



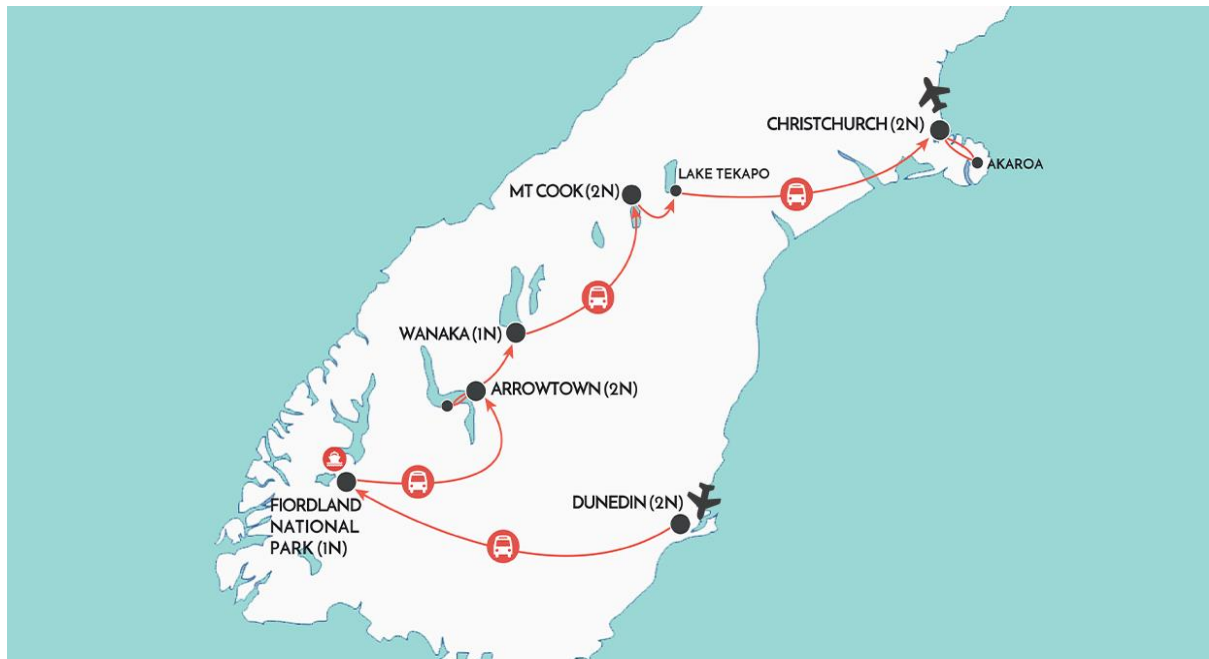
Hidden Gold of the South Dossier

Classic Tour | 11 Days | Physical Level 2

Dunedin – Fiordland National Park - Arrowtown – Wanaka –
Mount Cook - Christchurch

Discover the hidden gold of the South Island of New Zealand on an exciting new Wendy Wu New Zealand tour. Our New Zealand staff have carefully selected their idea of 'gold' in the South Island, but always with a traditional Wendy Wu Asian flair! Journey from the spectacular Otago Peninsula to Fiordland National Park for a breath-taking overnight cruise. Explore charming Arrowtown with its gold rush history, and tranquil Lake Wanaka. Head up to Mt Cook for a Big Sky Experience and a visit to the glacier terminus and conclude the tour with Hector's dolphins and eclectic art in Akaroa.

- Welcome dinner at Larnach Castle
- Dunedin Chinese Gardens
- Fiordland National Park Overnight Cruise
- Mt Cook's Hermitage Hotel & Big Sky Stargazing Experience
- Lake Tekapo Hot Springs



Hidden Gold of the South tour inclusions:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- All meals (From dinner on day 1 to breakfast on the last day)
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escort
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

Classic Tour:

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of New Zealand on an excellent value group tour travelling with like-minded people. The tours are on a fully inclusive basis so you will travel with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escort and local guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

Physical Level 2:

All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights. 'Hidden Gold of the South' is rated 2 on the physical level scale. A reasonable level of fitness is required but it's more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You'll be getting on and off coaches and boats, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

Of course, our National Escorts and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary. If you require any more information about the pace of our tours, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.

