

MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL PTY. LTD.

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New Zealand Escapade

16 Day Conducted Tour

for **\$7,595** per person twin share
This price includes airport taxes & levies

This price is good value as all of the following are included:

- Economy Class air fares with Air New Zealand from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane into Auckland and out of Christchurch, and a domestic flight within New Zealand from Rotorua to Christchurch.
- A wonderful 16 day tour of New Zealand, touring both the North & South Islands, visiting the Bay of Islands, Rotorua, Queenstown, Dunedin and much more.
- A Transalpine rail journey, renowned as one of the great train rides of the world.
- Visits to the Rotorua thermal wonderland, including a hangi dinner and concert.
- Three cruises, including Bay of Islands, Lake Wakatipu and Milford Sound.
- Visits to Larnach Castle in Dunedin, rated as a Garden of International Significance.
- Very good accommodation, mainly 4 star.
- Prepaid gratuities to the driver/guides.
- Many meals, all transport, transfers and entrance fees.
- Services of a local driver/guide and if there are 15 or more tour participants there will be an Australian tour escort.



This is an exclusive tour group for Macleay Valley Travel passengers, with numbers limited to a maximum of approximately 28 passengers.

If you don't have anyone to share with but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another person, but this is not guaranteed. For a single room there is an extra cost of \$2,125.

**Tour departs Australia 29th October
and returns 13th November 2024**

We try harder to find you the best travel deal

Itinerary for New Zealand Escapade

Included meals are indicated as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

29.10.24 Australia – Auckland, New Zealand

(D) Depart Brisbane at 11.10am on NZ 146, arriving in Auckland at 5.15pm.
Depart Sydney at 11.45am on NZ 104, arriving in Auckland at 4.45pm.
Depart Melbourne at 12.05pm on NZ 124, arriving in Auckland at 5.35pm.
We are transferred to our hotel for an overnight stay.
This evening we have an included welcome dinner.
Accommodation: Airedale Boutique Suites or similar

30.10.24 Auckland – Bay of Islands

(B/D) We depart Auckland and travel to the Parry Kauri Park to see a magnificent example of a Kauri tree. Enjoy a guided visit of the Kauri Museum in Matakōhe, which records the timber milling and gum digging pioneering days of the Northland region. Then travel via Whangarei to Paihia, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands. Enjoy a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Maori tribes and the British.
This evening we have an included dinner.
Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Bay of Islands, Paihia or similar

31.10.24 Bay of Islands – Auckland

(B) This morning we cruise through the beautiful Bay of Islands aboard a luxury catamaran to Cape Brett, where a historic lighthouse keeps watch over Piercy Island, or as it is popularly known, the ‘Hole in the Rock’. Keep an eye out for dolphins and other marine life. Return to Paihia and travel south via Whangarei to Auckland. This evening is free to explore the many eateries nearby the hotel.
Accommodation: Airedale Boutique Suites or similar

01.11.24 Auckland – Rotorua

(B/L/D) This morning we enjoy a city sightseeing tour including a visit to Sky Tower, one of New Zealand’s most spectacular attractions. We continue through the picturesque countryside to Hobbiton and have an included lunch. Following this we enjoy a guided tour of the movie set from The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. We will learn how this beautiful piece of farmland was transformed into ‘The Shire from Middle Earth’. Afterwards we continue south to the thermal city of Rotorua. We have a late afternoon visit to the Polynesian Hot Pools before having an included dinner in the hotel restaurant.
Accommodation: Distinction Hotel Rotorua or similar

02.11.24 Rotorua

(B/D) Our day begins with a gondola ride and breakfast at Skyline Rotorua. For those who wish, there is also time for a thrilling luge ride (not included). Our next stop is the Agrodome to learn about how sheep and wool are one of New Zealand’s premier exports, with a shearing demonstration. We have some free time this afternoon before travelling to Te Puia to see the boiling mud pools and awesome geysers that Rotorua is famous for.

This evening experience an entertaining Maori Hangi and Concert.
Accommodation: Distinction Hotel Rotorua or similar

03.11.24 Rotorua – Christchurch

(B) We say goodbye to the North Island and transfer to the airport for our flight to the South Island.

Depart Rotorua at 11.30am on Air New Zealand flight NZ 5785, arriving in Christchurch at 1.25pm. Upon arrival we commence an afternoon city tour of Christchurch. If time permits we will visit the Christchurch Botanical Gardens.
Accommodation: Rydges Latimer Christchurch or similar

04.11.24 Christchurch – Arthur’s Pass – Franz Josef

(B/D) This morning we board the TranzAlpine, renowned as one of the great train journeys of the world. We travel over massive viaducts, river valleys and spectacular gorges while ascending to Arthur’s Pass, located in the centre of the Southern Alps. Then we travel by coach to Hokitika, famous for its greenstone. We continue south through forests and farmland, with views of the alps to the east and the Tasman Sea to the west, to the village of Franz Josef. The huge rivers of snow and ice of the Franz Josef and Fox Glaciers flow from vast snowfields high in the Southern Alps, almost down to sea level, which is unusual in a temperate climate.

