



GRAND PACIFIC TOURS

Featuring
the Dunedin
Rhododendron Festival

DUNEDIN
RHODODENDRON
FESTIVAL 2008



NEW ZEALAND 12 DAY GARDEN TOUR

Special Departure: 24 October 2008



www.grandpacific tours.com

New Zealand 12 Day South Island Garden Tour

Fully Escorted by Horticultural Expert, Kevin Walsh

Kevin Walsh is a horticulturalist and garden designer, who many of you will be familiar with through his writing which has appeared in a number of newspapers, gardening magazines and books. He is acknowledged as one of Australia's leading experts in water conservation, having written Australia's first book on this subject, titled *Waterwise Gardening*. For ten years Kevin answered gardening questions in *The Age* and he now broadcasts a gardener's talkback show weekly on ABC regional radio. Kevin is an experienced guide and has successfully escorted several garden tours to New Zealand for Grand Pacific Tours.



ITINERARY: Indicates prepaid inclusions

Meal Plan: (B) Breakfast (L) Lunch (D) Dinner

Day 1 Homeport - Christchurch (D)

Fly from your homeport to **Christchurch** where on arrival you will be met by a **Grand Pacific Tours** representative and **transferred** to your hotel. Tonight enjoy **dinner** at the hotel and meet your fellow travellers.

Accommodation: *Copthorne Durham Street (2 nights)*

Day 2 Christchurch (BLD)

This morning you will visit **Wilson's Mill**, one of the few formal landscape gardens in New Zealand. Operating since 1987, there are wonderful vistas, long avenues, great sweeps of lavender and a lily-clad lake. Enjoy **morning tea** before continuing to **Broadfields**. What makes this garden such a different experience, is its devotion to **New Zealand flora**. Stroll amongst the native species that flourish before a **delicious lunch**. This afternoon enjoy a **guided tour** of the **Christchurch Botanic Gardens**, where the **Rose Garden boasts 250 varieties**. Enjoy time at leisure to explore the city centre.

Day 3 Christchurch - Franz Josef (BLD)

This morning travel through the patchwork farmlands of the Canterbury Plains on the world famous **TranzAlpine train** to **Arthurs Pass**. Continue by coach to **Hokitika** for a visit to the **Greenstone Factory**. Enjoy **afternoon tea** at **Killinchy Woods**, a large country garden with views of the **Southern Alps**. Plantings include rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, conifers, mixed perennial beds and roses.

Accommodation: *Scenic Circle Franz Josef Glacier Hotel*

Day 4 Franz Josef - Queenstown (BD)

Today travel down the **West Coast** and see the snow capped peaks of the Southern Alps as you continue to **Arrowtown**. Explore this quaint old gold mining village including a visit to the **Lakes District Museum**. Arrive into **Queenstown** which sits on the shores of magical **Lake Wakatipu**.

Accommodation: *Mercure Resort (Lakeview Rooms - 3 nights)*

Day 5 Queenstown (BLD)

Today you have the unique opportunity to visit some of Queenstown's beautiful rural residential gardens. Enjoy a **locally guided** sightseeing tour around **three private gardens** and call into a well known winery for **tastings and lunch**. 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**.

Day 6 Queenstown (Free Day) (B)

Today is a **free day**. There are plenty of sightseeing options available. Perhaps take in the views from high above Queenstown on the Skyline Gondola, experience the thrill of a jet boat ride or enjoy the breathtaking scenery of Skippers Canyon on a half day tour. Your Coach Captain 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 7 Queenstown - Te Anau (BLD)

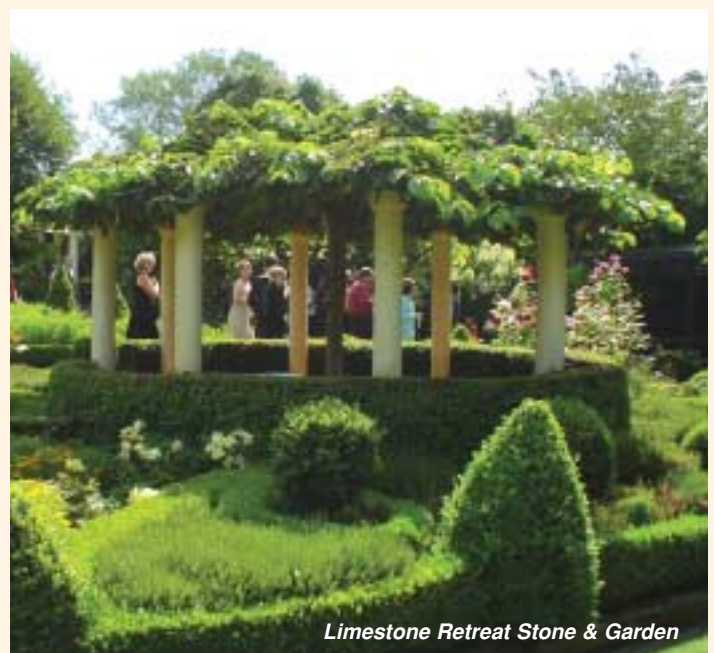
Depart **Queenstown** for the fascinating drive into **Milford Sound**. Board your launch, enjoy a **picnic lunch** and marvel at the sheer cliffs and the many waterfalls as you **cruise this magnificent fiord**. This afternoon continue to **Te Anau**.

