

Kiwi Aviation Tour: South

Departing 13th Nov 2020



While the world stands still, unable to enjoy what we know as home, we start our fully escorted 11 day journey to discover the best of New Zealand's South Island aviation history. It will take us through some incredible landscapes and let us explore some of what we treasure in our backyard. We'll explore everything from wonderful displays at the largest polished museums, to small flood affected private collections whose owners are struggling to keep them available for viewing, small businesses showing Kiwi ingenuity and some of the best restoration facilities in the world. Our visits will support them all and enlighten us to the best of Kiwi Aviation. It's the best time to travel, without the crowds!

Friday 13th November - Blenheim

Day 1: Argosy Afternoon Tea

Arrive and check in at the Scenic hotel. This afternoon we will gather at The Runway café at Woodbourne, then board the "Merchant Enterprise" – Argosy aircraft ZK-SAE – for a remarkable virtual flight, complete with inflight entertainment and afternoon tea. This unique twin-boom aircraft is the last of its kind, and you will be the only passengers anywhere in the world flying an Argosy today. This evening is our Welcome Dinner

Saturday 14th November - Blenheim to Kaikoura

Day 2: Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre

We spend today at Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre, a world-class destination for the appreciation of historic aircraft. Not just for enthusiasts, the centre tells the story of aviation during two World Wars, the time in which the most intense period of aviation development took place. You might also like to visit the Omaka Classic Car Museum during the day, a short walk away, own cost. Late afternoon we drive the spectacular coast road to Kaikoura.

Sunday 15th November - Kaikoura to Christchurch

Day 3: Kaikoura Whale Watch & NZ Helicopter Museum

Few places in the world can boast of such natural wonders as those offered by land and sea in Kaikōura. Included for you today today is a 30 minute whale watch flight with Air Kaikoura or if you prefer, a three and a half hour boat experience with Whale Watch Kaikoura. The boat trip is subject to availability and may be a very early start. After lunch we continue down towards Christchurch stopping off at the NZ Helicopter Museum. You'll be surprised here by the collection which also includes about 70 classic cars.

Monday 16th November - Christchurch

Day 4: Airforce Museum & Ferrymead Aeronautical Society

Our first stop this morning is the Ferrymead Aeronautical Society where we will have a workshop tour and see their restored aircraft collection including a Mosquito and a Hudson, both with NZ history. We then head over to the Air Force Museum. The collection here is very diverse and includes objects from the early years through to the present day, occupying huge display areas.

Tuesday 17th November - Christchurch to Lake Tekapo

Day 5: Ashburton Aviation Museum & South Canterbury Aviation Heritage Centre

We spend the morning at Ashburton Aviation Museum which has a strong aviation history, being a training base in World War 2. Today there are over 20 aircraft on display and in the workshop, including a Thompson Refueller one of only 9 in the world. Later we head on to Timaru and the South Canterbury Aviation Heritage Centre. We finish our day on the shores of the wonderful Lake Tekapo



Wednesday 18th November - Lake

Tekapo to Wanaka

Day 6: Glide Omarama

This morning we travel towards Wanaka making a stop at Glide Omarama to hear about their gliding operations. With Omarama approximately in the centre of the

South Island, the area produces some of the world's best wave flying as well as astonishing ridge, thermal and convergence soaring amidst the spectacular and dramatic mountains of the Southern Alps. You might like to take a flight and see this beautiful region from air.

Thursday 19th November - Wanaka to Queenstown

Day 7: Warbirds & Wheels

We enjoy the morning at leisure, lunch will be at the Warbirds & Wheels award winning retro diner, and in the afternoon we'll be absorbed into the world of warbirds, classic cars, bikes and trucks, and be inspired by the life of legendary pilot Sir Tim Wallace, founder of the Warbirds over Wanaka International Airshow. At the end of the day we arrive in Queenstown, on the shores of Lake Wakatipu.





Friday 20th November - Christchurch

Day 8: Queenstown at Leisure

Queenstown is renowned for being NZ's adventure capital. Today you can explore at your leisure, pop up on the Gondola for panoramic views, walk through the gardens, take a cruise on the TSS Earnslaw Steamship, a scenic flight over Milford Sound, or a bit of retail therapy, own costs.

Saturday 21st November - Queenstown to Invercargill

Day 9: Croydon Aviation Heritage Centre & Gore Air Force Museum

The Croydon Aviation Heritage Centre houses mostly aircraft from the 1920s and 30s. This nationally significant museum is unique in that nearly all of the aircraft on display actually fly. Many of the aircraft on display have been restored and are maintained by the Mandeville based Croydon Aircraft Company. We will visit their Restoration Workshop as part of our tour today. The de Havilland aircraft featured in the collection incorporate 4 Tiger Moths, an NAC Dominie (Tui), a very rare Dragonfly, Canadian Fox Moth and of particular significance is a Fox Moth (ZK ADI) which is the first Commercially Registered Aircraft in NZ.

Sunday 22nd November - Invercargill

Day 10: Invercargill at Leisure

Invercargill is fast becoming NZ's premier destination for petrolheads. Today you can visit at your leisure - E. Hayes with the Burt Munro/Fastest Indian history, Bill Richardsons Transport World and Motorcycle Mecca with the newly opened George Begg exhibition. A day trip to Stewart Island might be a good option or wind down and walk some of the heritage trail. Today's activities are your choice and at your own cost.

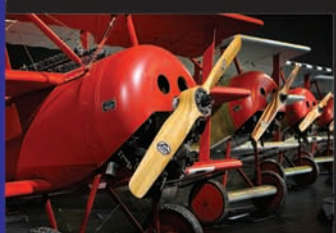
Monday 23rd November - Tour Ends

Day 11: Homeward bound or fly to Auckland to join the North Island Tour

Our tour ends today with a transfer to the airport at any time. You might like a bit more time in Invercargill or to make your own way back up the island under your own steam, a campervan perhaps? Otherwise we can help with your homeward arrangements.

If you would like to stay with us for the North Island itinerary we will be flying to Auckland on the 8.10am flight to start our next adventure. Your flight will be included free of charge, subject to numbers.

Breakfast included daily, plus welcome and farewell dinners. A list of optional flights is available on request.



For a more detailed itinerary visit..

www.aviationtoursnz.com

Or call Melanie on **021 076 8308**
for more info

\$2995 per person, \$795 single supplement

