# NEW ZEALAND TRAIILS

# **NEW ZEALAND** HIKING & ADVENTURE TOURS



• Kiwi hospitality



• Flexible, small group travel



Unique experiences



All-inclusive trips

NEWZEALANDTRAILS.COM



NEW ZEAMAND TRAILS New Zealand. By New Zealanders.

# Sev Zealand small group hiking & avenure tours.

**New Zealand Trails**' all-inclusive trips tick off the big names like Milford Sound and Mount Cook, and New Zealand Great Walks like the Milford Track and Routeburn Track, while also enjoying exclusive access to off the beaten track locations like Stewart Island. Walk at a relaxed pace, reconnect with nature, and rest your head at the end of each day in supremely comfortable accommodations. With us, you'll explore all the wonderful things you've heard about New Zealand, with local Kiwi guides by your side every step of the way.

Let the people of New Zealand Trails show you the real New Zealand!







QUAL MARK



As Sentured in National Geographic Traveller



# YOUR NEW ZEALAND ADVENTURE IT'S ABOUT YOU!

HE AHA TE MEA NUI O TE AO What is the most important thing in the world?

HE TANGATA, HE TANGATA, HE TANGATA It is the people, it is the people, it is the people Māori proverb











Kayaking Queen Charlotte Sound



Hiking the Hollyford Track.



### It was a truly memorable trip and one we will always treasure.

Our experience on tour with New Zealand Trails was wonderful. Everyone (especially our wonderful guides) went above and beyond to ensure we had the best possible time in this spectacular country. It was truly a memorable trip and one I will always treasure.





Hiking Sealy Tarns.





- Annie & Louise, Australia Kiwi (lassic Trip

Hiking the Routeburn Track.



# What you get when you travel with us...



#### Flexible, small group travel

Our small groups of no more than 14 guests mean flexibility, choices, and setting yourown pace every day.



# New Zealand owned & operated

New Zealand is our home, it's where we know best. We only operate our trips in New Zealand.



#### 100% New Zealand Guides

Your trip will be led by experienced New Zealanders who want to make sure you not only see the best of our country, but get to know us, our culture and our history as well.



# Exclusive access to extraordinary places

We take you to places that most visitors just won't get to see. Remote rainforests, dolphins, glaciers, fiords, birdsong... it's the real New Zealand, the one you came to see.

#### Adventurous yet indulgent travel

Fine dining, great accommodation, the best walks and an unblinking focus on your safety and comfort.

#### Tick off your New Zealand bucket list

Experience the very best of New Zealand's bucket list walks, destinations, and activities.

Our trips are designed and guided by New Zealanders who want to make sure you not only see the best of our country, but get to know us and our culture as well. We've spent years developing our magic formula and are proud of the feedback we receive from our happy travellers. Many of them have stayed in touch to this day.

# **Compare Our Small Group Trips**

Every one of our trips will take you on a trail of discovery and adventure. Whether it's a new challenge for you or you are a seasoned adventurer, this is the perfect way to discover New Zealand's most beautiful and pristine places. With prominent destinations like Milford Sound, Aoraki / Mt Cook and Queenstown featuring in all our itineraries, you'll also experience our more closely guarded hidden gems. Kayaking on Lake Mapourika, sleeping in secluded Martins Bay and visiting a protected bird sanctuary on Lake Wanaka are just a few things that you could miss if you travel alone. With our local knowledge, warm hospitality and pioneering spirit, we have blazed the trail for adventurous yet indulgent travel. Join us, and you'll experience the real New Zealand with local Kiwi guides by your side every step of the way.

### Compare our trips side-by-side with the table below



You can find our trip dates and prices online at <u>www.newzealandtrails.com</u>. If you are having any trouble deciding, then please call us any time.



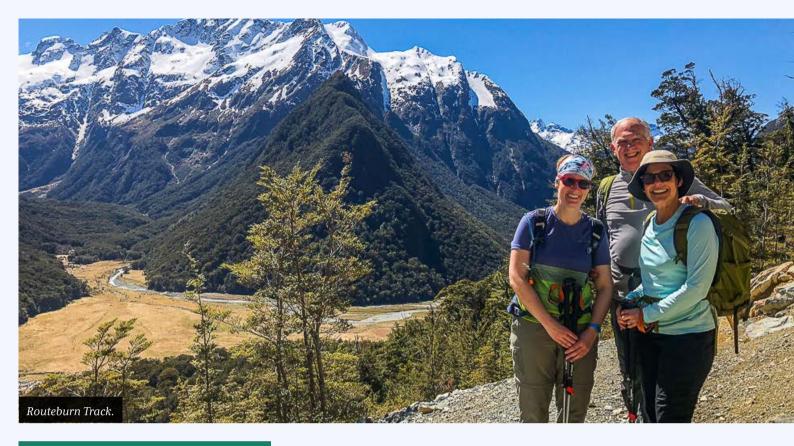
#### **Private Group Trips**

If you like the look of our trips but only want to travel with your family or friends, a private guided tour of New Zealand provides the perfect solution. We cater for all ages, interests and abilities and we'll tailor the itinerary to suit the wants and needs of your group. Together we'll design the perfect private group trip for you.



