



20th - 28th October 2026

Spring Escape

**The ideal time to travel and soak up South Island
New Zealand in all its majestic beauty.**

The South Island is renowned for its unmatched beauty which provides a natural playground – no matter what your passion. As New Zealand's ultimate nature and wildlife destination, its dramatic scenery spans pristine rainforests, fertile farmlands and rugged coastlines.

Together we uncover some of the South's attractions including the Canterbury High Country, Mesopotamia, Danseys Pass, Lake Tekapo and Pukaki, The Nevis and Queenstown.

With highlights around every corner we invite you to come and explore this beautiful part of NZ with us.

DAY 1

Tuesday 20th October

Home - Christchurch

Depart Whanganui Racecourse at **9am** and make our way to Palmerston North to catch our flight to Christchurch.

Departing from another destination

If you are joining the tour from another destination you will receive a personalized itinerary to have you meeting the group either in Wellington or Queenstown.

Once landed your tour leader will help you collect your luggage and load up the coach. Make our way into town for lunch then check in to our excellent accommodation. We'll head out on a **city tour** to take in some local highlights before meeting for a delicious **group meal**.

Accommodation: Scenic Cotswold Christchurch



DAY 2

Wednesday 21st October

Christchurch - Middle Rock



Wake up refreshed and after **breakfast** we make our way in the Canterbury High Country.

Middle Rock offers the opportunity to be guests of a New Zealand farming family in a relaxed environment amidst the stunning high country scenery of the Lake Coleridge area.

On arrival we are welcomed by the family. A brief history of Middle Rock is given before we travel by coach out onto the property. Guided by Charlotte various aspects of the farm's operation are explained including a dog mustering demonstration and discussion on current issues that NZ farmers face. **Lunch** is served with the family in the homestead kitchen.

The afternoon sees us visiting the renowned **Benlea Station** for another look around their stunning farm and garden while being blown away by the sheer scale of the land around us. Have some **afternoon tea** then hit the road back to Christchurch.

A real treat for tonight as we head out on the **dinner** tram for an incredible 3 course meal on-board the tram soaking up the city at night.

Accommodation: Scenic Cotswold Christchurch



DAY 3

Thursday 22nd October

Christchurch - Geraldine

A relaxed start to the morning we head south through the Canterbury Plains into Ashburton for a garden tour and **lunch** at **Trotts Garden**.

Trott's Garden is renowned and recognised for its significance amongst garden experts worldwide.

After lunch and wander around the garden we continue onto Geraldine.

We'll explore this quaint little town together, browse the various shops then check into our accommodation for another two night stay.

Tonight we head out to a local restaurant for a scrummy **dinner** together.

Accommodation: Andorra Motel



DAY 4

Friday 23rd October

Geraldine - Mesopotamia



Today will be a day you'll never forget as after breakfast we get set to tour **Mesopotamia**.

We meet our amazing guides and after introductions, enjoy a short interpretive bush walk to the Big Tree, lasting about 20 minutes; an easier track is also available. From Peel Forest to Mesopotamia, one guide joins our coach to share insights into the area's history, stations, and landscape features along the way. Stop at Mount Peel Church near the historic homestead for 15 to 20 minutes—the church is open to the public.

Upon arrival at Mesopotamia Station, our guide leads you to either the school or shearers' quarters where **lunch and refreshments** are served. Afterward, there's a talk on the history of Mesopotamia School before splitting into two groups. One group stays with the coach and guide to visit the Mesopotamia graveyard—the resting place of Doctor Sinclair, who drowned crossing the Rangitata River while exploring with Julius Haast in the 1860s.

Meanwhile, the other group travels by **4WD vehicles** with guides/drivers along station tracks, reaching viewpoints over the upper Rangitata River, the Garden of Eden Glacier Field, Erewhon, and Mount Potts Station. This group ascends to a high point, approximately 900 meters above sea level, overlooking the Rangitata Valley and Mesopotamia Station. Here, guides discuss the station's history, current farming practices versus the past, and how tenure review has impacted the station in the last decade.

Both groups reconvene and swap activities. At the end of the day, another guide joins the coach and provides new perspectives during the return journey to Peel Forest. After an unforgettable day we'll head out for **dinner**.

Accommodation: Andorra Motel



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Saturday 24th October

Geraldine - Cromwell



More stunning scenery awaits today as we have breakfast and pack our bags ready to hit the road.

Today we explore McKenzie Country in all its glory! Weave our way into Tekapo to visit the **Church of the Good Shepherd**, admire the lake and grab a coffee before moving onto the picture perfect **Lake Pukaki**. View all the man made canals and stop in at **High Country Salmon** for **lunch**.

Travel through Omarama the gliding capital of NZ and into McCaw country to check out Kurow before tackling the rugged Danseys Pass road heading for the historic hotel. Thought you knew the meaning of getting away from it all? You might want to think again.

Nestled in the heart of Central Otago, between the stunning mountain ranges and rivers. Dansey's Pass Hotel is a historic pub with hotel accommodation built in 1862. Stop here for an early **delicious dinner** and maybe a wee tippie to truly enjoy the evening before a short drive to our overnight accommodation in Ranfurly.

