

Traveling in New Zealand

Day 0 - We packed the pills and vitamins in separate packages so we would not forget. We had had our required shots earlier last month and our passports and tickets are ready.



Day 1: Tuesday, Oct 31 – In Transit to New Zealand

- Depart: Albuquerque, NM Southwest Airline Flight 552 4:40 PM (16:40)
- Arrive: Los Angeles, CA (LAX) 5:45 PM 17:45
- Depart: Los Angeles, CA (LAX) Air New Zealand Flight NZ005 22:40 Terminal B
- In Transit: Flying in a Boeing 777-300ER, Crossing International Date Line - gain a day
- Dinner was served on our flight



Interesting things about New Zealand

- Geothermal power in New Zealand is a small but significant part of the energy generation capacity of the country, providing approximately 13% of the country's electricity
- History: It is believed that New Zealand was settled by people from East Polynesia – the Southern Cook and Society islands region; that they migrated deliberately, setting off in different canoes, at different times; and that they first arrived in the late 13th century.
- Weather: The north of New Zealand is subtropical and the south temperate. The warmest months are December, January and February, and the coldest June, July and August. In summer, the average maximum temperature ranges between 20 - 30°C and in winter between 10 - 15°C.



The first part of the trip is on New Zealand's North Island

Day 2 - 3: Thursday, Nov 2 - Coach to Rotorua, Welcome Lunch at Hamilton Restaurant

Arrive: Auckland International Airport (AKL) 7:30 AM



After we retrieved our bags from the airline we met with the group leaders and the travel group and boarded our trustee coach and with our final stop of the day would be Rotorua with a stop in the city of Hamilton for lunch and then visited the Hamilton Gardens. This themed gardens are exceptional and include a Maori heritage garden.



Our Tour Guides

We are visiting Hamilton Gardens, which is a sprawling public park, features elaborate themed gardens ranging from Italian Renaissance to Japanese and traditional Maori styles. The Waikato Museum displays Maori art and artefacts.



Tom and Diana at the entrance of Hamilton Gardens

[Pictures of Hamilton Gardens](#)

After our tour of Hamilton Gardens we took the coach and arrived in Rotorua, New Zealand's a geothermal paradise.

We settled into the Millennium Hotel Rotorua hotel & attended an orientation of our trip. Afterwards we had dinner at the hotel.

Rotorua, a town set on its namesake lake on New Zealand's North Island, is renowned for its geothermal activity and Maori culture. In Te Puia's Whakarewarewa Valley, there are bubbling mud pools

and the 30m-tall Pohutu Geyser, which erupts many times daily. It's also home to a living Maori village and the New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute, with traditional wood carving and weaving schools.

This good-looking city is big on Maori culture and hospitality, where you can stand on active volcanoes, peer into massive craters and see boiling mud and erupting geysers. Rotorua is known for bubbling mud pools, shooting geysers and natural hot springs, as well as showcasing our fascinating Maori culture.



**Day 4: Friday, Nov 3 –
Historic Hongi's Track &
Okere Falls walks,
Bathhouse Museum visit**

We had breakfast at the hotel and then boarded our coach for walking field trip on Hongi's Track at Lake Rotoiti and to Okere Falls, including a short introductory lecture on New Zealand's native rainforest and bush flora. We had lunch at t Okere Falls Café



The Hongi's track runs 1.5 hours, 2.2 km (1.37 miles) one way from Korokitewao Bay (Lake Rotoiti) to Te Pohue Bay (Lake Rotoehu), through a forest of rimu, tawa, pukatea and rewarewa. It leads to the sacred matai, then a small loop track takes you back to the previous track or on to Lake Rotoehu.

Korokitewao Bay provides a sandy beach, picnic tables, a children's playground, toilets and crystal clear water.

In addition, there are tranquil picnic spots around Lake Rotoiti.

Whangaikorea (Honeymoon Bay) is a favorite spot, with toilets and a jetty. Two sites on Te Matarae i o Rehu provide secluded spots.

The track which runs through the area has two names: Hinehopu's Track and Hongi's Track.

