



Luxury Travel
since 1927

New Zealand to a T.

ESSENTIAL TOUR INFORMATION

Travel Insurance

For your protection, we strongly recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance that covers trip cancellation for medical reasons, trip delay, medical expenses, COVID-19, lost luggage, repatriation and airline cancellation charges under a variety of circumstances. Confirm that your insurance covers you for the whole time you'll be away and check what circumstances and activities are not included in your policy. Ensure all pre-existing medical issues are declared to the insurer so that non-covered conditions are ascertained in advance. Have the details recorded and accessible at all times during travel. Please add your insurance policy details into your tour personaliser.

Passports and Visas

A valid passport is required for international travel. It is the responsibility of the traveller to secure the required visas before leaving home.

You must carry a passport that is valid for at least six months after the return date, and have a valid return ticket. Always keep your passport and other travel documents in your hand luggage. Keep photocopies in a separate bag and leave a copy at home with family.

Australian passport holders do not require a visa for New Zealand.

Canadian, British and United States passport holders do not need a visa to visit New Zealand for stays of up to three months, but must obtain a New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) before arriving in the country. Request your NZeTA online at nzeta.immigration.govt.nz **at least 72 hours before arriving in New Zealand to allow for processing.**

Other passport holders should check with their consulate for current visa requirements prior to travel.

Visa requirements were correct at the time of printing but are subject to change. Please contact your consulate for up-to-date information.

General Physical Fitness

APT tours to New Zealand require a good level of fitness and health to participate. Walking on uneven footpaths and surfaces may be required during your tour. A good level of mobility is required when embarking and disembarking coaches. APT welcomes all passengers. Guests with a disability or medical condition requiring assistance must be accompanied by a companion capable of providing all necessary assistance. To ensure your comfort and needs are met, kindly report any disability or medical condition at the time of booking, or as soon as possible if your booking has already been made, to ensure your chosen tour is suitable. Guests using a wheelchair must provide their own collapsible wheelchair for the tour. Please note that individual assistance for walking, boarding or other personal needs cannot be provided. We appreciate your understanding.

Allergies

APT requires passengers to advise of any dietary requirements when the booking is created. APT will pass this request on to the relevant suppliers, but cannot guarantee that it will be able to be accommodated. Please note that you may be required to fill out forms relating to your allergy for our third-party suppliers. If flights are booked through APT, we will pass on any dietary requests, but strongly recommend checking with the airline once your flights are ticketed.

Injury or Illness

If you suffer from a medical condition or require the availability of medical equipment, such as sleep apnoea machines, please check with your doctor and APT as to your suitability for the tour prior to travelling. You will be required to provide APT with the details on any CPAP machines at the time of booking. To cope with minor illness and injury, there is a first aid kit on board. In the case of more serious

injury or illness, medical care can be obtained at main towns. Please advise your Tour Director of any medical conditions and any treatment that could be required in an emergency. In the event that you have to leave your tour because of illness, your return to the point of departure will be at your own expense and by your own arrangement. If bringing a CPAP machine, we recommend also bringing an extension cord in case there is no power point close to the bed.

Luggage Requirements

We ask that you pack your required items into one suitcase, which is to weigh no more than 20kg (44 pounds) and measure (length + width + depth) no more than 160cm (63 inches). An additional 5kg is allowed in your carry-on luggage, which should be limited to one small bag. Please check your suitcase does not exceed these requirements for your own convenience and enjoyment of the tour. Stringent regulations controlling vehicle weight, and our vehicles' limited luggage capacity, both restrict our ability to accept excess or overweight items.

Due to occupational health and safety regulations, portage cannot be provided for oversized, overweight or excess pieces of luggage. Guests with excess luggage must arrange for its transport to the tour's final destination at their own expense before arriving at the departure point.

Currency

The New Zealand dollar is the official currency in New Zealand. Banknotes come in \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10 and \$5 denominations. Coins are minted in \$2, \$1, 50 cent, 20 cent and 10 cent denominations.