Dinner this evening is included.

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Franz Josef or similar

05.11.24 Franz Josef – Queenstown

(B) Today we travel south along the West Coast, before turning inland and following the mighty Haast River towards the Haast Pass in the heart of the Southern Alps. Once over the pass, the scenery changes dramatically as the road descends past the waters of Lake Wanaka and Lake Hawea, into Central Otago. We continue past stone fruit orchards and through the rock hewn Kawarau Gorge to picturesque Queenstown, situated on the shores of magical Lake Wakatipu.

This evening is at leisure to relax or explore the area.

Accommodation: Copthorne Hotel & Resort Lakefront or similar

06.11.24 Queenstown

(B/D) Today is at leisure to explore Queenstown. The area offers a host of tourist attractions, such as helicopter flights, jet-boat rides, treks, wine tours, lake cruises and more. This evening we will board the vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station. Sit back, relax and enjoy an included dinner at the Colonel’s Homestead. After dinner enjoy a short farm tour then reboard the TSS Earnslaw for a sing along by the piano as we cruise back to Queenstown.

Accommodation: Copthorne Hotel & Resort Lakefront or similar

07.11.24 Queenstown – Arrowtown - Te Anau

(B/D) Enjoy a leisurely start this morning before travelling to Arrowtown, an old gold mining village. In Arrowtown we will visit the Lakes District Museum and then continue to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland.

This evening we have an included dinner.

Accommodation: Distinction Luxmore Hotel or similar

- 08.11.24 Te Anau – Milford Sound – Te Anau**
(B/L/D) Today we have a full day excursion travelling via Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound. The national park is one of the great wilderness areas of the Southern Hemisphere. The scenery is spectacular, with lofty mountains and deep valleys carved out by Ice Age glaciers. We have an included cruise down Milford Sound, past towering Mitre Peak to the Tasman Sea. A picnic lunch is included. After the cruise we reboard the coach and return to Te Anau.
This evening we have an included dinner.
Accommodation: Distinction Luxmore Hotel or similar
- 09.11.24 Te Anau – Dunedin**
(B/D) We travel via Gore and Balclutha to Dunedin, known as the ‘Edinburgh of the South’ and enjoy a sightseeing tour of the city. Dunedin is set on hills at the head of a lovely harbour and is renowned for its educational facilities, including the Otago University, which is New Zealand’s first university. Following this we continue along the Otago Peninsula to Larnach Castle and hear of the tragic and scandalous history on a guided tour. We have some time to wander around this Garden of International Significance, followed by a delicious Devonshire Tea before returning to Dunedin. Dinner this evening is included.
Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Dunedin City or similar
- 10.11.24 Dunedin – Twizel**
(B/D) We farewell Dunedin and travel north to the coastal town of Oamaru, which is famous for its limestone. Then we follow the Waitaki River and pass the major hydro dams of Aviemore and Benmore, which are both major sources of power for New Zealand. We continue north along the shores of Lake Pukaki into the Southern Alps and Mt Cook National Park. Then onto Twizel for an overnight stay.
Dinner this evening is included.
Accommodation: MacKenzie Country Inn or similar
- 11.11.24 Twizel – Christchurch**
(B) This morning we depart Twizel for Christchurch. Enroute we see the brilliant turquoise water of Lake Tekapo, the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Sheep Dog Statue. We travel across the Canterbury Plains to return to Christchurch. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.
Accommodation: Rydges Latimer Christchurch or similar
- 12.11.24 Christchurch**
(B/D) Today is at leisure to relax or enjoy the ‘Garden City’, which has also been described as the most English city outside of England. You may wish to stroll through the Botanical Gardens and also the banks of the meandering Avon River or perhaps take the tram around the city. This evening we enjoy an included farewell dinner.
Accommodation: Rydges Latimer Christchurch or similar
- 13.11.24 Christchurch – Australia**
We have an early morning transfer to Christchurch Airport for our flights home. Melbourne passengers depart Christchurch at 6.05am on NZ 213, arriving in

Melbourne at 7.55am.

Brisbane passengers depart Christchurch at 6.15am on NZ 201, arriving in Brisbane at 7.10am.

Sydney passengers depart Christchurch at 6.15am on NZ 221, arriving in Sydney at 7.50am.

