

NEW ZEALAND IN DEPTH SMALL SHIP CRUISE

Set sail on a luxury voyage through New Zealand's most breathtaking coastal scenery, journeying from the lively southern hub of Dunedin to the cosmopolitan harbor of Auckland. This unforgettable expedition reveals legendary landscapes: sail into the mystical fjords of Dusky, Doubtful, and Milford Sounds, where dramatic peaks rise from deep blue waters, and pause at historic Stewart Island and colourful ports like Akaroa, Kaikoura and Picton. Discover the untouched beaches and ancient forests of Abel Tasman National Park, soak up Wellington's dynamic city life, sample renowned Hawke's Bay wines in Napier, and experience the subtropical beauty of the Bay of Islands. Known as Aotearoa in M ori, New Zealand offers a magical blend of ancient environments, resilient people, and deep-rooted indigenous culture, all shaped by a dramatic volcanic landscape. Each port offers something unique: serene sand beaches, lush rainforests, vibrant wildlife, storied colonial towns and rich M ori traditions. Between inspiring shore excursions and tranquil days at sea - with onboard lectures and enriching activities - this journey immerses travellers in the astonishing diversity and warm hospitality of New Zealand's people, cultures and most renowned natural wonders.



ITINERARY

Days 1 - 2 Dunedin (New Zealand)

Known as the Edinburgh of New Zealand, Dunedin, on the South Island, is set in a pretty bay that serves as a port. Surrounded by bush-covered hills, the town is one of the best-preserved Victorian and Edwardian cities in the Southern Hemisphere. It's proud of its Celtic connections with New Zealand's only castles. Elaborate civic buildings, funky alleyways filled with street art, and picturesque parks add to the appeal.

Day 3 Dusky Sound (New Zealand)



In 1770, Captain Cook sailed through this fiord as the sun began to set, earning Dusky Sound its name. These remote Fiordlands are home to rare species. Among them is the endangered Fiordland penguin - squat little birds with bushy yellow eyebrows who breed in this region. At 40 km long, this is one of Fiordland's largest inlets, with waterfalls, rainforest and more than 300 islands including Resolution and Pigeon islands.

Day 3 Doubtful Sound (New Zealand)

New Zealand's deepest fiord, Doubtful Sound was named by Captain Cook due to navigation concerns. Today, a cruise through here reveals the sound's beauty, lush cliffs with waterfalls like Browne Falls (619 m) and Helena Falls, and a resident pod of bottlenose dolphins. The area also offers sightings of seals, penguins, and various whale species, including Southern rights, humpbacks, minke, sperm and orcas.

Day 4 Milford Sound (New Zealand)

Shaped during the ice ages, the 16-km-long Milford Sound is a visual spectacle. Rugged cliffs rise from inky waters, the ice-capped mountain of Mitre Peak glints golden in the sun and 1,000-m-high waterfalls tumble down the rockface. The sound is most dramatic when it rains - the clouds hang low and waterfalls roar like thunder. In this isolated wilderness, bottlenose dolphins and penguins find a safe home, and fur seals sunbathe on the rocks.

Day 5 Oban, Stewart Island (New Zealand)

Stewart Island, New Zealand's pristine, southernmost inhabited island, features the fishing village of Oban on Halfmoon Bay. The island's fern-filled forests provide a wilderness refuge, and national parks cover 85 percent of the island, a birding haven with penguins, shearwaters, mollymawks, pigeons, bellbirds, tui and fantails. Stewart Island's kiwi birds, usually nocturnal, are known to venture forth during the day.

Day 6 Akaroa (New Zealand)

Akaroa, New Zealand's first French settlement, retains its Gallic charm: a je ne sais quoi in street names, architecture and character. On the once-volcanic Banks Peninsula with two dominant craters, Akaroa Harbour hosts dolphins. The petit museum recounts early residents, while local salmon, olives and wine continue the French flavour of fine food.

Day 7 Kaikoura (New Zealand)

Caught between ocean and mountains, Kaikoura thrives on encounters with native wildlife and culture. Once a whaling hub, Kaikoura remains focused on its rich natural heritage.The coast draws whales, seals, dolphins, petrels, penguins and albatross. The scenic Kaikoura Peninsula Walkway passes a seal colony. The award-winning Kaikoura Museum, in the landmark 'craypot' building, and historic pink Fyffe House recount early settler life.

Day 8 Picton (New Zealand)

The laid-back gateway to the Marlborough Sounds, Picton is a port town with a vibrant waterfront dotted with cafes and galleries. The Picton Sounds Aquarium showcases unique local marine life like seahorses and the tuatara, a rare living fossil over 200 million years old. Surrounding Picton are lush vineyards which offer cellar door tours and wine tastings of Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand's most celebrated wine.

Day 9 Abel Tasman National Park (New Zealand)

Day 10 Wellington (New Zealand)



New Zealand's capital, Wellington, blends culture and natural beauty. Tucked between the harbour and the hills on the North Island, this small city boasts cool galleries, great coffee and relaxed craft beer spots. Te Papa, the national museum, immerses visitors in New Zealand's history and Maori culture. Movie tours in "Wellywood" offer glimpses of Middle Earth and beyond. The pine forest trail winds to the top of Mount Victoria for city views.

