

NEW ZEALAND COASTAL ODYSSEY

THE ULTIMATE EXPEDITION CRUISE
OF THE NEW ZEALAND COAST

EXPEDITION DOSSIER
11 – 23 NOVEMBER 2026



HERITAGE
EXPEDITIONS



BETCHART
EXPEDITIONS INC.

with **AAAAS**, Sigma Xi, & ACS
17050 Montebello Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014

*Book by May 1, 2026
for 20% Savings!*





Discover the hidden gems of Aotearoa/New Zealand and its three main islands (the North Island, South Island, and Stewart Island) on this unforgettable 13-day expedition. From the bright lights of New Zealand's largest city to the geothermal wonderland of Rotorua, Wellington's capital of cool, Dunedin's avant garde fashion labels, Fiordland and Milford Sound's iconic scenery to the adventure playground of Queenstown – this is the ultimate Kiwi adventure to experience it all.

With the 9th longest coastline in the world measuring some 15,000 kilometres you will wind through narrow fiords, circumnavigate small islands, explore secluded bays, and visit quaint seaside towns. Bordering the Tasman Sea and the Pacific Ocean, and once part of Gondwanaland, New Zealand has a fascinating

natural and cultural history from its first Polynesian arrivals through European settlement, early sealing and whaling and world leading conservation efforts. Places of interest include the sunken valleys and towering mountains of Fiordland's Milford, Doubtful and Dusky Sounds; the volcanoes, hot springs and geysers of Rotorua; the 'World's Coolest Little Capital' (Wellington); the scenic playground of the Marlborough Sounds; the Scottish city of Dunedin; the iconic wildlife havens of Stewart Island and nearby predator free Ulva Island; and many Kiwi towns along the way including the French-infused village of Akaroa.

Those looking for a thrilling exploration filled with wildlife encounters will enjoy observations of dolphins and whale watching, exceptional birdwatching including a number of rare endemic species and an albatross colony on the Otago Peninsula. Those with a taste for gourmet delights will enjoy experiencing some of New Zealand's award winning cuisine including the wines of Canterbury and Marlborough and cheese in Akaroa. There will also be an opportunity to walk a section of the iconic Abel Tasman Track, one of New Zealand's 11 great walks.

Our vessel *Heritage Adventurer* is built for exploring regions like New Zealand's intricate coastline, navigating through fiords, cruising up harbours, and allowing for Zodiac cruising to remote and isolated bays. We invite you to join us on this in-depth exploration of New Zealand.

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ITINERARY

Day 1: Auckland

Guests should make their way to the designated hotel where we will spend the first night of the expedition. This evening there will be an informal get-together at the hotel for dinner; an excellent opportunity to meet fellow adventurers on your voyage and some of our expedition team.

Day 2: Auckland/Tauranga

Today we enjoy breakfast in the hotel restaurant and have free time to explore Auckland before lunch and embarking *Heritage Adventurer*. You will have time to settle into your accommodation and familiarise yourself with the ship. You are invited to join the expedition team in the Observation Lounge and up on

the Observation Deck as we set our course to Tauranga and our adventure begins.

Day 3: Tauranga/Rotorua

From our berth in Tauranga we drive inland, passing the rich horticultural region of the Bay of Plenty as we travel to the geothermal heartland of Rotorua. Marvel at the abundance of steam vents, geysers and bubbling mud pools as we explore one of the most geologically active regions on the planet and experience Māori arts, crafts and culture.

Day 4: At Sea

Sailing down the scenic North Island, enjoy a day at sea attending lectures, relaxing on board or looking for whales and dolphins from the Observation Deck, Lounge and Bridge as we sail to Wellington.

Day 5: Wellington

New Zealand's 'coolest little capital', Wellington is an exceptional natural harbour, where *Heritage Adventurer* will be docked in the centre of the action. From here you can easily explore this vibrant city. Visit the cable car, explore the world renowned



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Zealandia nature reserve, discover the Botanic Gardens and visit Te Papa New Zealand's national museum.