Accommodation: Hawkdun Lodge



DAY 6

Sunday 25th October

Ranfurly - Cromwell



Rise and shine for **breakfast** then bid farewell to this historic area. We'll make our way into Clyde. This historic town is located at the foot of a river gorge and sparked a gold rush in the late 1800s. We'll visit the Clyde Dam before making our way into Bannockburn for a look around another historic town and stopping here for a rather swanky **lunch**.

Board the bus and make our way to **Jacksons Orchard** where we hop on the little yellow electric bus and tour this magnificent orchard - you'll even get a chance to sample some of the fresh fruit.

After this enjoyable tour it's time to put our feet up and enjoy a real treat as we check into our lake side apartment accommodation overlooking the water - soak it all up, relax and enjoy this stunning location.

Dinner will be at a highly rated local restaurant.

Accommodation: Lakes Resort by Marsden



DAY 7

Monday 26th October

Cromwell - Queenstown



Relax a little this morning and after a casual breakfast we'll get on the road for the short drive through to the adventure capital of NZ - Queenstown.

First stop this morning is the **Goldfields Mining Centre**. After learning about the history, we watch as the California sluice gun is fired up to reveal its awesome water pressure used to dislodge gold bearing ore. Next, the stamper battery will be demonstrated how it was used to crush gold-bearing rock.

The tour will conclude with our guide demonstrating Gold panning, and you then have the chance to try your luck.

Next up we visit **Ayrburn** for lunch. Ayrburn is Queenstown's most delicious destination — a delightfully daring food and wine playground. You'll also have some time today in **Arrowtown** before we check into our central accommodation where you'll have time to explore Queenstown before meeting for **dinner**.

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Queenstown



DAY 8

Tuesday 27th October

Queenstown



After a great **breakfast** we team up with our **4x4 expedition** friends to explore the Nevis Valley!

This expedition takes us south from Queenstown to the small country town of Garston where we say good bye to sealed roads and head for the hills.

With varied terrain including river flats and tussock grasslands in the high country, huge rock tors and the spiked native spear grass plants covering the mountain saddles, this expedition provides a great day out exploring the remote Nevis Valley, this expedition showcases what Central Otago has to offer. You'll have more time this afternoon to explore Queenstown by relaxing down by the lake, finding a watering hole or browsing the shops!

Tonight we head out on the **TSS Earnslaw** to Walter Peak for a **Gourmet BBQ buffet dinner** that you'll never forget!! Bring your singing voice for the way back to Queenstown as we join the sing-a-long as we cross back over the lake.

Accommodation: Scenic Hotel Queenstown



DAY 9

Wednesday 28th

Queenstown – Home



After **breakfast**, we board the coach and head out to Queenstown airport to catch our respective flights. If you are returning to Wanganui you catch a mid morning flight to Palmerston North, where another coach will transport you back home.

****If you are travelling to other parts of the country all arrangements will be made for you.***

Total cost:

Departing from Whanganui:

\$5,195.00

\$1,000 deposit due by 31st August 2026.

Final payment due by 30th September 2026.

*Custom departure points available on all tours

Payment methods

✓ Cheque

✓ Cash

✓ Eftpos

✓ Online

Send online bank deposits to:
BNZ 02-0792-0090015-00

Please use your name and trip name as code and reference.



What's included?



Transport

- All coach travel
- Flights



Accommodation

- Great twin share accommodation
(single supplement available)



Food and drink

- Includes delicious food daily as listed in the itinerary



Activities

- All activities stated in **bold** in itinerary

How to book

Be in quick to secure your seats!



Call us

06 3447465

Freephone: 0508 482269



Email us

info@takeiteasytours.nz

Thank you,



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Terms and Conditions

Cancellation policy

If after your booking has been confirmed and you wish to cancel, the following cancellation fees will apply:

- For cancellations after 31st August 2026 – loss of deposit.
- For cancellations after 30th September 2026 – 75% of total fare will apply.
- For cancellations within 2 weeks prior to travel – 100% of total fare will apply.

Disclaimer

Take It Easy tours will make every effort to provide on time service. It does not guarantee its departure and arrival times, which may be delayed by various factors including weather, traffic, road conditions, mechanical problems and any other conditions Take it easy tours can't control. Take it easy tours are not liable for any inconvenience or expense caused as a result of such delay. Take it easy tours assumes no liability or responsibility for property, delay or expense arising from or caused by weather conditions, acts of God, accident, government restrictions or regulations, from an act or omission of any individual, traffic, road conditions, mechanical problems, or any other cause or condition beyond its control. Take it easy tours reserves its right to cancel or change any tour, advertised schedule, or route without notice and assumes no liability or responsibility for any conditions beyond its control that may interrupt or cancel any tour.

COVID - 19 cancellation policy for New Zealand travel

COVID - 19, has created uncertainty for us all, therefore for cancellations directly related to COVID - 19, we have updated our "normal cancellation" policy to the following:

If the New Zealand government imposes travel restrictions that impact our ability to deliver your booked tour before departure, our ideal preference would be to reschedule the tour when travel is permitted.

If this is not possible, passengers will receive a full credit, less any applicable airline or supplier cancellation fees that Take It Easy Tours has been charged.

If travel restrictions are imposed while on tour, we will seek credits on any unused portions on the itinerary from all suppliers. All applicable credits to be returned, will first be applied to any costs that have been incurred on our passenger's behalf. For example, if alternative



accommodation or transportation has been required to repatriate the passenger to their home.

Any remaining refunds will be credited to the passenger for use for future bookings.

Passenger's personal situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