Accommodation: *Distinction Luxmore Hotel (Deluxe Rooms)*

Day 8 Te Anau - Dunedin (BD)

This morning enjoy a screening of the locally filmed movie, **"Ata Whenua"-Shadowland**, which showcases the breathtaking **Fiordland scenery**, followed by **morning tea**. Continue to **Dunedin**, where there is time to freshen up, before travelling along the **Otago Peninsula** to **Larnach Castle** for a **guided tour and dinner**. Larnach Castle, built in 1871, is privately owned by the Barker family, the gardens have been selected as a **Garden of Significance** by the New Zealand Garden's Trust. Enjoy a **Scottish evening** in the ballroom, complete with bagpipes, great food, a **special Haggis Ceremony and gift**.

Accommodation: *Scenic Circle Dunedin City (3 nights)*



Featuring the Dunedin Rhododendron Festival

Departure Point	Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane	Canberra	Cairns	Adelaide, Hobart, Launceston	Perth	New Zealand
Per Person Twin Share	\$3549.00	\$3749.00	\$3799.00	\$3849.00	\$4149.00	NZD \$3349.00 (Land Only)
Land Only \$3149.00		Single Supplement \$800.00				NZD \$850.00 (Single Supplement)

Day 9 Dunedin

✿ (BD)

Today we visit **two private gardens** taking part in the festival. The first, sits on the slopes of **Saddle Hill** above **East Taieri**. Wander along the paths over the hillside that provide a view of the property and take in the **rhododendron and camellia garden**. Enjoy **morning tea** at **Wylde Willow Garden**, a young garden, with a small creek running through the length of the property. Grand, century old crack willows have been carefully pruned to become striking features and underneath, a variety of rhododendrons and other shrubs flourish. Return to the city to board the **Taieri Gorge Limited** for a **rail 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**.

Day 10 Dunedin Rhododendron Festival

✿ (B)

This morning enjoy the local festivities of the **Dunedin Rhododendron Festival**. The Dunedin City Council have developed this week long celebration focused on the **Botanic Gardens' Rhododendron Dell**, which is acknowledged as one of the world's most significant plantings of rhododendrons. Today the Dell covers 15 acres of land where there are over 3500 rhododendrons comprised of 178 species and over 200 named hybrids. There is time this afternoon to **explore the festival at leisure**, followed by a **free evening** to allow you to dine at one of the many local restaurants.

Day 11 Dunedin - Christchurch

✿ (BD)

Travel to north Otago, where a **local guide** will join you for a tour of the secluded and peaceful **Limestone Retreat Stone and Garden**. Enjoy **morning tea** before travelling through the **Parkside Quarry**, well known for producing the unique white limestone. At **Oamaru** enjoy a tour through the **Harbour & Tyne Precinct**, New Zealand's most complete collection of Victorian Buildings. This afternoon we travel to **Trotts Garden**, covering 2.8 hectares, and is a blend of woodland and formality. Enjoy a delicious **afternoon tea** after wandering through the collection of flora. A pond and stream provide a home for wetland plants. Continue to **Christchurch** this evening where you will enjoy a **farewell dinner** with your new found friends.

Accommodation:

Cophorne Durham Street

Day 12 Christchurch - Homeport

(B)

Having experienced some of the finest gardens in New Zealand's South Island it's time to return home and share your memories with family and friends. A **Grand Pacific Tours representative** will **transfer** you to the airport in time for your flight home.

Grand Pacific Tours is a National Awareness Partner for **Alzheimer's Australia**. "**Sweet Memory**" is a new rose that has been named for Alzheimer's Australia Vic to raise awareness of dementia. In support of this, when you book on this 12 Day Garden Tour, you will receive a "Sweet Memory" rose with our compliments. (1 per household).

