

NEW ZEALAND

EXPEDITION CRUISE

With Dick and Leslie West



New Zealand, one of the world's most isolated countries is also one of the greatest. Its small compass houses an amazing range of scenery, incorporating just about every natural phenomenon that you can think of - geysers, volcanoes, fjords, mountains and stunning wildlife. Yet this is not only a voyage of unforgettable landscapes, expect also sophisticated cities and architectural jewels along the way.



DATES: December 11-21, 2020

DURATION: 11 DAYS/10 DAYS

EMBARK: AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

DISSEMBARK: DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

SHIP: Silver Explorer

FROM: \$6,930

After early Booking Savings

Free Economy or reduced rate Business Class Air

Plus \$250 per suite Shipboard Credit

ITINERARY



DAY 1 – DEC 11 – AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND – EMBARK

Auckland is called the City of Sails, and visitors flying in will see why. On the East Coast is the Waitemata Harbour—a Māori word meaning sparkling waters—which is bordered by the Hauraki Gulf, an aquatic playground peppered with small islands where many Aucklanders can be found "mucking around in boats." Not surprisingly, Auckland has some 70,000 boats. About one in four households in Auckland has a seacraft of some kind, and there are 102 beaches within an hour's drive; during the week many are quite empty. Even the airport is by the water; it borders the Manukau Harbour, which also takes its name from the Māori language and means solitary bird. According to Māori tradition, the Auckland isthmus was originally peopled by a race of giants and fairy folk. When Europeans arrived in the early 19th century, however, the Ngāti-Whātua tribe was firmly in control of the region.

DAY 2 – DEC 12 – TAURANGA, BAY OF PLENTY

The population center of the Bay of Plenty, Tauranga is one of New Zealand's fastest-growing cities. Along with its neighbor, Whakatane, this seaside city claims to be one of the country's sunniest towns. Unlike most local towns, Tauranga doesn't grind to a halt in the off-season, because it has one of the busiest ports in the country, and the excellent waves at the neighboring beach resort of Mount Maunganui—just across Tauranga's harbor bridge—always draw surfers and holiday folk.

DAY 3 – DEC 13 – WHITE ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND

White Island is an active andesite stratovolcano, situated 48 km from the east coast of the North Island of New Zealand, in the Bay of Plenty. It is New Zealand's

most active cone volcano, and has been built up by continuous volcanic activity over the past 150,000 years.

DAY 4 – DEC 14 – NAPIER, NEW ZEALAND

The earthquake that struck Napier at 10:46 am on February 3, 1931, was—at 7.8 on the Richter scale—the largest quake ever recorded in New Zealand. The coastline was wrenched upward several feet. Almost all the town's brick buildings collapsed; many people were killed on the footpaths as they rushed outside. The quake triggered fires throughout town, and with water mains shattered, little could be done to stop the blazes that devoured the remaining wooden structures. Only a few buildings survived (the Public Service Building with its neoclassical pillars is one), and the death toll was well over 100. The surviving townspeople set up tents and cookhouses in Nelson Park, and then tackled the city's reconstruction at a remarkable pace. In the rush to rebuild, Napier went mad for art deco, the bold, geometric style that had burst on the global design scene in 1925.

DAY 5 – DEC 15 – SHIP COVE, AND PICTON

The maritime township of Picton (population 4,000) lies at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound and is the arrival point for ferries from the North Island, as well as a growing number of international cruise ships. It plays a major role in providing services and transport by water taxi to a multitude of remote communities in the vast area of islands, peninsulas, and waterways that make up the Marlborough Sounds Maritime Park. There's plenty to do in town, with crafts markets in summer, historical sights to see, and walking tracks to scenic lookouts over the sounds. The main foreshore is lined by London Quay, which looks up Queen Charlotte Sound to the bays beyond. High Street runs down to London Quay from the hills, and between them these two streets make up the center of town.

DAY 6 – DEC 16 – DAY AT SEA

DAY 7 – DEC 17 – MILFORD SOUND

New Zealand fiord country along with Fiordland National Park is one of New Zealand's premier attractions. Incredibly beautiful, wild and remote, the region is an intriguing combination of rugged mountain ranges, dense rainforest, solitary alpine lakes, sparkling rivers and splashing waterfalls. Much of Fiordland is virtually unexplored wilderness and still the habitat of rare birds. As the ship cruises the beautiful Doubtful, Dusky and Milford Sounds, experience the majestic fiordland of South Island's western coast. Captain James Cook sailed



along this coast in 1770 and again in 1773, when he anchored at Dusky Sound for a rest and ship repair. Doubtful Sound is one of the region's most majestic fiords. It is ten times larger than Milford Sound. As the ship cruises into Hall Arm, gaze at vertical cliffs and mighty waterfalls plunging over sheer rock faces. In fine weather, mountains and greenery are reflected in the protected waters of the fiord.

DAY 8 – DEC 18 – DUSKY SOUND

Despite being discovered by Cook more than 240 years ago, Dusky Sound is one of the few truly untouched destinations left on earth. Found on the southwest corner of New Zealand's Fiordland National Park, Dusky Sound has the auspicious title of "titanic mason" given to it by the Maoris, as no other explanation seems to fit; it is almost impossible to comprehend the sheer breadth of geological events that created this seemingly perfect sculpture, as the sheer cliffs that rise vertically upward from the ocean dwarf the ship. This incredibly beautiful fiord offers many magical wildernesses and stunning scenery that bathe in "Lord of the Rings" grandeur. A breeding site for Fiordland Penguins, Dusky Sound is an important ornithological area too, with a wealth of birdlife to be found here. This remote, untouched region is also home to a wide range of sea life, as the fresh and salt water combine to create an extraordinary aquatic environment.

