



# Garden City Getaway Christchurch & Akaroa

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tours

New Zealand's  
Senior Travel Club

Itinerary especially prepared for

# Garden City Getaway 2020

Travelling 22 March 2021 to 28 March 2021

Thank you for your enquiry into our Garden City Getaway tour for 2021.

You have received this full itinerary because you contacted us by phone, email or website to express your interest. For your information this has been released to an extremely large register of interest of like-minded travellers. The full itinerary follows.

## Booking

To secure your place on this tour, please call us on 0800 471 227 or alternatively 370 6600, Extn 2.

Your place on this tour is confirmed only by ringing us and acknowledging that you have read the terms and conditions. Secondly, we require your deposit immediately (amounts shown in the Terms and Conditions). Please do not just send a booking form and payment by mail because we expect this to sell out quickly.

## Tour Overview

We head to the Garden City of Christchurch to enjoy a relaxing holiday exploring and discovering. View the city from the height of a London double decker bus, dine in style on the Christchurch Tram, visit Ohinetahi - the famous garden of Sir Miles Warren. Have breakfast with the huskies at the Antarctic Centre and encounter the rare Hector's Dolphin on Akaroa Harbour.

## Travel Insurance

A number of the components of this tour package are non-refundable. For this reason, we strongly recommend that you take out some form of travel insurance for your protection and peace of mind. Our travel insurance provider is Helloworld Travel, Masterton. They offer both cancellation and full cover for domestic and international travel. Please don't hesitate to call them direct on 06 378 2454 and ask for Laura, or email her at [laura.dawes@helloworld.co.nz](mailto:laura.dawes@helloworld.co.nz); she will be only too happy to answer your questions or provide you with a quote.

Should there be any part of the itinerary you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to give us a call, as we want your decision to join us to be as fully informed as possible.

## Trip Details

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### Day 1 Monday, 22 March 2021

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#### Tour We Head South to Picton

A late morning start from all destinations today as we are transferred to Wellington and meet at the Interislander Ferry terminal for our mid afternoon sailing across Cook Strait to Picton. Upon reaching Picton we travel the short distance to our hotel, where we settle into our accommodation before dining in tonight.

### Day 2 Tuesday, 23 March 2021

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#### Tour Travelling the Pacific Coastal Highway to Christchurch

Marlborough has many beautiful private gardens and this morning we visit Hortensia House located on the outskirts of Blenheim, on the banks of Spring Creek. Owned by a bubbly Frenchwoman, Hortensia House is named after the French word for hydrangea, and is a Monet-inspired romantic garden, with emphasis on flowers for year-round display.



Departing Blenheim, we travel down the Pacific Coast Highway to Kaikoura, a fascinating journey through this much changed landscape. We stop for lunch (at own cost) in Kaikoura before continuing our journey south, taking a detour out to Gore Bay, a sheltered spot on the eastern coastline. Erosion has created a spectacular formation here known as Cathedral Cliffs, a collection of eroded siltstone pillars, which we stop to view. Finally we make our way to the Garden City of Christchurch, where we check in to our hotel, and settle in before dining in house this evening.

### Day 3 Wednesday, 24 March 2021

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#### Tour City Sights from Upon Great Heights

This morning we board a classic 1960's London Double Decker bus for a completely different perspective and a fun and informative tour. From fascinating history to viewing areas affected by the earthquakes, we will see how Christchurch has risen from the ruins, and is preserving what remains of its heritage, while creating a vibrant new city.



Later this morning we wind our way up into the Port Hills, stopping at the Sign of the Takahe, with its unique vista of Christchurch City and the Canterbury Plains. Continuing over Dyers Pass, we then drop down into Governors Bay. Lunch (included) is at the Governors Bay Hotel, one of the oldest hotels in New Zealand, and fully restored to its former colonial glory after the Christchurch earthquakes. After lunch we move on to Ohinetahi, perhaps one of NZ's most famous gardens, owned by Sir Miles Warren. This large formal garden overlooks Lyttelton Harbour and has been divided into a number of "rooms", featuring a rose garden, herbaceous borders, a herb potager, and many sculptures. Afternoon tea is served in the homestead, before we make our way back to the city. Returning to our hotel, we enjoy a relaxed dinner in-house this evening.