Tour Difficulty Ratings & Advice

To ensure that you select the right tour for you, Macleay Valley Travel has provided a set of tour difficulty and fitness recommendations for our tours. The ratings, from 1, being the easiest, to 5 the most strenuous, will give you a good idea of what is reasonably required for you to be able to participate on each tour. Most tours require a moderate to good level of fitness, however there are others that are quite challenging. For your enjoyment of the tour, and also the enjoyment of your fellow travellers, please consider whether or not the suggested difficulty level for the tour you are interested in is compatible with your health and fitness.

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Tour Difficulty Level 3

This tour rating typically involves a good level of physical activity, such as ascending stairs, getting into a bathtub shower, being responsible for your own luggage at airports and some hotels, walking distances of 500-1000 metres at a time over possible uneven ground and/or cobblestone streets. Boarding boats and trains. Walking tours of considerable distances should be expected on tours with this rating as well as some early departures.



Conditions for Macleay Valley Travel's New Zealand Tour

Deposits and Payments: A non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person is payable within 7 days of booking. This deposit is not refundable should you later cancel. The balance is payable 8 weeks prior to departure. Macleay Valley Travel has to adhere to strict payment deadlines and your booking may be cancelled if final payment is not received by the due date, with no refund.

Refunds and Cancellations: Cancellations after final payment will result in a refund limited to whatever we can recoup from the airline. In most instances, any additional amount paid to Macleay Valley Travel for airfare upgrades, extra accommodation or tour extensions will not be refundable. Any potential refund for a cancelled booking will not be paid until the airline or suppliers provide the refund to Macleay Valley Travel.

Airline Tickets: Changes made to airline tickets once they have been issued will incur high cancellation and/or reissue fees.

Insurance: Adequate travel insurance is essential. Please contact your preferred travel insurance provider.

Passports - All travellers require a current passport with at least 6 months left on it at the end of the tour. Non-Australian passport holders require a re-entry visa for Australia. Visas are not required for New Zealand if travelling on an Australian passport.

Basic Tour Price and Taxes: Air taxes and fuel levies are included in the basic tour price if the tour is paid in full on or before the due date on the final invoice. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to charge for any increase in air taxes and fuel levies if the tour is not paid in full by the due date.

Not Included in the Cost: All items of a personal nature such as telephone calls, drinks, excess baggage, tips, meals, (except those specified in the itinerary), etc. Also travel insurance and optional tours. Similarly, credit card payments (Visa / MasterCard) can only be accepted if 1.2% is added to the price to help defray the heavy merchant fees charged to us by the credit card companies. There is a 2% surcharge for American Express.

Accreditation: Macleay Valley Travel is a fully accredited travel agency under the AFTA (Australian Federation of Travel Agents) ATAS - AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme. As such, you are assured of a consumer focused and quality assured business, ensuring professional conduct and ethical business practices.

Disclosure of fees or commissions received from third parties: Macleay Valley Travel Pty Ltd may receive fees, commissions, gifts or financial incentives from third parties under this contract.

Twin Share Bookings: If you do not have a travel partner, but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another person but this is not guaranteed. We assign passengers by their gender, on a first come, first served basis and do not assign twin share passengers according to their age, profession, interests. There are risks with sharing a room with a person you do not know and Macleay Valley Travel accepts no responsibility if you are incompatible with your assigned room mate. Additionally, if you are assigned a travelling companion to share with and they cancel off the tour prior to making the final payment, then you will either be required to pay the single room supplement or we will try our best to assign you with a twin share passenger, if one is available.

Health and Fitness: Macleay Valley Travel recommends that the passenger is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate on this tour. Persons with a disability requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion. Macleay Valley Travel and their representatives cannot provide this service. The Health & Fitness Questionnaire located on the last page of this itinerary needs to be completed in full by each passenger and accompany your booking form. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to accept/decline or terminate a passenger's participation in the tour under certain circumstances. It is strongly recommended that you are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

Health & Safety Information including Covid19: Any touring that is missed due to a positive Covid-19 diagnosis is non-refundable. Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended, as any costs incurred will be at the passengers own expense.

Limitation of Liability concerning Covid-19: It is possible that there may be outbreak(s) of Covid-19 during this tour. Whilst we take necessary safety precautions, Macleay Valley Travel cannot be held responsible for any quarantines and any associated costs brought about by quarantines, local shutdowns and/or border closures. You are aware that Covid-19 is a highly contagious and potentially dangerous disease that may result in personal illness and even death. You acknowledge that you are voluntarily participating in the tour with knowledge of the inherent risks of Covid-19, and you agree to assume all risks.

