



Gardens, Wine, and Wilderness
A Tour of New Zealand
January 11 – February 2, 2019

GARDEN
ADVENTURES LTD



Morris Arboretum
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



Garden, Wines, and Wilderness **A Tour of New Zealand**

January 11 – February 2, 2019

With Richard Lyon, R.L.A. and
Paul W. Meyer, *The F. Otto Haas Executive Director*, Morris Arboretum

*Imagine...*the trip of a lifetime. Under balmy skies, you will visit some of nature's most spectacular scenery, interspersed with wonderful examples of New Zealand culture showcasing its gardens, architecture, artistic creations, fine cuisine, and wine. Learn the history and culture of a land from those who love and care for it.

*Imagine...*a carefully designed itinerary developed with passion, just as a great piece of music or a celebrated garden. The concepts of sequence, contrast, surprise, rhythm, repetitions, theme, and variations apply equally to music, gardens, and travel.

Garden Adventures, Ltd.

For nearly 20 years, Garden Adventures, Ltd. has been designing and leading tours to New Zealand. In January 2019, we are proud to join forces for the eighth time to offer this opportunity to experience the mystery, beauty, and hospitality of New Zealand. With Richard Lyon, R.L.A. and Paul W. Meyer, who is returning for his fourth visit, you are invited to escape winter while you explore, learn, and relax in the gardens and natural wonders of this extraordinary destination. This trip is offered exclusively to Morris Arboretum members and Penn alumni. For further information, please visit www.morrisarboretum.org or call Mira Zergani, Director of Development at (215) 247-5777 ext. 102. You may also contact Richard Lyon at (610) 637-8592 or rlyon@wallacelandscape.com.

Day 1

Friday, January 11 –
Depart Los Angeles

Depart Los Angeles on Air New Zealand for the overnight flight to New Zealand. Those with East Coast connections are encouraged to arrive a day early to spend the night in L.A. and relax prior to departure.

Day 2

Saturday, January 12 –
Travel Day

We cross the International Date Line during our flight. We lose a day, but don't worry, we will gain it back as we cross the Date Line on our way home.

Day 3

Sunday, January 13 –
Auckland

Welcome to New Zealand! We arrive in Auckland early in the morning. After collecting our baggage and clearing customs, we check into our hotel, where we are pre-registered for early arrival. The rest of the morning is free to unpack, rest, and experience our first impressions of New Zealand. In the afternoon, we visit the Auckland War Memorial Museum to view Maori and Pacific Island exhibits as an introduction to the early history of the country. Next, we visit Totara Waters, a stunning subtropical garden set on the shores of the Waitemata Harbor. This exotic garden features a variety of palms, bromeliads, and cycads. Heading inland, we then complete our day at Mincher, an expansive country garden with diverse planting styles. Here, we'll enjoy a welcome dinner and become better acquainted with our fellow travelers. (Breakfast, Dinner)



Totara Waters

Day 4

Monday, January 14 –
Waiheke Island

A short ferry ride takes us to Waiheke Island, where the microclimate produces some of New Zealand's finest red wines. After a wine tour and al fresco lunch at Cable Bay Vineyards, our next stop is Connells Bay, a breathtaking property developed by John and Jo Grow. Their vision of uniting art with nature is apparent in the sweeps of native trees that form special spaces for site-specific New Zealand sculpture. We end the day with a ferry ride back to Auckland to enjoy waterfront dining and shopping. (Breakfast, Lunch)



Kauri Forest

Day 5

Tuesday, January 15 –
Pacific Coast

Our first stop will be Wenderholm Regional Park where we will experience New Zealand’s wonderfully unspoiled natural scenery. Next, we will go to Omaio, the Maori word for “place of peace and tranquility.” This unique venue offers stunning views, diverse native plants and fascinating gardens. After a leisurely garden luncheon courtesy of our gracious hostess, we will visit Penny and Rowan, two professional gardeners who are developing their new garden filled with an abundance of plant species adapted to the local climate. Stopping for a short stroll through the subtropical Kauri forest, we are able to appreciate the native forest that once covered this land. We will then return to Auckland in the late afternoon with time to explore New Zealand’s largest city with its parks, waterfront, and restaurants. Alternatively, we will take a short ferry ride to Devonport to enjoy its quaint Victorian villas and waterside cafés. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 6