Money can be accessed through ATMs with Visa, Mastercard and American Express which are also commonly accepted at most retail shops.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are allowed on tour. However, we ask that you respect your fellow passengers and consider whether you are disrupting their enjoyment of the tour while on the phone. Please note that not all locations have mobile phone coverage with all service providers. We suggest that you contact your service provider for details on roaming and coverage prior to departure.

Internet and Email Access

Internet is available for a fee in most hotels, either in the foyer or in-room access via Wi-Fi, enabling you to send and receive emails and access social media sites.

Tipping

While it is acceptable to tip crew members for good service, it is not compulsory in New Zealand – it's always your choice. If you do choose to tip your Tour Director and driver, the amount you give should reflect your degree of satisfaction with the services provided. As a guide, we would suggest \$5-\$8 per day for each crew member is a fair amount.

Guest Feedback

As part of our commitment to providing quality touring experiences, we welcome and encourage your feedback. Towards the end of your tour, your Tour Director will ask you to complete an electronic feedback form. Please take the time to answer the questions and make relevant comments. Every feedback form is read at our Head Office and a summary of each tour is given to all members of APT management. Where necessary, relevant action is taken to rectify any problems.

Travel Distances

New Zealand is a country with a unique natural landscape. The terrain can be fairly rugged in remote places, therefore travel distances can be quite long. For comparison, the size of New Zealand is:

New Zealand	269,000 square km
Australia	7,682,000 square km
United Kingdom	244,000 square km
USA	9,834,000 square km

Note: 1.61 km equals 1 mile.

How Far Do We Travel Each Day?

Travel distances vary, with some days covering over 500km and others much less. Paved roads allow for greater coverage, while rough, unsealed roads can limit travel distances. On certain days, particularly those filled with sightseeing and activities, you will travel very little.

Distances and Durations Between Coach Stops

New Zealand Wonderland – NCC17

Auckland to Bay of Islands	300km
Bay of Islands to Auckland	227km
Auckland to Rotorua	334km
Rotorua to Wellington	450km
Wellington to Christchurch	479km (578km including ferry)
Christchurch to Franz Josef/Waiau	375km
Franz Josef/Waiau to Queenstown	350km
Queenstown to Te Anau	410km
Te Anau to Dunedin	311km
Dunedin to Aoraki/Mount Cook	317km
Aoraki/Mount Cook to Christchurch	330km

Essence of New Zealand – NZCA20

Christchurch to Aoraki/Mount Cook	330km
Aoraki/Mount Cook to Dunedin	317km
Dunedin to Te Anau	287km
Te Anau to Queenstown	171km
Queenstown to Franz Josef/Waiau	351km
Franz Josef/Waiau to Christchurch	384km (including train)
Christchurch to Blenheim	309km
Blenheim to Wellington	127km (including ferry)
Wellington to Napier	320km
Napier to Rotorua	217km
Rotorua to Auckland	334km
Auckland to Bay of Islands	227km
Bay of Islands to Auckland	334km

New Zealand Rail and Cruise Discovery – NRR19

Christchurch to Akaroa	62km (return)
Christchurch to Franz Josef/Waiau	409km (including train)
Franz Josef/Waiau to Queenstown	350km
Queenstown to Te Anau	171km
Doubtful Sound/Patea to Invercargill	143km
Invercargill to Dunedin	204km
Dunedin to Aoraki/Mount Cook	332km
Aoraki/Mount Cook to Christchurch	330km
Christchurch to Wellington	348km (train) + 92km (ferry)
Wellington to Taupō	372km
Taupō to Rotorua	80km
Rotorua to Auckland	229km

South Island Odyssey – NSS12

Christchurch to Kaikōura	180km
Kaikōura to Blenheim	130km
Blenheim to Punakaiki	300km
Punakaiki to Franz Josef/Waiau	220km
Franz Josef/Waiau to Queenstown	350km
Queenstown to Milford Sound/Piopiota	Return (Day Trip)
Return (Day Trip)	580km
Queenstown to Dunedin	285km
Dunedin to Aoraki/Mount Cook	317km
Aoraki/Mount Cook to Christchurch	330km

Seat Rotation

To ensure you have the opportunity to enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system is employed on our coaches. Your Tour Director will go through this in more detail at the beginning of your tour.

