ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW
2018–2019

A step-by-step guide to your Inspiring Journey
Dear Traveller,

Take a moment to savour the wonder of travel with Inspiring Journeys. Be spellbound by ephemeral landscapes, from vivid turquoise waters braiding through the stone valleys below New Zealand’s Southern Alps to the striking form of Uluru rising against an infinite horizon in Australia’s Red Centre.

Immerse yourself in the delights of boutique travel; sample delicious meals that capture the essence of a destination, relax in distinctive and soulful accommodation, discover hidden gems and intimate experiences and allow us to share our unparalleled wealth of expertise to create a journey that is truly unforgettable.

Every destination holds endless opportunities to create lasting memories through enriching and inspiring experiences. At Inspiring Journeys, we have ensured that all trips showcase a wide variety of highlights that are authentic, engaging and off the beaten track.

Our Inspiring Experiences feature real locals who hold genuine connections to each destination as well as breathtakingly unique landscapes. Whether it’s staying in the heart of a pristine national park or having lunch with a family of dairy farmers, each journey will inspire stories to last a lifetime.

And to help you with your planning we’ve compiled this helpful booklet. We’re sure it will answer many of the questions you may have. We’ve included the essentials of all you’ll need to know before your holiday and some information on Australia and New Zealand along with useful explanations to ensure you get the most out of your holiday.

Sustaining and supporting the destinations we visit is of great importance to us at Inspiring Journeys. As such, we are dedicated to minimising the environmental impact of our operations in any way we can. By choosing an Inspiring Journey you will be opting for one of the most environmentally friendly ways to travel ensuring the environment and communities we explore remain vibrant for future generations.

We have forged strong relationships with indigenous communities throughout Australia and New Zealand who generously bring their history, culture and stories to life for our guests as they travel with us. We are proud to work with the Anangu people and we also have the pleasure of being able to experience a Maori village – the Tamaki family Marae.

At Inspiring Journeys we wish you many memorable holiday moments and of course there’s the pleasure of making new friends who you can share these experiences with.
Baggage Allowance

We are required by strict Government vehicle weight regulations to enforce and adhere to these limits. If your luggage exceeds this limit, we ask that you make alternative arrangements for the excess to be forwarded to the termination point of your holiday. Please note we suggest you have wheels on your suitcase, as there are certain places where assistance is not available (e.g. airports, railway stations and cruise terminals). All luggage and personal effects are at all times and in all circumstances at the risk of the participant. Luggage insurance is recommended.

Luggage Allowance

This is restricted to one medium size suitcase per person not exceeding 23kg (50lbs) in weight and 76x46x52 cm (28.5x19.5x20”) in dimension. Please note: these allowances are for coach travel only and may differ from your airline luggage allowances. Porterage is included on your Guided Holiday.

Hand Luggage Allowance

Hand luggage should be one piece per person and small and light enough to fit under your coach seat or in the small overhead compartment. If luggage does not fit comfortably in the overhead luggage racks, it will be stored in the coach luggage compartment whilst in transit.

Please note that luggage with adjustable handle and wheels will not fit in the overhead compartments and cannot be accepted as hand luggage.

Checklist: have you got your ... ?

☐ Passport (for guests travelling overseas)
☐ Travel insurance
☐ Credit cards
☐ Money
☐ Airline tickets
☐ Inspiring Journeys holiday documents
☐ Camera
☐ Visas (if applicable)

Note: Do not pack your passport or money in your suitcase
Before you go

Start by writing a packing list. What clothing to bring will depend on your personal preferences, the destinations you are visiting and the time of year you are travelling. You should also take into consideration the activities and outings you will be going on. We generally recommend casual, lightweight, drip-dry clothing, which requires little or no ironing. Laundry facilities are available at most of the places we stay, however, take sufficient clothing to last for about a week.

Most people dress casually throughout the day, however, for the occasional evening out, you might want to pack something a little more formal. Please be aware that the Outback can be quite dusty. If you are travelling in these areas, we recommend you avoid packing good white clothes and other colours which show up the dust easily. A small supply of plastic bags for protecting clothing, camera or other items from dusty areas in inland Australia could also be useful.

