



Rocky Mountain

South Island National Parks Walking

tranzit
tours

New Zealand's
Senior Travel Club

Itinerary especially prepared for

South Island National Parks Walking Enquiry

Travelling 6 September 2021 to 13 September 2021

Thank you for your interest in our walking tours for 2021.

We are sending you the itinerary for our South Island National Parks tour because you contacted us to register your interest, or have indicated a general interest in our walking tours and we thought you might be keen to join us on our latest walking adventure. The full itinerary follows.

Booking

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

Your place on this tour is confirmed only by ringing us and acknowledging that you have read the terms and conditions together with the travel agreement. Secondly, we require your deposit to confirm your booking (amounts shown in the Terms and Conditions).

Tour Overview

We are pleased to be working with Active Adventures to bring you this walking tour. Visit the South Island during early spring to hike quiet trails under crisp blue skies. Hear the rumble of avalanches in Aoraki Mt Cook National Park, spot birdlife and immerse yourself in ancient beech and podocarp forest. This is a wonderful sample of hikes in Mount Cook, Mt Aspiring and Fiordland National Parks as well as walks in the Mackenzie Basin, Wanaka and a taste of the stunning Kepler track on the shores of Lake Te Anau.

Highlights

- Hike Mt John to enjoy stunning views of the Mackenzie Basin.
- Hooker Glacier walk in Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park.
- Walk in Mt Aspiring National Park.
- Rocky Mountain Walk, Lake Wanaka.
- Walk on the Kepler Track.
- Cruising in Milford Sound.

Group Size

This trip has a maximum of 15 guests, plus two experienced guides.

Fitness

As an activity level 3-4 trip, guests will need a good level of fitness for this itinerary. You will get to experience walking in varying terrain, including some ascents and descents, and you will have experienced guides to help along the way. Typically hikes on this trip range from 3-4 hours, and sometimes more. We recommend that guests prepare and do some training, so you get the most out of your adventure. The attached Travel Agreement and booking information sheets will need to be completed when confirming your booking.

Travel Insurance

A number of the components of this tour package are non-refundable. For this reason, we strongly recommend that you take out some form of travel insurance for your protection and peace of mind. Our travel insurance provider is 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 and ask for Laura, or email her at laura.dawes@helloworld.co.nz; she 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 give us a call, as we want your decision to join us to be as fully informed as possible.

Ali, Kath, and Robin - your Tranzit Tours team

Trip Details

Day 1 Sunday, 5 September 2021

Tour We Fly to Christchurch

We are transferred to Wellington Airport this morning to begin our adventure. Flying to Christchurch we stay in the city tonight in preparation for an early start tomorrow.

Staying: Elms Hotel, Christchurch (Dinner)

Day 2 Monday, 6 September 2021

Tour Travelling to Lake Ohau

After breakfast we are on the road bright and early, headed for Lake Tekapo where we'll stretch our legs with a visit to the Church of the Good Shepherd, easily one of the most scenic locations for a church you'll ever come across! After lunch by the glacier-fed lake with its cobalt blue allure, we'll hike along the lakeshore before emerging above the treeline on Mt John for breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains. Then we'll carry on to the remote and beautiful Lake Ohau Lodge. The lodge is tucked in beside an alpine lake, with stunning views stretching across to Aoraki/Mt Cook and the Southern Alps – the ideal spot to soak in a hot tub and star gaze! We will enjoy dining in this evening with the welcoming ambiance of a roaring fire.

Staying: Ohau Lodge, Lake Ohau (All meals)

Hiking Distance: 8 kilometres, 2-3 hours; Elevation Gain: 330 metres



Day 3 Tuesday, 7 September 2021

Tour Hiking in Aoraki Mount Cook National Park

The highest mountain in New Zealand, Mt Cook was first named Aoraki or 'cloud piercer' by South Island Maori. This region was Sir Edmund Hillary's training ground as he prepared for his and Tenzing Norgay's famous summit of Mt Everest in 1953. Feeling inspired, we'll take an impressive hike up to a lake at the base of the Hooker Glacier, complete with icebergs! The track is surrounded by peaks, glaciers, native vegetation and mountain streams, and provides excellent views of Aoraki/Mt Cook on a fine day. If you're keen for a challenge, another option is to take a day hike to the main ridge above Mueller Glacier. It's a tough hike and the weather would need to co-operate, but the views across the Southern Alps are worth it! Afterwards, we'll return to Lake Ohau Lodge to enjoy dinner and watch the sunset on Aoraki/Mt Cook.

Staying: Ohau Lodge, Lake Ohau (All meals)

Hooker Valley Hiking Distance: 9 kilometres, 3-4 hours; Elevation Gain: 100 metres



Day 4 Wednesday, 8 September 2021

Tour Hiking Mt Aspiring National Park

Our hike today will take us into the Matukituki Valley in Mt Aspiring National Park, to catch a glimpse of Rob Roy Glacier. If it's a clear day, we'll be able to see Mt Aspiring from the track start at Raspberry Creek Flat. We will start our hike alongside the Matukituki River, though shortly crossing a bridge over the river to ascend up into the side hanging valley. Soon we'll be surrounded by thick native beech forest as we hike up, and will have the chance to see South Island bush robins, tomtits, fantails, and even kea if we're lucky! After a few kilometres of steady uphill through the forest, we'll come to an area where the bush opens out and we will be presented with stunning views of the Rob Roy Glacier and Rob Roy peak. We'll make ourselves comfortable to take in the views while enjoying our picnic lunch, before retracing our steps back to the valley floor.



