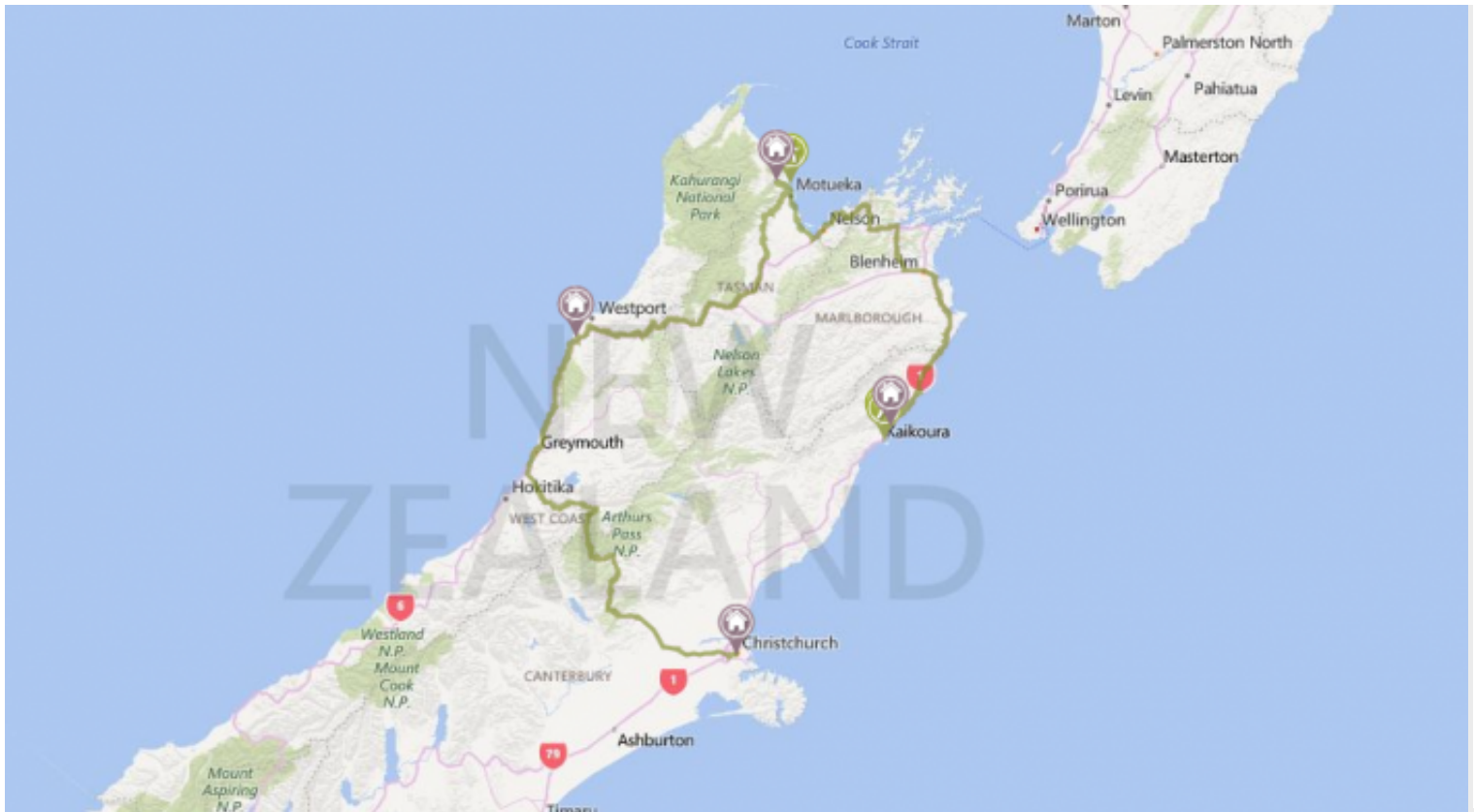


Romantic Short Breaks

Coastal Retreats



This perfect honeymoon itinerary includes the very best of the top of the South Island. Starting in Christchurch you cross Arthur's Pass to the West Coast where the mountains of the Southern Alps meet the crashing waves. From here, a scenic drive north via Punakaiki Rocks and your first stop near Charleston. Heading north brings you to the golden sand beaches of the Abel Tasman and finally through Marlborough's wineries to the magnificent Kaikoura Coast, famed for its whales, dolphins, seals and birds and great views. Stay at 3 romantic cottages and enjoy romantic seclusion.



