Experience New Zealand

18 Days of Quality Coach Touring

www.stuartscoaches.com.au

08 November–25 November 2019
Day 1  Friday, 8 November 2019
ARRIVE AUCKLAND  (D)
Welcome to New Zealand!
Our Stuarts Coach depart Nowra at 6.00am this morning to transfer you to Sydney International Airport for your flight to Auckland. On arrival at the Auckland International Airport we will be met by a Representative from Leisure Time Tours to transfer us to our hotel.
Grand Millennium Hotel
Day 2  Saturday, 9 November 2019
AUCKLAND – BAY OF ISLANDS  (BD)
Departing Auckland you travel north over the Auckland Harbour Bridge to first of all visit the Parry Kauri Park. Here you will view some fine examples of Giant Kauri Trees. Continuing you then visit the Matakohe Kauri Museum, at Otamatea. Here you will gain an insight to the early New Zealand Pioneer History, which helped form the New Zealand that we see today. Continuing your journey you reach Paihia in the beautiful Bay of Islands, where you’ll take a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty House where New Zealand’s history began. Kingsgate Hotel
Day 3  Sunday, 10 November 2019
BAY OF ISLANDS  (B)
Today is a day of leisure. The Bay of Islands has so many options for you to discover - perhaps a day trip to the light house at Cape Reinga the most northern tip of New Zealand, followed by a safari along 90 Mile Beach on the way home. Maybe try your luck at deep-sea fishing, or take the plunge swimming with the dolphins or just take time out to relax within Paihia or Russell, New Zealand’s first Capital. Please refer to your Leisure Time Tours Optional Touring Booklet (which you will receive with your final documents) for plenty of ideas on how to spend your day.
Day 4  Monday, 11 November 2019
BAY OF ISLANDS – AUCKLAND  (BD)
This morning board a luxury catamaran to cruise the Bay of Islands to Cape Brett before making a passage through the Hole in the Rock. After your cruise you travel south following the Twin Coast Discovery Highway to arrive in Auckland, whereon arrival you experience a highlights tour of Auckland, the ‘City of Sails’ including exploring the lively waterfront area. Enjoy the relaxing views along Tamaki Drive, which runs east past peaceful sheltered bays to Auckland’s most expensive real estate.
Grand Millennium Hotel
Day 5  Tuesday, 12 November 2019
AUCKLAND – WAITOMO – ROTORUA  (BD)
Departing Auckland you travel south crossing the Bombay Hills through the dairy rich Waikato countryside to arrive at the famous Waitomo Caves. Here a guide will take you underground to view the amazing limestone caves featuring stalagmites and stalactites, which have taken centuries to form. Continue to walk down to an underground stream to board a small boat to view the glow-worm grotto – an underground cavern featuring millions of glow-worms. From Waitomo you travel to the thermal wonderland of 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. Rotorua also has a large Maori population whose cultural activities are interesting and accessible as will be witnessed tomorrow evening. This afternoon enjoy a relaxing guided walk through Rainbow Springs, a specialist garden featuring spring fed pools full of Rainbow & Brown Trout and New Zealand native flora and fauna including the iconic New Zealand Native Kiwi Bird. Sudima Hotel

Day 6 Wednesday, 13 November 2019  
ROTORUA  
(BD)  
Today is at your leisure. Your Optional Touring Booklet will give you plenty of options on how to spend your time. This evening you will be treated to a traditional Hangi (feast) and Maori Concert. You are transferred from your 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 cooked the traditional Maori way in an earthen oven.

Day 7 Thursday, 14 November 2019  
ROTORUA – NAPIER  
(BD)  
This morning visit Te Puia – The New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute and Whakarewarewa Thermal Valley featuring the famous Pohutu Geyser. Departing Rotorua you travel via New Zealand’s largest pine tree forests to Taupo. En-route, make a visit to the Waikato 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 view the mighty Huka Falls. Huka in Maori translates to “snow” as the water here has the appearance of snow falling. This afternoon continue to the ‘Fruit Bowl’ of New Zealand – Napier. Scenic Hotel

Day 8 Friday, 15 November 2019  
NAPIER – WELLINGTON  
(BD)  
Today begins as you enjoy the Wellington Harbour out on the Cook Strait on the Interislander and through New Zealand’s only true sounds, the picturesque Marlborough 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 the coach continue to tour through to Pelorus Bridge where you can walk through the Beech and Podocarp Forest as well as view the many sculptured boulder in the Pelorus River. Continuing on for a tour of Nelson – this being our first city of New Zealand. The Hotel Nelson