Activity Level key:

Gentle



# GREAT WALKS

5 days South Island

#### **Activity Level**

#### Style

Restaurant food, hotel accommodation. The best way to explore Stewart Island and Fiordland's Great Walks.



### **The NZ Great Walk Adventure** Discover Milford Sound, Stewart Island and day walk on four of New Zealand's Great Walks

# Day 1 – Arrive Queenstown & walk on the Routeburn Track

After meeting your guide & fellow travellers we'll head to your first Great Walk - The Routeburn Track. You'll walk beneath the beautiful native beech canopy alongside a crystal clear glacial river to Routeburn Flats Hut. **Stay: Queenstown** 

#### Day 2 - Heli-hike on the Kepler Track

Today you'll take a spectacular flight over the hidden lakes and beech forest of Mt Luxmore and touch down in the alpine area of Luxmore Hut. Enjoy panoramic views of the Te Anau basin and the mountains of Fiordland as you day walk on the Kepler Track. **Stay: Te Anau** 

# Day 3 – Explore the Milford Track and cruise Milford Sound

Pristine native forest awaits on our hike to Giants Gate Falls on the world famous Milford Track. We'll then spend the afternoon experiencing the cascading waterfalls and towering peaks of Milford Sound on our boat trip of the fiord. **Stay: Te Anau** 

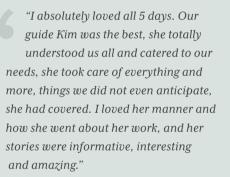
#### Day 4 – Scenic flight to Stewart Island and day walk on the Rakiura Track

Today we're venturing further off the beaten track to Stewart Island and Rakiura National Park. A haven for kiwi birds and part of the New Zealand Dark Sky Reserve, Stewart Island is a paradise of untouched rugged peaks and rainforest. Today we'll explore a stunning coastal section of the Rakiura Track.

Stay: Stewart Island

Cruising on Milford Sound.

Kepler Track Heli-Hike.



Rose Ruane | New Zealand | 🏾 February 2022

#### Day 5 - Explore Ulva Island and finish in Queenstown

Walk through bush vibrant with birdlife on predator free Ulva Island. This beautiful island sanctuary is home to flourishing populations of kiwi, saddleback and yellowhead birds. We'll return to the mainland this afternoon. Our last journey is a scenic trip through tussock country and small farming towns before we say our goodbyes. For the full itinerary and more information check out our website.



Fly & hike here.

Kepler Heli-Hike.

6

GREAT WALKS



# Pure South

8 days South Island

#### **Activity Level**

#### Style

Dig into delightful home cooked dishes and dine out in our favourite restaurants. Sleep in comfortable accommodation on your week-long adventure in the heart of New Zealand's mountains.



### **Pure South** A distillation of the very best.

#### Day 1 – Arrive Queenstown & Hike Kepler Track

After meeting your guides and fellow travellers in Queenstown, we'll head to Fiordland National Park. The Kepler Track is renowned for its vivid green moss, native beech forest, and stunning mountain ranges. We'll walk the section from Rainbow Reach up to Moturau Hut. Following the Waiau River through beech forest and wetlands until we emerge out onto the spectacular viewpoint at the lakeside Moturau Hut

#### Stay: Te Anau

#### Day 2: Cruise Milford Sound & Hike Routeburn Track

Described as the "eighth wonder of the world", enjoy Milford's towering granite

cliffs and thundering waterfalls on a cruise of Milford Sound. Back on dry land we'll venture further into Fiordland National Park, with a hike on the famous Routeburn Track up to Key Summit. The view from the top is across to the snowcapped Mt Christina, Mt Tutoko and the imposing Darran Mountains. **Stay: Te Anau** 

#### Day 3 – Bike or walk near Queenstown & explore Wanaka

Today we leave the rainforest behind and head for the high-country lakes of Central Otago. We'll explore Queenstown's stunning surrounds by bike or on foot. We then head over to the beautiful mountain resort town of Wanaka, gateway to Mount Aspiring National Park.

