

Itinerary built exclusively for John Hall's Alaska & found no where else:

# 15 DAYS EXPLORING NEW ZEALAND



**BRAND NEW ITINERARY:**  
**Includes 4 National Parks!**

## ULTIMATE NEW ZEALAND

March 12 - March 26, 2019

### TOUR OVERNIGHTS:

- |                      |                           |                            |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 AUCKLAND, NZ       | 7 ROTORUA, NZ             | 12 QUEENSTOWN, NZ          |
| 2 BAY OF ISLANDS, NZ | 8 CHRISTCHURCH, NZ        | 13 QUEENSTOWN, NZ          |
| 3 BAY OF ISLANDS, NZ | 9 FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER, NZ | 14 CHRISTCHURCH, NZ        |
| 4 AUCKLAND, NZ       | 10 WANAKA, NZ             | 15 FLY HOME (CHRISTCHURCH) |
| 5 PAUANUI BEACH, NZ  | 11 QUEENSTOWN, NZ         |                            |
| 6 PAUANUI BEACH, NZ  |                           |                            |

TOUR	DATE	SINGLE OCCUPANCY:	DOUBLE OCCUPANCY:
NZ312	MARCH 12-26, 2019	\$11,319	\$8,919

### PER PERSON PRICING INCLUDES ALL:

ATTRACTIONS & CORRESPONDING GRATUITIES, ACCOMMODATIONS, FULLY GUIDED SERVICE, MEALS & CORRESPONDING GRATUITIES, ADULT BEVERAGE (WINE OR BEER) WITH ALL DINNERS, TAXES, BAGGAGE HANDLING & CORRESPONDING GRATUITIES, AIRPORT MEET AND GREET, FULLY GUIDED SERVICE, AND A SPECIAL ALUMNI KEEPSAKE.

### FLIGHTS:

INTER-ISLAND AIRFARE AS PART OF THE ITINERARY IS INCLUDED. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE AIRFARE IS NOT INCLUDED.

### ADDITIONAL SAVINGS:

#### CHECK DISCOUNT:

\$200 PER PERSON WHEN TOUR PAYMENT IS MADE BY CHECK. \$750 PER PERSON DEPOSITS MAY STILL BE MADE BY CREDIT CARD.

# Ultimate New Zealand Tour Route Map



## FLIGHT INFORMATION

THIS TOUR BEGINS IN AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND AND ENDS IN CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND. UPON COMPLETION OF THE TOUR, YOU MAY RETURN HOME ON FLIGHTS AT ANY TIME OF DAY.

### GROUP SIZE: MAX 32

The tour requires the **ABILITY TO WALK A MILE & BOARD SMALL BOATS.**

### 41 MEALS INCLUDED

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER, EVERY DAY OF YOUR TOUR!**

# Ultimate New Zealand

## DAY 1-3 TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

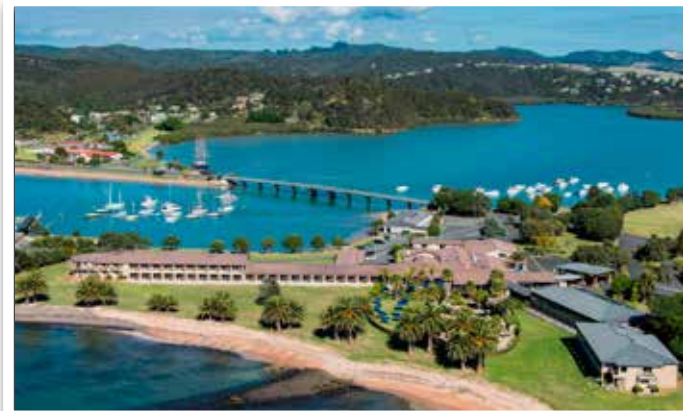
### 1 ARRIVE AUCKLAND

Welcome to New Zealand! Regularly named as one of the best life-style cities in the world, Auckland is a vibrant cosmopolitan city, with a busy nightlife, world-class restaurants, and diverse neighbourhoods to explore. Auckland has a plethora of great museums and galleries, and is a melting pot of cultures, with a large Polynesian and Asian population. Your day is at leisure to rest and relax from our centrally located hotel. This evening we gather together for a welcome reception to meet one another before sampling our first taste of New Zealand's excellent cuisine with dinner at a waterfront restaurant. *D*

