

Combine this magnificent South Island Adventure with an optional extension to the North Island. Here we have the opportunity to be introduced to the rich culture and history of the indigenous people of New Zealand - the Maori. Call for details.

Trip Dates: Feb 27 – March 14, 2009

Land Costs: \$4199 (min. 8)

DAYS 1-2 (Most flights depart Friday evening, Feb 27)

Leave USA airport and fly to Christchurch, NZ. Due to crossing the International Date Line, you will lose one day (but gain it back on your return home). You may arrive the night before the start of the tour. Meals and accommodation on your own.

DAY 3 (Arrival Day: Sunday, March 1, 2009)

Arrive in Christchurch and transfer to a charming B&B in the heart of "The Garden City". Enjoy some downtime to adjust to the time change and a welcome dinner. (D)

DAY 4

As a group, we transfer to Kaikoura for an afternoon of whale watching in South Bay. Cruise over a deep undersea canyon, where we may encounter New Zealand Fur Seals, pods of Dusky Dolphins and the endangered Wandering Albatross. Giant Sperm Whales are the stars of the show and year-round residents, but we may also encounter migrating Humpback Whales, Pilot Whales, Blue Whales or Southern Right Whales. This area often hosts the world's largest dolphin (the Orca) and is home to the world's smallest and rarest (the Hector's). Disembark our whale watch vessel and continue north to Blenheim for overnight. (BLD)

DAY 5

Dubbed New Zealand's sunshine capital, Blenheim's warm and dry climate has helped it become the country's largest grape-growing and wine-making region. Enjoy the superb countryside of the Marlborough wine region - world famous for its Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay - by bicycle! Over 30 wineries can be explored by bike along the quiet back roads within a seven-mile radius of town. Overnight again in our eco-friendly vineyard lodge in Blenheim. (BLD)

DAY 6-7

Our adventure continues with a two-night sea kayaking adventure in stunningly beautiful Marlborough Sounds. Water taxi to the outer sound and kayak the remote coastline, taking time to explore the bays, coves and inlets of this wonderful maze of waterways. Keep your eyes peeled for bird life and marine mammals, and enjoy visits to hidden historical sites. With excellent instruction from knowledgeable kayaking guides and secluded campsites, this is a true getaway experience. No experience necessary. (BLD Daily)

DAY 8

Today we begin the drive down the 'Coast Road', considered one of the most spectacular coastal drives in the world, along the West Coast of the South Island. Our destination today: the Pancake Rocks at Punakaiki - these are impressive columns of limestone where, at high tide, seawater is forced upwards through blowholes. Enjoy an evening beach walk in the heart of Paparoa National Park, in hopes of spotting a Blue Penguin or two. Dinner at a local tavern and overnight in a local Punakaiki homestay B&B. (BLD)

DAY 9

Continue the coastal drive south to the Okarito Lagoon in Whataroa. Here, we'll take a low-impact motorboat down the river into the Waitangi Roto Nature Reserve. Enjoy a relaxing cruise amongst the primeval giants of our rainforests, gently float through some of the world's most intriguing scenery, learning how we preserve the delicate balances within one of nature's oldest ecosystems. We'll walk in the rainforest, viewing magnificent stands of ancient Kahikatea trees (800 to 1000 years old), beautiful orchids and ferns that adorn the reserve, and listen to numerous native birdlife including Tui, Bellbird, Wood pigeon and Fantail. We will also view the site where the rare White Heron (Kotuku) comes to breed in the spring. Continue on to overnight in the quiet town of Whataroa. (BLD)

DAY 10

Another half day of driving as we leave the coastal route and head towards Queenstown through part of the World Heritage Mount Aspiring National Park via the Haast Pass, the lowest elevation through the Southern Alps (1,850 feet). Take in scenic waterfalls, native bush trails and views of Lake Hawea and Lake Wanaka. Arrive in Queenstown in time for dinner and overnight. (BLD)

DAY 11

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and a free day on your own in Queenstown. With a beautiful location on Lake Wakatipu, surrounded by a mountain range aptly named "The Remarkables", Queenstown the Adventure Capital of New Zealand (Bungee-jumping was invented here). Take advantage of the plethora of high-adrenaline activities here, enjoy a

brisk walk or gondola ride up to Skyline Cafe, or simply enjoy the beauty, character and shopping in this small mountain town. Overnight Queenstown. (B)

DAY 12

An early morning transfer to the trailhead (1,745 ft) at the Routeburn track for a guided day hike to Key Summit (3,000 ft) - incredible views of the surrounding Humboldt Mountains! Hiking time approximately 4 hours round trip. For those who wish to avoid the altitude, a half-day hike along the Kepler Track following the Te Anau River can be arranged. Transfer for dinner and overnight at Lake Manapouri. (BLD)

DAY 13

After breakfast, travel to Doubtful Sound for an overnight cruise. Following a short cruise across beautiful Lake Manapouri and a coach trip over Wilmot Pass, we'll board the boat at Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound. There is plenty of time on our overnight cruise to enjoy the stunning views and to discover the hidden arms of Doubtful Sound. Fur seals and Bottlenose dolphins are often seen and at times, rare penguins can be observed. Optional sea kayaking around the shoreline or exploring in the tender with a nature guide. We'll drop anchor at a favorite mooring for the night and enjoy an evening buffet in the dining saloon. (BLD)

