



Lake Matheson, South Westland

The Greenstone Trail

South Island's West Coast

for New Zealand's Senior Travel Club

Itinerary especially prepared for

The Greenstone Trail

Travelling 10 April 2025 to 18 April 2025

Thank you for your enquiry into our Greenstone Trail Tour for 2025. On the following pages is our full itinerary.

Tour Overview

This tour travels the length of the West Coast of the South Island - one of New Zealand's most unspoilt regions. The Greenstone Trail is full of attractions that cover many of the 'must see and do's' of this area. Walk among the treetops in a South Westland Rainforest, discover endless wild beaches and languid lakes and learn the stories of bravery and endeavour in historic coal and gold towns.

Please Note

We will be visiting the rainforest area and secret nesting site of the white heron with local guides, but this will be an out of season experience and the chances of seeing them at this time of year is quite low.

Booking

To secure your place on this tour, please call us on 0800 471 227 or alternatively 370 6600, Extn 2.

Your place on this tour is confirmed by ringing us and acknowledging that you have read the terms and conditions. Secondly, we require your deposit immediately (amounts shown in the Terms and Conditions).

Covid-19 Protection

Attached is important information relating to Covid-19 and how we travel.

In consultation with our Health and Safety team, we continue to listen and adapt to the requirements and guidance of Ministry of Health and Government.

Thank you for understanding as we continue to work through these changes to keep our valued passengers safe. If you have any queries, please call our team. We are happy to answer any questions.

Travel Insurance

We strongly encourage you to consider taking travel insurance, as you are now able to get cover for Covid-19 related travel disruptions. Additionally, there are also often non-refundable portions included in the tour. You are welcome to use other providers, but we recommend Helloworld Travel, Masterton. They offer both cancellation and full cover for domestic and international travel. Please don't hesitate to call them direct on 06 378 2454, or email them at masterton@travel.helloworld.co.nz; they will be only too happy to answer your questions or provide you with a quote.

Should there be any part of the itinerary you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to give us a call, as we want your decision to join us to be as fully informed as possible.

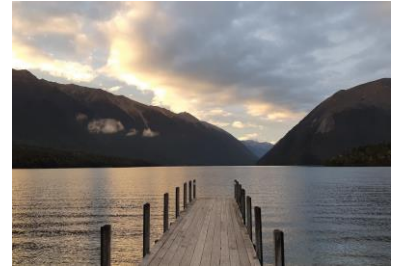
Kind regards The Tranzit Tours Team

Trip Details

Day 1 Thursday, 10 April 2025

Tour We head South - Travelling to St Arnaud

With pick-ups from home locations early this morning we are transferred to Wellington and meet at the Interislander Ferry terminal for our morning sailing across Cook Strait to Picton. There will be time for lunch in Picton on arrival (own choice and cost) before we set off up the Wairau Valley to our destination, the alpine village of St Arnaud, on the shores of Lake Rotoiti. You may have time to take the short walk down to Lake Rotoiti before dinner at our hotel this evening.



Day 2 Friday, 11 April 2025

Tour Friends of the Hill - West to Westport

Departing St Arnaud this morning our travels take us through the scenic Buller Gorge with a morning tea stop along the way. Emerging at Westport we stop here for lunch (own choice and cost), before visiting the wonderful Kawatiri Experience Centre. Westport is a town built on coal extraction from wild and remote places like Denniston and Stockton where daily life was a struggle and comfort a luxury. This modern museum, with significant input from Weta Workshop, offers an immersive experience dedicated to telling the stories of bravery and endeavour, and offers a glimpse into the geological origins of the prized elements of coal, gold and pounamu (greenstone).

