

# BEST OF NEW ZEALAND



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 between Dunedin and Auckland. You will discover Dusky Sound, Doubtful Sound and the well-known Milford Sound – three fiords bordered by majestic mountains soaring skyward from the sea.



**DATES:** 2021 - JAN 12-21 | JAN 21-30\*  
| JAN 30-FEB 08

**DURATION:** 10-DAYS/9-NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

**DISEMBARK:** AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND  
\*REVERSE ITINERARY

**SHIP:** LE BELLOT

**FROM:** \$5,790

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover sublime New Zealand landscapes with exceptional diversity.
- Sail in New Zealand's fjords, listed with UNESCO.
- A call at Picton, in the Marlborough region, famous for its vineyards and its submerged valleys.
- Meet the Maori people, brave warriors with ancestral traditions and customs.
- In Wellington, discover the Te Papa Tongarewa museum.
- The stopover in White Island, a volcanic island with an unreal atmosphere, between lunar landscapes and steam emanating from the numerous fumaroles.
- A lecturer passionate by New Zealand history will be on board.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 — DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

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 picturesque 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.



### DAY 2 – DOUBTFUL SOUND

Referred to as the Sound of Silence, there is a secluded serenity that surrounds Doubtful Sound in contrast with the better-known Milford Sound. Lieutenant James Cook named 'Doubtful Harbour' in 1770 as he was uncertain if it was navigable under sail. Doubtful Sound is the deepest of the fiords with a maximum depth of



421 m. It contains three distinct 'arms' and several outstanding waterfalls in the area from Deep Cove to the open ocean. Your ship will spend time navigating around Secretary Island through both Thompson and Doubtful Sounds. You will enjoy the spectacular scenery from the outer decks.

### DAY 3 – MILFORD SOUND

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.

### DAY 4 – DAY AT SEA

### DAY 5 – PICTON, NEW ZEALAND

A must-see entry point to South Island, Picton is a little coastal town girded by gentle hills, located on the south side of the Queen Charlotte inlet. The cafés and restaurants which border the charming waterfront give a very lovely view of the fjord. You can also decide to get some height above sea level, and walk in the surrounding areas. However, Picton is above all an opportunity to explore the unique Marlborough fjords. This interweave of submerged valleys, making numerous different navigable routes, are among the most beautiful natural wonders of New Zealand.

### DAY 6 – WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

Crowned with gentle green hills, Wellington harbour is located in the far south of North Island. This city offers a charming pell-mell of traditional and modern cultures, bestowing on the New Zealand capital, a unique atmosphere, at once friendly and avant-garde. 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.

#### **DAY 7 – NAPIER, NEW ZEALAND**

On the east coast of 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 the city. Wine lovers will be able to taste some of the best wines from the region, which is famous for its vineyards.



#### **DAY 8 – WHITE ISLAND, BAY OF PLENTY**

Located in the Bay of Plenty, White Island is an active volcano which has been built up by continuous volcanic activity over the past 150,000 years. It is possible to walk inside the main crater and experience nature's immense power, as gas and steam burst up from far below the Earth's crust. The smell of sulphur and the noise of steam emanating from the many fumaroles makes for an amazing sensory experience. The island has also been identified as an important bird area because of its breeding colony of Australasian Gannets. Depending on the level of volcanic activity and sea



state, guests will have the opportunity to land on White Island and take a guided walking tour through the crater and around the ruins of the old sulphur mine.

#### **DAY 9 – TAURANGA, BAY OF PLENTY**

Located to the north of Rotorua, Tauranga stretches the length of the Bay of Plenty, sheltered from the ocean by the island of Matakana. This coastal city boasts a flourishing economy thanks to its port, and is a pleasant and pretty town with a peaceful, relaxed feel. The seafront area is contemporary and lively, dotted with cafés and restaurants. The town centre reveals more picturesque charms, while the surrounding area is packed full of natural delights. Travel on to the town of Rotorua to visit the Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland: a fantastic opportunity to experience an absolutely exceptional geothermal phenomenon.