Below is a list of suggested items to consider when packing for your Inspiring Journey:

**Clothing**
- Underwear
- Swimsuit
- Good walking shoes & socks
- Sandals/thongs
- Sleepwear
- Waterproof jacket
- Shirts/blouses
- Jeans/trousers
- Shorts/skirts
- Pullover/cardigan
- Warm jacket
- Hat

**General Items to Bring**
- Toiletries
- Medications
- Portable umbrella
- Insect repellent
- Flynet (obtainable in Australia)
- Camera and charger
- Travel sewing kit
- Travel alarm clock
- Travel sachets of washing powder
- Plastic bags for soiled clothing
- Sunglasses
- Handkerchief/tissues
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle (with screw top lid)
- Beach towel
Before you go

Passport & Visas
Depending on your nationality, you may need to obtain visas for entry to Australia and New Zealand. Please check with your travel agent to make sure you have the necessary documents. Do not forget your passport and to make sure it is valid. It is compulsory to carry a passport for presentation at the port of entry and exit.

Travel Insurance & Security
It is essential that you are constantly security conscious. Your most important possessions such as your passport, money and camera should be safely guarded at all times. Loss of such items could disrupt your holiday so only bring your essential valuables along. It is imperative that you are adequately covered for Cancellation, Curtailment and Medical Insurance prior to your holiday departure, and we strongly advise insurance against loss of, or damage to, baggage and loss of personal money.

Health and Vaccinations
Again, please ensure you have adequate Travel Insurance before you leave home. If you suffer from any form of illness, be sure to have an adequate supply of medication before departing on your holiday and keep this in your hand luggage. You must advise us, through your travel agent, of any important medical conditions you may have before departure. In most cases, vaccinations are not required unless you have recently travelled through an infected area, in which case you should seek medical advice before travelling to Australia and New Zealand.
Credit Cards

Most credit cards such as American Express, Visa, MasterCard and Diners Club are accepted in Australia and New Zealand. Some optional excursions cannot be paid by credit card. Your Travel Director or Driver Guide can advise you. Always remember to guard your credit cards, even on holiday.

Also:

• Check the expiry date of your credit card and the amount of credit available to you (do not forget any credit card purchases made just before you leave).
• Ensure you know your Personal Identification Number (PIN). We recommend that you commit your PIN to memory and do not write it down.
• Ensure that your credit card is kept in view at all times when paying for goods and services.
• Ensure that the total amount of your purchase is entered on the sales voucher before you sign it.
• Retain all copies of sales vouchers until you have verified them against your statements.
• Insist that all ‘spoiled’ sales vouchers be destroyed in your presence.
• Only carry your credit card on you personally or in your hand luggage.
• Never leave your credit card unattended in your hotel room, vehicle or any other place.
• Treat your credit card as you would cash.
• Report immediately the loss or theft of your credit card.
• Notify your bank you are travelling to avoid your card being cancelled.

Flying Hints

Ensure you carry all your travel documentation in your hand luggage, which also includes camera, toiletries, reading material etc. For those travelling internationally, make sure you take advantage of duty free shopping, but check the current duty free limits that apply in the country of your destination. The longer flights can be made a little more enjoyable by wearing loose clothing, good comfortable shoes as well as walking the aisles regularly, eating sensibly and drinking plenty of fluids (not alcohol). Try to get some sleep and upon arrival, adjust immediately into local time by waiting until evening before sleeping – this should relieve the effects of jet lag.

Electricity (international visitors)

The electrical current in Australia and New Zealand is 220-240V AC 50Hz. Power plugs are flat and three-pronged so you may need to bring an adaptor if you are planning to bring any electrical items.
Travelling with us

Your Travel Director and Driver Guide

On your Inspiring Journey small group experience, you will be supported by a dedicated and passionate Travel Director, who will be on hand to help make your journey the best it can be. With in-depth knowledge of every destination, an abundance of personal experience and a genuine love for what they do, they can tailor your experiences to suit your tastes. Your Driver Guide is more than just a great driver. Inspiring Journeys’ Driver Guides are seasoned, experienced travellers, selected by us for their extensive knowledge. They are fully licensed, qualified and experienced professionals who are selected for their impeccable driving skills and record.

