

# 2008 PROBUS RENDEZVOUS, CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

## Pre Tour Itinerary - 18 Day Rail/Coach Tour (F4) 28 August - 14 September 2008

NZ\$4625.00 pp twin share  
NZ\$5825.00 single

AU\$4065.00 pp twin share  
AU\$5125.00 single

### PRICE INCLUDES:

17 nights superior hotel accommodation  
Luxury coach travel throughout the tour  
Professional Coach Captain  
Dedicated Tour Host/Hostess  
Meet and greet on arrival in New Zealand  
16 dinners including 3 specialty dinners:  
Maori Hangi and Concert - Rotorua  
Haggis Ceremony - Dunedin  
Walter Peak Homestead - Queenstown  
3 lunches including 2 specialty lunches:  
Longlands Farm - Matamata  
Champagne Barbecue - Kingston Flyer  
17 cooked breakfasts including 1 specialty breakfast:  
Skyrides Restaurant - Rotorua  
**Sightseeing and admissions as per itinerary**  
5 rail journeys and 4 cruises  
Return airport transfers in New Zealand  
Interislander Ferry between Wellington and Picton  
GST - New Zealand Goods and Services Tax  
Grand Pacific Tours travel bag, ticket wallet, toiletry wetpack,  
personal New Zealand travel diary, personal name badge,  
luggage label, personalised itinerary, touring map, postcard and  
Optional Tours Directory.

### DAY 1 - 28 August:

#### HOMEPORT - AUCKLAND >> (D)

Fly from your homeport to **Auckland** where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner and the chance to meet your fellow **Probian**s travelling on this tour.

**Accommodation: Novotel Hotel**

### DAY 2 - 29 August:

#### AUCKLAND - BAY OF ISLANDS >> (B,D)

Depart **Auckland** and travel to the **Parry Kauri Park** to see a magnificent example of a **Kauri Tree**. Enjoy a visit to the **Kauri Museum** in **Matakhoe** then pass through **Dargaville** and **Whangarei** to **Paihia**, situated in the heart of the beautiful **Bay of Islands**. Enjoy a **guided tour** of the **Waitangi Treaty Grounds**, location of the **signing of the treaty** between the Maori tribes and the British.

**Accommodation: Scenic Circle Bay of Islands Hotel (2 nights)**

### DAY 3 - 30 August:

#### BAY OF ISLANDS >> (B,D)

This morning travel aboard a **luxury catamaran** to **Cape Brett** and the famous **Hole in the Rock**. Experience an informative commentary and a stopover at **Otehei Bay** before arriving at **historic Russell**. Free time is available to explore at leisure before returning by ferry to **Paihia**.

### DAY 4 - 31 August:

#### BAY OF ISLANDS - AUCKLAND >> (B,D)

Bid farewell to the **Bay of Islands** and drive south via **Whangarei**, **Wellsford** and **Warkworth** to **Auckland**. Enjoy a short **city tour** and some free time to explore before transferring to your hotel.

**Accommodation: Novotel Hotel**

### DAY 5 - 1 September:

#### AUCKLAND - ROTORUA >> 🚂 (B,L,D)

Depart **Auckland** and travel to **Glenbrook Vintage Railway** for a nostalgic 12 kilometre trip back in time on a beautifully restored vintage steam train. Visit the restoration workshop and on return to **Glenbrook Station**, **morning tea** will be served. Depart **Glenbrook** and travel through the magnificent countryside to **Longlands Dairy Farm**. Enjoy a **milking demonstration** followed by a delicious home cooked lunch. Continue along the scenic coast road via **Tauranga** to the geothermal town of **Rotorua**.

**Accommodation: Sudima Hotel Lake Rotorua (Superior Rooms) (2 nights)**

### DAY 6 - 2 September:

#### ROTORUA >> (B,D)

Today begins with a **Gondola ride to Skyrides Restaurant** where a **buffet breakfast** and spectacular views are on offer. Travel to the **Agrodome** where you see **performing sheep**, a **shearing display** and **sheep dog trial**. Next visit **Paradise Valley Springs**, a **superb wildlife park** where you can hand feed rainbow trout. Some free time is available before an afternoon transfer to see the **boiling mud pools** and the **awesome Geysers** that **Rotorua** is famous for. This evening you will experience an entertaining **Maori Hangi and Concert**.

### DAY 7 - 03 September:

#### ROTORUA - WELLINGTON >> (B,D)

Depart **Rotorua** and travel along the **Thermal Explorer Highway** before arriving at the spectacular **Huka Falls**. Continue to **Lake Taupo**, where some free time is available to enjoy this scenic lakeside town. This afternoon travel via the **Tongariro National Park** and see the snow capped peaks of **Mt Ruapehu** and **Mt Tongariro**. Visit the **Southwards Car Museum**, home to the most comprehensive collection of veteran and vintage cars in the southern hemisphere. **Afternoon tea** will be enjoyed before continuing south along the **Kapiti Coast** to **Wellington**, **New Zealand's capital**.

**Accommodation: James Cook Grand Chancellor Hotel (2 nights)**

### DAY 8 - 4 September:

#### WELLINGTON >> (B,D)

An interesting **city sights tour** this morning will highlight the tremendous history and culture on show here. This afternoon free time is available and you may choose to visit **Te Papa**, **New Zealand's National Museum**.