New Zealand's Climate

New Zealand's seasons are the opposite of the northern hemisphere, with January and February the warmest months and July the coldest.

New Zealand's climate is diverse and somewhat complex, varying from warm and subtropical in the far north to cool temperate climates in the far south. Mean annual temperatures range from 10°C (50°F) in the south to 16°C (60°F) in the north. Annual average rainfall varies

wildly, from as little as 300 millimetres (11 inches) in parts of Central Otago to over 8000mm (314 inches) in the Southern Alps region.

Summer (December to February)

Summers in New Zealand are warm to hot. For most of the North Island and the northern part of the South Island, summer is the driest season. Be prepared for occasional rain and wind in the lower South Island.

Winter (June to August)

The winters are cool, with snowfall in many areas, particularly in the South Island, and nights are cold. For much of the southern part of the country, winter is the driest season.

STAYING HEALTHY

It's important for you to be as healthy as possible before you travel and to maintain your health by applying good hygiene practices while on tour. Respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses, while usually minor in nature, can spread rapidly within a tour group and have a major impact on everyone's enjoyment. APT is committed to reducing the spread of infections on tours and asks that you read and follow our recommendations to ensure a healthy, safe and enjoyable holiday for you and your fellow travellers.

Before You Go

Get Walking

As your tour will mostly involve sightseeing by foot, and you will be required to embark and disembark coaches and other forms of transport, you will enjoy it more if you start exercising ahead of time. In the lead-up to your trip we recommend you start walking three times a week, including some steps, building up to an hour at a time. This will ensure you have the stamina and energy to see and appreciate all the sights your tour or cruise has to offer. You should ensure your walking shoes fit properly and have been broken in prior to departure.

See Your GP

Your GP or travel clinic is the best source of information about preventative measures including vaccinations. We recommend consulting your GP or local travel clinic for detailed advice to ensure maximum pre-travel preparation. Please take a copy of your travel itinerary with you to assist with the recommendations of appropriate medication and vaccinations.

If you have health problems, ask your doctor to prepare your medical history for a foreign doctor. It should include your name, address, emergency contact, blood type, medical history, current medications and dosages, drug allergies, reasons for prior hospitalisation and a list of vaccinations and dates. A copy of your prescriptions are vital in case of any health problems. Prepare a list of your medications, including the name, dosage, prescribing doctor and their phone number.

Pack sufficient medication for the duration of your tour. Your medication should be kept close at hand in your purse or carry-on bag. It is always good to carry a list of your medications in case they are lost, and remember to leave everything in its original container so it can be easily identified. It is also a good idea to bring a copy of your prescription for glasses or contacts.

Pack a Medical Kit

A small medical kit is recommended for all travellers. Pharmacies in large cities will likely stock most basic medicines and supplies, but they may be difficult to access, and a script may be required for some medications. Your medical kit should include:

- Your preferred cold and flu medication (e.g. cold and flu tablets, throat lozenges and a nasal decongestant).
- Your preferred painkiller (e.g. paracetamol, ibuprofen).
- Medicine for gastrointestinal upsets (e.g. antacids, 'stoppers' for diarrhoea and a laxative for constipation).
- Other supplies including elastic plasters, blister pads, thermometer, scissors, tweezers, and eye drops for dry eyes.

On Tour

Practicing good hygiene is vitally important in stopping the spread of common viral infections such as colds, flu or gastro, which can spread quickly.

Practice Good Hygiene

- Washing your hands is the most effective way to reduce the risk of contracting and spreading infections.
- Health experts recommend washing your hands often with hot water and soap for 20 seconds or longer before eating, after sneezing or coughing, and after touching high-contact surfaces such as door knobs, elevator buttons and railings.
- Please be mindful of your fellow travellers with respect to coughing, sneezing and the disposal of used tissues.
- Hand sanitiser dispensers are located in various public areas on board all our ships and coaches. Please make sure you make use of these when reboarding and before all meals.