Accommodation

We pride ourselves in providing the best possible accommodation in the remote regions visited on Inspiring Journeys. Inspiring Journeys include a diverse range of accommodation styles. Please refer to the itinerary in your travel wallet for information regarding accommodation at each stop. Relax and unwind in comfort throughout your journey, with each trip featuring the best accommodation available at every destination. On many journeys, you will have the chance to stay somewhere truly remarkable, whether it’s an eco-lodge in the heart of a pristine national park or a boutique hotel in an idyllic country town, these places will charm you with their unique heritage and unparalleled service.

Laundry Facilities

Limited laundry facilities are available on your Small Group Holiday, therefore it is advisable to bring light, practical clothing that can be washed periodically, plus something warm to wear in the evenings. Laundry facilities normally consist of coin-operated washing machines and dryers.

Meals

On Inspiring Journeys much care is taken to provide healthy, hearty meals in remote locations. On all Inspiring Journeys in Australia, breakfast is included every day with some lunches and many dinners also included. Indulge the senses with gourmet food, authentic local produce and award-winning wines. We offer multiple gourmet dining experiences and opportunities to try traditional Indigenous meals. While many meals including buffet breakfasts and a farewell dinner are included for each Inspiring Journey, we also provide you with the freedom to dine where you like in selected destinations.

Touches of luxury

We’ve thought of everything to make your journey as comfortable as possible. Travel in style with fully air-conditioned luxury coaches or 4WD vehicles, and enjoy on-board complimentary drinks and snacks. Our coaches come with reclining seats, and footrests, panoramic windows, and an on-board restroom, as well as USB ports and free WiFi (coverage may vary in remote areas). We also provide free arrival and departure transfers between designated airports and our hotels.
General information

Budgeting
This is a difficult subject to give advice on because the amount varies from person to person and a lot depends on how much you spend on shopping, entertainment, drinks and optional experiences, but Inspiring Journeys are virtually all inclusive, so you will only need money for refreshments, any meals not included, activities on free days and evenings, and personal expenses such as souvenirs etc.

Optional Experiences
In addition to the sightseeing activities that are included in your holiday price, there is a wide range of other exciting activities on offer. To assist you with planning your budget, with your final documents you received a day-by-day itinerary including full details and costs of the optional experiences available. Some optional experiences can not be paid by cash. Your Travel Director or Driver Guide will advise you.

Note: Inspiring Journeys operates some of the optional excursions, but many are operated by third parties. Inspiring Journeys accepts no liability where optional experiences are operated by a third party. Please remember that all optional experiences are undertaken at your own risk.

Tipping
While it’s not compulsory in Australia or New Zealand, tipping is becoming an increasingly accepted practice in all areas of the service industry, but particularly in restaurants, bars and taxis. Please feel free to tip your Travel Director or Driver Guide if you would like to.

Photography
Australia and New Zealand offer many wonderful opportunities for photographers and photos are a great way to record your holiday. Be sure to bring your camera and charger. To protect your camera equipment from dust, we suggest strong, sealable plastic bags.

Pre or Post Connections
It is your responsibility to reconfirm your own air, road, rail or any other pre or post connections.

Re-Routing of Holidays
Decisions on this are made just prior to each holiday taking place and consideration is given to the conditions prevailing at the time. In transit, if weather or unforeseen circumstances interfere with the itinerary, it is at the discretion of Inspiring Journeys’ Head office operations team as to what arrangements are made.

Phoning Home (International visitors)
Before leaving home on your holiday, you can take steps to avoid returning home to an expensive phone bill:

- Check international calling and text rates. Disable data roaming and consider a prepaid service designed for international travellers.
- An international cell phone and prepaid SIM card lets you stay connected and in touch with family and friends, and control your costs at the same time.
Alcohol
Alcohol consumption is not permitted on our coaches, nor in some public places in Australia and New Zealand.