**Day 4****Thursday, 25 March 2021**

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**Tour Breakfast with Huskies and an Iconic Tram Dinner**

Set the alarm, as we don't want to be late for our breakfast date with the huskies and penguins at the International Antarctic Centre. We get close and cuddly with these incredible animals and enjoy an informative talk with Husky Rescue NZ over breakfast, and then you will be free to explore the other fantastic exhibitions at the centre.

Making our way back to the city we will visit a couple of Christchurch's landmarks, including the Canterbury Museum and the adjacent Botanical Gardens. Don't miss the magnificent herbaceous border or the Central Rose Garden, the largest and finest in Australasia when it was planted in 1909. Entry to the museum is free, and includes NZ's greatest collection of moa remains and the lounge from Fred & Myrtle's Paua Shell House - a slice of kiwiana faithfully reproduced from its original home in Bluff. Lunch today is at your own choice and cost, with a number of options available in the Museum/Gardens or in the Arts Centre Precinct nearby.

This afternoon we visit the Transitional Cathedral, affectionately known as the "Cardboard Cathedral". The Cathedral makes use of varied construction materials from cardboard tubes to timber beams, structural steel and concrete, and its feature triangular window design incorporates images from the original Cathedral's rose window. We then make our way back to our hotel for a little relaxation, and a chance to freshen up for dinner before we take you out for a special dining experience on the Christchurch tram. Combining colonial style fine dining with an inner-city sightseeing tour, this is a must do Christchurch experience.

**Day 5****Friday, 26 March 2021**

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**Tour Amazing Akaroa**

Today our travels take us to Akaroa. Akaroa Harbour is an extinct volcanic crater and is one of the world's most fascinating geological and marine environments, so our first activity for the day is to join a harbour cruise aboard the Black Cat. This award-winning cruise is packed with highlights including the rare NZ native Hector's Dolphin, as well as penguins and other sea birds. We'll see giant volcanic sea cliffs and hear about Akaroa's fascinating past. Lunch today is at Josie Martin's amazing Giant's House. After lunch we explore Josie's colourful and joyful mosaic sculpture garden surrounding the historic house and her art gallery. Finally we join a guided walking tour to uncover Akaroa's fascinating French and British heritage. Returning to Christchurch to our by now familiar hotel, we dine in again this evening.



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**Day 6      Saturday, 27 March 2021**

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**Tour      Back to Blenheim**

Departing Christchurch today, we make our way back to Blenheim with regular refreshment and comfort stops along the way to break up our day. Lunch today is at the historic Pier Hotel in Kaikoura, no better place to enjoy fish and chips (included) than this place of bountiful kai moana. We head north along the rugged Pacific coastline to Blenheim where we check in to our hotel for our last night together, dining in tonight after a big day on the road.



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**Day 7      Sunday, 28 March 2021**

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**Tour      Homeward Bound**

We have a leisurely start this morning, with time to head to the Blenheim Farmers Market to enjoy browsing the fresh locally grown produce and a cup of locally roasted coffee. We then make our way through to Picton, allowing time for lunch (own choice and expense), a browse of the shops, or a walk along the shore front, prior to departing on our afternoon sailing to Wellington. Finally we bid our fellow travellers goodbye before being transferred to our home locations.

**Cost of Tour Includes**

- All coach travel
- Interisland Ferry transfers
- Good quality hotel accommodation
- 2 course or buffet evening meals
- All breakfasts
- Morning tea on most travelling days
- Entry to Hortensia House Garden, Blenheim
- Christchurch City Sights tour
- Lunch at Governors Bay Hotel
- Entry to Ohinetahi Garden, Governors Bay plus afternoon tea
- Breakfast with the Huskies and entry to Antarctic Centre
- Christchurch Tramway Dinner
- Akaroa Harbour Cruise
- The Giant's House – lunch, garden, house & gallery visit
- Akaroa Walking tour
- Lunch at Pier Hotel, Kaikoura

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**Total Cost Per Person**

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**Double or twin share****\$3,116.00****Single Accommodation****\$3673.00**

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## Terms and Conditions

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**Deposit required to confirm your booking \$416.00 per person (non-refundable)**

**Tour balance payable by: 31 January 2021**

Bank account details: BNZ 020688 0127658 00  
Tour Reference: GardenCity2021

To: Transit Coachlines Wairarapa Ltd  
P O Box 116  
MASTERTON 5840  
Phone 0800 471 227 or (06) 370 6600

OR: Book online at [www.tranzittours.co.nz](http://www.tranzittours.co.nz)

### **Transit Coachlines (Wairarapa) Ltd, trading as Transit Tours Terms and Conditions and Important Booking Information**

Before you book a tour with Transit Tours, please take the time to read and understand these Terms and Conditions below. These Terms and Conditions apply to bookings made from 11 September 2020 onwards, including new bookings made with credit vouchers issued following tour cancellations or postponements.

