



## SOUTH ISLAND ITINERARY

Day 01

### Christchurch – Hanmer Springs - Kaikoura (B/L/D)

This morning after boarding your luxury tour coach at your CBD hotel you will depart Christchurch travelling north to the township of Kaikoura. En-route the luxury coach will make a stop at Hanmer Springs Village. Here you will enjoy a soak at the thermal pools, and a Devonshire Tea at the Heritage Hotel Hanmer Springs, before continuing onto today's destination of Kaikoura.

**Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa**, just a 90 minute drive from Christchurch, offers the ultimate in relaxation. Nestled in the magnificent South Island high country, the Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa has, for 125 years, attracted visitors seeking the benefits of its natural mineral waters and clean, clear alpine air. Set in a breathtaking natural landscape, surrounded by forests and mountains, the award-winning Thermal Pools offer visitors a wide range of experiences, from soothing indulgence to exciting family fun. The Thermal Pools & Spa has nine open-air thermal pools, three sulphur pools and four private thermal pools, as well as a sauna/steam room. A fresh-water, heated pool and a popular family activity area, complete with water slides and water toys and picnic area, ensure the Thermal Pools & Spa offer something for everyone. The pools range in temperature from 33-42° Celsius, perfect for soothing away aches and pains or for just unwinding. The Hanmer Springs geothermal water is drawn from a bore adjacent to the Reserve complex, providing natural water of the highest quality. And with a bounteous supply of the thermally heated spring water, Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa is open 364 days a year.

On arrival at Kaikoura you will be taken to a local café, here you will enjoy a set menu luncheon.

After lunch, your luxury coach will transfer you to the local "Whale-way Station", here you will check-in for their world renowned Whale Watch cruise.

**Kaikoura:** The seaside settlement of Kaikoura, situated midway between Christchurch and Picton on the rugged east coast of New Zealand's South Island, is overlooked by majestic mountains, which are snow-capped for many months of the year. This unique combination of ocean and mountains offers stunning coastal alpine scenery and a host of eco-tourism oriented activities, including Whale watching, Dolphin swimming, walks, and much more!

Day 01

**Christchurch – Hanmer Springs - Kaikoura (B/L/D) – continued**

Upon completion of the Whale Watch experience you will be transferred from the “Whale-way” Station to your accommodation, the **Te Kaikoura Lodge**.

You will then be transferred by your luxury coach from **Te Kaikoura Lodge** to the Fyffe Country Lodge, here you will enjoy a 3 course set menu style dinner in relaxing surroundings. The Driver/Guide will return you to your accommodation at the end of dinner.

***The Fyffe**” at Fyffe Country Lodge Kaikoura is a gourmet award winning licensed restaurant. The dining room is Victorian clad and with its rammed earth walls and warmth from the wood burners has an ambience and atmosphere which is hard to match. Paintings by renowned New Zealand artists adorn the walls. The dining room at the luxury B&B lodge features Kaikoura views and offers seating for 80 guests with a sun filled courtyard offering seating for a further 30 guests. This restaurant holds 2 national beef and lamb awards along with having their own house speciality brand of seafood chowder, “The Fyffe” original seafood chowder. The seafood chowder is also sold in local supermarkets and at local fisheries. “The Fyffe” restaurant, complemented by resident chefs, is home to fresh and innovative cuisine, blending basic gastronomies with thoughtfully balanced textures and flavours particular to the regions seasonal delicacies.*

**Distance:** Christchurch – Hanmer Springs, 150kms, 1 ½ hours

**Distance:** Hanmer Springs – Kaikoura, 136kms, 2hours

**Accommodation:** Te Kaikoura Lodge – 1 Night (Studio Units)

Day 02

**Kaikoura – Blenheim – Picton – Nelson (B/L/D)**

Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant

This morning you will depart Kaikoura in your luxury coach and travel north to the Winery district of Blenheim.

On arrival into Blenheim you will be taken to the Montana Brancott Estate, here you will enjoy wine tasting and a morning tea.

***Montana Brancott Estate:** This is New Zealand's largest winery and is located just outside the picturesque town of Blenheim. The Montana Brancott Winery opened in 1977, making it the oldest winery in Marlborough. The first modern commercial vineyards in the Marlborough region were established by Montana in 1973, a region at the time better known for sheep farming than winemaking.*

The group will then reboard your luxury coach and travel to another local Winery, for wine tasting.

