

Topdeck.

trips for 18 to 30 somethings

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NEW ZEALAND PRE-DEPARTURE 2011/2012

Hi, thank you for choosing to holiday with Topdeck. We certainly appreciate your decision to travel with us and rest assured everyone at Topdeck will be doing their utmost to ensure you have the holiday of a lifetime.

We have prepared the following information for you which we trust will assist you in planning for your trip. Some points should be taken as a guide only such as personal spending money, which can vary greatly between individuals but we are sure you will find the information in general very useful.

Get ready for a fantastic holiday!

From all the Crew at Topdeck Travel

Baggage

Soft bags, suitcases or frameless backpacks are best, plus a small day pack or carry bag. No external framed packs please, as they damage other bags on the coach. Please limit your baggage allowance to a maximum of 20kgs.

*** Passengers who have upgraded to "Rock the Boat", please pack a small overnight bag on the day of departure. (Snacks/Nibbles, Towel, Warm Jacket, change of clothes, swimwear, camera, walking shoes or sandals, cash for the bar, toiletries etc) (This is a guide only) ***

Suggested Clothing List

The following clothing list is suggested based on our experience. The basic rule however is "pack light". Our passengers invariably state they wished they had brought half the amount of clothes and remember you are bound to find items to purchase on your trip so leave room for additional purchases during your holiday.

- Smart casual evening wear
- 1 pair sandals/thongs/jandals
- 2 pairs of jeans
- 1 pair of walking shoes
- 2 sweaters/jumpers
- 1 warm jacket
- 4 shirts / t-shirts
- 1 rainproof jacket
- 2 pairs of shorts / skirts
- 1 pair of shoes (smart/casual)
- Swimming costume
- Washing powder
- Basic medical kit (inc. aspirins, plasters)
- Insect repellent
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat & Sunscreen

Visa and Passport Information

Please make sure your passport is valid.

We also have a visa chart on our website listing the visas required by some nationalities travelling on our trips. To check go to our website www.topdeck.travel, click on to Travelling with Topdeck and then Visa Information. Remember that some visas can take up to six weeks to obtain, so do not leave it until the last minute. Also keep in mind that the validity of the visa often runs from the date of issue rather than date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassies prior to departure as requirements do change periodically.

Insurance

It is **compulsory** for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance before the trip departs covering cancellations, medical expenses including repatriation, loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and public liability. You **MUST** bring a copy of your insurance policy with you on your trip. Topdeck reserves the right to offload passengers who do not have travel insurance.

Health & Vaccinations

If you suffer from any kind of medical condition you must advise Topdeck at the time of booking, or at least six weeks prior to the departure of your trip. Be sure to have an ample supply of medication before your trip departs. No vaccinations are currently compulsory for entry into New Zealand.

Spending Money

Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are available all over New Zealand and are the safest and easiest way to have access to cash.

Credit Cards

Most well known credit cards are accepted in New Zealand. We recommend that you bring yours along in case you see something special, which you haven't budgeted for. Credit cards can be used for most optional excursions.

Optional Activities

On all trips we have arranged extra activities that we think will enhance your travel experience, but you have a choice as to whether or not you will participate. These are called Optional Excursions and are not included in the cost of your trip. They are usually organised on a group participation basis and should be taken into consideration when budgeting your spending money.

Arrival Information

The prices listed below are in \$NZD and should be used as a guide only.

<u>Arriving in Auckland</u> Auckland Airport is 24km's from the City - Taxi \$50- \$65 - Airport Shuttle \$26	<u>Arriving in Christchurch</u> Christchurch Airport is 11km's from the City - Airport Shuttle \$15 - \$20 - Taxi \$35 - \$50
<u>Arriving in Wellington</u> Wellington Airport is 8km's from the City - Airport Shuttle \$16 - Taxi \$34	<u>Arriving in Queenstown</u> Queenstown Airport is 8km's from town - Taxi \$25 - Airport Shuttle \$15

Departing on your trip

Following is a list of where our tours commence. Please refer to your own individual itinerary for exact departure times. You must be at the departure point at least 30 minutes prior to departure time. If you miss the coach, please call 0800 525 366 and we will assist you.

Location	Departure Point
AUCKLAND	Base Auckland 229 Queen St, Auckland
WELLINGTON	Base Wellington 21-23 Cambridge Tce, Wellington
QUEENSTOWN	Queenstown Lakeview Holiday Park Upper Brecon St, Queenstown
CHRISTCHURCH	Bealey Hotel 263 Bealey Avenue, Christchurch
	Jailhouse Accommodation 338 Lincoln Road, Christchurch

Accommodation

Our accommodation on tour is a mix of 3* properties. Please remember that the standard of accommodation and the ratings are not always the same as in your home country. To keep costs down, accommodation is based on 4-share basis. If you are travelling with a friend and require twin or double accommodation, this is available at a small extra charge. Should this be required, please contact Topdeck or your Travel Agent.

