



New Zealand Multisport

21 days, Auckland to Wellington

Trip code ONAP

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Franz Josef

- Your Discover Moment: Queenstown
- Cycling through Karangahake Gorge
- Traditional hangi dinner and marae greeting
- Tongariro Alpine Crossing walk (weather dependent)
- Jet boating and canoeing along Whanganui River
- Water taxi to Abel Tasman
- Sea kayaking in Abel Tasman
- Trek in Paparoa NP
- Routeburn Track hiking excursion
- Milford Sound cruise
- Cycling the Otago Rail Trail
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing November 16th, 2016 - December 31st, 2016

Itinerary



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

Auckland

Arrive at any time.

Jump right into your adventure by adding the 'Auckland Sailing: America's Cup Experience' extra to your tour. Work with a crew to sail around Auckland's Waitemata Harbour on a competitive yacht, and take in the stunning views. PLEASE NOTE: If booking this extra, a pre-night in Auckland is highly recommended as this activity may start early in the morning on Day 1.

This tour departs Auckland early on Day 2. If you are interested in exploring the city and its nearby attractions, like the Hobbiton Movie Set or local wineries, it is recommended you book additional pre-trip accommodation nights.



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

Auckland/Hahei

Enjoy a morning cycle through Karangahake Gorge, then travel onto Hahei for the afternoon. Hike down to beautiful Cathedral Cove, then check out Hot Water Beach and dig a jacuzzi if the tide is right.

Early morning departure to Waihi, to pick up bikes and ride through Karangahake Gorge. Continue onto Hahei by bus and enjoy a walk to Cathedral Cove in the afternoon. If the tide is right, grab a shovel and dig a natural jacuzzi on in the sand on Hot Water Beach.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Auckland - Waihi

2h-3h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Karangahake Gorge Cycling

Karangahake Gorge

1h-2h

18km

Enjoy beautiful scenery on this interesting ride through Karangahake Gorge that combines history, nature, and adventure all in one trip! Follow the historic Paeroa to Waihi rail line. Cycle old lines and through a tunnel along the river that runs through the gorge. Take it easy, if you wish – this trail is suitable for cyclists with little experience and offers lots to take in on the way.

Please note that you may upgrade to an E-bike upgrade (subject to availability) at an additional cost of NZ \$50. This can be arranged with the CEO on Day 1 of the trip at the welcome meeting.

Private Vehicle

Waihi – Hahei

1h30m-2h

95km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Cathedral Cove Scenic Walk

Cathedral Cove

1h-1h30m

2km

Pack your swimsuit and walk from the north end of Hahei Beach along a cliff-top path that leads down to Cathedral Cove. A giant arch formed into the headland separates two secluded coves. Swim, lay in the shade, and enjoy the beauty of this idyllic spot.



Optional Activities - Day 2

Hahei Boat Cruise

Hahei

105NZD

Hop on board and cruise the coast of the Coromandel Peninsula. Check out caves, an impressive blowhole, and enjoy views of stunning Cathedral Cove from the water. Keep on the lookout for marine life such as dolphins, seals and seabirds.

Sea Kayaking

Hahei

135NZD

Head out by kayak to experience the Coromandel from sea level.

Day 3

Hahei/Rotorua

Visit a geothermal area with boiling mud and hotpools, and opt to go whitewater rafting or hit the spa. After a traditional greeting on the marae, learn the arts of the haka and poi before a traditional hangi dinner.

This region of New Zealand is renowned for its geothermal qualities. Travel to Rotorua, with free time to experience the regions' geothermal wonders. Opt to mountain bike in the world famous Redwood Forest, go white water rafting, or indulge in the therapeutic hot springs. After an engaging cultural experience on the grounds of a historic Maori village, enjoy a Hangi dinner cooked in an underground pit.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Hahei - Rotorua

3h30m-4h

Stretch out and scan the scenery from the comfort of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Rotorua

Enjoy free time in Rotorua to enjoy one of the many optional activities available in the area.

