



18th - 30th October 2016

Join Rodney Vincent when he visits the South Island of New Zealand for some spring magic. This fabulous 12 night tour takes you from Christchurch through the rugged coastline to the Marlborough wine regions, the sunny city of Nelson and the beautiful Abel Tasman National Park. Visit the Franz Josef glacier and spend 3 nights in Queenstown where you'll tour, dine and ride the gondola. At Milford Sound you'll overnight on the Milford Mariner and cruise to the Tasman Sea while wining and dining. Drive along the shores of Lake Pukaki into Mt Cook National Park, visit the stunning Christchurch Botanic Gardens and finish your tour with a concert from your host and Gene Pitney tribute artist - Jon Palmer. Jon and Rodney have been friend for years and this promises to be a great night with music that you love.

MOUNTAINS & MELODIES SOUTH ISLAND NEW ZEALAND Hosted by Rodney Vincent

\$4,895 * per person Twin Share
ex MEL, SYD, BNE

\$1,275 * Single Supplement
ex MEL, SYD, BNE

INCLUSIONS & HIGHLIGHTS

Return Economy Airfares ex MEL, SYD, BNE
12 Nights' Accommodation
Cooked Breakfast Daily
3 x Lunches
10 Dinners
All Touring and Admissions as per itinerary

Highlights

Marlborough Wine Region
Abel Tasman National Park
Franz Josef Glacier
Skyline Gondola Queenstown
Overnight Cruise on Milford Sound
Mt Cook
Rodney Vincent and Jon Palmer in Concert - Gene Pitney Tribute

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TERMS & CONDITIONS *Price is per person Twin Share fully inclusive. Single Supplement applies. Credit card surcharges apply. Deposit of \$500 per person is required to secure tour. Tour requires minimum number of passengers to depart. Prices may fluctuate if surcharges, fee, taxes or currency change. Go See Touring Pty Ltd T/A Go See Touring Member of Helloworld QLD Lic No: 3198772 ABN: 72 122 522 276

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Day 1 Monday 17 October 2016 Depart Melbourne 8:10AM or Sydney 9:35AM- Arrive Christchurch 1:20PM or 2:35PM

Haere mai, Kia Ora! Welcome to New Zealand! Today you are met on arrival then transferred to your Christchurch accommodation. The Quality Hotel Elms is surrounded by award-winning gardens and is ideally situated only a 12 minute drive from Christchurch International Airport and 4.5 kilometres from central Christchurch.

Accommodation: Quality Hotel Elms or similar - 1 night

Day 2 Tuesday 18 October 2016 (B, D) Christchurch/Hanmer Springs/Blenheim

Today travel across the northern Canterbury Plains then head inland at Waipara - one of the lesser known but growing wine regions of the South Island. Travel through picturesque farmlands before arriving in the alpine village of Hanmer Springs. The town is situated in a high country basin 385m above sea level and one of New Zealand's favourite retreats - perfect for rest or as a getaway or for adventure. This afternoon continue travelling north following the rugged coastline and the Pacific Ocean on one side and the Seaward Kaikoura Mountains on the other before arriving in Blenheim in the heart of the Marlborough wine country. Dinner tonight is at the Raupo Riverside Restaurant, Raupo is situated in the heart of Blenheim overlooking the Taylor River. **Accommodation:** Scenic Marlborough or similar - 1 night

Day 3 Wednesday 19 October 2016 (B, L, D) Blenheim/Nelson

This morning visit the Omaka Aviation Heritage Museum where their exhibition "Knights of the Sky" includes one of the world's largest private collections of rare WWI aircraft. The exhibit occupies approximately 3,000 sq metres of purpose-built display area and accommodates both WWI aircraft and rare memorabilia; also a mix of dramatically staged static displays of original and replica aircraft along with flyable planes from the WWI era. Lunch today is at a local winery where you will also be able to sample some of the local wines. Forty years ago there was hardly a commercial grape grown in the Blenheim area. Now the Marlborough district is the top wine producing area in New Zealand with its wines winning awards around the world. Following the winery visit, you travel across the top of the South Island through the Rai Valley, forestry plantations and farmland to the Nelson region. **Accommodation:** Trailways Hotel or similar - 2 nights

Day 4 Thursday 20 October 2016 (B, L) Nelson - Abel Tasman National Park - Nelson

Paradise found! Abel Tasman National Park is a mosaic of golden coves and turquoise lagoons sheltered by forested ranges to the south. With few roads in this pristine wilderness, most journeys are made by boat, so today we put ourselves into the expert hands of the Knaap family. At Kaiteriteri, board a small cruiser for an exploration of the Park. Retrace your journey back to Nelson by coach with the rest of the afternoon at leisure.

Day 5 Friday 21 October 2016 (B, D) Nelson/Punakaiki/Glacier Country/Franz Josef Glacier

Turning inland we follow the Buller River Gorge. This is one of the world's best but least-known scenic drives, carved out of the forest by 19th century prospectors, it follows the deep river gorge, often crossing it on single-track bridges. We emerge from the forest at Westport to stretch our legs on rocky Cape Foulwind, so named in 1770 by Capt. Cook after the Endeavour was blown off-shore by the 'foul winds'. The point is reached by an excellent track to viewing platforms where we may see fur seals, sooty shearwaters and blue penguins. Back on the road, we follow the rugged coast to Punakaiki and its extraordinary rock formations at Dolomite Point. This afternoon we reach Westland National Park, an amazing place where ice meets rainforest at the foot of the Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers. We base ourselves in laid-back Franz Josef township for ease of access to the slowly moving 'river' of ice. **Accommodation:** Scenic Hotel Franz Josef Glacier or similar - 1 night

