



## **Canterbury Hotspots & Backroads Tour** **3 nights / 4 days**

### **Introduction**

The Canterbury province offers the keen road cyclist an amazing variety of scenic touring options.

We have chosen a route that takes you to some of the region's most well known 'hotspots' with the added bonus of the cycling being on the less busy 'Backroads'.

This fully escorted road cycle tour ensures you can cycle the 'highlights' in a relatively short time, but with the option of riding in the support vehicle whenever you feel the need.

We combine scenic cycling with quality accommodation and include breakfast and lunch daily. A highlight of the Tour is Whale watching in Kaikoura.



### **Day 1 Christchurch to Hanmer Springs**

We ask you to be at the 'Pacific Cycle Tours' office in Christchurch by 9am, where you meet your Guide. fit your bikes and have a tour briefing.

By 10.30am we depart 'The Garden City' in our escort Van, driving north until we reach the small farming town of Amberley. We now set off on our bikes and head north-west towards the hills, stopping for a picnic lunch when we reach the Waipara River. As we leave the 'flat riding' behind, we wind our way through the rolling hills of this picturesque countryside before reaching Hawarden – another small farming town.

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We drive the rest of the way on the main road to the well known town of Hanmer Springs, where since 1859 these thermal springs have attracted visitors seeking to relax, unwind and ease their aches and pains in the soothing mineral waters.

Accommodation: Hanmer Springs Scenic View Motel

Meals: Lunch

Riding km/time: 30-75km / 2-3.5 hours

### **Day 2 Hanmer Springs to Kaikoura**

We leave the quaint Alpine Town around 8.30am and drive to the small village of Waiau. We hop on our bikes and continue north on this inland country road, with the mountains rising up on either side of us. There are plenty of picturesque picnic spots along the way where we can stop for lunch.

We arrive at the popular coastal town of Kaikoura mid to late afternoon and check into The "Panorama Motel" - situated at the sea promenade with views to the Pacific Ocean.



Accommodation: Panorama Motels

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch

Riding km/time: 30-75km / 2-3.5 hours

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### Day 3 Kaikoura to Christchurch

An early start this morning as we must be at 'The Whaleway Station' by 7.15am for our included Whale Watch tour, which is a highlight for many visitors to New Zealand. We are back on land by 10.45am where our escort van is waiting. We drive south towards Christchurch along the Coastal highway where we will often see seals basking on the rocks.



By lunchtime we are at the well known winery region of Waipara, where we stop at the popular 'Canterbury House Winery' for a sumptuous and leisurely lunch (included). We aim to be back at your Christchurch Hotel by late afternoon, allowing some free time for shopping or sightseeing.

Accommodation: Cotswold Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast and Lunch  
Riding km/time: no riding



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## **Day 4 Christchurch and departure**

There is some great cycling around Christchurch's Port Hills, so this morning (at 9am) we give you the option of a scenic ride along the summit road, finishing with a café lunch at the seaside suburb of Sumner Beach. Then cycle back to the Pacific Cycle Tours office by 2pm where your Tour finishes.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch (for those on the morning ride)  
Riding km/time: 25kms / 2 hours

**Please note that your trip may differ from the above itinerary either to better suit the needs of the group, or due to circumstances beyond our control such as the weather.**

### **Tour includes:**

- 3 overnight stays in excellent accommodation (3-4 star NZ Standard)
- Breakfast (days 2, 3 & 4)
- Lunch (days 1-4)
- Whale watching (day 3)
- Wine tasting at Canterbury House (day 3)
- Tour guide
- Support vehicle & Luggage transfer
- Multi geared Hybrid Road bike with panier

**Minimum Group Size:** 4 people

### **Tour Grading -**



### **Gradings**

1 – Easy, 2 – Moderate, 3 – Medium, 4 – Challenging, 5 - Extreme

### **Bike Options:**

We provide you with a Specialised Sirrus or Trek 7200 Hybrid Road bike. Should you require one of our other models, a surcharge may be payable. For more information on our bikes, including hybrid bikes, mountain bikes and road bikes request our information sheet or follow this link:

<http://www.bike-nz.com/bikes/>

**For the latest departure dates and pricing visit our website:**

<http://www.bike-nz.com/>