Maori Cultural Experience

Rotorua

1h-1h30m

Immerse yourself in a Maori cultural experience on the grounds of a historic Maori village. Participate in a pōwhiri (welcoming ceremony), and learn about the history of the marae (village) and the Rotorua-area from a local Maori guide. Discover the abundant geothermal energy surrounding the village that's used for cooking, heating, and communal bath houses.



Optional Activities - Day 3

Mountain Biking

Rotorua

35-130NZD

2h-4h

Head out on an exhilarating cycling adventure. Explore the stunning Redwood Forest on two wheels on what some call the world's best mountain biking trails. Whether you're a beginner or expert mountain bike enthusiast there's sure to be a trail perfect for you.

Hot Springs

Rotorua

50-360NZD

Soak tired muscles in the area's natural hot springs and let the mineral water work its magic. Rotorua is home to a number of amazing geothermal parks – be sure you don't miss the healing and relaxing benefits of the city's naturally heated waters.

Hells Gate Geothermal Park

Rotorua

35-90NZD

Experience a unique Maori owned geothermal, cultural, and geothermal mud bath spa, with erupting waters, steaming fumaroles and pools of boiling mud.

Whitewater Rafting

Rotorua

135NZD

2h-3h

Get your adrenaline fix on this exhilarating white water rafting trip. Enjoy the amazing scenery along the way, but don't forget to paddle!

Day 4

Rotorua/Tongariro National Park

Conquer the Tongariro Alpine Crossing, New Zealand's top-rated 1-day trek and spend the afternoon hiking an active volcano.

An early start to walk across the Tongariro Crossing, New Zealand's top-rated 1-day trek. Collect supplies before heading out. The transfer will drop the group off at the beginning of the self-guided trek and collect everyone at the other end.

After the trek, travel to a ski lodge on the side of a mountain for the night. An on-site spa and sauna will help ease those tired muscles.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Rotorua – Tongariro National Park

3h

180km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Tongariro Alpine Crossing Trek

Tongariro Crossing

5h-6h30m

19km

Today we conquer the Tongariro Alpine Crossing, New Zealand's top-rated 1-day trek and spend time hiking an active volcano. Mt Tongariro's rocky, dramatic landscapes make this day-long trek truly one of New Zealand's "Great Walks", passing emerald lakes and beautiful alpine scenery.

Day 5

Tongariro National Park/Whanganui National Park

Canoe along the Retaruke and Whanganui Rivers into the heart of Whanganui National Park.

The third longest river in New Zealand, the Whanganui River begins at Mt Tongariro and flows all the way out to the west coast of the North Island. After a safety briefing, embark on a 12-25km canoe journey downriver to an overnight stay in the heart of Whanganui National Park.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Whanganui River Journey

Whanganui River

3h-5h

Grab a paddle and life jacket and journey along the famous Whanganui River – New Zealand's third longest river. Soak in the wildlife and scenery, seemingly untouched by modern day. It's a great way to unwind and pack in a little more Kiwi adventure. (Note: actual distance and time of the paddle may vary according to weather conditions.)

Day 6

Whanganui National Park/Raetihi

Travel along the Whanganui River by jet boat visiting old Maori and European settlements before travelling to the night's lodge by bus.

In the morning, trade the canoe for a jet boat and continue downriver. After a short walk to the Bridge to Nowhere, board the jet boat again and return to the bus, travelling on to Snowy Waters Lodge for the night. Enjoy a delicious dinner.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Whanganui National Park – Raetihi

1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Whanganui River Jet Boating

Whanganui River

3h-4h

50km

Have fun and hold on! Fulfill your need for speed travelling down the amazingly scenic Whanganui River by jet boat.

Day 7

Raetihi/Wellington

In the morning, transfer to Wellington and visit the Te Papa museum, dedicated to the history and culture of New Zealand.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Raetihi - Wellington

4h

310km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Te Papa Museum Visit

Wellington

1h-2h

Visit this must-see museum, home to displays of historical Maori artifacts and modern exhibits. See how the museum is constructed on shock absorbers to withstand New Zealand's many earthquakes – find the stairwell just outside the entrance and descend into the foundations of the building.