Following is a list of the properties we use on our New Zealand tours. Please note: under certain circumstances, these properties may be substituted for similar accommodation.

BAY OF ISLANDS

Tanoa Paihia
5 Joyces Road
Paihia
Ph: (09) 4027911

COROMANDEL

Coromandel Holiday Park
636 Rings Road
Coromandel
Ph: (07) 8668830

ROTORUA

Alpin Motel
16 Sala Street
Whakarewarewa
Ph: (07) 3484182

TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK

Skotel
Tongariro
Ph: (07) 8923719

WELLINGTON

Base Wellington
21-23 Cambridge Tce
Wellington
Ph: (04) 8015666

HANMER SPRINGS

Kakapo Lodge
14 Amuri Avenue
Hanmer Springs
Ph: (03) 3157472

CHRISTCHURCH

Elms Hotel
456 Papanui Road
Christchurch
Ph: (03) 3553577

LAKE OHAU

Lake Ohau Lodge
2295 Lake Ohau Road
Twizel
Ph: (03) 4389885

MILFORD SOUND

Real Journeys
Te Anau
Ph: (03) 2497416

QUEENSTOWN

Queenstown Lakeview Holiday Park
Upper Brecon St
Queenstown
Ph: (03) 4427252

FOX GLACIER

Fox Glacier Inn
39 Sullivan Rd
Fox Glacier
Ph: (03) 7510022

GREYMOUTH

Seaside Top 10 Holiday Park
2 Chesterfield St
Greymouth
Ph: (03) 7686618

NELSON

Aloha Lodge
19 Beach Road
Tahunanui
Ph: (03) 5464000

Pre and Post Tour Accommodation

Should you wish to spend an extra couple of days before or after your tour, Topdeck have negotiated special rates at the following properties. Our Reservation team can assist you with any bookings.

AUCKLAND

Hotel Accommodation:

n/a

Backpacker Accommodation:

Base Auckland
229 Queen St
Auckland
PH: (09) 3584877

CHRISTCHURCH

Hotel Accommodation:

Bealey Hotel
263 Bealey Avenue
Christchurch
PH: (03) 3798 660

Backpacker Accommodation:

Jailhouse Accommodation
338 Lincoln Road
Christchurch
PH: (03) 3982 7777

WELLINGTON

Backpacker Accommodation:

Base Wellington
21-23 Cambridge Tce
Wellington
PH: (04) 8015666

QUEENSTOWN

Backpacker Accommodation:

Base Discovery Lodge
49 Shotover St
Queenstown
PH: (03) 4047 7200

Meals

Your meal plan is clearly shown on your itinerary. We provide breakfast on all mornings except the departure morning. Depending on your itinerary, a number of lunches/dinners are also included. Group nights out will arranged by your crew and are a load of fun!

Great Deals on our Festival and Short Break packages!

Did you know Topdeck also run over 100 different trips throughout Europe, Egypt, Morocco, New Zealand and Australia? We also offer a great range of festival and short break packages all year round?

These include:

Venice Carnival
Anzac Day
Las Fallas
St. Patrick's Day
Easter Trips
Pamplona - Running of the Bulls
Edinburgh Fringe Festival
Oktoberfest
Christmas and New Years Trips
Ski packages and MORE

Past Passenger Discount*

As a thank you for being a loyal Topdeck customer, you can claim the following discounts on your next trip. (*Terms & Conditions apply – please see the website for full details)

- 5% off any Topdeck Europe, Australia, Morocco or Africa

Final Checklist

- * Passport
- * Airline tickets (Where applicable)
- * Insurance Policy (You must bring this with you)
- * Visas if required
- * Camera, Batteries
- * Conversion Plug

**** OPTIONAL UPGRADE ****

ROCK THE BOAT - BAY OF ISLANDS OVERNIGHT CRUISES

The Rock is New Zealand's biggest house boat. She is purpose built and offers a warm, homely, stable environment for cruising the Bay of Islands. Our overnight cruise allows guests to encounter everything the Bay has to offer and reflects the adventurous Kiwi spirit. The Rock features a spacious and open downstairs living area that includes a bar, dining area, lounge, pool table, piano and open fire. Upstairs all cabins have sea views and doors that open onto observation decks.