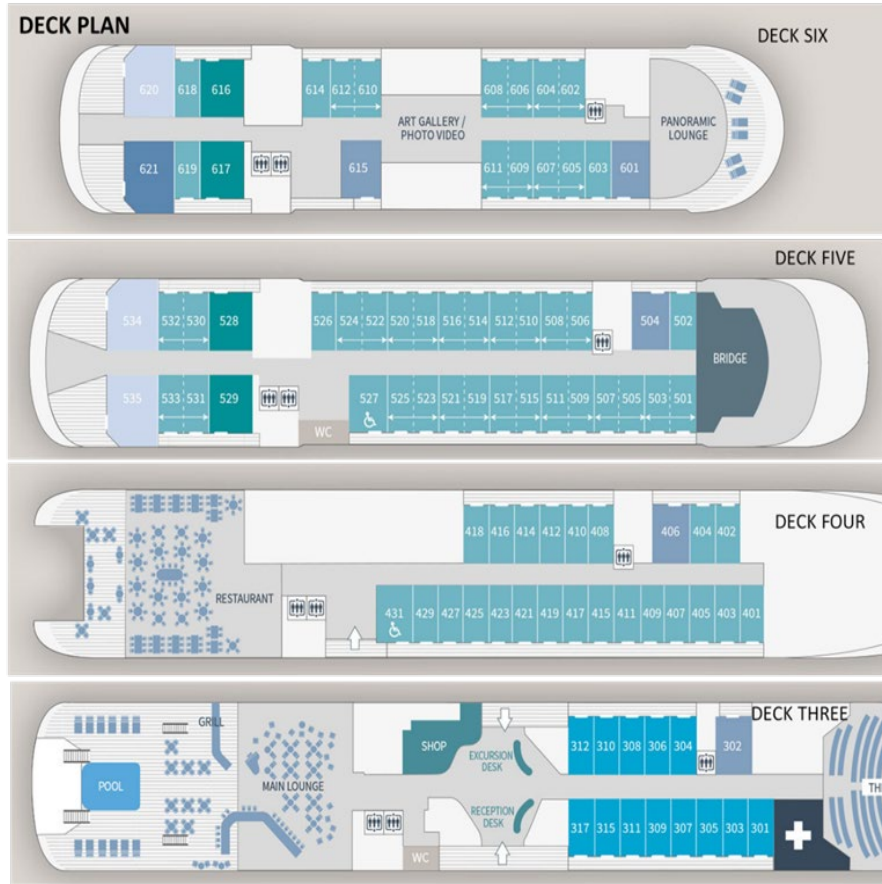
#### **DAY 10 – AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND**

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.

**NOTE- Pre- and post-cruise activities can be added – let us know what you would like to do and see!**



2021 RATES – LE BELLOT		
SUITE –	JAN 12-21	JAN 21-30 JAN 30-FEB 08
Deluxe – Deck 3	\$5,790	\$6,100
Prestige – Deck 4	\$6,450	\$6,810
Prestige – Deck 5	\$6,750	\$7,130
Prestige – Deck 6	\$7,080	\$7,480
Deluxe – Suite 3, 4, 5, 6	\$9,810	\$10,380
Prestige Ste – Deck 5	\$13,240	\$14,020
Prestige Ste – Deck 6	\$13,890	\$14,710
Privilege – Deck 5 & 6	\$14,570	\$15,440
Grand Deluxe – Deck 5	\$16,000	\$16,960
Owners Suite	\$20,810	\$20,810



## ALL SUITES HAVE PRIVATE BALCONIES

Rates are per person, Double Occupancy

### Included features:

- All accommodations, meals, and excursions described above
- Open bar throughout ship
- Gratuities to crew and guides and drivers on included excursions
- Port charges, taxes and fees
- Comprehensive 9-night cruise with all the amenities for which Ponant ships are famous.

### Not included:

- Meals and beverages other than those specified above
- Optional excursions
- Personal expenses (such as spa, laundry, telephone, Internet, etc.)
- Travel and Emergency Evacuation Insurance



**Reservations & Information**  
**1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)**

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