Wednesday, January 16 –
To South Island

There are dramatic differences in geology, climate, and to some extent, culture, between the North and South Islands. A short flight from the North Island will land us in Queenstown on the South Island. Queenstown is a spectacular alpine resort town nestled in the Southern Alps on the shores of Lake Wakatipu. From here, we travel by bus to a local vineyard, where we will enjoy the food and wine of central Otago Plain for lunch. En route back to Queenstown, we stop to watch bungee jumping before arriving at Blair Garden, created by self-taught gardener Janet Blair over several decades. The intricate garden reflects the hues of the nearby mountains while offering year-round color. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 7

Thursday, January 17 –
Queenstown

Today is your opportunity to explore Queenstown at your own pace. Take an exciting trip by jet boat up the Dart River into Mt. Aspiring National Park—authentic “Lord of the Rings” country—or a quiet steamship ride across Lake Wakatipu, or a romantic gondola ride to enjoy stunning alpine views. Other possibilities include white water rafting, hiking, golf, shopping, bus tours, bike riding and fly fishing, not to mention abundant shopping and dining options. (Breakfast)



Queenstown



Doubtful Sound

Day 8

Friday, January 18 –
Doubtful Sound

This morning, we head to Fiordland National Park in Southland, where we catch a ferry ride across Lake Manapouri. Carved by glaciers and surrounded by ancient temperate rainforests, this lake is stunningly scenic. After our ferry ride, we cross over Wilmont Pass, an incredible natural habitat that receives over 20 feet of rainfall each year. We then board the well-appointed Fiordland Navigator yacht for a cruise of serene Doubtful Sound, surrounded by towering peaks, cascading waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. After dropping anchor for the night, we dine on board under the stars. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 9

Saturday, January 19 –
To Dunedin

Leaving Doubtful Sound, we return by ferry across Lake Manapouri to board our coach. Passing through the lush farm country of Southland, we stop for a picnic lunch en route to Dunedin. Once New Zealand's largest city, Dunedin boasts a rich Scottish heritage and sublime examples of Victorian and Edwardian architecture. After checking into our downtown hotel, you may spend the evening exploring this vibrant University City. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 10

Sunday, January 20 –
Dunedin

Our day begins with a guided tour of the Botanic Gardens, New Zealand's oldest botanic garden. This Victorian-style pleasure garden, it is internationally recognized for its extensive plant collections. Next, we visit Historic Olverton House to experience the historic and aesthetic delights of early New Zealand when gold and wool ruled, and Dunedin was the economic power house of the country. The afternoon is yours to enjoy city's vibrant urban scene near our downtown hotel, or you may take a tour out onto the rugged Otago Peninsula to sample the South Island's most accessible diversity of wildlife—yellow-eyed penguins, albatrosses, seals, and sea lions. (Breakfast)



Dunedin

Day 11

Monday, January 21 –
To Christchurch

Leaving Dunedin, we head north following the Pacific Coast to Oamaru. Our first stop is the historic Oamaru, a fascinating town that has proudly preserved a Victorian atmosphere. Our next stop is the Homestead Gardens of Akanui, where we will learn about the farm's colonial past, explore the wonderful gardens surrounding the house, and enjoy lunch. Next, we head to Christchurch on the eastern coast of the South Island. Known as the Garden City, it has experienced vigorous rejuvenation in recent years after a series of earthquakes caused extensive damage. The evening is yours to wander around its charming cityscapes as you please. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 12

Tuesday, January 22 –
Christchurch and Akaroa

We begin the day with a visit to Ohinetahi, which features a historic home and spectacular gardens that have been restored over the last several decades by architect Sir Miles Warren and his family. The property is known for its collection of New Zealand art, native plants, venerable trees, and floriferous display beds. Next, we continue on to the town of Akaroa, situated on Banks Peninsula near Christchurch. Here, we stop at Fisherman's Bay Garden overlooking the Pacific, where we will enjoy a picnic lunch. The eclectic garden features a wide variety of New Zealand native plants, particularly hebes. Our second destination in Akaroa is the Giant's House, the home and terraced garden of artist Josie Martin. Her self-described, "seriously playful" sculptures and mosaics perfectly accent the equally eye-catching plantings throughout the grounds. Upon returning to Christchurch, the evening is free to explore. (Breakfast, Lunch)



