

GUIDED RAIL TOURS

GREAT JOURNEYS NEW ZEALAND



SAVE 20% OFF ALL TOURS

*Twin Share only, excludes solo supplement. Valid on bookings made 01 - 30 June 2025.



Guided Rail Packages

Transverse through the heart of New Zealand on a selection of Guided Rail Tours. Visiting world-famous destinations and idyllic locations on a voyage of discovery, you will weave through New Zealand's dramatic landscapes with like minded travellers as part of an escorted tour group.

Your Tour Director will lead you beyond the well-beaten paths and highways, you will be immersed in authentic New Zealand culture and experiences.

Guided Tours include all of the touring essentials, and with Great Journeys New Zealand you have the choice of a Classic style or a more premium Signature style.

Overview	Classic Tours	Signature Tours
Scenic Plus	Optional Upgrade	✓
Interislander Ferry	✓ Seated in the Pelorus Jack Lounge for meals	✓ Seated in Premium Lounge for full duration of sailing
Accommodation	3.5-4 star	4-5 star
Group Size	Up to 35 travellers	Up to 20 Travellers
Traveller considerations & mindsets	I want plenty of free time to explore each destination on my own	I'm OK with a little free time but would prefer more of my time spent on guided activities





17 Day Signature NZ Up Close

From
\$12,040*
per person | double/twin share
SAVE UP TO \$3,009*pp

Discover off the beaten track locations and bustling urban centres by three world-famous scenic rail experiences. Be led by a local as you experience thrilling activities on this scenic adventure of a lifetime.

Inclusions

- 16 Nights Accommodation (4-5 star)
- 16 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches & 7 Dinners
- Private Transport with Experienced Tour Director
- Group with max. 20 guests
- Northern Explorer Scenic Plus Dining Experience
- Interislander Ferry Crossing in Premium Lounge
- Coastal Pacific Scenic Plus Dining Experience
- TranzAlpine Scenic Plus Dining Experience
- Hamilton Gardens Guided Tour & Picnic
- Raglan Dinner Cruise
- Sanctuary Mountain Wildlife Experience
- Glowworm Caves Tour in Hamilton
- Marlborough Wine Tour Experience
- Wildlife Experience ex Kaikōura
- Christchurch Historic Tramway Hop-on Hop-off Service
- Punakaiki Pancake Rocks & Blowholes Walk
- West Coast Tree Top Walk & Haast River Safari
- Milford Sound Day Tour & Cruise
- Cruise Lake Wakatipu on TSS Earnslaw Steamship

Travel Seasons & Pricing

Departs Select Wednesdays

03 September 2025 – 15 April 2026

WAS From \$15,049*pp **NOW \$12,040*pp**



* Terms & conditions apply. Contact us for more details.





Your Itinerary

Day 1: Explore Auckland

Welcome to Auckland, New Zealand's City of Sails! Auckland is known for its multicultural hub of food, music, arts, and culture.

Your tour officially begins this evening, as you join your fellow travellers and Tour Director this evening for a welcome reception.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Dinner with Welcome Drink

Activities: Welcome Dinner

Day 2: Auckland to Hamilton

Your journey awaits as you join the Northern Explorer scenic train. Marvel at rural lush landscapes from the comfort of your scenic carriage. See the famous Hamilton Gardens for a picnic lunch before visiting Raglan for a stunning sunset dinner cruise.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Activities: Northern Explorer Scenic Plus Train, Hamilton Gardens Tour & Raglan Dinner Cruise

Day 3: Explore Hamilton

This morning you will depart for your next exciting excursion – Maungatautari Sanctuary Mountain. Your expedition continues after a lunch stop in New Zealand's "Kiwiana Capital", Otorohanga. Tonight, explore Hamilton's riverside walks and shops on this free evening. Enjoy one of the many nearby restaurants as the sun sets over the Waikato River.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Sanctuary Mountain Walk & Waitomo Glowworm Caves

Day 4: Hamilton to Tongariro National Park

Join the Northern Explorer train once again, today you'll soar over icy mountain streams as you travel to Tongariro National Park, the home of three volcanic mountains. Enjoy a mini excursion up to Türoa ski field. Here you'll want to capture a panoramic photo of Middle Earth before descending into Ohakune.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Activities: Northern Explorer Scenic Plus Train & Afternoon excursion to view northern volcanic landscapes

Day 5: Tongariro National Park

Today is free for you to discover one of the region's many exciting excursions. Choose from the optional activities on offer and personalise your perfect holiday. Perhaps you will hop aboard a rail cart journey or join a horse trekking experience that takes you along hills, mountains & rivers

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Optional Tours

Day 6: Tongariro National Park to Wellington

Your day begins with an elevated experience up the northern face of Mt Ruapehu for panoramic views of the volcanic landscape. Joining the Northern Explorer train once again, waving goodbye to Tongariro National Park, as you settle into your uber-comfortable seat. As you glide through rich green farmland and past dramatic coastlines, enjoy the picturesque Porirua Harbour as you arrive into Wellington.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Northern Explorer Scenic Plus Train & Morning excursion to view southern volcanic landscapes.

