



Merinos near Tekapo

Southern Lakes and Canterbury High Country

for New Zealand's Senior Travel Club

Itinerary especially prepared for

Southern Lakes and Canterbury High Country 2025

Travelling 11 March 2025 to 18 March 2025

Thank you for your enquiry into our Southern Lakes High Country Tour for 2025. On the following pages is our full itinerary.

Tour Overview

Rural splendour takes on epic proportions on the big sheep stations of the south. We visit Mt Nicholas on Lake Wakatipu, two iconic stations at Lake Wanaka, a traditional station in the heart of the Mackenzie Basin and spend a fabulous day exploring farming properties on the edges of the Canterbury Plains. Historic Mesopotamia Station in the Canterbury high country is a special highlight. We do stress though that this is another of our back-country adventures, so expect to really get in touch with nature. A level of basic fitness and mobility, together with a flexible attitude, is strongly recommended.

Tour Highlights

- Walter Peak, Mt Nicholas Station and Mavora Lakes – travel through two iconic stations at the head of Lake Wakatipu
- West Wanaka Station – a 4WD tour over this station stunningly located on the shores of Lake Wanaka
- Criffel Station – an extensive deer property in the picturesque Wanaka Basin
- Braemar Station – a Mackenzie Country station on the shores of Lake Pukaki
- Mesopotamia Station – a historic Canterbury high country station in the headwaters of the Rangitata River
- Mt Torlesse Station – 4WD touring and a jet boat ride on the Waimakariri River
- Homebush Stables - an important historic link to the settlement of Christchurch and farming in Canterbury
- Manderley Farm - a Banks Peninsula Hill Country farm

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 Tuesday, 11 March 2025

Tour Flying to Queenstown

We are transferred to Wellington Airport this morning where our adventure begins with a flight to Queenstown. Our coach and driver await us at Frankton airport to whisk us off to Cromwell, making our way down the scenic Cromwell Gorge to our hotel where we stay for the next three nights. We settle in and enjoy relaxed dining in house this evening.



Day 2 Wednesday, 12 March 2025

Tour Mavora Lakes High Country Tour

A memorable excursion awaits us today, as we make our way back to Queenstown to join Nomad Safaris, for their Mavora Lakes High Country Tour. Our tour starts with a journey across Lake Wakatipu on the TSS Earnslaw. Known as the “lady of the lake”, the Earnslaw has been plying these waters since 1912. Disembarking at Walter Peak Station, we meet our Nomad driver and board their vehicle. Taking a scenic back country road through Walter Peak and Mount Nicholas Stations, our guide will acquaint us with the history of the pioneering high-country farming of this tussock covered landscape. The scenery changes as we near Mavora Lakes where we stop to enjoy a picnic lunch (included) and have time to stroll along the lake’s edge and in the surrounding beech forest. Continuing our journey this afternoon we complete a circuit, as we travel through rolling green northern Southland countryside, predominantly dotted with sheep and deer. We pass the settlements of Mossburn and Fiver Rivers, Garston and Kingston, before following the eastern shoreline of Lake Wakatipu back to Queenstown and finally returning to Cromwell.



Day 3 Thursday, 13 March 2025

Tour Criffel and West Wanaka Stations

We travel to Wanaka this morning, where we visit Criffel Station. A tour of this historic 2000-hectare deer farm provides expansive views of the Wanaka Basin, surrounding mountain ranges and an insight into the management of the property, their focus on providing a balanced and healthy environment for their land and animals. Our hosts provide lunch, catered in their wool shed which has been converted into a rustic venue.

This afternoon we join Ridgeline Adventures for a 4WD tour through West Wanaka Station. As we travel through this spectacular property, increasingly gaining altitude, we will be rewarded with stunning lake views, hear yarns about farming life, conservation projects and fascinating local history. At the end of this exhilarating day, relaxed dining in our hotel restaurant will be welcomed.



Day 4**Friday, 14 March 2025**

Tour Braemar Station (Cromwell to Methven)

Our meandering travels today take us over the Lindis Pass and into the vast Mackenzie Basin. We experience the changing landscapes of the Mackenzie, making our way to a farming property on the shores of Lake Pukaki. Braemar Station is a 15,000-hectare traditional high country station and has been run by the Mackenzie family since 1969. We will be hosted for lunch here today and learn about the station as we enjoy great views looking across the lake to Aoraki/Mt Cook and the Ben Ohau Range.



Departing Braemar we travel over Burkes Pass, the terrain changing to typically rolling and much lush South Canterbury countryside, while our destination of Methven is on the edge of the expansive Canterbury Plains, the largest area of flat arable land in NZ. We check in to our accommodation where we dine in tonight.