Originally it was named after the Maori chieftainess, Hinehopu, who lived in the area around 1620. Hinehopu kept two homes, one at Rotoiti and the other at Rotoehu and often travelled between the two lakes. The track and area between the two lakes was named after her.

The name Hongi was given to the area when the famous Ngapuhi warrior, Hongi, transferred his canoes from Lake Rotoehu to Lake Rotoiti in 1823 to perform a surprise raid on the Arawa people on Mokoia Island, Lake Rotorua.

Okere Falls track is 45 mins, 1.2km (.75 miles) hike one way. It is a well-formed bushwalk with scenic lookouts over Okere River and its spectacular waterfalls. There are numerous information panels along the track, describing the human and natural landscape.

[Okere Falls](#)

From the main lookout platform by Hinemoa's steps you can watch rafters and kayakers sweep over the highest commercially rafted waterfall in the world.

The Rotorua Museum Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa is a local museum and art gallery located in Rotorua, Bay of Plenty North Island New Zealand walk - approx. 2hrs..

The museum is housed in the old Bath House building at the spa town of Rotorua, located in the Government Gardens. Rotorua Museum opened in the south wing of the Bath House in 1969; Rotorua Art Gallery opened in the north wing in 1977. In 1988, the museum and gallery combined to form the Rotorua Museum of Art and History.

[More Pictures from Day 4](#)

Day 5: Saturday, Nov 4 - Rainbow Mountain Summit Track, Maori Cultural Concert & thermal area walks

We had breakfast at the hotel and then took a guided walk on Rainbow Mountain Summit track with views of two craters and we walked past coloured and steaming ridges. From the summit, there were amazing 360-degree views of Rotorua's lakes and Mt Tarawera, the volcano responsible for one of New Zealand's largest historic eruptions in 1886.

After lunch at a local restaurant we took the coach to Te Puia (Whakarewarewa), one of New Zealand's premier Maori cultural and geothermal visitors' centers. We enjoyed the traditional Maori cultural performance and guided tour of the thermal area and NZ Maori Art and Crafts Institute.



Rainbow Mountain's Maori name is Maungakakamea, meaning 'mountain of colored earth'. The mountain top is an unusual rounded knob, known as Tihi-o-Rua - 'the owl's perch'.

Rainbow Mountain Summit track - uphill climb 2.5hrs loop, 5km (3.1 miles). Optional Crater Lake walk-15 mins one way

Although it has a very volcanic past, Rainbow Mountain has cooled over recent years, allowing the native vegetation to slowly begin regenerating. Some plant species found on the mountain are very rare and grow only in geothermal areas. An information panel

highlights special features of the vegetation at the start of two fascinating walking tracks.

The Crater Lakes Walk offers great views of two volcanic craters set against a backdrop of bare brown, orange and red steaming cliffs. The Summit Track leads you up through regenerating native vegetation and past steaming rainbow-colored rocks. The climb to the summit is rewarded with magnificent 360-degree views of the surrounding Rotorua lakes, forests and mountains. You can also see south to distant Lake Taupo and the towering volcanic peaks of Tongariro National Park.

Immediately across the highway from the entrance to Rainbow Mountain lies Lake Ngahewa, home to a variety of birdlife. Native tui, bellbirds, waxeyes and kingfishers are abundant in the vegetation, while many kinds of waterfowl can be found on the lake.



An evening at Mitai will give you an authentic introduction to Maori culture leaving you amazed and in awe. Enter the world of Mitai. Enjoy the natural bush setting, see warriors in traditional dress paddle an ancient warrior

canoe (waka) down the Wai-o-whiro stream, and don't miss your only opportunity in the Rotorua area to see glow worms in their natural habitat.

Marvel at the crystal-clear water full of eels and trout, flowing directly from the earth at the sacred Fairy Spring. See your traditionally

cooked hangi meal being lifted from the ground. During our cultural performance, you'll learn about our past, carvings and ta moko (tattoo art).

Be captivated by the displays of weaponry and combat, coupled with the grace and beauty of the poi dance. You'll be amazed by the spine-tingling haka finale. The Mitai family is proud to have created a sacred and spiritual place that offers you an indigenous cultural experience like no other.

