NEW ZEALAND by Sea

Milford Sound to Auckland

Including nine nights aboard the 57-cabin Caledonian Sky

January 27–February 9, 2020

Featuring guest lecturers on board

Limited Time Offer
SAVE $1,000 PER PERSON
Dear Smith Alumnae,

Isolated from other land masses by the swells of the Tasman Sea and Pacific Ocean, it is a world unto itself. Sometimes called “God’s own country,” New Zealand offers refuge to some of the planet’s rarest animal and plant species, many found nowhere else on Earth. This island nation also boasts dramatic untamed wilderness, geothermal wonders as well as vibrant towns with growing, diverse communities that combine Maori, European and Asian influences to create a cultural voice all its own. Join us as we explore these lush green islands, from the world-famous Milford Sound on the South Island to the city of Auckland on the North Island, aboard the all-suite expedition ship *Caledonian Sky*. Our perfectly suited small ship and Zodiac landing craft allow access to remote glacial fjords, small inlets and bays, offshore islands and craggy peninsulas that are impossible to reach by vehicle and larger ships, making the most of New Zealand’s extraordinary landscapes.

Kick off your explorations in Queenstown, set against the dramatic Southern Alps, with a scenic cruise on the glassy waters of Lake Wakatipu to a remote sheep station to experience life on a real working “Kiwi-owned” farm. Marvel at the sheer granite walls and tumbling waterfalls of Doubtful, Dusky and Milford Sounds in Fiordland National Park, a region so remote and wild that it remains largely unchanged since the days of Captain Cook. Access seldom-visited Stewart Island, a national treasure that few are lucky enough to visit due to its remoteness, to hear a symphony of rare and endemic birdlife. Continue to the Otago Peninsula where a host of options for exploring the region are offered including Dunedin’s rich architectural heritage, the Royal Albatross Center, and train journey through the stunning Taieri River Gorge. Cruising north to the Banks Peninsula, enjoy a day in the charming French-British settlement of Akaroa for a chance to see the largest mainland colony of Little Penguins, Hector’s dolphins, and other marine life. Dip into the Bay of Plenty for a journey to Rotorua, the heartland of Maori culture, and a geothermal wonderland. And in the nation’s vibrant cities of Dunedin, Wellington and Auckland, dive into the art, history, and current events that matter most to New Zealanders.

I encourage you to escape winter and enjoy summer in New Zealand by reserving your space today by calling Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029 or go to http://alumnae.smith.edu/travel.

Best regards,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations
Neville Peat is an award-winning New Zealand writer and adventurer who has published nearly forty books on geography, biography, history, and the natural environment, the most recent being *The Invading Sea*. A Dunedin city councilor, Neville has accompanied ship-based tours of mainland New Zealand and the New Zealand Subantarctic Islands for the past 15 years as a lecturer and guide. He also chairs the trust board for Dunedin’s Orokonui Ecosanctuary, an ecological island wildlife reserve. A very popular lecturer, Neville infuses travelers with his passion for and encyclopedic knowledge of New Zealand’s natural wonders.

Mark Van Baalen, Associate in Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard, has served the University in a variety of roles since 1962. Since 1995 he has been a Lecturer and Associate in the Dept. of Earth and Planetary Sciences. He taught popular courses in physical and environmental geology, and acted as mentor to many undergraduates. Mark’s research has included field-based projects in New England, California and the Swiss Alps, all focusing on details of the origin of ancient ocean basins and their associated mountain belts. More recently he has studied the interactions between human activities and the inexorable process of climate change. In addition to these strictly scientific interests, Mark has a deep interest in history, including the exploration of remote regions of the world. On these trips, Mark lectures on the natural history of the regions being visited, as well as painting a broader picture of human interaction with its environment, now and in the past.
ITINERARY

Monday–Wednesday,
January 27–29, 2020

Home / Queenstown

Depart home on an overnight flight to Queenstown, New Zealand, gateway to the South Island’s breathtaking alpine and glacial scenery. Lose one day crossing the International Date Line. This evening meet fellow travelers at a welcome reception with views of Lake Wakatipu.

Novotel Queenstown Lakeside Hotel (R)

Thursday, January 30

Queenstown

Following an introductory lecture, embark on a private cruise across scenic Lake Wakatipu to Mt Nicholas High Country Farm for a private, behind-the-scenes visit of this 100,000 acre, family-run merino sheep farm, with the option of an easy cycle ride with panoramic alpine views at every turn. The afternoon is at leisure to relax, explore the downtown Queenstown scene, or perhaps ride the Skyline Queenstown Gondola to the top of Bob’s Peak for wonderful views over the town. Novotel Queenstown Lakeside Hotel (B,L)

Friday, January 31

Milford Sound / Embark Caledonian Sky

Drive to spectacular Milford Sound via the shores of Lake Te Anau to Fiordland National Park. On arrival at Milford, board a small boat and cruise close to the towering cliffs and cascading waterfalls before embarking the Caledonian Sky. Celebrate the first evening on board with a Captain’s welcome reception and dinner while cruising New Zealand’s iconic Milford Sound.

