



big adventure small prices

WILD WEST 8 or 9 Days

(with options to take extended breaks)

Tour price - NZ \$1,685 (8 days)
Tour price - NZ \$1,890 (9 days)

includes transport, most meals,
shared tent accommodation,
wine tasting & much more...

Wild is the best way to describe this beautiful region
as we discover the rugged, dramatic and stunning West Coast



"The only NZ operator top rated in
National Geographic's Best Adventure
Travel Companies on Earth and the
World Travel Awards."

This is a great way to experience some of the most diverse scenery in NZ. This itinerary shows the trip starting from Queenstown (8 days). You can also start a day earlier from Christchurch and travel by shuttle across the Canterbury plains before joining the group for a night in Queenstown (9 days).

DAY 1: QUEENSTOWN – LAKE WANAKA

Leaving Queenstown at 2:30pm, we travel through mountains and on towards stunning glacial lakes. On the final stretch to camp we start getting views of Mt Aspiring National Park in the distance. Lake Wanaka is just over the next ridge and it's on the edge of this glacial lake that we find our next wilderness camp. Enjoy great views of Lake Wanaka and the mountains beyond as we absorb the beauty of the area.

- meals included: dinner
- walks: multiple walking options
- bike rides: Lake Wanaka lookout to camp 10km
- cabin upgrades: No – beautiful lakeside camp (alternatives will be found in bad weather)

DAY 2: LAKE WANAKA – GLACIER COUNTRY

Enjoy a relaxed morning at our lakeside camp then it's northward bound through Mt Aspiring National Park. Just before we reach the West Coast, we stop for a walk to the amazing Blue Pools, and then head over the dramatic Haast Pass. As we travel towards the wild West Coast, the road follows braided rivers and huge glacier carved valleys. There are two more great walk options along the way, one through lush and ancient forests and the other through swampy vegetation, ending on the beach where it is possible to spot Hector dolphins. Tonight, we will be staying beside the beautiful Lake Paringa enjoying a true West Coast wilderness experience.

- meals included: breakfast, lunch & dinner
- walks: Blue Pools, Ship Creek
- bike rides: Knights Point lookout to Lake Paringa 25km
- cabin upgrades: yes – subject to availability

DAY 3: GLACIER COUNTRY - OKARITO

Today is your chance to explore one of NZ's most unique and spectacular natural wonders – Franz Josef Glacier. This staggering beautiful work of nature is 12 kilometres and descends from the Southern Alps to less than 300 metres above sea level. To get on the ice you must go up by helicopter but it's possible to view the glacier with a stunning walk through the main valley up to the terminal face. Before arriving at Franz Josef, we take a highly recommended walk around Lake Matheson where crystal clear reflections of Mount Cook and Mount Tasman make the perfect photo opportunity. Late afternoon, we have a short drive up the coast to our beautiful beachside campsite next to the Okarito lagoon – one of the very few places where there are still rare sightings of our native kiwi bird and the home to NZ's only colony of the White Heron (kotuku). Enjoy a fire down on the beach taking in the rugged coast and epic mountain views.

- meals included: breakfast & dinner
- walks: wonderful hike around Lake Matheson, Te Ara a Waiiau walkway to view the glacier
- bike rides: Te Ara a Waiiau Cycleway, Okarito road ride 10km
- activities (own cost): Guided Heli-Hike, skydiving, kayaking, West Coast wildlife centre
- cabin upgrades: yes – selected nights only

DAY 4: OKARITO - PUNAKAIKI

Enjoy an early morning walk, with a view of the sunrise over the Southern Alps as a reward. We then continue up this spectacular coastal road to the quirky town of Hokitika, home to the Greenstone factories and a great place to pick up a traditional souvenir of your visit. Passing through Greymouth we keep following the coast to Punakaiki where you'll notice a change in the landscape and vegetation with huge limestone cliffs appearing and Nikau Palm trees become abundant. Our beach camp has great sunsets, a beautiful river and incredible views of Paparoa National Park. In the evening, explore a glow worm cavern then relax at the local tavern.

