



— 2025 —

AUSTRALIA

CHRISTMAS CRUISE

INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND

WWW.MAHERTOURS.CO.NZ

AUSTRALIA CHRISTMAS CRUISE

including New Zealand

Tour Length: 18 Days

Tour Departs: 18 December 2025

Tour Ends: 04 January 2026

OVERVIEW:

Celebrate Christmas in style and join us on an exciting 18-day tour over the holiday period. Cruising between Australia and New Zealand has become very popular in recent years, so why not experience a cruise close to home, visiting some of the best scenic destinations in both countries! We begin the tour with a 2-night stay in Sydney, followed by a 15-night cruise on board the luxury Seabourn Quest ship. After visiting Eden and Melbourne, we'll cross the Tasman, visiting five ports in New Zealand before we conclude the cruise in Auckland. A wonderful way to celebrate the holiday season!

15-night cruise aboard the Seabourn Quest

Launched in 2011 with a passenger capacity of just 458 guests, Seabourn Quest offers spacious accommodations.

Your fare includes all main meals & entertainment onboard, government taxes & port handling charges, complimentary wine with lunch and dinner, open bar throughout the ship, complimentary in-suite mini bar and a program of Seabourn Signature Delights®.

Veranda Suite Cabins

- Full-length window and glass door to private veranda
- Comfortable living area
- Queen-size bed or two twin beds
- Dining table for two
- Walk-in closet, interactive flat-screen television with music and movies
- Fully stocked bar and refrigerator
- Spacious bathroom with separate tub and shower

TOUR COST PER PERSON

Veranda Suite V1

Share Twin - NZD \$21,000.00

Supp. for Single - NZD \$10,450.00

Veranda Suite V2

Share Twin - NZD \$22,000.00

Supp. for Single - NZD \$11,200.00

Veranda Suite V3

Share Twin - NZD \$23,500.00

Supp. for Single - NZD \$13,825.00

Highlights include

- 2-nights accommodation including breakfast at the Grace Hotel Sydney
- Melbourne (AUS)
- Fiordland National Park (NZ)
- Stewart Island (NZ)
- Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington (NZ)





TOUR COSTS

Included:

- Economy Class Air Travel - Auckland to Sydney
- First Class hotel accommodation
- Choice of cabins on board Seabourn Quest (V1, V2, V3)
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Prepaid airport/government taxes, security and fuel surcharges (as at 01/09/24)
- Sightseeing & entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- English speaking local hosts/guides in each country
- Tips/gratuities to guides, drivers & staff
- Baggage handling of one (1) piece per person
- Fully escorted by a Maher Tours Leader

Excluded:

- Domestic flights from your home city
- Cruise shore excursions
- Any meals and sightseeing tours not specifically mentioned in the itinerary
- Visa fees, travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, room service, laundry, telephone charges etc.

Booking Conditions:

Initial Deposit - Due at time of booking

- NZD \$3,000.00 per person

Second Deposit - Due Friday 20 June 2025

- NZD \$3,000.00 per person

Final Payment - Due Wednesday 10 September 2025

- Balance

To register for this tour please contact us at
0800 500 518 or tours@mahertours.co.nz



DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

Thursday 18 December

Auckland – Sydney (B,D)

Today, tour members fly to Sydney. On arrival, we transfer to our central city accommodation for a 2-night stay. We enjoy dinner together this evening.

Friday 19 December

Sydney (B,D)

A free day to relax, or head into town for some shopping. There is plenty to do and see in Sydney, the choice is yours.

Saturday 20 December

Commence 15-Night Seabourn Cruise (B,D)

A leisurely start this morning, before we embark on our 15-night cruise on board the Seabourn Quest. Our ship departs Sydney at 4.00pm.

Sunday 21 December

Eden, NSW (B,L,D)

This picturesque town near the border of New South Wales and Victoria was the site of a thriving shore-based whaling industry that depended on the cooperation of orcas, which herded baleen whales into Twofold Bay. Learn about it at the small but informative Killer Whale Museum. The Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre concentrates on smaller sea-life. Ben Boyd's Tower looms over Disaster Bay in the scenic national park named after the eccentric 19th-century magnate. The town's name is unrelated to the biblical garden. It was named for George Eden, first Earl of Auckland. Arrives: 9.00am, Departs: 6.00pm





Monday 22 December

At Sea (B,L,D)

A full day at sea for you to enjoy the ship's facilities.