Caledonian Sky (B,L,D)

Saturday, February 1

Doubtful & Dusky Sounds

When the glaciers covering Fiordland retreated 14,000 years ago, they left behind an extraordinarily serrated coastline, plunging fiords, and deep branching lakes, further enhanced by mist-shrouded mountains, cascading waterfalls, and vast beech forests. This is New Zealand at its wildest, most remote, and most beautiful. It’s also an area rich in history; Captain Cook landed here on HMS Resolution in 1773. Explore these unspoiled waterways, only accessible by sea, and well known for abundant wildlife, including fur seals and pods of bottlenose dolphins. Caledonian Sky (B,L,D)

Sunday, February 2

Stewart Island (Raikura)

Anchor in Paterson Inlet to visit Stewart and Ulva islands. Stewart Island (Raikura), the southernmost inhabited outpost of New Zealand with a population under 500, is a quiet, seldom-visited wilderness oasis and an ornithologist’s delight. Ulva Island is a sanctuary for both birds and plants, including species that are rare or extinct on mainland New Zealand. Naturalist guides lead bush walks of varying lengths that may include sightings of weka, kākā, the flightless Stewart Island kiwi, silvereyes, and fantails. Weather permitting, an optional ocean fishing excursion will be offered (for an additional cost). Caledonian Sky (B,L,D)

Monday, February 3

Dunedin

Cruise this morning into the beautiful harbor city of Dunedin, regarded as New Zealand’s architectural heritage capital. Built on the gold rushes of the 1860s, today Victorian and Edwardian buildings can still be seen at every turn. Embark on a guided tour of this beautifully preserved city including a visit to the spectacular Dunedin Botanic Garden, with over 6,800 plant species, and the Otago Museum, for superb insight into...
the natural history of the South Island, as well as its industries and its peoples. While in Dunedin, drive to Taiaora Head on the tip of the Otago Peninsula to see northern royal albatrosses, in their natural habitat. This is the only mainland location in the world. Special viewing areas have been constructed for observing these birds without disturbing their natural activities. Alternatively, ride the rails on a vintage train with open air viewing platforms through the beautiful Taiieri Plains before climbing into the rugged Taiieri Gorge, a narrow and deep ravine carved out by the ancient Taiieri River. As the ship departs Dunedin, come out on deck to birdwatch at sunset along the Otago Peninsula.

**Thursday, February 6**

**Wellington**

Wellington is New Zealand’s capital city, where colorful Victorian houses perch on steep hills overlooking one of the world’s loveliest harbors. Tour the city’s lush botanical garden and visit the spectacular waterfront museum TePapa Tongarewa (Maori for “Repository of Things Precious”). Discover how the Maori navigated the Pacific to arrive on these islands and learn about their myths and traditions. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon of cruising as we continue our lecture program. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**Friday, February 7**

**At Sea**

Enjoy a day at sea, with onboard lectures and time to relax, as the Caledonian Sky cruises along the east coast of the North Island. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**Saturday, February 8**

**Tauranga/Rotorua**

Dock this morning in Tauranga and disembark for a drive to Rotorua, the heartland of New Zealand’s Maori culture. Enjoy a private gathering with Maori elders at a special powhiri (welcome) ceremony in a Maori village nestled within a native Tawa forest. Observe Maori weaving, carving, face tattooing, and food preparation activities. Also learn about warrior training and the fearsome haka posture dance as part of an exhilarating cultural performance. After a traditional hangi lunch, visit some of Rotorua’s famed geothermal features, where boiling mud pools and colorful hot springs provide remarkable evidence of the still-hot magma just beneath the earth’s surface. Back on board, celebrate your New Zealand adventure with fellow travelers during the Captain’s Farewell reception and dinner. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**Sunday, February 9**

**Auckland /Home**

Arrive in Auckland, the “City of Sails,” and disembark for an overview tour of the city’s highlights including a stop at Bastion Point offering magnificent views back to Auckland. Enjoy lunch at a seaside restaurant with free time for exploring independently before transferring to the airport for flights home. (B)