Free Time

Wellington

Enjoy free time to explore the city of Wellington, and take in the best that the area has to offer.

Day 8

Wellington/Abel Tasman National Park

Travel by ferry to the South Island and then transfer by bus and water taxi into Abel Tasman National Park.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Ferry

Wellington – Picton

3h30m

92km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Water Taxi

Cook Strait – Abel Tasman National Park

Jump in and cross the water to the next stop.

Day 9

Abel Tasman National Park/Marahau

Sea kayak in Abel Tasman out to the edge of the park.

Start the day with a short hike before setting off from the beach to kayak along the Abel Tasman coastline towards Marahau.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Kayaking to Marahau

Abel Tasman National Park – Marahau

2h-3h

See Abel Tasman National Park at a pleasant pace by sea kayak. Take part in a safety briefing and preparation, then head out into the water to glide in and out of the bays and islets on the route to Marahau. Look for nesting seabirds and tiny islands, and enjoy amazing views along the way.

Day 10

Marahau/Paparoa National Park

Transfer to Paparoa National Park, and enjoy a trek in the park.

Should you prefer, there is the option to kayak in the National Park.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Marahau – Paparoa National Park

3h-4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Paparoa National Park Trek

Paparoa National Park

30m-3h

1km

Take in spectacular coastal views hiking in Paparoa National Park. See the famous Pancake Rocks, a limestone landscape of pancake-shaped rock formations and blowholes. Then, trek through a spectacular limestone gorge, and spend the night on the edge of the park. Enjoy nature at its best!

Pancake Rocks Trek

Punakaiki

15m-30m

1km

Walk along a loop trail with informative signs detailing how the 'Pancake Rocks' were formed millions of years ago. When the trail reaches the coast, there are many lookouts for photo stops and beautiful views of the coast, the rocks and the blowholes found along the area.



Optional Activities - Day 10

Kayaking

Paparoa National Park

40NZD

2h-3h

Take a scenic kayak trip up the river from Punakaiki into the National Park. Enjoy paddling along the Pororari River, there are some small rapids to keep the route exciting and great views in all directions.

Hiking

Punakaiki

Free

15m-3h

1-11km

Head out on the local trails to explore the area, or hike some of the trails in nearby Paparoa National Park.

Day 11

Paparoa National Park/Franz Josef

Transfer to Franz Josef, stopping at Okarito lagoon en route.

Continue south along the coast towards Franz Josef, stopping for an invigorating walk at the wildlife mecca of Okarito Lagoon. Spend 2 nights staying amongst verdant temperate rainforest.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Paparoa – Franz Josef

4h

220km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Okarito Lagoon Walk

Franz Josef

1h-2h

10km

Walk through the wetlands of Okarito Lagoon, bordered by forest and surrounded by nature. Enjoy spectacular views all the way up to the mountains on a clear day. Take the time to soak in the scenery – the walk is a short climb up to a viewpoint that includes a variety of landscapes on the path through the estuary out through the wetlands.

Day 12

Franz Josef

A free day for optional activities. Options include various hikes, horseback riding, kayaking as well as the unique and stunning Franz Josef Glacier.



Meals included

Breakfast



Optional Activities - Day 12

Franz Josef Quad Bike

Franz Josef

65-160NZD

Hop aboard the two-seater ATV quad and drive along ancient glacial pathways carved into the landscape by ice and water. Be amazed at what lies around every twist and turn as you are guided through rainforests, riverbeds, grasslands, sand and mud. Feel the thrill of fresh air in your face and the excitement of riding in the wild.

Hiking

Franz Josef

Free

30m-8h

3-17km

Take your pick of many scenic and memorable treks in Franz Josef – a true hiker's haven. Get prepared before heading out, and be mindful of signs along the track. See majestic mountains, glaciers, rivers, and amazing views that you'll definitely want your camera on hand for.

Horseback Riding

Franz Josef

65-150NZD

Hop in the saddle and explore Franz Josef's amazing glacier landscape on horseback. Ride amid rainforests and mountain scenery, and enjoy fresh open air and natural beauty on this unforgettable trip.

