

# Masterpiece

South days



### **Activity Level: 2-4**

### Style

Delicious food, unforgettable lodgings and the best way to physically explore our mountains, lakes and forests.

You'll hike, paddle and so much more...



Queenstown



Finish
Queenstown

# Masterpiece

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

### Day 1 - Hike near Queenstown

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, past homesteads, meadows and mountains.

Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook Region

### 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 option to add on a heli-hike on the Tasman Glacier, or a glacier boat tour of the impressive iceberg-filled lake.

Stay: Aoraki/Mt Cook Region

### Day 3 – Hike Pukaki Kettle Hole Track & explore Mackenzie Country

Today's journey takes us from mountain to ocean through the fertile Canterbury plains. We'll begin the day with a scenic walk set

along the shores of Lake Pukaki. After our hike, we'll head for Christchurch, a historic city with a shifting dynamic.

Stay: Christchurch

# Day 4 – Christchurch & Kaikoura Peninsula

This morning we'll enjoy a walk on the Godley Head Track, a track that offers stunning coastal views and a bit of history. 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



"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



### 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 & explore Pancake Rocks

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.

Stay: Franz Josef



## Day 10 – Haast Jet Boat & Explore the West Coast

Experience mountains, beaches and glaciers all in one phenomenal day. We start with a scenic jet boat deep into the heart of World Heritage wilderness in Haast. This afternoon we'll head down the coast to explore the stunning scenery of the West Coast on our way toward Wanaka.

Stay: Wanaka



Fiordland National Park.

#### Day 11 - Hike Wanaka

We'll start today with a hike up the Rocky Mountain Track for exceptional lake and mountain views, sharing a tasty picnic lunch at the top. Enjoy a relaxed afternoon exploring the charming township of Wanaka.

Stay: Wanaka

#### Day 12 – Hike Kepler Track

Today we'll make our way to Te Anau, the gateway to Fiordland National Park.

This afternoon we'll hike on one of our favourite sections of the Kepler Track, meandering through native beech forest and enjoying spectacular views of the lake and surrounding mountains.

Stay: Te Anau

# Day 13 – Hike Routeburn Track & cruise Milford Sound

Today 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 snow-capped Mt Tutoko and the imposing Darran Mountains. This afternoon we'll head to Milford Sound. Described as the "eighth wonder of the world", enjoy Milford's towering granite cliffs and thundering waterfalls on a cruise of Milford Sound.

Stay: Te Anau

# Day 14 – Hike & finish in Queenstown

Our last journey together is a scenic trip through tussock country and small farming towns back to Queenstown. We'll then hike Jacks Point to Kelvin Heights, a walk through native forest, where you'll enjoy spectacular views over Lake Wakatipu. We'll say our farewells this afternoon in Queenstown.

