

New Zealand - South Island

December 2017: Christchurch, New Zealand's third largest city was devastated by earthquakes in 2010 and 2012 destroying over 1,500 buildings and killing 185 citizens. It took over two years to clean up the rubble. Today the city is being rebuilt (1,2,4) and the Shipping containers (3) that served as offices and shopping malls are being replaced with earthquake resistant buildings.

Many of the Antarctic expeditions begin in Christchurch (5). Close by is the Ferrymead Heritage Park (6), a restored early 1900's town. Queenstown (7) is a beautiful tourist town 550 miles further to the south. New Zealand highways are mostly narrow two-lane paved roads (8) with little traffic and long distances without gas stations or telephone service.

Driving up the west side of the island is a series of beaches (9), Bays (10), geological oddities (11) and glaciers (12). Picton (13) was the last stop on the southern island and the ferry boat gateway to the northern island.



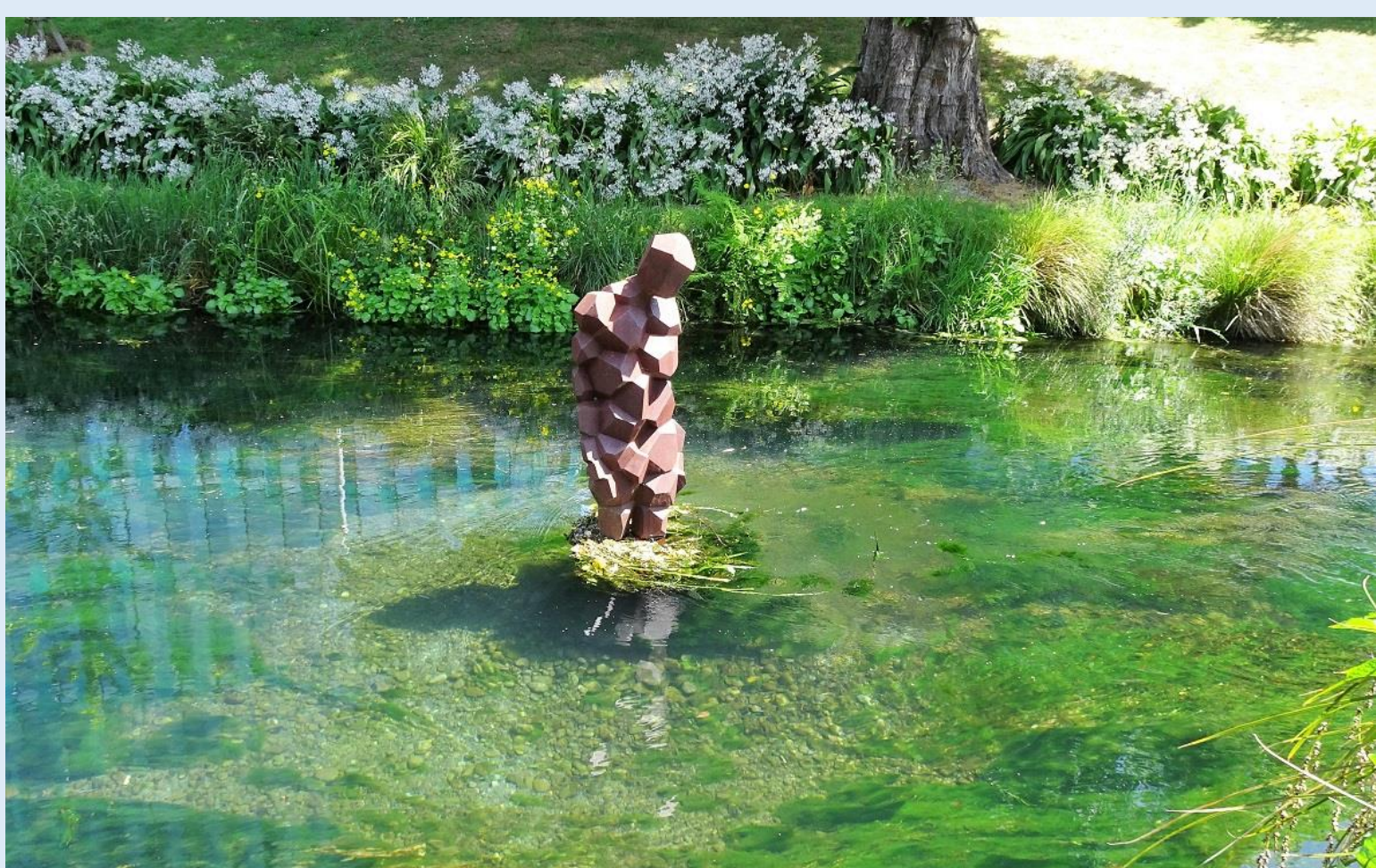
1. Christchurch Cathedral



2. Christchurch Arts Center



3. Christchurch Mall



4. Gormley's Stay



5. Christchurch Antarctic Centre



6. Ferrymead Heritage Park



7. Queenstown



8. Highway 6



9. Hokitika Beach



10. Bruce Bay



11. Pancake Rocks



12. Fox Glacier



13. Picton