

Christchurch and Canterbury Partner Programmes

Introduction to Christchurch and Canterbury



Christchurch is the international gateway to the coastal and alpine playgrounds of New Zealand's South Island. Nestled on the picturesque Canterbury Plains between the Pacific Ocean and the spectacular Southern Alps, it is the perfect hub from which to explore some of the country's most stunning mountains, forests, lakes, rivers, harbours and beaches.

Christchurch is a city being reimagined, with new hotels, hospitality and shopping precincts, artwork, and innovation evident on almost every corner. There is plenty to discover in the city at any time of year.

Beyond the city, the wider Canterbury region offers everything from scenic flights, skiing and alpine hot springs, to whale watching, swimming with dolphins, and iconic train journeys. There is wine to be savoured in the beautiful Waipara Valley and cycling to be enjoyed on the Alps to Ocean Cycle Trail.

The region's geography has given rise to some of New Zealand's most impressive natural attractions, including the largest glacier, the Tasman Glacier, and the country's highest mountain, Aoraki Mount Cook. There are plenty of incredible experiences in our big backyard of stunning scenery, so come and explore!

The following partner programme options are suggestions only, there are a multitude of packages which can be compiled to suit your group.

Photo: Stunning colours of Lake Tekapo

Part day tours in and around Christchurch



If you have half a day

There are many delightful options in and around Christchurch, here are a few of our top picks:

Boutique wineries – there are many great options in the Waipara Valley and in Selwyn. Some options include [Waipara Hills](#) and [Melton Estate](#). Or, choose a few operators from the [Selwyn Food & Wine Trail](#) and create a mini trail of different food and wine producers to suit your group.

Jump on the [Hassle Free Tours](#) Discover Christchurch tour, followed by lunch at a central city restaurant.

Head to [The Tannery](#), just 10 minutes from the central city, for shopping, a craft beer tour and lunch, followed by relaxing spa treatments or a movie in their boutique cinema.

Spend a few hours at [The International Antarctic Centre](#), discovering Antarctica in a fun and interactive way with many exhibits, movies, Little Blue Penguins, Hagglund rides and more.

If you're into golf but don't have time for a full 18 holes, [X-Golf Avonhead](#) offers amazing indoor golf simulators – play a round from a world-renowned golf course, or practise your putting, chipping and drives with a golf professional. Other indoor interactive games onsite, as well as a bar and restaurant.

Full day tours from Christchurch



If you have a whole day

There are many amazing experiences to be had in and around Christchurch, and all of these options can be enjoyed in one day. Here are a selection of our top picks:

Hop on the [Tranz Alpine](#) for one of the most scenic rail journeys in the world. The Tranz Alpine is a great option for larger partner programme groups. The journey departs ex Christchurch and if you have more than one day, you can book an overnight package with accommodation and activities.

Jump aboard with [Hassle Free Tours](#), on their Lord of the Rings or Alpine Safari Tour. The Lord of the Rings tour takes you to ‘middle earth’, experiencing stunning scenery along the way. The Alpine Safari Tour is superb, encompassing bus, train, jet boat and 4WD experiences.

Discover the highlights of Christchurch with [Welcome Aboard](#) on their Christchurch Grand Tour. This includes some of the main attractions in central Christchurch including punting on the Avon River, the Botanic Gardens, the Christchurch Gondola, the seaside township of Sumner and the historic Christchurch tram.

Photo: Tranz Alpine train journey

3 day regional tour: Hanmer Springs



Day one

Travel inland towards the Southern Alps to reach New Zealand's premier spa destination of Hanmer Springs.

Venture onto the 15,000 acre Woodbank Station property, just a few minutes drive from Hanmer Springs village. Here you will find many activities on offer with [Hanmer Adventure Centre](#), including quad biking, archery and clay bird shooting.

Unwind and rejuvenate with a long soak and massage at [Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa](#), set against a stunning backdrop of forests and mountains.

Take a stroll through the central village shopping area before enjoying a delicious evening meal at one of the many superb restaurants in town.

Tonight stay at the renowned [Heritage Hotel](#) in the central village area, or head to [Select Braemar Lodge and Spa](#) for something quite luxurious just a few minutes drive from the village.

Photo: Relaxing in the Hanmer Springs thermal pools

Hanmer Springs & Terrace Downs



Day two

This morning head back to Hanmer Adventure Centre to get the adrenalin pumping again with a different activity, or play a round of golf at the beautiful [Hanmer Springs golf club](#).

If you are wanting a relaxing morning, enjoy a leisurely brunch at one of the many cafes in Hanmer Springs, and peruse the delightful array of shops in the picturesque village.

Travel south to [Terrace Downs](#) High Country Resort. Enjoy a gourmet lunch overlooking the stunning foothills of the Southern Alps.

Try clay bird shooting and archery with [Newzengland](#) and indulge in a spa treatment at Terrace Downs spa.

Finish the day with dinner at the resort's restaurant, ready for an early start tomorrow morning.

Photo: Taking in the views at Terrace Downs Resort

High country & home



Day three

Rise early this morning for the trip of a lifetime with a hot air balloon ride with [Ballooning Canterbury](#), taking you over the Canterbury Plains and looking out across the mighty Southern Alps.

After your early start, drive the short distance to Methven, resort town for Mt Hutt ski field. Enjoy a delicious brunch at one of the cafes in the village.

Check out the [Methven Heritage Centre](#) for an array of interesting exhibits and information about the local region.

Travel back to Christchurch stopping at any number of wineries and food producers that make up the [Selwyn Food and Wine Trail](#). Arrive back into the city late afternoon to enjoy a walk through Hagley Park, one of the largest city parks in the world.

Photo: Balloon flight with Ballooning Canterbury

Christchurch & Canterbury Convention Bureau



Through our extensive network of business partners and local knowledge we can help ensure your event or incentive travel is a success.

We are on hand to provide practical and impartial advice and can help you find all the experts you need from venues and accommodation to team building companies, transport providers, caterers, theming designers, entertainers and activities.

This three day itinerary is just an example of the many amazing experiences on offer in and around Christchurch. Please contact us so we can assist you with putting the perfect itinerary together to suit your requirements.

Contact

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