Country Profile: New Zealand

New Zealand located just 3 hours by air from the east coast of Australia and home to magnificent landscapes, towering mountain ranges, stunning beaches, unique wildlife and friendly laid-back locals. Comprising of two islands – North and South with both offering unique and different experiences.

Joining Your Tour

The tour is 11 days in duration including international flights. Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion of your tour. Please advise your international flight times to reservations.

Join the tour on Day 1 in Dunedin and end the tour on Day 11 in Christchurch. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

Itinerary Changes

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

Itinerary – Hidden Gold of the South

Day 1: Arrive Dunedin

Fly to Dunedin, located in the South Island of New Zealand. On arrival, transfer to your hotel. This evening experience a welcome briefing and dinner at the iconic Larnach Castle.



Destination Information

Dunedin – Famous for being one of the best-preserved Victorian and Edwardian cities in the Southern Hemisphere. Also known as the Edinburgh of New Zealand due to its Scottish heritage. Dunedin is also home to rare wildlife – yellow-eyed penguins, fur seals, sea lions, little blue penguins, and the Northern Royal Albatross.

Larnach Castle – Much loved by the locals, it was built in 1871 by William Larnach, a merchant and politician of Scottish heritage. Boasting a 3,000 square foot ballroom and a tower offering sweeping views of the Otago Peninsula.

Day 2: Otago Peninsula

This morning, take a scenic drive along the Otago Peninsula to 'Penguin Place' to view the endangered yellow-eyed penguins, both in the rehabilitation facility and in the reserve itself. Drive to St Clair Beach for lunch at The Esplanade on the waterfront. After lunch, return to Dunedin's centre for some free time to explore the iconic train station, numerous museums, or perhaps some shopping.

Later this afternoon, enjoy a guided tour of the Chinese Public Gardens followed by dinner in their lovely themed surrounds.



Destination Information

Otago Peninsula – Renowned for its spectacular views, the peninsula is part of the crater wall of a large, long-extinct volcano.

Dunedin Chinese Garden – Located in the heart of the city and using Chinese materials crafted by a team of artisans/craftsmen from Dunedin's Sister City – Shanghai.

Day 3: Fiordland National Park

Rise early to drive to Manapouri, stopping briefly in Gore along the way. After grabbing our pre-ordered picnic lunches, begin our adventure in Fiordland National Park by crossing the waters of Lake Manapouri. A coach will take us up and over the Wilmot Pass to Deep Cove where we'll board our overnight vessel, The Navigator. In the afternoon, there are plenty of water activities, as well as wildlife sightings, to keep us busy. In the evening, a 3-course buffet dinner will be served onboard.



Destination Information

The Navigator – Blending old world charm with modern comforts, The Navigator has spacious viewing deck, dining saloon with fully licensed bar and observation lounge. The vessel sleeps 72 passengers in private cabins with ensuite bathrooms.

Fiordland National Park – Considered to be one of New Zealand's most remarkable, dramatic, and beautiful national parks. Home to stunning fjords, spectacular waterfalls and snow-capped peaks. Covering an area of over 1.2 million hectares and established as a National Park in 1952.

Day 4: Fiordland National Park – Arrowtown

Enjoy the rest of the morning exploring other parts of the fiord before returning to Deep Cove and arriving back at Manapouri late morning. We drive to the delightful village of Arrowtown for lunch at the Five Rivers Café & Art Gallery, before checking in at our accommodation at the luxury Millbrook Resort. This evening we will enjoy an Asian-fusion dinner in Arrowtown.



