

Penn State - Sustainable Business in New Zealand

Itinerary Highlights

Day 1 - 5 Christchurch

Transfer by coach to your accommodation

Stay in a recently refurbished hotel which is centrally located and promotes both social and environmental sustainability.

Welcome orientation and group dinner

Walking tour of Christchurch

Learn about key sites associated with the earthquakes of 2010 and 2011 as well as the exciting redevelopment of the new Christchurch, which is dynamic and innovative. Hear the story of the city's devastation and its rise from the rubble.



Guest lecture: Destination marketing following a major natural disaster and COVID-19

Learn how various organizations and government bodies have adapted their marketing strategies in a postearthquake environment and since the start of the pandemic, with a focus on sustainability.

Site visit: Sustainability and the business revolution

Visit a leading provider of environmental certification. Learn about the team, their expertise, program offerings and the path to certification. Includes case studies highlighting innovation and the sustainability hot topics in New Zealand.

Site visit: Sustainability specialist from a large transnational retail chain

Learn about the company's sustainability strategy and action plan.

Visit to Hinewai Reserve and Akaroa

Hinewai Reserve was established in 1987 with the intention of returning farmland to native bush. The reserve is now covered in regenerated bush with abundant birdlife and numerous walking tracks. Learn about the reserve before exploring it on foot to view the regeneration firsthand.

Site visit to WikiHouse engineering workshop and lab

Learn about a housing solution that is efficient, adaptable, environmentally friendly, and empowering to local communities. Their solutions address four pillars of sustainability: social, environmental, economic and political. Get hands on with their latest construction project.

Sustainable farm visits

Visit the Canterbury plains for an introduction to livestock farming practices in the region and a chance to talk to local farmers and tour their land.

Day 6 - 8 Kaikoura

Travel by coach to Kaikoura

The journey along the Kaikoura coastline is one of New Zealand's most memorable drives.



Maori cultural experience

Your guide will teach you about Maori customs and traditions and share stories handed down from his ancestors..

Swimming with the dolphins

Don a wetsuit and get into the water with the graceful, curious, and sociable dusky dolphins. Kaikoura is rated the best place in the world to swim with dolphins in their own habitat; you're in for a treat!



Ngai Tahu and tourism

Ngai Tahu is the principal Maori tribe of the South Island. Your presenter will lead a discussion on Maori business ethics, the Maori business model and sustainability issues faced in operating a nature tourism company.

Day 8 - 10 Motueka

Site visit to a certified carboNZeroTM winery

Tour the vineyard and see sustainability practices in action, including how they care for the land and nurture the grapes, through the entire winemaking process and even in how they package and distribute their wines.

A tourism operator's perspective of Abel Tasman National Park

Hear how working in the park has been affected by the 2006 Management Plan and by the introduction of the foreshore tax plus the factors that will be crucial to sustainable use of the park by tourists.

Abel Tasman Kayaks full-day kayak and walking tour

Experience the natural beauty of the Abel Tasman National Park with a walk along the coastal track through native bush and over clear streams, and enjoy a few rest breaks on white sandy beaches. After lunch, swap your walking shoes for your paddle and enjoy a guided kayak trip where you may get up close to wildlife including fur seals and native birds.



Day 10 - 14 Wellington

Transfer by coach from Motueka to Picton

Enjoy a short stop at a scenic reserve and see a giant totara tree amongst the native forest.

Interislander ferry from Picton to Wellington

The sailing between the South and North Islands of New Zealand is renowned for being one of the most beautiful ferry journeys in the world—sit back, relax, and enjoy the view.



Visit an organization that champions social enterprise

As New Zealand's principal intermediary for social enterprise, this organization has been named the strategic partner to Government in the development of the social enterprise sector. They believe that social entrepreneurs and social enterprise are key to building an economy that regenerates the environment and creates social foundations for our people and communities to thrive.

