



© iStockphoto nzgwmw2017

New Zealand

A journey with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is travel with a purpose. You will have behind-the-scenes access to TNC's work and scientists and will gain the unique opportunity to see local conservation in action, and to understand how local conservation aligns with The Nature Conservancy's global initiatives.

Come explore TNC's work in [New Zealand](#).

Even some of the world's most beautiful and remote nations are not immune to the mounting environmental challenges we all face. New Zealand—known for its geographic isolation, picturesque mountain ranges, unique wildlife, and a 100% Pure ethos that draws international tourists and a rapidly growing number of investors each year—is one such place.

Here, freshwater and ocean resources are under considerable and increasing pressure. Runoff from the growing agricultural and dairy sectors has impacted waterways across the country—so much so that swimming is no longer advised in 60 percent of all government-monitored rivers and lakes. Intensive fishing operations and soil erosion have degraded

shellfish beds that once cleaned water and provided abundant fish habitat in New Zealand's bays and harbors. And as much as 90 percent of all wetlands have been drained and converted for human use since European colonization began some 150 years ago.

In 2016, TNC launched a new campaign in New Zealand, where we are focused on protecting the nation's oceans and waterways through strategies that respect indigenous treaty rights and address economic needs of local stakeholders.

Thank you for your interest in exploring the impacts of TNC's work to safeguard a future for the impressive biodiversity and depth of culture that this country has to offer.

DATES

NOVEMBER 7 - 18, 2020

PRICE

\$12,040 PER PERSON
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$13,970 PER PERSON
SINGLE OCCUPANCY



© Cherie Palmer

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THE FUTURE OF FRESHWATER: Over the next three years, TNC's New Zealand program will produce an investment blueprint that can help the government to achieve a goal of improving water quality in 90 percent of national priority water catchments by 2040. This plan will be informed by Iwi and local communities in New Zealand as well as industry stakeholders. TNC has created frameworks where agricultural water users can collectively invest in projects that improve water quality—from reforestation efforts and riparian zone restoration to improved agriculture practices.

REVIVING SHELLFISH ECOSYSTEMS: The Hauraki Gulf, New Zealand's most-utilized body of water, has seen a dramatic decrease in native shellfish that once filtered its waters. As a global leader in shellfish reef restoration, TNC is supporting our in-country partners to rebuild mussel beds in the Gulf. With over 200 marine restoration programs worldwide, we have made the ecological and economic case that when properly executed, habitat restoration is an appropriate and enduring approach to repairing environmental damage. Working with partners, we are restoring a large area of living shellfish reef, beginning with green-lipped mussels, that can serve as the gold standard for New Zealand marine habitat restoration. These activities can help inform additional restoration projects in the bays, estuaries and seascapes throughout New Zealand that have lost their shellfish reefs.

STRENGTHENING FISHERIES: Sustainable fisheries mean secure livelihoods, stable seafood supplies, strong coastal communities, abundant marine life and a healthy ocean. Given that global estimates for economic losses resulting from inadequate management of marine fisheries exceed \$80 billion per year, we aim to capture the lessons learned from New Zealand's long history of fisheries management and share them broadly with other nations and groups seeking to put their own fisheries on the path to sustainability. Through the New Zealand Recreational Fisheries Project, we are helping to improve the health of recreational fisheries by identifying areas of common ground between commercial and recreational fishers that can strengthen management while upholding the rights associated with commercial quota holdings and Māori treaty obligations.

TNC TRAVEL VALUES

ACCESS:

Travel with renowned Conservancy experts and local partners for an exclusive, behind-the-scenes experience. You won't just see amazing places, you'll see how you are helping save them.

IMPACT:

See how your commitment to our planet and your passion for conservation are making a difference. You will see the wild places and the communities you are impacting.

KNOWLEDGE:

Learn how we are applying the latest cutting-edge science to affect global change and drive conservation.

INSPIRATION:

Immerse yourself in local cultures and awe-inspiring landscapes to foster your own connection to our world.

GLOBALLY MINDED:

Elevate your understanding of our work by seeing first-hand how TNC and our partners act locally and how we turn local results into global impact by scaling solutions that work.

