DEAR ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS,

With its tidy English gardens and untamed wilderness, white-suited lawn bowlers and tattooed Maori elders, austere glacial fiords and boiling volcanic mud pots, New Zealand is a spectacular country of striking contrasts. Isolated from other landmasses by the swells of the Tasman Sea and Pacific Ocean, New Zealand is a world unto itself.

I invite you to join fellow alumnae in the austral summer as we tour these lush green islands, from the city of Auckland on the North Island to world-famous Milford Sound on the South Island. The program combines deluxe hotel stays in New Zealand’s great cities with five nights aboard the expedition ship Clipper Odyssey. This is truly an unsurpassed way to experience New Zealand.

Under the carved roof beams of a traditional meeting house, learn how the Maori arrived here a millennium ago in canoes from Polynesia, and experience Kiwi hospitality in lakeside towns where British traditions flourish against a backdrop of breathtaking mountain scenery. Land by Zodiac craft on Stewart Island to hear the strange “ding-dong” call of the bellbird. Look up in wonder at the sheer granite walls and tumbling waterfalls of Dusky, Doubtful, and Milford Sounds in Fiordland, a region so remote and wild that it remains largely unchanged since the days of Captain Cook.

Travel in style on the friendly Clipper Odyssey, the ideal vessel for exploring New Zealand’s islands, fiords, and craggy coastline. More like a private yacht than a cruise ship, this fine 102-passenger vessel boasts a master chef, well-stocked wine cellar, exceptional service, and spacious, well-appointed cabins.

Explore this remarkable country in the company of Tom Litwin, director of the Clark Science Center at Smith College, founding director of our Environmental Science and Policy Program, and an experienced Smith travel leader and ecologist. Also accompanying is native New Zealander, noted naturalist, and award-winning author Neville Peat. Members of Smithsonian Journeys, the American Museum of Natural History, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation join us on this exclusive charter.

I look forward to welcoming you as we embark on this extraordinary voyage.

Best regards,

Carrie Cadwell, Ed.M. ’82
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Smith College

ITINERARY

LOS ANGELES / AUCKLAND
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10
Depart Los Angeles on the recommended flight itinerary or independently. The day lost crossing the International Date Line will be regained on the return journey. (Meals aloft)

AUCKLAND
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11
Auckland, “City of Sails,” is nestled on a narrow isthmus on the North Island separating the Pacific Ocean from the Tasman Sea. Upon arrival, check in to day rooms at the Auckland Carlton Hotel. Following an introductory lecture, drive to the summit of Mt. Eden to take in a sweeping view of the city, its two harbors, and the volcanic peaks of the Waitakere Range. Visit the Auckland Memorial Museum, which provides a wonderful introduction to New Zealand’s indigenous culture with a fascinating exhibit of Maori and Polynesian artifacts. Gather for a welcome reception this evening.

CARLTON HOTEL (B, R)

ROTORUA / WELLINGTON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Drive this morning to Rotorua. Stroll in a lush bush garden to view native birds such as the kaka, weka, kakariki, and tui, along with the rare and endangered tuatara lizard. After lunch, explore the eerie beauty of the Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserve, where bubbling mud pools, boiling springs, hissing steam vents, and the soaring Pohutu Geyser are startling evidence of the still-hot magma just beneath the earth’s surface. Enjoy a private gathering with Maori elders and watch artists work on traditional carvings at the New Zealand Maori Arts and Crafts Institute. In the late afternoon, board a charter flight to Wellington. Upon arrival, check in to the Duxton Hotel, situated in the city’s cosmopolitan center near the waterfront. The evening is at leisure.

DUXTON HOTEL (B, L)

WELLINGTON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
This morning visit Wellington’s engaging waterfront museum, Te Papa Tongarewa (Maori for “Repository of Things Precious”), which brings to life the stories of the people of New Zealand. Hear how the
Maori navigated the Pacific to arrive on these islands, listen to traditional music, and learn about their legends. Discover the country’s remarkable natural history, from the volcanoes and earthquakes that shaped the incredible terrain to the flora and fauna that make New Zealand, in James Michener’s words, “the world’s most beautiful place.” The balance of the afternoon is at leisure. Gather this evening for dinner in the city center. DUXTON HOTEL (B, L, D)