After this visit, you will travel to the final winery for today – Allan Scott's. Here you will enjoy wine tasting, followed by a sumptuous 2 course set luncheon.

**Allan Scott Wines & Estates Ltd** is a family owned and operated vineyard and winery group. The company was founded in 1990 although the family's history in winegrowing began in 1975 when they planted their first vineyard as a contract grower. The winery facility was architecturally designed and built in 1990, from rammed earth and rough sawn timber for a sophisticated yet rustic appearance. Subsequent additions including the bottling hall, barrel room, and the administration area, as well as the storage warehouse used more traditional building materials. The winery is now firmly nestled amongst the prime vineyards in Jackson's Road surrounded by mature trees and manicured gardens where the Cellar Door shop and Twelve Trees Restaurant complete the facilities available. An ongoing desire to create aromatic estate grown and produced wines is reflected in the expansive range of wines produced at the winery.

You will then reboard your luxury coach and travel to today's destination of Nelson, via the port of Picton.

Upon arrival in Nelson you will be taken directly to your accommodation for the night; the **Monaco Hotel & Resort**.

In the early evening the group will be transferred by your luxury coach from the **Monaco Hotel & Resort** to a well known local restaurant. Here you will enjoy a course set menu style dinner, in elegant surroundings. The Driver/Guide will return the group to your accommodation at the end of the evening.

**Nelson:** the region, which is the sunniest in New Zealand, has for many years attracted residents who love to use their imaginations. There are more than 350 working artists and craftspeople living in Nelson, including traditional and contemporary Maori artists. Their work is often inspired by the region's exceptionally beautiful geography - coastal, forest and valley landscapes provide places to wander and dream.

**Distance:** Kaikoura – Blenheim, 138kms, 1 ¾ hours  
**Duration:** Blenheim Sightseeing – 3hours  
**Distance:** Blenheim – Picton, 28kms, ½ hour  
**Distance:** Picton – Nelson, 110kms, 2 ¼ hours  
**Accommodation:** Monaco Hotel & Resort – 1 Night (Various Cottages)

Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant

This morning you will be transported by your luxury coach from Nelson, to Marahau Bay.

Here you will board a private water taxi, for a 1 ½ hour cruise to **Awaroa Lodge**, which is situated in the Abel Tasman National Park area.

On arrival at Awaroa Lodge, you will be welcomed by the Lodge staff.

The remainder of their day is at your own leisure to explore the various walking trails or simply enjoy the ambience of the **Awaroa Lodge** setting.

A 3 course set menu style dinner has been included at the lodge restaurant this evening.

**Awaroa Lodge:** *Discerning travelers from all over the world appreciate the distinctive architecture and relaxed ambience of Awaroa Lodge. Discover a perfect balance of natural comfort and contemporary style, welcoming hospitality and creative & organic cuisine. At the quiet northern end of Abel Tasman National Park, Awaroa Lodge is the perfect vantage point to explore the famous Abel Tasman Coastal Track - the most beautiful of all New Zealand's 'Great Walks'. The Awaroa Experience is an intrinsic New Zealand Experience. A combination of incredible scenery, warm friendly service, great local food and drink and a restful nights' sleep! Nestled in native bush, Awaroa Lodge is just two minutes from the beach.*

**Distance:** Nelson – Marahau – 37kms – 45 minutes

**Duration:** Marahau – Awaroa Lodge by water taxi 1 ½ hours

**Accommodation:** Awaroa Lodge – 1 Night (Superior Studio Units)

Day 04	<b>Awaroa Lodge – Marahau – Punakaiki (B/D)</b>
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Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

This morning the group will depart Awaroa Lodge by water taxi. On arrival at Marahau you will reboard your luxury coach to begin the journey to the West Coast of the South Island.

You will travel the scenic coast road to Punakaiki, where the rocks take on the extraordinary appearance of a pile of pancakes. The “Pancake Rocks” and their associated blowholes consist of eroded limestone. Reached by a short walk from the main road, the rocks are best visited during an incoming tide and brisk westerly, when the sea surges through the chasms. During your time at Punakaiki you may wish to visit the Punakaiki Visitor Centre, which has interesting displays and an audio-visual that runs for 15-minutes. There is donation applicable to view the audio-visual (own expense).

Thereafter you will be transferred to your accommodation for the night; the **Punakaiki Rocks Hotel**.

