

VIP TOURS of New Zealand

Aotearoa - The Land of the Long White Cloud

CONNECTITALIA 

<https://www.connectitalia-nz.com>

Come with us!

[info@connectitalia-nz.com](mailto:info@connectitalia-nz.com)

# ABOUT CONNECTITALIA-NZ LTD

*Our company's mission is to promote greater liaison between Italy and New Zealand, reflecting the different but complementary backgrounds of the company's two directors, Beniamino Petrosino and Anne Scragg. Our principal focus is planning and escorting exclusive small group tours in Italy but we also welcome travellers from anywhere in the world to visit us in New Zealand where it will be our pleasure to show them the treasures of Aotearoa. Our aim is to provide you with your own New Zealand tour package tailored to meet your particular needs and interests.*

*Our tours are most definitely not of the whistle-stop "Today is Tuesday so it must be Belgium" kind. We pride ourselves in providing you with the time and comfort to really enjoy what you are seeing and doing so you will never feel rushed. Whether you are travelling on your own or with others, you can expect individual care and attention from escorts who are willing to go the extra mile to ensure you have an unforgettable time.*

*We use accredited tour operators to ensure our tours are trouble free and we insist on the highest standards of customer service in all situations throughout our tours. Your comfort and security are of paramount importance to us.*

*Whether you are planning a trip to Italy or a trip to New Zealand with us, it will be our pleasure to look after you throughout your tour. We are confident you will enjoy a unique cultural experience and a lot of fun along the way.*

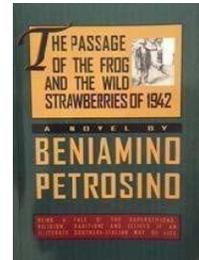


# VACANZE IN AOTEAROA – Come with us!

Beniamino Petrosino



I am the founder of CONNECTITALIA-NZ. I came from Italy to live in New Zealand in the 1980's and have worked as a chef, restaurateur and consultant in the hospitality industry in New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia and the United States of America. I have taught Italian in schools and privately and also English to refugees. In 2003, Hazard Press published my novel "The Passage of the Frog and the Wild Strawberries of 1942" set in the Mezzogiorno regions of Italy where I grew up. In late 2015 I met Anne Scragg when she became one of my Italian language students.



In 2016 we ran a successful cultural programme in Christchurch showcasing many special Italian foods and wines and introducing our guests to delightful Italian locations off the beaten track. Now I am keen to introduce travellers to my second homeland – Aotearoa, where I have lived for most of my adult life.

Anne Scragg



I initially trained as a lawyer and worked in private practice for some years. I had a few years off work while my family was young and then returned to work as an adjudicator and mediator. Over time I became involved in designing and establishing specialist dispute resolution schemes in the public and private sectors. In 2015, I retired from a senior management role with the intention of doing something entirely different. One day my husband came in from the letterbox with one of Beniamino's business cards and I thought Italian language lessons might be just what I needed!

I have been to Italy several times and have loved every visit. I am confident I know what non-Italians need and want when travelling and I want to share my passion for Italy with others. I also want to show our guests from other countries the treasures that my homeland, New Zealand, has to offer and I would be delighted to work with you to plan an unforgettable trip for you through the land of the Lord of the Rings.

## Exclusive Tours of Aotearoa

*"Come with us on an unforgettable journey and let us share with you the wonderful taonga (treasures) of the Land of the Long White Cloud. You will not be disappointed!"*

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# Highlights of Aotearoa

a magnificent scenic journey with Beniamino and Anne



Highlights of Aotearoa The Land of the Long White Cloud  
12 days (11 nights) Price to be advised

On this tour you will:

- Visit the land first discovered by the great Polynesian navigator Kupe 1000 years ago
- Walk barefoot in a forest without the risk of stepping on a snake!
- Wake to the dawn chorus of bellbirds and tuis
- Enjoy the beaches and forests of the far north and the mountains and fiords of the south
- Meet the kiwis – the local people as well as the flightless birds!
- Have an introduction to Maori culture that will inspire and delight you
- Sample freshly caught crayfish by the sea
- See why international film studios choose New Zealand for their locations
- Have the flexibility to tailor extensions to the tour to meet your individual needs
- Choose where you want to spend longer next time and MOST IMPORTANTLY you will have fun! 😊

## Tour Outline

**Dates:** By agreement. The dates of the tour will be adjusted to suit your travel plans. Extensions to the tour are possible.

**Note:** The tour package is a land package only. Overseas flights to suit your individual needs can be arranged for you or you can make your own flight arrangements if you prefer.

TRAVELLING THROUGH THE MOST PICTURESQUE AREAS OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH ISLANDS



On Day 1 of the tour, you will be greeted on your arrival at Auckland International Airport and transferred to your luxury harbour-side hotel where you will spend two nights. Auckland is New



Zealand's largest city, known as 'the City of Sails' and currently the home of the Americas Cup, which is proudly on display in the clubhouse of the Royal NZ Yacht Squadron. You will see where Sir Peter Blake mounted the first successful challenge to win and to defend the Cup from a country outside the United States of America.



