



FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL 

Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

Discover the real New Zealand with the locals



Food & Wine

Kiwi Style

**ISLAND
SANCTUARY**

Wanaka's best-kept secret

Journey into the heart of

FIORDLAND

5 FULLY GUIDED TRIPS

from gentle to challenging

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL.COM 

FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL



Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

Masterpiece

**EXPERIENCE
IT ALL**

And find the heart of New Zealand.

Soak it all in with longer stays at the best destinations and the widest variety of outdoor activities, all at a comfortable pace. This is a truly restorative trip.

firstlighttravel.com



EXPERIENCE IT ALL

And find the heart of New Zealand.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Milford Sound | West Coast Beaches | Hiking |
| Routeburn Track | Wanaka | Swim with Dolphins |
| Fiordland | Punakaiki | Kayaking |
| Queenstown | Glenorchy | Historic Bike Trail |
| Fox Glacier | Nelson | 4x4 Adventure |
| Kaikoura | Marlborough Vineyards | |
| Queen Charlotte Sound | High-Country Station | |
| Mount Cook | | |

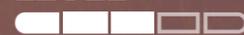
Soak it all in with longer stays at the best destinations and the widest variety of outdoor activities, all at a comfortable pace. This is a truly restorative trip.



14
days

SOUTH ISLAND BASED

ACTIVITY LEVEL



FOOD

Home-Style
Kiwi Cooking

ACCOMMODATION

Comfortable
Kiwi-Style Lodging



START

Queenstown



FINISH

Queenstown

Turn the page
for the full
itinerary.



EXPERIENCE IT ALL

And find the heart of New Zealand.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 – Welcome to Queenstown & A Jetlag Remedy

Begin your adventure on the shores of Lake Wakatipu in Queenstown, a feast for the senses known as “The Adventure Capital of the World”. After introductions, we’ve got the perfect jetlag remedy – a walk for a pure dose of sunshine, fresh mountain air and mind-blowing scenery. We’ll rest our heads for the next couple of nights in Kinloch, far away from the world on the shores of Lake Wakatipu.

Day 2 – Hike Routeburn Track & Explore Kinloch

After a good night’s sleep, it’s time to get out and stretch our legs on a section of the famed Routeburn Track, one of New Zealand’s nine Great Walks, with shorter and longer options to suit your appetite. End the day skimming rocks on the lake and stargazing into the clear night sky, or enjoying a fine wine by a toasty fire.

Day 3 – Mt Nicholas farm, Mavora Lakes & Milford Sound overnight boat

Today we take a boat across Lake Wakatipu from Queenstown to Mt Nicholas Station, a working high-country sheep farm, to learn about the region’s rich farming history. Then we’ll take a 4x4 ride through beautiful and rugged sub-alpine backcountry to Mavora Lakes, a journey reserved for a lucky few. From here we’ll continue on one of the most beautiful stretches of road leading into Fiordland National Park. Tonight we’ll spend the night on a boat in Milford Sound.

Day 4 – Cruise Milford Sound & Hike Hollyford Track

We’ll wake up to birdsong in a secluded bay deep within Milford Sound this morning. Enjoy a full breakfast as we cruise back through the fjord, often accompanied by local wildlife. Back on shore, we’ll hike to the dramatic Hidden Falls on the Hollyford Track

before making our way to Te Anau for the night to rest our legs.

Day 5 – Bike Near Queenstown & Stay on High Country Farm in Mt Cook Region

Our journey continues today from the Southern Lakes region north towards New Zealand’s highest peak. On our way, we’ll stop in Arrowtown, a quaint historic gold-mining town, to pedal for a bit. Follow purpose-built cycle trails next to the Kawarau River past homesteads, meadows, mountains and vineyards towards the world’s first commercial bungy bridge. After the ride, we carry on towards Aoraki/Mt Cook, where we’ll spend a couple of nights (on a high-country station when available).

Day 6 – Your Choice in Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park

Some of the best alpine hikes in New Zealand are found here in Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park. It’s home to not only its namesake, our highest and most sacred peak, but 19 peaks towering over 3,000 metres. This rugged land of rock and ice is an alpine paradise and you have a number of experiences to choose from today, from easy-going to more challenging.