Stay: Wanaka



It was amazing in every way, from the great hikes and bike rides, to the bush plane ride, breathtaking scenery, jet boat trip, Milford Sound boat experience and the fantastic opportunity to swim with dolphins in Akaroa. We met wonderful co-travellers, had great meals and snacks, comfortable, clean hotels (with stellar views) and two highly-professional and exceptional tour guides who always tried their best to make sure we had a great time. -Mary & Joseph | North Carolina, USA | October 2019

#### Day 4 – Scenic flight into Mount Aspiring National Park, hike & wilderness jet boat

Get ready for a real New Zealand backcountry experience! We'll begin with a scenic bush plane flight deep into Mount Aspiring National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Landing in an isolated valley, we'll enjoy a picnic lunch before hiking back down to the river where a jet boat will be waiting to whisk you back to civilisation and your comfortable bed in Wanaka. **Stay: Wanaka** 











To view our most up to date itineraries please visit our website - www.newzealandtrails.com

#### Day 5 – Hike Wanaka & Aoraki/ Mount Cook

We'll start the day off with a hike up to Rocky Mountain to appreciate the sweeping views out over the Southern Alps and Lake Wanaka. This afternoon it's a change of scenery as we make our way to the Mackenzie Country. It's an area of jaw-dropping beauty, wide-open skies, glacial lakes and distant towering peaks. We'll spend the next two nights staying at the foot of New Zealand's highest mountain, Aoraki/Mount Cook. **Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook Region** 

#### Day 6 - Your choice in Aoraki/ Mount Cook National Park

Known as "cloud piercer" to Māori and standing tall at 3,724 metres (over 12,000 feet) is Mount Cook, New Zealand's highest mountain. The National Park is home to glaciers, icebergs and our tallest mountains. Check out the many hiking tracks and trails, get up close to the icebergs on a glacier boat tour, or even splurge on a heli-hike if you'd like. Whatever you decide to do, it's an incredible place to spend the day. **Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook Region** 



#### Day 7 – Bike or hike Alps to Ocean track & explore Akaroa

We'll start today with a bike ride or hike through the picturesque Mackenzie Country following the surreal turquoise waters of Lake Pukaki. The Alps to Ocean track is one of New Zealand's purpose-built cycle tracks, and today we'll discover some of its most scenic stretches. We'll then make our way to the charming town of Akaroa, a historic French settlement nestled in a quiet harbour.

#### Stay: Akaroa

# Day 8 – Akaroa dolphin swim & finish in Christchurch

We've saved one last 'only in New Zealand' adventure for this morning. A chance to get up close to Hector's dolphins, the smallest and rarest dolphins in the world. Whether you choose to swim with them or watch from the boat, it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We'll say our farewells in Christchurch, sending you home or onto our Sweet North trip, refreshed and revitalised with incredible stories to share.



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CHRISTCHURCH

QUEENSTOWN

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# KiWi CLASSIC



#### **Activity Level**

#### Style

You'll be served delicious Kiwi food to fuel your adventures and enjoy well-earned sleep in some of our favourite spots.



*Kiwi Classic* Get further off the beaten tro

Get further off the beaten track on our original South Island hiking trip.

# Day 1 – Arrive Queenstown & hike Ben Lomond

It's time for your first taste of pure New Zealand mountain air! After making our introductions, we'll head for one of Queenstown's most iconic walks – Ben Lomond. You'll follow the ridgeline to the summit where you'll be rewarded with spectacular 360-degree views over Queenstown, Lake Wakatipu and the surrounding mountain ranges. We'll then travel over the Crown Range to the lakeside town of Wanaka **Stay: Wanaka** 

#### Day 2 – Your choice in Aoraki/ Mount Cook National Park

Some of New Zealand's most spectacular alpine hikes are in Aoraki/ Mount Cook National Park. Our hikes today take us into the heart of the park and provide jaw-dropping vistas. Your options today include a choice of hikes, exploring the village at your leisure or upgrading to an optional heli-hike or glacier boat tour.

Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook Region

#### Day 3 – Hike Mt John & explore Kaikoura Peninsula

We'll journey from mountain to ocean, swapping the wide open spaces of the Mackenzie Country for the green fertile plains of Canterbury. We'll take our time, stopping in some of our favourite spots to stretch our legs and capture the glorious views. After our hike, we'll head for Christchurch, a historic city with a shifting dynamic.

**Stay: Christchurch** 



The Kiwi Classic trip was incredible! Being with a small group made such a difference, I felt like we were on our own special adventure. We experienced each day's activities as a family ('whanau') and shared in some great adventures on amazing hikes, kayaking trips and by bike too. The knowledge, leadership and passion of the guides was a huge part of the success.

– Heather | Victoria, Australia | December 2019



#### Day 4 - Swim with dolphins

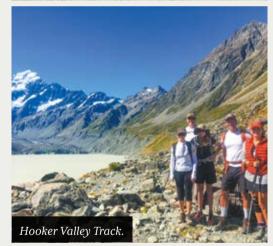
Today's the day for wildlife lovers. We'll don wetsuits to swim with a pod of dusky dolphins in their natural environment. Dusky dolphins are typically found in pods of around 100 and are well-known for their acrobatic feats and interactive behaviour. Tonight we stay in Kaikoura, a seaside settlement on the East Coast with a richly populated marine reserve for a backyard.