Colds and Flu

Viral respiratory infections are the most common infectious illnesses affecting travellers. Colds and flu are primarily spread by people coughing, so please practice hygiene and respiratory courtesy by washing your hands often, covering your coughs and sneezes, and using antibacterial wipes and hand sanitiser frequently, especially after excursions and prior to meals. Influenza is commonly contracted while travelling overseas. The flu vaccine protects against flu viruses expected to be prevalent during the flu season. You should discuss this with your GP.

Gastro and Traveller's Diarrhoea

Traveller's diarrhoea is the second most common infectious illness affecting travellers. The illness can be caused by a number of different bugs, including viruses and bacteria. Viral gastroenteritis is generally spread by person-to-person contact, whereas bacterial gastroenteritis is generally spread from consuming contaminated food or water.

APT Health and Safety Protocol

APT has created Health and Safety as well as COVID-19 protocols that all our Tour Directors are required to adhere to. You may be requested to assist in reducing the spread of viruses if you are showing symptoms while on tour. If you are showing symptoms of a cold or a virus while on tour, you may be asked to wear a face mask, have meals in your room or cabin instead of the dining room, or remain in your room until the symptoms improve. Refer to our website for the most up-to-date protocols.

Sun Exposure and Dehydration

Weather conditions will vary on tour. Drinking plenty of water is important to prevent dehydration. A hat and high-quality sunscreen are important for preventing sunburn, even on overcast days.

AT THE AIRPORT

Reconfirmation of Flights

We suggest that you contact your airline(s) or travel agent at least 72 hours before your initial flight to confirm your departure details.

Luggage Restrictions

Airlines may impose fees or require you to remove items if weight or size limits are exceeded. We recommend contacting your airline or travel agent for specific information prior to departure as size and weight limitations may vary.

Luggage Security

Passengers should make sure that they do not include anything of high value, such as personal or financial value, within their luggage. This includes, but is not limited to, jewellery, cameras, video equipment, reading/sunglasses, laptops or other computer/electronic equipment and medication. Passengers must ensure that all checked luggage is secured with a suitable lock.

Luggage Tags

We supply luggage tags for you to fill out and attach to your suitcase. It is also a good idea to put a label with your name, address and telephone number on the inside of your suitcase and hand luggage.

For security reasons, keep all unchecked luggage in your immediate possession. Luggage left unattended can be confiscated by airport personnel.

Lost or Delayed Luggage

Sometimes luggage is delayed during air transit. We recommend taking a change of clothing and any essential medication in your hand luggage, or packing some clothing in your travel companion's bag. Place a copy of the hotel contacts inside each piece of luggage. If your luggage is lost, this will help the airline locate you. Should your luggage be delayed, it is the responsibility of the airline to deliver it to you. Claims for reimbursement should be submitted directly to the airline, and a claim form should be filled out at the appropriate airline desk upon arrival. If you need assistance in contacting the airline for information regarding your delayed luggage, please ask your Tour Director.

Airport and Airline Security

Most countries adhere to the following guidelines regarding liquid, aerosol and gel restrictions on flights: each container of liquids, aerosols or gels in your carry-on luggage must be 100ml or less. All must be sealed in a transparent, one litre (or less) resealable plastic bag.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Airport Transfers

Airport transfers are included on the first and last day of the tour. No refund will be given for unused transfers. Transfers cannot be re-routed to other pick-up points or destinations. Passengers who miss the prebooked transfers must make their own way to and from the airport, train station or hotel at their own expense. Transfers must be booked and arrival and departure details advised to APT at least 60 days prior to travel, otherwise transfers cannot be guaranteed.

Hotel Information

Check-in: The official check-in time at hotels is between 2pm and 3pm local time, however, where possible, the hotel will try to have your room available earlier. If your flight arrives earlier, luggage can be stored at the hotel before check-in and will often be delivered to your room later.

Check-out: Normal check-out times are usually between 10am and 11am. For later departures, most hotels will store your luggage until you leave.

