NEW ZEALAND

MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAINS, LUMINOUS LAKES AND BOUNDLESS BEAUTY

January 6 to 19, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
I’ve done this myself—flown the length of New Zealand’s North and South Islands aboard a private chartered airplane—and it remains one of the most memorable trips of my travel career. There is simply no better way to see the many wonders of this beautiful and unspoiled country: its snowy alpine peaks, shimmering glaciers, steaming thermal pools, unusual plants and animals, lush rain forests and sophisticated cities. We’ve arranged a full array of local experiences that will show you a New Zealand few travelers see. Plus you’ll travel in the company of Stanford professors Pamela Matson and Peter Vitousek, who will share with us their insights on climate and landforms of New Zealand and much, much more. I invite you to join us on a trip I promise you will never forget.

BRET S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

FLY the length of New Zealand aboard our private chartered Convair 580 airplane, watching as the country’s diverse landscapes unfold dramatically below us.

TRAVERSE New Zealand’s majestic Southern Alps on the TranzAlpine train, considered one of the top train journeys in the world.

TASTE some of New Zealand’s internationally acclaimed wines in the Marlborough region during a private winery visit.

MARVEL at the dramatic sweep of mountains and sea as we sail across the sparkling, deep-blue Milford Sound.

COVER: MILFORD SOUND

ROTORUA MAORI CARVING
Professors **PAMELA MATSON** and **PETER VITOUSEK**, our popular husband-and-wife faculty team, have worked in the area of environment and sustainability for more than 20 years. Pamela is a thought leader in the emerging field of sustainability science. She and her students and collaborators have worked on sustainability of agricultural systems, vulnerability of particular people and places to climate change, and the consequences of tropical deforestation on climate and water systems. Her multidisciplinary teams of researchers, managers and other decision makers have developed agricultural approaches that reduce environmental impacts while maintaining livelihoods and human well-being. Peter and his laboratory have worked on the global cycles of nitrogen and phosphorus, and how they are altered by human activity; on biological invasions by exotic species and how they can change the functioning of whole ecosystems; and on the development and sustainability of agricultural systems in Polynesia, prior to European contact. Peter co-directs the First Nations Futures Program at Stanford; the program is a consortium of New Zealand Maori, Native Hawaiian and Alaska Native organizations that provides training in leadership and resource management—we will meet Maori fellows and elders on this trip. Peter and Pamela are members of of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Winners of numerous awards for their teaching and research, they have educated and fascinated travelers on numerous Travel/Study programs. On this program they will lecture on the climate and landforms of New Zealand, indigenous resource management, global environmental change as it plays out in the Pacific, and transitions to sustainability in New Zealand, on the Stanford campus and around the entire planet.

**Pamela Matson**
- Naramore Dean of the School of Earth, Energy, and Environmental Sciences, Stanford University
- Richard and Rhoda Goldman Chair of Environmental Studies at Stanford
- Senior fellow, Woods Institute for Environment at Stanford
- Recipient, MacArthur Award

**Peter Vitousek**
- Clifford G. Morrison Professor of Population and Resource Studies, Stanford University
- Director, Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources at Stanford
- Recipient, Japan Prize

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“This trip was a wonderful variety of experiences: magnificent views, great company, and Pam and Peter were exceptional faculty leaders!”

**MARY FIEDLER, NEW ZEALAND BY PRIVATE AIR, 2011**

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**STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY**