Staying: Edgewater Resort, Wanaka (All meals)
Hiking Distance: 10 kilometres, 3-4 hours; Elevation Gain: 420 metres

Day 5 Thursday, 9 September 2021

Tour Hiking Rocky Mountain

This morning we enjoy a hearty breakfast before heading off for our hike today on the Rocky Mountain track, a spectacular circuit through an area carved out by ice-age glaciers, surrounded by native forest and shrubland. Here we have several options - those who want a more relaxed pace can opt for a relaxed walk just around Diamond Lake, and those who want a bigger challenge can walk to the top of Rocky Mountain, for views over Lake Wanaka and back to the township. We'll enjoy lunch after our hike in Wanaka, then it's a short but dramatic drive over the Cardrona Saddle to Queenstown on the shores of Lake Wakatipu, our base for the next couple of nights. You will have time to explore and plan your free day tomorrow before dinner. You'll sleep sweetly at this lakefront hotel located in the heart of Queenstown.



Staying: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Queenstown (All meals)
Hiking Distance: 7 kilometres, 2-3 hours; Elevation Gain: 375 metres
OR
Alternative Loop Hiking Distance: 2.5 kilometres, 1 hour

Day 6 Friday, 10 September 2021

Tour Rest and Recreation in Queenstown

After breakfast the day is yours. Queenstown is the adventure capital of New Zealand and the optional activities here are endless, including horse trekking, a gondola, kayaking, fishing, winery tours, jet boating or a more relaxing cruise on the TSS Earnslaw. There are also some great hiking or leisurely walking opportunities. Or you can just soak up the atmosphere or lounge about reading a book. Your guides will happily share their favourite haunts and point you in the right direction for your free day today. We meet up for dinner at our hotel again this evening.



Staying: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Queenstown (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 7 **Saturday, 11 September 2021**

Tour **Cruising Milford Sound**

This morning we take a drive into Milford Sound, through the Homer Tunnel to emerge at the top of a spectacular glacier-carved valley for a memorable descent to the shore of Milford Sound (actually it's a fiord!) Rudyard Kipling rated Milford the eighth natural wonder of the world and it is truly breath-taking, with steep granite walls plunging over a thousand metres to the Tasman Sea and waterfalls cascading into deep inky water. When we arrive at Milford Sound we'll relax on the deck of a ship, cruising the deep waters of the fiord in the hands of a knowledgeable captain and the nature guides on board. We'll marvel at the majesty of Mitre Peak - so named for its likeness to a Bishop's hat - and get up close and personal with several waterfalls! The landscape here looks superimposed because of the sheer scale of your surroundings. On our way back we'll have time to check out a few of our favourite viewpoints along the way and explore some of the highlights of this World Heritage Area, including the Eglinton Valley, Mirror Lakes and Marian Gantry. The waterfalls viewed from the gantry will take your breath away! Tonight we'll enjoy a celebratory dinner for the last night of our adventure.



Staying: Matai Lodge, Te Anau (All meals)
Cruise Time: 2 hours

Day 8 **Sunday, 12 September 2021**

Tour **Travelling Home**

After breakfast, we journey back to Queenstown in time to catch a flight home to Wellington. Farewelling our fellow travellers at Wellington Airport, we will be met by transfer vehicles to return us to our hometowns. This is the end of our adventure and you'll have had an exhilarating week.

(Breakfast)

Day 9 **Monday, 13 September 2021**

Cost of Tour Includes

The Cost of this Tour Includes

- Air New Zealand flights
- All coach travel
- Good quality hotel accommodation
- 2 course or buffet evening meals
- All breakfasts
- Lunches unless stated
- All guiding services - two guides per trip.
- All activities as described above - hiking, boat cruise and caves.

Total Cost Per Person

Double or Twin Share	\$7,425.00
Single Accommodation	\$8,760.00

Terms and Conditions

Deposit required to confirm your booking \$3000.00 per person (non-refundable)

Tour balance payable by: 5 July 2021

Bank account details: BNZ 020688 0127658 00
Tour Reference: SthNP21

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

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

Before you book a tour with Transit Tours, please take the time to read and understand these Terms and Conditions below. These Terms and Conditions apply to bookings made from 11 September 2020 onwards, including new bookings made with credit vouchers issued following tour cancellations or postponements.

If you booked your tour prior to 12 October 2020, your original Terms and Conditions still apply.

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 Transit tours can be made through any Transit 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 Transit Tours requirements in relation to the tour and provides us a completed Booking Form. The Customer must notify Transit 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.