

The best of New Zealand

From **18/1/2022**
to **27/1/2022**

Ship: **LE LAPÉROUSE**

From **Auckland**
to **Lyttelton**



On this cruise, PONANT invites you to discover **New Zealand**, a unique destination with a multitude of **natural treasures**. Set sail aboard *Le Lapérouse* for a **10-day cruise** from Auckland to Lyttelton.

From **Whakatane**, you will be able to explore many treasures: volcanoes, hot springs, geysers, rivers and gorges, and lakes that range in colour from deep blue to orange-tinged.

You will then sail to **Wellington**, the capital of New Zealand. This ancient site of the Maori people, as demonstrated by the Te Papa Tongarewa Museum, perfectly combines local traditions and bustling nightlife.

La Lapérouse will first chart a course south-west of the South Island to discover the magnificent **Fiordland National Park**, which is an integral part of the Te Wahipounamu, a **UNESCO World Heritage area**. You will discover **Dusky Sound** and **Milford Sound**, magnificent fjords moulded by successive glaciers and bordered by majestic cliffs.

Your ship will sail towards **Dunedin**. The Edinburgh of New Zealand is a lively student city, with a rich Scottish Heritage.

The magnificent landscapes of lush hills and the jagged coastlines of Banks Peninsula are yours to admire from **Lyttelton Harbour**, your final destination.



The information in this document is valid as of 4/12/2021

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

AUCKLAND

Embarkation 18/1/2022 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Departure 19/1/2022 at 12:00 am

Auckland is New Zealand's largest, most populated and busiest city. Located on an isthmus linking the peninsula of Northland to the expansive North Island, it seems to float between land and sea. It is one of the few cities in the world to have two separate harbours : Manukau Harbour on the Tasman Sea and Waitemata Harbour on the Pacific Ocean. You will understand why Auckland is known as "**the City of Sails**" when you see the forest of masts in the marina. The 328 metre-high Sky Tower offers splendid views of the city. Surrounded by dormant volcanoes such as **Mt Eden**, Auckland is noted for its abundant nature and magnificent black-sand beaches. A blend of Maori, European and Asian cultures give the city a vibrant atmosphere.

WHAKATANE

Arrival 20/1/2022 early morning
Departure 20/1/2022 early afternoon

Lying to the east of Tauranga, **Whakatane** stretches the entire length of the **Bay of Plenty**, protected by the outlying Matakana Island. Discovered in 1769 by James Cook, the Bay of Plenty is one of the jewels of the North Island. You can also reach the town of **Rotorua** and the unmissable **thermal wonderland of Wai-O-Tapu**, combining volcanic valleys and geysers for an exceptional geothermic experience. Boasting a strong Maori culture, Whakatane will not fail to surprise you with its history and its authenticity.

NAPIER

Arrival 21/1/2022 midday
Departure 21/1/2022 late afternoon

On the east coast of the North Island, south of **Hawke's Bay**, you'll find **Napier**. Mostly destroyed by an earthquake in 1931, reviving from its ashes in less than two years, it grew into a magnificent **Art Deco style** city, very in-vogue at the time. With its pure lines mixed with traditional Maori designs, the singular New Zealand character of this city will intrigue you. You'll discover all this extraordinary architectural heritage as you take a stroll through the city. Famous for its vineyards, wine lovers will be able to taste some of the best **wines** from the region.

WELLINGTON

Arrival 22/1/2022 midday
Departure 22/1/2022 evening

Crowned with gentle green hills, **Wellington Harbour** is located in the far south of the North Island. This city offers a

charming mix of **traditional and modern cultures**, bestowing on the New Zealand capital, a unique atmosphere, both friendly and avant-gard. Where some sites, like the large **National Te Papa Tongarewa Museum**, reflect the city's Maori past, others, like the many cafés and restaurants, affirm the inhabitants' incredible lust for life.

AT SEA

Arrival 23/1/2022

Departure 23/1/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

SAILING MILFORD SOUND

Arrival 24/1/2022 early afternoon

Departure 24/1/2022 late afternoon

Milford Sound fjord is among one of the most beautiful natural sites in New Zealand. So much beauty will quite simply take your breath away. Located on the south-west coast of South Island, in the **Fiordland National Park**, this sumptuous inlet carved out by glaciers advances over at least 15 kilometres inland, in the **Southern Alps**. Majestic cliffs seem to surge out of the dark waters, rising several hundred metres high: an abrupt relief from where impressive waterfalls cascade.

SAILING DUSKY SOUND

Arrival 25/1/2022 early morning

Departure 25/1/2022 late morning

Dusky Sound is one of the most isolated fjords in Fiordland National Park. This huge, **protected natural zone** situated in the south-west quarter of New Zealand's South Island is listed as UNESCO World Heritage. The **sheer cliffs, waterfalls, shimmering lakes** and **primitive forests** here are each more beautiful than the next. These spectacular landscapes sculpted by successive glaciations are a source of endless wonder. In 1773, the British navigator James Cook spent a few weeks at Dusky Sound, as demonstrated by a plaque that can be seen at Astronomer's Point. During your sailing, observe the richness of the local wildlife: **cormorants, seagulls, New Zealand fur seals**, but also **Fiordland crested penguins**, a rare and endemic species.

DUNEDIN

Arrival 26/1/2022 early morning

Departure 26/1/2022 early afternoon

Dunedin is New Zealand's oldest city and is often referred to as the Edinburgh of New Zealand. This city of the south,

wears its Scottish heritage with pride. The city contains some of the best preserved Victorian and Edwardian architecture in the Southern Hemisphere. The Silverpeaks hinterland to the North West provides a picturesque backdrop and **The Otago Peninsula**, which lies within the city boundaries, has internationally renowned wildlife reserves, including the only mainland breeding colony of Northern Royal Albatross.

LYTTELTON

Arrival 27/1/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 27/1/2022 at 8:00 am

On the eastern coast of New Zealand's South Island, Lyttelton (or Te Whaka Raupo in the Maori language) served, thanks to its proximity with Ross Island, as the **starting point for the British expeditions** in the mythical age of the South Pole explorations. It takes its name from George Lyttelton (1709-1773), aristocrat and colonial governor of South Carolina. In this colourful port town full of history, you'll be able to discover the **Time Ball**: constructed in 1876, it rang at 1.00 pm every day for 58 consecutive years to give Greenwich meridian time, enabling ship captains to set their chronometer and very precisely calculate their position.