Stay: Kaikoura











#### Day 5 – Hike the Nydia Track

On today's adventure we will hike for 3 hours on the Nydia Track carrying just what we need for our night spent at Nydia Lodge. We'll arrive at Nydia Lodge, our home for the night, in the afternoon, leaving you with plenty of time to soak in the surroundings, enjoy the native birdlife or have a dip in the ocean. Stay: Nydia Lodge

#### Day 6 - Pelorus Sound & wine tasting

After a night spent in the backcountry, it's time to visit one of the iconic vineyards of Marlborough. The region is most renowned for its zesty Sauvignon Blanc, so ready your taste buds to sample some of the finest wines in the country. This afternoon we will make our way to Nelson, "the sunniest place in NZ". Stay: Nelson

#### Day 7 – Explore Nelson

Today is yours to spend as you please. The seaside town boasts a lively arts scene, beaches galore and food and wine to delight your senses. If you're not quite ready to put your feet up, there's always canyoning, jet boating, skydiving and the chance to do a day trip to Abel Tasman National Park. Stay: Nelson

#### Day 8 – Hike to Bushline Hut

Today we'll head to Nelson Lakes National Park. We will walk for 2 hours

carrying just what we need for our night spent at Bushline Hut. We'll arrive at our accommodation in the afternoon, leaving you with plenty of time to enjoy the panoramic views at the Hut or take a longer walk up the ridgeline while your guides prepare a delicious meal for you.

#### **Stay: Bushline Hut**

#### Day 9 – Bushline Hut to St Arnaud and the West Coast

Today we'll hike down into St Arnaud with Lake Rotoiti glistening invitingly beneath us. There'll be time for a quick swim in the lake at the end of our hike if you're keen! This afternoon we will make our way to the wild West Coast. With its dramatic coastline, expansive rainforests and incredible wildlife, it's sure to be a highlight of your trip. **Stay: Buller Bay** 

#### Day 10 – Hike Paparoa National Park & Tauranga Bay Seal Colony

We'll start our day with a short stroll on the Cape Foulwind Walkway where we'll make our way to Tauranga Bay Seal Colony, well known for its seal pup rookery. We'll then hike the secluded Pororari River Walk deep into the rainforest, with its lush greenery and limestone cliffs. This afternoon we'll make our way to the Pancake Rocks, the quirky town of Hokitika and then onwards to Glacier Country.

Stay: Franz Josef Glacier

#### Day 11 – Hike Franz Josef Glacier and Kayak Lake Mapourika

You'll experience mountains, lakes and glaciers all in one phenomenal day. Our hike takes us near to Franz Josef Glacier for impressive views of the terminal face then you'll paddle out onto Lake Mapourika to quietly enjoy the abundant birdlife and the reflections of snowcapped peaks on the still lake. **Stay: Makarora** 

#### Day 12 – Bike or hike near Queenstown

Today we'll travel back towards Queenstown. This morning we'll explore the historic Arrowtown, a quaint old gold-mining settlement just a short drive from Queenstown. You'll have the choice of either biking or walking the Arrow River Bridges Trail. This evening we'll head to Te Anau in preparation for tomorrow's epic adventure in Fiordland National Park. **Stay: Te Anau** 

#### Day 13 – Hike Routeburn Track to Key Summit and Cruise Milford Sound

Today we'll hike to Key Summit on the famous Routeburn Track. The view from the top is across to the snow-capped Mt Christina, Mt Tutoko and the imposing Darran Mountains. We'll spend the afternoon on the water, with a cruise of the iconic Milford Sound. Get ready to see spectacular glacier-carved granite cliffs rising sharply from the valley floor and crashing waterfalls cascading through dense rainforest. **Stay: Te Anau** 

# Day 14 – Kepler Track & Finish in Queenstown

If you're up for stretching the legs this morning, we'll hike a pleasant section of the Kepler Track following the Waiau River as it meanders through beech forest and wetlands before emerging at a spectacular viewpoint on the shores of Lake Manapouri – a fitting end to your New Zealand adventure.





# Masterpiece



#### Style

Delicious food, unforgettable lodgings and the best way to physically explore our mountains, lakes and forests. You'll hike, bike, paddle and so much more...



# Masterpiece

Perfected over the years. The New Zealand we share with friends!

# Day 1 -Queenstown bike ride & stay in Mt Cook region

Today you'll meet your guides and fellow travellers in Queenstown before heading to the historic gold-mining town of Arrowtown. We'll explore the riverside trail on foot or on bike past homesteads, meadows, mountains and vineyards. We'll then head to Lake Ohau for the next two nights.

Stay: Lake Ohau

#### Day 2 – Your choice in Aoraki/ Mount Cook National Park

Some of New Zealand's best alpine hikes are in Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park, home to our highest and most sacred mountain plus a further 19 peaks towering above 3,000 metres (9,800 feet). Choices today include hiking and exploring the village, plus an optional heli-hike on the Tasman Glacier or a glacier boat tour of the impressive iceberg-filled lake. *Stay: Lake Ohau* 

#### Day 3 – Hike Mount John, explore Mackenzie Country & Christchurch

Today's journey takes us from mountain to ocean through the fertile Canterbury plains. We'll begin the day with a short climb up Mount John for panoramic views of the beautifully desolate Mackenzie Country and the turquoise Lake Tekapo. After our hike, we'll head for Christchurch, a historic city with a shifting dynamic.

