



Tour of New Zealand 1 to 10 May 2012

Itinerary

	Participants should arrive 30 April at Auckland Airport. If you have a change of more than 8 hours of time zones, I suggest you arrive at least 2 days before 1 May to help get over jet lag. This is not part of the tour but there will be a mini bus available for sightseeing around Auckland.
30 April	Accommodation probably at Hotel Grand Chancellor, Auckland Airport (www.grandchancellorhotels.com/nz/aucklandairport/default-en.html)
1 May	Start of tour. Auckland to Whakatane. Accommodation probably at White Island Rendezvous Motel (www.whiteisland.co.nz/motel.html)
2 May	Whakatane to Colleen and Brian Bassett's very productive Périgord black truffle (<i>Tuber melanosporum</i>) plantation. Then through the Waioeka Gorge to Gisborne . Accommodation at Pacific Harbour Motor Inn (www.pacific-harbour.co.nz/)
3 May	Visit Alan and Lynley Hall's truffle plantation. Then drive to Havelock North . Accommodation probably at the Village Motel (www.villagemotel.co.nz). Dinner with Chris Perley, co-director of Chowbent Limited at The Post (www.thepost.co.nz).
4 May	Havelock North to Wellington. Stop at the Mount Bruce bird sanctuary (www.pukaha.org.nz). Accommodation probably at Quest on Johnston street (www.questonjohnston.co.nz).
5 May	Fly from Wellington to Nelson at the top of the South Island. Visit Hannes and Theres Krummenacher's mycorrhizal mushroom farm: Périgord black truffle (<i>Tuber melanosporum</i>), bianchetto truffle (<i>Tuber borchii</i>), saffron milk cap (<i>Lactarius deliciosus</i>), and others. Accommodation to be arranged.
6 May	Nelson to Christchurch via the Kaikoura Coast – seals, birds, maybe dolphins, maybe whales. Lunch at The Store (www.the-store.co.nz). Accommodation in Christchurch to be decided. We will probably use accommodation outside the earthquake zone.
7 May	Visit Jeff Weston's productive bianchetto truffle (<i>Tuber borchii</i>) plantation. Christchurch to Omarama via Mount Cook and the Mackenzie country. Accommodation probably at the Heritage Gateway Hotel (www.heritagegateway.co.nz)
8 May	Meet Malcolm Douglas who will talk about high country farming in the Mackenzie country. The Mackenzie country is New Zealand's equivalent of Tibet. The mean daily temperature in the middle of winter on the flats is 1.5°C and lower than 0°C on the hills. Irrigation, fertiliser and lime has lifted land production from 1 sheep per 2 hectares to highly efficient farms. Omarama to Queenstown . Accommodation to be decided.
9 May	Sightseeing in Queenstown. Queenstown to Naseby and accommodation probably at Dansey's Pass Hotel (www.danseypass.co.nz/photos.html)
10 May	Mushroom hunting in Naseby forest. Naseby to Middlemarch to Dunedin. Accommodation to be decided.
11 May	End of tour. Direct flights are available from Dunedin to Auckland, and Dunedin to Christchurch.