



Acheron House

Molesworth and Beyond

22 – 26 February 2021

tranzit
tours

New Zealand's
Senior Travel Club

Itinerary

Join us on one of our most popular tours. We do however stress that this is a back-country adventure so expect to experience nature at its most raw. A level of basic fitness, together with a flexible attitude, is strongly recommended.

Please note that due to the type of roads and terrain we cover on this tour, the itinerary may need to be changed due to weather events and road closures. We have several great alternatives if changes are necessary.

Day 1: Monday 22 February - Travelling to Blenheim

A leisurely start from all destinations today as we are transferred to Wellington and meet at the ferry terminal for an afternoon sailing across Cook Strait to Picton. Upon reaching Picton we make the short transfer to our Blenheim accommodation, to settle in before dining together this evening.

Day 2: Tuesday 23 February - Molesworth Station Safari Tour

This morning we board the specially designed four-wheel drive coaches, owned by local guide/owner-operator, Rick Stirling, for our Molesworth Station tour. Our journey today takes us up the Awatere Valley and allows us the chance to travel right through New Zealand's largest high country property. Dramatic country unfolds before us, as we explore the ever changing terrain, and learn its history through a full and informative commentary. Morning tea at one of the stations will provide a chance to talk with the family on this unique side visit. Then, as we travel through Molesworth, we will hear tales of shepherds and stockmen, and stop to absorb the beauty of this unequalled landscape, enjoying a picnic lunch (included) by a century old cob building, with a backdrop of towering snow-capped mountains. Our journey ends today in the tranquil village of Hanmer Springs, our base for the next two nights. We dine in the restaurant adjacent to our accommodation tonight.

Day 3: Wednesday 24 February - Rainbow Station Safari Tour

Joined once again by our guide Rick Stirling and his special vehicles, our tour today to the remote privately-owned Rainbow Station is a tour of contrasts: from craggy beech covered mountains to flowing tussock lands, from snow fed streams to crystal mountain tarns. Departing from Hanmer Springs we climb over Jacks Pass to the Clarence River valley and on up past St James Station to Lake Tennyson for a cuppa. We then travel through the Molesworth/Tarndale lakes country before entering the rugged Rainbow Station. Plenty of time to explore and take a stroll to view the native flora and fauna in this true wilderness area and one can only "experience" it as words are difficult to describe the absolute beauty, grandeur and mystique of this alpine delight. Once again, we find a sheltered spot to enjoy a picnic lunch (included). Returning to Hanmer Springs, schedule permitting, we can enjoy a soak in the local hot pools (own cost), or simply rest and relax before dining in.

Day 4: Thursday 25 February – Lewis Pass, Maruia Stock Saddle and Braeburn Track

This morning we travel on our tour coach with local guide Rick Stirling joining us as we journey through the Lewis Pass, stopping for a cuppa at the St James Walkway carpark with an opportunity to visit a typical alpine tarn. Travelling a little further by tour coach, we then re-join Rick's special vehicles to traverse the breath-taking Matakītaki/Maruia Stock Saddle track before descending into Murchison for a welcome comfort stop and picnic lunch (included). Here there is an opportunity for the treasure hunters of a little retail therapy. Following lunch, we negotiate the Braeburn/Rotoroa track, an old gold mining supply track used back in the 1860s. Enroute we visit both Nelson lakes, Rotoroa and Rotoiti, before emerging at the alpine resort village of St Arnaud to reflect on an amazing journey through time and history seen by few.

Day 5: Friday 26 February - Travelling Home

A leisurely breakfast this morning is followed by a short sight-seeing tour of St Arnaud Village and tranquil Lake Rotoiti, before we travel 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.



Acheron River

Tour Schedule

Price Per Person:

- Double or twin share.....\$2220.00 per person
- Single Accommodation\$2550.00 per person

Deposit required to confirm your booking:\$420.00 per person

Cost of Tour Includes:

- Accommodation
- All dinners, 2 course
- All breakfasts
- Cook Strait ferry transfers
- All coach travel
- 3 Guided Safari day tours inclusive of morning teas, lunches and refreshments
 - Molesworth Station
 - Rainbow Station or alternative if weather and track conditions preclude
 - Maruia Stock Saddle and Braeburn Track

Tour Balance payable by.....04 January 2021

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

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

Please read the "Terms and Conditions " enclosed



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