[More Pictures Day 5 - Rainbow Mountain Summit Track, Maori Cultural](#)

Day 6: Sunday, Nov 5 - Coach to Wellington, via Huka Falls and Volcanic Plateau

Morning: Board coach for all day trip to Wellington. Visit Volcanic Centre and spectacular Huka Falls. The drive south passes Lake Taupo (the largest lake in NZ), and through the famous Desert Road with spectacular views of the still active volcanoes - Mts Tongariro, Ngauruhoe & Ruapehu.

We had lunch: In cafe en-route to Wellington

Afternoon: Arrive in Wellington and settle into the centrally located hotel. Wellington is the capital city of New Zealand and was chosen for its central location. One of the many enticing aspects of this exciting "little" city is its compact CBD - you can walk from one side to the other in 20 minutes. The waterfront is lined with immaculate parks, heritage buildings and museums. Wellington is dubbed the "creative and cultural capital of New Zealand".

Huka Falls is a thundering 11-metre high waterfall is the most visited and photographed natural attraction in New Zealand.



- The sheer volume of water flowing over the falls amounts to 220,000 liters per second - enough to fill one Olympic sized swimming pool in 11 seconds!
 - [See Video](#)
- Enjoyed the walking tracks alongside the river and wander around the different viewing platforms, taking in the falls from all angles. You can bring a picnic and spend the day here.
- On a sunny day, the water is an amazing, crystal clear blue. If you want a different perspective and a taste of Taupo adventure take a boat to the base of the falls and get close enough to taste the spray!
- The North Island Volcanic Plateau (often called the Central Plateau and occasionally the Waimarino Plateau) is a volcanic plateau covering much of central North Island of New Zealand with [volcanoes, lava plateaus, and crater lakes](#).

[More Pictures Day 6 Huka Falls and Volcanic Plateau](#)

Day 7: Monday, Nov 6 - Guided tour of Parliament Buildings

We walk on Wellington's picturesque waterfront and then had a guided tour of Parliament Buildings.

[Rowing on the Wellington waterfront](#)

This afternoon so we visited the Te Papa Tongarewa (national museum and art gallery of New Zealand). Te Papa is dedicated

to preserving and presenting the taonga (treasures) of New Zealand's peoples and to interpreting the country's heritage for national and international audiences. Before dinner there will be a lecture on the Politics & Economy of New Zealand.

As we toured the Wellington Parliament we learned about the events and people who shaped New Zealand's political landscape and see where the country is governed from at this collection of buildings.

The tour also talked about the Wellington Parliament where we learned about New Zealand's political system. Discover the landmark events and personalities who shaped the country. Even those not interested in politics will enjoy the Parliament's stately architecture, decor and artworks.

Four buildings make up the complex: Parliament House, the Beehive, the Parliamentary Library and Bowen House. Begin at the Visitor Centre, located on the ground floor foyer of the Beehive, a building named for its distinctive shape.

[More Picture from touring Parliament](#)

Day 8: Tuesday, Nov 7 - Wellington Botanic Gardens, visit Matiu/Somes Island



This morning we walked to Cable car for ride to Kelburn.

We walked downhill through Wellington Botanic Gardens then through Bolton Street Memorial Park.

Wellington Botanic Gardens

In the afternoon we took the scheduled ferry to Matiu/Somes Island, situated in the middle of Wellington's stunning harbor. We wander amidst native plant and bird life while tracing the island's extraordinary history - formerly an enemy alien internment camp and quarantine station, the island was also once home to Maori and has two pa sites. Animals have been quarantined on Matiu/Somes Island officially since 1889, and by 1908 the island was considered New Zealand's principal animal quarantine station.



Hiking notes:

Walk to Cable Car for ride, then through Wellington

Botanic Gardens -1.5hrs downhill.

Guided walk on Maitu/Somes Island, to summit and gun installation - 1.5hrs on well-formed track.

