



CHRISTCHURCH

Renowned for the timeless beauty of its parks and gardens, Christchurch is now a city focused on the future. It is rebuilding post-earthquakes for a new generation, while carefully restoring its heritage. The city has achieved international acclaim for its creative and clever urban design, evidenced by inspiring street art, an award-winning 'cardboard' Cathedral, and brand new business, shopping, arts and entertainment precincts. A cutting-edge convention centre is the next striking new feature in the plan. Christchurch is a jumping off point for all sorts of experiences, from golf and hot air ballooning to punting on the Avon River and relaxing in its stunning Botanic Gardens.

ACCESS

Christchurch International Airport is located 12km northwest of the city centre and is the major international gateway into the South Island. Business and incentive visitors can travel from the airport to the city by taxi, shuttle, rental car, or public bus.

Direct international flights arrive from Singapore, China, Australia and Fiji. Linking flights are available from a wide range of other destinations in Asia, Europe, USA, South America and the Middle East. Air New Zealand and Jetstar offer daily flights linking all major cities and many regional towns across New Zealand.

VENUES

The city's largest indoor venue is Horncastle Arena. Located 15 minutes from Christchurch International Airport, the Arena can host and deliver an outstanding gala dinner experience for up to 2,500 guests or a conference for up to 9,000 theatre style.

If you're looking for a venue with a difference, options include everything from the Edwardian elegance of Isaac Theatre Royal to Ilex Café and Events, an ultra-modern glass conservatory set in the Botanic Gardens. The Air Force Museum of New Zealand, located 10 minutes' drive from the central city on the site of a former Royal New Zealand Air Force base, provides a variety of spaces that are ideal for memorable conferences and uniquely themed gala dinners. Dine among the planes in the Aircraft Hall or hold an exhibition or theatre-style event for up to 1,000 people in the new Conference and Events Hall. Other popular new venues include the Transitional 'cardboard' Cathedral, which can host up to 700 people, and the new architectural masterpiece pavilion, more than just a cricket venue, at Hagley Oval.

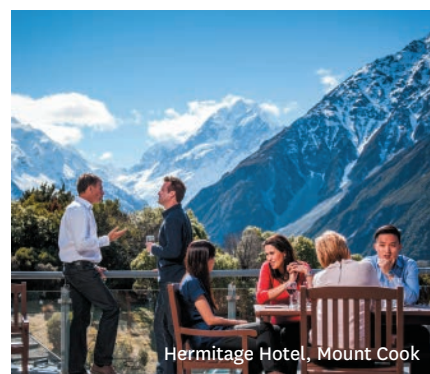
New central city hotel venues include Novotel Christchurch Cathedral Square and Rydges Latimer Christchurch. The Novotel has space for up to 130 people in its modern and comfortable meeting spaces while Rydges Latimer offers 11 flexible meeting spaces and can cater for up to 500 delegates. Both venues offer top quality conference facilities and accommodation on site. Closer to the airport, Sudima Hotel Christchurch has a new executive wing and conference facilities to cater for up to 340 guests theatre-style.

Facts:

- Population: 430,000 people
- 12 km Airport to City
- Accommodation: 5,000 rooms
- Venue capacity: 9,000 theatre style

Claim to fame:

- Vibrant, ever changing city
- International gateway to the South Island
- New Zealand's Garden city with over 740 parks



GETTING AROUND

Christchurch's network of shuttles, taxis and public buses makes it easy for visitors to travel between the airport, accommodation, event venues and city attractions. For those travelling outside the city, luxury coach companies can organise tours to popular nearby destinations, such as Akaroa, the Waipara wine region, the alpine town of Hanmer Springs, Kaikoura, and Aoraki/Mt Cook Mackenzie.

ACCOMMODATION

There are more than 5000 rooms on offer across Christchurch in a wide variety of accommodation, from boutique luxury lodges and self-serviced apartments to modern hotels, many brand new or totally refurbished with conference facilities on site. Those wanting to stay outside of Christchurch will find a wide selection of quality accommodation throughout the Canterbury region.

MEMORABLE INCENTIVE OPTIONS

SAMPLE award winning wine on a vineyard tour to the Waipara region, 40 minutes' drive from Christchurch. The region is known for its excellent Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

VENTURE into the picturesque Waiau Gorge for a dose of adrenaline. Thrillseekers Adventures offers a multitude of activities including jet boating, white water rafting, bungy jumping, quad biking, claybird shooting, archery, and mountain biking experiences.

PRACTISE your swing on the championship golf course at Terrace Downs High Country Resort, situated in the foothills of the Southern Alps. The resort also offers great teambuilding activities including clay bird shooting and archery as well as a relaxing day spa.

SOAR high above the Canterbury Plains by hot air balloon. See the sun rise over the city and surrounding farmland and enjoy stunning views of the mighty Southern Alps.

CLIMB aboard the Tranz Alpine, one of the six top train journeys of the world, to experience the stunning scenery of the Southern Alps. The spectacular 4.5 hour journey travels between Christchurch and Greymouth.

SAFARI in to the Canterbury high country aboard Hassle-Free Tours four-wheel drive. Experience a working sheep and cattle farm at the foot of the Southern Alps, blast down the Waimakariri River in a jet boat and return to Christchurch via the famous TranzAlpine train.

PRE AND POST TOURING OPTIONS

SKI or snowboard in winter at one of the 13 ski fields in Canterbury. Mt Hutt, the largest ski field in the region, is 20 minutes' drive from Methven or 90 minutes' drive from Christchurch.

UNWIND in natural hot pools in the alpine village of Hanmer Springs, 90 minutes' drive north of Christchurch. Visitors to Hanmer Springs can hike and mountain bike on the nearby forest trails or play golf at the beautiful Hanmer Springs Golf Club.

BE AMAZED at the diverse range of wildlife in Kaikoura, two and a half hours' drive north of Christchurch. It's the perfect place to go swimming with dolphins or seals or do some whale watching.

DINE shop or just relax in the French-inspired seaside settlement of Akaroa, southeast of Christchurch. Visitors can experience swimming with the world's smallest dolphin, the Hector's dolphin.

FORAGE along Selwyn's famous food and wine trail, meeting local artisan producers and sampling award-winning cheeses, wines, farmers' markets and colourful country stores.

TRAVEL west to explore New Zealand's highest mountain, Aoraki Mount Cook, and the lakeside township of Tekapo. Get up close and personal with the Tasman Glacier on a Glacier Explorers tour, or go star gazing in the nearby Mackenzie Basin – the world's largest gold rated "International Dark Sky Reserve".