Smoking
Government regulations prohibit smoking inside tourist coaches within Australia and New Zealand. Please restrict smoking to the ample stops en route. Please be aware that smoking is not permitted in restaurants and other public places in Australia and New Zealand, such as shops, art galleries and museums.

Drinking Water
It is recommended that you carry with you plenty of drinking water, particularly in the warmer climates. Drinking water varies from region to region and clients should check with their crew for suitability of consumption. Drinking water is available on our coaches.

Weekends and Public Holidays
Our tours operate during public holidays and festivals around Australia and New Zealand, but occasionally minor changes to the standard itinerary may be required. Retail shops, banks, museums and other commercial businesses could be closed for business but your Travel Director will ensure you are well advised in case of special holidays or public holiday trading. Hotels will operate normally.

WiFi
We are pleased to offer free Wi-Fi on most of our coaches. Select the Inspiring Journeys network in the WiFi settings on your device and open your browser to access 100MB of data per 24 hrs. You will need to ask your Travel Director or Driver Guide for the WiFi password.

Social Media – Stay Connected!
Join the conversation on social media by following Inspiring Journeys on Facebook or Instagram. Just search for Inspiring Journeys. Be sure to use our hashtag #inspiringjourneys when you post photos from your holiday. Feel free to leave a review on TripAdvisor as well.

facebook.com/inspiringjourneysanz
instagram.com/inspiringjourneys
Delve into a land rich with contrasts and ancient secrets. Experience the wonder of a desert sunrise against a burnt red landscape in the Red Centre, swim amongst vibrant marine life at the Great Barrier Reef or indulge in gourmet food and wine along Victoria’s spectacular coast.
Northern Territory

The heart of the Outback, Australia’s Red Centre is an intriguing place, full of cultural and spiritual significance. Here you will find remarkable natural features such as Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (the Olgas), Kings Canyon, Palm Valley and Standley Chasm, as well as historic Alice Springs. The Top End is a region with magnificent scenery, world-famous natural and cultural attractions such as the World Heritage listed Kakadu National Park, and many crystal clear waterfalls and swimming holes.

Top End and Darwin

The Wet season spans from November until April and is characterised by increased humidity followed by monsoonal rains and storms. While weather conditions at this time of year can restrict travel to some areas, the Wet Season is a stunning time to see the Top End. Waterfalls tumble, skies host incredible light shows, and the landscape turns a lush green. The ‘Dry’ season (May to October), is characterised by warm, dry sunny days and cool nights.

### Annual Average Weather Patterns

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Things to do, Places to see......

### Kakadu National Park

One of the most scenic parks in Australia contains two kinds of wilderness: the black soil flood plains and paperbark lagoons of the Alligator River System, and the rugged walls of the Arnhem Land escarpment which is deeply indented with gorges, streams and waterfalls. At the northern end of Kakadu is a series of shallow lagoons and billabongs which attract thousands of water birds.

### Katherine

Along the Stuart Highway, known as ‘the track’, 310km south of Darwin is the town of Katherine and the spectacular Katherine Gorge National Park. Here, the clear river flows between towering, brilliantly coloured walls to form one of the most fascinating river canyons in Australia.

### Litchfield National Park

Litchfield National Park, west of Batchelor in the Tabletop Range, is a huge sandstone plateau cloaked with dry woodlands and forests. Close to the edge of the escarpment, springs bubble into creeks that have their ultimate destination within the rainforest valleys below, making spectacular waterfalls that flow throughout the year.
Northern Territory

Red Centre, Ayers Rock and Alice Springs

The Red Centre is a four season destination experiencing Summer (December-February), Autumn (March-May), Winter (June-August) and Spring (September-November) with large variations in temperature from season to season.

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Things to do, Places to see......

Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Known by Aborigines as Ulu-ru, Ayers Rock is a place of great cultural and spiritual significance. It is not a rock but a huge bed of arkose sandstone, deposited on the floor of an inland sea some 600 million years ago. It is properly described as a monolith and is a world famous rock formation. Uluru was first sighted in 1872 and was given its English name after the then Governor of South Australia, Sir Henry Ayers.