**FOR BOOKING INFORMATION OR
FOR JOURNEY QUESTIONS
PLEASE CONTACT:**

travel@tnc.org
www.nature.org/insiderexperiences

Trip at a Glance



© Cherie Palmer

Itinerary Highlights
BRAND NEW TNC PROJECTS
BOATING
COMMUNITY
INTERACTIONS
HIKING
WILDLIFE VIEWING

After flying into Auckland, your journey begins on the North Island at the Waitangi Treaty grounds. This is New Zealand's most important historical site where the Treaty of Waitangi was signed between the British Crown and the indigenous Māori in 1840. Iwi (tribal) leaders will join the group for an introduction to the Māori's world view and relationship with the natural world. Then, return south to Auckland to visit the Hauraki Gulf, where TNC is supporting shellfish restoration efforts and home to the beautiful Waiheke Island. Next, head to Hamilton and the Waikato River to witness the challenges posed by intensive agriculture and pollution to

freshwater resources and learn about strategies to overcome them. Then travel south to Te Anau, known as the gateway to the Fiordland National Park and one of the most beautiful regions of the world. Here, journey over Wilmot Pass and make your way to Doubtful Sound where you spend a night aboard the Navigator cruise and wake up to the same view that greeted early Māori and European visitors. End your trip in the adventure capital of the world—Queenstown—where you may choose to hike part of the famous Routeburn track, kayak across Lake Wakatipu or sample regional wines while gazing at the city and the The Remarkables mountain range in the distance.



FEATURED EXPERT:

JONATHAN PEACEY, TE MANHAUTŪ COUNTRY DIRECTOR, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Jonathan joined TNC in 2018 as Country Director of the Aotearoa New Zealand program and brings extensive experience, having worked in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific and the UK, in a wide range of senior management roles in natural resource conservation with governments and industries, as well as Conservation International and the Marine Stewardship Council. He has successfully led small and large teams, including a 120-person multi-disciplinary Fisheries Operations Group responsible for operational management of all Aotearoa New Zealand marine fisheries and some freshwater fisheries. In this role, Jonathan was part of the Ministry of Fisheries Strategic Leadership Team, managing a NZ\$24 million budget. He has also been involved in the development of fisheries management capacity in Pacific Island countries.

Schedule

Day 1 - November 7

Arrive into Auckland and enjoy the free afternoon at your leisure. The group will gather at 6:00pm in the Sabrage Bar of the hotel for a short welcome reception and trip briefing with your guide and local staff who will be traveling with you.

OVERNIGHT AT SOFITEL AUCKLAND VIADUCT HARBOUR HOTEL

DAY 2 - November 8

Get an early start this morning to catch a short flight for the beautiful Bay of Islands where you'll be greeted with a traditional Pōwhiri welcome ceremony at New Zealand's pre-eminent historic site: The Waitangi Treaty Grounds. Here, we will walk in the footsteps of the Māori's ancestors and learn the significance of the ceremonial waka, the flagstaff, the carved Māori Meeting House (Te Whare Runanga) and the Treaty House. After the tour, the afternoon is yours to enjoy at your leisure. End the day with a cruise on the bay to a locally-sourced three-course dinner at the historic Duke of Marlborough Hotel.

OVERNIGHT AT COPTHORNE HOTEL AND RESORT

DAY 3 - November 9

Start the day with a cruise of the Bay of Islands in search of bottlenose dolphins, whales and other marine life. Your skipper will also take you on the famous hole in the rock at Cape Brett Peninsula on Motukokako Island. If conditions are right, you'll pass through the narrow space, just as legendary Māori warries used to do before battle. In the afternoon we'll explore the Puketū Forest before being treated to a special dinner at a local TNC Board Member's home in the area. You'll hear firsthand about conservation work in a relaxed setting.

OVERNIGHT AT COPTHORNE HOTEL AND RESORT

DAY 4 - November 10

After breakfast, the group will fly back to Auckland where we'll explore the Hauraki Gulf, likely by boat. Learn about the shellfish restoration work the Conservancy is support in partnership with others with a few special guests. The day concludes with a waterfront dining experience featuring the famous green lipped mussels.

OVERNIGHT AT SOFITEL AUCKLAND VIADUCT HARBOUR HOTEL



© Michael Looker/The Nature Conservancy



© Sids1 Flickr Creative Commons



© Janet Haas

DAY 5 - November 11

Today, the group will venture by ferry to Tiritiri Matangi Island, situated in the Hauraki Gulf and only 75 minutes from Auckland. From the moment you walk onto this island until your departure you'll find yourself entranced by the serenade of gentle birdsong and the lush native bush. Considered one of the world's most successful volunteer projects, Tiritiri Matangi has been re-vegetated with around 300,000 native trees and consequently 12 birds and three reptile species have been re-introduced. Learn about this impressive restoration project from senior project staff as part of a private tour.