Ohinetahi

Day 13

Wednesday, January 23 –
Arthurs Pass

After a leisurely start, we leave Christchurch crossing the Canterbury Plains into the foothills of the Southern Alps. Our first stop is "Home Bush," the extensive gardens first planted in the 1850s, and continuously gardened by the Dean family ever since. After lunch, we head on to Arthurs Pass, stopping en route at Castle Hill to walk among the fantastic limestone formations and outcroppings. Arriving at Wilderness Lodge, settle into your rooms in this wonderful Alpine setting. Dinner is a celebration of New Zealand ingredients and fresh local food accompanied by great wine, good company and spectacular views. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 14 Thursday, January 24 –
Wilderness Lodge

Today we have nowhere to go, and you may be as active or relaxed and you wish. The Lodge is home to 3,000 sheep and 120 Angus cattle with the opportunity to learn more about farming life. Alternatively, you may choose between complimentary nature activities or select to go further afield. Options include hiking the alpine trails and canoeing mountain lakes while experiencing the beauty of the southern Alps. We gather again tonight in the Lodge to share experiences and the chef's creativity. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 15 Friday, January 25 –
To Punakaiki

Crossing over the Southern Alps, we descend down into the narrow coastal plain known as the “West Coast,” sandwiched between the Tasman Sea and the Alps. Greymouth has been a boom town for gold, coal, and lumber and how better to experience the local color than to visit the local pub for lunch and sample their beer. Our destination tonight is the dramatic Pancake Rocks at Punakaiki in the Paparoa National Park. Formed over million years ago by the powerful forces of nature, the rocks and blowholes have been sculptured by the ever pounding Tasman

Pancake Rocks



Wilderness Lodge

Sea. Add to this setting New Zealand native palms and Flax to create a stunning landscape. Our hotel is nestled beneath the rocks; with time to explore on your own before having dinner as we watch the sun go down over the Tasman Sea. Sleep tonight with your windows open and the sound of waves breaking on the shore. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 16 Saturday, January 26 –
To Blenheim

Following the dramatic coastal highway north, we then head inland following the Buller River to Nelson Lakes National Park. Stopping for a picnic we have time to explore these stunning mountain lakes and the native Beech forest. Descending from the mountains the transition from forest to wine country is startling. The Blenheim area is now world famous for the Sauvignon Blancs and Chardonnays of the Marlborough region. Tonight we sleep amongst the vines after our dinner at Vintner's Retreat. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 17

Sunday, January 27 –
To Wellington

This morning we begin with a visit to Barewood Farm, a traditional sheep station and homestead. Here, we watch the sheep dogs at work and observe a shearing demonstration. The property also features a three-acre garden full of unusual plants, designed to perfectly compliment the 100-year old homestead at its heart. After enjoying morning tea with the owners, we continue on to Paripuma, a stunning new garden filled with native plantings and coastal views. Offering a complete contrast in design is our next stop, Upton Oaks. Formal lines and neatly clipped hedges set off colorful borders in this intimate country garden, where a late luncheon will be served. Later this afternoon we depart on the inter-island ferry through the protected waters of Marlborough Sound and onto Cook Strait to arrive as dusk falls and lights glimmer throughout Wellington, New Zealand's capital city. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 18

Monday, January 28 –
Wellington

Government House, home of New Zealand's Governor General, is our first stop today for a tour of the grounds that were extensively redesigned in 1990 to include many native plant species. We also shall learn about the historical role of the Governor General and how that has transitioned into today's political landscape. Then we head out to Wellington's wonderful windswept coastline for lunch while admiring the dramatic views. Returning to the city we head to "Te Papa" the museum of New Zealand. Our guided tour there will focus on Maori history and culture. Spend the evening relaxing or exploring Wellington on your own. (Breakfast, Lunch)



Wellington



Wellington

Day 19 Tuesday, January 29 – Wellington

Today you are free to explore this wonderful cosmopolitan city from your harborside hotel. Return to “Te Papa” to finish your exploration or one of the city’s many museums. Ride a cable car to the top and stroll down through the botanical gardens, visit Zealandia bird sanctuary or the wild Wellington coast line. Shopping and dining abound close to our hotel or simply stroll along the waterfront of this magnificent harbor and get a feel for the city. (Breakfast)

Day 20 Wednesday, January 30 – To Napier

Leaving the city, we climb over the Rimutaka Ranges and descend in the Hawke’s Bay Region. With a sunny and mild climate its economy is mostly farming, fruits and wine. Stopping at Gwavas, the garden is one of the largest privately owned collections

of woody plants in the southern hemisphere. Lunch at the Homestead allows you to experience history of early settlers when Europeans first farmed this area. Onto Napier, New Zealand’s art deco city rebuilt in the 1930’s after the city was razed by an earthquake. Starting at the visitors center, followed by a walking tour of the city we gather an appreciation for the architecture. Ending our tour at our waterfront hotel, your evening is free to explore this vibrant coastal city. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 21 Thursday, January 31 – Napier