WELLINGTON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Today explore New Zealand’s capital city, where colorful Victorian houses perch on steep hills around one of the world’s loveliest harbors. After a morning lecture, visit the city’s botanical gardens and quaint neighborhoods during a walking tour. Take an optional afternoon walk in the Karori Bird Sanctuary. This evening gather for a dinner of local specialties. DUXTON HOTEL (B, D)

CHRISTCHURCH / LYTTELTON
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15
This morning, fly to the English garden city of Christchurch on the South Island. Explore the unique Canterbury Museum, whose Hall of Antarctic Discovery is particularly interesting since Christchurch is headquarters for “Operation Deep Freeze” and the supply point for U.S. bases in the Antarctic. Attend a specially arranged guest lecture about exciting discoveries in Antarctic research. Enjoy lunch, a heritage walk, and some time to explore Christchurch on your own before boarding the ship in Lyttelton. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B, L, D)

DUNEDIN / OTAGO PENINSULA
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Embark on a nature lover’s expedition to Taiaroa Head to see royal albatross, the largest seabird in the world, in its nesting area, and the shy little yellow-eyed penguin, rarest penguin on earth. Special viewing areas have been constructed for observing these birds without disturbing their natural activities. Then discover lovely Dunedin, a charming town settled by Scottish pioneers, whose name means “Edinburgh” in Gaelic. Explore the Otago Museum’s Southern Land, Southern People Gallery. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B, L, D)

STEWART ISLAND
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Cruise to Stewart Island, the southernmost inhabited outpost of New Zealand. With a population of only 420, the island is a quiet, seldom-visited retreat. The newest jewel in the national park system, Rakiura (“Land of Glowing Skies”), is an ornithologist’s delight and a last refuge for critically endangered birds, including the New Zealand parrot, the kakapo. Clipper Odyssey negotiates the Paterson Inlet, where Zodiaks shuttle you between Oban Village and Ulva Island. After a special introduction to Stewart Island, experienced naturalists lead walks to spot native birds such as the weka, tui, bellbird, kaka, kakariki, and kereru, as well as the indigenous fur seal. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B, L, D)

FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18
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’s wildest, most remote, and most beautiful region. Observe the rugged topography, protected waters, and many islands of Fiordland National Park from the decks of the ship. Travel to shore on motorized Zodiaks for walks through historic and scenic areas. A highlight is Astronomer’s Point, where Captain Cook’s second expedition to New Zealand made a breakthrough in navigation by confirming the accuracy of a novel “marine watch.” Following more scenic cruising we overnight in Dusky Sound. CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B, L, D)

FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Spend another day in spectacular Fiordland, a World Natural Heritage area. We cruise inland waters and open
sea to arrive at Doubtful Sound, an awe-
some natural setting. This evening gather
for a festive farewell dinner with the cap-
tain on our final night aboard.
CLIPPER ODYSSEY (B, L, D)

MILFORD SOUND / QUEENSTOWN
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Cruise into Milford Sound in the early
morning stillness. The ship navigates
between soaring vertical cliffs punctuated
with showering waterfalls and cascading
greenery. Disembark and transfer to a
smaller vessel for a close-up look at the
fiord’s pristine beauty. Then board a coach
to drive through the rugged mountains
of Fiordland National Park, enjoying an
alfresco lunch en route to Queenstown.
On arrival, check in to the hotel and
relax. The evening is at leisure.
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL  (B, L)

QUEENSTOWN / AUCKLAND / HOME
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
Transfer to the airport for a flight to
Auckland, connecting onward to Los
Angeles. Regain the day lost on the
inbound journey. (B, meals aloft)

OPTIONAL POST-TRIP EXTENSION TO
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 –
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2007
Spend three nights at the luxurious Four
Seasons Sydney overlooking the harbor.
Embark on a private tour of the renowned
Opera House. Take a walking tour of the
historic Rocks District, and view the fine
collection of aboriginal art at the Art
Gallery of NSW. There will also be ample
time for individual exploration. Information
on cost and additional details will be pro-
vided after registration.

STUDY LEADERS

Tom Litwin is director of the Clark Science
Center at Smith College and served as the
founding director of their Environmental
Science and Policy Program. Tom is a
researcher in the fields of biological sciences
and habitat ecology and was the project creator
and expedition leader for the PBS film The 1899
Harriman Alaska Expedition Retraced: A Century
of Change. Tom was appointed an Aldo Leopold
Fellow in conservation biology in 2004. He
has traveled frequently as a guest lecturer
on educational study programs and is an
experienced Smith travel leader.