This afternoon we continue north to the historic coal mining town of Denniston, where we meet the "Friends of the Hill" a small but passionate group whose mission it is to preserve a unique piece of New Zealand history. They will host us for afternoon tea, and we will hear the stories of life on the Plateau and the famous Denniston Incline, described by local residents as the "eighth wonder of the world" and recognised the world over as an amazing engineering achievement. We then drive down to the top of the Incline brakehead for an opportunity to wander and explore this historic site, which also offers magnificent views down to the coastal plains of the Karamea Bight (if the weather permits). Winding our way back down the hill, we return to Westport, where we check in to our motel, our home for the next two nights. We dine out tonight at a popular local restaurant.



Day 3 Saturday, 12 April 2025

Tour Northwards - Karamea and the Heaphy Track

Today we travel as far north as the road takes us, to Karamea and beyond, passing the small coal mining settlements of Ngakawa, Granity and Seddonville, and threading our way through bush over the spectacular Karamea Bluff. Passing through Little Wanganui and Karamea, we then hug the coast up to Kohaihai, which marks the end of the road and the start of the well-known Heaphy Track within Kahurangi National Park. We've brought along a picnic lunch, and in



this scenic spot we relax and enjoy it (but don't forget your insect repellent, as the sandflies are pretty hungry around here too!) After lunch we can enjoy a very pleasant walk through lush coastal nikau forest at the start of the Heaphy or take a stroll along the beach before we make our way back to Westport. There will be time to relax and freshen up, before we dine out again this evening.

Day 4 Sunday, 13 April 2025

Tour Wonderful West Coast Scenery – Travelling to Hokitika

This morning we drive out to Tauranga Bay and Cape Foulwind where we will be able to take a short scenic walk to view a large mainland seal breeding colony. Our travels then take us along a stretch of the West Coast that many consider the most stunning of all, between Westport and Greymouth (although the competition is pretty fierce, as the following days will prove). Along the way we'll stop at the tiny historic gold mining settlement of Charleston, driving down to Constant Bay, a beautiful little cove surrounded by rocky headlands, with a narrow entrance leading to the sea. After a morning cuppa we continue our journey south, wild beaches, towering bluffs and subtropical nikau a feature of our travels. The Pancake Rocks/Punakaiki Blowholes is our lunch stop today (own cost and choice) with time also to walk to this geological wonder – formed some 30 million years ago. Be sure to also venture into the stunning new Punakaiki Visitor Centre - architecturally interesting as it is shaped like an anchor and features a living green roof.



This afternoon we take a short detour up the Grey River, where we find the small historical mining settlement of Blackball, once a hot bed of unionism in New Zealand and the birthplace of the Labour Party, today a quiet village, rich in history. The story of Blackball is told at the Blackball Museum of Working Class History – an excellent little open air museum, also featuring a special tribute to the Pike River miners. Next door is the famous “Formerly the Blackball Hilton” Hotel. Finally, we make our way to Hokitika to our accommodation, home for the next two nights and located right beside the beach. We have time to settle in and freshen up before we dine in house this evening.

Day 5 Monday, 14 April 2025

Tour Walking Among the Treetops

We depart for the Hokitika Gorge this morning, making our way out through lush dairying country to reach the gorge - a secret but spectacularly scenic spot - where we enjoy a walk and a chance to explore. After a cup of tea, we head to tranquil Lake Mahinapua where a fabulous attraction awaits us - The Westcoast Treetop Walk. This walk allows us to safely stroll amongst the canopy of magnificent lowland West Coast rainforest, with glimpses of the picturesque lake. The more adventurous among us can climb the Hokitika Tower to gain sensational vistas of the snow-capped Southern Alps and the Tasman Sea, or sway in harmony with the forest on a cantilever. Lunch today is at the Treetop café (included).



This afternoon we travel back into Hokitika township with some free time for sightseeing, shopping, or beachcombing. We enjoy relaxed dining in again this evening.

