

Fiordland & Stewart Island

9 days / 8 nights Escorted Tour

From: \$3895pp Departs: 02 May 22

Includes Milford Sound Cruise & 3 nights on Stewart Island



Join our wonderful tour director Mark Richardson on the Escorted Tours of the lower South Island including Queenstown, Von Valley, Te Anau, Milford Sound, Invercargill and Stewart Island.

Day 1 Arrive Queenstown

D

Upon arrival into Queenstown (own arrangements) you will be transferred from the Airport to the Copthorne Lakefront Hotel for your stay for one night in a Lake view room. This 4 star hotel sits overlooking the shores of Lake Wakatipu and is only a short 5-10 minute walk to the town centre via the picturesque Queenstown gardens. This evening meet your tour escort and the rest of your group for a **welcome drink** at the hotels' Cocktail bar followed by **dinner** at the Restaurant. Hotel: Copthorne Lakefront Hotel 1 night

Day 2 Queenstown to Te Anau via Von Valley Road

B,L,D

Following breakfast at the hotel, you will be transferred to Steamer Wharf in Queenstown where you will board a lake boat for a cruise across to Walter Peak Station. Enjoy the stunning views of the surrounding mountains as you steam across Lake Wakatipu. From Walter Peak Station enjoy a road less travelled - the back road through the Von Valley and via the Mavora Lakes to Te Anau. You will travel along a scenic road into the remote Southland high country. The area is vast and unique with rolling hills covered in red tussock, with the occasional scattering of cattle and sheep, crystal clear rivers and distant snow-capped mountains. There are ample opportunities for photographic and scenic stops. A picnic lunch will be included along the way. On arrival into Te Anau you will visit the Fiordland Cinema for a viewing of Ata Whenua - Shadowland a 30 minute film showcasing the Fiordland World Heritage Status wilderness you would otherwise never see. Leaving Fiordland Cinema we travel a short distance to Fiordland Jet for a Pure Wilderness jet boat experience exploring Fiordland National Park. Beginning with an exhilarating ride down the Waiau river, lined by ancient beech forest and featured in the Lord of the Rings movies. You will emerge from the river onto the breath-taking Lake Manapouri, surrounded by mountains that have been carved by snow and ice over centuries before returning to Te Anau. After a full day, check into your Hotel for two nights, located in the centre of Te Anau township. Dinner is included tonight.

Hotel: Distinction Luxmore Hotel 2 nights

Day 3 Milford Sound Excursion

B,D

After breakfast, travel to Milford Sound where you will get to experience some of Fiordland's most famous locations. Glacier carved valleys, perfect mirror lakes, towering granite faces and the impressive Homer tunnel. There will be plenty of photo opportunities. On arrival into **Milford Sound** join your cruise in one of the most spectacular parts of our beautiful country. Get close to New Zealand fur seals basking on the rocks, massive cliff faces rising for hundreds of metres out of the sea and witness waterfalls cascading from ancient rainforest high in the mountains. Following the cruise return to Te Anau to enjoy the rest of the afternoon in this small Southland town. You may wish to take an optional trip to the Te Anau Glowworm Caves (not included). Dinner will be included at the hotel this evening.

Day 4 Te Anau to Invercargill via Southern Scenic Route

R.D

Following breakfast at the hotel you will be collected for your journey to Invercargill. Travel via Western Southland along the **Southern Scenic route**. The journey begins through an area tucked between the towering peaks of Fiordland and the Takatimu range, before crossing rural hinterland. Then on to Tuatapere before reaching the wild and raw southern coast line at Te Waewae Bay. Continue to Colac Bay, one of New Zealand's top surfing spots and through the affectionately known Riviera of the South – Riverton. Once in Invercargill, visit the **Bill Richardson Transport World**. With literally hundreds of motor vehicles and petrol pumps on display. Be amazed by a restoration journey that has taken fifty years to establish. It is an absolute must see for anyone with a passion for wheels. Highlights include retro Kombi's, Henry Ford Letter Cars, Model T's, Diamond T Trucks, stunning 1930's V8's and over 200 vintage petrol pumps. This evening stay at the centrally located Kelvin Hotel where dinner will be included.