Limitation of Liability: As Macleay Valley Travel acts only as agent for the airlines, hotels, coach companies etc., providing accommodation, transportation and other services, Macleay Valley Travel shall not be liable or responsible for death or injury to any person or loss or damage to any property including baggage arising out of or connection with any transportation, accommodation or other services, or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of Government or other authorities, de jure or defacto wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics, pandemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, delays or cancellations caused by changes in schedules or itinerary, or over bookings or defaults or for any causes beyond Macleay Valley Travel's control or any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents and neither Macleay Valley Travel, and its servants or employees shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. Additionally you must meet the entry requirements for each country you visit. Macleay Valley Travel will not be liable if you are denied entry to a country for any reason, including a past criminal history. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to decline bookings made for any group tour. Any tour booking confirmation is conditional, contingent on our view of the ability of a person to be able to participate in a tour without the likelihood of conflict between members of a tour whether perceived or actual. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to modify the itinerary or the accommodation if circumstances make this necessary, provided that the amended itinerary is of equal value or greater value than that of the original program.

MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL - BOOKING FORM

PLEASE PRINT DETAILS CLEARLY IN BLOCK LETTERS AND ALSO

A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE SENT WITH BOOKING FORM

Name of Tour : _____ Departure Date: _____

Passenger 1 (as written in passport) _____

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Passenger 2 (as written in passport) _____

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ **PostCode** _____ **Email** _____

Telephone / Fax Number: _____ **Mobile** _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Passport Nationality: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Passport Nationality _____ Preferred Name: _____

(Passport must have 6 months validity from the time of tour completion)

Single room / Twin beds / Double bed: (Room type is subject to availability)

Circle which airport you wish to depart from: SYDNEY / MELBOURNE / BRISBANE

Special Dietary Needs – Passenger 1: _____ Passenger 2: _____

Optional Extensions: _____

Any existing medical conditions – Passenger 1: _____ Passenger 2: _____

In case of emergency, please notify:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return this sheet with your non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person and the health & fitness form.

DECLARATION. I have read and understand fully the booking conditions and I accept them.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

A copy of passport is required to verify spelling of name; If this is not provided and the information we have for the airline is incorrect and ticket is issued, then the airline will charge a reissue fee.

HEALTH & FITNESS QUESTIONNAIRE

Macleay Valley Travel strives to make our tours enjoyable experiences for all passengers, however some countries and tour services lack the standards that you can typically expect in Australia.

To help ensure your personal safety and enjoyment on tour, please answer the following questions. The information you provide will be treated confidentially and will be used to check that the transportation, accommodation and facilities on tour are suitable for you:

1. Do you have any allergies? Yes / No

If yes, please provide details and severity: _____

2. Can you walk 500 metres to 1km in distance comfortably and unaided?

Yes / No

3. Can you negotiate uneven, undulating and sometimes challenging terrain?

Yes / No

If no, please provide details about these

limitations: _____

4. Do you use a mobility aid? Yes / No

If yes, please provide

details: _____

5. Are you travelling with a companion or carer who is able to provide all the assistance you need to enter buildings, disembark and embark ships, aircraft, coaches, small boats and assist you on excursions? Yes / No

If yes, please provide the name of your carer/companion and your

relationship to them: _____

6. Are you taking any medical equipment to assist you? Yes / No

If yes, please provide

details: _____

7. Do you suffer from any condition which may cause you to experience memory loss or become disoriented? Yes / No

If yes, please provide details: _____

8. Are you asthmatic or do you have other breathing difficulties? Yes / No

If yes, please provide details (travelling to high altitudes is not

recommended): _____

9. Do you require supplementary oxygen? Yes / No

10. Are you currently taking medication? Yes / No

If yes, are you able to administer your own medication? Yes / No

11. If you have any other medical information that is not covered in the previous questions, please provide a description

here: _____

The information you supply us will be passed onto relevant travel suppliers who will do their best accommodate you. However, it is very important to remember that meeting your needs cannot be guaranteed, especially when travelling to third world countries.

DISCLAIMER

I confirm that the information provided on this questionnaire is both true and correct and I understand that there is no guarantee that all these needs will or can be met. I agree that Macleay Valley Travel may offer a recommendation with regard to fitness to travel, based on the information I have provided. I also understand that this information may be passed onto those responsible for supplying the land arrangements for my travel, and that my information will not be communicated to any party which is not directly responsible or otherwise associated with my travel arrangements. I further confirm and agree that should I choose not to disclose information which subsequently requires me to return or be returned home from a tour or cruise, Macleay Valley Travel is not responsible for any costs associated with cancellation penalties, airfares, land transportation or any other related hardship. Please note that a refund for lost touring cannot be claimed. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to update the information I provided to Macleay Valley Travel immediately should my circumstances change.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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If yes, please provide the name of your carer/companion and your

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Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____