- meals included: breakfast & dinner
- walks: Okarito Trig sunrise walk
- bike rides: West Coast Wilderness Trail 14km, road ride to camp 37km
- activities (own cost): Punakaiki blow holes (free), horse-riding
- cabin upgrades: yes – subject to availability

Departs:

Queenstown – 8 days
Christchurch – 9 days

You can take extended breaks anywhere along the way

Finishes:

Nelson or Picton
Contact us if it doesn't quite fit - we are flexible!

Groups:

Average around 18 per trip, max group size 26. You will be well looked after with 2 great guides on every trip

Fitness Level:

Suitable for all levels

Accommodation:

Camping in a carefully chosen selection of commercial and Department of Conservation sites by lakes, mountains & oceans. Most nights you can upgrade to a cabin or private room for a small fee (subject to availability).

Food:

We enjoy good food and supply tasty & healthy meals suitable for most diets + hot drinks - details on itinerary

Included:

7 x breakfasts, 2 x lunches, 6 x dinners,
all travel, shared tent accommodation (2 people per tent),
1 night Queenstown hostel (ex CHC), wine tasting,
side trips to remote areas & walking tracks, use of sports
equipment on board, & much more
(see website for details)

Activities:

Bikes are available to hire (subject to availability). We enjoy great, free walks most days. Optional activities listed are not included but we do get some great group discounts + there are always free alternatives.

Tour price & optional upgrades:

Wild West tour (8 days)	2019.20	\$1685
Wild West tour (9 days)	2019.20	\$1890
Cycle hire for entire trip		\$180
Bring your own bike		\$80
Single tent upgrade		\$95
Sleeping bag hire		\$65

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Due to the nature of our trips itinerary details are subject to change to meet the needs of an individual group, adapt for weather etc. Full terms and conditions can be found at <https://www.flyingkiwi.com/other-bits-and-pieces/terms/>

DAY 5: PUNAKAIKI – ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK

Before leaving Punakaiki we take time to explore part of the Paparoa National Park with a walk along the Porarari river or cycle up Bullock creek road to visit a cave resurgence. Leaving mid-morning we travel inland through the majestic Buller gorge and onto our favourite National Park, Abel Tasman. In one of the sunniest areas of the country you will discover beautiful secluded bays and stunning golden sand beaches. On arrival, you have the option to skydive or hang glide and then we look forward to spending 3 nights at our perfectly located campground, close to the park entrance which makes it the idea place to explore all corners of the park.

meals included: breakfast & dinner
walks: Porarari inland track, Truman track
bike rides: Bullock Creek 16km, Cave Creek, coastal ride to camp and Kaiteriteri bike park
activities (own cost): skydiving
cabin upgrades: yes – subject to availability



DAY 6: ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK

Taking time to explore arguably the best beaches and clearest waters in New Zealand - there are excellent options for everyone here. You can walk, sail or kayak around the numerous golden bays and dive into the crystal-clear waters along the way. There will be plenty of chances for wildlife spotting (dolphins, seals and even Orcas!) Explore the heart of the park on one of our most highly rated optional activities - canyoning high flow waterfalls and rapids!

meals included: breakfast, lunch & dinner
walks: Abel Tasman National Park track
bike rides: Kaiteriteri bike park
activities (own cost): Single & multi-day kayaking options, canyoning, sailing, horse-riding, water-taxi / walk, conservation tour
cabin upgrades: yes – subject to availability



DAY 7: ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK

We spend another full day at the doorstep to New Zealand's smallest, but most visited national park and our personal favourite, the Abel Tasman. Tonight, we'll be eating at a local hang out, The Fat Tui (own cost)

meals included: breakfast
walks: Abel Tasman National Park track
bike rides: Kaiteriteri bike park
activities (own cost): kayaking, canyoning, water taxi / walk, sailing, horse-riding, conservation tour
cabin upgrades: yes – subject to availability