At a glance

Duration: 9 days, 8 nights

Connection points:
Christchurch airport

Activity level: moderate

Best season: October-April

Indicative Price from \$4,298

Price is for accommodation only and excludes meals, ground or air transport unless stated. [Contact one of our Travel Agents](#) or use [My Holiday](#) to contact the operators and book direct.

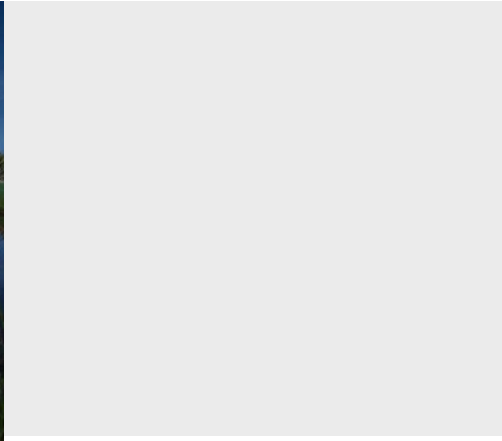
Driving times

Christchurch - Charleston: 3 hours
Charleston - Motueka: 3 1/2 hours
Motueka - Kaikoura: 4 hours
Kaikoura - Christchurch: 2 1/2 hours

COASTAL RETREATS

Cottages & beaches

SOUTH ISLAND



Day 1 - Christchurch

Stay [The George](#)

On arrival in Christchurch head to The George and take a stroll in Hagley Park before picking a nearby restaurant for dinner.

Day 2 - near Punakaiki, West Coast

Stay [Birds Ferry Lodge](#)

A 4 hour drive across Arthur's Pass brings you to the West Coast. Stop at Punakaiki and meander up to Charleston. Ferryman's Cottage has privacy and views.

Book dinner at the Lodge or a Cottage Dinner for a romantic dinner.

Day 3 - near Punakaiki, West Coast

Stay [Birds Ferry Lodge](#)

Spend the day relaxing and exploring the grounds and organic gardens at Birds Ferry and go for a short walk amongst seals followed by lunch at Cape Foulwind's Bay House Cafe.

Day 4 - Abel Tasman, Nelson Region

Stay [The Resurgence](#)

Today's drive is very scenic, winding north through the Buller Gorge and Motueka Valley to tonight's accommodation at The Resurgence.

You can dine with other guests or book a romantic candle-lit table for 2.

Day 5 - Abel Tasman, Nelson Region

Do [Abel Tasman Charters](#) | [Abel Tasman Luxury Boat Cruise](#)

Stay [The Resurgence](#)

Your day on the Abel Tasman aboard a luxury catamaran will be a highlight - kayak, hike, fish, swim or just enjoy the passing marine life that comes to visit.

After dinner, sit out on your very private deck listening to the sounds of cicadas and morepork under the canopy of stars.

Day 6 - Kaikoura, Canterbury

Stay [The Factory](#)

Cross to the east coast via Picton and Blenheim. The Factory, is a lovingly restored 100 year old dairy sited a few minutes north of Kaikoura; a self-contained hide-away between mountains and the sea. Stop in Nelson or Blenheim to purchase gourmet goodies. Enjoy great views of the Pacific Ocean as you head south and watch out for seals on the rocks.

Day 7 - Kaikoura, Canterbury

Do [Whale Watch Kaikoura](#) | [Whale Watch Cruise](#)

Stay [The Factory](#)

Take a morning trip with Whale Watch for a chance to see Sperm, Pilot, Humpback, Southern Right whales, Orca and even a mighty Blue Whale.

Day 8 - Kaikoura, Canterbury

Do [Encounter Kaikoura](#) | [Dolphin Encounter](#)

Stay [The Factory](#)

A swim with the dolphins is one of those must-do experiences. Totally interactive these gentle creatures love to play with you. After fish and chips on the beach, take a hike on the Kaikoura peninsula which boasts some stunning ocean views.

Day 9 - Journey's End

From Kaikoura, drive south back to Christchurch.