Day 11 Day at sea (At Sea)

Day 12 Tauranga (New Zealand)

Surrounded by coastline, Tauranga on New Zealand's Bay of Plenty offers abundant fishing, sailing, diving and kayaking. Inland, natural attractions include the waterfall at McLaren Falls Park and Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park with native New Zealand flora and fauna like kauri trees, ferns and kiwi birds. Literary fans enjoy The Hairy Maclary and Friends statues celebrating Lynley Dodd's beloved animal characters in this scenic city.

Day 13 Bay of Islands (New Zealand)

New Zealand's modern history traces back to the Bay of Islands, the initial European settlement, and the location of the 1840 signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. Beyond the landmark Waitangi Treaty Grounds, the charming waterfront towns of Paihia and Russell are dotted with colonial architecture and seafood restaurants. Idyllic coves, whales and rugged natural formations like Hole in the Rock feature further into the 144 islands.

Day 14 Auckland (New Zealand)

New Zealand's largest city, Auckland, sprawls across volcanic hills and harbours. It's a vibrant, multicultural metropolis with steep streets and cultural attractions like the Auckland Art Gallery and Auckland War Memorial Museum with Maori treasures (taonga) and exhibits on New Zealand. The revitalised dockside area, Britomart, is home to chi-chi shops, restaurants and bars, and the 328 m (1,076 ft)-high Sky Tower offers breathtaking views.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: MINERVA

YOUR SHIP: **Minerva**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

The 5 star elegant Scandi-design boutique ship offers you an intimate setting from which you will be fully immersed in all the sights and scenery of your voyage. Introducing SH Minerva Minerva has been designed to journey to off the beaten path destinations and remote polar regions in style and comfort. The ship incorporates a PC5 ice-strengthened hull combined with extra-large stabilisers to make your journey as smooth as possible. Sophisticated Elegance We know how important outdoor space is, so our spacious, relaxing public spaces provide wide open, unobstructed views throughout the ship. The destination will always be in view. Your Wellbeing The safety & happiness of the guests is paramount to the 120-strong crew on board as well as the passionate expedition team who'll be serving up thrilling shore excursions and lasting memories. Cabin Types The 76 cabins including 6 suites have all the amenities you will need to feel comfortable including dressing gowns, hairdryers, personal safes and minibars. The stylish cabins all have desks, a dressing area and comfy seating. En suite bathrooms all feature glass-enclosed rain showers. Wheelchair access Guests who use wheelchairs must bring their own, as we have only a small number of wheelchairs stored onboard for emergencies. To ensure ease of movement on the ship, wheelchairs and mobility aids must be no wider than 65cm. All mobility or medical equipment brought on board must be capable of being carried safely and must be declared before sailing. To ensure that all guests can safely evacuate during an emergency, guests requiring a wheelchair can only be accommodated in our ADA-accessible cabins. There is an Oceanview stateroom on Vega which is specifically designed to be completely ADA compliant and have a fully operable wheelchair-access wet unit. Vega has two lifts, serving every passenger deck apart from the Stargazing top deck, which is, therefore, more difficult to access, as are the Aft Marina and Swan's Nest forward observation platform. Also, we don't have special equipment to access the swimming pool, jacuzzi, or sauna. Otherwise, the ship is entirely at your disposal. Many of the expeditions ashore in remote places are by Zodiac. Boarding these boats and returning aboard can present challenges for wheelchair users, as can navigating uneven terrain. These challenges are by no means always insurmountable, though, and our highly experienced crew is trained to provide reliable advice and assistance. They will make every effort to ensure wheelchair-using guests enjoy a memorable experience at each destination. Our general guidance, however, is to recommend wheelchair users travel with a companion for their ease and enjoyment. If you prefer to remain aboard, our panoramic interiors and ample open decks ensure an immersive, intimate experience of your inspiring





surroundings.

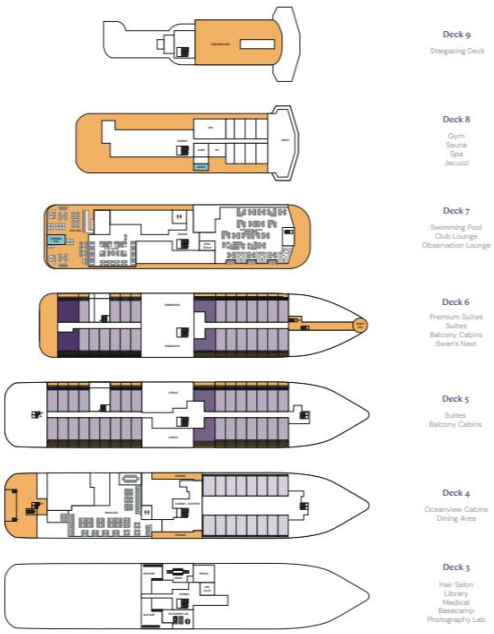
The Small Cruise
Ship Collection
www.small-cruise-ships.com

01432 507 280 (within UK)

info@small-cruise-ships.com | **small-cruise-ships.com**



INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Balcony D5



Balcony D6



Balcony M5



Oceanview D4



Oceanview M4



Premium Suite



Suite





PRICING

08-Mar-2027 to 21-Mar-2027

Oceanview D4	**£8605 GBP pp**
Suite	**£15055 GBP pp**
Premium Suite	**£17205 GBP pp**
Balcony M5	**£9889 GBP pp**
Balcony D6	**£10325 GBP pp**
Oceanview M4	**£9055 GBP pp**
Balcony D5	**£9465 GBP pp**