Kings Canyon

The spectacular Kings Canyon is 100km to the southwest of Alice Springs. A climb to the rim of the Canyon will be rewarded with a view of the ‘Lost City’ – weathered rock which resembles the ruins of an ancient city and the ‘Garden of Eden’, a valley where permanent waterholes are overgrown with ancient cycad palms.

Kata Tjuṯa (the Olgas)

A total of 36 domes make up the awe-inspiring Kata Tjuṯa (the Olgas). The tallest of the domes, at a height of 546m, is some 200m taller than Uluru (Ayers Rock). Inspiring Journeys offers day tours to Kata Tjuṯa including a walk into either the Valley of the Winds or Walpa Gorge.
Rightly deserving its reputation as the ‘Sunshine State’, Queensland is fortunate to experience a perfect tropical climate. With over 1.7 million sq km, it is one of Australia’s largest states with variety to match its series of distinct regions. From the lush coastal region, the mountainous Great Dividing Range and tablelands to the vast Outback, Queensland has many amazing sights.

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**Things to do, Places to see......**

**Cairns**

Lush tropical Cairns is the ‘capital’ of the tropical north and has something for everyone. The Cairns coastal and regional areas have their own unique beauty and draw visitors to Cairns all year round. Perhaps shop at the Pier or relax in one of the many cafés. It has also the perfect base for exploring both the Great Barrier Reef and delightful Kuranda Region.

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**Great Barrier Reef**

Spanning more than 2000km along the north eastern coast of Australia, the Great Barrier Reef is where you can enjoy the immense beauty, colour and richness of a truly natural underwater wonder. It is not a continuous barrier, but a broken maze of coral reefs and coral cays. The Reef is home to many diverse species of marine life including 1,500 species of fish, 400 types of coral and 1,500 types of mollusc. It can be explored on daily cruises, by seaplane, air charters and on special helicopter flights.
New South Wales

New South Wales, Australia’s most populous state, is home to our largest city, Sydney. Its temperate climate, with sunshine most days of the year, provides the ideal environment for visitors to this spectacular state.

Sydney

The capital of NSW and Australia’s oldest and largest city, Sydney was established by Captain Arthur Phillip as a penal colony. The city grew in chaos for many years until 1810 when Governor Macquarie set about restoring order and improving roads and communications. The city soon became a major shipping and trading centre for the southwest Pacific. Today, Sydney has the world’s best natural harbour with 55 sq km of water catering for 4,000 vessels each year.

### Annual Average Weather Patterns

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### Things to do, Places to see......

#### Blue Mountains

The Blue Mountains, located 100km west of Sydney, are a popular destination for Sydney-siders and tourists alike. The Blue Mountains take their name from the blue haze which lingers over the range, a result of the fine mist of oil from eucalyptus trees. Some of the most popular attractions include Echo Point where you can view the Three Sisters rock formation, the cable car and the scenic railway which show the splendour of the Jamison Valley and the quaint town of Leura.

#### Hunter Valley

Just 90 minutes north of Sydney lies the picturesque Hunter Valley, Australia’s oldest wine producing area. Nestled amongst the exciting wineries are a fantastic spread of shops, restaurants and other attractions making the Hunter Valley the most visited region in Australia. Be amazed by the Hunter Valley Gardens, home to the largest gardens in the Southern Hemisphere.
Victoria

Victoria is our smallest mainland state, yet has the country’s second highest population. Victoria’s capital, Melbourne is recognised as the cultural capital of Australia with its wide array of restaurants, shopping, entertainment and sports.

Melbourne

Melbourne is renowned for its fine food, fashion, sport and culture, as well as its historic buildings and delightful gardens. It is 5km inland from Port Phillip Bay, by the banks of the Yarra River and has a population of over three million people.