A set menu style dinner will be served at your hotel restaurant this evening.

**Duration:** Awaroa Lodge – Marahau, 1 ½ hours by water taxi  
**Distance:** Marahau – Punakaiki, 256kms, 4 ½ hours

**Accommodation:** Punakaiki Rocks Hotel – 1 Night (Villa Rooms)

Day 05	<b>Punakaiki - Wanaka (B)</b>
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Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

Today you will continue your journey south to Greymouth and from there over swiftly flowing rivers and through virgin stands of native forest. En route, you pass Hokitika, which is a major centre for the working of greenstone. Hokitika is also the centre of a region that is rich in history and nearby is a wealth of native forests, lakes and river.

Enroute to Wanaka your luxury coach will make a stop at either Fox or Franz Josef to enjoy a glacier walk, before reboarding the luxury coach and travelling to Wanaka. Travelling further south along the rugged West Coast you will enter the tiny community of Haast, located on the coast where the wide Haast River meets the sea.

Day 05	<b>Punakaiki - Wanaka (B) – continued</b>
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OPTIONAL: At Haast you may wish to visit The South West New Zealand World Heritage Visitor Centre (Department of Conservation), at the junction of SH6 and Jackson Bay Road on the southern bank of the Haast River. The centre has information on the area and on nature-related activities (at your own cost.)

From Haast, you will turn inland and traverse State Highway 6, which offers wonderful views of the Southern Alps. The Haast Pass, linking Westland with the Southern Lakes District of Central Otago, is dramatic, providing a sudden contrast between the lush vegetation of the west and dry tussocked Otago landscape. Then descend to Wanaka, following the shorelines of Lakes Wanaka and Hawera.

Upon arrival in Wanaka you will be taken directly to your accommodation for the night; the **Grand Mercure Oakridge**.

**Duration:** Glacier Walk – 90minutes  
**Distance:** Punakaiki – Fox Glacier, 246kms, 4 hours  
**Distance:** Fox Glacier – Wanaka, 287kms, 6hours

**Accommodation:** Grand Mercure Oakridge – 1 Night (Superior ROH)

Day 06	<b>Wanaka – Te Anau (B/L/D)</b>
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Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

This morning you will reboard your luxury coach to be transferred to the railway station at Kingston. Here you will join the Kingston Flyer for a short journey on this historic steam train.

***The original Kingston Flyer** was a passenger service that operated between Kingston and the Main South Line at Gore from 1878 through to the mid 1950s. It provided a passageway to Queenstown and the surrounding stations, by meeting up with the lake steamers at Kingston Wharf. **Today** The Kingston Flyer operates on a 14km stretch of track and consists of two AB Pacific Class steam locomotives (NZ built). AB 795 dating 1927 was a former Royal Train Locomotive & AB 778 dating 1925. They also have seven steam-heated wooden vintage carriages dating back to 1898.*

10:30am After the short trip on the Kingston flyer, your Driver/Guide will greet you at Fairlight, where the group will reboard the luxury coach to continue the journey.

At the junction of 3 state highways, lies the “Five Brothers Station”, which is a combination of a café and art gallery. Here you will enjoy a sumptuous 2 course set menu style luncheon.

After lunch, you will reboard the luxury coach and continue to today’s destination of Te Anau.

Upon arrival in Te Anau you will be taken directly to your accommodation for the night; the **Te Anau Hotel & Villas**

In the evening the group will enjoy a set menu style dinner at the hotel.

**Te Anau:** *The serene deep waters of Lake Te Anau make up the largest lake in the South Island and second largest in NZ, and are bordered on its western shore by lush virgin forest. The attractive town of Te Anau lies nestled on the edge of this beautiful lake, with a spectacular backdrop of Mt Luxmore and the Murchison mountains. Te Anau provides a full range of services to visitors, and is the closest service base to Milford sound, with a scenic 2 1/2 hour drives from Te Anau to Milford.*

**Distance:** Wanaka – Kingston, 77kms, 1 ½ hours  
**Duration:** Kingston – Fairlight on the Kingston Flyer – 30minutes  
**Distance:** Fairlight – Te Anau, 190kms, 3 hours

**Accommodation:** Te Anau Hotel & Villas – 1 Night (Villa Rooms)

Upon waking you will have a full continental breakfast at your hotel.