Onboard activities include:

- * Target Shooting
- * Dusk Fishing
- * Night Kayaking
- * Island Walks
- * Swimming
- * Kayaking
- * Snorkelling

DAY ONE - CRUISE

Day One starts with Jonny and our crew meeting you at the Paihia Wharf at 5pm. With fishing lures set we cruise for a couple of hours while we pretty much have the Bay of Islands to ourselves. While cruising you will have the chance to compete for a free drink with fellow travellers in a shooting competition at a target that won't sit still. Or just sit back, enjoy the scenery or maybe play on our free pool table. On almost every cruise we are blessed with the opportunity of seeing the largest & friendliest of the dolphin family, the bottlenose dolphins. Dusk fishing allows you the chance to experience the thrill of catching and

releasing or eating your very own fish. In New Zealand fishing is one of our national past times. Fish bite best on dusk and we are fortunate enough to catch fish most evenings. After fishing, a delicious and typical Kiwi BBQ dinner buffet is served, usually with fresh mussels and hopefully your seafood catch. (Vegetarians please let us know when booking.)

For many, the Night kayaking is a real highlight. On dark nights a phosphorescence fireworks display of streaking fish light up the water like tracer bullets. On full moon evenings paddling under the millions of stars in the moonlight is almost equally as impressive. For the daring you can go night swimming in the phosphorescence where millions of lights radiate off your limbs as you swim, like "fairy dust".

The Rock offer's up a great "feel good" atmosphere. A fun night of laughs, good company, music, pool table competitions and exchanging stories around our cosy bar is always on offer. If you want a more romantic nautical mood with amazing views, sunsets, shooting stars, guitar music, the vessel is lit up with candles and you can relax around our open log fire. On the many clear nights our crew get a chance to use a laser pointer and impress you with their knowledge of New Zealand's southern skies. Shooting stars and satellites are readily seen in a sky that is void of light pollution.



DAY TWO – NEW ZEALAND ADVENTURES

Sunrise at sea is spectacular, can be seen from the comfort of your bed and is a great way to start Day Two. Our second day's plan takes us exploring further through the islands. We choose locations of historic and cultural significance, awesome scenery and clear lagoons. From these locations you can kayak, snorkel, gather fresh sea food, explore WWII remains, and trek across islands and visit ancient Maori fortifications.

If the sea conditions are safe we snorkel on an outer island reef which is abundant in green lip mussels. Here the fish have become very trusting and you can feed them by hand with mussels you have collected. Our snorkelling locations usually offer clear water with deep drop offs in lush subtropical kelp gardens. We often see rays, moray eels, octopus and Crayfish.

Paddle a kayak in the clear blue water along remote coastline, giant sea caves and secluded beaches. (Beginners we would love to teach you!) Our island strolls take us to the most scenic view points. When cruising home we give you the chance to taste the mussels and sea urchins we've collected both raw and cooked, a delicacy in some countries! On the trip home we keep our eyes peeled for 'working birds' as these diving sea birds indicate fish are in a feeding frenzy and easily caught by our lures. We return home at approximately 3pm.

**** Please contact your Travel Agent or the Topdeck Reservations Team if you wish to upgrade to Rock the Boat ****

NEW ZEALAND – OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

BAY OF ISLANDS:

Cape Regina Trip	\$109.00
Sailing Adventure	\$120.00
Kayaking	\$75.00*
Excitor Boat	\$89.00
Dolphin Encounter	\$119.00

ROTORUA:

Rafting	\$80.00
Kayaking	\$110.00
Scenic Flights	\$195.00*
Zorbing	\$40.00*
4WD Bush Safari	\$92.00*
Monster 4x4 Ride	\$46.00*
Mud Bath & Spa	\$85.00*
River Jet	\$160.00*

NELSON:

Quad Biking	\$110*
Horse Riding	\$100.00*
Skydiving	\$299.00*+ Levy
Stunt Plane	\$285*
Able Tasman Kayaking	\$95.00*

KAIKOURA:

Dolphin Swim	\$165.00
Dolphin Watch	\$80.00
Whale Watching	\$145.00
Seal Swim	\$110.00

FOX GLACEIR:

Heli Hike	\$399.00
Half Day Hike	\$99.00
Scenic Flights	\$150.00*
Terminal Face Walk	\$49.00

TEKAPO:

Scenic Flights	\$295.00*
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QUEENSTOWN:

Jetboating	\$119.00
Dart River Safari	\$209.00
Canyon Swing	\$189.00
Bungy Jump	\$130.00*
Skydive	\$269.00*
Horse Riding	\$169.00*
River Boarding	\$149.00
Rafting	\$185.00
4WD Safari	\$153.00
Combo's	\$289*
Paragliding	\$195.00
Gondola/Luge	\$29*

The above prices are to help you budget for extra optional excursions. Prices are approximate and availability of optional excursions is subject to change at any time. **Please use this as a guide only.**

* Please note: These activities have a range of prices depending on the level or the activity chosen. Please enquire with your Trip Leader for all current prices.

These prices are seasonal.