

First 2 Weeks Itinerary for New Zealand

March 1 Christchurch

Rent car at airport on Sunday. Rombergs arrive at midnight on March 1

Accommodations: BOOKED: Christchurch Johns Motel and Holiday Park, 219 Jones Road, Christchurch +6433238640, \$92USD

Bandit says it's not worth any time in Christchurch. It was once a lovely city but the earthquake changed that – it's really just a demolition/rebuilding site now.

March 2-3 Blenheim

Driving Time: 5 hour drive from Christchurch, could easily take a full day with stops

Accommodations: The 4 of us sleep on s/v Bandit

Lunch stop at Kaikoura: walk on Peninsula Trail crosses the cliff top, with excellent views of the Seaward Kaikoura range, ocean and coastline

Sail on Marlborough Sound with Brenda and David if weather permits OR wine country tour OR if we need an indoor activity maybe the world famous Aviation Museum (set up by Peter Jackson)

March 4 Greymouth

Driving Time: 5 hours from Blenheim

Accommodations: BOOKED: Duke Hostel, 27 Guinness St. Greymouth, cancel by March 3, 2 private ensuite rooms, total \$140USD/2 nights, I paid \$20.79 USD, \$123.13 due on arrival

45 minutes before Greymouth, explore walkways winding through Pancake Rocks and Blowholes National Park in Punakaiki (if high tide), award winning AV show at visitors center , Also Truman Track or Fox River cave walk.

<http://www.punakaiki.co.nz/walks/>

Or Pororari river walk 5-6 km (2-3 hrs return)

March 5 Haast

Driving Time: 5 hours from Greymouth

Accommodations: BOOKED: Bay Road Motels , 1369 Jackson Bay, 7844 Haast \$115 USD for 4. apartment (May need to bring food!) pay when we arrive, cancel before Feb 26, see Haast map for location. This apartment features a kitchen, a lounge area with a TV and a private bathroom. Linen is included. Room Facilities: Shower, TV, Iron, Refrigerator, Ironing facilities, Sitting area, Free toiletries, Toilet, Microwave, Washing machine, Bathroom, Heating, Kitchen, Carpeted, Sofa, View, Electric kettle, Kitchenware, Wardrobe/Closet, Stovetop, Toaster, Electric blankets

Apartment Size: 101 ft² Bed Size(s): 2 Twin, 1 Sofa bed(s), 2 Queen. (Pay when we arrive.)

1.5 hrs to Franz Josef Glacier or 2 hrs to Fox Glacier by lunch or soon after

Explore Jackson Bay south of Haast.

March 6-7 Queenstown

Driving Time: 4 hours

Accommodations: BOOKED: Absoloot Value Accommodation ,1 day prior cancellation, 4 br mixed dorm ensuite, shared kitchen \$235USD/2 nts, I paid \$32.11 deposit, \$207.17 payable upon arrival

Option to do out of Queenstown:

Milford sound (closer to Te Anau)

Shotover jet on the river

Glenorchy 40 min drive out of Queenstown (closer to Queenstown)

Historic steamboat to Walter Peak High Country Farm (Queenstown)
<https://www.realjourneys.co.nz/en/experiences/tours/walter-peak-farm-tours/>
Glow worm caves (Te Anau)
Lots of options here www.realjourneys.co.nz

March 8-9 Milford Sound

Driving Time: 5 hours

Accommodations: **BOOKED:** Milford Sound Lodge www.milfordsoundlodge.com 2 nights \$159 package and \$33 second night in 4-person dorm. (pay when we arrive) includes boat cruise and discovery center. Boat leaves Milford visitor terminal at 10 am. Any cancellation incurs 10% fee. Cancellation within 7 days incurs 30% fee, within 24 hr incurs 100% fee.

March 10 Queenstown

Driving Time: 2.5 hours to Queenstown

Accommodations: **BOOKED:** Absolut Value Accommodation ,1 day cancellation, 4 br mixed dorm ensuite, shared kitchen, I paid now \$18.06USD, pay when we arrive \$103.08 , USE FREE INTERNET PRINT BOARDING PASSES!!

March 11 Lake Tekapo

Driving Time: 4.5 hr drive from Queenstown

Accommodations: **Booked:** Lake Tekapo Motels and Holiday Park \$137 USD, Cancel by March 9, free parking, kitchenette, 2 bunks and 1 queen-size bed, on the lake! Pay upon arrival

Tekapo University of Canterbury's Mt John Observatory "best place in the Southern Hemisphere to see the night sky"
Church of the Good Shepherd

March 12 to Christchurch

Driving Time: 4 hr drive from Lake Tekapo

Accommodations: Mccampbells staying at Johns Motel and Holiday Park

Accommodations: Rombergs Booked at Kiwi International Hotel, 411 Queen Street, Auckland (May cancel before midnight on 3/11)

Rombergs fly to Auckland today (Jetstar 2:45 pm CHC – AKL 4:05 pm) check-in 2 hrs ahead or online up to 48 hours ahead: <http://www.jetstar.com/us/en/planning-and-booking/checking-in/web-check-in>. 15# max carry-on luggage, 55# max checked luggage

Sightseeing options in Christchurch:

- Waimakariri River Walk (see http://www.visitwaimakariri.co.nz/content/library/Short_Walks.pdf)
- Garden city
- Quake city
- Cardboard Cathedral after 2011 earthquake

March 13 Rombergs tour Auckland and fly home

Sightseeing options in Auckland:

- Viaduct Harbor - Americas Cup site and Sir Peter Blake museum
- Skytower views
- Ferry to Waiheke Island
- Auckland Museum- Maori stuff