



Fiordland Escape Package

Journey into the magnificent wilderness of Fiordland National Park, Southland, New Zealand. Travel to Te Anau, where a screening of Shadowland sets the scene, revealing the stories, secrets, and landscapes that await. From there, a helicopter whisks you deep into remote Fiordland for an exclusive stay at Waitai Lodge, where comfort meets untouched nature. Continue with a guided walk on the iconic Kepler Track, then venture into the heart of Doubtful Sound for a magical overnight cruise through its serene, mist-draped fjords. Return to Queenstown for one final breath of alpine air before heading back to reality, forever changed by the journey.

Starts in: Queenstown
Finishes in: Queenstown
Length: 8days / 7nights
Accommodation: Boutique Lodges & Hotels
Can be customised: Yes

This itinerary can be customised to suit you perfectly. We can add more days, remove days, change accommodations, mix it up, add activities to suit your interests or simply design and create something from scratch. Call us today to get your custom New Zealand itinerary underway.



Inclusions:

Includes: Late model rental cars
Includes: Fully inclusive rental car insurance (excess may apply)
Includes: Unlimited kms
Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring
plus much more...

Day 1



Private Transfer Queenstown Airport to your Accommodation

On arrival you will be met by a private driver and delivered to your Queenstown accommodation.

Welcome to Queenstown

Renowned for its adrenaline inducing activities Queenstown is synonymous with adventure. Parked on the shores of Lake Wakatipu this small alpine town is nestled below soaring vistas of The Remarkables Mountain Range. While arguably the brightest gem in New Zealand's crown, Queenstown offers far more than an action-packed getaway. Spend time on the Gibbston wine trail and end with a meal at Michelin star chef Josh Emett's restaurant, Rata. Take a trip down memory lane on a 100 year old steamship the TSS Earnslaw. Soak in the scenery on your walk around the lake, or venture further afield into Fiordland National Park. Head over the hill to resort town Wanaka, or re-live scenes from Lord Of The Rings by four wheel drive. But - if you really do want that rush - head out on the Shotover Jet, dive off the Nevis Bungy, freefall on the Canyon swing or Zip line the Gondola. Just be sure it's done on an empty stomach – don't say we didn't warn you!

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - TSS Earnslaw Cruise and Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ Dinner

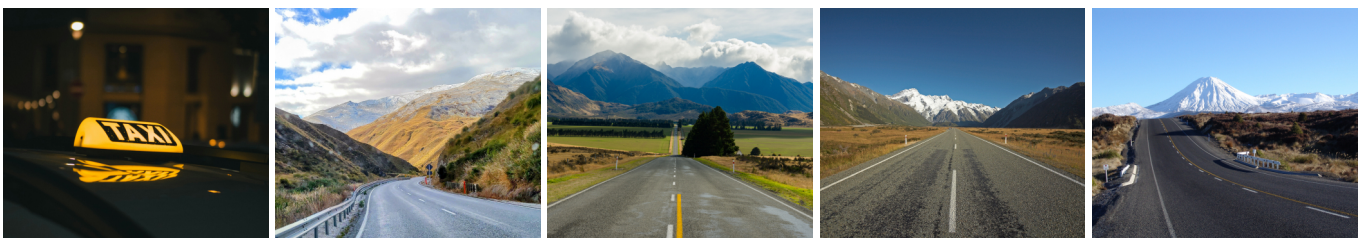
Enjoy a quintessential Kiwi experience, a delicious gourmet BBQ buffet meal, and a farm demonstration in a stunning lakeside setting. Take in the stunning views of Lake Wakatipu and its surroundings as you cruise across the lake to the historic Walter Peak high country farm aboard the TSS Earnslaw Steamship. Enjoy the ambiance of the heart of the stately homestead while your Colonel's Homestead Restaurant chef prepares a gourmet BBQ dinner. Your seasonal menu includes an extensive selection of local New Zealand produce, including succulent meats and a selection of delicious vegetables and salads. Complete your meal with your choice of delicious desserts, or New Zealand cheeses. After dinner, watch the farm dogs in action with a sheep-herding demonstration and say hello to the other farm animals. Finally, cruise home under the southern stars and enjoy the fresh night air as the lights of Queenstown draw ever closer.