Day 9: Wednesday, Nov 8 - Cook Strait ferry to Picton, vineyard visit, Blenheim

We had breakfast at the hotel and then took our coach to the ferry terminal and depart on scheduled ferry passenger service for Picton on South Island, via Cook Strait and Marlborough Sounds.

The only issue was that Cook Strait had had 100 mph winds the night before so our tour leader made arrangements to take another ferry..



Upon arrival, board coach for short drive to Blenheim. The town of Blenheim is situated in the heart of the Marlborough district, noted for the production of world-

renowned Sauvignon Blanc wine and other varieties, as well as green-lipped mussels. Blenheim has very high sunshine hours.

Crossing Cook Strait and Grape Feilds



After lunch we visit Yealands Estate Winery for a short film on the viticulture industry and their award-winning environmentally-friendly and pioneering approach to energy sustainability.

There is wine tasting for those who wish to partake, and all will enjoy a walk on groomed vineyard roads, on rolling hills with magnificent cliff-top views over the ocean. Among many conservation initiatives there are wetland areas with extensive birdlife, miniature sheep and pigs, and even music among the vines!

We have taken the ferry to South Island

Walk on gently-undulating gravel vineyard roads – 2 hrs, up to 7 km (4.3 miles)



New Zealand map of the South Island

Day 10: Thursday, Nov 9 - Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre, visit working sheep farm



We are off to visit the Omaka Aviation Heritage Museum for a guided tour of World War I and II exhibitions which featured stunning sets and static displays by Sir Peter Jackson's Weta Workshop, of Lord of the Rings fame.

[Pictures of the Museum and Sheep Farm](#)

The Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre in Blenheim is a priceless collection of military aircraft from both World Wars is worth the visit.

It is housed inside two standard-issue hangars, is a collection of military aircraft from both World Wars, displayed in brilliantly

realistic dioramas created by the magic of Weta Workshop and WingNut Films. Not just planes: there are personal belongings here once owned by Hermann Goering and the Red Baron.



We took our trustee motor coach to a working family sheep and cattle farm for sheep shearing demonstration, impressive displays of working dogs mustering, and enjoy informative and interactive lecture by farmer.

[How to Shear a Sheep](#)

Day 11: Friday, Nov 10 - Boat trip on Marlborough Sounds, bird sanctuary, bush walk

We boarded a chartered vessel for all-day cruise and walking field trip in the Marlborough Sounds. En route, we visit Motuara Island, a predator-free bird sanctuary, and Ship Cove, the historic site where Captain James Cook, the English navigator who mapped New Zealand's coastline, set up a base in 1769.



We had a packed lunch in the field and then we walked on the Queen Charlotte Track in regenerating native bush and with magnificent sea views. Dr John Hellstrom provides us with a lecture on the history and geology of the Marlborough Sounds.

Dinner: Hosted by residents at private home and garden

Notes:

[Pictures of Captain Cooks landing and Queen Charlotte Track](#)

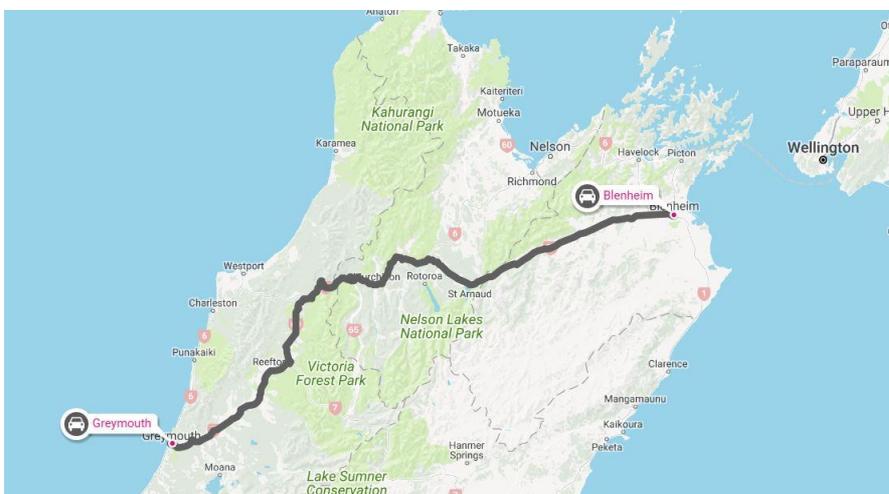
- Walk on Motuara Island to summit, 1 hr. loop. Walk on Queen Charlotte Track, 2.5 hrs
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Motuara Island bird sanctuary, it has taken an enormous amount of work over many decades to return the bush and the birds to islands like Motuara, which was covered in lush forest when Cook used it to claim sovereignty over the South Island in