Day 6 Saturday 22 October 2016 (B,D) Franz Josef Glacier/Queenstown

Driving towards the southern end of the South Island's West Coast Road, there is a strong sense of entering a primeval land, and a feeling of total isolation. Arriving at Haast, you are surrounded by a landscape of rainforest, wetlands, sand dunes and surf-pounded shingle beaches. This wilderness forms part of the South West New Zealand World Heritage Area, so designated because South Westland and Fiordland have some of the most dramatic forest and mountain scenery and natural resources in the world. From the Westland National Park travel through the Haast River valleys and over the Haast Pass to Makaroa and onto the upper reaches of Lake Wanaka. Travelling past Lake Hawea reach the popular Lake Wanaka, the starting point of the mighty Clutha River then travel via Cromwell following the Kawarau Gorge Road into Queenstown, New Zealand's premier year-round alpine resort town. **Accommodation:** Copthorne Hotel & Resort Lakefront or similar - 3 nights

Day 7 Sunday 23 October 2016 (B,D) Queenstown

Today we depart on a sightseeing tour of the area which takes you up Queenstown Hill to enjoy the panoramic views. Also drive out to the Kawarau Bridge where you can see the daring bungy jumping from the original AJ Hackett site off the bridge towards the river below. Enjoy wine tasting at Gibbston Valley, one of the most southern wineries in the world before a visit to historic Arrowtown a pretty village which now rests under shady trees but was once a rip roaring gold rush town, views of Lake Hayes and the rugged Shotover River. Dinner tonight is at Queenstown's most spectacular location. Ride the aerial gondola high above Queenstown to Bob's Peak where the Skyline Restaurant serves up a mouth-watering buffet.

Day 8 Monday 24 October 2016 (B) Queenstown

Day at leisure today. Queenstown is New Zealand's adventure capital, and is a bustling tourist centre in summer and winter alike. There is so much to do here and so little time! Queenstown offers a huge choice of activities, so today is free for you to do your own thing. And when it comes to eating out, you are spoiled for choice, so you are free to make your own arrangements for dinner.

Day 9 Tuesday 25 October 2016 (B,L,D) Queenstown/Milford Sound

Travel around Lake Wakatipu and through Te Anau and the Fiordland National Park. The scenery is stunning with high mountains and deep valleys carved out by ice age glaciers. There are clear rushing streams and leaping waterfalls set in magnificent native rainforest. In the late afternoon board the Milford Mariner for an overnight cruise. Designed along the lines of a traditional New Zealand coastal trading scow to reflect the heritage of the Fiordland area, the Milford Mariner caters for visitors who enjoy comfort, combined with activity. The vessel has been purpose built to accommodate passengers in private cabins with en-suite bathrooms. Cruise the length of Milford Sound to the Tasman Sea. The vessel explores points of interest, with plenty of time available to view waterfalls, rainforest, mountains and wildlife with the experienced nature guide on board. The vessel returns to and anchors overnight in sheltered Harrison Cove. Conditions permitting you will have the opportunity to explore the shoreline by kayak or by tendercraft. **Accommodation:** Milford Mariner 1 Night

Day 10 Wednesday 26 October 2016 (B,D) Milford/Omarama

Today retrace your journey back to Queenstown Junction then travel north through the rugged Kawarau Gorge to Cromwell in a popular stone-fruit growing area. Pass pretty Lake Dunstan and cross the distinctive Central Otago countryside to the dramatic Lindis Pass which links Central Otago with the Mackenzie Basin. Your overnight accommodation is in the small rural service town of Omarama. **Accommodation:** Heritage Gateway Hotel or similar - 1 night

Day 11 Thursday 27 October 2016 (B,D) Omarama/Mt Cook/Christchurch

Pass the small town of Twizel then see the canals that feed the huge Waitaki hydro electricity generation scheme. 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. Time at Mt Cook Village. Retrace your journey back along Lake Pukaki then continue on to Tekapo to see the magnificent blue waters of Lake Tekapo. Here visit the Church of the Good Shepherd and the statue of the Collie dog, before travelling the vast Mackenzie Basin, over Burke's Pass through Fairlie, Geraldine, Ashburton and across the Canterbury Plains into Christchurch. Dinner tonight is Spanish cuisine & tapas al fresco, fireside with stunning views Botanic Gardens at the Curator's House, situated in the picturesque Botanic Gardens. **Accommodation:** Quality Hotel Elms Christchurch or similar - 2 nights

Day 12 Friday 28 October 2016 (B,D) Christchurch/Rodney Vincent & Jon Palmer in Concert

Day at Leisure; Christchurch, "the most English city outside England", grew out of a planned Anglican settlement in the 1850's. The city's beautiful urban parks and formal gardens shaded by oaks and willows, fine Gothic cathedral and Victorian architecture typify this corner of New Zealand. Majestic views of the sweeping Canterbury Plains and snow-capped Southern Alps can be seen from the Port Hills. Tonight a concert with your host and Jon Palmer.

Day 13 Saturday 29 October 2016 Depart Christchurch 12:00PM OR 6:25PM - Arrive Mel 5:30PM or Syd 8:00PM

If you are leaving New Zealand today, we transfer you to Christchurch Airport for your flight home. Alternatively we can extend your stay in Christchurch for a few days or arrange your onward independent touring by car, Trans Alpine train, Coastal Pacific train or other coaching services. Which-ever way you leave us, sadly we must say farewell. We hope that you go home with amazing memories of your time in New Zealand.



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