Franz Josef Glacier Valley Walk

Franz Josef

79NZD

Enjoy spectacular views on a guided interpretive walk that follows a riverbed along the Franz Josef Glacier's retreat. At the end, you'll be rewarded with a great view of the glacier off in the distance.

Heli Scenic Flight with Snow Landing

Franz Josef

385-655NZD

15m-30m

Take a once-in-a-lifetime helicopter ride high up on Franz Josef Glacier. Hop out on the snow to soak up the experience, before flying back to land. Cool!

Franz Josef Kayaking

Franz Josef

149-169NZD

3h-4h

Explore the stunning Lake Mapourika by kayak. This lake was created as the Franz Josef glacier retreated 14,000 years ago, and the still water has created a natural mirror allowing you to soak in the incredible panoramic views.

Guided Heli Hike (Heli Transfer)

Franz Josef

595-795NZD

The sheer size and power of Franz Josef is something you need to see to believe. Board a chopper for a leisurely flight over the glacier before landing directly on the ice. From there, get up close and personal

on a three-hour guided hike past towering peaks and stunning blue ice. The constantly shifting ice flows and crevices ensure your visit will be one-of-a-kind!

Day 13

Franz Josef/Wanaka

Transfer to Wanaka, where there are a variety of optional activities available. Opt to go mountain biking, skydiving, or check out the giant maze and optical illusions of Puzzling World.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Te Wahipounamu Visit

Makarora

1h-2h

Tour the mountainous wilderness of Te Wahipounamu, a true natural wonder. See for yourself the views that make New Zealand famous - jagged mountains, snowy peaks, and clear blue waters. Wander among fjords, rocky coasts, towering cliffs, lakes, and waterfalls, and enjoy breathtaking scenery. Don't forget your camera!

Private Vehicle

Franz Josef - Wanaka

5h-5h30m

290km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.



Optional Activities - Day 13

Scenic Bike Ride

Wanaka

60NZD

Pedal around at a leisurely pace and enjoy the scenery.

Skydiving

Wanaka

Scenic Boat Cruise

Wanaka

Aircraft Museum Visit

Wanaka

Puzzling World Visit

Wanaka

22-32NZD

Challenge your perception of reality and experience the world-famous Great Maze through bizarre buildings and rooms of illusion.

Hiking

Wanaka

Free

4-5km

The Mount Iron Track is an iconic Wanaka walk. This very popular loop walk offers excellent 360 - degree views from the summit.

Day 14

Wanaka/Queenstown

Continue onto the “adventure capital of the world,” Queenstown.

Free day to maximize time for all the optional activities in the area. Opt for a jet boat outing, bungee jumping, mountain biking, sky diving, or a vineyard tour. The options in this adventure capital are endless. Two nights are at a centrally-located hostel, which means you can make the most of your time here.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Wanaka - Queenstown

3h

130km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Queenstown

Enjoy free time to try some of the challenging optional activities available in the “adventure capital of the world.”



Optional Activities - Day 14

Paragliding

Queenstown

210NZD

15m-30m

Hang on! Get a birds-eye view of Queenstown on an exciting ride in the sky.

Bungee Jumping

Queenstown

320-805NZD

1h30m-4h

Adrenaline junkies will be happy with a stop at the world's original commercial bungee site (bungee in New Zealand!). Opt to take the plunge or simply observe where it all started from the comfort of solid ground. Shoot some amazing photos of those brave enough to dive into the abyss.

Mountain Biking*

Sucre

Strap on a helmet and get ready for some hardcore cycling through the mountains around Sucre. Bring water, snacks and a repair kit for your tires. Embrace the challenge of steep hills and altitude, then enjoy the views!

Shotover Jet Boating

Queenstown

159NZD

1h30m-2h

Jet boating is a typical New Zealand activity— go as fast you can in a boat over water. Hang on tight as you fly across the surface of the water. Shoot through narrow rocky gorges and dare to watch as the driver takes hairpin turns frighteningly close to the cliffs.

