



# OURANIA

## Education Adventures in New Zealand



## Ourania - Learning Journey to New Zealand - 2015



Ourania specializes in educational tours to New Zealand for secondary school students.



We save you time and stress by organizing everything from the moment we collect you from the airport in New Zealand until we see you into the departure lounge again at the end of your tour.



Our expertise includes ecology, biotechnology, chemistry, earth and environmental science, physics and geography.



Tours are tailored to the needs of specific groups and cultural, adventure (including skiing) and sightseeing activities are added as desired.



## Day 1 Bangalore to Auckland

### Introduction to New Zealand

Auckland is New Zealand's largest city, situated between the sparkling waters of the Waitemata and Manukau Harbours. Known locally as the City of Sails, Auckland offers a wide range of experiences from trips to islands of the Hauraki Gulf, climbing one of its iconic volcanic cones to exploring the rugged and beautiful wild west coast with its black sand beaches and dense rainforest.

- Arrive at Auckland International airport
- Auckland sightseeing: Mt. Eden Volcano, Auckland Museum, Mission Bay, Devonport.
- Urban development study, including data collection if student energy levels allow.

Overnight Auckland/Pakiri Beach



## Day 2 Auckland - Waitomo Caves - Tongariro National Park – 200 km

### Educational Research; Media studies

Maori have lived in the Auckland area for around 800 years, attracted by its rich supply of sea food, natural harbours, fertile volcanic soils and the vantage points provided by 50 or so volcanoes. European settlement of the area began in 1840 after the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi with Maori.

- Morning visit to Auckland or Waikato (Hamilton) University.
- Visit a prize winning dairy farm to look at best practice in milk production. How does the farmer maximize quality will minimizing damage to the environment and waterways in particular
- Hobbiton Movie Set take a two hour tour This is an opportunity to see a unique attraction, the set of the Lord of the Rings reconstructed specially for the filming of the Hobbit, a mecca for fans worldwide of author J. R. R. Tolkien but also a work of art in its own right.

### Overnight Waitomo Caves



## Day 3 Waitomo Caves to Rotorua – 210 km 2.5 hrs



### River processes; Geothermal activity; Maori culture

Waitomo Caves village and cave system are major tourist attractions. The caves are noted for their stunning stalactite and stalagmite displays, and for their glowworms (the fungus gnat *Arachnocampa luminosa*). The word Waitomo comes from the Māori language wai meaning water and tomo meaning a sinkhole. These Caves are believed to be over two million years old and have been the centre of increasingly popular commercial caving tourism since 1900.

- Visit the famous glow worm caves (Cave ecology/Tourism)
- Take a guided walk in Ruakuri valley, a collapsed cave system (Karst landscapes)
- OR visit the Discovery centre. Increase your understanding of solution caves and their ecology through the interactive exhibition and or a presentation from the education officer.
- Drive to Rotorua.
- Te Puia is Rotorua's most spectacular geothermal Park, the location of New Zealand's biggest and most active geysers, as well as spectacular mud pools and boiling hot springs. See the famous kiwi bird and Explore pre and post European Maori communities...Enjoy a Maori Cultural show and experience a glimpse of the way of life of Maori.

### Overnight Rotorua



## Day 4 Rotorua to Christchurch

### Volcanoes; Tourism as a cultural process; Geothermal chemistry

The Taupo Volcanic Zone, a strip of land running from the north-east coast to the centre of the North Island, is where New Zealand's most active volcanoes and their associated geothermal activity are to be found. Right in the middle of it is Rotorua, our oldest tourist resort, because of the bizarre geothermal features spread through and around the city, including geysers, mud pools and hot springs. In the 1800s visitors travelled around the world to see the famous Pink and White Terraces, unfortunately destroyed by Mount Tarawera volcano in 1886. The city is still a thermal resort, as well as the heart of Maori culture but now also has a great range of adventure and cultural activities to keep the visitors there a bit longer.

- Rotorua museum provides a great introduction to volcanism in New Zealand
- OR Agrodome Farm tour.
- Take an afternoon flight to Christchurch.

Overnight Christchurch



## Day 5 Christchurch

### Extreme natural events and their effects on people and places

The Christchurch area was first settled by moa-hunting tribes about 1250 CE. Following the purchase of land by whalers, a party of European settlers established themselves in what is now Christchurch in the 1840s. In December 1850, four ships brought to the area 792 settlers with aspirations of building a city around a cathedral and college like Christ Church in Oxford.

Christchurch was hit by a huge earthquake in February 2011. Much of the central city with its classic neo-gothic architecture was destroyed. However, it remains beautiful: the buildings may have been damaged but the soul of the city and the welcoming spirit of the people remain very much intact.

