

The Pennsylvania State University

Technical Presentation for Engineers: Christchurch, New Zealand

Itinerary Highlights – Please note that activities and site visits are examples and are subject to change.

Day 1 – 2 Christchurch

Wildlife reserve visit

Experience New Zealand's endangered wildlife, including the kiwi bird, in a natural setting.

Explore Christchurch by waka on the Avon

Learn about Māori traditions and customs while paddling a hand-crafted waka (canoe) down the River Avon. Enjoy early stories of Canterbury's Ngai Tahu tribe and the earliest European settlers, and the positive things they achieved building the city of Christchurch together.



Quake City

Visit Christchurch's multi-sensory earthquake attraction aimed at informing, engaging, and educating visitors about the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes. You will see the extensive impact on the city and gain an appreciation for the rebuilding of the city that is still underway and the importance of seismic engineering in this region.

Walking tour of Christchurch

Learn about key sites associated with the earthquakes of as well as the redevelopment of Christchurch, which is dynamic and innovative. View some of the major new building projects underway.

Day 3 Hanmer Springs

Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools

Swim and soak in the Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools, which are comprised of 22 outdoor geothermally-heated pools featuring cascades, relaxing rock pools, soothing sulphur pools, and a cooler lap pool and lazy river.

Conical Hill walk

You will follow a loop track that begins in Hanmer Springs township and travels through woodland along Dog Stream to hillside nature trails and over Jolliffe Saddle. Reach Conical Hill, at a height of 550m, for great views.

Day 4 Christchurch

Canterbury Museum

Canterbury Museum has a rich and fascinating history. The museum tells the stories of Christchurch and Canterbury, showing locals where they have come from and encouraging respect and understanding in New Zealand's diverse society.

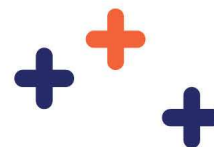
Aircraft hangar visit

Visit a commercial airline hangar. Air New Zealand, the national carrier, is a major supplier of aircraft and component maintenance, repair and overhaul services and also offers technical aircraft design services.



Day 5 Akaroa

Visit to Hinewai Reserve



Enjoy the scenic drive to Banks Peninsula. Hinewai Reserve was established in 1987 with the intention of returning farmland to native bush. The reserve is now covered in regenerated bush with abundant birdlife and numerous walking tracks. Learn about the reserve before exploring it on foot to view the regeneration first-hand. On your return journey a stop will be made at the historic harbour town of Akaroa.

Day 6 Christchurch

Christchurch Art Gallery

The city gallery houses some of New Zealand's most important public art, including both classics and modern art collections. Opened in 2003, the building itself is a landmark in the city with its glass façade mirroring the flow of the Avon river that meanders through the city.

Free time to explore the city



Day 7 Castle Hill and Arthur's Pass

Castle Hill and Arthur's Pass day trip

Enjoy a walk and packed lunch amongst the spectacular and sacred limestone formations at Castle Hill, which was used in the filming of the Chronicles of Narnia. Then, take a few stairs to feel the full force and sound of fresh mountain water falling 131 m down one of New Zealand's most stunning waterfalls. The Devil's Punch Bowl is one of the best short walks in Arthur's Pass National Park.

Day 8 Lyttelton and Christchurch

Lyttelton Port

Visit the coal terminal to discuss the reclamation of land and the Sumner Road rebuild, and the oil berth to view damage and repairs underway. Enjoy lunch at the Yacht Club and hear a presentation on the effects of the earthquakes on the Port and the rebuild underway.

EPIC site visit

As the foundation partner of the Christchurch innovation precinct, EPIC houses some of NZ's most exciting proven high-tech companies and through EPIC's alliance with the Ministry of Awesome, hosts hundreds of inspirational events every year.

Day 9 – 11 Christchurch

Matapopore Trust visit

Matapopore is responsible for ensuring Maori values, aspirations and narratives are realized within the recovery of Christchurch and in the design of the city's urban spaces and architecture.

Robotics presentation

Learn how cutting-edge robotic technology is used to create remote inspection solutions for a range of industries. Includes a hands-on session.

WikiHouse tour

Space Craft Systems Limited (SCS) is a New Zealand-based social enterprise. Originating in post-earthquake Christchurch, it was created to develop strategies and implement solutions to tackle wicked problems, especially the global housing crisis.



Convention Centre

Tour Christchurch's Te Pae Convention Centre, a newly-built, world-class events venue.

Factory Tour and Presentation

Learn about a local company's ground-breaking gas analysis technology and the diversity of its applications.

Day 12 Depart for USA

Group flight departs from Christchurch