1770. In the beginning of the twentieth century, the island was used for farming, but in 1920 Motuara was declared a reserve. The bird sanctuary is now predator free.

- A lookout walk offers the chance to see native birds species such as tui, bellbird, cheeky robins and fantails, as well as yellow crowned parakeets and around 200 South Island saddlebacks.
- Meretoto/Ship Cove was Captain James Cook's favorite New Zealand base during his three voyages of exploration. The area holds key cultural heritage stories told in a beautiful sheltered cove with a lush coastal forest backdrop.

Day 12: Saturday. Nov 11 - Travel via Reefton to Greymouth, West Coast

We had breakfast at a local cafe and then boarded our trustee coach for all day trip to Greymouth via Lewis Pass, with stop en route at Reefton for lunch.





After lunch we enjoyed Reefton Heritage Walk and learn about its significant history, including being the first town in the Southern Hemisphere to switch on electricity. We continue on to Greymouth, West Coast's largest town and renowned for its gold-mining past, settle into motel.



[The day of travel on the coach](#)

Day 13: Sunday, Nov 12 - Punakaiki Pancake Rocks, Truman Track, Poojary River Walk

We had breakfast at a local café and then boarded our coach to Punakaiki for field trip to view unusual and spectacular coastal geological formations of Pancake Rocks & Blowholes. Walk down Truman Track to rugged West Coast beach.

Pancake Rock & Blowhole

Lunch was a packed lunch and then we took the coach to Pororari River for guided river-side walk through groves of lush nikau (the only palm tree indigenous to NZ). Look out for sightings of the rare blue duck (who) in the swiftly-flowing current.



Notes:

- Pancake Rocks & Blowholes Walk on paved paths with some steps - 20mins, 1.1km (.68 mile) loop. Truman
- Track, steps down to beach - 30mins loop. Pororari River Track - 2hrs, 7 km (4.3 miles) loop on well-formed trail or Punakaiki/Pororari Track - 3hrs, 11 km (6.8 mile) loop.
- Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



[By the Sea](#)

Day 14: Monday, Nov 13 - To Franz Josef village via Hokitika and Treetops Walkway

We had breakfast at a local café and then took our trustee coach to Franz Josef village/Waiiau with stops en route at Hokitika, which is famous for pounamu, commonly known as greenstone or New Zealand jade. We checked out and shopped for exquisite jewelry and sculpture work (didn't buy anything but very beautiful), made by the local community of master craftspeople and artists.

[The Sea](#)

We had lunch at Treetops Cafe and in the afternoon we visited a lush native rainforest canopy in a unique way by looking down from above on an aerial Treetop Walkway.



We then continued by coach to Franz Josef village/Waiiau and settled into a local motel. The Alpine Glacier Motel

[Pictures Franz Josef village and Treetops Walkway](#)

Notes:

- Explore historic Hokitika on foot, and walk on aerial Treetop Walkway - 1 hr.

Day 15: Tuesday, Nov 14 - Fox Glacier View, Lake Matheson Walk, Lake Wanaka

We had breakfast at a local café and then we walked to a jetty and returned, or full circuit of Lake Matheson to view famous mirrored reflections of Aoraki/Mt Cook and Mt Tasman. Then by coach to Westland Glacier National Park for riverbed walk and short climb to rocky point to view face of Fox Glacier. Part of the South West New Zealand World Heritage Area, the glacier descends from the top of the Southern Alps, cutting through dramatic glacial valleys into rainforest 300m above sea level.