Day 6: Abel Tasman

The spiritual home of Heritage Expeditions and one of the best, yet seldom-visited ports of New Zealand, join your naturalists to discover the incredibly beautiful coastal scenery of Abel Tasman National Park exploring the tranquil bays and observing incredible wildlife. Walk a section of the iconic Abel Tasman Track, stopping off at serene beaches and immersing yourself in luscious coastal native bush surrounded by wildlife.

Day 7: Marlborough Sounds

This morning *Heritage Adventurer* sails into the sheltered waters of Marlborough Sounds, a beautiful labyrinth of waterways intersecting the northern shores of the South Island. Famed for the breathtaking beauty of their winding cobalt waterways, iconic landscapes, lush native forests, wildlife and remote coastlines these regions are also rich in early New Zealand history and the location of some of the country's most important conservation efforts. Take the opportunity to explore a coastal trail through the lush regenerating forest and watch for native birds including Saddleback, Parakeets

and Robins on one of the island's nature reserves.

Day 8: Akaroa

Heritage Adventurer will make her way through the Akaroa heads and anchor in the sheltered waters off Canterbury's largest harbour. It was here, beneath the eroded volcanic hills of Banks Peninsula, that the French attempted to settle in 1840. The French connection remains to this day with a certain *je ne sais quoi* imbuing the township of Akaroa. Explore Akaroa, greater Banks Peninsula or one of the local nature walks.

Day 9: Dunedin

This morning sail into the beautiful Otago Harbour, watch closely for

Northern Royal Albatross at the Tairoa Head Albatross Colony. Explore the famed fashion-forward city of Dunedin, the Edinburgh of the south, and its rich history as the gateway to Otago. Explore the scenic Otago Peninsula where New Zealand Sea Lions rest and former Bird of the Year Yellow-eyed Penguins/Hoiho can be spotted in one of their last mainland strongholds, and where the beautiful farmed hills roll down towards white sand beaches.

Day 10: Stewart Island

New Zealand's third island is well off the usual beaten tourist track. It is a wonderfully tranquil place; the scenery of untouched bushland is stunning. We will enjoy a morning



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exploring Ulva Island which is rich in history and wildlife, being a predator-free island since 1997 the bird song and wildlife is some of the best. In Paterson Inlet you will have time to explore the sandy beaches of Boulder Bay and West End Beach or just enjoy some time around Post Office Bay and Sydney Cove. Some of the wildlife you may get to see while walking the tracks on Ulva Island include Stewart Island Robin, Stewart Island Weka, South Island Kaka, Kereru (Wood Pigeon), Mohua (Yellowhead), Red-crowned Parakeet, Fantail, Bellbird and Tui. There are many more species that may also be seen, our knowledgeable expedition guides

will be listening for bird calls and keeping a close watch in overhead canopies and the surrounding shrubs to identify further species. During our time in Paterson Inlet there will also be the opportunity to explore the quirky town centre Oban in Halfmoon Bay where a drink with a view can be enjoyed at the iconic South Sea Hotel. There are also some beautiful walks in the surrounding forests.

Days 11 & 12: Fiordland

We have two days to explore the incredible wilderness of Fiordland in the south-west corner of the South Island. This is an area rich in history, majestic scenery and abundant in

wildlife. Fiordland was well known to local Māori, with the demi-god Tūteraki-whanoa being said to have used his adze, Te Hamo, to carve out the region's fiords. Captain Cook and his crew landed here on *HMS Resolution* in 1773, they were the first Europeans to visit Fiordland, subsequently spending five weeks in Dusky Sound. Cook's records of his discovery and maps attracted sealers and whalers. Historically this region is very important and shaped the future of the country. Fiordland's coast is only accessible by sea, making it the most remote region of New Zealand's mainland. Waterfalls, streams, rivers, and fiords are enveloped with misty



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veils that come and go, revealing steep gradients of mountain peaks and sheltered valleys. A rugged terrain, the thickly forested floors are covered with ferns, lichens, and mosses. Bottlenose Dolphins, Fiordland Crested Penguins and Little Blue Penguins are all residents of the fiords; during our time here we will look for them.