Your morning is free to enjoy the city and waterfront, or simply relax. Serious golfers could get in a game at the world famous Cape Kidnappers Golf Course. After lunch we will all head out to Cape Kidnappers and take a guided tour to the Gannet Sanctuary. Recognized as the world’s largest, most accessible nesting colony we are able to get within feet of these remarkable birds as they come home to feed their chicks. En route back to Napier we stop at a local winery to sample the finest wines and fresh produce of the Hawke’s Bay for dinner. (Breakfast, Dinner)





Tongariro

Day 21

Friday, February 1 –
To Tongariro

Leaving the Pacific Ocean behind we head into the central volcanic plateau of the North Island, New Zealand's sacred mountains, Tongariro, Ngauruhoe and Ruapehu where we find the country's first national park. This dramatic landscape, unpredictable and fascinating has been shaped by the earth's forces below and the weather above. Our historic hotel, the Grand Chateau, sits amongst these volcanic mountains and from here our nature guides will meet us. As we walk out into the Alpine landscape we appreciate the natural and human forces that has shaped this world heritage park. Returning to the hotel we gather tonight for a farewell dinner to celebrate adventures shared and new friends made. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 21

Saturday, February 2 –
To Auckland and Los Angeles

With a leisurely start, you once again have time to get out and explore or simply enjoy the hotels magnificent lounge. Descending from the mountains we travel around the shores of Lake Taupo which is New Zealand's largest. Traveling through vast pine plantations we return to the rich farmland, of the Waikato. As we travel north to Auckland we stop for lunch and visit Hamilton Gardens. The gardens are a fascinating collections of themes portraying the history of gardening throughout the world. Onto Auckland Airport and your overnight flight to the USA. (Breakfast, Lunch)

While no revisions of this itinerary are anticipated, the Morris Arboretum and its travel partners reserve the right to make changes, with or without notice that may become necessary.

Cost and Booking Details

Tour pricing without airfare: \$10,575

Tour pricing including airfare to and from L.A. (approx.): \$12,955

- Price based on double occupancy
- Single Occupancy Supplement: \$2,500 (approx.)
- Cost based on 20 participants. Tour maximum is 22 people.
- Changes in US currency may affect tour price at time of final invoice.

Current tour price is based on the exchange rate of \$1NZ = \$0.725USD.

Final pricing determined 90 days prior to departure.

This tour may operate if number of participants falls below 20, but may result in a price adjustment.

Price includes:

- Airfare with coach class from Los Angeles to Auckland
- All internal flights within New Zealand as per itinerary (coach class)
- All taxes, including departure tax
- All accommodations (double occupancy) for 21 nights
- Breakfasts, lunches, and dinners per itinerary
- Inter-island ferry service
- All cruises, activities, and admissions as listed
- Exclusive itinerary, gardens, public landscapes, national parks, and wineries with New Zealand landscape architect Richard Lyon
- Entire tour accompanied by Richard Lyon and Paul Meyer
- A \$500 donation to the Morris Arboretum is included

Price does not include:

- Transportation costs to and from L.A.
- Meals not listed on the itinerary
- Items of a person nature —laundry, cocktails, etc.



Flight Information:

All international and domestic flights are with Air New Zealand (coach class). Upgrades on Air New Zealand are available:

Premium Economy: Additional \$2,200 (approx.)

Business Class: Additional \$5,020 (approx.)

Please contact Richard Lyon for more information on flights (610) 637-8592.

Hotel Information:

- January 13–15, Auckland – Stamford Plaza
- January 16–17, Queenstown – Novotel Lakeside
- January 18, Doubtful Sound – Fiordland Navigator
- January 19–20, Dunedin – Distinction Hotel
- January 21–22, Rydges Hotel – Christchurch
- January 23–24, Wilderness Lodge – Arthurs Pass
- January 25, Punakaiki Hotel
- January 26, Marlborough Vintners Inn – Blenheim
- January 27–29 Copthorne Oriental Bay – Wellington
- January 30–31, Te Pania Hotel Napier
- February 1, Chateau Tongariro

Trip Booking and Contact Information:

Contact Richard Lyon, Garden Adventures, Ltd.

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