

New Zealand Icons

New Zealand Family Holiday



This is a long itinerary but it can be shortened if time is tight. All the accommodations are family friendly so this journey suits couples or those travelling with children.

It is ideal for a first trip to New Zealand as you visit the iconic attractions but also get off the beaten track to explore the wilder side. Plenty of time on the beaches to make this a real holiday.

At a glance

Duration: 20 days, 19 nights

Connection Points:

Auckland Airport
Christchurch Airport

Activity level: moderate

Best Season: October - April

Driving times

Auckland - Kerikeri: 3 hours
Auckland - Tairua: 2 hours
Tairua - Rotorua: 2 1/2 hours
fly Rotorua - Dunedin:
Dunedin - Queenstown: 3 1/2 hours
Queenstown - Bruce Bay: 3 hours
Bruce Bay - Arthur's Pass: 4 hours
Arthur's Pass - Christchurch: 2 hours

Indicative Price from \$10,887

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.



NZ FAMILY HOLIDAY
Don't miss a beat
NORTH & SOUTH





Day 1 - Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

Stay [Takou River Lodge](#)

Fly or transfer up to Kerikeri in Northland.

Magic Cottages are totally romantic but also have great family accommodation. Set on a big organic property there is plenty to explore, free kayaks will take you to sea or just soak in your own private outdoor bath.

Day 2 - Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

Do [Carino Sailing | Sailing with Dolphins](#)

Stay [Takou River Lodge](#)

A sailing trip in the Bay of Islands is almost compulsory and Carino Sailing are the only operator able to swim with the dolphins.

Day 3 - Kerikeri, Bay of Islands

Stay [Takou River Lodge](#)

Visit Waitangi and discover New Zealand's Maori history or take the ferry to historic Russell and browse the galleries and cafes.

Day 4 - Tairua, Eastern Coromandel

Stay [Colleith Lodge](#)

Fly back to Auckland and take a car to the Coromandel Peninsular.

Tairua is a small beach village with 3 good cafe options. Colleith Lodge commands views out to the ocean from all rooms.

Day 5 - Tairua, Eastern Coromandel

Do [Cathedral Cove Kayaks | Kayaking at Cathedral Cove](#)

Stay [Colleith Lodge](#)

An afternoon kayak around Cathedral Cove explores many caves and rock formations. Then, if the tides are right, visit Hot Water Beach to dig your own hot pool in the sand.

Day 6 - Rotorua, Central Plateau

Stay [Koura Lodge](#)

Koura Lodge has a lake front setting, take out the kayaks or relax in the sauna and hot tub at the water's edge.

Day 7 - Rotorua, Central Plateau

Do [Te Puia | Maori Arts & Thermal Valley](#)

Stay [Koura Lodge](#)

Visit the Wakarewarewa thermal valley and the Maori Art and Crafts centre at Te Puia to get a real taste of Rotorua.

Day 8 - Rotorua, Central Plateau

Do [Cruise & Fish | Cruise Lake Tarawera](#)

Stay [Koura Lodge](#)

A relaxing day cruising on scenic Lake Tawawera. Swim, sit in hot rock pools or drop a fishing line.

Day 9 - Dunedin, Otago

Stay [Fletcher Lodge](#)

Fly from Rotorua to Dunedin in the South Island.

Day 10 - Dunedin, Otago

Do [Dunedin Railways | Taieri Gorge & Seaside Trains](#)

Stay [Fletcher Lodge](#)

Take the historic train ride into the Taieri Gorge and enjoy a day without driving.

Day 11 - Arrowtown, Queenstown

Stay [Arrowtown House](#)

Cross Otago, through fruit orchards, vineyards and dry landscapes to the old gold town of Arrowtown, a quiet base for all the Queenstown activities.

Day 12 - Arrowtown, Queenstown

Do [Nomad Safaris | 4WD Safari & LOTR Locations](#)

Stay [Arrowtown House](#)

Enjoy a fun-filled day on a 4WD tour in the rugged countryside around Queenstown.

Day 13 - Arrowtown, Queenstown

Do [Mitre Peak Cruises | Milford Sound Day Cruise](#)

Stay [Arrowtown House](#)

A cruise on Milford Sound is a highlight of any New Zealand trip. Fly one direction for great scenic views and less time in a coach.

Day 14 - south of Glaciers, West Coast

Stay [Mahitahi Lodge](#)

Heading north, passing through Wanaka and over the Haast Pass to the verdant West Coast. Tonight's accommodation is a minute walk to the sea where you can watch the crashing waves, see Mt Cook and sometimes see penguins on this remote stretch of beach. Book dinner as there are no cafes in Bruce Bay.

Day 15 - south of Glaciers, West Coast

Stay [Mahitahi Lodge](#)

Today, go fishing or gold panning with John or visit the glaciers just 30 minutes away.

Day 16 - Arthur's Pass, Canterbury

Stay [Wilderness Lodge Arthur's Pass](#)

The sister property at Arthur's Pass is in very different landscape and is also a working farm. This evening you can take the farm dogs for a walk to stretch your legs

Day 17 - Arthur's Pass, Canterbury

Stay [Wilderness Lodge Arthur's Pass](#)

Your stay includes your choice of guided trip and all meals.

Day 18 - Christchurch

Stay [The George](#)

It is only 2 hours' drive to Christchurch where you can drop off your car. Explore the city and catch up on some shopping as your trip draws to an end.

Day 19 - Christchurch

Do [Canterbury Trails | Kaikoura Day Tour](#)

Stay [The George](#)

Let your guides show you either the area north around Kaikoura, including a whale watching trip or take you south to the french settlement of Akaroa for a dolphin swim and hike.

Day 20 - Journey's End

You leave this journey in Christchurch.