Your accommodation: The Dairy Hotel Queenstown, A Naumi Chapter

The Dairy Private Hotel – a unique blend of exquisite design, rich history and warm hospitality in the city centre. Beginning as Queenstown's original 'dairy' (corner store) in 1920, it has now transformed into an interiors masterpiece after an exquisite refurbishment that features wallpapers from British luxury interiors brand House of Hackney.



Day 2



Taxi in Queenstown - Own Arrangements

Please arrange your own taxi transport at your convenience. We suggest booking ahead for early morning or peak-hour travel to ensure timely arrival.

Collect Rental Car

This tour's from price includes an intermediate-sized vehicle, setting you up for comfortable travels. Yet, we understand every adventure is unique! Feel free to select the perfect wheels from our incredible collection of rental cars, spanning from economy hatchbacks to premium SUVs.

Queenstown to Te Anau

Passing through the bustling suburb of Frankton, follow the shores of Lake Wakatipu. The Remarkables mountain range towers over you on the stretch of road known as "The Devil's Staircase" leading you to the township of Kingston. You'll venture into Southland before crossing the rolling tussock lands of Mossburn (deer capital of New Zealand) and shortly arriving at Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland National Park.

Walking tracks in and around Te Anau

Lake Te Anau is a great place for lots of activities including walking, tramping, boating, fishing, hunting, kayaking, mountain biking, swimming and water skiing at Brod Bay. Te Anau is the closest town with facilities to Fiordland National Park, a wilderness area famed for tramping and spectacular scenery. Kepler track: Carpark to Dock Bay and Brod Bay

From the Kepler Track carpark, the track follows the lake shore through mountain and red beech forest, with kamahi and some scattered rimu and miro and yellow-flowering kowhai.

Distance: 5.6 km return via same track. Completion Time: 1-3 hours return Kepler Track: Carpark to Rainbow Reach

From the Kepler Track carpark, the track follows the terraces of the Waiau River along the Kepler Track through red and mountain beech forest to Rainbow Reach.

Distance: 9.5 km return via same track. Completion Time: 2.5 hours one way Kepler Track: Rainbow Reach to Shallow Bay or Moturau Hut

From the Rainbow Reach carpark, cross the swing bridge and follow the track to the Control Gates for 200 m before turning left towards a short steep ascent. After that the track is gently undulating and wanders through mountain beech forest with some great river views. Some scenes in the Lord of the Rings movies were filmed near this part of the river.

Distance: 6 km return via same track. Completion Time: 3 - 3 hours 30 minutes return Kepler Track (Carpark to Luxmore Hut)

Carpark to Luxmore Hut - This strenuous walk provides impressive views of Lakes Te Anau and Manapouri and Te Anau basin on one side, and the Murchison and Kepler Mountains on the other.

Distance: 13.8 km one way return via same track. Completion Time: 8-10 hours return Visitor Centre to Upukerora River Track

This easy track leads alongside the Te Anau lakefront to where the Upukerora River flows into the lake.

Completion Time: 3 hour return

Ata Whenua - Shadowland Film at Fiordland Cinema

Ata Whenua refers to the southwestern coast of New Zealand and translates to English as "Shadow Land". This breathtaking short film will take you on an unforgettable journey through one of the most awe-inspiring landscapes on earth, Fiordland National Park. Shot by award-winning cinematographers with outstanding musical composition, this is the next best thing to a scenic flight over this spectacular wilderness.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Te Anau Glowworm Caves with RealNZ

Begin your Te Anau Glowworm experience with a scenic cruise across Lake Te Anau on board the luxury catamaran, Luminosa, to the western side of the lake. On arrival, you'll enter the caves through Cavern House, where informative displays detail the history of this 12,000 year old underground network. You'll then explore by limestone pathway while your guide points out hidden whirlpools, sculpted rock formations, and a rushing underground waterfall. See a magical display of thousands of glowworms as you glide through the darkness in a small boat.