If you booked your tour prior to 12 October 2020, your original Terms and Conditions still apply.

#### **Pricing Validity**

- All costs associated with each tour are outlined in full within each tour itinerary. All pricing quoted is valid for the dates of tour when booked.

#### **Reservations and Payments**

- Bookings for all Transit tours can be made through any Transit Coachlines Reservations Centre or an approved Travel Agent.
- Any person making a booking for others shall be deemed to have accepted these Terms and Conditions on behalf of all individuals they are booking on a tour and it is the responsibility of the person making the booking to bring these Terms and Conditions to the attention of those individuals booked.
- A deposit as stated in the Tour Itinerary is payable to secure the booking.
- The balance must be paid in full by the date stated in the Tour Itinerary.
- Any reservation made within fourteen (14) days of the tour departure must be paid in full at the time of booking.

#### **Cancellations, Postponements and Alterations**

##### **Cancellations by the Customer**

- Cancellations 45+ days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 15% of your deposit, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- Cancellations 44 – 8 days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 15% of the total tour cost, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- Cancellations within 7 days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 25% of the total tour cost, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- No refunds will be made for cancellations made within one day of departure or once travel has commenced. Refunds will not be provided for unused portions of a tour, unless the Customer can provide genuine reason and documentary evidence that services were unable to be utilised (and a refund if applicable is available from the other provider) in which case the company will review each request and may provide a partial refund at the sole discretion of the company.
- Cancellations of one half of a twin share booking will result in the Customer cancelling being charged the cost of a single booking, if the Company is unable to match the twin share booking with another Customer.

##### **Alterations by the Customer**

- The Customer may transfer their booking to another person for the same tour and commencement date, but only if the other person satisfies all of Transit Tours requirements in relation to the tour and provides us a completed Booking Form. The Customer must notify Transit Tours in writing of the intended transfer at least 30 days prior to the commencement date of the tour. A \$60 transfer fee per person/per transfer will apply (in addition to any supplier change fees).

## Cancellations or Postponements by the Company

- Transitz Tours reserves the right to cancel, reschedule or postpone a tour. With the exception of the Force Majeure section below, Transitz Tours will:
- In the event of a tour being cancelled by the company prior to departure and not postponed – refund the total amount paid in respect of that tour or provide a credit, but will have no further liability to the Customer.
- In the event of a tour being postponed – rebook the Customer for the new departure date or provide a credit, but will have no further liability to the Customer.
- In the event of a Force Majeure event that occurs prior to, or during, a tour such as but not limited to fire, flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, avalanche, severe weather, power outages, labour disruptions, pandemic, government controls or other events outside Transitz Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Transitz Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised, Transitz Tours reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or shorten the tour and will be excused and released from its obligations without liability of any kind. Customers will receive a credit for postponed tours. For cancelled or shortened tours, refunds in these circumstances will be in full less any unrecoverable costs (i.e. expenses already incurred or fees charged by other providers).
- The Customer will be advised of any increased tour costs as a result of the postponement. Credits will be equal to the value of the payment made and must be used within 12 months. Customers are strongly advised to take out travel insurance.
- In the event of cancellation or postponement by the company, Transitz Tours is not responsible for any consequential loss incurred by the Customer. Customers are again advised to take out travel insurance.

## Alterations by the Company

- Before Tour Commencement: If a major change to the tour needs to be made before departure, we will inform the Customer of the change as soon as practicable and will advise of any consequential price increase or decrease.
- Transitz Tours reserves the right to alter a tour (including the itinerary) and substitute accommodation facilities should unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, the company reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. The company will not be held responsible for weather-based cancellations, or those closures made at the tour provider's discretion.
- Transitz Tours will inform the customer as soon as practicable and will advise of any consequential price increase or decrease.

