



operatunity

Travel of Note

NEW ZEALAND

INTRODUCTION

New Zealand is the closest one can get to paradise! For a small country it is truly packed with natural wonder, mountains, lakes, beaches, forests, no snakes or poisonous spiders, wonderful food and wine, and great people as well.

Travel of Note specialises in combining exceptional cultural experiences with the backdrop of New Zealand's iconic beauty, geared specifically with the music and cultural tastes and special needs of the active, cultural, senior market.

Whether it is an outstanding Maori cultural experience on a rugged West Coast beach, a cruise of 50s music in the beautiful Bay of Islands, with a 5 piece live band, a Garden Tour and High Tea at Ayrli's private gardens with a string quartet, a high country sheep station tour with lively country music band, or an Opera Gala in the magnificent Cathedral Cave at Waitomo Caves, **Travel of Note** provides safe, tailor made extraordinary musical and cultural travel experiences specifically catering to the international senior group market, using magnificent New Zealand as its backdrop.



HISTORY OF THE COMPANY

Owned by husband and wife team, Susan Boland and John Cameron, **Travel of Note** is the inbound, international arm of Operatunity, a company which specialises in providing travel and musical experiences to seniors.

Its sub-companies include **Operatunity Travel** which presents quality, fully escorted specially tailored tours, incorporating arts, culture and musical themes. These trips are carefully planned for our market; at a pace that ensures comfort and safety of our customers as well as the opportunity to thoroughly know our destinations and their 'special feel'. Trips are both within New Zealand: an opera gala in Waitomo Caves, an overnight classical journey through Doubtful Sound or a chartered Rock 'n' Roll cruise through the Bay of Islands; or international tours with opera in Italy, Russian Folklore concerts and Swan Lake in St Petersburg, Gardens of France, Country Music Tours to Nashville or an Irish tour with famous NZ fiddler Marian Burns.

Our other major brand is **Operatunity Daytime Concerts**, which is New Zealand's largest provider of daytime concerts to the senior market. We present over 250 variety daytime concerts in eight national tours annually. We are the largest employer of singers in New Zealand, providing over 1000 work opportunities for New Zealand singers per year. Well-known to New Zealanders and becoming more widely known internationally is New Zealand's incredible resource of natural beauty and abundance of local charm (especially our people) ensuring an exceptional travel destination.



WHY TRAVEL WITH US

Travel of Note presents quality, fully escorted specially tailored tours, incorporating arts, culture and musical themes.

We only work with seniors so we know how to pace a trip that ensures the comfort and safety of our customers.

As we are New Zealand based we give you the opportunity to thoroughly know our New Zealand destinations and their 'special feel'.

We combine beautiful cultural experiences with the backdrop of beautiful New Zealand.

Every trip is carefully planned to take into account the special needs and loves of each group and each customer.

Our level of care is beyond any other travel company. We have more escorts per passenger than other companies ensuring safety and also if there is any kind of emergency we are able to facilitate any requirements.



PLAN YOUR TRIP WITH US

We plan every trip specifically for your group. Every component suggested in each region can be adapted for your needs.

Every specified region has numerous sights and opportunities to explore and experience wonderful scenery and activities. Once you specify regions you are interested in visiting, we will suggest a more detailed itinerary based on the requirements of your group.

You can pick and choose. You may want to experience some regions but not others and for different lengths of time. Depending on the regions you wish to visit, we will fly you or coach you between regions.

Prices will be worked out specific to your planned itinerary. We will be happy to suggest extras to enhance your experience.



QUOTES FROM OUR CUSTOMERS

“Thank you for another outstanding tour full of beautiful memories and amazing experiences. Your kind, thoughtful, giving pleasure to others attitude shines throughout - I feel so blessed when I'm on tour with you. Looking forward to the next tours I have booked with you!”

~ Glenda

“I am so grateful. Thank you for making the tour such a special one for me. Thank you each and every one of you for the enormous amount of work that goes on beforehand and behind the scenes on tour. What a wonderful feeling of great happiness I am having here at home as the beautiful memories come flooding back. Roll on our trip to Scandinavia!”

~ Edith

“Special thanks for the wonderful holiday – great places to visit, wonderful food and entertainment, and most splendid of all was the concert. We thoroughly enjoyed all of the carefully planned activities.”

~ Glenys and Ian

“I feel I touched heaven in the caves and I'm still floating, the experience was one I'll never forget with glorious voices vibrating from the stalactites.”

