

TOURS of Aotearoa The South Island Tour of New Zealand

CONNECTITALIA-NZ  
<https://www.connectitalia-nz.com>

Come with us!

[info@connectitalia-nz.com](mailto:info@connectitalia-nz.com)

# ABOUT CONNECTITALIA-NZ LTD

*Our company's mission is to promote greater liaison between Italy and New Zealand, reflecting the different but complementary backgrounds of the company's two directors, Beniamino Petrosino and Anne Scragg. Our principal focus is planning and escorting exclusive small group tours in Italy but we also welcome travellers from anywhere in the world to visit us in New Zealand where it will be our pleasure to show them the treasures of Aotearoa. Our aim is to provide you with your own New Zealand tour package tailored to meet your particular needs and interests.*

*Our tours are most definitely not of the whistle-stop "Today is Tuesday so it must be Belgium" kind. We pride ourselves in providing you with the time and comfort to really enjoy what you are seeing and doing so you will never feel rushed. Whether you are travelling on your own or with others, you can expect individual care and attention from escorts who are willing to go the extra mile to ensure you have an unforgettable time.*

*We use accredited tour operators to ensure our tours are trouble free and we insist on the highest standards of customer service in all situations throughout our tours. Your comfort and security are of paramount importance to us.*

*Whether you are planning a trip to Italy or a trip to New Zealand with us, it will be our pleasure to look after you throughout your tour. We are confident you will enjoy a unique cultural experience and a lot of fun along the way.*

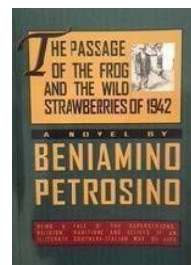


# VACANZE IN AOTEAROA – Come with us!

Beniamino Petrosino



I am the founder of CONNECTITALIA-NZ. I came from Italy to live in New Zealand in the 1980's and have worked as a chef, restaurateur and consultant in the hospitality industry in New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia and the United States of America. I have taught Italian in schools and privately and also English to refugees. In 2003, Hazard Press published my novel "The Passage of the Frog and the Wild Strawberries of 1942" set in the Mezzogiorno regions of Italy where I grew up. In late 2015 I met Anne Scragg when she became one of my Italian language students.



In 2016 we ran a successful cultural programme in Christchurch showcasing many special Italian foods and wines and introducing our guests to delightful Italian locations off the beaten track. Now I am keen to introduce travellers to my second homeland – Aotearoa, where I have lived for most of my adult life.

Anne Scragg



I initially trained as a lawyer and worked in private practice for some years. I had a few years off work while my family was young and then returned to work as an adjudicator and mediator. Over time I became involved in designing and establishing specialist dispute resolution schemes in the public and private sectors. In 2015, I retired from a senior management role with the intention of doing something entirely different. One day my husband came in from the letterbox with one of Beniamino's business cards and I thought Italian language lessons might be just what I needed!

I have been to Italy several times and have loved every visit. I am confident I know what non-Italians need and want when travelling and I want to share my passion for Italy with others. I also want to show our guests from other countries the treasures that my homeland, New Zealand, has to offer and I would be delighted to work with you to plan an unforgettable trip for you through the land of the Lord of the Rings.

## Exclusive Tours of Aotearoa

*"Come with us on an unforgettable journey and let us share with you the wonderful taonga (treasures) of the Land of the Long White Cloud. You will not be disappointed!"*

For any queries email  
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# THE SOUTH ISLAND OF AOTEAROA

a visit to nature's playground with Beniamino and Anne



## The South Island of Aotearoa

10 days (9 nights) PRICE TO BE ADVISED

On this tour you will:

- Visit the land first discovered by the great Polynesian navigator Kupe 1000 years ago
- Spot dolphins while cruising the ancient fiord at magnificent Milford Sound
- See Mt Cook up close and take the flight of your life over the glaciers
- Delight in watching fantail birds flutter around our native kowhai trees
- Enjoy or at least watch some adrenaline pumping adventure sports
- Try your luck at gold panning in the charming former gold mining village of Arrowtown
- Eat freshly caught crayfish on the beach and sample some award-winning wines
- See why international film studios choose New Zealand for their locations
- Have the flexibility to tailor extensions to the tour to meet your individual needs
- Decide where you want to spend even longer next time and MOST IMPORTANTLY you will have fun! - 😊



# Tour outline

**Dates:** By agreement. The dates of the tour will be adjusted to suit your travel plans. Extensions to the tour are highly recommended. You may want to spend additional time star-gazing at the Mt John Observatory at Lake Tekapo or watching the little blue-eyed penguins and soaring albatrosses at Tairoa Head near Scottish-settled Dunedin. You may also want to add on an exciting 10-day (9 nights) journey through the magnificent North Island to complete your journey through the land of the Lord of the Rings.

**Note:** The tour package is a land package only. Overseas flights to suit your individual needs can be arranged for you or you can make your own flight arrangements if you prefer.

## TRAVELLING THROUGH THE MAJESTIC SOUTH ISLAND OF NEW ZEALAND – NATURE’S PLAYGROUND

On Day 1, we will meet you at Christchurch International Airport and transfer you to your chosen accommodation for two nights which could be a luxury historic homestead nestled at the foot of the Port Hills just outside the city, which will be your home for two nights.



We will have plenty of time to look around Christchurch, now well into its recovery phase following the devastating earthquakes in 2010 and 2011. We will visit the gothic-style Arts Centre and see where our most famous scientist Lord Ernest Rutherford had his first laboratory before going on to split the atom at the Cavendish Laboratory at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.