AUCKLAND  
KAURI MESEUM  
BAY OF ISLANDS  
HISTORIC KERIKERI  
MAORI MARAE VISIT  
WAITANGI TREATY GROUNDS

### 2 KAURI MUSEUM & BAY OF ISLANDS

This morning we travel north across the Auckland Harbour Bridge, past the lovely Pacific Coast beaches of Orewa and Waiwera and through picturesque farmlands to Matakoho for a visit to the excellent Matakoho Kauri Museum. The Kauri is the largest tree in New Zealand's forests, and grows to a huge size. The trees were commercially exploited, almost to the point of extinction. This noble tree is now regenerating in protected areas. At The Kauri Museum, view lifelike displays showing a collection of Kauri products, learn the story of the area's history, and the Kauri's more practical uses by pioneers. After lunch we continue our journey north to the Bay of Islands, featuring a coastline of golden beaches and rocky outcrops. Scattered with 150 islands, this region is renowned as a maritime adventure playground. Have some time this afternoon to take a walk, take a swim in the hotel's pool complex, or take the short ferry ride from Paihia across the bay to Russell - a tranquil, picturesque resort town servicing the needs of national and international yachts, and game fishing folk. Our hotel is situated at Waitangi, one of New Zealand's most historical sites. Paihia is a short drive from the hotel. This evening we enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant. *BLD*



### 3 MAORI CULTURE & KERIKERI

Today we will experience New Zealand's most historic region through the eyes of a local Maori. Our guide today is of Ngapuhi iwi (a Northland tribe) descent and will introduce us to Maoridom as a living, vibrant culture. The day's activities commence with a visit to Kerikeri where New Zealand's oldest buildings including the Stone Store are situated. Hear the story of how these buildings were constructed by British missionaries under the protection of a great Maori war chief. A highlight of today will be our opportunity to visit a local living Marae. A marae is a Maori meeting ground that belongs to a particular iwi (tribe), hapu (sub-tribe) or whanau (family). To respect ancient traditions, our guide will lead us through the etiquette of being welcomed onto the marae. Meet the elders here and learn about their whakapapa (genealogy) and the importance that the marae has in their lives. Enjoy lunch at the marae and take the opportunity to talk with the locals. After lunch, we visit the Waitangi Treaty Grounds and Treaty House. It was here on 06 February 1840 that British settlers and Maori came together to sign New Zealand's founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi. Time at the Treaty Grounds includes an introduction to Waitangi, visits to the magnificent War Canoe, Meeting House, the Treaty House, and the famous Flagpole. The Meeting House is a superb example of the skills of Maori wood carvers and flax weavers. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant - 35° South, located over the water on the Paihia waterfront. *BLD*





# Ultimate New Zealand

## DAY 4-7 TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

HOLE IN THE ROCK SCENIC CRUISE  
AUCKLAND MUSEUM  
COROMANDEL PENINSULA  
PAUANUI BEACH  
ROTORUA  
WAIOTAPU THERMAL POOLS  
RAINBOW SPRINGS

### 4 BAY OF ISLANDS

This morning we take a cruise to experience and highlight the Bay of Islands starting with a journey to Hole in the Rock. We board a comfortable vessel for a scenic boat trip through the bays while keeping a look-out for common and bottlenose dolphins, whales and other marine life. Cruise past the Cape Brett Lighthouse, before arriving at the Hole in the Rock, which our skipper will skillfully navigate through (conditions permitting) as well as taking in the Grand Cathedral Cave. We will take lunch at a local hotel in Paihia before retracing our journey south to Auckland travelling via Whangarei and the North Shore suburbs of Auckland City. This evening is at leisure for you to sample your own choice of restaurant. The Viaduct Harbour is particularly popular with a variety of dining establishments as is the nearby Wynyard Quarter. *BLD*