In the afternoon we resumed our journey south, passing small lakes and native beech forest. Traverse Haast Pass (Main Divide of the Southern Alps) to enter the province of Otago, passing Lake Hawea to Wanaka. Settle into hotel in Wanaka, on the shores of NZ's fourth largest lake (of the same name), formed by glacial erosion.

[Fox Glacier, lake Matheson and Lake Wanaka](#)

Notes:

Walk on well-formed path to Lake Matheson jetty- 40mins loop or lake circuit - 1.5 hrs, 2.6 km (1.6 miles).

Walk to Fox Glacier viewpoint - 1.5hrs, 2.6km (1.6 miles) loop.

Day 16: Wednesday, Nov 15 - Guided walk on Mt Iron, farm visit and lunch at Glendhu Bay

Guided walk to summit of Mt Iron for 360' panoramic views of Lake Wanaka and surrounding area. Board coach for visit to private home on working sheep station at Glendhu Bay, on the shores of Lake Wanaka. Enjoy tour by host of beautiful mature garden.

We had lunch in courtyard garden of private home

Guided walk along shoreline of Lake Wanaka from Waterfall Creek back to township, then enjoy free time to explore Wanaka.

[Guided walk on Mt Iron, farm visit and lunch at Glendhu Bay](#)

Mt Iron is an uphill loop track - 2 hrs., 4.5km (2.97 miles). From Waterfall Creek, walk along the shoreline or on well-formed track around edge of Lake Wanaka - 1 hr., 2km (1.24 miles).

Day 17: Thursday Nov 16 - To Te Anau via Queenstown, The Milford Track Lecture

We boarded our coach for a trip to Te Anau. The journey follows the Clutha River and passes Lake Dunstan and the relocated town of Cromwell, through the Kawarau Gorge to Queenstown, where there is free time to explore New Zealand's famous tourist town. Includes an optional visit to [Kiwi Birdlife Park \(additional cost\)](#).

[Bridge Diving](#)

We had lunch at Queenstown own choice

In the afternoon we continued on to Te Anau, arrive and settle into hotel. Te Anau lies beside the sparkling blue waters of Lake Te Anau, the largest lake in Australasia by fresh water volume, and also the gateway to world-famous Milford Sound.

In the evening we attended a lecture: "Early Days on the Milford Track" by local identity, Ray Willett.

[Te Anau via Queenstown, The Milford Track Lecture](#)

Notes:

Cromwell was originally known as "The Junction", being at the confluence of the Clutha and Kawarau Rivers. In 1862, gold was discovered below the Junction by two miners, Hartley and Reilly. Once the word of a gold strike was out, there was an influx of several thousand miners to the area.

As gold ran out, Cromwell became the service center for an extensive farming and stone fruit growing area. It has a strategic location

between the Lindis and the Haast passes, and acts as a hub between the towns of Wanaka, Queenstown and Alexandra. The former is commemorated with the giant sculpture of stone fruit which stands outside the northern end of the town.

Cromwell lay at the confluence of the Clutha River and Kawarau River, which was noted for the difference between the colors of the waters of the two rivers and also for the historic bridge at the convergence of the two. Since the construction of the Clyde Dam and the filling of Lake Dunstan in the early 1990s the river confluence was drowned, as was the old town center.

The decision to build Clyde Dam and use Cromwell as the accommodation base brought many changes to the town. Approximately one-third of the town was rebuilt on higher ground.

Day 18: Friday, Nov 17 - Kepler Track Walk, Conservation Centre & Bird Sanctuary

We had breakfast at the hotel and then boarded our trustee coach to start of guided walk on the Kepler Track, following the Waiiau River terrace through stunning beech forest and lush ferns to Moturau Hut, situated on Lake Manapouri shoreline and with panoramic views.



We had a packed lunch and then in the afternoon we had free time during the late afternoon to visit the Te Anau Bird Sanctuary to

view rare flightless takahe and other endangered species, and the Fiordland National Park Visitor Centre to view exhibits.



In the evening we took the optional Lake Te Anau boat trip excursion to Te Ana-au Glow-Worm Caves (additional cost).