**Stay: Christchurch** 

#### Day 4 – Explore Christchurch & Kaikoura Peninsula

The morning is yours for exploration. Christchurch is a lovely city with plenty



666 "What do you say when you run out of superlatives?! The Masterpiece trip was just that... a masterpiece! Spectacular scenery, awesome hikes, magnificent views (that we earned), great meals, super guides and an incredible variety of activities. Our guides were really tuned into our small group and made the trip even better than we had expected."

> – Charlie | Vermont, USA | October 2019



of green parks, interesting architecture and great coffee. This afternoon we'll head north to Kaikoura, a rich marine reserve home to an abundance of wildlife. If we're lucky we'll catch an impressive sunset over the ocean. **Stay: Kaikoura** 

#### Day 5 – Dolphin swim in Kaikoura & Queen Charlotte Sound

An unforgettable day and a dream come true for wildlife lovers, starting early for a swim with the playful Dusky dolphins. We'll then carry on to the top of the South Island where we'll water taxi across Queen Charlotte Sound to our accommodation. Stay: Queen Charlotte Sound

### Day 6 – Kayak Queen Charlotte

Sound & Marlborough vineyards This morning we'll kayak back across the sound, peacefully observing the local wildlife. From here it's a short hop to Marlborough's wine-growing region, to sample some of the local wines and enjoy a delicious vineyard lunch. For the next couple of nights, we'll stay in Nelson, a colourful beachside town. Stay: Nelson











#### Day 7 – Explore Nelson or Abel Tasman National Park

Enjoy today as you wish. Nelson, "the sunniest place in NZ", is famous for its arts scene, award-winning wines, craft beers and fruit orchards. Most of our guests enjoy a laid-back day exploring the shops and galleries or take a day trip to Abel Tasman National Park. **Stay: Nelson** 

#### Day 8 – Tauranga Bay Seal Colony & West Coast

The remote but spectacular wild West Coast is where we will stop for a delicious picnic lunch, before heading out on a coastal walk. Take in the Tasman Sea in all its glory, pounding on the cliffs below as you make your way to the Tauranga Bay seal colony, well known for its seal pup rookery. **Stay: Buller Bay** 

#### Day 9 – Hike Paparoa National Park, Pancake Rocks & explore Hokitika

With its towering limestone cliffs, lush rainforest and roaring waves, this area could be straight out of Jurassic Park. Today we'll hike a stunning track through Paparoa National Park before checking out the blowholes and limestone formations of the Pancake Rocks. Then we drop in on Pounamu (greenstone/ jade) carvers at work in Hokitika. **Stay: Franz Josef** 

#### Day 10 – Kayak Lake Mapourika & hike Franz Josef Glacier

Experience mountains, beaches and glaciers all in one phenomenal day. We start with a scenic paddle out on the tranquil Lake Mapourika to check out the birdlife. This afternoon we'll head down the coast for a hike near Franz Josef Glacier as it descends the Southern Alps into temperate rainforest. **Stay: Wanaka** 

#### Day 11 - Hike Wanaka

We'll start today with a hike up Rocky Mountain for exceptional lake and mountain views, sharing a tasty picnic lunch at the top and stopping to visit Diamond Lake. Enjoy a relaxed afternoon exploring the charming township of Wanaka. **Stay: Wanaka** 

#### Day 12 – Hike Rock Peak and the Kepler Track

This morning's easy hike will take us to the summit of Rock Peak, where you will be rewarded with sweeping 360-degree views of the Wakatipu Basin, Crown Range, the Remarkables,



and the Gibbston Valley. This afternoon we'll hike on the Kepler Track. We'll follow the Waiau River as it meanders through beech forest and wetlands before emerging at a spectacular viewpoint on the shores of Lake Manapouri. **Stay: Te Anau** 

### Day 13 – Cruise Milford Sound & hike Routeburn Track

Described as the "eighth wonder of the world", enjoy Milford's towering granite cliffs and thundering waterfalls on a cruise of Milford Sound. Back on dry land we'll venture further into Fiordland National Park, with a hike on the famous Routeburn Track up to Key Summit. **Stay: Te Anau** 

# Day 14 – Explore Te Anau & finish in Queenstown

Our last journey together is a scenic trip through tussock country and small farming towns, before tracing the shoreline of the impressive Lake Wakatipu back to Queenstown. We'll then hike the Mt Crichton Track, a scenic loop walk through lush beech forest, where you'll get an interesting glimpse into life as an early gold prospector. We'll say our farewells this afternoon in Queenstown.





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### WORLD HERITAGE

**13** days South Island

#### **Activity Level**

#### Style

You'll be treated to wonderful accommodation in stunning locations, world-class restaurants serving the best Kiwi fare and unique experiences reserved for the lucky few.