Your accommodation: High Leys Lodge

Located just 4 kilometres out of Te Anau along the Milford Road, High Leys Lodge is set in 5 acres of established garden. With panoramic views of Lake Te Anau and the Fiordland National Park, High Leys Luxury Lodge offers an adult only, exclusive, peaceful & luxurious escape. There are 3 double rooms, all with private en-suite bathrooms.

Meals included: Breakfast



Day 3



Helicopter from Milford Sound into Martins Bay - Lunch and Dinner Included

Sit back and enjoy the scenery as your guide drives you through the heart of the Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound. Enjoy a spectacular scenic helicopter flight from Milford Sound to Martins Bay, followed by an impressive lunch set amongst the wilderness in our private location. The afternoon is yours to enjoy. Explore the Martins Bay sand dunes by foot, taking in the rugged beauty of this isolated West Coast beach. Alternatively, choose to relax at Waitai Lodge in front of the fire with a good book and enjoy a soak in the outdoor hot tubs. The group reunites for a delicious three-course dinner accompanied by a fine selection of New Zealand beer and wine. Sit back, relax, and reflect on a great first day.

Your accommodation: Waitai Lodge Fiordland Escape

Tucked along the water's edge where rainforest meets alpine slopes, Waitai Lodge anchors refined comfort in deep wilderness solitude. Full-height glass and warm timber open toward calm lake waters and ridgelines. Surrounded by rainforest trails, the lodge serves as a self-contained base for guided backcountry journeys, boat trips, and remote restoration.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4



Waitai Lodge to Milford Sound and return to Te Anau - Breakfast & Lunch Included

Awake to the sound of bird song. Enjoy a hearty breakfast before joining your guide on a scenic jetboat ride across Lake McKerrrow. Take in the ever-adapting ecosystem as it shifts from a mountainous beech forest to a wetland and a vibrant coastal scenery. Marvel at ancient temperate rainforest with thousand-year-old giants such as native Rimu and Kahikatea. Alternatively, relax in the lodge while you appreciate your remote location. Regroup at the lodge in time for morning tea, before boarding your helicopter flight back to the dramatic Milford Sound. Marvel at Milford Sound's vertical granite walls rising from the sea while aboard the Fiordland Jewel for your luxury cruise. Your guide will then return you to Te Anau or Queenstown while you take in the impressive scenery.

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Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



Day 5



Kepler Track Guided Walk

Enjoy a guided walk from Te Anau alongside the Waiau River, Lake Te Anau or Manapouri on the Kepler Track.

The track has a gentle gradient, is well maintained and suitable for all abilities. During the walk the Trips & Tramps guide details native fauna and flora, explains the unique beech forest ecological cycle and shares conservation efforts made on the Kepler Track and around Fiordland. Enjoy a classic kiwi cuppa at a scenic location and share a yarn with your local guide.

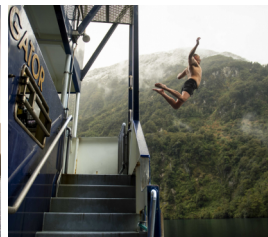
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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 6



Te Anau to Manapouri

This short drive takes you along the lake edge of Te Anau and across lush southern farmlands to the small township of Lake Manapouri, gateway to Doubtful Sound.

Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise, Aboard the Navigator with Real NZ

Take in the tranquillity of remote Doubtful Sound on this unique overnight wilderness cruise. Beginning in Manapouri with a short boat ride across the lake, you'll be taken by coach over the Wilmot Pass to Deep Cove, Doubtful Sound. Board the Fiordland Navigator, a purpose-built vessel designed like a traditional coastal trading scow. Be accommodated in a private cabin with an ensuite bathroom or a quad-share bunk room with shared bathroom facilities. The Navigator has a large spacious deck for viewing the scenery and wildlife as well as a dining saloon, bar and observation lounge. As you take in the stunning scenery of the Fiord, you'll be provided with a running commentary of the area and its history, points of interest and wildlife. You'll have the opportunity to see dolphins, fur seals and, if you're lucky rare Fiordland penguins. After anchoring in a sheltered cove, choose to explore the shoreline by kayak or stabicraft, or if you're really brave take a dip in the water. In the evening enjoy a buffet dinner prepared on board and served in the dining saloon. Enjoy beer and fine wines from the licensed bar, and spend time star gazing on the upper deck. Following hearty cooked breakfast the next morning you will spend your remaining time exploring other parts of the fiord before returning to Deep Cove for the trip back to Manapouri.

Your accommodation: Fiordland Navigator Overnight Boat in Doubtful Sound

The Fiordland Navigator is purpose built for cruising in the fiords. The vessel offers spacious viewing decks, a comfortable dining saloon and observation lounge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner



Day 7



Manapouri to Queenstown

Crossing the rolling tussock lands you pass through Mossburn, the deer capital of New Zealand. Continue north through Southland countryside towards Lake Wakatipu. The road now hugs the lake edge and the Remarkable mountain range towers over you as you approach Queenstown, the adventure capital of New Zealand.

Walking tracks in and around Queenstown

Queenstown is well known for its adventure sports and activities but it also a great network of walking tracks and trails to suit all abilities and time frames. The department of conservation office located on Shotover Street can offer local advice on the conditions of walking tracks.

Some of the more popular walks are listed below.

Queenstown Hill - around 3 hours return (4 kilometres). Gravel path and then trail. A 500 metre climb through pine forest to the summit of Te Tapu-nui (mountain of intense sacredness). The climb is well rewarded with 360 degree views of Remarkables Mountain Range, the Kawarau River, Cecil Peak, and of course Lake Wakatipu. The track starts on Belfast Terrace which is just 1 km from the city centre.

Ben Lomond - around 2 hours (4 1/2 kms return). Take the Skyline Gondola ride to the terminal and the track is signposted from here. This is quite a steep climb and not recommended for children. Also take note of weather forecasts as the summit sits at 1748 metres. The effort is rewarded with spectacular views and on clear days you can see Mt Earnslaw and Mt Aspiring.

Bobs Cove - 20 minutes of easy lakeshore walks. Bobs Cove is 14 kilometres from Queenstown along the Glenorchy Road. Take the drive along the road and Bobs Cove is signposted.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Gondola and Buffet Dinner with Skyline Queenstown

With breathtaking views across Queenstown and Lake Wakatipu, the Skyline Complex is a must-do. Catch the fully enclosed gondola to the summit for a remarkable panorama of the city's surroundings. Wander the outdoor viewing decks then enjoy a gourmet buffet meal in the Stratosphere Restaurant.

Your accommodation: The Dairy Hotel Queenstown, A Naumi Chapter

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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 8



Return your rental car

Return your rental vehicle to your designated depot before your next adventure.

Farewell from Aotearoa / New Zealand

Bid farewell to Aotearoa / New Zealand, taking with you unforgettable memories of its breathtaking landscapes and incredible adventures. In Māori, it is said mā te wā, which is not goodbye, it is see you soon!

Tour details

Departures:	Daily
Tour type:	South Island Self Drive
Starts:	Queenstown
Finishes:	Queenstown
Tour length:	8
Accommodation:	Boutique Lodges & Hotels
Car/transport type:	

Accommodation summary

Day 1	The Dairy Hotel Queenstown, A Naumi Chapter
Day 2	High Leys Lodge
Day 3	Waitai Lodge Fiordland Escape
Day 4	High Leys Lodge
Day 5	High Leys Lodge
Day 6	Fiordland Navigator Overnight Boat in Doubtful Sound
Day 7	The Dairy Hotel Queenstown, A Naumi Chapter