Destination Information

Arrowtown – A picturesque settlement sitting alongside the gold-bearing Arrow River. The town was established in 1862 during the height of the Otago Gold Rush. The settlement grew quickly as pioneers constructed cottages, shops, hotels and churches, more than 60 of which can still be seen today. A special highlight is the Chinese settlement at the edge of the river. Built by Chinese miners from 1868, this area of restored shelters and buildings paints a picture of earlier times.

Day 5: Skippers Canyon & Queenstown

This morning, take an exciting 4WD safari tour through Skippers Canyon, visiting the famous suspension bridge, the original Skippers Township and a chance to try your luck panning for gold! Lunch will be at Provisions of Arrowtown, a pretty café set in an historic miner's cottage, and then there's some free time to relax or explore Arrowtown's quaint shops and scenic walking trails.

This evening drive to Queenstown for a stroll along the stunning waterfront and enjoy an Asian-fusion style dinner at Blue Kanu, before returning to Arrowtown for the night.



Destination Information

Skippers Canyon – Offering stunning scenery and gold mining history, the canyon was carved out by the infamous Shot River, made famous in the 1860's gold rush. The single-lane suspension bridge is one of the highest and most spectacular in New Zealand and is suspended on 14 wire cables.

Queenstown – Gateway to adventure and considered one of New Zealand's most exciting destinations. Positioned on the edge of a lake and surrounded by towering mountains.

Day 6: Bannockburn – Wanaka

Take a fascinating guided tour of Lakes District Museum & Chinese Settlement in Arrowtown, before driving to Bannockburn for lunch and wine tasting at stunning Mt Difficulty Vineyard. After a further wine tasting visit to Felton Road Winery, continue driving to Lake Wanaka in time for dinner at Little India.



Destination Information

Wanaka – A year round destination located in the Southern Alps of New Zealand and renowned not only for its outdoor adventures but its vibrant mix of restaurants, cafes, shops and plenty of areas to relax and take in the amazing scenery.

Day 7: Mount Cook

This morning visit Warbirds & Wheels Museum with lunch at their retro 50s Diner. After lunch drive to Mount Cook with a brief stop en route in Omarama. Check in to the famous Hermitage Hotel and enjoy dinner in their Panorama Room restaurant, with stunning views of the mountains. After dinner join the Big Sky Stargazing Experience to view the wonders above.



Destination Information

Mount Cook – New Zealand's highest mountain reaching 3,754 metres and home to the largest glacier – the mighty Tasman Glacier. It is also home to the darkest skies in the world and the region was recently recognised as an International Dark Sky Reserve, the largest of its type in the world.

Day 8: Glacier Tour & Sir Edmund Hilary Alpine Centre

Join the Glacier Explorers tour to Mt Cook terminal lake - a lovely half hour alpine walk through the National Park plus a short boat ride amongst icebergs of all shapes and sizes, to view the glacier ice face. Enjoy lunch at the Old Mountaineer's Café which enjoys stunning views of Mt Cook. After lunch visit the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre, Museum and Digital Dome Planetarium. Dinner will be in the Panorama Room at the Hermitage.



Destination Information

Mount Cook National Park – An awe-inspiring expanse of untouched alpine landscape covering an area of more 700km. Established as a National Park in 1953 with 19 peaks over 3,000 metres.

Day 9: Lake Tekapo – Christchurch

Drive to Lake Tekapo for a stop at the iconic Church of the Good Shepherd and a visit to Tekapo Springs Hot Pools for a relaxing soak (towels will be provided). Lunch will be at the stunning Rakinui Restaurant at Peppers Bluewater Resort, overlooking Lake Tekapo. This afternoon, enjoy the scenic drive to Christchurch, our final destination, for a short post-earthquake city tour. Dinner will be around the teppan- yaki table at Yamagen Japanese Restaurant.

