New Zealand Adventure

16 days from $8,574 total price from Los Angeles, San Francisco
($8,095 air & land inclusive plus $479 airline taxes and fees)

It’s a tale of two islands as our small group journeys from New Zealand’s North to its South, through lively cities and pristine fjords, past lush farmland and enchanted forests in a land where the outdoors is the national shrine. Add engaging “Kwis” and intriguing indigenous cultures – it’s a pure New Zealand experience.

Days 1 & 2: Depart U.S. for Auckland, New Zealand

Day 3: Arrive Auckland  We arrive in New Zealand’s largest city early this morning and transfer to our hotel, where our rooms are ready for early check-in. After time to relax and freshen up, we take a casual walking tour of the area around our hotel. This evening we attend a briefing on the journey ahead, followed by a welcome dinner. D

Day 4: Auckland  This morning we tour cosmopolitan Auckland, an eminently livable city. One of only a few world cities straddling two harbors on separate bodies of water, Auckland offers an abundance of natural beauty. A highlight of our tour is the visit to the Auckland Museum, with its prized collections of Maori and Pacific Islander art and artifacts (Auckland has the largest Polynesian population of any city in the world). After lunch at a local restaurant, we embark on a cruise across glittering Auckland Harbour. We return to our hotel mid-afternoon; the remainder of the day is free for independent exploration. Dinner tonight is on our own. B,L

Day 5: Auckland/Rotorua  En route to Rotorua today, we stop at Ruakuri Caves to see the unique glowworms that illuminate the underground grottoes and caves. Late this afternoon we visit Te Puia Thermal Reserve and Maori Cultural Center for a traditional hangi dinner and performance. B,D

Day 6: Rotorua  With its geysers, bubbling mud pools, and hot thermal springs, Rotorua ranks as a geothermal wonder, as well as a center of indigenous Maori culture (Maoris comprise 40% of Rotorua’s population). We encounter this intriguing town on a morning tour that includes a visit to Paradise Valley Springs, which offers an up-close look at New Zealand’s biodiversity, with native flora, a freshwater stream that’s home to wild trout, and wildlife, including alpaca, llama, and wallabies. The park also features a variety of birdlife. Then we drive to the National Kiwi Trust, dedicated to rehabilitating injured kiwis, New Zealand’s national bird. B

Day 7: Rotorua/Napier  Today we set out for one of New Zealand’s celebrated wine regions: Hawke’s Bay and the seaside city of Napier. We sample the local terroir at a wine tasting and lunch at Mission Estate Winery, the country’s oldest winery. Reaching Napier after lunch, we embark on a guided walking tour of the city’s 1930s Art Deco architecture. After an earthquake leveled the city in 1931, it was rebuilt in “Deco” style; today, Napier ranks as one of the most authentically Art Deco cities in the world. Dinner tonight is on our own. B,L
Day 8: Napier/Wellington  We travel today to New Zealand’s capital of Wellington, stopping along the way at a private farm where we learn about the country’s vital sheep farming industry. We see the sheep dogs at work and watch a sheep-shearing demonstration then enjoy a barbecue lunch. We continue on, reaching Wellington late this afternoon. We dine together tonight at a local restaurant.  

Day 9: Wellington  We encounter this genial waterfront city on the southern end of the North Island on this morning’s tour featuring a ride on the historic Wellington Cable Car for panoramic views of the city and harbor. We also visit acclaimed Te Papa, New Zealand’s national museum with interactive exhibits spanning art, history, native cultures, and the natural environment. Then the remainder of the afternoon is free to explore as we wish, perhaps to stroll along bohemian Cuba Street; visit the Wellington Zoo; or wander the lively waterfront area. Dinner tonight is on our own in this city known for its vibrant restaurant scene.  

Day 10: Wellington/Christchurch  

Today we fly south to Christchurch, New Zealand’s “Garden City.” Highlights of our city tour include the Botanic Gardens, the “green heart” of Christchurch dating to 1863; and Cathedral Square, for 150 years the beating heart of Christchurch and site of Christchurch Cathedral. This afternoon is at leisure to explore independently; we dine tonight at our hotel.  

Day 11: Christchurch/Franz Josef  Early today we embark on one of the world’s great rail journeys aboard the TranzAlpine train: along the open farmland of the Canterbury Plain, through the foothills of the Southern Alps; then into the snowcapped peaks of the Southern Alps to a rainforest at sea level. With a view of ice that descends from the frigid upper reaches of the Southern Alps to a rainforest at sea level. With a most spectacular sights: Franz Josef Glacier, the mass of ice that descends from the frigid upper reaches of the Southern Alps to a rainforest at sea level. With a

Day 12: Franz Josef  In Westland National Park this morning, we encounter one of New Zealand’s most spectacular sights: Franz Josef Glacier, the mass of ice that descends from the frigid upper reaches of the Southern Alps to a rainforest at sea level. With a local guide we take a walk along the glacier valley, where we have spectacular views of this natural wonder. Then we visit the West Coast Wildlife Centre with its rare kiwi birds, an animal linked so closely to New Zealand that its residents are known colloquially as “Kiwis.” This afternoon is free to enjoy the splendid surroundings as we wish. We dine tonight at our hotel.  