~ Grace



QUOTES FROM OUR CUSTOMERS

“Thank you all for another caring, fun and laughter filled trip. Although we had visited and enjoyed most of the venues before (some more than once!) the special highlights for us were the performances in Hamilton Gardens, then culminating with the magical Waitomo Caves evening. For us another memorable holiday with Operatunity. We will look forward to seeing you all again next year. ”

~ **Brian and Ann**

“What a great trip – thank you, thank you, thank you! I have tried so hard to think of something different to say but I can’t so I will use the same words as before...fun, friendly, fantastic outings, fabulous food and of course the family feeling – not to forget the beautiful music. ”

~ **Noeline**

“I would like to thank you all so much for the loveliest trip you took us on in Sydney. What a wonderful time you gave us all. It was lovely to meet a great many new people and your kindness and thoughtfulness was most impressive. ”

~ **Coral**

“We would like to thank you for your care and kindness to us on our trip to USA. It made our holiday much more enjoyable knowing you were there. ”

~ **Netty and Yvonne**



MUSICAL EXPERIENCES

We plan extraordinary cultural experiences against the backdrop of New Zealand's beautiful scenery. Each cultural experience is designed to enhance your enjoyment of our incredible scenery and provide you with truly magical and memorable events as part of introducing you to our wonderful country.

Some suggestions include:

- 🌀 Opera gala in the magnificent Waitomo Caves
- 🌀 Maori concert on a rugged West Coast beach
- 🌀 Glenn Miller dinner and dance on a cruise on Auckland Harbour
- 🌀 Art Deco dinner and dance in Art Deco Ballroom
- 🌀 Twin City Stompers (Art Deco Dixie Jazz Band) in famous winery
- 🌀 Solo violinist in beautiful forest setting
- 🌀 Classical journey including Viennese Concert, Classical Concert and Opera Gala as part of an exclusive overnight charter in Doubtful Sound
- 🌀 Country music concert in the McKenzie Country
- 🌀 Music Theatre concert in stunning theatres around the country
- 🌀 Themed dinners and any style of show eg. Phantom of the Opera masked dinner
- 🌀 Italian pairing dinner with wine and Italian song in Italian vineyard
- 🌀 Hamilton Gardens themed 'garden rooms' with matching music eg. Japanese Garden with excerpts from Madame Butterfly, American Garden with Gershwin and Berlin
- 🌀 Mad Irish fiddler in Hobbiton or Irish band in Irish pub
- 🌀 Victorian soir  e in historic Victorian House



MUSICAL EXPERIENCES

All concerts are subject to the availability of the performers. Your group may wish to either experience several different flavours of music or one specific style while in New Zealand. We plan the trip and the entertainment experiences for you.

Here are some of the different style options we can provide or a mix of any:

- 🎵 Opera concerts
- 🎵 Three tenors
- 🎵 Classical journey with string trio, quartet, ensemble or orchestra
- 🎵 50s concerts - Swing, Crooners, Rock 'n' Roll
- 🎵 Glenn Miller
- 🎵 Art Deco
- 🎵 Music Theatre - Showstoppers, Rodgers and Hammerstein, The Golden Era of Musicals, Modern Musicals
- 🎵 Kern, Gershwin, Berlin
- 🎵 Music Hall
- 🎵 Proms
- 🎵 Comedy concerts
- 🎵 War songs
- 🎵 I'm in love with Vienna
- 🎵 European Romance
- 🎵 Irish concerts



These are some of the components to choose from when tailor making your own group tour of NZ. Each section stands on its own so you can simply choose to do some of them rather than all and all music flavours can be adapted to suit the particular tastes of your travellers.

NORTH ISLAND

4 nights Auckland includes:

- 🌀 Auckland tour of waterfront and parks
- 🌀 Historic Highwic House with private high tea and traditional Victorian soiree in their ballroom
- 🌀 Great Gatsby Tea Dance at the famous Heritage Hotel Art Deco ballroom
- 🌀 Tour of Waiheke Island with Viva Italia! At Waiheke's famous winery – Poderi Crisci
- 🌀 Tour to Ayrli's Private Garden with personal tour by owner with picnic and string quartet playing by the lake
- 🌀 Kapa Haka Festival (traditional Maori song and dance) on the rugged West Coast beach. (Location: where the film The Piano was filmed)
- 🌀 Private tour of the beautiful Auckland Art Gallery with cocktails and hors-d'oeuvres and our own private recital

4 nights Bay of Islands includes:

- 🌀 Day Cruise around the beautiful islands with lunch and singalongs
- 🌀 Day trip to the top of New Zealand Cape Reinga and drive along 90 Mile Beach
- 🌀 Foodies Tour of Kerikeri including chocolate factory and winery
- 🌀 Tour with Maori Concert to Waitangi
- 🌀 Visit to historic Russell with lunch at the famous Duke of Marlborough
- 🌀 Visit to local school with concert and Kapa Haka demonstration



NORTH ISLAND

2 nights Rotorua/2 nights Hamilton includes:

- 🌀 Opera Gala in Waitomo Caves plus entrance and tour of Waitomo Caves and boat trip through the glow-worm caves
- 🌀 Hobbiton tour with lunch in the actual location and mad fiddler where The Hobbit was filmed!
- 🌀 Time to wander the beautiful Hamilton Gardens with a musical themed evening combining Jazz, Opera, Gilbert and Sullivan and Classical String Trio
- 🌀 Rotorua tour includes cruise on Lake Rotorua, mud pools, geysers and a redwood forest plus Rotorua Maori Concert Party with traditional Maori Hangi Feast
- 🌀 Lunch stop at beautiful Lake Taupo

2 nights Hawke's Bay includes:

- 🌀 'Art Deco capital of the world' tour
- 🌀 Wine tasting and lunch at the famous Mission Estate
- 🌀 Sileni Winery Hawke's Bay – Twin City Stompers Art Deco swing band!