**SIGN UP ONLINE:** alumni.stanford.edu/trip?newzealand2017

**OR BY PHONE:** (650) 725-1093
Itinerary

FRIDAY TO SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 TO 8
U.S. / QUEENSTOWN, NEW ZEALAND
Depart the U.S. on Friday and fly across the international date line en route to New Zealand. Arrive in Queenstown on Sunday and transfer to our hotel. Take a privately guided walking tour of the nearby historic gold mining town, Arrowtown. Continue this afternoon on a breathtaking jet boat ride through the dramatic and narrow canyons on the famous Shotover River. Enjoy our welcome reception and dinner this evening at our hotel. MILLBROOK RESORT (1/8: L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 9
QUEENSTOWN / MILFORD SOUND
Fly from Queenstown to the Milford Sound in a light aircraft, experiencing panoramic views of the alpine scenery, lush rain forests and Milford Sound, often described as the “eighth wonder of the world.” Upon arrival, board a shared luxury vessel and cruise the whole length of the Milford Sound to the Tasman Sea. Arriving back in Queenstown, visit the Kiwi Birdlife Park, devoted to helping conserve New Zealand’s native fauna through advocacy, captive breeding and rehabilitation. The park houses a number of protected species, including the elusive Kiwi. The animals dwell in a hidden sanctuary of trees, bush and native trails right in the middle of the hustle and bustle of Queenstown. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon riding the gondola in Queenstown or relaxing at our hotel. MILLBROOK RESORT (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
QUEENSTOWN / FRANZ JOSEF
This morning we begin our excursion up the “Wild West Coast” of South Island, driving past Wanaka and the stunning Hawea and Wanaka lakes before heading over Haast Pass. We continue our drive up to the jewel in the crown of New Zealand’s scenic wonders—the magnificent Lake Matheson, famous for its reflections of New Zealand’s highest peaks, Mount Cook and Mount Tasman, then continue on to Franz Josef glacier. While many glaciers worldwide have been retreating, this glacier still flows almost to the sea, making it a rare and unique relic of the last Ice Age. There are several good glacier viewpoints accessible via easy short walks. Stay this evening in the nearby small town of Franz Josef. TE WAONUI FOREST RETREAT (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
FRANZ JOSEF
This morning, weather permitting, take an optional helicopter flightseeing tour, at additional cost, of the glacier and the surrounding area. Following lunch, go on a guided walk through a regenerating rain forest and a glacier valley on our way to the foot of Franz Josef Glacier, where we’ll be rewarded with spectacular views of the rapidly changing terminal face of the glacier. TE WAONUI FOREST RETREAT (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
FRANZ JOSEF / GREYMOUTH / CHRISTCHURCH
This morning continue our drive along the West Coast, stopping to visit the artistic town of Hokitika. After a lunch at leisure continue on to Greymouth and take a scenic train journey aboard the TranzAlpine, its route rated as one of the top six train journeys in the world. We travel from the West Coast across the Southern Alps to Christchurch on the East Coast. HOTEL MONTREAL (B,D)
FRIDAY, JANUARY 13
CHRISTCHURCH
Today enjoy a private walking tour of Christchurch’s Botanic Gardens and punting on the Avon, followed by free time to explore this picturesque city. This afternoon visit Quake City, a comprehensive multi-sensory museum that gives a fantastic overview of the 2010 and 2011 seismic events. Enjoy time at leisure before joining members of the Ngai Tahu iwi (or tribe), who will share with us the story of Maori development within New Zealand. HOTEL MONTREAL (B,D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
CHRISTCHURCH / BLENHEIM
This morning take our first flight on the Convair 580 to the northern end of South Island, landing in Blenheim. With more than 70 wineries, various boutique breweries, a world-class distillery, and an incredible selection of cafes and restaurants, Marlborough really is a “gourmet paradise.” Upon arrival visit the Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre, which houses a display like no other. This evening enjoy wine tasting at a vineyard and learn about this region’s world-famous sauvignon blanc prior to a wine-pairing dinner. MARLBOROUGH SCENIC HOTEL (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
BLENHEIM / MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS
This morning depart for a farm tour to observe a wool shearing demonstration, watch sheep being worked by farm dogs, and learn about New Zealand’s agriculture and its role in the local and global economy. This afternoon cruise Marlborough Sounds and, after a stop for lunch, spend a relaxing afternoon opting to walk through native forest, swim off the beach, kayak the clear waters to discover some of the local bays or relax on our lodge’s sun-drenched patios or relax on our. Continue to the Te Papa National Museum of New Zealand for a guided tour of the “Awesome Forces” exhibition. Enjoy the afternoon and evening at leisure. THE AMORA HOTEL (B)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
WELLINGTON / ROTORUA / AUCKLAND
This morning we take a short flight to New Zealand’s Geothermal Region, Rotorua. Take a guided tour of Te Puia, a place of gushing waters, steaming vents, boiling mud and spectacular geysers. Our local Maori hosts lead us on a privately guided tour of Ohinemutu, where descendants of the original inhabitants of this ancient Maori Village still live today. Visit St. Faith’s Church and enjoy access to areas not open to the public, such as the interior of the Te Papaiouru Marae (meeting house). Bid farewell to Rotorua in the late afternoon as we board our flight for Auckland. STAFFORD PLAZA AUCKLAND (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
AUCKLAND / U.S.
This morning visit the Auckland museum to view the most extensive collection of Maori artifacts in the world. This is a quiet place of reflection where key symbols that link the land and the spiritual past of the indigenous Maori to the present culture can be found. This afternoon board homeward-bound flights, crossing the international date line en route and arriving in the U.S. on the same day. (B)

