

21 Day Ultimate Cruise and North Island Experience

21 days

Created on: 21 May, 2025



Highlights

- Sky Tower
- Kauri Museum
- Footprints Waipoua Forest Tour
- Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- Sculptureum Experience
- Hamilton Gardens
- Hobbiton Movie Set Tour
- Skyline Gondola and Luge Ride
- Agrodome
- Thermal mud pools and geysers
- Tamaki Māori Experience
- Napier Vintage Car Tour
- Mission Estate Winery
- Te Papa, NZ's National Museum
- City sights tour of Auckland and Wellington

Inclusions

- 9 nights in 4.5 star accommodation
- 3 two night stays
- Professional Coach Captain
- Hotel portorage
- 9 cooked breakfasts including a specialty breakfast: Stratosfare Restaurant, Rotorua
- 8 sumptuous dinners including 3 specialty dinners: Māori Hāngi and Concert, Rotorua; Winery Dinner, Napier; Farewell Dinner, selected beverages, Wellington
- 1 Shire's buffet lunch: Hobbiton
- Souvenir group photo

Exclusions

- Tips and gratuities
- Travel insurance (Strongly recommended, ask us for a quote!)

- Items (attractions and sightseeing & entrance fees) not listed as included in the itinerary
- Pre/post accommodation
- Airfare to Melbourne and transfer to the welcome lunch on Day 1

* The airfare to Melbourne and transfer to the welcome lunch on Day 1 are not included. Please make own arrangements.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Melbourne

Arrive in Melbourne, where you will be met by your Grand Pacific Tours representative for a welcome lunch. Meet your fellow travellers before boarding the Celebrity Eclipse.

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Lunch and Dinner

Day 2: Cruising

The Celebrity Eclipse® offers an unparalleled wealth of dining. As an AquaClass® guest you have exclusive access to your own restaurant, Blu, which offers healthy and delicious breakfast and dinner choices.

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 3: Sydney

Considered to be one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the Southern Hemisphere, Sydney offers just about anything - from beaches and wineries to stunning landmarks and world-class shopping. The day is yours to explore. Port Times Arrive 08:00 Depart 22:00

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 4 -5: Cruising

Cruise across the Tasman Sea to the Land of the Long White Cloud.

Overnight:

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 6: Milford, Doubtful and Dusky Sounds

Sail into the narrow fiords of Milford, Doubtful and Dusky Sounds. Your ship will seem to shrink in comparison to the towering cliffs topped by lush mountain terrain. Scenic cruising.

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 7: Dunedin

Situated on the magnificent Otago coastline, explore Dunedin's historic architecture and beautiful botanic gardens. Port Times Arrive

09:00 Depart 17:00

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 8: Christchurch

In Christchurch, you will see the state-of-the-art architecture, vibrant street art, bustling restaurants, laneways and green public spaces. Take time to explore the city by tram or Edwardian punt along the tranquil Avon River. Port Times Arrive 07:00 Depart 18:00

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 9: Wellington

Situated at the southern end of the North Island, Wellington was recently named the 'Coolest Little Capital'. On the waterfront is Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum, one of the best interactive museums in the world. Port Times Arrive 08:00 Depart 17:00

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 10: Cruising

Relax and enjoy the comforts of this stunning superliner. While at sea enjoy the onboard facilities, world-class cuisine and the entertainment not to mention your AquaClass® balcony stateroom.

Overnight:

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 11: Tauranga

Located in the Bay of Plenty, Tauranga is situated at the entrance to one of the largest natural harbours in New Zealand. Port Times Arrive 07:45 Depart 18:45

Overnight: Celebrity Eclipse

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 12: Arrive Auckland - City Sights Tour

This morning sail into the beautiful 'City of Sails', Auckland. Disembark the ship, meet your Ultimate Coach Captain and enjoy a city tour of Auckland. This afternoon visit Sky Tower, one of New Zealand's most spectacular attractions. This evening enjoy a complimentary pre dinner drink at your hotel.