On Day 2, we will spend a full day in Auckland looking around the city built on over 50 monogenetic volcanoes, which thankfully are currently dormant! We will also enjoy some of New Zealand's very best foods and wines at a carefully selected restaurant.



On Day 3, we will fly from Auckland to Kerikeri for a superb two-night stay in the stunning Bay of Islands. This is a gorgeous area much beloved by big game fishers and importantly it is also the place where Waitangi is situated. The Treaty of Waitangi was signed by representatives of the British Crown and over 500 Maori leaders in 1840 and it is the foundation document for New Zealand.



At Waitangi you will gain some real insight into Maori culture and tradition and you will see a traditional waka (sea-going canoe) and an exquisitely carved meeting house.



We will visit the delightful seaside town of Russell, known as Kororareka in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, which was the first permanent European settlement and seaport in New Zealand.

On Day 4, you will be able to choose whether to travel by car or by air to the northernmost tip of New Zealand, Cape Reinga, where the waters of the Tasman Sea and the Pacific Ocean meet.



From Cape Reinga, the Maori believe the spirits of the departed begin their final journey to their ancestral homeland of Hawaiki. You might want to try bodyboarding on 90 Mile Beach or visit an ancient Kauri forest. So much to do, so little time!



On Day 5 of the tour, we will sadly leave the Bay of Islands and fly south via Auckland to Rotorua, renowned for its dramatic geothermal activity and Maori cultural events. We will stay in luxurious accommodation in Rotorua for two nights.



On Day 6, we will walk through the Waimangu Volcanic Valley and enjoy a cruise around beautiful Lake Rotomahana, where the renowned Pink and White Terraces were located. Sadly these famous natural wonders of the world were destroyed in a volcanic eruption in 1886. In the evening, you might like to experience a typical Maori hangi meal and a cultural concert.

On Day 7, we will fly to the capital city Wellington at the southern tip of the North Island. We will have only one night here but there will be time to view the waterfront, the Government Beehive building and visit the national museum, Te Papa (Our Container of Treasures).



On Day 8, we will fly from Wellington across Cook Strait to the main city in the South Island, Christchurch, where we will stay for 2 nights in a luxury historic homestead.



There will be time for local sightseeing in this city now well into its recovery phase following the devastating earthquakes in 2010 and 2011.



On Day 9, you may like to travel by road through the rolling hills of North Canterbury to Kaikoura to do some whale watching by boat or helicopter or swim with the dolphins.



You might want to sample some freshly caught crayfish, green-lipped mussels and beer battered chips at Nin's Bin as the locals do.



On Day 10 we will fly from Christchurch to Queenstown in the region of Central Otago, which will be our base for two nights. Queenstown is known as New Zealand's natural playground with its vast range of activities for adrenaline junkies including jet boating, bungee jumping and water rafting.

For the more sedate there are steam boat cruises to sheep stations on the lake, scenic flights or spa and wellness options for those seeking total rest and relaxation. Other temptations include visiting the picturesque village of Arrowtown with its well-preserved Chinese mining settlement from the gold rush days in the 19th Century or playing a round of golf at the world class course at Milford Resort close to where actor Sam Neil has a home.



On Day 11, you might want to take a scenic flight to Milford Sound where you can cruise the majestic fiord and enjoy one of the world's most beautiful scenic destinations. The fiord is known for towering Mitre Peak, rainforests and waterfalls, and it is home to fur seal colonies, penguins and dolphins.



Of course, if you simply cannot choose between the activities on offer, you might want to extend your time in this wonderful area and it will be our pleasure to adjust your schedule accordingly.



You will be our guest throughout this journey through Aotearoa and we want you to make the most of it.

Day 12 is the final day of the tour as currently scheduled and we will fly you back to Christchurch or Auckland depending on your onward travel plans.

WE WILL WORK WITH YOU ON INCLUSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS TO YOUR TOUR PACKAGE BEFORE FINALIZING YOUR TOUR ARRANGEMENTS.

### Tour inclusions

- All accommodation costs including breakfasts.
- All tour travel costs including domestic flights, de-luxe car or minibus transport and associated charges such as fuel, tolls, taxes, with a local driver and all agreed sightseeing choices.
- Pick up at Auckland International Airport and transfer to either Christchurch or Auckland International Airports at the conclusion of the tour
- Local tour guides where needed
- Any specific arrangements by prior agreement

For any queries email

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### Tour exclusions

- Meals and beverages other than those included
- Room service meals and mini- bar refreshments
- Telephone/internet charges
- Individual sightseeing not undertaken as part of the tour
- Expenses incurred on sightseeing trips other than transport costs.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

WE DO NOT ARRANGE TRAVEL INSURANCE. COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED



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