Notes:

- The well-formed track follows the Waiau River terrace, crosses a wetland and through beech forest to Moturau Hut - 4hrs, 12 km loop (7.4 miles).

[Kepler Track Walk, Conservation Centre & Bird Sanctuary](#)

Day 19: Saturday, Nov 18 - Visit Milford Sound in Fiordland National Park

We boarded our trustee coach after breakfast at the hotel and headed out for all-day field trip to Milford Sound in Fiordland National Park, with short walks en route. We then embarked on a cruise (with commentary) by scheduled service on world-famous Milford Sound. We had a boxed lunch on-board the vessel.

[Milford Sound in Fiordland National Park](#)

In the afternoon we returned by coach to Te Anau with stop at Cascade Creek for Lake Gunn Nature. Walk en route. Pre-dinner, enjoy short film at local cinema: Atu Whenua - Shadowlands.

[A few videos of the area](#)

Notes:

- Lake Gunn Nature Walk - 45mins, 1.4km (.9 miles) loop
-

Day 20: Sunday, Nov 19 - Visit specialty farm holding, coach to Balclutha

We had breakfast at the hotel and boarded our trustee coach to the picturesque 50-acre farm, focused on producing specialty fibers from rare breeds of gotland pelt sheep, silver angora goats and alpacas. Enjoy a spinning demonstration and close encounters with

farmyard animals - hens, pigs, milking cow and more. Board coach to Balclutha.

We had lunch at Five Rivers Café and then continue by coach to Balclutha with a stop at Gore to visit Hokonui Museum or Eastern Southland Gallery, a major provincial art gallery. Arrive at Balclutha and settle into Lodge. Balclutha, the main centre of the Clutha district, is a fishing paradise for brown trout and salmon in the Clutha River. Balclutha is also known for its six-arched bridge and is the gateway to the Catlins Coast.

[Visit specialty farm holding, coach to Balclutha](#)

[Video](#)

Day 21: Monday, Nov 20 - Pristine forest & rugged coastal area of The Catlins

We depart by coach for all-day field trip in The Catlins area, including guided visits in native forest, to waterfalls and along golden beaches.

In the afternoon we visited beach settlement of Kaka Point and short walk to Nugget Point/Tokata Lighthouse (one of NZ's oldest, 1869) on dramatic headland with soaring rugged Pacific Ocean views, and sightings of fur seals and seabirds.

Pristine forest & rugged coastal area of The Catlins

It is our Farewell Dinner function with pre-dinner drinks and tour review, followed by dinner at Rosebank Lodge.

Notes:

- Short walks in forests, to waterfalls and along beaches. Walk to Nugget Point/Tokata Lighthouse - 20mins loop

Day 22: Tuesday, Nov 21 - Coach to Dunedin, Program Concludes

After Breakfast at the Lodge we took the trustee coach to Dunedin for a guided tour of Dunedin by coach and on foot. A chance to see outstanding heritage buildings and, weather permitting, the world-class Botanic Gardens. A city of strong Scottish origins, Dunedin is one of the best-preserved Victorian and Edwardian heritage cities in the Southern Hemisphere.

We had lunch and explored Dunedin and its Dunedin Botanic Gardens.



[Coach to Dunedin, Program Concludes](#)

And our Journey comes to an End....

Our trustee coach transport leaves the central city at 3:30 p.m. to Dunedin Airport for international check-in. Program concludes.

Many of the folks on the tour and headed for the airport. There were so many gates and our ticket gate was 72.

And we started our long journey home.

Depart: Dunedin International Airport (DUD) {South Island} Air New Zealand Flight NZ678 18:05

Arrive: Auckland International (AKL) {North Island} 19:50

Depart: Auckland International (AKL) Air New Zealand Flight NZ002 22:50

In Transit: Flying in a Boeing 777-300ER, Crossing
International Date Line - lose a day

Day 22: Tuesday, Nov 21 – Arrive

Arrive: Los Angeles International (LAX) 13:55

Depart: Los Angeles International (LAX) Southwest Airlines
Flight 2717 04:50 PM

Arrive: Albuquerque International (ABQ) 07:35 PM