### 5 AUCKLAND & COROMANDEL PENINSULA

This morning we visit the Auckland Museum for a private 1-hour guided tour. Gain insider knowledge about Auckland Museum's treasures from experienced guides. Encounter exhibitions that will excite you with the artistic legacy and cultures of the peoples of the Pacific; the monumental carvings, buildings, canoes and taonga (treasures) of the Maori; and the diversity of cultures which now combine to form the rich tapestry of race, nationality and creed which is modern New Zealand. After our time at the Museum and lunch, we bid farewell to Auckland and drive south then east to the Coromandel Peninsula, one of New Zealand's best-kept secrets! It is an area of beautiful beaches and magnificent native forests rarely seen by international guests but a popular destination for New Zealanders. Located at Mt. Pauanui our secluded hideaway accommodation is nestled into the mountainside offering superb views of the local landscape and within close proximity of the beautiful Pauanui Beach. Dinner this evening will be at our hotel accommodation. *BLD*

### 6 COROMANDEL PENINSULA

Today we meet two local guides who will join us this morning to introduce us to the Coromandel Peninsula's natural heritage and scenic beauty. We take a gentle walk through beautiful regenerating Kauri forest full of fern trees, along the old roads of Puketui, the 1890's gold mining town. Then visit an underground jail and discover gold mines where the flicker of miners lamps has given way to illumination by many sparkling glow-worms. Hear about the importance of gold to the region and other interesting facts. We will visit one of Coromandel's beautiful white sand beaches where we will enjoy a boxed picnic lunch. After lunch we head north to visit the small beach communities of Hahei and Cooks Beach. Also see the famous Hot Water Beach where, when the tide is right (unfortunately it won't be today), bathers dig holes in the sand to enjoy the warm thermal springs under the sand as the waves come in. Later this afternoon you may wish to take a swim or a stroll along Pauanui Beach. Enjoy a leisurely dinner at our hotel. *BLD*

### 7 ROTORUA & RAINBOW SPRINGS

We will make our way to Rotorua this morning! Rotorua forms part of the geologically active 'Pacific Rim of Fire' and evidence of the bubbling thermal activity just under the earth's crust is surprisingly evident throughout the city. Upon arrival in Rotorua we enjoy a private luncheon at The Blue Bath's, one of Rotorua's most loved heritage buildings situated within the tranquil beauty of the Government Gardens near the heart of the city. This afternoon we visit the thermal area of Waiotapu, one of the world's most colourful thermal areas. See the Artist's Palette where different minerals form areas on the pool surface, view the tiny bubbles surfacing in the Champagne Pool and walk down alongside the silica terrace to see the Bridal Veil Falls as well as other thermal activity. We then head to Rainbow Springs, a showcase of New Zealand's natural flora and fauna - see the rare Kiwi bird, tiny Kiwi bird eggs and perhaps Kiwi babies then view New Zealand's only reptile, the Tuatara. Dine at the hotel this evening. *BLD*



# Ultimate New Zealand

## DAY 8-10 TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

### 8 CHRISTCHURCH

This morning we fly from Rotorua to Christchurch in the South Island. Christchurch has emerged revitalized following the earthquake that devastated much of the city in February 2011. As we move around the city, we'll see how the earthquake has impacted upon Christchurch and see how the city is rebuilding. Lunch today is at Riccarton House, a grand Victorian/Edwardian homestead built in three stages; 1856, 1874, 1900 for Canterbury's pioneering Deans family. The house is fully restored and is decorated and furnished in appropriate period style. Today we enjoy lunch in the Drawing Room then after lunch will enjoy a guided tour of the house to learn about the pioneering Dean's Family story from its origins in lowland Scotland, to the triumphs and tragedy in New Zealand. This afternoon we'll go Punting on the Avon River. Board a traditional punt – a handcrafted flat-bottomed boat, then glide along the tranquil Avon River, as a skilled punter in traditional Edwardian attire propels you slowly along the water. Travel leisurely from the historic Antigua Boat sheds, through the Botanic Gardens, and enjoy the spectacular flora for which Christchurch, the 'Garden City' is famous. Check into our hotel and then partake in dinner at the Curators House. *BLD*