Our schedule gives us the flexibility to visit as much as possible, areas we plan to explore include Doubtful, Dusky and Milford Sound, Acheron Passage, Astronomer's Point and Pickersgill Harbour. Enjoy a stunning sunset cruise in one of New Zealand's most iconic destinations, Milford Sound. During our time in Dusky Sound there

will be the optional opportunity to experience an unforgettable helicopter flight through the Sound swooping down alongside Cooper Island and Cook Channel with a landing on Mt Pender where spectacular vistas across constellations of islands stretching into the horizon and dotting the winding fiords can be enjoyed. Our final plan will be determined by the weather. The Captain and Expedition Leader will work hard to make the best use of our time in this incredible region of New Zealand, including areas that a few New Zealanders have visited.

Day 13: Invercargill/Queenstown

Early this morning we will arrive in the Port of Bluff. After a final

breakfast we bid farewell to our fellow voyagers and take a complimentary coach transfer to either Invercargill or Queenstown Airports. In case of unexpected delays due to weather and/or port operations we ask you not to book any onward travel until after midday from Invercargill and after 3pm from Queenstown.

Note: During our voyage, circumstances may make it necessary or desirable to deviate from the proposed itinerary. This can include poor weather and opportunities for making unplanned excursions. Your Expedition Leader will keep you fully informed. This tour offers a variety of activities and excursions. Your personal interests will determine which of these you wish to join. Please note that some activities and excursions will run at similar times, and it will not be possible to participate in both. Accordingly, refunds for excursions and missed landings are not available. Voyages are planned and scheduled pending final regulatory approval.



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© Steve Bradley



© Fiona Wardle



© Dana Brown

HERITAGE ADVENTURER

Heritage Adventurer is a true pioneering expedition vessel of exceptional pedigree often referred to as the 'Grande Dame of Exploration Cruising'.

Purpose built for adventure in 1991 at Finland's Rauma shipyard and specifically designed for Polar exploration, *Heritage Adventurer* (formerly known as *MS Hanseatic*) is 124-metres long, boasts the highest passenger-ship ice-class rating (1A Super) and an impressive history of Polar and remote region exploration making her perfect for Heritage Expeditions signature experiential expedition travel.

Originally designed to accommodate 184 guests, we now welcome just 140 expeditioners to create a spacious, comfortable on board experience and continuation of the exceptional, personalised expedition experience synonymous with the company. While a fleet of 14 Zodiacs ensures

all guests are able to maximise their expedition experience. On board, enjoy stylish, sophisticated accommodations spanning 4 decks, visit the captain and crew in the Bridge with our Open Bridge Policy and dine on gourmet fare from leading Australasian chefs.

Watch your adventure unfold from numerous spectacular indoor and outdoor viewing locations including *Heritage Adventurer's* famed Observation Lounge resplendent with 270-degree views and join our world-renowned team of naturalists, botanists, historians and experts as they interpret the natural and human history discovered during each voyage, as well as hosting regular lectures.

And should you require a little R&R, unwind in the library, pool, gym, hot tub, sauna and steam room, indulge in some retail therapy or find a quiet place to enjoy a coffee or cocktail from the café and bar.

DATES

Voyage #HA261111
11 – 23 November 2026

PRICES USD\$

Heritage Suite **\$17,000 pp***

Located on Deck 6, Heritage Suites are an expansive 44m² and feature large double panoramic windows, king bed, large living area with a sofa, coffee table and chairs and grand marble bathroom with a double basin, bathtub and shower, large writing desk, floor to ceiling cabinetry for storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Worsley Suite **\$12,115 pp***

Located on Deck 6, Worsley Suites are a spacious 22m² and feature large panoramic windows, king or two single beds, comfortable chaise-style lounge suite, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Superior Single **\$12,115 pp***

