

# CHRISTCHURCH

## Ōtautahi



Located amidst a vast natural playground of parks, mountains, rivers and beaches, Christchurch is New Zealand's second largest city and the gateway to the South Island. Its compact city centre is home to a fascinating mix of heritage buildings and modern architecture, business, shopping, arts and entertainment precincts. World-class universities and technology campuses and high-growth startups fuel a strong knowledge and events ecosystem.

### ACCESSIBILITY

Christchurch International Airport is a 20-minute drive from the city centre and is the major international gateway into the South Island. Direct international flights arrive from Singapore, San Francisco, Australia and Fiji. Linking flights are available from a wide range of other destinations in Asia, Europe, North and 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

Christchurch is home to the world-class Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre, which opened in 2022 in the heart of the city. Its flexible events space includes a 1400-seat tiered auditorium divisible into two 700-seat venues, an exhibition hall accommodating more than 200 booths, and a banquet hall with river views seating 960 people.

Christchurch's central city has an incredible range of venues. The Christchurch Town Hall is a premium performing arts and conference venue, with the Douglas Lilburn Auditorium seating 2,250 people and the James Hay Theatre seating 750 people, along with several other smaller spaces for meetings, exhibitions, and catering.

Create bespoke events in the stunning restored heritage architecture of the Arts Centre or the contemporary spaces in Christchurch Art Gallery with its impressive glass façade. Design a unique experience in the Transitional 'cardboard' Cathedral or at picturesque Hagley Oval Pavilion.

The Christchurch Arena is 10 minutes from the central city, offering 4,000 sqm of flexible space for events. The Air Force Museum of New Zealand, 15 minutes from the city, provides a variety of spaces ideal for memorable conferences and themed gala dinners.

### ACCOMMODATION

There are more than 5,500 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.

### GETTING AROUND

Visitors can travel from the international airport to the city and in between venues and attractions by taxi, ride share, shuttle, rental car, or public bus. The central city is easily walkable or navigable via e-scooters and e-bikes. For those travelling outside the city, luxury coach companies can organise tours or visitors can self-drive rental vehicles to popular nearby destinations such as Akaroa, the North Canterbury boutique wine region, the alpine town of Hanmer Springs, Kaikōura, and Aoraki/Mt Cook.



Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre



Hooker Valley Track  
Aoraki Mount Cook National Park



## MEMORABLE INCENTIVE OPTIONS

**SAMPLE** award winning wine on a vineyard tour to the boutique North Canterbury wine region, just 40 minutes' drive from Christchurch.

**VENTURE** into the picturesque Waiou Gorge for a dose of adrenaline. Hanmer Springs Attractions offers activities including jet boating, white water rafting, bungee jumping, quad biking, claybird shooting, archery, and mountain biking experiences.

**VISIT** The Christchurch Adventure Park. Enjoy a chairlift ride up the Port Hills and take in the view over the city before whizzing down the hill by mountain bike or zipline tour.

**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 TranzAlpine, 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 the Canterbury high country aboard a 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 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 Kaikōura, 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, Hector's dolphin.

**FORAGE** along Selwyn or North Canterbury's famous food and wine trails, 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.



Christchurch Adventure Park



Canterbury Plains



TranzAlpine



Mt Hutt ski field



Kaikōura



Christchurch Art Gallery