



New Zealand Rail Experience

12 Days Independent

TranzCoastal Train



Day 1 Arrive Auckland

On arrival, be met and transferred to the hotel. Use free time to explore the "City of Sails." We recommend a visit to Kelly Tarlton's Antarctic Encounter and Underwater World, shopping, or a walk around Auckland's exciting marina and waterfront. **Accommodation:** Auckland, Copthorne Anzac Avenue (Standard), SKYCITY Hotel (First Class), Heritage Auckland (Deluxe).

Day 2 Auckland / Waitomo / Rotorua

Travel south to Rotorua via the rich pastoral province of Waikato. Visit the fascinating Waitomo Caves and enjoy lunch and a guided tour of the famous Glow Worm Grotto featuring an underground boat ride. Continue on via Lake Karapiro to arrive in Rotorua. This evening, enjoy a Maori Hangi (feast) and concert. **Accommodation:** Rotorua, Kingsgate Hotel Rotorua (Standard), Heritage Rotorua (First Class), Millennium Hotel (Deluxe) for two nights.

Day 3 Rotorua Sightseeing

Experience the many varied sights that Rotorua has to offer. Visit the Agrodome Sheep Show and later Te Puia Thermal Reserve. Learn about traditional Maori crafts at the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute. This afternoon enjoy some leisure time. Perhaps take a tour to Mt Tarawera or the Buried Village or enjoy a swim at the Polynesian Spa (own expense).

Day 4 Rotorua / Wellington

Fly to Wellington (airfare not included), New Zealand's capital city. The remainder of the day is to enjoy at leisure. **Accommodation:** Wellington, Kingsgate Hotel Portland (Standard), Copthorne Oriental Bay (First Class and Deluxe).

Day 5 Wellington / Christchurch

This morning travel on the Interislander ferry across Cook Strait, through Queen Charlotte Sound to Picton. Board the TranzCoastal train which winds its way along the East Coast, to Christchurch. On arrival, be met and transferred to the hotel. **Accommodation:** Christchurch, The Elms Hotel (Standard), Copthorne Central Hotel (First Class), Heritage Hotel (Deluxe) for two nights.

Day 6 Christchurch at Leisure

Today is at leisure in the "Garden City." Enjoy a historic tram ride, shopping or maybe a punt down the Avon River (own expense).

Day 7 Christchurch / Mt Cook / Dunedin

Travel by coach to Lake Tekapo, continuing to Mount Cook National Park. Continue on to the southern city of Dunedin. **Accommodation:** Dunedin, Kingsgate Hotel (Standard), Scenic Circle Dunedin City Hotel (First Class), Scenic Circle Southern Cross Hotel (Deluxe).

Day 8 Dunedin / Queenstown

Board the Taieri Gorge train to Queenstown and enjoy the rugged, unspoilt landscape. Experience breathtaking views of this historic journey with sightseeing along the way. Option: add an extra day in Dunedin for touring. **Accommodation:** Queenstown, Kingsgate Hotel Terraces (Standard), Copthorne Lakefront (First Class), Heritage Queenstown (Deluxe) for three nights.

Day 9 Milford Sound Day Excursion

(Subject to road and weather conditions) Travel along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to Te Anau, gateway to the Fiordland National Park. View the Mirror Lakes as you continue through the Eglinton Valley. From the Homer Tunnel, emerge into the Cleddau Valley. Join the Milford Sound Red Boat cruise for an unforgettable experience of this majestic fiord. Journey to the mouth of the sound to see the seals and dolphins. Return to Queenstown.

Day 10 Queenstown at Leisure

A free day to enjoy the many leisure activities available.

Day 11 Queenstown / Franz Josef

Travel north via Lakes Wanaka and Hawea. Enjoy the rugged West Coast scenery through the Haast Pass and continue on to spectacular Franz Josef. We suggest a scenic glacier flight (own expense) to enjoy the stunning scenery this region has to offer. **Accommodation:** Franz Josef, Franz Josef Glacier Hotel (Standard, First Class and Deluxe).

Day 12 Franz Josef / Christchurch

Travel to Greymouth to board the TranzAlpine train for a journey famous for its spectacular mountain scenery as it traverses the Southern Alps which divide the East and West coasts of the South Island. Travel across the Canterbury Plains to Christchurch, arriving at approximately 6:40pm.

NZ RAIL EXPERIENCE

1 Apr 08–31 Mar 09

CODE: RC15

Land cost per person from US\$		Breakfast Supp.		
		Twin	Single	Supp.
Coach	Standard	\$2488	\$3438	\$268
	First Class	\$2684	\$3828	\$288
	Deluxe	\$2892	\$4244	\$328

Departs daily, modifiable. Meals and sightseeing included as specified in the itinerary. All prices, itineraries and routings are subject to change. **Please call for our current prices.**

Price Includes

- Meet, greet and transfer on arrival
- 11 nights accommodation
- Waitomo Glow Worm Caves and Geothermal Rotorua
- Scenic cruise between the North and South Islands
- Franz Josef
- Spectacular Milford Sound cruise
- 3 unique scenic rail journeys - TranzAlpine, TranzCoastal and The Taieri Gorge Railway



Cruise the majestic Milford Sound