Hotel: Kelvin Hotel 1 night











Invercargill to Stewart Island Day 5

Following breakfast transfer to Bluff for your ferry to Stewart Island. During the one hour crossing of Foveaux Strait on board an express catamaran keep a look out for wildlife, especially seabirds such as mollymawks (albatross) skimming above the waves. There will be a commentary on-board highlighting interesting landmarks. On arrival to Stewart Island you will join your Village & Bays tour of the island which will showcase the small settlement of Oban and surrounding bays, including a stop at Observation Rock with expansive views across Paterson Inlet. An informative commentary will be provided, and there will be time for a short walk at Lee Bay – the gateway to Rakiura National Park. Check in to the Bay Motel for your 3 night stay. Centrally located and handy to all amenities, the Bay Motel units offer gorgeous views of Half Moon Bay or the surrounding bush. A continental breakfast will be provided each morning.



Ulva Island & Kiwi Spotting

Today board your water taxi to Ulva Island for a guided walk. Ulva Island (Te Wharawhara), is renowned for its diverse and abundant birdlife with a forest dominated by Rimu, Southern Rata and Kamahi, surrounded by marine reserve. It was visited by Ngai Tahu Maori as part of their food gathering trips and in the 1890s it became one of New Zealand's first reserves. After a lot of hard work this 267 hectare island is now predator free, allowing the bird and plant life to thrive. The afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure, maybe go for a walk, hire a bike, or settle in at the South Seas Hotel to enjoy a few quiet drinks and meet the locals. This evening we include **Kiwi Spotting** where you will have the chance to see Kiwis in their natural environment. We offer exclusive access to private land where the precious kiwi come out to feed. For many visitors to Stewart Island this will be a lifelong highlight.



Stewart Island at Leisure Day 7

A full day at leisure to enjoy Stewart Island. There are many walks close to the village, local artists, cycling, kayaking and many other activities available or you might choose to relax in your room and enjoy the peaceful surrounds.



Stewart Island to Queenstown Day 8

Board the early Ferry this morning back to Bluff where you will be collected and transferred back to Queenstown for an afternoon at leisure. Check in again to the Copthorne Lakefront hotel for the final night of your tour. Following an afternoon relaxing in Queenstown enjoy a farewell dinner with your group at a local restaurant.

Day 9 **Depart Queenstown**

After breakfast this morning you will be provided with individual transfers to your departure flight from Oueenstown Airport.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

Queenstown, Te Anau, Invercargill, Stewart Island

Eight nights in excellent centrally located accommodation including Breakfast Daily (B)

Queenstown Airport Transfers

Meals as stipulated in Itinerary include 5x Dinners 1x Lunch Sightseeing includes

- Lake Boat Cruise
- Back Road Adventure through Von Valley
- Ata Whenua Shadowlands Film screening
- Fiordland Jet Pure Wilderness journey
- Milford Sound Day trip including cruise
- Bill Richardson's Transport Museum
- Stewart Island return ferry
- Stewart Island Village & Bay tour
- Ulva Island guided tour
- Kiwi spotting

DOC Concessions where applicable included

TOUR PRICE:

\$3895.00 Per Person on a Share Twin Basis Single Supplement: Additional \$995.00 per person See Website for full Terms and Conditions

TOUR DATES:

02 Dec 2021* Closed 19 Mar 2022* Closed 02 May 2022*

*minimum 10 passengers to guarantee departure

TOUR EXCLUSIONS:

Domestic Air Fares, Additional /Optional Tour Costs, Hotel Mini Bar, other Sightseeing/Meals not stated in Itinerary.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Inspired New Zealand Tours Operated by Terra Nova Tours Ltd. PO Box 4026, Christchurch 8140 www.inspiredNZtours.co.nz Email: info@inspiredNZtours.co.nz

PAYMENTS:

A non-refundable deposit of \$450 per person is required at the time of booking. The balance of the tour price is required Zealand Tours website. When a booking is made it is 45 days prior to your travel date. If you book inside 45 days, full payment will be required at the time of booking. If you cancel between 21 & 45 days prior to your travel dates 30% of however are subject to change due to circumstances outside your tour cost will be charged. If you cancel between 8 & 20 days prior you will be charged 50% of your tour cost. Cancellations within 7 days of departures will incur a 100% cancellation charge.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Full Terms and conditions are listed on the Inspired New accepted that these are agreed to. They include the following: Itineraries are correct when initially published, our control. Flights are the responsibility of the passenger and Inspired New Zealand Tours takes no responsibility for costs involved for any changes to flights that might be required due to necessary amendments in itineraries.