DAY 9 – DEC 19 – THE SNARES, NEW ZEALAND

The Snares are the northernmost of New Zealand's sub-antarctic islands and one of the most untouched and pristine areas in New Zealand. Introduced land mammals were never established on the Snares, making it one of the most untouched and pristine areas in New Zealand, and a great place for birders.

DAY 10 - DEC 20 – BLUFF, NEW ZEALAND

The most southernmost town in New Zealand, Bluff (or The Bluff as it is locally known) is perhaps the most European of all the settlements in the country. Called Campbelltown until 1917, the city was officially re-named after the 265 meter conical hill that towers above it. One of the farthest corners of the British Empire, the inaugural Royal Tour of New Zealand by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, concluded at Bluff in January 1954. Nowadays however, it is the Bluff oysters that are the stars of the show. Reputed to be the best in the world, these local heroes are what have really put Bluff on the map and are celebrated every May with a lively festival honoring *Ostrea chilensis* (that's Latin for Bluff oyster). But gastronomy aside (and it is mostly oyster related), Bluff offers the adventurous traveler much in the way activity.



DAY 11 – DEC 21 – DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

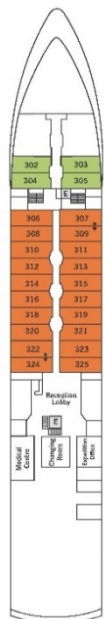
Clinging to the walls of the natural amphitheater at the west end of Otago Harbour, the South Island's second-largest city is enriched with inspiring nearby seascapes and wildlife. Because Dunedin is a university town, floods of students give the city a vitality far greater than its population of 122,000 might suggest. Its manageable size makes it easy to explore on foot—with the possible exception of Baldwin Street, the world's steepest residential street and home to the annual "gutbuster" race, in which people run up it, and the "Jaffa" race, in which people roll the namesake spherical chocolate candy down it. Dunedin, the Gaelic name for Edinburgh, was founded in 1848 by settlers of the Free Church of Scotland, a breakaway group from the Presbyterian Church.

Disembark and explore more of this wonderful country, or head home from the airport.

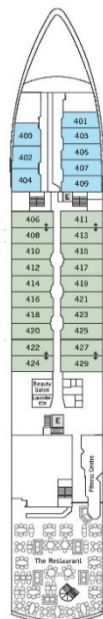
Pre- and post-cruise programs will be developed for those interested.



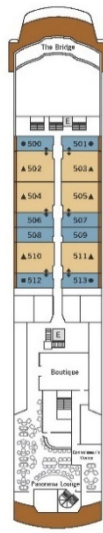
SILVER EXPLORER – Deck Plans



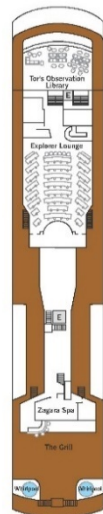
DECK 3
 Reception Desk
 Medical Centre
 Changing Room
 Expedition Office



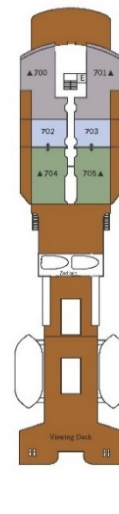
DECK 4
 Beauty Salon
 Launderette
 Fitness Centre
 The Restaurant



DECK 5
 The Bridge
 Boutique
 Connoisseur's Corner
 Panorama Lounge



DECK 6
 Tor's Observation Library
 Explorer Lounge
 Zagara Spa
 The Grill



DECK 7
 Viewing Deck



SUITE CATEGORIES

- Owner's Suite
- Grand Suite
- Silver Suite
- Medallion Suite
- Veranda Suite
- Vista Suite
- View Suite
- Explorer Suite
- Adventurer Suite

SPECIFICATIONS

- Lloyd's register
- Ice-class rating 1A
- Crew 118
- Officers International
- Guests 144
- Tonnage 6,072
- Length 354 Feet/107.9 Metres
- Width 52 Feet/15.8 Metres
- Speed 14 Knots
- Passenger Decks 5
- 3rd Guest Capacity
- Queen beds
- Connecting suites
- 702/704, 703/705, 500/502, 501/503,
504/506, 505/507, 510/512, 511/513,
307/309, 324/322, 406/408, 411/413,
427/424, 427/429
- Refurbished 2017
- Registry Bahamas

Suite diagrams shown are for illustration purposes only and may vary from actual square footage. Please refer to suite specifications for square footage.

2020 RATES: PER PERSON – DOUBLE – ALL INCLUSIVE*

*Port fees and taxes; gratuities to crew; open bar throughout ship; all excursions; team of Expedition leaders and guides.

Economy air fare, or \$1500 per person credit; one night hotel; transfers; guided zodiac, sea and land tours. \$250 per suite ship-board credit can be used in Spa or Gift Shop, since everything else is included.

SUITE	Regular	Early Booking
Adventure – Deck 3	\$7,500	\$6,930
Explorer – Deck 4	\$7,800	\$7,020
View – Deck 3	\$8,400	\$7,560
Vista – Deck 4	\$8,700	\$7,920
Veranda – Deck 5	\$11,900	\$10,710
Medallion – Deck 7	\$14,600	\$13,140
Silver – Deck 5	\$15,500	\$13,950
Grand – Deck 7	\$16,200	\$14,580
Owner's – Deck 7	\$18,700	\$16,830



Reservations & Information

1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)

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www.explorcruises.com