



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



New Zealand Adventure

April 8-23, 2021

16 days for \$6,774 total price from Houston

(\$6,495 air & land inclusive plus \$279 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
six-time honoree
Travel & Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Aggies & Friends of Texas A&M University



Howdy, Ags!

Join fellow Aggies on an exclusive 16-day journey to experience stunning and peaceful New Zealand. With its immense mountains, steep fjords, scenic beaches and vibrant cities, this diverse country is the ultimate escape.

Begin in Auckland, New Zealand’s largest city, where your touring includes the Auckland Museum and a cruise around Auckland Harbour. Experience Rotorua’s geysers, hot thermal springs and Maori culture, then Hawke’s Bay – one of New Zealand’s celebrated wine regions – and seaside Napier. Next, you head to Wellington and ride the historic Wellington Cable Car for panoramic views of the city and harbor. In Christchurch, tour the Botanic Gardens and Cathedral Square, then set out to see spectacular Franz Josef Glacier. Your journey concludes with a three-night stay in the outdoor mecca of Queenstown, and a full-day excursion to experience the remarkable beauty of Fiordland National Park and Doubtful Sound.

With room for only 24 guests on this exclusive Traveling Aggies departure, we expect our limited space will fill up quickly. Your deposit is fully refundable up until 95 days before departure. Book risk-free today!

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.
Director of Travel – Outreach and Engagement
The Association of Former Students

Marisa Liles

Marisa Liles
Director of Travel – Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students

TRAVELING AGGIES RESERVATION FORM: NEW ZEALAND ADVENTURE

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$_____(\$500 per person) for ____ person(s) on **New Zealand Adventure** departing **April 8, 2021**. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. **Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: The Association of Former Students, 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840-2918. Or you may call the Traveling Aggies at 979-845-7514 or toll-free at 800-633-7514, or fax your reservation form to 979-845-9263. You may also call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765.**

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Badge Name _____ Class Year _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Badge Name _____ Class Year _____

Address _____ E-mail(s) _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

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)

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for **New Zealand Adventure, April 8-23, 2021**, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature _____ Date _____

Method of Payment Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.

New Zealand Adventure

16 days for \$6,774 total price from Houston

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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 "Kiwis" 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 our 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 around glittering Auckland Harbour. We return to our hotel early this 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 Tē Puia Thermal Reserve and Maori Cultural Centre 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 Rainbow Springs Nature Park, a popular showcase of native New Zealand flora, fauna, and birds set amidst an expanse of forest studded with aviaries, pathways, an underwater viewing pool, and other educational exhibits. Our guided tour here includes a visit to the National Kiwi Trust, dedicated to rehabilitating injured kiwis, housed on the park's grounds. *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 Church Road Winery, one of the country's oldest and most acclaimed.

Small Group Tour Highlights

New Zealand's unspoiled natural scenery • Auckland sightseeing and harbor cruise • Geothermal Rotorua • Art Deco walking tour in Napier • Wellington's acclaimed Te Papa national museum • TransAlpine train excursion • Two-night Franz Josef stay, with guided walk through the glacial valley • Kiwi birds at West Coast Wildlife Centre • Scenic Doubtful Sound excursion • Outdoor mecca of Queenstown

Day Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1-2 Depart U.S. for Auckland		
3-4 Auckland	Grand Millennium Auckland	Sup. First Class
5-6 Rotorua	Millennium Hotel Rotorua	Sup. First Class
7 Napier	Scenic Hotel Te Pania	First Class
8-9 Wellington	Grand Mercure Wellington	Sup. First Class
10 Christchurch	Rydges Latimer Square	Sup. First Class
11-12 Franz Josef Glacier	Scenic Hotel FJ Glacier	First Class
13-15 Queenstown	Millennium Hotel Queenstown	Sup. First Class
16 Depart Queenstown for U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.



We spend two nights near splendid Westland Tai Poutini National Park.

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. Dinner tonight is on our own in this city known for its vibrant restaurant scene. *B,L*

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 day is free to explore as we wish, perhaps to stroll along bohemian Cuba Street, visit the Wellington Zoo, or wander the lively waterfront area. We dine together tonight at a local restaurant. *B,D*

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. *B,D*

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 themselves. We travel across steel girder bridges above deep gorges and through tunnels on our journey to Arthur's Pass, where we board a motorcoach for the scenic drive to the village of Franz Josef, reaching our hotel this afternoon and dining there tonight. *B,D*

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 near sea level. With a local guide we take a walk through the glacial 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. *B,D*

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

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 south through this setting to Lake Manapouri, which we cross by boat, then east through imposing Wilmot Pass, the



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
ADVENTURES ARE NOT THOSE
WE GO AND SEEK.”

– ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

2,200-foot-high notch allowing passage through the mountains of New Zealand’s continental divide. All this is a prelude to the stunning “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 moviegoers: 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. *B,L*

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



Auckland, City of Sails

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. *B,D*

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

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 13 nights’ accommodations in Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 25 meals: 13 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 8 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



We tour Christchurch’s Botanic Gardens on Day 10.

Tour Departs: April 8, 2021

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Los Angeles, San Francisco	\$6,474
Dallas, Houston, Phoenix, Portland (OR), Seattle	\$6,774
Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Tampa	\$6,874
Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, DC	\$6,974
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,195

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$279, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,495. Your \$500 deposit is fully refundable up to 95 days from departure. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Pacific flight: Business Class – \$5,995 per person; Premium Economy – \$2,495 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrades subject to availability and pricing subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of walking on stairs and uneven surfaces. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

For more information and reservations, please call the Traveling Aggies at 979-845-7514, or toll-free at 800-633-7514, or call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765 Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); communication charges; optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: full refund; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Responsibility: The liability of The Association of Former Students, 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 our control. We serve only as agents 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 Association of Former Student and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, Acts of God, 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 lines, and other independent suppliers. We 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.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a significant amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour 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 reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, The Association of Former Students and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of our 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. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols: The well-being of our guests and staff members on tour will continue to be our highest priorities. To maintain a healthy environment for travel, we will be establishing and adhering to a detailed set of health and safety protocols for all facets of our tour. We are committed to following the guidelines of the State Department, CDC, WHO, and authorities of respective countries regarding travel to a particular destination. Detailed protocols for this tour, based on conditions at the time, will be provided approximately 90 days prior to departure.



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College Station, Texas 77840-2918

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JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE
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