- City tour, including a museum visit to build a picture of the earthquake in 2011 and its effect on the local people.
- Visit Canterbury University, including the Geology Dept. who will provide a scientific perspective on the earthquake

### Overnight Christchurch

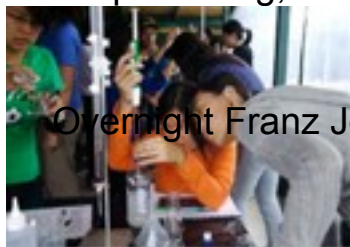


## Day 6 – Christchurch to Franz Josef– 410 km

### Tectonic Processes

The Southern Alps would be growing upwards at a rate of one centimetre a year if it wasn't for the forces of erosion. Driving west, you go back in time geologically, meeting the oldest rocks in New Zealand, remnants of the super-continent, Gondwanaland, along the west coast. Here also is an opportunity to see glaciers extending down into rainforest. They begin as snowfields high in the Southern Alps, but Maori legend explains them more poetically. It is said that a beautiful girl named Hinehukatere loved the mountains in this park and encouraged her lover, Tawe, to climb them with her. He slipped and fell to his death and Hinehukatere's tears formed the glaciers.

- Drive west across the Alps today, stopping several times en route.
- Explore the stunning limestone formations at Castle Hill.
- Meet kea, our mischievous alpine parrot species at the summit of Arthur's pass.
- Visit a jade (pounamu) factory in Hokitika and relate the formation of this metamorphic rock to NZ's latest mountain building phase.
- Enjoy an evening soak in the hot pools of the alpine spa and, time permitting, take a short walk into the rainforest after dark to see glow



Overnight Franz Josef



## Day 7 – Franz Josef to Wanaka – 262 km

### Coastal ecology and processes; Glacial processes and landforms: vegetation patterns (zonation, succession)

The West Coast glaciers are among the fastest moving in the world, up to 4 metres a day, because of their large catchments and this is why they extend down into the forest. During the last Ice Age, they reached far beyond the current coastline, with the result that glacial land forms feature prominently along the west coast of the South Island. For many, the Fox and Franz Josef glaciers are the main reason to visit but between the glaciers and the sea is also a bird watcher's paradise. Rainforest and large areas of wetland shelter rare species such as the Okarito Brown Kiwi and White Heron (kotuku).

- Take a walk to the terminal of the Franz Josef Glacier (succession study) this morning, then drive south and through the Haast Pass to Wanaka.
- Along this highly scenic route, see glacial land forms and zonation of vegetation inland of beach and dune systems. Vegetation transect(s)
- Visit beech forest to compare its ecology with coastal temperate rain forest.
- Enjoy a jet boat ride on the Haast River

Overnight Wanaka



## Day 8 – Wanaka to Queenstown- 112 km

### Tourism as a cultural process; the physics of motion

Central Otago is a powerful landscape, sunny, dry and brown with weathered ancient mountains, alpine herb fields and fast flowing rivers. In the 1860's this was a place of gold; you can still pan for it, in amongst the miners' old trails, stone cottages and relics of mine machinery. However the gold in Central Otago is wine, especially Pinot Noir, which does really well in these southernmost vineyards

- Enjoy the maze, holograms, Ames Room and other illusions at Puzzling World [www.puzzlingworld.co.nz](http://www.puzzlingworld.co.nz) this morning before setting off for Queenstown.
- On the way, watch (or try) bungy jumping from the Kawerau Bridge.
- Arrive in Queenstown in time to travel high above the town by cable car to enjoy a luge ride before an all-you-can-eat dinner in the Skyline Restaurant. Time permitting, collect data to calculate velocities and energy transformations.

### Overnight Queenstown



## Day 9 – Queenstown

### Tourism

Queenstown is a resort town on Lake Wakatipu with spectacular views of nearby mountains. The area was first known to Māori who probably visited en route to collect jade (pounamu). Explorers William Gilbert Rees and Nicholas von Tunzelmann were the first Europeans to settle the area. Rees established a high country sheep farm in 1860 until the discovery of gold nearby encouraged him to convert his wool shed into a hotel. Queenstown now offers more than 200 adventure tourism activities, including skiing, jet boating, whitewater rafting, bungee jumping, sky-diving and fly-fishing. It is also close to a small wine producing region and the surrounding area is often used in making movies, including of the Lord of the Rings.

