I’ve done this myself – flown the length of New Zealand’s North and South Islands aboard a private chartered airplane – and it was 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: snowy alpine peaks, shimmering glaciers, steaming thermal pools, unusual plants and animals, lush rainforests and sophisticated cities. We’ve arranged a host of local experiences that will show you a New Zealand few travelers see. Plus you’ll travel in the company of two leading researchers on sustainability and the environment, Pamela Matson and Peter Vitousek. 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, watching as the views of the country’s diverse landscapes unfold dramatically below us.

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

VISIT a traditional sheep ranch to watch a sheepdog demonstration and savor the delectables of a traditional Kiwi barbecue.

MARVEL at the dramatic vista of mountains and sea as we sail across the deep-blue Milford Sound.
Itinerary

THURSDAY TO SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 TO 8
U.S. / CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND
Depart the U.S. on Thursday and fly across the international date line en route to New Zealand. Arrive in Christchurch, the second-largest city in New Zealand, on Saturday and transfer to our hotel. Considered New Zealand’s “most English city,” Christchurch boasts leafy parks and exquisite flower gardens. After lunch, tour the magnificent Christchurch Botanical Gardens and then enjoy a punt on the River Avon, which flows quietly under Victorian stone bridges through the heart of town. Enjoy a welcome reception and dinner this evening.

THE MILLENNIUM CHRISTCHURCH (JAN 6, L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9
CHRISTCHURCH
Today visit the Canterbury Museum’s Antarctic Exhibition to learn of New Zealand’s historic involvement with the ice continent. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure for independent activities; stroll through the Cultural Precinct of the Worcester Boulevard or visit the bustling weekend crafts market at the Art Centre. This evening board the Christchurch Tramway for a tour of the city en route to dinner. THE MILLENNIUM CHRISTCHURCH (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 10
CHRISTCHURCH / GREYMOUTH
Travel across the scenic Southern Alps via the famous TranzAlpine train to Greymouth on New Zealand’s west coast. Continue by coach down the “Wild West Coast” of the South Island to take in one of the area’s major attractions – the Franz Josef Glacier. Widely regarded as the gem of New Zealand’s west coast glaciers, the 7.5-mile-long glacier is unique in that it descends from the Southern Alps to less than 1,000 feet above sea level and is set amid the greenery and lushness of a temperate rainforest.

TE WAOULI FOREST RETREAT (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12
FRANZ JOSEF / QUEENSTOWN
We continue our drive down the west coast today and, if time permits, we stop at the Fox Glacier, located a few miles south of the Franz Josef Glacier. Continue on to visit magnificent Lake Matheson. Famous for its reflections of New Zealand’s higher peaks, Aoraki-Mount Cook and Mount Tasman, Lake Matheson is considered to be the jewel in the crown of New Zealand’s scenic wonders. Continue through the scenic Haast Pass and view the stunning Lake Hawea and Lake Wanaka before arriving in Queenstown, considered by many to be the “adventure capital of the world.”

CROWN PLAZA QUEENSTOWN (B,L,D)
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13
QUEENSTOWN
Travel across Lake Wakatipu aboard the historic steamship, TSS Earnslaw, to the Walter Peak Sheep Station. Following a hearty morning tea, watch a sheep dog demonstration and learn about farm life in New Zealand. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure or choose one of many options available. Ride the Skyline Gondola up the mountain for a bird’s-eye view of the town and Lake Wakatipu or take a guided walk along Bob’s Cove. Or enjoy an exhilarating speedboat trip or give bungee jumping a try. Shops and restaurants abound along the waterfront of this city.
CROWN PLAZA QUEENSTOWN (B)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14
QUEENSTOWN / MILFORD SOUND / QUEENSTOWN
Fly to Manapouri and take a scenic drive up the Milford Road. Cruise the full length of Milford Sound, often described as the “eighth wonder of the world.” Over lunch, marvel at New Zealand’s unparalleled dramatic scenery, prior to returning late this afternoon to Manapouri for our flight back to Queenstown. CROWN PLAZA QUEENSTOWN (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15
QUEENSTOWN / BLENHEIM
Visit the Kiwi Birdlife Park this morning, devoted to helping conserve New Zealand’s native fauna through advocacy, captive breeding and rehabilitation. The park holds some of New Zealand’s protected species, including the elusive Kiwi. Then fly to Blenheim, located in the Marlborough region at the northern tip of South Island. With over 70 wineries, a range of boutique breweries and a world-class distillery, Marlborough is a gourmet’s paradise. Visit a local vineyard and learn how the region produces its world-famous Sauvignon Blanc, then enjoy a wine-paired dinner with a local winemaker. MARLBOROUGH VINTNERS HOTEL (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16
BLENHEIM
After a morning at leisure, board our private launch for a cruise through the Marlborough Sounds. Explore the natural beauty of the Sounds and visit a Greenshell mussel farm to learn how they are grown in the clean waters of the Sounds. Sample freshly steamed mussels straight from the sea, complemented by a glass of regional Sauvignon Blanc. This evening on our return cruise, our captain cooks a classic Kiwi barbecue for us to enjoy. MARLBOROUGH VINTNERS HOTEL (B,L,D)