## Insurance

- Transitz Tours recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance to cover against things like lost or damaged luggage, accident or sickness, loss or theft of personal belongings and documents, or the need to cancel or shorten your tour. Please note that special conditions will apply for pre-existing medical conditions with all travel insurance policies.

## Health and Fitness

- Transitz Tours are generally able to accommodate most fitness abilities; however, some tours may require a certain level of physical fitness for full enjoyment of tour activities. The Customer must inform Transitz Tours, at the time of booking, of any health or fitness restrictions that may limit participation of tour activities or put the Customer, tour staff or other customers at risk. The Customer acknowledges that their suitability for a tour, or any activity within a tour, is wholly the Customer's responsibility.
- Payment of a deposit by the Customer to secure a Transitz Tour acts as a warranty that:
  - the Customer is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in the tour, and
  - the Customer does not have a health, physical condition or disability that would create risk to themselves, tour staff or other customers, and
  - the Customer indemnifies Transitz Tours from all actions, claims and demands arising out of any want of health or fitness.
- Transitz Tours reserves the right to decline a booking on medical, health or fitness grounds at its sole discretion.
- Transitz Tours reserves the right to remove a Customer from a tour, or quarantine a Customer on tour, if their health and/or fitness interferes with the tour or staff safety or other Customers safety or tour experience in any way. Any additional costs associated with a Customer's removal from tour or placement into quarantine, shall be borne by the Customer. Refunds will be made in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

## Authority on Tour

- Transitz Tours are operated by staff with decision making authority while on tour. By travelling with Transitz Tours, you agree to accept the authority of the driver/guide and their decisions are final in all matters likely to affect the wellbeing, safety or experience of any customer or staff member on board. Failure to adhere to reasonable requests or any inappropriate behaviour that is degrading the experience of other customers, may result in the Customer being removed from the tour. If a Customer is asked to leave a tour, any costs associated with returning home will be borne by the Customer and any unused portion of the tour will not be refunded.

## **Responsibilities**

- Transit Tours include goods and services provided by other operators such as hotels, attractions and transportation companies. Customers are advised to familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions on which these services are supplied. Accordingly, Transit Tours will not be responsible and will be excluded from liability for any loss, damage, omission or acts being negligent or otherwise, committed by other goods and service providers used in connection with the tour.
- Transit Tours is not liable for any loss, damage, delay, or injury caused to the traveller or their baggage whilst under the care or control of a third-party provider. A Customer's baggage and personal effects shall be carried at the owner's risk as provided for under the Carriage of Goods Act.
- Transit Tours is not responsible for any losses or additional expenses to the Customer due to tours impacted by Force Majeure events that occur prior to, or during, a tour such as but not limited to fire, flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, avalanche, severe weather, power outages, labour disruptions, pandemic, government controls or other events outside Transit Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Transit Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised.

## **Acceptance of Risk**

- The Customer acknowledges that all Transit Tours may be subject to risks and dangers beyond that which might be experienced by the Customer at home. Except as provided in law, the Customer acknowledges that they assume all risk and Transit Tours is not liable for misadventure, death, injury, delay or loss which occurs during the tour.

## **Seat Rotation**

- For the enjoyment of all travellers Transit Tours operates a seat rotation system which all travellers must participate in as a condition of booking.

## **Photographs**

- Photographs used to market any Transit Tour depict typical scenes experienced, but the subject matter may not necessarily be seen or experienced whilst visiting a destination within a tour.
- Whilst on tour, the Customer may be included in photographs and/or film taken by the guide or driver. These photographs may be used for future promotional advertising purposes and by booking on a Transit Tour the Customer authorises the use of any images they are captured in to be used without further consent or any payment of any kind. If the Customer does not authorise the use of their image for promotional purposes, they must make this known at the time of booking.

## **Privacy Policy**

- Any personal information that Transit Tours collects about the Customer may be used for any purpose associated with the operation of a tour or to send the Customer marketing material in relation to Transit Tour products. The information may be disclosed to our agents, service providers or other suppliers to enable Transit Tours to operate the tour. Transit Tours will otherwise treat your details in accordance with our privacy policy (available on our website).

## **Applicable Law**

- The laws of New Zealand govern these Terms and Conditions to the fullest extent allowable.