OVERNIGHT AT SOFITEL AUCKLAND VIADUCT HARBOUR HOTEL

DAY 6 - November 12

This morning head south to Hamilton, the fourth-largest city in New Zealand and the principal agricultural and dairying district in the country, to visit the Waikato River. Local TNC partners will have a special day planned for you.

This afternoon there is time to explore some of Hamilton's top tourist sites, such as the Waikato Museum of Art and History and Memorial Park, a short distance from the hotel.

OVERNIGHT AT NOVOTEL HAMILTON TAINUI

DAY 7 - November 13

Today is a great day for reflection as you travel nearly 2,000 kilometers to Te Anau, on the South Island. Private shuttles and a flight from Auckland to Queenstown ensure the journey is comfortable and efficient. From Queenstown Airport, a scenic drive takes you to your destination for the next two nights, the gateway to the country's Fiordland National Park. Arguably one of the most breathtaking regions of the world, take in the views of Lake Te Anau and the surrounding mountain ranges with an afternoon hike or a glass of local sauvignon blanc from your hotel room.

OVERNIGHT AT DISTINCTION TE ANAU HOTEL

DAY 8 - November 14

After breakfast, the group will have the full day to visit local conservation projects located around Te Anau and Fiordland National Park. As you visit the park and its surroundings, keep a lookout for a number of notable birds, including the Western Weka, Yellow Crowned Parakeet, South Island Robin and the endangered Yellowhead and Mohua.



© Bernard Spragg, Flickr Creative Commons



© Carolyn Smith

After dinner on your own, board a cruise across Lake Te Anau to Cavern House on the lake's western shores. Hidden beneath the mountains is an underground network of caves lit by thousands of glow worms. Explore this twisting, illuminated network as you hear stories about the natural history and early pioneers of the region.

OVERNIGHT AT DISTINCTION TE ANAU HOTEL

DAY 9 - November 15

After a free morning In Te Anau, we'll drive to Manapouri, followed by a cruise across the picturesque lake and overland transfer over Wilmot Pass and through dense rainforest to Deep Cove. Board your overnight vessel, a traditional New Zealand coastal trading scow to reflect the Fiordland's heritage. Anchors up, and the cruise will take you deep into Doubtful Sound. Explore the Sound's surrounding hidden arms via kayak or on foot, admiring the craggy coastline and hopefully catching glimpses of fur seals, dolphins or, in season, rare penguins.

OVERNIGHT ABOARD NAVIGATOR CRUISE

DAY 10 - November 16

Enjoy breakfast onboard as the Navigator continues exploring Doubtful Sound this morning. At midday, it's time to step back on land and meet your private transfer back to Manapouri. From here, return to Queenstown for an afternoon at your leisure. Spend the evening relaxing at the picturesque Hotel St. Moritz, overlooking Lake Wakatipu, or set off to explore compact Queenstown.

OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL ST. MORITZ

DAY 11 - November 17

Wake up with a view of Lake Wakatipu and The Remarkables mountain range and then embark on a guided nature walk on the famous Routeburn Track. If hiking with the group is not your cup of tea, you may choose instead to explore the narrow streets of Queenstown and ride the gondola up the steepest cable car track in the Southern Hemisphere for a bird's eye view of the city. Other options include visiting the Kiwi & Birdlife Park, strolling the Queenstown Gardens, enjoying morning tea on the shores of Lake Wakatipu and more. End the last day of the trip with a cruise across Lake Wakatipu to Walter Peak, where a gourmet barbeque dinner awaits.

OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL ST. MORITZ

Day 12 - November 18

After breakfast you have the day to yourself until it is time to transfer to the airport for departures, or onward on a multi-day fishing extension.

Lodging



© Sofitel Auckland Viaduct Harbor

SOFITEL AUCKLAND VIADUCT HARBOR HOTEL is located in the heart of Auckland and inspired by New Zealand's landscape.



© Millennium Hotels

COPHORNE HOTEL & RESTAURANT BAY OF ISLANDS PAIHIA is surrounded by 60 acres of subtropical gardens as part of the historic Waitangi Treaty Grounds.



© Accord Hotels

HOTEL ST. MORITZ overlooks Lake Wakatipu to The Remarkables mountain range.

Post-trip Fishing Extension available! All participants are invited to add onto your adventure by joining us in a fishing excursion to Owens River Lodge. Cost and details available upon request.