Skydiving

Queenstown

449-549NZD

Enjoy the awe-inspiring beauty of Queenstown from an eagle's perspective. Suit up, get briefed and board the prop plane to soar high about the rugged alpine landscape. Strap onto your instructor, take a breath and leap into a once-in-a-lifetime free fall. This is what a natural high truly feels like!

Day 15

Queenstown

Enjoy a full-day hiking excursion along the world renowned Routeburn Track, taking in the gorgeous mountains, valleys, waterfalls, and lakes surrounding the track.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Routeburn Track Day Hike

Routeburn Track

13km

Head out for a day of hiking along the stunning Routeburn Track. Start on a gradual incline through a 130 million year old forest, with incredible views of snow capped mountains, cascading waterfalls, crystal clear streams, and alpine meadows. After enjoying a picnic lunch, continue on the forgotten paths of the Maori while travelling along their old 'Greenstone' trails. With incredible scenery and historical significance, this hike is not one to miss!

Day 16

Queenstown

Enjoy a free day for optional activities in Queenstown.



Optional Activities - Day 16

Mountain Biking

Queenstown

31.50-140.00NZD

1h-6h

Hop on a bike and get familiar with some of the great trails in the area. There are routes for all levels of cyclist to enjoy so rent a and start exploring the hills.

Shotover Jet Boating

Queenstown

159NZD

1h30m-2h

Jet boating is a typical New Zealand activity— go as fast you can in a boat over water. Hang on tight as you fly across the surface of the water. Shoot through narrow rocky gorges and dare to watch as the driver takes hairpin turns frighteningly close to the cliffs.

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Gondola Ride

Queenstown

66-215NZD

1h-2h30m

Take a ride up to the top of the mountain by cable car gondola. Get a spectacular 220° view of Coronet Peak, the Remarkables mountain range, and Lake Wakatipu below.

Day 17

Queenstown/Te Anau

Travel to the fiords of the South Island. Enjoy the stunning scenery of Fiordland National Park and Milford Sound from the deck of a boat, then return to Te Anau for the night.



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Queenstown - Milford Sound

4h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Milford Sound Cruise

Milford Sound

2h-2h30m

Enjoy the stunning scenery of Fiordland National Park and Milford Sound from the deck of a boat. Recharge your camera and be ready to shoot stunning photos of waterfalls, mountains stretching up to the sky and down to the sea and then search for dolphins and seals. This place is any artist's dream!



Optional Activities - Day 17

Fiordland Cinema 'Ata Whenua'

Te Anau

10NZD

Discover the Fiorland Work Heritage Area during this 32-minute film. The remote region has jaw-dropping scenery – experience it through stunning cinematography and aerial shots.

Day 18

Te Anau/Central Otago District

Morning departure to Central Otago to spend the afternoon cycling 42km (26 mi) along the historic Otago Rail Trail.

Cycle the Rail Trail, a route created specially for mountain biking. Pass through scenery unspoiled by traffic and not visible from any roads.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Te Anau – Central Otago District

4h30m

315km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Otago Rail Trail Cycling

Otago Central Rail Trail

5h-6h

42km

Drive to one of the best starting points of the Historic Otago Rail Trail. Spend the better part of the day cycling through stunning scenery along 42km of the old rail trail. Cycle through scenery unspoiled by traffic and not visible from any roads.

Day 19

Central Otago District/Christchurch

Enjoy a free afternoon to explore Christchurch.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Central Otago District – Christchurch

7h

520km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 20

Christchurch/Kaikoura

Transfer to Kaikoura, with optional whale- or dolphin-watching in the afternoon.

Early start to drive the scenic coastal road up to Kaikoura.

A free afternoon can also be spent swimming with dolphins or taking a scenic flight over the peninsula. Bird watchers will be pleased to know that big ocean birds such as albatrosses, petrels, and shearwaters frequent the area.

Hikers can opt to go on several day hikes in the Seaward Kaikoura mountains.

As a result of the recent earthquake in New Zealand, groups departing before April 2017 will travel to St Arnaud or Nelson instead of Kaikoura today.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Christchurch – Kaikoura

2h30m

Drive from Christchurch to Kaikoura

Free Time

Kaikoura

A free afternoon can also be spent swimming with dolphins, visiting a colony of Southern Fur seals, or taking a scenic flight over the peninsula. Bird watchers will be pleased to know that big ocean birds such as albatrosses, petrels and shearwaters frequent the area.