Neville Peat is an award-winning New
Zealand nature writer and interpreter. He has
published more than 25 books and uses his
considerable photography skills to illustrate his own
work. In 1998 he authored a report on New
Zealand’s Subantarctic Islands that earned
World Heritage Area status for the five
groups of islands. An elected member
of the Otago Regional Council, Neville
chairs the council’s Environment and
Science Committee. Neville, a fifth-
generation descendent of Scottish
pioneers, lives on the Otago Peninsula.
A very popular lecturer, he infuses
travelers with his passion for and
encyclopedic knowledge of New
Zealand’s natural wonders.

NATURALISTS & CULTURAL GUIDES
Expert local guides and naturalists
will provide special commentary
throughout the program. Observa-
tions on New Zealand’s history, tribal
customs, and contemporary issues,
as well as comprehensive bird and
mammal identification and fascinating
geological data, will be discussed by
accompanying on-tour staff.

Boiling mud, Rotorua; koru, the Maori
symbol for life; the Sydney Opera House.
Next page: Te Marae at Te Papa.
Enclosed is a check for $______ ($1,000 per person), payable to High Country Passage, to reserve ____ places on the New Zealand study tour.

Please mail this form with your deposit to: Smith Travel, AASC, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063

Please charge the deposit of $______ ($1,000 per person) to my:

- [ ] Visa
- [ ] MasterCard

______________________________________________

ACCOUNT NUMBER ________________________________________

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON THE CARD ____________________________

NAME 1 (PLEASE PRINT) ______________________________________

NAME 2 (PLEASE PRINT) ______________________________________

ADDRESS ________________________________________________

CITY _____________________________________________________

STATE ___________________________ ZIP _______________________

HOME PHONE ______________________________________________

WORK PHONE ______________________________________________

FAX ______________________________________________________

EMAIL ____________________________________________________

- [ ] Yes, I/we are interested in joining the post-trip extension to Sydney.
  Please send details.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

First Choice: __________________ Second Choice: __________________

- [ ] Twins
- [ ] Queen

Bed preference aboard ship: ________________________________

Bed preference in hotels: ________________________________

- [ ] Two beds
- [ ] One bed

SINGLE APPLICANTS ONLY:

- [ ] I prefer single accommodations.
- [ ] I plan to share accommodations with: __________________________
- [ ] Please arrange a share for me (not guaranteed).
  I am a [ ] non-smoker [ ] smoker.

If a roommate cannot be located for me by the final payment date of October 9, 2006, I agree to pay the single occupancy rate.

- [ ] I/We have read and agree to the terms and conditions.

______________________________________________

SIGNATURE ____________________________________________

DATE_________________________________________________
TERMS & CONDITIONS

AIR ARRANGEMENTS Tour rates do not include airfare. Group flights will be offered between Los Angeles/Auckland and Queenstown/Los Angeles; as of March 2006, the cost of round-trip, economy class airfare is $1,775 per person. This fare is subject to change without notice. Our tour operator is happy to assist you in making individual air travel arrangements.

INCLUDED All accommodations and transportation as indicated in the itinerary • Two domestic New Zealand Rotorua/Wellington/Christchurch charter flights • All meals as indicated in the itinerary • Welcome and farewell receptions • Comprehensive program of lectures, shore excursions, and special events • Arrival and departure transfers and baggage handling between airports and hotels for those traveling on group flights • Gratuities to guides, drivers, and ship’s crew • Airport departure taxes • Professional tour management throughout

NOT INCLUDED International and U.S. domestic airfare • Passport and visa fees • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages, including alcohol and wine, other than those specified as included • Baggage and cancellation insurance • Arrival and departure transfers and baggage handling for those not participating in group flights, and excess baggage charges • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Personal items such as telephone, fax, and email charges, laundry, and other items not specified as included • Gratuities for non-group services • Fuel surcharge, if applicable