Overnight: Auckland

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 13: Auckland - Hokianga - Bay of Islands

Depart Auckland and travel to Matakohē to enjoy an informative talk at the Kauri Museum. After lunch travel to Hokianga, home to some of the largest remaining kauri trees in the world. Join the unforgettable Footprints Waipoua Forest Tour, where a local guide will

explain how these trees are intertwined with the lives of the local Māori and the important role played in the ecosystem that is the Waipoua Forest. Continue to Paihia, situated in the heart of the beautiful Bay of Islands.

Overnight: Bay of Islands

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 14: Bay of Islands

Today is free to choose from the many optional activities available. You may like to take a coach trip to Cape Reinga via Ninety Mile Beach, the Hole in the Rock Cruise, or a spectacular scenic flight. The choice is yours and your Coach Captain will be available to assist.

Overnight: Bay of Islands

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 15: Bay of Islands - Auckland

This morning join a guided tour of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the location of the signing of the treaty between the Māori tribes and the British. Farewell the Bay of Islands and drive south via Whangarei and Warkworth to Matakana to visit Sculptureum, an art experience that is internationally unique. Enjoy time to wander through the Garden of Creative Diversity and to view the hundreds of displayed works in the Galleries and garden all designed to amuse and inspire. Return to Auckland where this evening is free to dine at leisure.

Overnight: Auckland

Included Meal(s): Breakfast

Day 16: Auckland - Rotorua

Travel to Waikato's most visited attraction, the Hamilton Gardens. A guided tour will take you on a journey from the peaceful Sung Dynasty Chinese Scholar's garden into an Italian Renaissance garden followed by the grandeur of the Indian Char Bagh garden. Next visit Hobbiton for lunch followed by an experience of the real Middle-earth with a visit to the Hobbiton Movie Set. A guide will escort you through the ten acre site recounting fascinating details of how the set was created. Continue to the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua.

Overnight: Rotorua

Included Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 17: Rotorua

Today begins with a Gondola ride to the Stratosfare Restaurant where a buffet breakfast and spectacular views are on offer. There is also time for a luge ride! Next stop is the Agrodome for an action-packed hour of farming entertainment and education that's unlike anything you've seen before. Travel to Te Puia for a tour of the boiling mud pools and awesome Geysers that Rotorua is famous for. Enjoy some free time this afternoon before travelling to a Māori Village for an interactive and educational experience that culminates with a cultural performance and traditional Hāngi feast.

Overnight: Rotorua

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 18: Rotorua - Napier

Depart Rotorua and travel along the Thermal Explorer Highway to Huka Falls and Lake Taupo. Continue to Napier known as the 'The Art Deco Capital', where the most comprehensive collection of art deco buildings in the world can be found. This afternoon relive the

glamour and style of the jazz era with a luxurious vintage car tour. Your driver will provide informative commentary on the city's fascinating history. Enjoy some time at leisure this afternoon.

Overnight: Napier

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 19: Napier (Free Day)

Today is free to explore the city at leisure. Napier is home to many fine wineries, restaurants, bars and cafes. The Sea Walls collection of magnificent murals painted on more than 50 walls around the city is a must do. This evening you will dine at Mission Estate Winery, established in 1851 and known as New Zealand's oldest winery and the birthplace of New Zealand wine.

Overnight: Napier

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 20: Napier - Wellington

Travel south into Wellington for a city tour of the national's capital which will showcase the history and culture. A highlight will be time to explore Gallipoli: A Scale of War exhibition at Te Papa, New Zealand's National Museum. Cutting edge technology brings these stories to life through the eyes of New Zealanders who found themselves in extraordinary circumstances. This evening enjoy a farewell dinner including selected beverages with your new friends.

Overnight: Wellington

Included Meal(s): Breakfast and Dinner

Day 21: Depart Wellington

Time to say goodbye. You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home after a memorable New Zealand holiday

Overnight:

Included Meal(s): Breakfast