Optional Activities - Day 20

Hiking

Kaikoura

Free

2h-3h

3km

Set off along the hiking trail to take in the beautiful scenery along the Kaikoura Peninsula walkway.

Dolphin Tour

Kaikoura

135NZD

3h-4h

Hop aboard a boat and head out to the open seas to search for wild dusky dolphins. If we come upon them, depending on conditions, most groups have 20-40 minutes of swim time with the dolphins.

Scenic Flight

Kaikoura

250NZD

Take a 30-minute flight and set off to search for whales, dolphins, and other marine life. On land, you'll see Maori sites, Kaikoura town and New Zealand's southern fur seals.

Day 21

Kaikoura/Wellington

Transfer to Picton and take the ferry back to Wellington where the tour ends upon arrival.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Kaikoura - Picton

2h

150km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ferry

Picton - Wellington

3h

92km

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with any onward travel arrangements you require.

What's included

- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Franz Josef
- Your Discover Moment: Queenstown
- Cycling through Karangahake Gorge
- Traditional hangi dinner and marae greeting
- Tongariro Alpine Crossing walk (weather dependent)
- Jet boating and canoeing along Whanganui River
- Water taxi to Abel Tasman
- Sea kayaking in Abel Tasman
- Trek in Paparoa NP
- Routeburn Track hiking excursion
- Milford Sound cruise
- Cycling the Otago Rail Trail
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Cycle to Hot Water Beach, Visit bubbling mud pools in a geothermal area, hike the Tongariro Crossing and Routeburn Track, canoe along the Whanganui River, try exhilarating adventures in Queenstown, cycle the rail trail in Central Otago

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Cycle to Hot Water Beach, Visit bubbling mud pools in a geothermal area, hike the Tongariro Crossing and Routeburn Track, canoe along the Whanganui River, try exhilarating adventures in Queenstown, cycle the rail trail in Central Otago

Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

1. Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.
2. Please be aware that wifi and internet access is not as readily available in New Zealand as in other parts of the world. There are often additional charges to connect to the internet, and speeds may be slower than what you are used to.
3. Over public holidays in Australia and New Zealand (such as Christmas, New Years Day, Easter, and Anzac Day) there may be some limitations of services and disruptions to schedules. In general our tours still operate effectively over public holidays, but there may be closures of optional activities and restaurants, and slight itinerary adjustments in order to provide all tour inclusions.

What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

This G Adventures group trip is accompanied by one of our group leaders, otherwise known as a Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The CEO will be the group manager, leader and driver - this person is experienced in the routes travelled and will organize and lead the meal preparations and has experience in cooking a variety of local and international dishes for large groups.

As the group coordinator and manager, the aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. While not being guides in the traditional sense, you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. They will also offer suggestions for things to do and to see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting - we think it's the best of both worlds.

What is the maximum and typical number of participants on this tour?

Max 16, avg 12

What meals are included in this trip?

18 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 6 dinners

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. The above information applies to G Adventures group trips. For Independent trips please check the itinerary for details of meals included. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

Please note that most included breakfasts will be continental style, and consist of cereal, milk, bread and spreads, juice, tea and instant coffee. Having a simple breakfast together most days allows us the flexibility to get on the road early and get from point A to B all that much faster.

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private vehicle, jet boat, canoe, bicycle, sea kayak, ferry, water taxi, walking.

How will we travel between destinations?

Our vans are mini-coaches. Occasionally with smaller group sizes we will use smaller, equally comfortable 13-seater vehicles. All mini-coaches tow a trailer for luggage and camping equipment (when needed). All groups have one CEO/Driver.

The vehicles are factory built with comfortable seats and air-conditioning. It is mandatory to wear a seatbelt while riding in our vehicles.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels/hostels (15 nts, some multi-share), lodges (3 nts), floating hostel (1 nt), Maori village (1 nt, multi-share).