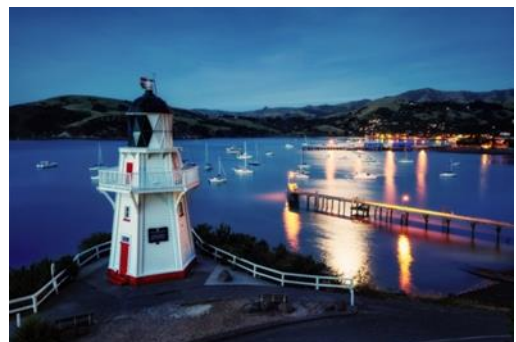


Destination Information

Lake Tekapo – Located in the heart of the Mackenzie Region and famous for its crystal-clear lake and dramatic mountain backdrop. It is also part of the International Dark Sky Reserve and home to one of the most photographed buildings in New Zealand, the Church of the Good Shepherd which was built in 1935 for the pioneer families of the Mackenzie district.

Day 10: Christchurch – Akaroa – Christchurch

Drive to pretty Akaroa, stopping at Little River Café & Gallery on the way. At Akaroa, join a harbour tour (choose from 3hr Swimming with Dolphins or 2hr Dolphin & Nature Cruise). Enjoy lunch and a tour at The Giant's House, with its quirky mosaic gardens, before returning to Christchurch via a delicious stop at the Barry Bay Cheese Factory. Dinner this evening will be at Asian-fusion restaurant, King of Snake.



Destination Information

Christchurch – the largest city of the South Island and known for its English heritage. Renowned for its botanic gardens, microbreweries, street art and charming cafes, it is a city of exploration. The central city is a combination of cutting-edge architecture alongside some of the oldest buildings in New Zealand.

Day 11: Depart Christchurch

This morning is free at leisure before you transfer to Christchurch Airport for your return flight home.

Please note: Only breakfast is included today. Late check-out is not included in our Hidden Gold of the South tour. If you wish to book a late check-out for your final day in Christchurch, please contact our reservations department who can confirm the additional price and make this arrangement for you, subject to availability at the hotel.

Hidden Gold of the South Travel Information

Visas

Passports must be valid for six months beyond the length of stay. Visas are not required for Australian passport holders for entry into New Zealand.

Insurance

We strongly encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents with them while on tour. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Accommodation

Your accommodation has been selected for convenience of location, comfort or character. Hotels are generally rated as local 3 to 4+ star standards. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Porterage

Please be aware that porterage is not included on our tours in New Zealand. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within the hotel and when using transportation.

Transport

Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Please note that it may not always be possible to return to your hotel after sightseeing to freshen up before going to the restaurant for dinner.

Group Size

The group size for our Wendy Wu New Zealand tours will be no more 22 travellers in each group. All of our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 14 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so.

Packing list and Climate

Weather patterns can be quite unpredictable. Up to the minute information on worldwide weather can be found on www.weather.com

Luggage

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each: a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

Exchanging Cash

New Zealand's unit of currency is the dollar (NZ\$). All major credit cards can be used in New Zealand, with Visa and Mastercard accepted most widely. Australian Dollars can be exchanged prior to departure from Australia or on arrival at Wellington Airport at banks, some hotels and Bureau de Change kiosks. ATMs are widely available at banks, along main shopping streets and in malls. International credit cards and ATM cards will work as long as they have a four-digit PIN encoded. Check with your bank before leaving home.

Personal Expenses & Optional Tours

Personal Expense - You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of AU\$250 per person, per week should be sufficient; however, for those that can't resist a bargain or may wish to participate in all of the optional excursions, consider allocating a higher amount.

Optional Tours - May be offered in each city you visit during your tour. These are not included in the standard itinerary and will only be available if time permits and if seats are available. In your Final Documentation an Optional Excursion Sheet will be included outlining the activities available in each city and local cost associated.

Please ensure you have additional funds available if you feel you may wish to participate in any extra activities. Each option will be arranged locally by your National Escort/Local Guide, participation and tipping for optional excursions is completely at your discretion

Vaccinations and Your Health

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au

Before You Leave

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service up to date information about your destination on the same website.

After your booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

Last updated: September 2020

To book call **1300 727 998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit wendywutours.com.au