Day 5**Saturday, 15 March 2025**

Tour Mesopotamia Station

We make our way up into the headwaters of the Rangitata River today to an iconic Canterbury High Country property, Mesopotamia Station. Nestled amongst the Southern Alps, Mesopotamia was named by Samuel Butler in 1860, who, made famous for his novel “Erewhon”, also farmed on Mesopotamia. Today it is run by the Prouting family, a 25,000 acre traditionally farmed, merino, deer and cattle farm surrounded by the majestic Two Thumbs Mountain range and the huge braided Rangitata River.



There is much to see in this area; on our way up this scenic valley we stop at Peel Forest where we meet our local guides for the day and take a short walk through a fine stand of totara, one almost three metres across, and thought to be about 1,000 years old. We enjoy refreshments here before continuing up the gorge, our next stop to view the tiny Mt Peel Church built out of greywacke stone from the Rangitata River. As we approach Mesopotamia the massive valley of this river opens out before us. We transfer into four-wheel drive vehicles at the station to take a tour over part of the station, including the game park where you may see Himalayan tahr, chamois and red deer. Lunch today (included) will be at the tiny Mesopotamia School – which closed in 2000 - and after lunch we venture out onto the river flats to visit the historic station graveyard. After a full day of discovery, we make our way back to our hotel, where we dine in again this evening.

Day 6**Sunday, 16 March 2025**

Tour Mt Torlesse Station and Waimakariri Gorge

Another high-country adventure awaits us today, as we travel into country near Arthurs Pass and the Mid Canterbury foothills. Travelling to the Waimakariri Gorge, we board off-road vehicles for a scenic four-wheel drive adventure across Mt Torlesse Station. This station is a 10,000 acre working sheep and cattle farm and you will get to experience the thrill and excitement of off-roading while taking in the spectacular alpine scenery and learning about the farm. After an



interesting morning, we enjoy a delicious lunch (included), after which we board a Hamilton jet boat to take us on a spectacular river journey into the heart of the Waimakariri Gorge.

Our stay is in Christchurch tonight, and we reboard our coach to make our way into the city to check in to our accommodation, dining in this evening.

Day 7 **Monday, 17 March 2025**

Tour **Homebush Stables and Manderley Farm**

We visit Homebush Stables near Hororata this morning, a cluster of heritage farm buildings that are part of Homebush Station - a working farm of 1350 acres - which has been in continuous ownership by the Deans family since it was first taken up in 1850. The farm buildings provide a link to the earliest European settlement of the Canterbury Plains. Learn about the story of the Deans family, from pioneering days through to the present, including the devastating effects of the 2010 Christchurch earthquake. Morning tea will be provided by our hosts.



We'll stop for lunch (own cost and choice) in Darfield, before we cut across the plains to a farming property on Banks Peninsula. Manderley is a 300 hectare hill country run farming sheep and beef, and we'll learn about their farming operation and enjoy a garden wander, finishing off with afternoon tea hosted in the 1876 historic homestead with vistas overlooking Lake Forsyth.

We return to our hotel where we dine again this evening.

Day 8 **Tuesday, 18 March 2025**

Tour **We Fly Home**

Homeward bound today, we have a little time for a short drive around the inner city – a unique blend of heritage and new buildings as the city has risen from the ruins of the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes. We then make our way to Christchurch airport to check in for our flight home to Wellington where we will be met by our transfer vehicles to return us to our home locations.



Cost of Tour Includes

- Air New Zealand flight Wellington to Queenstown
- Air New Zealand flight Christchurch to Wellington
- All coach travel
- Accommodation
- 2 course or buffet dinners
- All breakfasts
- Real Journeys TSS Earnslaw journey
- Mavora Lakes High Country Tour
- Criffel Station: tour and lunch
- West Wanaka Station: 4WD tour
- Braemar Station: tour and lunch
- Mesopotamia Station: tour and lunch
- Mt Torlesse Station: 4WD tour, Waimakariri River jet boat ride and lunch
- Homebush Stables, tour and morning tea
- Manderley Farm: farm tour and afternoon tea

Total Cost Per Person (Based on 1 person)

Double or twin share:	NZ\$6,284.00
Single accommodation:	NZ\$7070.00

Terms and Conditions

Deposit required to confirm your booking \$1500.00 per person.

Tour balance payable by: 24 January 2025

Bank account details: BNZ 020688 0127658 00
Tour Reference: Southlakes25

To: Transit 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

Conditions and Important Booking Information

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.

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

- Tranzit Tours reserves the right to cancel, reschedule or postpone a tour. With the exception of the Force Majeure section below, Tranzit 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 Tranzit Tours control that interrupts the ability to operate the tour in full or in part, or if Tranzit Tours determines that the quality of the tour or the health and safety of the Customer would be compromised, Tranzit 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, Tranzit 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.

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.