### 9 SOUTHERN ALPS & ARTHURS PASS NATIONAL PARK

We begin our day at the Christchurch Railway Station to board the Tranz Alpine rail service for a scenic rail journey across the fertile Canterbury Plains and into the heart of the mighty Southern Alps. Travel across towering viaducts, through spectacular gorges and river valleys and into the lush forest of Arthurs Pass National Park. We leave the train at Arthurs Pass and reboard our coach to descend into the lush rainforests of Westland and travel south along the West Coast to Hokitika. Time permitting, we visit one of the greenstone factories where a local jade-like stone highly prized by pre-European Maori is crafted into exquisite jewellery. Spend some free time in Hokitika and choose your lunch from a variety of small dining establishments. From Hokitika we continue south to the village of Franz Josef where we will have our hotel overnight. This afternoon, weather permitting we have the thrill of flying high into the Southern Alps by helicopter to fly over two of New Zealand's most famous glaciers and land at the head of either the Franz Josef Glacier or Fox Glacier. We'll view the incredible natural phenomenon of the glacier as it winds slowly down the carved valleys from its origin in the mountains high above you. This unforgettable 30-minute flight includes a snow landing. Tonight we enjoy dinner at the hotel. *BLD*

### 10 WESTLAND NATIONAL PARK & LAKE WANAKA

Today we journey to Westland National Park, travel over the Haast Pass past Lake Hawea to eventually reach beautiful Lake Wanaka, the starting point of the mighty Clutha River. Enjoy lunch in this resort town, which draws visitors seeking adventure, spectacular scenery and a relaxed atmosphere. This is a region of snow-capped peaks, long river valleys and lush native forest, anchored by its tranquil, far-reaching lake. Walking and hiking opportunities abound and offer a wonderful mixture of remote wilderness, high mountains and beautiful river valleys. Our resort accommodation is situated in a quiet location on the shores of Lake Wanaka. This evening dine in Sargood's Restaurant at the hotel. *BLD*

CHRISTCHURCH  
RICCARTON HOUSE  
PUNTING ON THE AVON RIVER  
SOUTHERN ALPS  
ARTHURS PASS NATIONAL PARK  
GLACIER FLIGHTSEEING  
WESTLAND NATIONAL PARK  
LAKE WANAKA





# Ultimate New Zealand

## DAY 11-13 TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

LAKE WANAKA 4WD ADVENTURE  
QUEENSTOWN  
MILLBROOK GOLF COURSE  
ARROWTOWN  
MT. ASPIRING NATIONAL PARK  
DART JET BOAT RIDE  
LAKE WAKATIPU STEAMSHIP RIDE  
WALTER PEAK HIGH COUNTRY FARM

### 11 LAKE WANAKA & QUEENSTOWN

This morning we meet local guides and take an exciting 2½-hour 4WD adventure that encompasses Wanaka's finest lakeside scenery plus an exciting (and sometimes rugged!) 4WD journey through West Wanaka Station – a real, alpine mountain farm. We'll make several stops including mountain-top viewpoints for spectacular panoramic views of snow-capped peaks, glaciers and Lake Wanaka far below. Refreshments will be served from the 4WD vehicles before we head back and board our coach. From Wanaka we travel to Queenstown. We stop at Millbrook Resort, home to the world-class 18-hole championship Millbrook Golf Course for a later casual 'Kiwi Barbeque Lunch'. Afterwards visit Arrowtown, a delightful gold rush village nestled below the beautiful peaks that surround the sparkling Arrow River. You may wish to take a walk to the historic Arrowtown Chinese Settlement, a mute reminder and tribute to the contribution made by the Chinese goldminers and business people to the region's goldmining, cultural and business history. We then make our way back to Queenstown. As well as the proclaimed 'adventure capital of NZ', the resort town of Queenstown is sophisticated and fantastically scenic. We dine in the hotel restaurant tonight. *BLD*