Day 7: Explore Wellington

Today is free for you to experience vibrant Wellington as you please. Start by joining our Wellington City introduction tour and then head off to explore Cuba Street's cafés, bookstores, and eccentric shops. Enjoy dinnertonight with your fellow travellers.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Activities: City Tour & Group Dinner

Day 8: Wellington to Picton

This morning you will sail to the South Island, crossing the Cook Strait on the Interislander Ferry. Settle down in the comfy seats in the Premium Lounge. Treat yourself to a mimosa and a hearty seafaring breakfast before arriving into Picton where you will be collected and experience a Marlborough Wine Tour.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Interislander Ferry with Premium Lounge & Marlborough Wine Tour

Day 9: Picton to Kaikōura

Today you will be travelling into Kaikōura. Relax as the train glides across remote beaches, between mountains and sea, on a timeless journey of breath-taking beauty. Keep an eye out for the fur seals lazing on the rocks! Once in Kaikōura, the evening will be yours to enjoy some iconic kai moana (seafood) at one of the quaint restaurants before enjoying your luxurious ocean-front hotel.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Coastal Pacific Scenic Plus Train



Your Itinerary

Day 10: Kaikōura to Christchurch

Today will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience of whale watching! Enjoy today's thrill of an up-close encounter with wildlife. Gather again for the next leg of your journey. Late afternoon, board the Coastal Pacific for the Scenic Plus experience, treating yourself to unparalleled vistas as you glide along the coastline.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Coastal Pacific Scenic Train & Whale Watching

Day 11: Explore Christchurch

Today you are free to explore the museums, Riverside Markets, Punting on the Avon, Gondola and botanical gardens. This evening, you will re-join your fellow travellers for a special dinner on Christchurch's historic dinner tram. Enjoy a wonderful circuit of the city while indulging in seasonal cuisine.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Activities: Hop on Hop off Tram & Christchurch Tramway Dinner.

Day 12: Christchurch to Hokitika

The moment has come to experience the world-famous TranzAlpine journey through the Southern Alps, emerging in the West Coast! Once you arrive on the West Coast, a private coach will take you even further off the beaten track to Punakaiki Pancake Rocks before finishing your day in Hokitika.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch on Train

Activities: TranzAlpine Scenic Plus Train & Punakaiki Pancake Rock Excursion

Day 13: Hokitika to Franz Josef

This morning, you'll start your West Coast adventure by visiting the elevated West Coast Tree Top Walk before continuing your journey south to Franz Josef. Join your group for an impeccable highlight meal at Te Waonui Forest Retreat.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Activities: West Coast Tree Top Walk, Short Nature Walk & Degustation Dinner at Te Waonui Forest Retreat

Day 14: Franz Josef to Queenstown

Today you will explore the Haast Pass. While aboard an exciting river boat and private coach, marvel at the beaches, crystal blue lakes and river and mountain peaks. Emerging on the other side of the pass, explore the local fruit hotspot – Mrs. Jones' Fruit Stall before exploring the cobblestone streets of Arrowtown.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Haast River Safari, Mrs Jones Fruit Stall & Arrowtown visit

Day 15: Queenstown (Milford Sound)

Make sure you charge your camera before you set off on today's adventure. Today you're heading to Milford Sound to be engulfed in towering peaks and waltz through plunging valleys. Aboard the cruise, you will meander down the sound to experience the rumble of Bowen and Stirling Falls as they plummet from glacial hanging valleys.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Activities: Milford Sound Day Excursion

Day 16: Explore Queenstown

Queenstown truly has something for everyone. Personalise your day to be as active or relaxed as you'd like. Whether it's exploring Walter Peak on a horse trekking adventure, hopping on the gondola for inspiring views, or sipping wine in Gibbston Valley, there is no shortage of activities to delight your senses. Enjoy a 'final hurrah' this evening as you board the TSS Earnslaw Steamship Cruise, dinner, and show.

Accommodation: 4 – 4.5 Star Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Activities: Farewell Dinner at Walter Peak & TSS Earnslaw Cruise & Farm Show

Day 17: Depart Queenstown

Your journey will end after enjoying a final breakfast with your fellow travellers. A departure airport transfer to Queenstown Airport is included.

Meals: Breakfast

Activities: Airport Transfer

*** Terms & conditions:** Pricing featured is based on per person twin share and priced in Australian Dollars. Pricing is correct at the time of submission and is inclusive of 20% saving, but is subject to change without notice. Valid for travel on select departure dates from Sep 2025 to Apr 2026. A non-refundable deposit of 20% is required at time of booking. Final balance is due 60 days prior to departure date. Single supplement is not included in above offer. All guided tours are subject to operational capabilities and itinerary changes due to train track maintenance and weather conditions. No flights or arrival airport transfers are included. This tour is operated by Great Journeys of New Zealand and their conditions and policies apply.