Superior Single Cabins on Deck 5 are a spacious 22m² and feature large panoramic windows, king bed, comfortable lounge, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Superior Triple **\$7,535 pp***

Superior Triple Cabins on Deck 5 are a spacious 22m² and feature large panoramic windows, two single beds and one Pullman bed which folds down from the wall, comfortable lounge, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Superior Deck 5 **\$9,435 pp***

Superior Cabins on Deck 5 are a spacious 22m² and feature large panoramic windows, king or two single beds, comfortable lounge, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Superior Deck 4 **\$8,920 pp***

Superior Cabins on Deck 4 are a spacious 22m² and feature large panoramic windows, king or two single beds, comfortable lounge, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Main Deck Single **\$11,230 pp***

Main Deck Single Cabins on Deck 3 are a spacious 22m² and feature two porthole windows, king bed, comfortable lounge, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

Main Deck Triple **\$6,285 pp***

Main Deck Triple Cabins on Deck 3 are a spacious 22m² and feature two porthole windows, two single beds and one Pullman bed which folds down from the wall, comfortable lounge, writing desk, private en-suite with shower, ample storage and a flat screen entertainment system.

*The price listed includes the additional local payment of US\$480 (All prices are per person in US\$).

ADDITIONAL OPTION

Helicopter Excursion **US\$485 pp***

PRICE INCLUDES

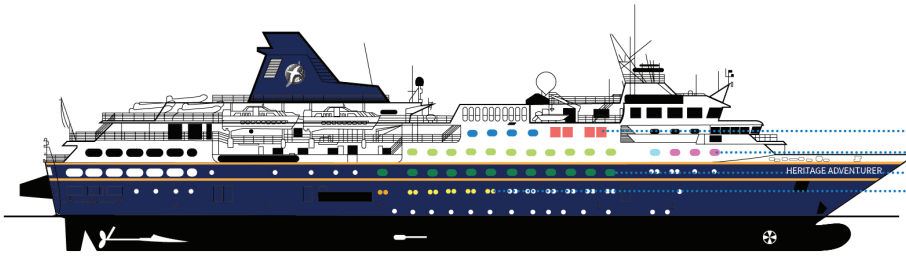
Local payment, pre/post cruise transfers, one night hotel accommodation in a twin share room (incl. dinner/breakfast), all on board ship accommodation with meals house beer, wine and soft drinks with lunch and dinner and all expedition shore excursions. Programme of lectures by noted naturalists.

PRICE EXCLUDES

All items of a personal nature, laundry, drinks, gratuities. Helicopter excursion, International/ domestic flights, visas and travel insurance.

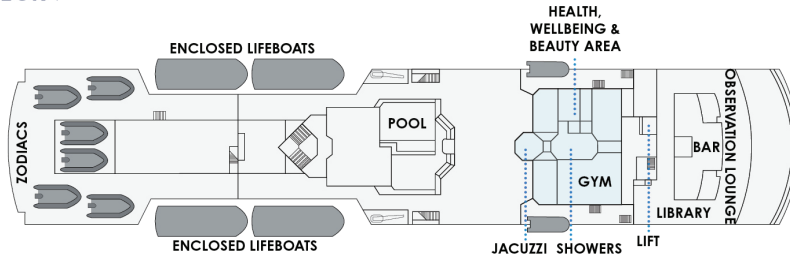
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Heritage Adventurer Deck Plan

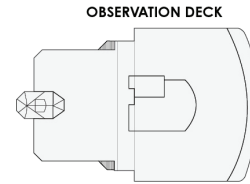


DECK 6: ● WORSLEY SUITE ● HERITAGE SUITE
DECK 5: ● SUPERIOR ● SUPERIOR TRIPLE ● SUPERIOR SINGLE
DECK 4: ● SUPERIOR
DECK 3: ● MAIN DECK TRIPLE ● MAIN DECK SINGLE