Day 10 Sunday, 17 November 2019  
NELSON – CHRISTCHURCH  
(BD)  
After departing Nelson this morning, you pass through Brightwater, the birth place of Lord Rutherford, the New Zealand science pioneer who split the atom. Then travel through the Golden Downs Forest to Murchison, through the Marua Forest, over the Lewis Pass and then into Hamner Springs where there is time to soak in the mineral pools (at own expense) before joining the upper reaches of the Canterbury Plains. On arrival in to Christchurch, enjoy the sights of the ‘Garden City’ also known as “the most English city outside of England”. Quality Hotel Elms

Day 11 Monday, 18 November 2019  
CHRISTCHURCH – FRANZ JOSEF  
(BD)  
From Christchurch traverse the Southern Alps aboard the famous Tranz-Alpine rail journey to Arthur’s 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. Once you have crossed into the Southern Alps you are met at the village of Arthurs Pass by the coach to continue your journey to the West Coast – or just “the west coast”. A visit is made to the Greenstone and Glass Blowing factories. Further south tour the Westland National Park, the home of Franz Josef Glaciers. On arrival, time is available for optional scenic flights. Scenic Franz Josef

Day 12 Tuesday, 19 November 2019  
FRANZ JOSEF – QUEENSTOWN  
(BD)  
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 Makara and onto the upper reaches of Lake Wanaka. Travelling past lake Wanaka, the stunning fiords of the Southern Alps greet the skier of the mighty Clutha River. This afternoon you travel via Cromwell, following the Kawerau Gorge Road, into Queenstown. Tonight is free for you to explore the local restaurants, cafés and bars. Cophorne Lakefront Hotel

Day 13 Wednesday, 20 November 2019  
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 Kawerau Rivers. Perhaps take a scenic 4 wheel drive excursion through Skippers Canyon. It’s up to you. Your Optional Touring Booklet will give you plenty of options for how to spend your time. This evening take a cruise across Lake Wakatipu on the steamer TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station to dine at the Colonels Homestead.

Day 14 Thursday, 21 November 2019  
QUEENSTOWN–MILFORD SOUND–TEANAU (BLD)  
Leaving Queenstown for a cruise on Lake Wakatipu, New Zealand’s third largest lake, and travel via Te Anau to reach the beautiful Eglington Valley. Then climb to Homer Tunnel before descending through the spectacular Cleddau Valley to the famous Milford Sound. This scenic train ride through the spectacular Taiieri Gorge Excursion – from the historic Dunedin Railway Station. This is a scenic train ride through the spectacular Taiieri Gorge to Pukerangi and return. Enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant tonight with a haggis ceremony. Distinction Luxmore Hotel

Day 15 Friday, 22 November 2019  
TE ANAU – DUNEDIN (BD)  
During the day you 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 your arrival in Dunedin, you have free time to explore Otago before stopping in Hokitika where you can enjoy a cruise across Lake Wakatipu on the steamer TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station to dine at the Colonels Homestead.

Day 16 Saturday, 23 November 2019  
DUNEDIN–OMARANA  
(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 parts of the world. After this, continue to take in the some of the more scenic sides of this old Scottish City before departing for Oamaru. On the way travel through Oamaru where there is time to look at the ‘White Stone City’, known as such because the old buildings were constructed with the local limestone. In 1882 New Zealand’s first shipment of frozen mutton was sourced from Totara Estate, Oamaru and sent to other side of the world on the SS Dunedin from Port Chalmers, Otago. Oamaru is the birthplace of New Zealand’s billion dollar frozen meat industry. Travelling inland through Benmore and Otematata, then through Sailors Cutting you arrive at Oamaru. Heritage Gateway

Day 17 Sunday, 24 November 2019  
OMARANA – CHRISTCHURCH  
(BD)  
A day for spectacular sights! Head north to skirt the shore of Lake Pukaki to Mount Cook, New Zealand’s highest peak (weather permitting). As you pass the Mackenzie blue water lakes of Lake Tekapo, here visit the Church of the Good Shepherd and the statue of the Collie dog, before travelling the vast Mackenzie Basin, and across the Canterbury Plains into Christchurch. Quality Hotel Elms, Christchurch

Day 18 Monday, 25 November 2019  
CHRISTCHURCH – HOME PORT  
(B)  
Farewell from New Zealand, today you will be transferred from your hotel to Christchurch International Airport for our flight back to Sydney. On arrival in Sydney we will be met by Stuarts Coaches for our return transfer’s to Nowra.
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 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 tour escort to travel with the group departure.

Due to government regulations, smoking is not permitted inside tour coaches. Smokers will find that the frequent stops made for sight-seeing provide the ideal opportunity to smoke.

Passengers who 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 travel 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. Leisure Time Tours 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-transferable. 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.

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 airline 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 20kgs (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.....

Stuarts Coaches
Tel: 02 4421 0332
Office Address: 339 Greenwell Point Road, Worrigee
Email: enquiry@stuartencoaches.com.au