If I choose to purchase My Own Room, are there any exceptions during the trip?

Not available on this tour

What should I expect from the accommodations on this trip?

Multi-share accommodation (typically 4-6 people per room) is very common in New Zealand and is the way you will be spending most of your nights. We have specifically chosen unique accommodations to give local flavour to your trip.

Accommodation will be varied throughout your adventure. Towels and soap are not always provided at overnight stops, so it's best to bring your own for bathing. Bathroom and showering facilities are shared and are very rarely en-suite.

What is the joining hotel?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

What are the joining instructions?

By Taxi: \$70-80, approximately 30 minutes.

By Shuttle Bus: \$33 for 1 person, \$8 per additional. The "Super Shuttle" is a 24-hour service that takes approximately 1 hour. The shuttle waits outside of the terminal and provides door-to-door service.

By Skybus: \$16 per person. Leaves from outside the airport terminal every 10-15 minutes and takes approximately 1 hour.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned for that day other than your welcome meeting in the evening, so you can arrive at any time.

Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip. A welcome note will be left for you in the hotel so you have all the necessary information regarding the meeting time. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning.

What should I do if I can't find my airport transfer or experience arrival issues?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who do I contact for arrival issues or in the event of an emergency?

Should you need to contact G Adventures during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call our local office in Melbourne. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so we may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office and after office hours emergency number

From outside Australia: +61 432 705 621

From within Australia: 0432 705 621

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local operations manager, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What are the packing guidelines and luggage restrictions?

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible.

We recommend using a backpack for your convenience, or a medium-sized suitcase if you prefer. Heavy luggage is not recommended for the health of the CEO, who will take a lead in loading the storage trailer. Due to space in the trailer, we will not be able to accommodate more than one piece of main luggage per person. A good size day-pack (20-35L) is also essential to carry your personal gear for the day, as access to luggage between destinations will be limited. This daypack will be used to carry your personal gear for the day, your lunch and a water bottle.

What should I pack for this trip?

Cold Weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Scarf
- Warm gloves
- Warm hat
- Warm layers
- Warm waterproof jacket

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Footwear (required) (Closed toe suggested)
- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, band-aids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Light Hiking:

- Hiking boots/sturdy walking shoes
- Hiking pants (Convertible/Zip-off and quick dry recommended)
- Walking poles

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear Note: The weather in New Zealand varies depending on the season. Make sure to check the forecast for the time you will be visiting and pack weather appropriate clothing for your trip.

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

The currency in New Zealand is the New Zealand Dollar (NZD).

Credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in New Zealand and can be used to purchase small and large items. When purchasing products or services with a foreign credit card you may be charged additional fees by your credit card company for foreign purchases.

Credit cards and debit cards are very useful for cash advances but you must remember to bring your PIN number (be aware that many ATM machines only accept 4-digit PINs). Both Cirrus and Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. Both Visa and Master Cards are the most widely accepted credit cards. While ATMs are commonly available, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work check with your bank before you travel. A visit to an ATM can be arranged on Day 1 and other days of the trip.

Do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money. A combination of local currency (preferably smaller bills, 5's, 10's and 20's), traveller's cheques and credit cards is best. Currency exchange is best obtained prior to travel or at the airport, currency exchange is easy to find in New Zealand in the gateway cities and most banks do accommodate.

Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates:
www.xe.com

What emergency funds do I need access to on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

What are the tipping guidelines for this trip?

It is not customary in New Zealand or Australia to tip service providers, but if you do experience outstanding service it is good to do so. Such service would only usually be in places like quality restaurants and it would be very rare that you would tip more than 10%. Unless specifically asked to do so at the time (by your CEO) - do not tip your local guides. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures Chief Experience Officer did an outstanding job, you may consider a small tip - but it certainly isn't expected.

What activities are optional on this trip?

- Please see the full itinerary for information on optional activities, descriptions and estimated pricing.

What general safety tips and free-time guidelines should I follow?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What are the mandatory group rules regarding laws and behaviour?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

What are the mandatory travel insurance requirements for this trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

What are the age restrictions for this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.