3 nights Wellington includes:

- 🌀 Wellington City Tour includes Parliament, waterfront, Te Papa Museum and cable car
- 🌀 Katherine Mansfield's house and gardens (a famous NZ writer)
- 🌀 Opera or orchestral concert (subject to availability)
- 🌀 International Festival of the Arts (subject to availability - occurs in Feb/March every 2 years)
- 🌀 World of Wearable Arts Festival (subject to availability occurs in Sept annually)
- 🌀 Day Tour to Martinborough includes wine tour and tasting plus lunch, shopping in Greytown, entrance and tour of historic Carrington House



SOUTH ISLAND

2 nights Nelson/2 nights Blenheim

- 🌀 Art tour of Nelson and surrounds includes visiting many of the country artists of the region
- 🌀 World of Wearable Arts Museum
- 🌀 Blenheim wine tours
- 🌀 Kaikoura whale watching cruise
- 🌀 Sea lions along the rugged Kaikoura coastline

Christchurch 3 nights includes:

- 🌀 Scenic train journey with music through the magnificent Arthur's Pass with views of wonderful lakes and the Southern Alps
- 🌀 Trip to the historic French settlement of Akaroa, with a special French flavoured lunch and music

2 nights McKenzie High Country Sheep Station tours:

- 🌀 Country music tour of the High Country Sheep Stations, McKenzie Country South Island with country music band
- 🌀 Real NZ sheep and majestic countryside

2 nights Charter of Fiordland Navigator to Doubtful Sound includes:

- 🌀 Chartered cruise with a 40s / 50s style band including swing, rock 'n' roll, and Glenn Miller concerts and dances
- 🌀 Stunning scenery, fiords, bush and waterfalls plus the incredible sound of silence!
- 🌀 A chance to see the resident dolphins, seals and penguins
- 🌀 Tour to the underground power station, tour of Lake Manapouri
- 🌀 Tour to Milford Sound



SOUTH ISLAND

3 nights in Queenstown includes:

- ☞ Cruise and music on the Earnslaw, a traditional vintage steam boat on beautiful Lake Wakatipu
- ☞ Dinner at Walter Peak homestead with the music of Kern, Gershwin and Berlin
- ☞ Scenic tours of beautiful Queenstown and Wanaka
- ☞ Culinary tour of Queenstown including Gibbston Winery, cheesery and chocolate
- ☞ Arrowtown and lunch at the award winning Gantley Restaurant

3 nights Dunedin includes:

- ☞ Private tour of Larnach Castle and gardens with dinner and concert in the Ballroom
- ☞ Tour of the Albatross Colony
- ☞ Historic train journey to Taieri Gorge
- ☞ Tour of historic Oamaru with option for overnight stay to see the penguins at night

We also arrange specialist foodies and golf tours with celebrity cooking or golfing personalities.



MAP OF NEW ZEALAND



TRAVEL TIMES

New Zealand is in the Southern Hemisphere and lies in the South-West of the Pacific Ocean. It is comprised of two major Islands (North and South) and a number of lesser islands, the largest of which is called Stewart Island. The country is approximately 1600 km in length and the total land area is 270,000 sq km. The coastline has a length of 15,134 km.

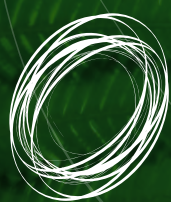
New Zealand is a lot larger than a lot of people realise! So below we have provided some travelling times to give you a better indication of how long it will take to get from point A to point B (by coach, unless otherwise specified).

North Island Travel Times

- ☞ Auckland - Hamilton = 1 hour 39 mins
- ☞ Auckland - Tauranga = 2 hours 27 mins
- ☞ Auckland - Rotorua = 2 hours 40 mins
- ☞ Auckland - Hawke's Bay = 5 hours 12 mins
- ☞ Auckland - Wellington = 7 hours 32 mins
- ☞ Hamilton to Waitomo = 58 minutes
- ☞ Wellington to Picton (by ferry) = 3 hours 32 minutes

South Island Travel Times

- ☞ Picton to Nelson = 1 hour 37 minutes
- ☞ Nelson to Kaikoura = 2 hours 55 minutes
- ☞ Nelson to Christchurch = 4 hours 58 minutes
- ☞ Christchurch to Mount Cook = 3 hours 47 minutes
- ☞ Christchurch to Dunedin = 4 hours 24 minutes
- ☞ Dunedin to Invercargill = 2 hours 29 minutes
- ☞ Dunedin to Te Anau = 3 hours 25 minutes
- ☞ Dunedin to Queenstown = 3 hours 22 minutes
- ☞ Te Anau to Milford Sound = 1 hour 29 minutes



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