

American Celebration of Music in New Zealand

Standard Tour #2 (8 nights/11 days)

Day 1

Depart via scheduled air service to Christchurch, New Zealand

Day 2

In Transit

In transit

Day 3

Christchurch

(D)

Arrive in Christchurch

Meet your MCI Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for an orientation tour to get to know the city, which has undergone a major reconstruction following the devastating earthquake in February of 2011

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and entertainment. We enjoy a step into the past and partake in a traditional Maori 'Hangi' (feast) and concert; this includes traditional song and dance followed by a 'Haka' (war dance)

Return to the hotel for overnight

Christchurch is undergoing a transformation of its city area following an earthquake in February 2011. Here you will find a mixture of scenes which reflect the challenges of the locals in recent times with a broken city to the present day. Progress has been made both materially and spiritually in Christchurch to a point where the vibrancy, color and character are returning to this place, affectionately known as "The Garden City"

Day 4

Christchurch

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning masterclass

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in New Zealand

Evening dinner and overnight

Day 5

Christchurch / Timaru

(B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning visit to the Christchurch Antarctic Centre

Transfer to Timaru

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in New Zealand

Evening dinner and overnight

Timaru is located in the central South Island and plays a vital role in shipping with the Port of Timaru being one of the largest man-made harbours in the world. Timaru is a very popular city for skiers and snow-boarders as it is only two hours drive from 5 ski-fields



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Concert Tours With Integrity

Day 6**Timaru / Mount Cook / Queenstown (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
 Transfer further south into the high mountain country to Lake Tekapo
 Visit the Church of the Good Shepherd with its wonderful stained glass windows framing the majesty of the mountains
 Lunch on own
 Pass Lake Pukaki and on to view Mount Cook
 Then it is off to Queenstown, one of the most picturesque settings in the world
 Evening dinner and overnight

Looking like a small town, but displaying the energy of a small city, Queenstown offers a mountain of outdoor activities. The town sits on the shore of crystal clear Lake Wakatipu among dramatic ranges. Enjoy the town's atmospheric restaurants and laid-back cafes

**Day 7****Queenstown (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
 Day at leisure for optional activities in the "Adventure Capital of the World" (at an additional cost). You can opt for a thrilling jet boat ride down a canyon, or have your breath taken away by the views from the Skyline Gondola. For those with a daredevil approach to life there's the world's first Bungy jump site, or many more adrenalin pumping activities. Maybe a lazy day fishing for Trout or Salmon or just relax in a café between shopping sprees. Head out across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak Station aboard the "TSS Earnslaw" for morning or afternoon tea on a working sheep station. Named after Mount Earnslaw at the head of Lake Wakatipu, the TSS Earnslaw is thought to be the last coal-fired steamship still operating in the southern hemisphere
 Lunch on own
 This evening we proceed up the Skyline Gondola to enjoy Luge rides
 Evening dinner overlooking the world famous views of Queenstown with its surrounding mountains and Lake Wakatipu

**Day 8****Queenstown / Arrowtown (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
 Excursion to Arrowtown. Arrowtown is a quaint town rich in gold mining heritage, nestled on the banks of the Arrow River. This river was once one of the richest gold mining rivers in the World. Original buildings of the gold mining era still stand and are a window into the region's early history
 Lunch on own
Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in New Zealand
 Return to Queenstown for dinner and overnight

**Day 9****Queenstown / Dunedin (B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel
 Transfer to Dunedin
 Lunch on own
 On arrival in Dunedin we take the opportunity to stretch our legs by visiting the steepest Street in the World, Baldwin Street. For those fit enough you may like to try and run up it or just enjoy the leisurely walk to the summit
 Evening dinner and overnight



Dunedin is the "Edinburgh of the South". It is a city that captivates and enchants, a city in which to linger and explore

Day 10 **Dunedin** **(B,D)**

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning is spent at the famous 'Joyville' Cadbury Chocolate Factory
Also visit the Penguin Palace where we learn how much effort and time is dedicated to helping the endangered Yellow Eyed Penguin survive

Lunch on own

Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in New Zealand

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 11 **Depart for home** **(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Christchurch's airport for return flight

En route, we stop at Moeraki where we enjoy a walk on the beach to view the enigmatic Moeraki Boulders. Debate continues as to how these formations came to be. Their symmetry amazes even the most accomplished geologist

This is a very flexible itinerary. *Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.*

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