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Things to do, Places to see……

Daylesford

Home to historic Hepburn Bathhouse & Spa, Daylesford also features beautiful Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens and the ‘Peace Mile’ Walk around Lake Daylesford. Other delights include Peppers Mineral Springs Hotel, Lavandula Swiss Italian Farm with its manicured vegetable, herb, lavender and olive plots, set amongst stone farm buildings dating back to 1850s. Another Daylesford highlight is the family-owned and operated Creswick Woollen Mills, the last coloured woolen spinning mill in Australia.

Clunes & Dunkeld

A little way down the road is the historic town of Clunes. Because of its historic main street façade, the town has been the setting for well-known films including Heath Ledger’s Ned Kelly, Mad Max 1 and the 1950s classic On the Beach. At nearby Eureka in Ballarat, visit The Museum of Australian Democracy. The town of Dunkeld sits at the base of the ancient Grampian Mountains and features the Royal Mail Hotel, with its acclaimed restaurant.

The Grampians

The Grampians high sandstone peaks were laid down from rivers during the Devonian period 380 million years ago. See its spectacular natural rock formations, waterfalls and panoramic views from Halls Gap. Enjoy a Welcome to Country ceremony by the local indigenous people at the Brambuk Cultural Centre. The traditional people of Gariwerd, the Djab Wurrung and Jardwidjari, will teach you how to throw a boomerang and then gather local bush tucker for you to taste.

Great Ocean Road

One of the world’s great scenic coastline drives begins at Torquay, about 100km southwest of Melbourne and extends for over 300km. Visit the Great Ocean Road’s most famous attractions including the Twelve Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge, Bells Beach and the seaside village of Lorne. The last leg of the road is the town of Torquay, mecca for Australian surf life, with its intriguing Australian Surfing Museum, which celebrates the history and culture of this much-loved pastime. Close by on the Bellarine Peninsula, a renowned wine-growing region, indulge your taste buds’ at the award-winning Jack Rabbit Winery.

Mornington Peninsula

In the beautiful Mornington Peninsula lies Green Olive farm, where you can enjoy a taste of farm life with assistance from the farmers, plus sample its fresh produce. The region also features the sumptuous Linden Tree Restaurant, which will leave an enduring culinary expression of the Mornington Peninsula and Red Hill gourmet region.

Step into a world unlike any other and be amazed by snow-capped mountains, volcanic fields, crystal-clear fiordlands and pristine lakes. Discover everything the North and South Islands have to offer and delight in New Zealand’s famous wines and gourmet local produce, experience Māori heritage and explore both untamed lands and sophisticated cities.
Auckland

New Zealand’s largest city is also referred to as the ‘City of Sails’, as it reportedly has the most boats per capita in the world. It is situated on a narrow peninsula between two harbours and built around 49 volcanoes, thereby providing some spectacular harbour views. It also has the world’s highest concentration of Polynesians.

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Rotorua

Rotorua’s main attractions are the boiling mud pools, hot springs and geysers. This geological activity is due to the fact that the earth’s crust is very thin in this area, allowing pressures from deep within the earth to be released to the surface. For many years, these features were used in everyday life by not only the Maori people but also the early European settlers. Rotorua, meaning ‘the second lake’, is also of cultural significance, with one-third of the 70,000 strong population being of Maori descent.

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Wellington

Wellington has been New Zealand’s capital since 1865, when the seat of government was moved here from Auckland. As Wellington is only 2km wide, it is explored easily by foot. Located between a beautiful harbour and rolling green hills, Wellington has excellent shopping, professional theatre and cafés and restaurants all close to untouched nature spots.

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The South Island

Lake Tekapo
The turquoise colour of the lake is due to fine particles of rock, called ‘rock-flour’, held in suspension in the glacial melt water which feeds it. The Church of the Good Shepherd stands beside the lake and was built in 1935 from stone and oak. Not far from the church is a bronze sheepdog statue, a tribute to these animals which helped to develop the pastoral farming country in this area.

Lake Wakatipu & Walter Peak
Queenstown is situated on the shores of picturesque Lake Wakatipu, the third largest lake in New Zealand. During the gold rush days many steamships could be seen on the lake, transporting stakeholders from point-to-point. Now, only the vintage TSS Earnslaw remains. This stately ‘Lady of the Lake’ still makes trips across the lake to drop clients at Walter Peak, where there is an old colonial homestead and sheep station.