You may also like to relax in an Edwardian punt drifting peacefully along the River Avon through the beautiful Botanical Gardens in this most English of New Zealand’s cities. Visiting New Zealand’s ‘Garden City’ when the daffodils are blooming in the Spring or when the trees are turning all the colours of Autumn is a delightful experience.



On Day 2, you may like to travel by road through the rolling hills of North Canterbury to Kaikoura to do some whale watching by boat or helicopter, or swim with the dolphins. You might want to sample some freshly caught crayfish, green-lipped mussels and beer battered chips at Nin's Bin as the locals do. If you want to spend the day relaxing closer to Christchurch, there will be plenty to explore in the city and around Banks



Peninsula. Walking along Sumner beach with a Hokey Pokey ice-cream is a Kiwi experience not to be missed.

On Day 3, we will drive from Christchurch to Mount Cook in the Southern Alps, where we will be based for two nights. This drive will take you across the Canterbury Plains and over Burke's Pass, past Lake Tekapo and over turquoise-blue canals to the head of Lake Pukaki. The distinctive blue colour of this lake is due to the glacial feed to the lake created by glacial flour, the extremely finely ground rock particles from the glaciers.

On Day 4, you will have the option of taking the flight of your life by helicopter or fixed wing aircraft over the



mountains and glaciers of the Mount Cook and Westland World Heritage Parks. Alternatively, you might prefer just to marvel at New Zealand's highest peak from the comfort of an armchair or amble along one of the many easy walking tracks in the area.





On Day 5, we will continue our journey by road via Omarama and the rugged Lindis Pass to Queenstown, where we will stay for 4 nights in carefully chosen accommodation. Days 5, 6 and 7 will be spent in this area of Central Otago known as New Zealand's natural playground with its vast range of activities for adrenaline junkies including jet boating, bungee jumping and white - water rafting. For the more sedate, there are steam boat cruises to sheep stations on the lake, visits to wineries, gentle walks in the native bush, scenic flights or spa and wellness options for those seeking total rest and relaxation.



Other activities include visiting the picturesque village of Arrowtown with its well-preserved Chinese mining settlement from the gold rush days in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and for golf players there is a world class course at Millbrook Resort close to where actor Sam Neill has a home. We will not be short of things to do and will tailor our activities to accommodate your interests!







While based in Queenstown we will definitely visit Milford Sound either by air or road. Here we will cruise the majestic fiord and enjoy one of the world's most beautiful scenic destinations, which is part of the World Heritage Fiordland National Park. The fiord is known for towering Mitre Peak, rainforests and waterfalls, and it is home to fur seal colonies, penguins and dolphins.

On Day 9, we will leave Queenstown and travel by road via Lakes Wanaka and Hawea through the spectacular Haast Pass to the West Coast of the South Island, where we will spend one night in a delightful location. This rugged, bush-clad, glacier-rich coast was home to large numbers of gold miners during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and its scenery is among the most unspoiled in the world. Hopefully we will be in the season for whitebait which is a favourite treat for Kiwis. You may be less tempted by mountain oysters (lamb testicles) and huhu grubs which reportedly taste like peanut butter!



On Day 10, we will make our way back across the South Island to Christchurch via Arthur's Pass either by road or the famous TranzAlpine train, rightly described as one of the great train journeys of the world. This is the final day of the tour as currently scheduled and we will arrange your travel to Christchurch or Auckland International Airports depending on your onward travel plans.



Of course, you may want to stay longer in some or all of the places we are visiting or you may like to spend extra time visiting the Mt John Observatory at Lake Tekapo. This astronomical research observatory is in an area designated A Dark Sky Reserve, one of only four such reserves in the world.



You may also want to add on a couple of days to see the little blue-eyed penguins and soaring albatrosses at Tairoa Head near Scottish-settled Dunedin.



For details of this tour return to our web page and click on "The North Island of Aotearoa – a magnificent scenic journey."

It will be our pleasure to adjust your schedule to your own requirements. You will be our guest throughout this journey through Aotearoa and we want you to make the most of it.

Even better, you may want to join us on an exciting 10 days (9 nights) journey through the magnificent North Island to complete your journey through the land of the Lord of the Rings.



WE WILL WORK WITH YOU ON INCLUSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS TO YOUR TOUR PACKAGE BEFORE FINALIZING YOUR TOUR ARRANGEMENTS.

### Tour inclusions

- All accommodation costs including breakfasts.
- All tour transport costs including domestic flights, travel by car or minibus and associated charges such as fuel, tolls, taxes, with a local driver and all agreed sightseeing choices.
- Pick up at Christchurch International Airport and transfer to either Christchurch or Auckland International Airports at the conclusion of the tour
- Local tour guides where needed
- Any specific arrangements by prior agreement

For any queries email

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### Tour exclusions

- Meals and beverages other than those included
- Room service meals and mini- bar refreshments
- Telephone/internet charges
- Individual sightseeing not undertaken as part of the tour
- Expenses incurred on sightseeing trips other than transport costs.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

WE DO NOT ARRANGE TRAVEL INSURANCE. COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED



**CONNECTITALIA**   
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For your travel arrangements please contact our Travel Broker Darryl Smith

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Darryl has provided professional travel services since the 1990's. A widely travelled and fully accredited travel broker, Darryl has won many prestigious industry awards. Darryl is located in New Zealand but thanks to the wonders of modern technology it does not matter where he or his clients are located. As Darryl says, everything can be arranged remotely and he is available to his clients, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year if they experience an unforeseen event that affects their travel.

Our Broker Darryl will be delighted to work with you to ensure you have a trouble-free and truly memorable experience.