Tuesday 23 December

Melbourne (B,L,D)

Hailed as Australia's cultural capital, Melbourne emanates a unique charm with its eclectic mix of art, fashion, and gastronomy. The city's vibrant centre is always alive with events, top-tier dining, and exclusive shopping experiences. It's a melting pot of cultures and a haven for gourmands, offering excellent food everywhere, from modern Australian cuisine to delightful Asian fusion fare and cozy cafes serving the finest coffee you've ever tasted. Whether you're lingering in the city's labyrinth of laneways covered in awe-inspiring street art, or sampling gourmet local cuisine along the Yarra River, every moment in Melbourne is a moment of delight. Note, the ship overnights in Melbourne. Arrives: 8.00am.

Wednesday 24 December

Melbourne (B,L,D)

Spend the morning further exploring this wonderful city, where there is so much to see and do. Departs: 2.00pm.

Thursday 25 December

At Sea (B,L,D)

Merry Christmas! Enjoy another

day at sea with new friends. There is lots to do on board, or simply relax and enjoy the festivities.

Friday 26 December

At Sea (B,L,D)

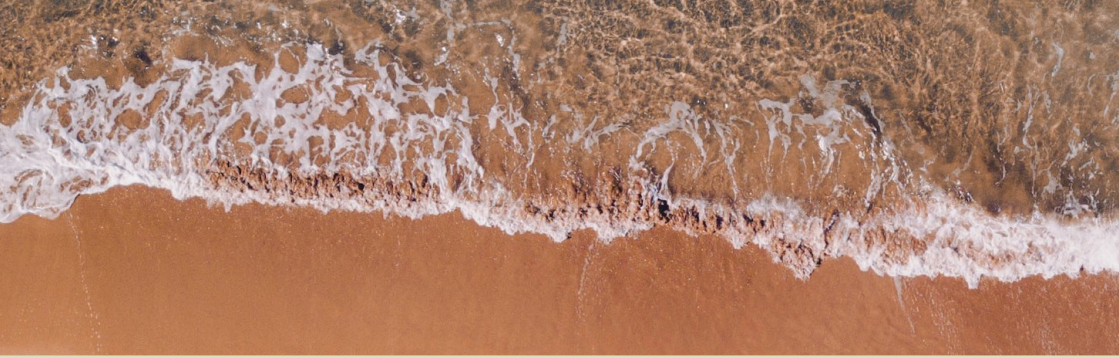
Saturday 27 December

At Sea (B,L,D)

Sunday 28 December

Cruising Fiordland Nat. Park (B,L,D)

Fiordland National Park is the largest of New Zealand's 14 national parks. Located on the southwest corner of the South Island, it was founded in 1904, to protect the natural environment for nature lovers and trekkers. It comprises a large portion of the Te Wahipounamu UNESCO World Heritage Site. The key features of the park are the mountain ranges of the Southern Alps as well as the spectacular U-shaped glaciated fjord valleys that cut into the mountains. There are three major fjords that are navigable Milford Sound, Doubtful Sound and Dusky Sound. Your exact itinerary will be determined by your captain depending on the weather and other conditions on the day. But whatever course you sail, you will be treated to spectacular waterways curving between sheer cliffs towering thousands of feet above the mirrored surface of the fjord. Depending on recent rainfall, waterfalls tumble down the rock faces from above. Many of the peaks have nicknames based on their resemblance to animals or other objects of previous



DAY TO DAY ITINERARY

observers' imaginations. You are also likely to see seals, birds including fiordland penguins, bottlenose dolphins and possibly such other fauna as red deer or whales.