### 12 MT. ASPIRING NATIONAL PARK

This morning transfer to the small settlement of Glenorchy and join Dart River Jet Safari's for a Wilderness Safari into the Mt Aspiring National Park. Our journey takes us on a 1½-hour thrilling jet boat journey on crystal clear water in a wild and picturesque landscape, amidst the towering peaks, glaciers and ancient forests of Mt. Aspiring National Park. Also enjoy a 30-40-minute guided walk through ancient native beech forest and learn about the flora and fauna, history, and geology of this World Heritage Area from experienced guides before travelling by 4WD coach through the high country farmland and forests around Paradise – film location for a number of scenes in the 'Lord of the Rings' movie trilogy and 'Narnia'. After our exciting excursion we take lunch before returning to Queenstown mid-afternoon. This evening we cruise across Lake Wakatipu in the 103 year old vintage steamship, the TSS Earnslaw. Disembark at Walter Peak High Country Farm, one of the first farms set up in the region and still a working farm. In the ambience of the Colonel's Homestead, enjoy a delicious gourmet BBQ dinner which the chef will prepare in front of you. After dinner enjoy an entertaining brief farm experience including a sheep shearing demonstration. On the magical night-time cruise home, enjoy the camaraderie of a sing-a-long with the ship's pianist or breathe in the fresh night air on the moonlit decks as you watch the lights of Queenstown draw nearer. *BLD*



### 13 QUEENSTOWN LEISURE DAY

Today is free for you to explore Queenstown on your own or just relax. Queenstown is a lovely town to stroll around – perhaps visit some of the local boutiques, sit on the shores of Lake Wakatipu with an ice-cream and gaze across at Cecil and Walter Peaks or take a walk through the lovely Queenstown Gardens. Other offerings include helicopter flights and trips on jet-boats, wine tours to premier Central Otago wineries, lake cruises, 4WD excursions into the hills, bungy jumping, white water rafting, ziptrekking and skydiving! Consider a day cruise through scenic Millford Sound. Lunch and dinner today are your opportunities to sample your choice of Queenstown's excellent cafés and restaurants. \*\*All optional tours are an additional costs to guests and not included in package. *BLD*





# Ultimate New Zealand

## DAY 14-15 TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

### 14 MT COOK NATIONAL PARK

This morning we bid farewell to Queenstown and head north to the small junction town of Cromwell. We have a brief stop at Mrs Jones' Orchard – one of Central Otago's most well-known orchards. Here we can see the splendour of the region's well known range of fresh fruits as well as a selection of fresh and dry fruits available all year round from the roadside stall. Then we drive along the shores of Lake Pukaki into Mt Cook National Park. At the heart of New Zealand's most spectacular alpine region is Mt Cook, at 3754 metres the highest peak in Australasia. The Mt Cook National Park comprises 70,013 hectares of ice, snow, rock, sub-alpine scrub, tussock and riverbeds. We stop at Mt Cook to enjoy lunch in the Alpine Restaurant at The Hermitage. After lunch, we view the striking blue waters of Lake Tekapo to visit the Church of the Good Shepherd and the famous bronze sculpture of the sheep dog. Continue on to the city of Christchurch. This evening we enjoy a farewell dinner at the hotel. *BLD*

MRS JONES ORCHARD  
LAKE PUKAKI  
MT. COOK NATIONAL PARK  
LAKE TEKAPO

### 15 FLY HOME FROM CHRISTCHURCH

Our time in the New Zealand has now come to a close. After breakfast we transfer to Christchurch Airport to meet our flights home. *B*



# General Information - Ultimate New Zealand

## RESERVATIONS

Reservations may be made directly to John Hall's Alaska by mail, telephone, or in person. This tour is open to John Hall's Alaska alumni and friends or family touring alongside our alumni guests.