**Tuesday, February 4**

**Akaroa**

Akaroa meaning, ‘Long Harbor’, in Maori, is a historic French and British settlement, nestled in the heart of an ancient volcano on the Banks Peninsula. In the morning, choose between a guided walk through the charming colonial town and surrounding native bush of the Garden of Tane or a guided 4x4 drive to a private farm to see the largest Australasian Little Penguin colony on mainland New Zealand and an inspiring example of private individuals saving an endangered species. Or if you prefer you can simply wander in the town and enjoy the alluring French atmosphere of this seaside retreat. Return to the ship for a relaxing afternoon at sea and a continuation of our lecture series. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**Wednesday, February 5**

**Marlborough Sounds /Wellington**

Sail across Cook Strait between the North and South Islands and enter a world of pristine natural beauty. This morning anchor at Ship Cove, where Captain Cook arrived aboard the Endeavour in 1770. Explore the islands and inlets by Zodiac and during short walks on the famed Queen Charlotte Track. Keep an eye out for some of the wildlife Cook described in his reports, as well as rare birds such as the South Island saddleback, the bellbird, and the New Zealand robin. Arrive in Wellington for U.S. Embassy briefing (schedule permitting) followed by a free evening off the ship. Stroll along the picturesque waterfront and enjoy the option of dining off the ship at a restaurant of your choice in town. This evening, (available at extra cost), choose to travel to Zealandia for a private night tour through this protected predator-proof ecosanctuary that is home to some of New Zealand’s rarest species, including kiwis. CALEDONIAN SKY (B,L,D)

**POST-TOUR EXTENSION**

**Sydney, Australia**

February 9–12, 2020

Extend your trip with three nights in cosmopolitan Sydney, Australia. Activities include a private tour of the iconic Sydney Opera House; a walking tour of the Rocks District, Sydney’s historic center that has been sensitively revitalized; a viewing of the aboriginal art at the Art Gallery of New South Wales; and a visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens, plus time for independent exploration.
**Caledonian Sky**

The Caledonian Sky, formerly the Hebridean Spirit, is a 57-cabin premier expedition ship. All cabins have an ocean view, en suite bathroom with walk-in shower and/or bathtub, spacious wardrobe or walk-in closet, safe, minibar, individually controlled heat/air conditioner, flat-screen television, and sitting area with sofa. Twenty-three of the suites feature private balconies. The ship’s amenities include an elegant indoor dining room, al fresco dining on the Lido Deck, two lounges with bar service, small library and gym, sun deck with comfortable lounge chairs, hairdresser, laundry service, and gift shop. An elevator services all passenger cabin decks. The Caledonian Sky’s chefs prepare quality international meals, predominantly Western-style, served in a single open seating. A friendly crew provides exceptional, personalized service, with more than a 1:2 crew-to-passenger ratio. The ship features advanced satellite navigation and communication equipment, roll stabilizers, and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft.

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**Program Rates, per person, double occupancy**

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<th>Deck</th>
<th>Special Rates</th>
<th>Original Rates</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong> CASTLE DECK (STANDARD FORWARD)</td>
<td>$8,990 $9,990</td>
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<td>244 sq.ft. with two portholes, shower</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong> CASTLE DECK (STANDARD)</td>
<td>$10,490 $11,490</td>
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<td>244 sq.ft. with two, three, or four portholes, shower</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong> CALEDONIAN DECK (SUPERIOR)</td>
<td>$11,990 $12,990</td>
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<td>232 sq.ft. with large window, bathtub, shower (except #329, #330, and #331, shower only)</td>
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<td><strong>D</strong> PROMENADE DECK (PREMIUM)</td>
<td>$12,490 $13,490</td>
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<td>217 sq.ft. with large window, shower (#431 and #432 with bathtub and shower)</td>
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<td><strong>E</strong> BRIDGE DECK (DELUXE BALCONY)</td>
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<td>215 sq.ft. plus 45 sq.ft. private balcony, sliding glass door, walk-in wardrobe, bathtub, shower</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F</strong> PROMENADE DECK (PREMIUM BALCONY)</td>
<td>$13,990 $14,990</td>
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<td>243 sq.ft. plus 60 sq.ft. private balcony, sliding glass door, walk-in wardrobe, shower</td>
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<td><strong>G</strong> PROMENADE DECK (OWNER’S BALCONY)</td>
<td>$14,990 $15,990</td>
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<td>243 sq.ft. plus 60 sq.ft. private balcony, sliding glass door, two portholes, walk-in wardrobe, shower</td>
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**Program Rates, per person, single occupancy**

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<td>$15,790 $16,790</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong> CALEDONIAN DECK (SUPERIOR)</td>
<td>$17,990 $18,990</td>
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<td>232 sq.ft. with large window, bathtub, shower (except #329, #330, and #331, shower only)</td>
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**Program Rates Include**