Monday 29 December

Oban, Stewart Island (B,L,D)

Stewart Island overflows with opportunities to get up close to New Zealand's untouched landscapes, rich Maori heritage, and unique birdlife. Lush forests, rare flora and fauna, golden beaches, and rugged coastlines, provide a diverse ecosystem oasis for nature enthusiasts. Oban serves as the gateway to Rakiura National Park, where visitors can embark on bird-watching expeditions and scenic walks. Oban also holds a significant place in New Zealand's history, reflecting both Maori and European influences. Visitors can explore the local museums to delve into the island's past, gaining insights into the Maori heritage and the European settlers who once called Stewart Island home. Stewart Island is a must-visit for wildlife lovers and bird watchers, offering opportunities to witness a variety of bird species, including the iconic kiwi bird, in addition to other native and rare species in their natural habitat. The island's coastal waters are also frequented by seals, sea lions, and dolphins, providing a chance for marine wildlife encounters. Arrives: 8.00am, Departs: 6.00pm

Tuesday 30 December

Port Chalmers (Dunedin) (B,L,D)

Port Chalmers is the main port for the city of

Dunedin. Situated in a natural amphitheatre at the head of a long fjord-like inlet, Dunedin was the first permanent European settlement in New Zealand, founded in 1848. Not long afterwards, gold was discovered in the region, and the province quickly became the richest and most influential in the colony. While Christchurch is New Zealand's most English town, Dunedin is its most Scottish; the name Dunedin is the old Gaelic name for Edinburgh. Numerous distinctive and historic buildings remain from the time of its predominantly Scottish settlers, preserving its architectural heritage. Arrives: 7.00am, Departs: 5.00pm

Wednesday 31 December

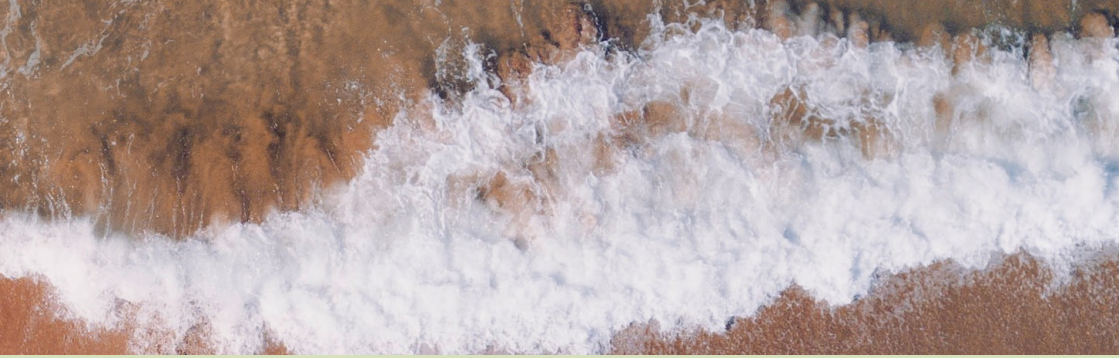
Lyttleton (Christchurch) (B,L,D)

Known as the 'Garden City' because of its beautiful parks and world-renowned gardens, Christchurch is also a vibrant, cosmopolitan city with exciting festivals, theatre, modern art galleries, great shopping and award-winning attractions. Named after the college at the University of Oxford in London, Christchurch is often described as the most English of New Zealand's cities. Arrives: 8.00am, Departs: 5.00pm

Thursday 01 January

Wellington (B,L,D)

Visually stunning, Wellington is nestled between a magnificent harbour and a natural amphitheatre of forest-clad hills. Its compact size, combined with



cultural sophistication, makes it New Zealand's most inspiring urban destination. Wellington's cultural crowning jewel is Te Papa, a donation-only museum that celebrates Australasian natural history, science and culture. Exhibits include Maori artifacts, an extensive Pacific Cultures collection and interactive science exhibits. The city's art scene is flourishing, with numerous galleries and craft markets displaying the work of the country's top artists and craftspeople. Arrives: 8.00am, Departs: 6.00pm



Friday 02 January

At Sea (B,L,D)

Saturday 03 January

Tauranga (& Rotorua) (B,L,D)

The majority of kiwi fruit produced in New Zealand is shipped from Tauranga. For us, it is the gateway to the Rotorua Thermal Area, a picturesque region of towering geysers, bubbling mud pots, steam vents and other volcanic phenomena. Adjacent to the thermal area is a large Maori Cultural Centre where the traditional arts and cultural practices are taught and maintained. It is an excellent place to shop for a distinctive carved wooden or woven souvenir or piece of handcrafted jewellery in the native materials and style. Near Tauranga there are also the famous Waitomo Glow-worm caverns. Arrives: 8.00am, Departs: 4.15pm

Sunday 04 January

Auckland (B)

Sadly, all good things must come to an end. Our tour concludes as we arrive and disembark in Auckland this morning.





FULLY ACCREDITED



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