Day 7 – Sightseeing & Arrive Kaikoura Peninsula

Today’s journey takes us across the South Island, leaving the open spaces of the Mackenzie Country and the Alps for the green fertile plains of Canterbury and finally to Kaikoura on the East Coast. We’ll take our time to show you all of our favourite spots along the way, and stop

Spectacular Scenery

From hiking in ancient Podocarp forest to walking among New Zealand’s highest peaks, each day brings new wows.

for photos and short walks to stretch our legs. Overnight in the seaside settlement of Kaikoura.

Day 8 – Dolphin Swimming in Kaikoura & Sea Kayak Queen Charlotte Sound

Today is an unforgettable day and a dream come true for wildlife lovers. You’ll be up bright and early to swim with Dusky dolphins, a rare breed known for their aerobatics. We’ll also see how many different varieties of fish, seals and even whales we can spot in this special marine reserve, where unusually deep waters make a unique habitat close to shore. We’ll then make our way up to Picton, from where we’ll sea kayak the last leg of our journey across Queen Charlotte Sound to our accommodation for the night, accompanied by friendly dolphins if we’re lucky!

Day 9 – Queen Charlotte Sound & Cycle through Marlborough Vineyards

We’ll paddle back to Picton in our sea kayaks and have another chance to spot local wildlife. From here, it’s a short hop to Marlborough’s wine-growing region, where we tour the vineyards on bikes, stopping along the way to sample some of the area’s wines. We’re staying in Nelson, an artsy beach town, for the next couple of nights.

Day 10 – Explore Nelson

Today is yours to enjoy as you wish. Nelson, “the sunniest place in NZ”, is known for its arts scene, award-winning wines, craft beers and fruit orchards, with lots to keep you entertained within walking distance. Most people prefer a quiet-ish day by this point in the trip and enjoy exploring Nelson, browsing the shops and galleries, strolling along the beach and reading a book – it’s a lovely place to re-energise yourself for the rest of your trip. There is the option to visit Abel Tasman National Park for those who would like something more active.

Day 11 – Lake Rotoiti Hike and Tauranga Bay Seal Colony

This morning we’ll hike alongside Lake Rotoiti in Nelson Lakes, a national park that’s a perennial favourite among Kiwis, before carrying on to the West Coast. We’ll have plenty of time to stop and enjoy the journey, including a walk out to the Tauranga Bay seal colony, before arriving at the gorgeous seaside village of Punakaiki for the night.

Day 12 – Hike Paparoa National Park, the Pancake Rocks & Explore Hokitika

Towering limestone cliffs, lush rainforest, the crashing ocean... you’ve entered what feels like Jurassic Park! We have a stunning hike today in

“The beauty of the land and the people of New Zealand will stay with me always! It was such an incredible variety of experiences... all beautiful and worth seeing!”

Kevin Waits, Georgia, USA, December 2016



Kayak Queen Charlotte Sound

How often do you paddle to your accommodation?



Swimming with Dolphins

Meet Dusky dolphins in Kaikoura



Cruise Milford Sound

Then wake up to birdsong after spending the night onboard.



Cycle through Marlborough's vineyards

Stop along the way to sample world-famous Sauvignon Blancs in our largest wine growing region.



Relax and soak up the coastal views

While we take care of getting you from A to B and handle every detail.

Paparoa National Park before checking out the blowholes and limestone formations of the Pancake Rocks. Then we drop in on Pounamu (greenstone/ jade) carvers at work in the funky town of Hokitika. Tonight you're in for a treat as we introduce you to Okarito. Overnight on the West Coast.

Day 13 – Kayak Okarito Lagoon, Hike Fox Glacier & Rugged Beaches

Mountains, beaches and glaciers, all in one wild day! We start with a gorgeous paddle out on Okarito Lagoon to soak up the tranquility then head down the coast. Hike near Fox Glacier for a view of this river of ice pushing through the rainforest. We'll spend our last night together in Wanaka, a relaxed lakeside resort town that's a locals' favourite.

Day 14 – Explore Wanaka & Finish in Queenstown

We have a few options for our last day together, including exploring town, going for a swim in the lake or heading out for one last hike. Then we'll meet up and head and over the Crown Range, enjoying some incredible views en route, before our farewells in Queenstown. ■



Wild West Coast Beaches

Stay in a tiny beach town, population 30, surrounded by lush native bush.



Masterpiece

Give us a call if you need help converting into your own currency.

INCLUDES

13 nights' accommodation, services of two professional local guides, ground transportation, snacks and 36 meals, and all activities as described. Go to our website for our dates, availability and to book.

EMAIL US

OR PHONE US NOW

+64 92814481

