

Grape

Expectations



FACT FILE

The different options and combinations for travel within New Zealand are almost endless, however, to provide an indication of price a two week self-drive tour staying in character guesthouses and B&B's would cost from £1,745 based on two people sharing and inclusive of international flights and car hire. Audley's New Zealand specialists will be able to tell you much more, including the many options to visit wineries, please feel free to call them on 01869 276 245.



New Zealand has long been famed for its stunning unspoiled landscape and outstanding hospitality, now it seems to have taken the international wine scene by storm too. Whether you are a keen wine enthusiast or just enjoy the tastings, New Zealand will not disappoint! Scattered across this beautiful country are numerous world-renowned vineyards as well as charming boutique wineries of an incredibly high standard; showcasing everything from New Zealand's benchmark classic Sauvignon Blancs, to fine Chardonnays, zesty Rieslings and up and coming Merlots. The locations of the vineyards and the distinct flavours of the wines produced reflect that this is indeed a country of spectacular contrasts. The wine regions of Hawke's Bay, Gisborne, Waikato Bay, Nelson, Central Otago, Marlborough and Martinborough will be no strangers to wine enthusiasts. With wineries stretching the length of both islands you can plan your trip around the vineyards, incorporating guided wine tours or just include one or two in your itinerary.

Up in the north you will discover the roots of New Zealand's wine industry, first established in Waitangi, Bay of Islands in 1834. If time does not permit a trip to the stunning Bay of Islands, Waiheke Island, just a twenty minute ferry ride from Auckland, offers a taste of far northern remoteness with a sprinkling of beautiful seafront accommodation to complement the wonderful boutique wineries.

South of Auckland, right on the coast, is the famous Hawke's Bay region, with a 100 year old wine heritage. This is New Zealand's second largest wine region, specialising in Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. The charming 'Wine on your bike' tour of the area allows you to explore the countryside at your own pace, stopping at welcoming wineries for tastings and at the end of the day your purchases will be ready and waiting for you. Nearby Napier is also a must whilst in this area. Since the city was practically destroyed by an earthquake in 1931 it reinvented itself drawing on the bold lines, elaborate motifs and pretty pastel colours inspired by the buzzing *art deco* movement of the time. This vibrant little city perfectly complements a tour of the wine region and boasts some fine *art deco* buildings.

At the northern tip of the South Island, Marlborough is the location for some of the country's best Sauvignon Blanc. No trip to Marlborough would be complete without a visit to the spectacular Sounds for a glance at the breathtaking scenery and wildlife. The 'Myths and Legends' full day boat trip explores the Sounds with a local Maori family introducing the wildlife and culture from a very personal perspective.

Straight out of a scene from Lord of the Rings, Central Otago on the south east coast produces excellent Pinot Noir. It's easy to combine a visit to the smaller wineries with a boat trip on the TSS Earnslaw, a 4WD tour of the rugged countryside, or a trip to the adventure capital of the world, Queenstown.

As well as being an enjoyable, educational and indulgent experience, New Zealand's commitment to sustainable wine growing (SWNZ) ensures that your wine trail is environmentally and culturally responsible.

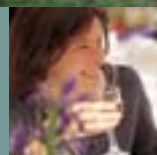
Lyndsey Waller
New Zealand specialist

Taste before TRAVELLING

To whet your appetite
Great Western Wine have put
together a wonderful case of
a dozen wines from three of
New Zealand's top estates.



New Zealand Fine Wine Selection



1 x WITHER HILLS PINOT NOIR 2002, MARLBOROUGH

"The wondrous nose of sweet spices, polished oak, mulberries and damsons is hypnotic. The palate is silky smooth and long, even by Wither Hills' cosmic standards."

*Matthew Jukes,
The Wine List 2005*

1 x CARRICK PINOT NOIR 2002, CENTRAL OTAGO

"Central Otago? Isn't that Pinot Noir territory. Yes it is, and Steve Green and his team at Carrick make an excellent, silky, cherryish version from their Bannockburn vineyards."

*Simon Woods, Wine International,
March 2005*

"Dark, vibrant. Candied cherries and plums. Medium acidity, high tannins 5-10 years."

*Best wines of the year,
Decanter Magazine, December 2004*

1 x WEST BROOK MERLOT / CABERNET FRANC, HAWKE'S BAY

A soft medium bodied wine displaying hints of white pepper, layers of berry fruit and toasty oak with soft tannins, but still with a subtle firmness on the finish. Excellent with pasta dishes, lamb or steak.

2 x BLUE RIDGE SAUVIGNON BLANC 2003, MARLBOROUGH

"This vintage tastes fabulous at the moment. Blue Ridge has a surprisingly rich, mouth-filling flavour for a supposedly zesty, fresh grape variety. The lime, pineapple and crunchy pear fruit is terrific, with uncharacteristic depth and staggering length. It is worth every penny. Track this down if you are a sauvignon fan - it will amaze you."

Matthew Jukes

2 x WEST BROOK SAUVIGNON BLANC 2004, MARLBOROUGH

The cooler microclimate of the Marlborough region is ideally suited to producing top quality Sauvignon Blanc. This wine has a full gooseberry/lychee fruit character, with a lingering herbaceous finish. This really is top notch wine.

2 x WEST BROOK RIESLING 2003, MARLBOROUGH

Delightful off-dry wine with citrus, Granny Smith apple and honeysuckle aromas. The fresh, lively palate shows citrus and stone fruit flavours alongside hints of honey and ginger and there is lovely refreshing acidity to balance the sweet fruit characters.

1 x CARRICK PINOT GRIS 2003, CENTRAL OTAGO

A rich wine with good texture and ripe fruit characters and interesting subtleties. Full of aromatics: ripe pears, red apples and old fashioned

roses. The flavours on the palate are of red apples and pears again as well as layers of stone fruit especially nectarines and a touch of almonds.

2 x WITHER HILLS CHARDONNAY 2002, MARLBOROUGH

This Marlborough Reserve Style Chardonnay balances intense spicy fruit aromas with a fresh integrated bouquet. The palate is elegant, with the richness of fruit enhanced by sweet melon flavours.

RRP: £130.05
SPECIAL OFFER PRICE: £99.95

*Price for 12 bottles, including
P&P (UK mainland only).
Next Day Delivery*

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on 01225 322810 to place your
order and quote 'Audley New
Zealand selection' when placing
your order.**