

# NEW ZEALAND CREATIVE FIBRE FESTIVAL TOUR April 6 - 22, 2007

APR

FRI, 6 DEPART LOS ANGELES

SAT, 7 LOSE A DAY CROSSING THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE

#### SUN, 8 ARRIVE IN AUCKLAND

COPTHORNE HOTEL HARBOUR CITY 1

1 night

Haere Mai, Welcome to New Zealand! You are met by Rosemary Burnby, your tour leader, and transfer to our hotel. We can check our luggage there (too early to get into rooms) and head for the harbor where a morning coffee cruise will give us fresh air, refreshments, and a sparkling scenery of sails and surf. Over lunch get to know Rosemary, a well known New Zealand spinner and weaver, who will introduce you to the fiber arts of New Zealand. The afternoon and evening are free for rest and orientation.

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#### MON, 9 ROTORUA

RYDGES HOTEL

2 nights

An orientation to Auckland and visit to the Auckland Museum. Then ravel through the country and enjoy the picture-post card beauty of green fields dotted with flocks of white sheep. Lunch and visit to an historical home. Arrive in Rotorua, New Zealand's highest city which is located in a volcanic crater, approximately 1000 ft above sea level. A large Maori population offers special cultural experiences. The ancient Maori name for New Zealand is 'Aotearoa' (pronounced ay-oh-tea-ah- row-ah)-meaning 'Land of the Long White Cloud.' Offering visitors adventure, diversity and immense beauty, New Zealand also enjoys a reputation for being safe and friendly.

#### TUE, 10 MAORI ARTS & CRAFTS

At the Te Puia Maori Arts & Crafts Institute see how tribes from across New Zealand are learning and keeping alive the traditions of their ancestors. Te Puia is Rotorua's most famous attraction. See woodcarving, weaving displays, and the Thermal Valley with its Geysers, Fumaroles, colourful Silica deposits and Boiling Mud Pools. At the Agrodome, see a flock of sheep mustered by highly trained sheep dogs along with drenching, shearing demonstrations and the history of dairy milking. An opportunity to milk a cow, feed young animals and be photographed with every variety of sheep. Enjoy this one hour show introducing visitors to New Zealand farming, old and new.

This evening, we are guests at a Maori Hangi (meal) and Concert on a traditional Marae (Maori community house) at a nearby local village.

# WED, 11 NEW PLYMOUTH – FESTIVAL

BELLA VISTA MOTEL

5 nights

A cross country drive takes us to New Plymouth, site of the 2007 Creative Fibre Festival. Lunch en route. Get orientated to this beautiful ocean seaside city and learn what pleasure activities are available for your free. Kitchenettes in our lodging and food options at the Festival allow travelers to manager their own meals.

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#### THU - SUN

Individuals have arranged with Rosemary in advance for classes and activities at the Fibre Arts Festival. Also find daily events and displays to enjoy.

1 BBQ dinner

Travel to Queenstown will include a scenic flight from Auckland to the Fiordland area in New Zealand's South Island featuring a large lake surrounded by mountains. Take time this evening to regroup with a walk along the Lake and sharing stories of the Festival.

#### TUE, 17 FULL DAY MILFORD SOUND TOUR

Begin your trip to Te Anau and Milford Sound by traveling along the shores of Lake Wakatipu to New Zealand's prettiest lakes. Continue through some of the world's finest vertical landscape. Hanging valleys, precipices and raging torrents surround you on your way to this beautiful Sound. A cruise on the Milford Haven affords you a spectacular view of the Fiord as was seen by the earliest explorers. Cruise the length of Fiord right up to the 1200 foot cliffs and thundering waterfalls. As you turn around where the Fiord meets the Tasman Sea, you'll see how this majestic fiord, hidden at first, unfolds before you. The captain is an expert at seeking out playful schools of dolphins and fur seals basking on the sunny rocks. A buffet lunch is included during your cruise.

#### WED, 18 A DAY IN QUEENSTOWN

Rosemary has arranged a meeting with the local Queenstown Guild this morning. They may suggest more time together, or you can plan your own activities: A 4WD vehicle can take you to see spectacular landscape as shown in the movie, Lord of the Rings, or a nature walk, modified to your fitness level, will take you through lush, native New Zealand beach forest along Lake Wakatipu. Or, relax in the village of Queenstown or Arrowtown with its variety of local shops and galleries. Rosemary will help you with your fibre interests.

# THU, 19 FREE MORNING – AFTERNOON LAKE CRUISE & SHEEP STATION

Arrowtown is probably the most wee-preserved gold mining town in Otago. Enjoy the history and charming village before heading for lake Wakatipu and board the steamer T.S.S. Earnslaw (built in 1912) which cruises to picturesque Walter Peak Sheep Station. On arrival at the high country station, enjoy an introduction to the farm animals as well as watching the sheepdogs muster sheep in the nearby paddocks. There is a chance to pet other friendly animals, black and white sheep, angora goats, red deer and a Scottish Highland bull. A sheep shearing demostration will show you both the old and new techniques. A BBQ lunch is served at the homestead.

## FRI, 20 TO CHRISTCHURCH

COPTHORNE DURHAM ST. HOTEL

2 nights

Travel by coach past the turquoise shores of Lake Tekapo and the picturesque Church of the Good Shepherd, over the Canterbury Plains to the garden city of Christchurch. Lunch along the way. Enjoy a special visit en route at the Ashford Spinning Wheel factory in Ashburton.

Christchurch is known as the most English city outside England. The city, designed in Britain in the mid 1800s, is laid out in a grid pattern, and centred on the Cathedral. Christchurch is the South Island's largest city with a population of well over 300,000 people.

## SAT, 21 ARTS CENTRE OF CHRISTCHURCH

**Farewell Dinner** 

The Arts Centre of Christchurch is a vibrant and exciting venue for a huge range of New Zealand made arts and crafts. Every Saturday and Sunday the Arts Centre bursts into life with the sights and sounds of artist, craftspeople, and musicians at the Art Craft and Produce Market and International Food Fair. Tonight a Farewell Dinner onboard the Christchurch Tramway Restaurant where dining is not only a culinary delight but also a trip back into history. Sit back in the luxury of our air-conditioned, colonial style, dining tram and be treated to the finest service, cuisine and beverages that New Zealand has to offer. (Cathedral 5 Course menu)

**SUN, 22 DEPART CHRISTCHURCH -** if flying home remember to keep NZ\$25.00 pp aside for the New Zealand departure tax which is payable at the airport.