MONDAY, JANUARY 16
BLENHEIM / WELLINGTON
Depart South Island and fly to the nation’s capital, Wellington, on the southern end of North Island. Visit “The Beehive” Parliament Building to learn about New Zealand government and the innovative technology used to “quake-proof” the city’s historic buildings. Continue to the Te Waiheke Sculpture Park that unites art and nature. Following lunch at a boutique vineyard, tour a local artisan olive oil producer’s facility. Tonight celebrate our adventure at a fabulous farewell cocktail reception and dinner. STAFFORD PLAZA AUCKLAND (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
AUCKLAND
Cruise across the harbor this morning to Waiheke Island, located in the Hauraki Gulf. Here we take a guided walking tour of Waiheke’s unique sculpture park that unites art and nature. Following lunch at a boutique vineyard, tour a local artisan olive oil producer’s facility. Tonight celebrate our adventure at a fabulous farewell cocktail reception and dinner. STAFFORD PLAZA AUCKLAND (B,L,D)
Optional Extensions

JANUARY 4 TO 8
PRE-TRIP EXTENSION TO QUEENSTOWN
Begin a few days before the start of our main program in Queenstown, the “adventure capital” of New Zealand. Enjoy a guided walk on the Arrow River and an all-day excursion to the Mount Aspiring National Park, which includes a 22-mile jet boat ride up the Dart River into the heart of the primeval native forest. Conclude with visits to Queenstown’s many art studios before joining with the rest of our fellow travelers.

JANUARY 19 TO 21
POST-TRIP EXTENSION TO THE BAY OF ISLANDS
Transfer to the Auckland airport for a domestic flight to the Bay of Islands. Begin this post-trip exploration of the area in the old whaling town and New Zealand’s first capital, Ruissel. Learn of the history behind the Treaty of Waitangi, the original founding document of the early settlers and the Maori. Visit the Kauri Forest before enjoying a scenic helicopter ride over the Bay’s turquoise waters, islands and famous “hole in the rock.”

Details will be sent to confirmed passengers.

Our Private Convair 580 Jet-prop

Flying by private plane is safe, comfortable and convenient. Because our plane is able to land at nearly every airport in New Zealand, we can enjoy a maximum amount of time at our destinations since ground support and waiting times are kept to an absolute minimum. Our Convair 580 jet-prop is a well-appointed, spacious, passenger aircraft seating up to 46 people and featuring leather seats with ample leg room. Pressurized and fully air-conditioned, the Convair 580 is equipped with a full-service galley, and professionally trained flight attendants provide personalized in-flight service.

PLEASE NOTE: During our flights within New Zealand aboard the Convair 580, there is a strict luggage limit per person of 45 pounds for one checked bag and 10 pounds for one carry-on bag.
DATES
January 6 to 19, 2017 (14 days)

SIZE
This program can accommodate 41 participants. Single accommodations are limited; please call for availability.

COST
$9,995 per person, double occupancy
$11,995 per person, single occupancy
*Association nonmembers add $300 per person

INCLUDED
11 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations ■ 11 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 9 dinners ■ Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions ■ Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities ■ All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary ■ Four internal flights in New Zealand aboard a privately chartered Convair 580 aircraft, with baggage handling of one checked bag (not to exceed 45 pounds) and one carry-on bag (not to exceed 10 pounds) ■ Light aircraft flight between Queenstown and Milford Sound on 1/9 ■ Services of the Convair 580 flight crew ■ Gratuities to porters, guides, drivers and plane crew for all group activities ■ Transfers and baggage handling on arrival and departure days ■ Airport fees and embarkation taxes on charter flights ■ Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance ■ Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information ■ Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

NOT INCLUDED
International and U.S. domestic airfare ■ Passport and visa fees ■ Immunization costs ■ Meals and beverages other than those specified as included ■ Independent and private transfers ■ Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance ■ Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

AIR ARRANGEMENTS
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare on United Airlines from San Francisco to Queenstown, New Zealand, and return from Auckland, New Zealand, is approximately $1,750 as of March 2016 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

WHAT TO EXPECT
We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding and busy with several early-morning departures. Daily programs involve one to three miles of walking, with sometimes uneven terrain, such as that found at the geothermal areas in Rotorua. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000 deposit is required to hold space for the New Zealand program. A $200-per-person deposit is required to hold space for each of the optional pre- and post-trip extensions. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?newzealand2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a paid guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. To purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in March 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
New Zealand is an amazing place visually and socially. The use of the small plane made it so much easier to see more and do more. No wonder it sells out year after year.

ANN DETTWILER, NEW ZEALAND BY PRIVATE AIR, 2015