Day 6**Tuesday, 15 April 2025**

Tour West Coast Rainforest

We travel south to Whataroa this morning where we join a rainforest tour within the remote Waitangiroto Nature Reserve – only accessible on a guided tour. Driving across lush South Westland farmland, we then walk on a flat, purpose-built track among the pristine stands of 1000 year old kahikatea. This type of forest is very special and complex, and literally drips with lichens and epiphytes, while in autumn bursts with wonderful fungi, orchids and ferns which our local guide will point out to us. We will also see the nesting site of the kotuku (white heron), located on a secret waterway. At this time of year, the birds have dispersed widely, but we will learn about this special chosen location – the only breeding site of the kotuku in New Zealand.



Returning from our tour we enjoy lunch today (own cost and choice) at the White Heron Tea Rooms in the village.

This afternoon we will detour into the tiny historic gold settlement of Okarito. Bounded by ocean, estuary and forest, Okarito, population 30, also features the West Coast's oldest known building, Donovan's Store, built at the height of the gold rush in 1865. We have time to explore before making our way to the majestic Franz Josef Glacier, where there are a couple of excellent short walking options to view the glacier. Finally we make our way to our enchanting accommodation privately nestled amongst lush rainforest in Franz Joseph Village. This evening we dine onsite at Monsoon Restaurant.

Day 7**Wednesday, 16 April 2025**

Tour World Heritage South Westland

Today's travels explore part of the South West New Zealand World Heritage Area – Te Wahipounamu - so designated because South Westland and Fiordland are some of the very best examples in the world of dramatic and beautiful forest and mountain landscapes. We visit Lake Matheson this morning, for that iconic chocolate box view (if conditions permit). An easy graded walking track provides stunning views no matter what the mood of the lake, and afterwards enjoy a cappuccino at the café (own cost today) or a browse of ReflectioNZ Gallery, an art and craft gallery featuring quality NZ products.



Continuing south we travel through magnificent lowland forest, cross numerous swift flowing rivers, and circuit mysterious lakes, darkened by natural tannins from the forest floor leached into the water. Near Lake Paringa we visit South Westland Salmon Farm, where we enjoy a talk about this innovative business farming salmon in a clean and isolated setting. We'll also enjoy lunch here (included), and where freshly farmed salmon is naturally on the menu.

This afternoon we enjoy more stunning scenery, with stops at locations of interest. Knights Point provides magnificent coastal views, and Ship Creek, a languid stream and boardwalk meandering through dense kahikatea forest, provides the opportunity for a walk. Returning to our retreat at Franz, we once again enjoy the hospitality of our restaurant in the rainforest.

Day 8

Thursday, 17 April 2025

Tour Returning to Rotoiti

We start retracing our steps today, our travels north providing a different perspective and with different stops of interest. Our morning tea break today -Tranzit style - is at Ross, another town established during the West Coast Gold Rush, remarkable for the 3kg “Roddy Nugget” found in 1909. A short wander in the historic reserve will uncover the past.



Our lunch stop today is in Greymouth (at own cost) and we will have time for a bit of an explore of the town, including the Great Wall of Greymouth, a wall built to prevent the town flooding, after a devastating flood in 1980. This afternoon we travel inland through prosperous west coast farming country. A leg stretch in Reefton - another delightful West Coast town with a rich history - will break our journey as we return to St Arnaud for our last night together. We will enjoy relaxed dining inhouse this evening, reminiscing on the past week of scenically spectacular travels.

Day 9

Friday, 18 April 2025

Tour Homeward Bound

After a leisurely breakfast this morning we will head down to the shores of Lake Rotoiti, before we make our way down the Wairau Valley to Blenheim and on to Picton. Lunch today is in Picton (own choice and expense) prior to departing on our afternoon sailing returning us to Wellington. Finally, we bid our fellow travellers goodbye before being transferred to our home locations.



