



41 Club New Zealand

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Apex 40 Rort and Tour to South Island of New Zealand June 1st to June 15th 2011.

Firstly on behalf of 41 Club New Zealand may I say how delighted we are that you have decided to hold your Rort here in Nelson, New Zealand in conjunction with our AGM? I have put together a Tour Itinerary for you, as per usual it will probably change a bit before the Tour and I look forward to hearing suggestions from you because it is your Tour. From what I have heard so far it would appear that there could be around 80 of you coming so that means 2 coaches and unfortunately there will be too many for home hosting but Tina and I (God willing) will travel with you and I may even be able to persuade Peter and Margaret Butchart to come on the other coach (don't tell them I said so as I haven't asked yet)! Where there are 41 Clubs along the way we will try to get them to show you their areas attractions and come and meet with you.

Day 1, Wednesday, 1st June 2011:

Arrive; Christchurch airport, met by 41 Club New Zealand hosts, and spend rest of day on tour of city highlights, travel by coaches and foot and perhaps meet up with Christchurch 41 Club for dinner and get together, hotel/motel for night.

Day 2, Thursday, 2nd June:

Travel North stopping at Kaikoura for lunch, should there be enough of you who want to go Whale or Dolphin watching that could be arranged. I will find prices for this later. **183kms, 2:50.**
Continue on to Blenheim for night, there is a strong 41 Club there and I'm sure they would have something to amuse you all for the evening, hotel/motel for night. **129kms, 1:50.**

Day 3, Friday, 3rd June:

Explore a little of the Marlborough wine district, Sauvignon Blanc Country, maybe a little taste or two! Then perhaps lunch at Havelock, "Green Lipped Mussel Capital of the World" at head of Pelorus Sound. Onwards and over the hills to Nelson in time to settle in your accommodation for the weekend and meet and greet with 41 Club members. **116kms, 1:45.**

Day 4, Saturday 4th June:

Join with 41er's on their program for day and evening, there will be something planned I'm sure and it will be fun!

Day 5, Sunday 5th June:

41 Club New Zealand AGM and Apex 40 AGM in morning, have lunch together, then afternoon activities and Fancy Dress (themed evening) with skits continues into the wee small hours.

Day 6, Monday 6th June:

Having had such a great time and made so many new friends and maybe caught up with some old ones I know you will all want to stay but!!!!

We will have Farewell Breakfast together then back on the buses and travel South West through Murchison, the Buller Gorge and stop at Punakiki to see the Pancake Rocks then on to Greymouth for the night.

No 41 Club here so will be on own for the first time, hotel/motel for 1 night. **290kms, 4:35.**

Day 7, Tuesday 7th June:

From here it is possible for those who haven't enough time to go back to Christchurch on the Trans Alpine Express or if there were a larger number of you wishing to go home early we could send 1 of the Coaches across Arthur's Pass and continue down the West Coast with the other.

Those with the time and inclination or should I say, brave and foolish enough will continue, lunch at Ross, maybe a stop at Okarito Lagoon or Lake Mapourika and down to Franz Josef or Fox Glaciers where we will stay, hotel/motel for 2 nights. **177kms, 3:10.**

Day 8, Wednesday 8th June:

Around the Glaciers, perhaps a walk around Lake Matheson to get the reflections of Mt Cook on the water, take a walk or helicopter flight onto the glaciers, plenty for you to do and see here.

Day 9, Thursday 9th June:

Carry on down the Coast till Haast, we could have lunch there then turn inland and through the Gates of Haast and over to Wanaka. You are now in the "Central Otago Wine Region" and a beautiful winter playground, an extra layer of clothes will keep out the chill and Southern hospitality is pretty good too! Hotel/motel for 1 night. **287kms, 5:55.**

Day 10, Friday 10th June:

Onwards to Queenstown, probably by the main road through the vineyards and following the rivers but possibly if there is no snow or ice on that road over the Crown Range with amazing views of the mountains and valleys. Perhaps we could side track through the old gold mining town; Arrowtown. You will have afternoon and next morning free to explore Queenstown, Shotover Jets, Earnslaw Steamer, Bungy Jumping, Gondola ride or (dare I mention it) even some retail therapy!!!! Hotel/motel for 1 night. **117kms, 1:50.**

Day 11, Saturday 11th June:

Morning around Queenstown then travel to Te Anau, "Gateway to Fiordland" in afternoon, going alongside Lake Wakatipu through Kingston along the way. Hotel/motel for 2 nights. **170kms, 2:45.**

Day 12, Sunday 12th June:

Travel up the side of Lake Te Anau, over the main divide, through the Homer Tunnel and down to Milford Sound where we will take a boat cruise to wonder at the sheer cliffs and spectacular scenery of the Fiord. Back to Te Anau for the night. **242kms, 4:40.**

Day 13, Monday 13th June:

Te Anau to Dunedin, with a bit of luck we may be able to get the Gore 41 Club to meet us then onwards across the mighty Clutha River to Dunedin. There is not a 41 Club here but there are some 41er's who might give us a bit of a guide around this historic Scottish City. Hotel/motel for 1 night. **290kms, 4:15.**

Day 14, Tuesday 14th June:

Today we head northward to Oamaru for lunch and a look at the restored old part of the town, hopefully there will be a gang of 41er's to show us around. Then it's on the buses once more waving our goodbyes to new friends and up to Timaru for the night, once again there is a strong 41 Club here that I'm sure will be happy to meet us. Our last night as a group so perhaps a dinner together tonight?

Hotel/motel for 1 night.

199kms, 2:50

Day 15, Wednesday 15th June:

Last day on the buses, north again through Ashburton and across the Canterbury Plains back to Christchurch and Harewood Airport where we will all go our separate ways.

Yes I know it's hard to part but home will be calling.

I am sure we will miss one another after this time and there will be a great deal of new and lasting friends throughout New Zealand and Australia.

163kms, 2:10

Well there you go a tour to remember with a touch of frost and lots of fun for all.
Bring lots of warm clothes, hats and gloves.

I do hope this tour appeals to you all and I look forward to your comments.

Next comes the indicative costing which I will have very soon

I will price some of these extra bits like Whale Watching, Glacier trips and the adventure activities around Queenstown separately and send them on shortly.

Yours in 41 Club Friendship.

Derek Johns