

# The Southern Drift

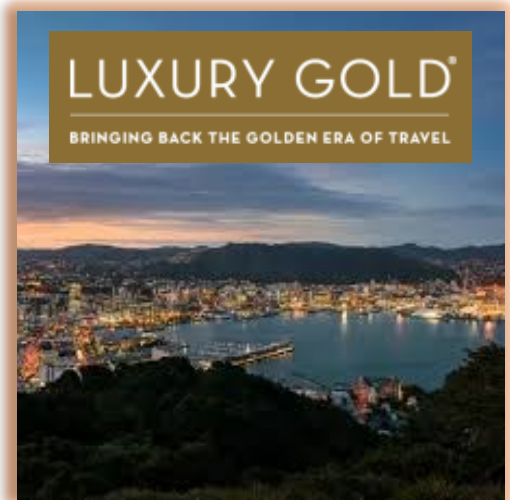
March 10 - March 21, 2025

12-Day Guided Tour of New Zealand

## Tour Itinerary

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 10 | Welcome to Christchurch, NZ!              |
| March 11 | Christchurch to Franz Josef               |
| March 12 | The Mighty Franz Josef Glacier            |
| March 13 | Romantic Arrowtown and on to Queenstown   |
| March 14 | Explore Queenstown                        |
| March 15 | Queenstown at Leisure                     |
| March 16 | Queenstown to Milford Sound               |
| March 17 | Milford Track Walk & Milford Sound Cruise |
| March 18 | Milford Sound to Dunedin                  |
| March 19 | Brewery Tour and Dunedin at Leisure       |
| March 20 | Dunedin to Christchurch                   |
| March 21 | Farewell to Christchurch                  |

Tour itinerary is subject to change without notice at the tour operator's discretion.



### Included Features:

- Escorted by a Luxury Gold Travel Concierge
- 11 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 7 dinners
- Luxury coach and included train travel on tour
- Personal headsets for Local Expert commentary (available on departures with 15 or more guests)
- Seamless baggage handling at every hotel
- Hotel & restaurant tips included
- Hotel Wi-Fi (where available)
- Airport transfers at start & end of tour



# Rooms & Pricing

## Double Occupancy: \$9285.00 per person

**\*Rates are per person, based on double occupancy.** Single Occupancy, third & fourth person rates are available upon request and are based on availability at the time of booking. Government taxes and fees are included in pricing and are subject to change until departure. Round-trip airfare will be determined at a future date for an additional cost. An additional air deposit will be due upon confirming flights. Transfers will be determined after final payment has been collected.

**PAYMENT: A non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 per person** is due at time of booking to hold your reservation. Final payment is due to AAA Travel no later than **November 19, 2024**. Payments are accepted in the form of cash, check (made payable to AAA Reading-Berks), or most major credit cards.

**PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP:** A valid passport book with a minimum of six months of validity beyond completion of travel is required. All passenger names on reservation must match the passport names. Any passengers without proper identification and documentation will be denied boarding without refund. Contact your travel consultant if you have any questions on documentation. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please notify us immediately.

**CANCELLATION PENALTIES:** Cancellation penalties up to 100% of trip cost may apply based on supplier cancellation policies.

*Please reference [cdc.gov/travel](https://www.cdc.gov/travel) for the most up to date information.*

**AAA STRONGLY RECOMMENDS TRAVEL INSURANCE**



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# The Southern Drift

## Day-by-day Itinerary

### DAY 1 – MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025: Welcome to Christchurch

Your New Zealand luxury tour begins with a transfer to your boutique hotel located in the heart of Christchurch and just minutes from North Hagley Park and the Botanic Gardens. Pay a visit to the blooms at the Botanic Gardens or ride the Christchurch Tram before meeting your Travel Concierge where you'll raise a glass to a grand journey.

HOTEL: Hotel Montreal, Christchurch

### DAY 2 – TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025: Christchurch to Franz Josef

Embark on one of the world's greatest scenic railway journeys aboard the TranzAlpine train to the small village of Arthur's Pass. In Franz Josef, your eco-friendly retreat nestled in the wilderness welcomes.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

HOTEL: Te Waonui Forest Retreat, Franz Josef

### DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025: The Mighty Franz Josef Glacier

Immerse yourself in the grand natural surroundings traversing the brilliant blue ice and deep crevasses of Franz Josef Glacier on a valley walk with a Local Expert.

Included Dining: Breakfast

HOTEL: Te Waonui Forest Retreat, Franz Josef

### DAY 4 – THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025: Romantic Arrowtown and on to Queenstown

Cruise down the Haast River in a jet boat basking in the beauty of the Te Wāhipounamu World Heritage Area. Visit the historic gold-mining village of Arrowtown before arriving at your hotel in Queenstown, offering expansive views across Lake Wakatipu and The Remarkables.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

HOTEL: Hotel St. Moritz, Queenstown

### DAY 5 – FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025: Explore Queenstown

Take a scenic bike ride on the Arrow River Trail or sample the Central Otago region's best Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc on a boutique wine tour.

Included Dining: Breakfast

HOTEL: Hotel St. Moritz, Queenstown

## DAY 6—SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025: Queenstown at Leisure

Queenstown's adventure culture is yours to experience. Take a Locally Available Experience jet boat ride down the mighty Shotover River, or whitewater raft down the Kawarau River. In the evening, dine at one of Queenstown's exclusive restaurants.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

HOTEL: Hotel St. Moritz, Queenstown

## DAY 7 – SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025: Queenstown to Milford Sound

Journey to Milford Sound through Fiordland National Park. View Mirror Lakes, the hand-hewn Homer Tunnel and Cleddau Valley en route to the dramatic Chasm.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

HOTEL: Milford Sound Lodge

## DAY 8 – MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025: Milford Track Walk and Milford Sound Cruise

Take a guided walk on Milford Track through pristine lakes, sky-scraping mountain peaks, glaciers and deep valleys. Bask in the spectacular scenery of Milford Sound aboard a catamaran before dining at Pio Pio Restaurant.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

HOTEL: Milford Sound Lodge

## DAY 9 – TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025: Milford Sound to Dunedin

Take a scenic journey from Fiordland National Park through rolling green pastures before arriving in Dunedin. Your heritage hotel welcomes you with a cosy atmosphere in the city center. Dine on favourites such as surf and turf, braised lamb, catch of the day, or other modern twists on traditional local dishes at Parcels Restaurant.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

HOTEL: Distinction Dunedin Hotel

## DAY 10 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025: Brewery Tour and Dunedin at Leisure

Explore the flavours of Dunedin on a guided tour and tasting of craft beers at Emerson's Brewery. View Dunedin's sites or venture to the dramatic coastline.

Included Dining: Breakfast

HOTEL: Distinction Dunedin Hotel

## DAY 11 – THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025: Dunedin to Christchurch

Travel up the coast through the towns of Oamaru and Timaru to Christchurch to uncover the city's highlights on a fascinating sight-seeing tour. Sample the best of the city over dinner at Polo Bar and Restaurant.

Included Dining: Breakfast, Dinner

HOTEL: Hotel Montreal, Christchurch

## DAY 12 – FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025: Farewell from Christchurch

Bid farewell to your fellow travellers after breakfast, as your journey comes to an end with a transfer to Christchurch International Airport for your onward flight.

Included Dining: Breakfast