A memorable day! You will depart Te Anau for a day of unsurpassed scenery, beginning with a drive through the beech forests of the Eglinton Valley before entering the Hollyford Valley, and descending through the Homer Tunnel into Milford Sound. During your journey, there is time for photo stops and short walks along the way.

On arrival, you will embark on a cruise of Milford Sound, including the hidden mouth of the Sound, towering Mitre Peak and the cascading Stirling Falls. An informative and interesting commentary is provided throughout the cruise with a Gourmet Picnic style lunch on board.

At the end of the cruise, you will be transferred to the Milford Air strip; here you will board a fixed wing aircraft to fly to Queenstown. The flight will be one of most memorable of your lives as you look down on suspended lakes, the fiords and world famous Milford Track. On arrival into Queenstown airport, you will be transferred by luxury sedan cars to the hotel.

On arrival into Queenstown you will check into your accommodation for the night the **Sofitel Hotel**.

In the early evening, the group will meet at a private spot in the **Sofitel Hotel**. Here a representative from one of the well-known wineries will greet you. With the guidance of your winery host, you will have the opportunity to sample 3 or 4 of their Pinot wines, and some of the cheese they make onsite at the winery. Canapés that have been created using some of the local produce will be served, and the chef from the hotel restaurant, will meet with the group, and briefly explain the different canapés that are being served to you that evening.

Day 07

**Te Anau – Milford Sound – Queenstown (B/L/D) - continued**

After the wine tasting and canapés the group will stroll across from the hotel a short distance to the steamer wharf, here you will enjoy a 3 course set menu style dinner and at well known Queenstown restaurant. Return to the **Sofitel Hotel** is at your own leisure.

*Queenstown, a region of exceptional and diverse beauty, is a leading resort in the South Island, with inveterate world travelers regarding it as one of the premier scenic areas in the world. Backed by steep mountains, Queenstown lies in the curve of Lake Wakatipu at the head of its own small horse-shoe shaped bay. It is the South Island's principal resort, drawing visitors the year round with its lake and mountain scenery, exhilarating climate, changing seasons and wide range of excursion possibilities.*

**Distance:** Te Anau – Milford Sound – 121kms, 2 ¼ hours

**Duration:** Milford Sound Cruise – 1 ½ hours

**Distance:** Milford Sound – Queenstown, 40minute flight

**Accommodation:** Sofitel Hotel – 2 Nights (Deluxe Lake View Rooms)

Day 08

**Queenstown (B)**

Upon waking you will have a full have the option of an à la carte style breakfast.

Today is at your own leisure and you may wish to participate in an optional activity (extra cost):

- ✚ Dart River Safari Excursion including Light BBQ Lunch
- ✚ ½ Day Skippers Canyon adventure by 4WD
- ✚ Shotover Jet Boat Ride
- ✚ Golf at Millbrook – 18 holes
- ✚ TSS Earnslaw Cruise & BBQ Lunch at Walter Peak Station

This evening will be also be at your own leisure, and you may wish to dine at one of the following highly recommended restaurants (this will be at your own expense):

- ✚ Gantley's Historic Restaurant
- ✚ Boardwalk Restaurant
- ✚ Prime Restaurant
- ✚ The Cow (relaxed dining/Pizzeria)

**Accommodation:** Sofitel Hotel – (Deluxe Lake View Rooms)



Upon waking you will have a full have the option of an à la carte style breakfast.

Today you will depart in your luxury coach for your journey to Christchurch via Mount Cook. Your journey begins by following the Kawarau River to the township of Cromwell. You then cross the Lindis Pass, which links northern central Otago with Mt. Cook and the Mackenzie Country. This inland route winds through some of the most evocative hill country to be found in New Zealand, with the forever-present Southern Alps splitting the South Island distinctly into west and east. Continue north to Omarama, where a stop will be made at a local establishment for lunch.

**The Wrinkly Rams** is a fantastic stop for any group of International visitors. It is a combination of a Sheep shearing show, café, art gallery & wine bar. There are a lot of talented artists in the Omarama district and also surrounding districts, and the owners have sourced the best from these artists to show in their purpose built gallery.

The group will reboard your luxury coach after lunch, and continue the journey via the southern most tip of Lake Pukaki, before following the shoreline to Mt. Cook village.

On arrival at Mt Cook you will be checked into your accommodation for the evening; the **Hermitage Hotel**.

A set menu dinner has been selected at the **Hermitage Hotel** restaurant for this evening's meal.