MONDAY, JANUARY 17
BLENHEIM / WELLINGTON
Fly across Cook Strait to New Zealand’s capital city, Wellington, where we visit the beehive-shaped Parliament Building and learn about New Zealand’s government, as well as the technology used to “quake-proof” the city’s historic buildings. Then hear a private lecture by the geologist in residence at the Te Papa National Museum of New Zealand and visit the Awesome Forces exhibition. Tonight join local Stanford alumni at a lecture given by a guest speaker followed by dinner. COPTHORNE ORIENTAL BAY (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18
WELLINGTON / ROTORUA / AUCKLAND
Fly to Rotorua, New Zealand’s geothermal region, and tour the Whakarewarewa Geothermal Reserve; the ancient, yet still-inhabited, Maori village of Ohinemutu, and the Rotorua Museum of Art and History. This afternoon, our final flight takes us to Auckland, New Zealand’s largest city.
STAMFORD PLAZA AUCKLAND (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20
AUCKLAND / U.S.
This morning, visit the Auckland museum and view the most extensive collection of Maori artifacts in the world. This is a quiet place of reflection, where the key symbols that link the land and the spiritual past of the indigenous Maoris to the present culture can be found. Late this afternoon, board homeward flights, crossing the international date line and arriving in the U.S. the same day. (B)
Our private aircraft

Flying by private plane is safe, comfortable and convenient. Because our plane is able to land at nearly every airport in New Zealand, waiting times are kept to an absolute minimum so we can enjoy a maximum amount of time at our destinations.

Our Convair 580 jet-prop is fully appointed, executive-class air transportation seating up to 44 people. The cabin features luxurious, wide leather seats with ample leg room. Panoramic windows offer excellent “flight-seeing” visibility. 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 of 45 pounds per person for one checked bag and 10 pounds per person for one carry-on bag.
WHAT TO EXPECT

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.

FUEL COSTS

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult to predict fuel costs over the long term and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing. While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge.

WHAT TO EXPECT

We consider this expedition to be a moderately active program that is at times physically demanding. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Daily programs will be busy with some early-morning departures and will involve one to three miles of walking, often on uneven terrain, such as that found at geothermal areas where stairs are unavailable or do not have handrails. Temperatures in January average in the 60s (°F) with moderate precipitation. We welcome travelers over the age of 15 on this program.
Faculty Leaders

Professors Pamela Matson and Peter Vitousek, the popular husband/wife faculty team, have worked in the area of environment and sustainability for over 20 years. Pamela 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 atmosphere, climate and water systems. With multi-disciplinary teams of researchers, managers, and other decision makers, she has worked to develop agricultural approaches that reduce environmental impacts while maintaining livelihoods and human wellbeing. 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 Native Hawaiian and New Zealand Maori organizations that provides training in leadership and resource management. Peter and Pamela have educated and fascinated travelers on nearly 20 Travel/Study programs and both have won numerous awards for their teaching and research.

Professor Pamela Matson
- Dean of the School of Earth Sciences
- Richard and Rhoda Goldman Chair of Environmental Studies
- Senior Fellow in the Woods Institute for Environment
- Member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Professor Peter Vitousek
- Clifford G. Morrison Professor of Population and Resource Studies
- Director of the Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources
- Member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Reservation Form

New Zealand by Private Air

January 6 to 20, 2011

I/We have read the Terms and Conditions for the program and agree to them. Signature ________________________________

If this is a reservation for one person, please indicate:

☐ I wish to have single accommodations.

OR ☐ I plan to share accommodations with __________________________

OR ☐ I’d like to know about possible roommates.

Here is my deposit of $________ ($1,000 per person) for ___ space(s) on the program.

☐ Enclosed is my check (make payable to Stanford Alumni Association) OR

☐ Charge my deposit to my: □ Visa □ MasterCard □ American Express

CARD # ___________________________ EXPIRES ___________________________

AUTHORIZED CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE ___________________________ DATE ________________

Mail completed form to address on mail panel or fax to (650) 725-8675 or place your deposit online at www.stanfordalumni.org/trip/nz2011. Please submit your reservation only once to avoid multiple charges to your account.
“This was an excellent and fun trip with a great staff. Having been to New Zealand many times before but never with a group tour, I got to see and hear things that I would not have been able to do as an individual traveler.” **EDWARD WALKER, ’61, MS ’62, NEW ZEALAND AIR EXPEDITION, 2008**