Dunedin Station



Price Includes:

- Return airfare from your homeport to New Zealand
- 11 nights superior hotel accommodation
- Luxury coach travel throughout the tour
- Escorted by Horticultural Expert, Kevin Walsh
- Professional Coach Captain
- Meet and greet on arrival in New Zealand
- 11 full cooked breakfasts
- 9 dinners including 3 specialty dinners:
 - Haggis Ceremony at Larnach Castle - Dunedin
 - Walter Peak Homestead - Queenstown
 - Farewell Dinner - Christchurch
- 3 lunches
- **Morning and afternoon teas as per itinerary**
- ✿ **Visit 12 significant gardens plus the Dunedin Rhododendron Festival**
- **All sightseeing and admissions as per the itinerary**
- Return airport transfers in New Zealand
- The TranzAlpine Rail Journey
- GST - New Zealand Goods and Services Tax
- Grand Pacific Tours travel bag, ticket wallet, toiletry wetpack, New Zealand travel diary, postcard, personal name badge, personalised itinerary, luggage label, touring map and Optional Tours Directory.

Important Notes:

1. Dinner on Day 1 is not included for passengers arriving in Christchurch later than 8.00pm.
2. See back page for details of airline taxes which need to be added to your tour price.
3. Single to twin share is available. (Conditions apply).



Tour Highlights



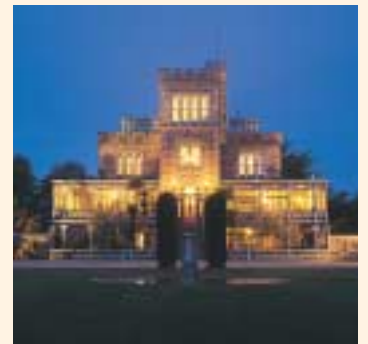
Christchurch



Taieri Gorge Ltd



Haggis Ceremony



Larnach Castle



Milford Sound



The TranzAlpine

Booking Conditions

Payment: A deposit of \$200 per person plus the cost of the airline ticket and taxes is required at the time of booking. Balance due 60 days prior to departure.

Cancellation Fees: In the event of the cancellation of a tour the following fees apply:

- 60 days or more prior to departure, loss of deposit plus the cost of the airline ticket if issued.
- Between 7 and 59 days prior to departure, 50% of tour package price.
- Less than 7 days prior to departure, 100% of tour package price.

Taxes: Tour prices do not include Australian Government and airport taxes. A current Australian tax guide per adult follows which was correct at time of printing (June 2007) -

Sydney	\$210	Melbourne	\$195	Brisbane	\$199
Adelaide	\$210	Cairns	\$210	Launceston	\$210
Perth	\$265	Hobart	\$210	Canberra	\$250

Tax amounts are subject to change and will be confirmed at the time of booking. New Zealand departure tax is separate to the above and is to be paid on departure from New Zealand.

Dunedin Station photo courtesy of Hiroshi Narmeda.

Refunds: No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour after departure.

Documentation: All client documentation including any merchandise will be forwarded to your Travel Agent two (2) weeks prior to departure.

Travel Insurance: Travel Insurance is not included and is strongly recommended for all passengers. Speak to your local Travel Agent to arrange this.

Responsibilities: Grand Pacific Tours advises that the service it provides is for the booking and packaging of goods and services provided by other operators such as hotels and transportation companies. Passengers are advised to familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions on which these services are supplied. Accordingly, Grand Pacific Tours will not be responsible and will be excluded from liability for any loss, damage, omission or acts being negligent or otherwise, committed by the operators of airlines, coach lines, rail travel, hotels or attractions used in connection with the tour.

Payment to your Travel Agent acknowledges that you have read, understood and accepted these booking conditions.

For full details on booking conditions refer to Grand Pacific Tours Luxury Coach Holidays Brochure effective 1 September, 2007.



GRAND PACIFIC TOURS PTY LTD

1st Floor, 716 Mt. Alexander Rd.
P.O. Box 774, Moonee Ponds
Victoria 3039 Australia
AUS PH: (03) 9372 0288
AUS FAX: (03) 9372 0299
NZ FAX: 0800 444 731
Email: reservations@grandpac.com.au
Website: www.grandpacific.com

ABN 95 072 657 624
LIC NO. 32046

TRADE RESERVATIONS:
AUS TOLL FREE: 1800 622 768
NZ TOLL FREE: 0800 444 673

Your Local Travel Agent