The Cost of This Tour Includes:

- All coach travel
- Interislander Ferry transfers
- Good quality motel or hotel accommodation
- 2 course or buffet dinners
- Full Breakfasts
- Morning teas on most days
- 1 picnic lunch
- Denniston “Friends of the Hill“, tour
- Kawatiri Experience Museum, entry and tour
- Westcoast Treetop Walk, walk and lunch
- Waitangiroto Nature Reserve – rainforest tour
- South Westland Salmon Farm, lunch and talk

Total Cost Per Person

Double or twin share: NZ\$5,510.00
single accommodation: NZ6415.00

Terms and Conditions

Deposit required to confirm your booking \$1400.00 per person

Tour balance payable by: 24 February 2025

Bank account details: BNZ 020688 0127658 00
Tour Reference: Greenstone25

To: Tranzit Coachlines Wairarapa Ltd
P O Box 116
MASTERTON 5840
Phone 0800 471 227 or (06) 370 6600

OR: Book online at www.tranzittours.co.nz

Tranzit Coachlines (Wairarapa) Ltd, trading as Tranzit Tours Terms and Conditions and Important Booking Information

Before you book a tour with Tranzit Tours, please take the time to read and understand these Terms and Conditions below. These Terms and Conditions apply to bookings made from 12 October 2020 onwards, including new bookings made with credit vouchers issued following tour cancellations or postponements.

Pricing Validity

- All costs associated with each tour are outlined in full within each tour itinerary. All pricing quoted is valid for the dates of tour when booked.

Reservations and Payments

- Bookings for all Tranzit tours can be made through any Tranzit Coachlines Reservations Centre or an approved Travel Agent.
- Any person making a booking for others shall be deemed to have accepted these Terms and Conditions on behalf of all individuals they are booking on a tour and it is the responsibility of the person making the booking to bring these Terms and Conditions to the attention of those individuals booked.
- A deposit as stated in the Tour Itinerary is payable to secure the booking.
- The balance must be paid in full by the date stated in the Tour Itinerary.
- Any reservation made within fourteen (14) days of the tour departure must be paid in full at the time of booking.

Cancellations, Postponements and Alterations

Cancellations by the Customer

- Cancellations 45+ days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 15% of your deposit, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- Cancellations 44 – 8 days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 15% of the total tour cost, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- Cancellations within 7 days before tour departure date – a cancellation fee valued at 25% of the total tour cost, plus any other fees charged by other providers such as accommodation, ferry, activities etc.
- No refunds will be made for cancellations made within one day of departure or once travel has commenced. Refunds will not be provided for unused portions of a tour, unless the Customer can provide genuine reason and documentary evidence that services were unable to be utilised (and a refund if applicable is available from the other provider) in which case the company will review each request and may provide a partial refund at the sole discretion of the company.
- Cancellations of one half of a twin share booking will result in the Customer cancelling being charged the cost of a single booking, if the Company is unable to match the twin share booking with another Customer.

Alterations by the Customer

- The Customer may transfer their booking to another person for the same tour and commencement date, but only if the other person satisfies all of Tranzit Tours requirements in relation to the tour and provides us a completed Booking Form. The Customer must notify Tranzit Tours in writing of the intended transfer at least 30 days prior to the commencement date of the tour. A \$60 transfer fee per person/per transfer will apply (in addition to any supplier change fees).

Cancellations or Postponements by the Company

- Transit Tours reserves the right to cancel, reschedule or postpone a tour. With the exception of the Force Majeure section below, Transit Tours will:
- In the event of a tour being cancelled by the company prior to departure and not postponed – refund the total amount paid in respect of that tour or provide a credit, but will have no further liability to the Customer.
- In the event of a tour being postponed – rebook the Customer for the new departure date or provide a credit, but will have no further liability to the Customer.
- In the event of a Force Majeure event that occurs prior to, or during, a tour such as but not limited to fire, flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, avalanche, severe weather, power outages, labour disruptions, pandemic, government controls or other events outside Transit Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Transit Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised, Transit Tours reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or shorten the tour and will be excused and released from its obligations without liability of any kind. Customers will receive a credit for postponed tours. For cancelled or shortened tours, refunds in these circumstances will be in full less any unrecoverable costs (i.e. expenses already incurred or fees charged by other providers).
- The Customer will be advised of any increased tour costs as a result of the postponement. Credits will be equal to the value of the payment made and must be used within 12 months. Customers are strongly advised to take out travel insurance.
- In the event of cancellation or postponement by the company, Transit Tours is not responsible for any consequential loss incurred by the Customer. Customers are again advised to take out travel insurance.