Start Christchurch Finish Christchurch

# *The World Heritage Walking Tour*

Enjoy exclusive access to the very best of New Zealand's Great Walks and National Parks.

# Day 1 – Arrive in Christchurch & hike Arthur's Pass National Park

After meeting your guide and fellow travellers, we'll head for the impressive Canterbury high-country. Our first hike is in the beautiful Arthur's Pass National Park, before we continue to the remote West Coast town of Punakaiki, home of the Pancake Rocks.

#### Stay: Punakaiki

#### Day 2 – Explore the Nile River glowworm caves & hike Paparoa National Park

It's a short but scenic trip today to Paparoa National Park, where we'll venture into the otherworldly Nile River glowworm caves. This afternoon you have the option to hike the Pororari River Track – keep an eye out for cheeky wekas! **Stay: Punakaiki** 

#### Day 3 – West Coast & kayak on Okarito Lagoon

Today we travel to the tiny township of Okarito, home to New Zealand's largest coastal lagoon. Accompanied by specialist guides, enjoy the majestic views and abundant birdlife on a peaceful kayak trip of the lagoon. **Stay: Franz Josef** 

#### Day 4 – Glacier Country & Mount Aspiring National Park

Keep your camera handy today to capture the picture-perfect views of Lake Matheson and Franz Josef's terminal face, as we enjoy our morning hike in Glacier Country. We then continue along the West Coast to our third National Park of the trip, Mt Aspiring.

Stay: Wanaka



From the moment our guide, Chris, introduced himself, he exuded an air of calmness, good humour and inclusion that brought the whole group together. Chris is definitely a thinker and people person. His appreciation for what his country and people can offer to outsiders is infectious and we came away having experienced so much more than just two weeks walking the tracks of New Zealand.

> – Kim & Sondra | Perth, Australia | October 2019

#### Day 5 - Lake Wanaka boat cruise & hike Mou Waho Island wildlife reserve

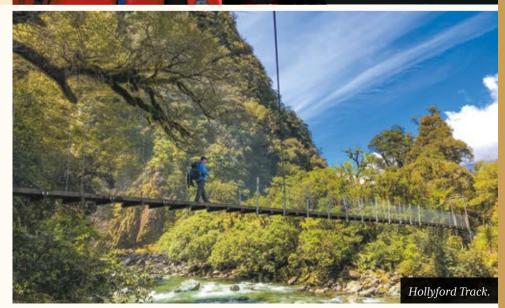
This morning we'll cruise across picturesque Lake Wanaka to the tiny island wildlife sanctuary of Mou Waho. Guided by an experienced ecologist, we'll explore this magical spot, then make our way to the alpine resort town of Queenstown. Stay: Queenstown

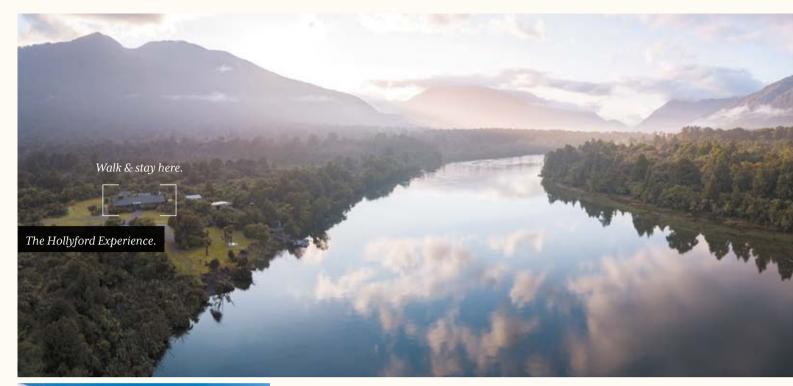
Day 6 – Hike the famed **Routeburn Track** 

This morning we travel to Glenorchy at











Aoraki / Mt Cook National Park.





the head of Lake Wakatipu - a journey regularly voted one of the best drives in the world. We have the whole day to explore the Routeburn Track, one of New Zealand's 'Great Walks'.

#### Stay: Queenstown

#### Day 7 - Explore Queenstown

Today you'll be spoilt for choice in the 'adventure capital of the world', Queenstown. There's something for everyone, from adrenaline activities like bungy jumping and jet boating to more gentle pursuits such as wine tasting, a round of golf or a spa treatment. Today is yours to enjoy as you choose. **Stay: Queenstown** 

#### Day 8 – Milford Sound & Martins Bay Lodge

Today we journey to one of the most pristine corners of New Zealand. It's an extraordinary drive through diverse landscapes. Our destination is the spectacular Milford Sound where a helicopter awaits to take us even further into Fiordland. At remote Martins Bay, we'll hike to a seal colony before hitching a jet boat ride back to our wilderness lodge.