Day 13: Franz Josef/Queenstown  Traveling to Queenstown today, we stop first in the lakeside resort of Wanaka then in the Central Otago region at a local winery for a private tasting. Late this afternoon we reach Queenstown and our hotel, where we dine tonight.  

Day 14: Queenstown/Doubtful Sound  More scenic overload is in store on our full-day excursion to Fiordland National Park and Doubtful Sound, one of New Zealand’s top attractions. We travel by boat across Lake Manapouri then by coach over Wilmot Pass to reach the “Sound of Silence,” as Doubtful is called for the remarkable serenity that prevails here and in the surrounding mountain peaks, rainforest, and waterfalls. This enchanting woodland may seem familiar to moviemakers: director Peter Jackson filmed The Lord of the Rings’ Fangorn Forest here. Among the wildlife we may see on our three-hour catamaran cruise: dolphins, fur seals, Fiordland crested penguins, and even whales. Surrounding us: rugged mountain peaks, rainforest, waterfalls. After this exhilarating excursion we return to Queenstown early this evening; dinner is on our own.  

Day 15: Queenstown  Today is at leisure to enjoy this outdoor mecca with a spectacular setting on Lake Wakatipu as we wish. Options abound, from jet boating and fly fishing to art gallery hopping or riding the Skyline gondola for outstanding views of this unusually scenic city. Tonight we celebrate our New Zealand adventure over a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.  

Day 16: Depart for U.S.  We depart this afternoon for the airport and our return flights home.  

For reservations, call UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613 or email travel@alumni.ucla.edu

I have only had positive experiences with UCLA travel. It appears that they vet their tour companies well. I have only been on Odysseys Unlimited trips and have enjoyed all of them.”  

– Sheila Adams ’73
Tour Prices
Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2025, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; services of a UCLA Lecturer or Host with a minimum of 15 travelers; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

Gratuities
Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Not Included in Your Tour Price
Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Registration and Payment
A deposit of $500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

Cancellations and Refunds
If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

For all tours (except as noted)

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For Africa’s Wildlife, Egypt & the Eternal Nile, Journey through Vietnam, Machu Picchu to the Galapagos

Prior to departure Charge
95 days or more: $200
94-65 days: 50% of tour price
64-30 days: 75% of tour price
29-0 days: No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package, should you or your travel companion cancel your participation during the tour. If because of low participation Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

Pre-Departure
Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

Single Travelers
We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We will endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

Changes to Your Reservation
We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a $100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement.

Please note that no changes to your name(s) or departure date are allowed within 95 days of departure. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.

Required Information
Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration’s (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit www.tsa.gov), as well as for our travel partners: for international tours – your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender. In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport (international tours) or other form of government issued photo identification (domestic tours) than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue.

Travel Documents
A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 7, 2025, your government-issued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit www.dhs.gov/real-id or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.
Smoking
For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. has a No Smoking policy (including e-cigarettes and vaping) on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

Health and Medical Issues
We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance if you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

We ask that all guests review our guidelines for health on tour, which can be found on our website: www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health.

We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, the UCLA Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

Air Transportation
Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated departure cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer more direct service, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates that enable us to offer you the best possible travel value. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. In addition, we recommend that you not purchase your tickets until final payment is due. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and the UCLA Alumni Association will incur no liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes therein. In any event, neither Odysseys’s Unlimited, Inc., nor the UCLA Alumni Association is responsible for losses, direct or indirect, or missed components of a trip which result from air delays, cancellations, rerouting or any other air-related problem.

Responsibility
The liability of the UCLA Alumni Association, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under its control. It serves only as an agent for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The UCLA Alumni Association and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within its control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.
To reserve your place on tour, please complete this Reservation Form and email it to travel@alumni.ucla.edu, or fax to 310-209-4271.

Once this request is received by UCLA Alumni Travel, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure. If paying by check, please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and include with the form.

Send to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

If you have any questions, please call UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613 or e-mail travel@alumni.ucla.edu.

I/we would like to request __________ place(s). (Deposit amount is $500 per person.)

Full Passport Name __________________________________________ Date of Birth __________ Gender ______

Full Passport Name __________________________________________ Date of Birth __________ Gender ______

Address ________________________________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________________________________________ State __________ ZIP ______________

Home Ph. (_____)_________________________ Cell Ph. (_____)__________________________

E-mail ______________________________________________ Badge Name(s) __________________________

Please book my/our air from __________________________ I/We request an air upgrade to __________________________

I will share a room with __________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) □

I/We request an upgrade to a Highland Villa (for Machu Picchu to the Galapagos only) □

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