Alterations by the Company

- Before Tour Commencement: If a major change to the tour needs to be made before departure, we will inform the Customer of the change as soon as practicable and will advise of any consequential price increase or decrease.
- Transit Tours reserves the right to alter a tour (including the itinerary) and substitute accommodation facilities should unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, the company reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. The company will not be held responsible for weather-based cancellations, or those closures made at the tour provider's discretion.
- Transit Tours will inform the customer as soon as practicable and will advise of any consequential price increase or decrease.

Insurance

- Transit Tours recommend that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance to cover against things like lost or damaged luggage, accident or sickness, loss or theft of personal belongings and documents, or the need to cancel or shorten your tour. Please note that special conditions will apply for pre-existing medical conditions with all travel insurance policies.

Health and Fitness

- Transit Tours are generally able to accommodate most fitness abilities; however, some tours may require a certain level of physical fitness for full enjoyment of tour activities. The Customer must inform Transit Tours, at the time of booking, of any health or fitness restrictions that may limit participation of tour activities or put the Customer, tour staff or other customers at risk. The Customer acknowledges that their suitability for a tour, or any activity within a tour, is wholly the Customer's responsibility.
- Payment of a deposit by the Customer to secure a Transit Tour acts as a warranty that:
 - the Customer is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in the tour, and
 - the Customer does not have a health, physical condition or disability that would create risk to themselves, tour staff or other customers, and
 - the Customer indemnifies Transit Tours from all actions, claims and demands arising out of any want of health or fitness.
- Transit Tours reserves the right to decline a booking on medical, health or fitness grounds at its sole discretion.
- Transit Tours reserves the right to remove a Customer from a tour, or quarantine a Customer on tour, if their health and/or fitness interferes with the tour or staff safety or other Customers safety or tour experience in any way. Any additional costs associated with a Customer's removal from tour or placement into quarantine, shall be borne by the Customer. Refunds will be made in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

Authority on Tour

- Transit Tours are operated by staff with decision making authority while on tour. By travelling with Transit Tours, you agree to accept the authority of the driver/guide and their decisions are final in all matters likely to affect the wellbeing, safety or experience of any customer or staff member on board. Failure to adhere to reasonable requests or any inappropriate behaviour that is degrading the experience of other customers, may result in the Customer being removed from the tour. If a Customer is asked to leave a tour, any costs associated with returning home will be borne by the Customer and any unused portion of the tour will not be refunded.

Responsibilities

- Transit Tours include goods and services provided by other operators such as hotels, attractions and transportation companies. Customers are advised to familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions on which these services are supplied. Accordingly, Transit Tours will not be responsible and will be excluded from liability for any loss, damage, omission or acts being negligent or otherwise, committed by other goods and service providers used in connection with the tour.
- Transit Tours is not liable for any loss, damage, delay, or injury caused to the traveller or their baggage whilst under the care or control of a third-party provider. A Customer's baggage and personal effects shall be carried at the owner's risk as provided for under the Carriage of Goods Act.

- Transit Tours is not responsible for any losses or additional expenses to the Customer due to tours impacted by Force Majeure events that occur prior to, or during, a tour such as but not limited to fire, flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, avalanche, severe weather, power outages, labour disruptions, pandemic, government controls or other events outside Transit Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Transit Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised.