Stay: Martins Bay Lodge

### Day 9 – Fiordland backcountry, jet boat ride & Hollyford Track

We start the day with a second thrilling jet boat ride, this time up the Hollyford River and across Lake McKerrow, a beautiful wilderness valley. We'll enjoy a full-day guided hike on the Hollyford Track, then travel back to Te Anau for dinner with lake views and a great night's rest.

Stay: Te Anau

#### Day 10 - Cruise Doubtful Sound

Today we'll journey across Lake Manapouri, over the breathtaking Wilmot Pass and into the heart of Fiordland National Park. Spanning a staggering 40 kilometres (25 miles), Doubtful Sound is the deepest of New Zealand's 14 fiords and one of the most spectacular. **Stay: Te Anau** 

#### Day 11 – Gibbston Valley, highcountry lakes, Aoraki/Mount Cook & stargazing tour

After a relaxed start, we'll make our way to the world-class wine-growing region Gibbston Valley, where we'll enjoy a selection of locally produced wines over a leisurely lunch. Then it's on to Aoraki/ Mount Cook National Park, an area of



vast snow-covered mountains and glacier-fed lakes. *Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook* 

#### Day 12 – Glacier boat tour & Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park options

Home to not only our highest mountain, the park boasts a further 19 peaks topping over 3,000 metres (9,800 feet). After a scenic glacier boat tour this morning, choices this afternoon include hiking the Hooker Valley track or an upgrade to an optional glacier heli-hike. Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook

#### Day 13 – Tekapo and Mackenzie Country, depart Christchurch

Enjoy the incredible Mackenzie Country scenery as we make our way back to Christchurch. After 13 days of extraordinary experiences, adventures, friendship, and fun, we'll say our goodbyes with dropoffs at Christchurch Airport or your accommodation. You have the option to join us on our Sweet North trip, or you'll leave for home, feeling refreshed and satisfied that you've made the most of your time on the South Island of New Zealand





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QUEENSTOWN

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# Sweet North





#### **Activity Level**

#### Style

Indulge in traditional and local delicacies, relax in comfortable, perfectly placed lodgings. Enjoy adventure, culture and the best of the North Island.



# Sweet North

Designed as a standalone North Island trip, the Sweet North is also the perfect complement to any of our South Island trips.

Join this itinerary with a South Island trip for the complete New Zealand experience.

# Day 1 – Arrive Auckland & journey to the Coromandel Coast

After meeting your group in Auckland, we'll head east to the white sand beaches of the Coromandel. We'll stretch our legs and walk Waiomu Kauri Grove, one of the Coromandel Peninsula's finest kauri stands. Then we'll relax and explore the fascinating Hot Water Beach where, tide permitting, you can easily dig your own hot tub in the sand. We'll spend tonight in Whitianga, a lovely coastal town on magnificent Mercury Bay. **Stay: Whitianga** 

### Day 2 – Kayak Cathedral Cove & Rotorua Māori feast

We'll travel a short distance this morning to Hahei, where we'll paddle out in kayaks to Cathedral Cove. Accessible only by foot, boat or kayak, this picturesque natural rock archway joins two secluded coves in the Te Whanganui-A-Hei Marine Reserve area. This afternoon we'll travel to Rotorua a rich cultural hub and geothermal wonderland where we'll spend the night.

Stay: Rotorua

#### Day 3 – Rotorua's Geothermal Wonderland and Redwoods Hike

Bubbling mud pools, active geysers and rising steam give Rotorua and the Te Whakarewarewa Valley something of an otherworldly quality. You'll experience the local Maori culture and enjoy a hāngi (a traditional Māori feast), before hiking in the stately Redwood Forest on the outskirts of Rotorua. We'll then travel



south to Taupo, stopping to appreciate the legendary Huka Falls along the way. *Stay: Taupo* 

#### Day 4 – Hike the Tongariro Crossing

Tongariro is New Zealand's oldest National Park and boasts dual World Heritage site status, acknowledged for both its cultural and natural significance. Making our way across this moon-like landscape dotted with turquoise and emerald lakes, you'll discover why the Tongariro Crossing is known as New Zealand's best day walk. **Stay: Taupo** 

#### Day 5 – Discover the Waitomo Caves & finish in Auckland

The last day, but one to remember! Explore the hidden depths of Waitomo, marvelling at the limestone formations, crystal tapestries and glow-worms that illuminate the cave system. We'll then make our way back to Auckland to say our farewells. If you're heading to the South Island to join us on another trip, we'll help with a smooth transition.











# Accommodation on your tour

Along the gravel road, past the manuka trees and turquoise water of Lake Ohau, you'll find a converted shearers' quarters in the great Kiwi high-country. You'll be greeted by your lodge host Mel and her trusty sidekick, Stella the Jack Russell. A log fire burns and a platter awaits, piled high with camembert, prosciutto and other delights. Merino sheep graze in the surrounding fields, and steam rises from the outdoor hot tub. After dinner, take a stroll beneath the Milky Way before retiring to your cosy bed.