WHAT TO EXPECT This is a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily programs can involve up to one mile of walking, often over uneven terrain where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. It is common in this part of the world to experience heavy seas while cruising. The weather will generally be mild, with rain showers probable. Average temperatures range from the low 50°s to the low 70°s Fahrenheit. You will need to climb into and out of Zacodics for excursions ashore, where staff and crew will be on hand to assist.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to confirm all reservations. Please make your deposit check payable to High Country Passage and send it, with your completed reservation form, to Smith Travel, AASC, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063. If you prefer, you may fax the form to Smith Travel at 1-413-585-2015, or call 1-800-225-2029 to charge your MasterCard or Visa. Final payment is due by October 9, 2006, 120 prior to departure. All tour prices and airfares quoted in this brochure are based on tariffs, costs, and exchange rates of the United States dollar that were in effect at the time of publication. Consequently, prices herein are subject to change. High Country Passage reserves the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS All cancellations must be in writing to AASC. Cancellations received more than 120 days prior to departure: full refund less a $250 cancellation charge. Cancellations received within 120 days of departure are subject to full forfeiture of all monies paid. Cancellation of program by High Country Passage will result in full refund except for airline cancellation penalties incurred by purchasing non-refundable air tickets. Refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for any reason at all. High Country Passage reserves the right, without penalty, to require any participant to withdraw from a tour at any time at his/her own expense, when such action is determined by tour staff to be in the best interest of the health, safety, or general welfare of the tour group or the individual participant subject only to the requirement that the recoverable portion of the total amount paid that corresponds to the cost of unused services and accommodations to be refunded, if any.

INSURANCE For your protection, cancellation/interruption insurance is strongly recommended. Information about insurance will be sent to you by Smith Travel.

HEALTH All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers.

RESPONSIBILITY The Alumnae Association of Smith College (AASC) is the sponsor of this tour. As the sponsor, AASC has engaged independent tour operators to arrange the tours. Because the AASC does not own, operate, manage, or control, and is not in a partnership or joint venture with either the tour operators or with the various independent companies and persons with which or whom the tour operator has arranged to supply services to the tour, the AASC and its officers, directors, trustees, agents, servants, employees, affiliates, and assigns are not liable for any negligent or willful acts or omissions of the tour operator or the various suppliers, including any acts or omissions on their part that cause, without limitations, injury, death, theft, damage to or loss of property, delay, inconvenience, or the cancellation, substitution, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, transportation, or other services. Additional terms and conditions may apply to our trip and will be sent to you with your registration acknowledgement, which you must sign and return to Smith Travel.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Please call Smith Travel at 1-800-225-2029, or High Country Passage at 1-800-395-3288.

CST # 2070901-40
printed on recycled paper
The Clipper Odyssey is ideally suited for exploring the islands, fiords, and craggy coastline of New Zealand. Offering a level of comfort rarely found on adventure cruises, this deluxe vessel accommodates a maximum of 102 passengers in unusually spacious and well-appointed cabins.

With a master chef and well-stocked wine cellar aboard, cuisine and service are exceptional, yet the style is informal, accommodating the casual atmosphere and dress suitable for adventure cruising.

Cabin accommodation is comfortable and spacious. All cabins are outside, with a separate seating area, abundant storage space, twin or queen beds, and bathrooms with hair dryers and shower/tub combinations. Individual temperature controls, TVs, and mini-refrigerators add to our enjoyment. Tastefully furnished public areas include two lounges, a bar, and a dining room where all guests are accommodated at a single, unassigned seating.

The ship is fitted with the latest in telecommunications, navigation, and stabilization systems for smooth sailing. With its compact size and shallow draft, the Clipper Odyssey can reach remote islands and beaches, and is welcome in ecologically fragile areas. A fleet of motorized Zodiacs allow guests to enjoy close-up looks at wildlife and to make beach landings for shore walks.

Deck space is vast, with a 70-meter jogging track on the Sun Deck and shaded areas on the Lido Deck for comfortable observation of New Zealand's magnificent scenery and abundant wildlife. Other amenities include a pool, gym, library/game room, boutique, hairdresser, laundry, and clinic with full-time physician.

The ship is fitted with the latest in telecommunications, navigation, and stabilization systems for smooth sailing.
Alumnae Association of Smith College

SMITH TRAVEL
33 ELM STREET
NORTHAMPTON, MA 01063

NEW ZEALAND BY LAND & SEA
ABOARD THE CLIPPER ODYSSEY • FEBRUARY 9 – 21, 2007