Acceptance of Risk

- The Customer acknowledges that all Transit Tours may be subject to risks and dangers beyond that which might be experienced by the Customer at home. Except as provided in law, the Customer acknowledges that they assume all risk and Transit Tours is not liable for misadventure, death, injury, delay or loss which occurs during the tour.

Seat Rotation

- For the enjoyment of all travellers Transit Tours operates a seat rotation system which all travellers must participate in as a condition of booking.

Photographs

- Photographs used to market any Transit Tour depict typical scenes experienced, but the subject matter may not necessarily be seen or experienced whilst visiting a destination within a tour.
- Whilst on tour, the Customer may be included in photographs and/or film taken by the guide or driver. These photographs may be used for future promotional advertising purposes and by booking on a Transit Tour the Customer authorises the use of any images they are captured in to be used without further consent or any payment of any kind. If the Customer does not authorise the use of their image for promotional purposes, they must make this known at the time of booking.

Privacy Policy

- Any personal information that Transit Tours collects about the Customer may be used for any purpose associated with the operation of a tour or to send the Customer marketing material in relation to Transit Tour products. The information may be disclosed to our agents, service providers or other suppliers to enable Transit Tours to operate the tour. Transit Tours will otherwise treat your details in accordance with our privacy policy (available on our website).

Applicable Law

- The laws of New Zealand govern these Terms and Conditions to the fullest extent allowable.

Updated: 28 August 2023

Keeping you healthy and safe on our domestic Tranzit Tours

The health, safety and wellbeing of our passengers and team members is our highest priority and we are obligated to take all practicable risk measures to operate safely.

While the New Zealand Government has removed the self-isolation mandates should people contract COVID-19, the health, safety and wellbeing of our passengers while on tour with us is of utmost importance. As a company, Tranzit Group will always take advice from the Ministry of Health on best practice safety protocols for all infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

Our health and safety measures include:

- ✓ Our Tranzit Tours team undergoing Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) the morning of the departure of the tour to eliminate any potential risk of COVID-19.
- ✓ Asking passengers to pro-actively undergo a self-administered RAT prior to departure for their safety (and the safety of all passengers on the tour) should they feel they could have been put at risk of contracting COVID-19 or feel unwell (including hayfever, cold and flu-like symptoms). If in doubt, we ask passengers to call the Tranzit Tours Team.
- ✓ Encouraging passengers to wash hands regularly in warm soapy water, use provided hand sanitizer, cough/sneeze into the inside corner of their elbows and stay clear of people who are unwell.
- ✓ Providing individual snap lock bags so each passenger can dispose of personal rubbish, including tissues and face masks.
- ✓ Ensuring that prior to our tour's departure the coach undergoes a deep clean (including the air-conditioning filters) and reminding passengers that if they are unwell, they need to stay home.
- ✓ All hard surfaces being cleaned daily with a disinfectant while on tour.
- ✓ Providing biodegradable disposable cups on tour to prevent cross contamination.
- ✓ Using tongs for food handling and our team members wearing gloves when handling food.
- ✓ Providing disposable masks, although we encourage passengers to bring their own masks. While it is not compulsory for passengers to wear masks on a coach tour, we do encourage it if you are showing any cold or flu-like symptoms.
- ✓ Some facilities may still ask people to wear a face mask. We ask you to respect their policies to protect those at higher risk.
- ✓ Ensuring our team is fully trained in first aid.

If you become unwell on tour, please contact Healthline on: 0800 611 116 or your doctor immediately who will triage symptoms over the phone and advise next steps. This may include having a COVID-19 test and then self-isolating from the tour. While not mandated, the Ministry of Health guidance is to stay at home for five days if unwell or have tested positive for COVID-19. This will be managed on a case-by-case basis. Our Tranzit team will support you and assist with logistics (at the cost of the Passenger – which may be covered by your travel insurance).

Thank you for understanding as we continue to work to keep you, our valued passengers, safe. Our team is always happy to answer any specific questions you have.