This is the level of service you can expect when you travel with us. We choose our trip accommodation with the utmost care and attention, taking you to the havens hidden away from the crowds.

Break away from routine on your holiday. Take a moment alone and look up at the constellations in the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve, unwind in a hot tub in your lakefront accommodation in Wanaka, or share stories around a beach bonfire in Punakaiki. These timeless moments are what we are all about.

#### Tom says:

I love seeing the look on a guest's face when we touch down on the helipad in Martins Bay and they realize we are truly in untouched Kiwi backcountry.



# Food & Drink

On your New Zealand Trails trip you'll enjoy fresh local fare and hearty, healthy meals to complement your adventure. We'll introduce you to our favourite restaurants and cafés and when you're not dining out, our guides will whip up tasty homecooked meals and gourmet picnic lunches. Don't worry if you have special dietary requirements - we've got it covered.

We'll tour some of the finest, most iconic and globallyrenowned wine producing regions including those in Marlborough and Central Otago. If a cold beer is more your thing, you'll discover craft breweries offering refreshing beers. There are also plenty of tasty nonalcoholic beverages to enjoy.

As self-confessed foodies, we won't settle for second-best when it comes to our taste buds (or anything to do with our trips for that matter) and we're determined that our guests enjoy the very best of what's on offer as well. Food is a key part of what makes a New Zealand Trails trip so special.

NEW ZEALAND New Zealand. **Bv New** Zealanders. LOUDY BAN

Sauvignon Blanc at Cloudy Bay Vineyard.



Wilderness dinner at Martins Bay Lodge



New Zealand roast lamb at Public Kitchen.



Jodi says: Nothing says summer

in like sipping a glass of Sauvignon Blanc on the terrace of one of our world class wineries.



# What makes us different from the rest?

Running outstanding New Zealand trips requires a hugely experienced team of individuals that above all else, know and love New Zealand. We're a passionate team of knowledgeable travel experts and outdoor enthusiasts with countless years of experience. We've explored the world from Africa to the Antarctica, and now we've come home to our roots in New Zealand. We all live and breathe the Kiwi ethos of a warm welcome for our guests, followed by the adventure of your lifetime.

- The senior members of New Zealand Trails each have over 20 years of industry experience.
- Our sole focus is on New Zealand.
- As experienced locals we give you exclusive access to extraordinary places.
- We are committed to providing you with exceptional value.
- All our guides are New Zealanders.
- We have an unblinking focus on your safety and comfort.

From our base in Queenstown, we run a limited number of adventure tours, with every departure the product of decades of experience.



"No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it."

– H.E. Luccock



#### Jodi Narbey

Jodi is the first person you'll talk to at NZ Trails and is always available to help you plan your trip. After obtaining her BA in History, Jodi has spent most of her life in travel. Her comprehensive experience, expertise and friendliness are legendary at NZ Trails.



#### Shona Hore

Shona has been guiding trips in New Zealand for over 20 years. She loves the New Zealand outdoors, and is a keen photographer. Her guests go home inspired by her spectacular depth of knowledge of New Zealand, and her devotion to service.



# **OUR PEOPLE**



Amanda Bithell

Running adventures like these takes sharp attention to detail, the art of imagination and an extraordinary amount of organisation. Amanda runs the operations side of New Zealand Trails and knows exactly what will make your trip unforgettable.



Nigel has been running New Zealand travel companies now for over 20 years. As a founder of New Zealand

Trails, Nigel has introduced thousands of happy guests to NZ and is now focussed on making NZ Trails the best adventure tour company it can be.



Kim Mackay-Wallace

Kim has walked the length of New Zealand step-by-step... and several other countries too. With a BSc in Psychology & Neuroscience and years of guiding experience, she's found her niche in our crew assembling, running and guiding our legendary trips.



#### Guide

#### **Rob Dunkerly**

Rob is a former paramedic, skydiving instructor and paragliding pilot. Rob will keep you safe out on the trails; you'll know the moment you meet him that you're in good hands!



#### **Kristy Williamson**

Here at New Zealand Trails, guiding is a life-long calling. Kristy is qualified in New Zealand Outdoor Recreation, as well as graduating with a diploma in Outdoor Safety, Instruction, and Guiding. When it comes to the outdoors, she's done it all.



#### Guide

#### **Thomas Prebble**

Originally a pharmacist by trade, Tom went in search of adventure and found New Zealand Trails 4 years ago. He is a dive master, a paragliding pilot and one of our senior guides. You'll always find Tom with a smile on his face and a story to tell.

These are just a few of our incredible guides. To discover the rest of our team, visit www.newzealandtrails.com/our-guides.

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*Give us a call, we'd love to chat!* New Zealand: +64 3 595 2080 Australia: 1800 459 511 New Zealand Trails 25 Ramshaw Lane, Arrowtown 9302, New Zealand info@newzealandtrails.com

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