

New Zealand Mosaic

From **24/02/2022**
to **03/03/2022**

Ship: **LE SOLEAL**

From **Dunedin**
to **Auckland**



On this cruise, **PONANT** invites you to discover **New Zealand**, a unique destination with a multitude of natural treasures.

Set sail aboard *Le Soléal* for an **8-day brand-new cruise** from **Dunedin** to **Auckland**.

From **Dunedin**, also called the Edinburgh of New Zealand, the **Banks Peninsula** will reveal wonderful landscapes of lush hills and rugged coasts during your call in the **bay of Akaroa**, an ancient, flooded volcano crater.

In **Picton**, you will discover the Marlborough region, famous for its vineyards and its submerged valleys.

You will also sail to **Wellington**, the capital of New Zealand. This ancient site of the Maori people, as demonstrated by the Te Papa Tongarewa museum, perfectly combines local traditions and bustling nightlife.

From **Tauranga**, you can discover the many treasures of **Rotorua**: volcanoes, hot springs, geysers, rivers and gorges, and lakes that range in colour from deep blue to orange-tinged.

Then your ship will cruise towards **Auckland**, your port of disembarkation.

Surrounded by the blue waters of the Pacific, the twin islands of New Zealand are the promise of an incredible mosaic of contrasting panoramas.



The information in this document is valid as of 27/01/2022

New Zealand Mosaic

YOUR STOPOVERS :

DUNEDIN

Embarkation 24/02/2022 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 24/02/2022 at 18:00

Dunedin is New Zealand's oldest city and is often referred to as the Edinburgh of New Zealand. This city of the south, wears its Scottish heritage with pride. The city contains some of the best preserved Victorian and Edwardian architecture in the Southern Hemisphere. The Silverpeaks hinterland to the North West provides a picturesque backdrop and **The Otago Peninsula**, which lies within the city boundaries, has internationally renowned wildlife reserves, including the only mainland breeding colony of Northern Royal Albatross.

AKAROA

Arrival 25/02/2022 early morning

Departure 25/02/2022 late afternoon

Set on the east coast of **South Island**, **Christchurch** is New Zealand's second-biggest city. You can soak up its easy-going atmosphere in one of the many parks and gardens that give Christchurch its nickname "the garden city", or dally a while in **Cathedral Square** to see how the city is transforming itself after the earthquakes of 2010 and 2011. Attractions such as the International Antarctic Centre and Christchurch Gondola ride are as popular as ever, while pop-up cafes, the Cardboard Cathedral and community art projects showcase the citizens' resilience. The beautiful port of **Akaroa**, where **ships dock**, is about 90-minute drive from Christchurch on the **Banks Peninsula**.

PICTON

Arrival 26/02/2022 midday

Departure 26/02/2022 early evening

A must-see **entry point to the South Island**, **Picton** is a little coastal town girded by gentle hills, located on the south side of the Queen Charlotte inlet. The cafés and restaurants which border the charming waterfront give a very lovely view of the fjord. You can also decide to get some height above sea level, and walk in the surrounding areas. However, Picton is above all an opportunity to explore the unique **Marlborough Sounds**. This interweaving of **submerged valleys** in this area, has creating numerous navigable routes, wich are among the most beautiful natural wonders of New Zealand.

WELLINGTON

Arrival 27/02/2022 early morning

Departure 27/02/2022 late afternoon

Crowned with gentle green hills, **Wellington Harbour** is located in the far south of the North Island. This city offers a

charming mix of **traditional and modern cultures**, bestowing on the New Zealand capital, a unique atmosphere, both friendly and avant-gard. Where some sites, like the large **National Te Papa Tongarewa Museum**, reflect the city's Maori past, others, like the many cafés and restaurants, affirm the inhabitants' incredible lust for life.

NAPIER

Arrival 28/02/2022 midday

Departure 28/02/2022 evening

On the east coast of the North Island, south of **Hawke's Bay**, you'll find **Napier**. Mostly destroyed by an earthquake in 1931, reviving from its ashes in less than two years, it grew into a magnificent **Art Deco style** city, very in-vogue at the time. With its pure lines mixed with traditional Maori designs, the singular New Zealand character of this city will intrigue you. You'll discover all this extraordinary architectural heritage as you take a stroll through the city. Famous for its vineyards, wine lovers will be able to taste some of the best **wines** from the region.

AT SEA

Arrival 01/03/2022

Departure 01/03/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

TAURANGA

Arrival 02/03/2022 early morning

Departure 02/03/2022 evening

Located to the north of Rotorua, **Tauranga** stretches the length of the **Bay of Plenty**, sheltered from the ocean by the island of Matakana. This coastal city boasts a flourishing economy thanks to its port, and is a pleasant and pretty town with a peaceful, relaxed feel. The seafront area is contemporary and lively, dotted with cafés and restaurants. The town centre reveals more picturesque charms, while the surrounding area is packed full of natural delights. Travel on to the town of **Rotorua** to visit the **Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland**: a fantastic opportunity to experience an absolutely exceptional geothermal phenomenon.

AUCKLAND

Arrival 03/03/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 03/03/2022 at 09:00

Auckland is New Zealand's largest, most populated and busiest city. Located on an isthmus linking the peninsula of Northland to the expansive North Island, it seems to float between land and sea. It is one of the few cities in the world

to have two separate harbours : Manukau Harbour on the Tasman Sea and Waitemata Harbour on the Pacific Ocean. You will understand why Auckland is known as "**the City of Sails**" when you see the forest of masts in the marina. The 328 metre-high Sky Tower offers splendid views of the city. Surrounded by dormant volcanoes such as **Mt Eden**, Auckland is noted for its abundant nature and magnificent black-sand beaches. A blend of Maori, European and Asian cultures give the city a vibrant atmosphere.