



Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park

## KIWI CLASSIC

**14**  
days

**South  
Island**



**Activity Level: 3-4**

### Style

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



**Start  
Queenstown**



**Finish  
Queenstown**

## Kiwi Classic

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

### Day 1 – Arrive Queenstown & hike Moke Lake & Queenstown Hill

It's time for your first taste of pure New Zealand mountain air! After making our introductions, we'll stretch our legs around Moke Lake - a secluded alpine lake nestled among the Southern Alps. After a picnic lunch on the lakeside we'll make our way back to Queenstown to hike the famous Queenstown Hill.

**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.

**Stay: Christchurch**

### 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**



Key Summit, Routeburn Track

“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”



Cruise Milford Sound

## Day 5 – Hike the Nydia Track

On today's adventure we will hike on the Nydia Track carrying just what we need for our night spent at Nydia Lodge. We'll arrive at Nydia Lodge 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 Sauvignon Blanc, so ready your taste buds!

**Stay: Nelson**



Routeburn Track.



*Nelson Lakes National Park*



*Kepler Track, Fiordland*



*Cycle Central Otago.*



*Hooker Valley Track.*



*Dusky dolphins, Kaikoura.*

### 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. Many guests choose 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 hike to Bushline Hut 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. 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. We'll then hike the secluded Pororari River Walk deep into the rainforest, with its lush greenery and limestone cliffs before travelling onwards to Glacier Country.

**Stay: Franz Josef Glacier**

### Day 11 – Kayak Lake Mapourika

You'll experience mountains, lakes and glaciers all in one phenomenal day. Our hike takes us near to Franz Josef Glacier then you'll paddle out onto Lake Mapourika to enjoy the abundant birdlife and the reflections of the mountains on the 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. You'll have the choice of either biking or walking the Arrow River Bridges Trail.

**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 imposing Darran Mountains. We'll then take a cruise of the iconic Milford Sound. Get ready to see spectacular granite cliffs and crashing waterfalls cascading through rainforest.

**Stay: Te Anau**

### Day 14 – Kepler Track & finish in Queenstown

We'll hike a stunning 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.