Visit one of New Zealand's leading problem-solving and innovation companies

Their aim is to enable bright people to build brilliant businesses by nourishing entrepreneurial talent and driving innovation.

Guided tour of the Museum of New Zealand

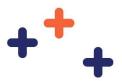
The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa is New Zealand's national museum, renowned for being bicultural, scholarly, innovative, and fun. Explore Te Papa's five collection areas to discover more about New Zealand and the south pacific region: art, history, Pacific, Māori and the natural environment.

Roxy Cinema Presentation

Visit the Roxy cinema, at the heart of "Wellywood." Your host will present a short film show reel, then you will hear about the history of the surrounding area, the cinema, and its place in the film industry.

Weta Workshop tour

Weta Workshop is a five-time Academy Award®-winning concept design studio and physical effects manufacturing facility that services the world's entertainment and creative industries through technology. Weta has played a key role in The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit motion picture trilogies, King Kong, Avatar, The Chronicles of Narnia, and other blockbusters.





New Zealand Parliament tour

Visit Parliament to discover the New Zealand Government's buildings and heritage, to see what happens when the House of Representatives sits, and to learn about New Zealand's democratic processes.

Visit the Wellington chocolate factory

Learn what makes this chocolate factory special from the ethical sourcing of their cocoa beans to their dedication to sustainability in everything from wrappers for their chocolates to staff uniforms. You also get to try some of their delicious chocolate!

Day 15 - 18 Rotorua

Huka Falls

On your coach trip from Wellington to Rotorua, you will stop at the Huka Falls. Just north of Lake Taupo, the Waikato River enters a shallow ravine triggering a great movement of water over a 20metre drop. This results in a stunning burst of water which you can see from several viewing platforms around the falls.

Experience the intersection of adventure tourism and conservation

Make your way with your tour guide through the native prehistoric forest utilizing walking tracks, swing bridges and ziplines. Enjoy views from the canopy above while learning about your tour company's conservation journey, including their efforts at pest eradication and restoring native flora and fauna.

Skyline Gondola ride

Enjoy spectacular views of Lake Rotorua, the city, and the surrounding geothermal landscapes.

Tour a Kiwi hatchery

Visit the largest and most successful kiwi hatching facility in the world. On your tour you will learn about what makes this hatchery the national leader in kiwi husbandry, egg incubation, hatching techniques, and chick rearing. You may be able to see incubated eggs and newly hatched kiwis.

Hike and cruise through a geothermal valley

See volcanic craters, hot water springs, geothermal features, rare and unusual plant life, colorful microbiology, and native birds. A 45-minute lake cruise provides insight to the volcanic history of the valley and surrounding landscape. You will also participate in a service-learning project to protect and nurture this scenic reserve. Alongside qualified staff your work may involve everything from helping replant native seedlings, to pest control, to scientific bird counts for endangered bird species.



Māori Village overnight marae experience

Participate in workshops on Māori arts and culture, eat a hangi meal, attend a cultural performance, and hear stories of Māori myth and legend under the stars.

Day 18 - 21 Auckland

Hobbiton movie set tour and Green Dragon Inn lunch

Enjoy a guided tour of the Hobbiton set from the Lord of the Rings film trilogy. Hear about how it operates as one of the world's most famous film sets, yet remains a working sheep and beef farm. At the conclusion of your tour you'll enjoy a buffet lunch in the Green Dragon Inn.





Chelsea Sugar Factory tour

Walk through the working factory floor and travel around the site on the Chelsea Bay Train. See how raw sugar becomes the finished product customers buy in the supermarket. Taste the syrups Chelsea produces and see the sugar mountain.

Rangitoto Island visit

Take the ferry from Auckland to the city's nearby volcanic island, Rangitoto Island. Enjoy walking tracks to the

summit to take in sweeping views of the Hauraki Gulf or meander through native forest.

Farewell group dinner

Day 22 Auckland to USA

Transfer from accommodation to Auckland Airport