### DAY 9 - 5 September:

#### WELLINGTON - PICTON - CHRISTCHURCH >> 🚂 (B,D)

This morning board the **Interislander Ferry**, cruise across **Cook Strait** and the scenic **Marlborough Sounds** to **Picton**. Join **The TranzCoastal**, a truly spectacular rail journey that links the port of **Picton** to **Christchurch** and travels through vineyards, salt mountains and river valleys before following the thin wedge of land between the Pacific Ocean and the **Kaikoura Ranges**. Continue across the rolling farmland of the **Northern Canterbury Plains** to the garden city of **Christchurch**.

**Accommodation: Copthorne Durham Street (2 nights)**



**DAY 10 - 6 September:**

**CHRISTCHURCH >> (B,D)**

This morning enjoy a **city tour** of **Christchurch**. This afternoon is free and we have arranged for you to travel on the **Christchurch Tramway** which is the best way to visit all the 'Must See' sights.

**DAY 11 - 07 September:**

**CHRISTCHURCH - DUNEDIN >> (B,D)**

Depart **Christchurch** and travel south through **Oamaru** to **Dunedin**, a well preserved Victorian city. Enjoy a **city sights tour** including a visit to **Olveston House**, a prestigious historic home and tonight a **Scottish Evening** will be presented complete with bagpipes, great food, special **Haggis Ceremony** and **gift**.

**Accommodation: Mercure Leisure Lodge (2 nights)**

**DAY 12 - 08 September:**

**DUNEDIN >> (B,D)**

This morning travel along the **Otago Peninsula** to **Larnach Castle** where you enjoy a **guided tour**. Next visit **Glenfalloch Woodland Gardens** and view the superb collection of flowers as a **delightful morning tea** is served. Return to the city where free time is available before boarding **The Taieri Gorge Limited** for a journey through terrain and spectacular scenery only accessible by rail. Grand examples of Victorian stonework on bridges and tunnels, plus iron latticework viaducts can be seen along with breathtaking views as you travel to **Pukerangi**. On return to Dunedin's historic **Edwardian Railway Station** your coach will transfer you to your hotel.

**DAY 13 - 09 September:**

**DUNEDIN - TE ANAU >> (B,D)**

Travel to **Te Anau**, the **gateway to Fiordland** and visit the **Te Anau Glow Worm Caves**. Admire the incredible limestone caverns, waterfalls and mystery of the **Glow Worm Grotto** before arriving at your hotel.

**Accommodation: Luxmore Hotel (Deluxe Rooms) (2 nights)**

**DAY 14 - 10 September:**

**TE ANAU - MILFORD SOUND - TE ANAU >> (B,L,D)**

Depart **Te Anau** for a fascinating drive into **Milford Sound**. Board your launch, enjoy a **picnic lunch** and marvel at the sheer cliffs and the many waterfalls as you **cruise this magnificent fiord**. This afternoon return to **Te Anau** where some free time is available.



**DAY 15 - 11 September:**

**TE ANAU - ARROWTOWN - QUEENSTOWN >> (B,L,D)**

A leisurely start to the day before travelling to **Fairlight** where you board **The Kingston Flyer** for a rail journey behind a **Pacific AB Class Locomotive**. On arrival at **Kingston** a **champagne barbecue lunch** will be served. Continue to **Arrowtown**, an old gold mining village and visit the **Lakes District Museum** before travelling to **Queenstown**, situated on the shores of magical **Lake Wakatipu**. This evening board the **vintage steamship TSS Earnslaw** and **cruise across Lake Wakatipu** to **Walter Peak Station**. On arrival enjoy **dinner** in the **Colonel's Homestead** followed by a **short farm tour**. Reboard the **TSS Earnslaw** for a sing along by the piano as you cruise back to **Queenstown**.

**Accommodation: Mercure Resort Queenstown (Lakeview Rooms) (2 nights)**



**DAY 16 - 12 September:**

**QUEENSTOWN (FREE DAY) >> (B)**

Today is a **free day**. There are plenty of sightseeing options available. Your Coach Captain and Tour Escort will be happy to assist. This evening is also free and you may choose to dine out at one of the many fine restaurants.

**DAY 17 - 13 September:**

**QUEENSTOWN - FOX GLACIER - FRANZ JOSEF >> (B,D)**

Depart **Queenstown** and travel via the **Haast Pass** to the **West Coast**. See the snow capped peaks of the **Southern Alps** as you travel north to **Fox Glacier**. Time is available (weather permitting) for a **scenic flight** (optional) over the spectacular glaciers before continuing to **Franz Josef**.

**Accommodation: Scenic Circle Franz Josef Glacier Hotel**

**DAY 18 - 14 September:**

**FRANZ JOSEF - GREYMOOUTH - CHRISTCHURCH >> (B)**

Travel to **Hokitika**, famous for its greenstone, then continue to **Greymouth** where you board **The TranzAlpine**, renowned as **one of the great railway journeys of the world**. Travel through lush beech forest, skirt lakes and follow rivers till you climb through the **Otira Tunnel** to **Arthur's Pass** in the centre of the **Southern Alps**. Descend through spectacular gorges, river valleys and over massive viaducts before completing your journey at **Christchurch**. On arrival you will be transferred to your **Probus Rendezvous Hotel**.

(B) Breakfast >> (L) Lunch >> (D) Dinner