## DEPOSITS

To confirm your reservation please send a deposit of \$750.00 per person within ten days of your reservation. To reserve your space by credit card, please contact our office.

## FINAL PAYMENTS

Final Payment must reach John Hall's Alaska 90 days prior to tour departure date. If payment is not received on time, space may be released; re-booking will be subject to availability. Mastercard, Visa, Discover, American Express, and personal checks are acceptable forms of payment. A discount of \$300 per person will be extended for tours paid by cash or check. (\$750 per person deposits may still be made by credit card).

## CANCELLATIONS

If a cancellation is made in writing at least 90 days prior to departure, a full refund will be made. For cancellations made less than 90 days prior to departure, the following per person charges apply: 60-90 days - 50% of total charges; 45- 59 days - 75% of total charges, inside of 45 days - 100% of fare. In the event of interruption or cancellation of your tour after its commencement, there will be no refunds.

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

When crafting this itinerary, the location, dining and views allowed at each destination were taken into consideration. We have selected hotels that put you at the heart of the region that we are exploring for the day. Please click on the links next to each deluxe hotel to get a better picture of what you may expect:

- Sofitel Viaduct Harbour, Auckland – 2 nights - [website](#) • Copthorne Bay of Islands, Bay of Islands - 2 nights - [website](#) • Grand Mercure Puka Park – 2 nights - [website](#)
- Millennium Hotel, Rotorua – 1 night - [website](#) • Distinction Christchurch - 2 nights - [website](#) • Te Waonui Forest Retreat, Franz Josef Glacier – 1 night - [website](#)
- Edgewater Resort, Wanaka – 1 night - [website](#) • Hotel St Moritz, Queenstown – 3 nights - [website](#)

Due to most hotels being European Style, triple and quad occupancy is subject to availability, but will be requested at the time of booking.

## SPECIAL NEEDS

Special diet requests, specific medical conditions, physical disabilities or other special needs requirements must be noted at the time of booking. We do not discriminate against persons on the basis of disability and seek, to the furthest extent possible, to accommodate any person with a disability. Although we are unable to guarantee that all special meal or diet requests may be available, we will request where appropriate. In particular, please let us know if you have had a recent change in a medical condition such as change of diet or if you require the use of a mobility device that may include a wheelchair, scooter or walker.

## TIPPING/GRATUITIES

All gratuities have been included in the price of your package with the exception of your Tour Escort. This includes all waitering staff and luggage handling gratuities while on tour. Tipping your Tour Escort is not required and should reward exemplary service.

## PACKING RECOMMENDATIONS

The dress code for this tour is casual. Sweaters, jackets, gloves and hats for mountain and glacier destinations. Swim wear and sandals may be useful at resort pools. Comfortable walking shoes, jeans and shorts or capris for touring days are recommended. Consider packing in layers so that you may wear switch out warm and cool weather attire throughout the tour. You will be provided with an overnight bag to use on a few evenings when large luggage would cause an inconvenience. Your tour escort will let you know what nights to pack your overnight bag.

## TOUR DOCUMENTS

Tour documents, including detailed itinerary, luggage tags, overnight duffle bag, and passenger lists will be mailed approximately 14-21 days prior to departure. This may be delayed if final payment is not received on time.

## EXTENDED STAYS AND ADDITIONAL OVERNIGHTS

Should you wish to spend some more time exploring New Zealand, we would be happy to help you make these arrangements. Some additional fees may be applicable.

## ITINERARY REVISIONS

John Hall's Alaska reserves the right to revise the services included in the itinerary such as hotel accommodations and attractions. In cases of substitution, a comparable quality service will be used.

**Contact John Hall's Alaska To Join This Alumni Adventure!**  
**Call: 800-325-2270 or Email: [info@KissAlaska.com](mailto:info@KissAlaska.com)**