DAY 14

Disembark the ship and transfer to our lodge in the highlands below the Southern Alps' highest mountain, Mt. Cook. A long day's drive (5 ½ hours) with stunning scenery and fantastic photo opportunities, ending at our alpine lodge for dinner and rest. Overnight: Twizel (LD)

DAY 15

Mt. Cook or *Aoraki* (Cloud Piercer) is New Zealand's highest mountain (12,316 feet), towering above its namesake National Park - this is where national legend, Edmund Hillary, trained before the first Mt. Everest ascent. The park is alive with the most wonderful alpine plants and flowers! Look for the striking Mount Cook buttercup, large mountain daisies and fearsome wild spear grass during a hike with a park ranger and ecologist. Enjoy a gourmet picnic dinner on the trail before returning to our lodge for the evening. (BLD)

DAY 16 (Departure: Saturday evening, March 14, 2009)

Today we say farewell to the mountains on our way back to Christchurch, enjoying a mid-morning stop for tea along Lake Tekapo. Continue on for a farewell lunch and a free afternoon in the quaint English settlement of Christchurch. Transfer to airport for your evening flight home - or overnight on your own in Christchurch. End of AA Services. (BL)

Land Costs (min. 8)	Deposit	Single Supplement	2009 Trip Dates	Group Size	Difficulty	Activities
\$4199	\$500	\$936	Feb 27 - Mar 14	4-10	No Experience Needed	Kayaking, Biking, Hiking, Lodges, Whale Watching, Cultural Exchange

A FEW IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT YOUR TRIP...Read carefully

Included in your Trip Fee: Our expert in-country guide and all guiding services; 11 nights lodging and 2 nights camping; All meals as indicated on itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Breakfast is usually continental. Lunches are usually picnic-style, and dinners are restaurant style with a choice of: Starter + Entrée or Entrée + Dessert.

Not Included in your Trip Fee: International airfare; Meals not included on itinerary; Alcoholic beverages; activities outlined in itinerary as "optional", "free day" or "on your own"; personal clothing and gear (detailed packing list will be provided); laundry fees; travel/evacuation/medical insurance; tips to guides and expenditures of a personal nature.

Single Supplement: Single accommodations are not guaranteed, but will be provided at an additional cost of US\$936, if available. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single room supplement prior to your departure from the USA.

Itinerary note: While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of the trip route and activities, rather than an inflexible schedule. The itinerary, hotels and flights are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Do I need a Visa for travel to New Zealand: For visits less than 90 days, you do not need a visa to enter New Zealand. You must show a passport valid for three months beyond your departure date and a return ticket.

Travel & Trip Insurance: We strongly recommend that travel insurance be purchased immediately following your registration. The time and expense that you have put into planning and paying for your trip warrant protection through the purchase of travel insurance. Our primary interest in the Access America travel Insurance package is that it covers "emergency medical transportation" - this is important when traveling and preparing for the unexpected. Emergency services are very costly. This coverage is very inexpensive in comparison. The insurance also protects you and your money from late cancellations, accidents or illness in remote areas, loss of baggage, airline flight changes and other unexpected delays. The particular program we recommend (Access America) will cover "preexisting" conditions, if you purchase full coverage within fourteen (14) days following your registration or flight purchase. Contact us for more info.

Transportation/Flight Arrangements: Upon your registration, Adventure Associates will work closely with you on your individual flight plans. Certain programmed activities are dependant on flight schedule - you should verify your flight itinerary with Adventure Associates **before** purchase.

How to Register: If you have not downloaded an application form from our website, please contact our office for a complete registration packet. Complete the application form and return it to our office along with the appropriate deposit. Upon receipt of your application, we will send you a confirmation and final details about your pre-trip preparation. For immediate confirmation, you may charge your deposit to a credit card by phone or fax.

Tier-Pricing: (all prices are per person and based on standard double rooms; single supplement fees apply)

- 2 Guests: \$5750
- 3-4 Guests: \$4999
- 5-6 Guests: \$4420
- 7-8 Guests: \$4199
- 9-10 Guests: \$4089

Payment Schedule: We accept checks, Visa, MasterCard or AmEx.

Note: The American dollar fluctuates constantly in New Zealand. The trip price is based upon the dollar value at the time of printing (October 6, 2008) and is subject to change.

\$500 deposit due at time of registration (non-refundable)

Final payment due two months prior to departure

Cancellation & Refund Policy

The \$500 deposit is required per person. Please acknowledge that this deposit is non-refundable and non-transferable to another departure date or trip. If you must cancel prior to departure, the following fee will be assessed based upon our receipt of your written cancellation request:

Continued...

Days Prior to Departure (trip destination)

60 or more\$500 Deposit

31 to 59 50% fee

1 to 30100% fee

No partial refunds are possible for any unused portion of your trip. Penalties on airline tickets are subject to the individual air carrier's rules and regulations. Departure is defined as the date of the first flight, or the trip departure date as indicated on our Trip Schedule, whichever comes first.

Once a trip has been confirmed medical circumstances will not be considered as exceptions to our cancellation policy. However, if you have purchased a comprehensive Travel Insurance plan that covers cancellation, you may be able to retrieve some of the funds.

Copyright © 2008, Adventure Associates. All Rights Reserved. www.AdventureAssociates.net