- Free time in Queenstown
- OR Half day adventure activity options: Shotover jet; Lord of the Rings 4WD tours; horse trekking; zip-lining (flying fox ecotour)

### Overnight Queenstown



## Day 10 – Queenstown to Tekapo 250 km – 3 hrs

Sustainable use of resources – gold mining; hydro-electric power generation; astronomy

The last ice-age 15,000 to 18,000 years ago saw huge glaciers, longer than the lake, depositing large volumes of rock, damming of the valley to form Lake Tekapo. The glaciers have since retreated to the valleys at the head of the lake. The Mackenzie Basin was free of humans until with the arrival of the Maori several hundred years ago. In 1857 the first sheep farm was established, a hotel appeared in 1861 and in the 1930s, work began on Tekapo power station. Hydro-electricity has become New Zealand's main source of energy, supplemented by geothermal and wind. Unsustainable sources like coal and gas now account for only 30% of electricity generated. Today beautiful Lake Tekapo has become a popular tourist destination.

- Explore historic Arrowtown. Pan for gold and visit the former Chinese miners' village.
- Visit Benmore hydro-dam and its interactive visitor centre on the way to Tekapo.
- Optional extra: an evening's star gazing at the Mt. St. John Observatory, located under some of the clearest skies in the world (adds \$40).



## Day 11 – Tekapo to Christchurch (227 km – 3 hrs) to Bangalore

### The Antarctic Continent

The coldest, driest continent in the world is also unique ecologically and geologically as well as politically after the signing of the Treaty of Antarctica in 1959. This ensures that member countries work together in Antarctica for peaceful and scientific purposes.

- Travel back to Christchurch today via the famous Church of the Good Shepherd.
- Visit to the Antarctic Centre in the heart of a working Antarctic campus at Christchurch International Airport. It is from here that many Antarctic missions are organised. The Antarctic Attraction brings a powerful and memorable experience of Antarctica to visitors in an exciting and informative way. Your visit includes a presentation on Antarctic biology and geography.
- Airport transfer for flight home.



## Why New Zealand?

- A new, exciting environment for your students, with lots of valuable educational opportunities.
- Safety: no dangerous animals, well-developed infrastructure/legislation for risk-management.
- Easy access: lots to do and see in a small area once you arrive.
- Plenty of clean, well-organized hostel accommodation, ideal for school groups.
- Lots of sight-seeing and expertly managed adventure options, (including skiing).





- We're Qualmark accredited (a system developed by Tourism New Zealand and the AA) and Department of conservation approved, SO you can be confident of the quality of the experience you'll have with us.



- Trips for secondary students have been our specialty for twelve years now. We have thousands of happy clients inside and outside New Zealand, SO you can be confident we love what we do and have had lots of practice.



- We're experienced secondary science and geography teachers (in the classroom and out of it) SO you can be sure we know our stuff, as well as how to manage and relate to teenagers.



- We make it easy for you to offer your students educational trips to New Zealand by taking care of everything: accommodation, transport and activity bookings, facilitation, risk management paperwork and even worksheets if you want them. SO you won't be exhausted and can relax and enjoy the trip as much as everyone else.

- All activities are fun, interactive and hands-on, curriculum-linked (if you want), tailored to suit your needs and thoroughly risk-managed. SO teachers, SMT, students and parents are all happy with the outcomes.

- We have close to 100 New Zealand secondary school clients SO you'll have plenty of choice if you'd like to include sport or cultural exchange in your programme.



## Terms and Conditions

The package cost US\$ 2450 (Rs. 1,52,000) + airfare (Rs 65,000 to 90,000)  
US\$ 1 = Rs. 62

As on date the tickets are available for approx 66,000 Rs. for April.

### Things that are not included in the package

A service tax of 3.09% would be additionally charged. Exchange rate will be calculated as on the date of booking confirmation

Hotel mini-bar, snacks, beverages, laundry, telephone calls and all other similar incidentals

Tipping for services

Shopping expenses

Any additional charges incurred because of New Zealand Statutory holidays





## Terms and Conditions

### Booking Confirmation

Once you are happy with the itinerary and the quote, please confirm your booking by confirmed written order.

The payment is made as follows:

- a. 10% of the total cost in advance along with confirmation order.
- b. 40% to be paid after the visa.
- c. The balance 50% is paid within 1 month from confirmation or 10 days before flight.
- d. The airfare has to be paid directly to airlines at the time of booking.

### Cancellation policy

If you unfortunately are needed to cancel your booking, the policy is as follows:

1 month prior to the start of tour – no refunds

2 months prior to the start of tour – 50% refund

The settlement of refund is within 15 working days from the date of cancellation. The mode of refund is the same as the mode of payment made by the guest, unless specifically requested otherwise.





**Ourania**  
Education Network

**100% PURE  
NEW ZEALAND  
SPECIALIST**

**ENZ  
Trained**



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