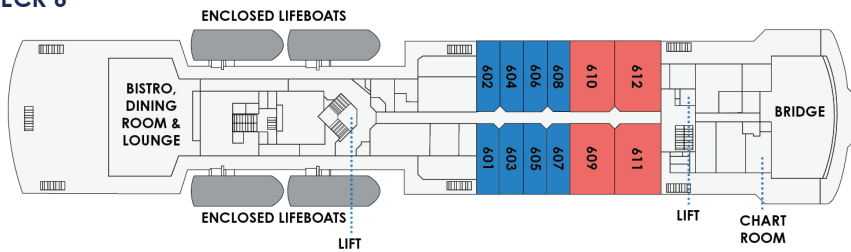
DECK 7



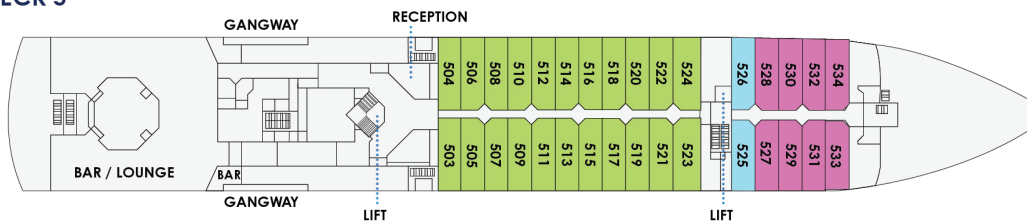
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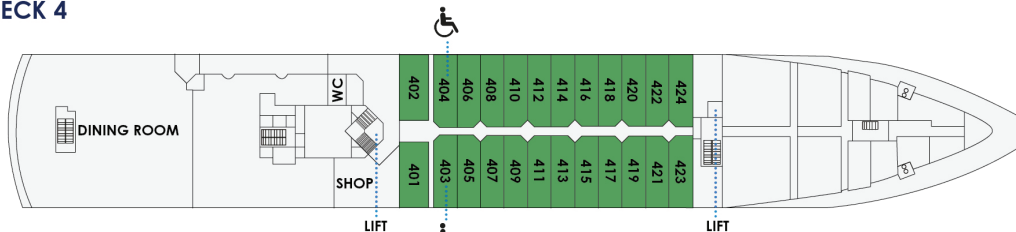
DECK 6



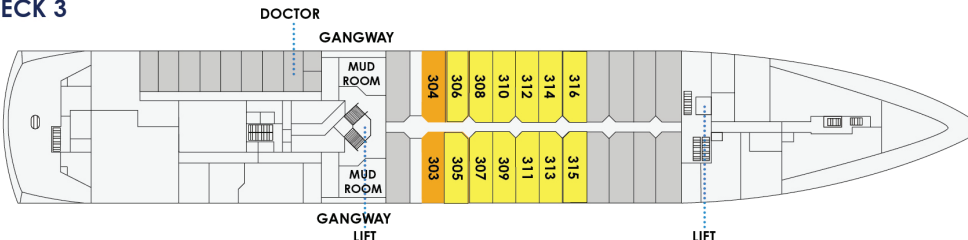
DECK 5



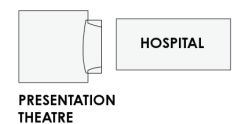
DECK 4



DECK 3



DECK 2



SUITE CATEGORIES

- HERITAGE SUITE
- SUPERIOR SINGLE
- DECK 4 SUPERIOR
- MAIN DECK SINGLE
- WORSLEY SUITE
- DECK 5 SUPERIOR
- SUPERIOR TRIPLE
- MAIN DECK TRIPLE

BETCHART EXPEDITIONS INC.
with **AAAAS, Sigma Xi, & ACS**
17050 Montebello Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014



Call Betchart Expeditions with your questions and for reservations!
Phone (800) 252-4910 or (408) 252-4910 or Email: info@BetchartExpeditions.com
Betchart Expeditions Inc. - 17050 Montebello Road - Cupertino, CA 95014
www.betchartexpeditions.com

COSTS & CONDITIONS

Voyage Fee:

<u>Category:</u>	<u>Published</u>	<u>Discounted Fare book by May 1. 2026</u>	<u>Deposit</u>
Heritage Suite, Deck 6	\$17,000	\$13,696 per person based on 2 per cabin	\$4,500 pp
Worsley Suite, Deck 6	\$12,115	\$ 9,788 per person based on 2 per cabin	\$3,500 pp
Superior Single, Deck 5	\$12,115	\$ 9,788 per person based on 1 per cabin	\$3,500 pp
Superior Triple, Deck 5	\$ 7,535	\$ 6,124 per person based on 3 per cabin	\$2,500 pp
Superior, Deck 5	\$ 9,435	\$ 7,644 per person based on 2 per cabin	\$2,500 pp
Superior, Deck 4	\$ 8,920	\$ 7,232 per person based on 2 per cabin	\$2,500 pp
Main Deck Single, Deck 3	\$11,230	\$ 9,080 per person based on 1 per cabin	\$3,500 pp
Main Deck Triple, Deck 3	\$ 6,285	\$ 5,124 per person based on 3 per cabin	\$2,500 pp

Optional Helicopter Excursion \$485 per person

Voyage Fee Includes: Local payment, pre/post cruise transfers, one-night hotel accommodations in a twin share room (incl. dinner/breakfast), all on board ship accommodation with meals, house beer, wine and soft drinks with lunch and dinner, and all expedition shore excursions. Program of lectures by noted naturalists.

Voyage Fee Does Not Include: International/domestic flights; independent transfers; pre/post extensions; Helicopter excursion; passport, visas, required travel insurance and all items of a personal nature; drinks, phone calls, laundry, gratuities and administration.

Questions, Reservations, Deposits, and Payments: To reserve your place on the New Zealand Coastal Odyssey Voyage, November 11-23, 2026, please phone Lori at Betchart Expeditions Inc. **(408) 252-4910** or **(800) 252-4910** or email: lori@betchartexpeditions.com.

To confirm your place: Advance payment as listed above is payable by check to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Receipt of advance payment and reservation/booking form, indicate your acceptance of Terms & Conditions. The final payment is due to Betchart Expeditions Inc by June 30, 2026.

Cancellations & Refunds: The initial deposit is refundable until January 31, 2026, less a handling fee of \$950 per person. Cancellation after January 31, 2026 deposit is fully forfeited. There is no refund for any cancellation after June 30 2026, and any unpaid balance is due immediately. No refunds are made for unused services.

Responsibility: Betchart Expeditions Inc. acts only as agent for the passenger with respect to transportation and hotels and exercises every care possible. Betchart can assume no liability for injury, damage, delay, loss, accident, or irregularity in connection with the services of any airplane, ship, motorcoach, or any other conveyance used in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to substitute another leader of similar expertise or to cancel any tour prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded with no further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Prices quoted in this brochure are per person, in USD. The price of the program is based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. It is understood that the air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance.

Please mail the reservation form, Booking Form and your deposit check for (see below) per person to:

Betchart Expeditions Inc., 17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014.

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RESERVATIONS

#1758

YES! I/We want to join the **New Zealand Coastal Odyssey Voyage, November 11-23, 2026** offered by Betchart Expeditions Inc. Please reserve _____ space(s). As a deposit, I/we have enclosed a check for \$_____ (see above) per person, payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership (please circle): AAAS Sigma Xi ACS Planetary Society Other

Category (in order of preference 1st – 2nd – 3rd choice)

_____ Heritage Suite, Deck 6	_____ Superior, Deck 5
_____ Worsley Suite, Deck 6	_____ Superior, Deck 4
_____ Superior Single, Deck 5	_____ Main Deck Single, Deck 3
_____ Superior Triple, Deck 5	_____ Main Deck Triple, Deck 3

Cabin Occupancy: _____ Twin _____ Single _____ Triple
 _____ Share (___with a friend, or ___pair with a room-mate or room-mates)

_____ Please send details for the Optional Helicopter Excursion

Please mail Reservation Form & Deposit Check to: **New Zealand 2026**
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014