**Distance:** Queenstown – Omarama – 200kms, 3hours  
**Distance:** Omarama – Mt Cook Village – 91kms, 1 ½ hours

**Accommodation:** Hermitage Hotel – 1 Night (Aoraki Wing Top 3 Floors)

Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

This morning you will depart Mt Cook for Christchurch, retracing your route along the shoreline of Lake Pukaki to Lake Tekapo, a turquoise glacial lake. A stop is made at the lake's edge to look at the simple stone Church of the Good Shepherd and the nearby bronze sheep dog.

You will continue through this windswept plateau of rolling tussock country, via the townships of Fairlie and Geraldine.

On arrival into the township of Geraldine, you will be taken to a local lodge; here you will enjoy a 2 course set menu style luncheon in restful surroundings.

Day 10	<b>Mt Cook - Christchurch (B/L/D) - continued</b>
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On completion of lunch, you will reboard your luxury coach, and continue the journey north. The route takes you across the patchwork quilt Canterbury Plains to Christchurch city.

On arrival into Christchurch you will be checked into your accommodation for the evening; the **Heritage Hotel**.

Later in the evening, the group will be transferred by the Driver/Guide from the **Heritage Hotel** to **Le Bon Bolli** restaurant. Here you will enjoy a 3 course set menu style dinner, before being returned by your luxury coach to the hotel.

***Le Bon Bolli:** is the most awarded restaurant in Christchurch. Le Bon Bolli Restaurant is themed to turn of the century Paris. The restaurant features an exciting, cozy brasserie down stairs with an elegant fine dinning restaurant up stairs.*

**Distance:** Mt Cook Village – Geraldine, 187kms, 3hours  
**Distance:** Geraldine – Christchurch - 138kms, 2 ¾ hours

**Accommodation:** Heritage Hotel – 1 Night (1 Bedroom suites)

Day 11	<b>Depart Christchurch (B)</b>
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Upon waking you have the choice of a full continental or cooked buffet breakfast at the hotel restaurant.

You will be transferred from your hotel to the Christchurch International Airport, by private limousine service.

Please check out of your hotel by the official checkout time.

**END OF SERVICES**



### **South Island Tour**

- ❖ Costs, per person, in New Zealand dollars, including GST of 12.5%
- ❖ Valid for travel from 01 November 2007 – 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008

#### **INCLUDED:**

- ✚ ACCOMMODATION: On a share twin basis, as specified in the itinerary.
- ✚ MEALS: Full Cooked Buffet Breakfast at your hotel (7), Continental style breakfast at hotel (1), A-la-carte style breakfast (2), Morning Tea (2), 2course set menu lunch at local café/restaurant/establishment (5), 3course set menu dinner at local restaurant (4), 3 course dinner hotel restaurant (2), 2 course lunch at hotel restaurant (1), Buffet lunch on cruise (1), home-style breakfast at lodge (1) & Home-style dinner at lodge (1).
- ✚ ENTRANCE FEES: General sightseeing as specified in the itinerary; Hanmer Springs Thermal pools, Kaikoura Whale Watch Cruise, Wine tasting at 3 wineries in Blenheim, return water taxi to/from Awaroa Lodge, Fox Glacier Terminal Walk, ride on the Kingston Flyer, Milford Sound Cruise and scenic flight Milford to Queenstown (seat in plane basis)
- ✚ GST: Government Goods & Services Tax of 12.5%. Subject to change.
- ✚ HOTEL PORTERAGE
- ✚ LIMOUSINE SERVICE for pickup and return from/to the Christchurch International Airport.

#### **EXCLUDED:**

- ✚ DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES.
- ✚ ADDITIONAL BEVERAGES with Meals, such as wines, beers, fruit juices.
- ✚ ENTRANCE FEES, TOURS AND MEALS WHERE NOT SPECIFIED, or where stated as Optional
- ✚ TIPS AND GRATUITIES
- ✚ ITEMS OF A PERSONAL NATURE: such as telephone calls, tips, gratuities, laundry etc.
- ✚ AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAX: Currently NZ\$25.00 per person if departing from Auckland, Christchurch or Wellington, payable in cash in New Zealand Dollars.

#### **GREEN REALM TRAVEL:**

- ✚ Reserves the right to amend certain components of a touring day to enhance the experience of the guest and if it is operationally necessary.