YOUR COACH AND CREW

Tour Director and Driver

Your Tour Director and driver are both highly trained industry professionals, committed to making your holiday memorable. Their informed and entertaining commentary will showcase their passion for and knowledge of the area and, backed by our dedicated support staff, their organisational skills will ensure that your trip is truly hassle-free. From the moment you join the tour, nothing is too much trouble. They are on hand to ensure your comfort, take care of all arrangements and answer any queries.

Touring Coaches

APT's modern coaches provide you with the ultimate in touring luxury, featuring seat belts, Wi-Fi, individual climate control, a toilet/restroom, a video screen, reclining seats with foot rests, panoramic windows, and plenty of room so that you are comfortable throughout your journey.



ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

Your accommodation is one of the most important elements of your tour. This is why we have carefully selected the finest hotels to match your level of touring. In remote locations, hotel standards may vary, but we always ensure we provide the best accommodation available.

Facilities in Your Room

- **Beds** – Twin-bedded accommodation typically consists of two single beds, although some hotels present twin share accommodation as one double bed and one single bed. A double room comprises one double bed designed for two people to share. **Triple Beds** – Many hotels in New Zealand require triple rooms to use existing bedding, this may require three guests to share two beds.
- **Shower/Bath/En Suite** – All APT accommodation includes private facilities. Your bathroom will always have a shower, toilet, hand basin, towels and soap. Most rooms have hair dryers too.
- **Television/Radio/Telephone** – Most rooms will have a television, radio and telephone.

- **Mini Bars/Refrigerators** – Hotels used on APT tours feature a small refrigerator in the room. On many occasions, rooms feature a mini bar. This facility operates on an honesty system whereby you pay prior to departure for any drinks or snacks consumed.
- **Tea/Coffee-Making Facilities** – Your accommodation will provide free tea and coffee-making facilities in your room.
- **Laundry/Ironing Facilities** – You will not find it necessary to bring a lot of luggage on tour as most of the hotels utilised offer free or coin-operated laundry facilities. Ironing facilities are also available either in the hotel laundry or supplied in your room.
- **No Luggage Worries** – Porterage is taken care of by your APT Tour Director and driver who will look after the efficient and safe handling of your luggage at all hotels, as long as your luggage conforms to size and weight requirements.

Special Requirements

If you have special requirements such as a preference for adjoining rooms, double beds or ground floor access and have not advised us, please contact us as soon as possible.

DINING INFORMATION

Breakfasts are generally buffet-style, featuring cereals, fruit juices, cooked dishes (such as eggs, bacon, sausages), toast and jams.

Lunches are scheduled with specific stops, giving you the flexibility to choose a meal that suits your preferences. As noted in your itinerary, we occasionally include special feature lunches.

Dinners are generally three-course meals with multiple-choice entrées (appetisers), main courses and dessert. Some dinners are à la carte and several are buffet-style, offering a wide selection of quality food. Dinner settings can vary from hotel restaurants to outdoor BBQs.

Dietary requests will always be taken into consideration and fulfilled where possible, but cannot be guaranteed. If you have special dietary requirements, please contact us as soon as possible.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Useful Websites

Weather: www.worldweather.org

Climate: www.climate-zone.com

Time: www.timeanddate.com/worldclock

Currency Conversion: www.xe.com

Customs Australia: www.customs.gov.au

Customs New Zealand: www.customs.govt.nz

International Telephone Calling: www.countrycallingcodes.com

Australian Government Advisory and Consular Service:
www.smarttraveller.gov.au

Safe Travel: www.safetravel.govt.nz

APT TRAVEL CENTRES

AUSTRALIA

Building 4, Level 1, 15 Cochranes Road,
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P: 1300 278 278 (within Australia)

W: aptouring.com

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*T&C's This document is designed as a guideline to assist you when preparing for your tour. Much of the information within is subject to change and while all care has been taken to ensure all information is correct at time of printing, we cannot take responsibility for any subsequent changes. Printed in Australia. Effective February 2025. Australian Pacific Touring Pty Ltd. ABN 44 004 684 619. ATIA accreditation #A10825. APT-5890