Full program of briefings, lectures, and presentations by study leaders and local guides • Two nights accommodations in Queenstown. Nine nights aboard the Caledonian Sky. • All meals as specified in the itinerary. • All excursions, including entrance fees, as specified in the itinerary • Scheduled transfers on group arrival and departure days • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers, and ship’s crew for all group activities • Port fees and embarkation taxes • House wine, beer, and soft drinks at lunch and dinner on board the Caledonian Sky and at group meals off the ship • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • Bottled water on excursions • Complete packet of pre-departure information • Professional tour manager throughout

**Air Arrangements** Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. **PLEASE NOTE:** U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Round-trip economy-class airfare from New York to Queenstown, with return from Auckland, is approximately $2,200 per person as of February 2019 and is subject to change without notice.
GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT TO EXPECT You will experience varying weather conditions during this trip, with temperatures ranging from the mid-50s to the mid-60s Fahrenheit. Rough seas are always a possibility, and intermittent rain showers are common year-round. The pace of this program is moderately active, with up to two miles of walking often over uneven terrain, or where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Participants will need to climb into and out of Zodiacs for some shore excursions (staff and crew members will be on hand to assist). Participants must be in good health and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff.

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport and visa fees • Medical expenses and immunizations • Trip cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess-baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals • Alcohol or soft drinks except where indicated as included • Private transfers or transfers not on program arrival and departure days • Personal items such as room service; email, telephone, and fax charges; and other items of a personal nature

GROUP SIZE This program is limited to 94 participants, including travelers from the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, National Trust Tours, Harvard Alumni Travels, and the Commonwealth Club.

INSURANCE We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Complete Terms & Conditions will be sent to participants upon confirmation and are available to prospective travelers upon request. As a condition of participant, each passenger will be required to sign a Release of Liability, which will be sent along with the Terms & Conditions.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. You may complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to: Smith Travel, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063, or fax to (413) 585-2015. Final payment deadline is September 30, 2019. For those who register after September 30, 2019, full payment is due upon registration.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Upon payment of the $1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Smith Travel. Deposits are refundable (less a $250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Cancellations after final payment deadline of September 30, 2019: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. Note: Neither Smith Travel nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of nonrefundable tickets.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Smith Travel and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Smith Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40

RESERVATION FORM

NEW ZEALAND by Sea
Milford Sound to Auckland
Nine nights aboard the Caledonian Sky
January 27–February 9, 2020

To reserve your space, please make your deposit check payable to Criterion Travel and mail to: Smith Travel, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063. You may fax credit card information to: (413) 585-2015. For questions, call Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029.

PAYMENT

☑ Enclosed is my check for $_______ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel), to reserve ______ place(s) on New Zealand by Sea. OR
☑ Please charge the deposit to my: ☑ VISA ☑ MasterCard ☑ American Express ☑ Discover

CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE SECURITY CODE

I/we understand that final payment is due September 20, 2019, 120 days prior to departure. After September 30, 2019: full payment is due at registration.

NAME #1 (AS ON PASSPORT) DATE OF BIRTH

NAME #2 (AS ON PASSPORT) DATE OF BIRTH

STREET ADDRESS

CITY/STATE ZIP/POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE WORK PHONE

FAX EMAIL ADDRESS

SINGLE TRAVELERS

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☑ I’d like to know about roommates. I am a ☐ Non-smoker ☐ Smoker.
☑ I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of September 30, 2019, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin Category Preference: 1st _________ 2nd _________

Bed preference in hotels (not guaranteed) ☑ Two beds ☑ One bed

I/we have read the tour information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE
HIGHLIGHTS

• Spend two nights in the ever-dynamic town of Queenstown based from the Novotel Queenstown Lakeside hotel, on the banks of Lake Wakatipu and centrally located to allow for easy pedestrian access to restaurants and local attractions.

• Explore the stunning and remote Doubtful Sound and Dusky Sound, the largest of the fiords rich with history and only accessible by sea.

• Access seldom-visited Ulva Island to observe some of the world’s rarest birdlife in their natural settings, and visit with Stewart Islanders who welcome you to their village in Oban.

• Walk the beginning of the famed Queen Charlotte Track for unsurpassed views of Marlborough Sounds and cruise its sheltered inlets, clear waters and sandy bays by Zodiac.

• Engage in stimulating and in-depth discussions with our educational leaders, whose lectures offer invaluable context and insight.

• Spend time with Maori elders in their village and be treated to a private welcome ceremony, tribal dances, and a traditional hangi lunch.

• Experience Rotorua’s array of geothermal features—volcanic crater lakes, spouting geysers, bubbling mud pools, hissing fumaroles—as part of the Taupo Volcanic Zone.

• Customize your New Zealand experience with a menu of excursion options geared to different interests and levels of mobility in multiple ports: Stewart Island, Dunedin, Akaroa, and Wellington.