Milford Sound
Accessed from the resort town of Te Anau, Milford Sound is surrounded by walls that rise 1,200m from the sea. One of the most striking and famous features of Milford Sound is the 1695m high Mitre Peak. The region’s annual rainfall is amongst the country’s highest, receiving 5-6m each year.

Te Anau
The serene deep waters of Lake Te Anau make up the largest lake in the South Island and second largest in New Zealand, and are bordered on its western shore by lush virgin forest. The resort town of Te Anau, the gateway to the fiords, lies nestled on the edge of this beautiful lake, with a spectacular backdrop of Mt Luxmore and the Murchison mountains. The fascinating Te Anau caves system offers a charming underground adventure. This tour takes you to a mysterious underground world of rushing water before drifting in silent darkness beneath the luminous shimmer of thousands of glowworms.

Franz Josef & Fox Glaciers
The West Coast glaciers are some of the largest and most accessible glaciers in the Westland National Park. Franz Josef was named in 1865 in honour of the Emperor of Austria. The Fox Glacier was named in 1872 after an early NZ Prime Minister, William Fox.

Christchurch
The South Island’s largest city and the ‘English’ city of New Zealand, Christchurch is known for its beautiful gardens and the tree-lined Avon River which runs through it. Early settlers wanted to call the river ‘The Shakespeare’.

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Queenstown

Nestled on the shores of Lake Wakatipu is scenic Queenstown, surrounded by the mighty peaks of the Southern Alps and the Remarkables. During the winter months (Jun – Sep) the Remarkables are home to some of the world's most spectacular skiing. Coronet Peak, the centre of this skiing mecca, offers dry powder snow and the best facilities to match. During the warmer months (Nov – Feb) this winter wonderland transforms into a summer holiday resort town. Queenstown is recognised as the 'adventure capital' of New Zealand and there are plenty of things to do on the water, in the air and on the land! Queenstown also has a wide variety of relaxing activities including wine trails, art trails, museums, shopping, restaurants and cafés to enjoy.

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### Maori Pronunciation (Cheat Sheet)

The Maori people are the original settlers in New Zealand whose migrations are thought to have preceded European settlement by some 400-500 years. Isolated from outside influence until European discovery, the Maori developed a unique culture comprised of highly developed social and ritualistic customs, and as a race, they displayed a great deal of courage. Maori art reflects the Polynesian origins of the people, but it has a distinctive and unique form. Wood carving, intricately designed, was the principal expression, but weaving, stonework and tattooing became highly developed. The Maori language is still spoken, particularly by the North Island Maoris, but there are many who have never learnt to speak their native tongue. Educators and the Maori people have been aware of this shortcoming, and the language is being incorporated into the curriculum of an increasing number of secondary schools. Although Maori was not a written language before the coming of the white missionaries, it is a language rich in the traditions of both legend and poetry, which played primary roles in Maori life.

Some Maori words and phrases can be tricky to pronounce correctly, so we have included a cheat sheet for you on how to pronounce some common Maori words, phrases and names:

- **Kia Ora** .......................................................................................................................................... **Key – Orra**
- **Kiw1** ............................................................. **Key – Wee**
- **Pahia** ............................................................ **Pie – Here**
- **Punakaiki** .......................................................... **Pun – A – Kai – Key**
- **Rotomua** ......................................................... **Row – Ta – Ru – A**
- **Tamaki** ............................................................ **Tum – A – Key**
- **Taupo** ............................................................ **Tow – Poh**
- **Te Anau** ........................................................... **Tee – Are – Now**
- **Te Puia** .......................................................... **T – Poo – Ya**
- **Waitangi** ........................................................ **Why – Tang – Ee**
- **Waitomo** ........................................................ **Why – Toe – Mo**
- **Wanaka** ........................................................ **Won – A – Ka**
- **Whakarewera** .................................................. **Fu – Ka – Ray – Wa – Ray – Wa**