DAY 8: ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK – NELSON / PICTON

Leaving early, we make our way to Nelson arriving by 11am. If finishing your tour in Nelson, it's time to say farewell to your fellow travellers. If you are finishing your tour in Picton, you have a short time to explore Nelson city before leaving at 12:30pm. On route to Picton we'll make a stop at Pelorus bridge, a Hobbit film location and great place for a quick dip on a warm day arriving into Picton and saying farewell by 5pm.

meals included: breakfast
walks: walk to the geographical centre of New Zealand
bike rides: great option to cycle various lengths of the Tasman taste trail – part of the great New Zealand Cycle Trail
activities: wine tasting (free - this one is on us if finishing your tour in Picton)



Have more time?

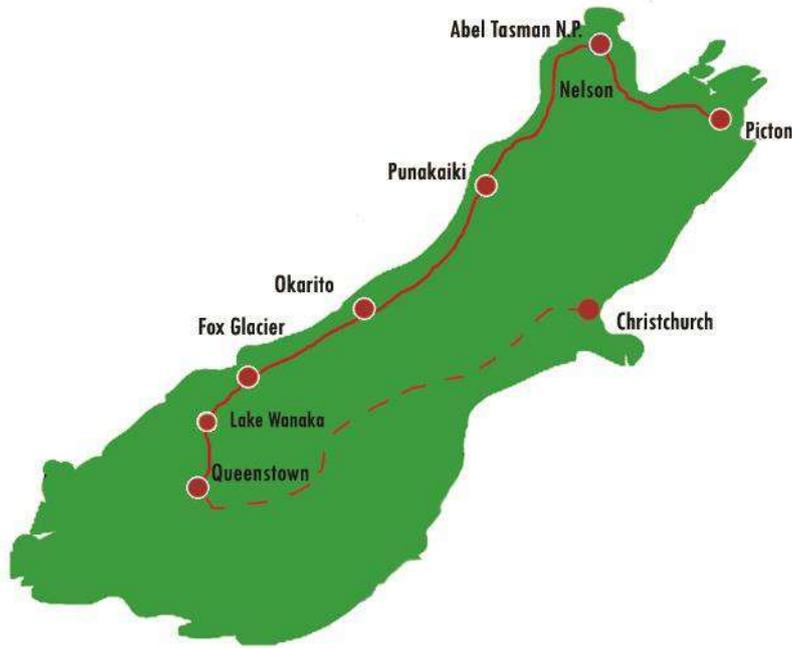
Extend your trip by a few days to continue your travels in the North Island by linking with our Northern Express or Hot Rocks tours. - contact one of our friendly team with any questions.



All images we use are taken by passengers (no staged professional photographers or stock photography here) – so what you see is what you get!

Photos by: Chrys Tremththanmor (main image) Randy Law, Alan Lepofsky, Chris Reynolds, Lindsey Keith, Matthias Gudath, theplanetd bloggers, Tine Busshardt, Rob Chandler, Derek Craddock

Wild West Route Map



our trips give you.....

- ✓ **More national parks**
- ✓ **More activities, hikes & bike rides**
- ✓ **More value for money**
- ✓ **More time in the best locations**
- ✓ **More chances to get off the beaten track**
- ✓ **Guaranteed departures**

frequently asked questions

Do I need to book my own accommodation?

No, all of the camp sites are pre-booked and reserved for your trip. We can also help with booking accommodation pre and post tour if needed.

How do I upgrade to cabins?

Cabin upgrades can be pre-booked prior to your trip or each day on arrival into camp. If travelling during Dec, Jan, Feb we recommend pre-booking with us prior to travel as all cabin upgrades are subject to availability. To pre-book cabin upgrades there is an administration fee which is 10% of the total upgrade cost. There are 3 types of upgrades and approximate costs are:

Dorm bed / shared room

\$10 - \$20 per night (can only be booked on tour)

Private room with shared bathroom

\$45 per night (average cost for single room)

Private room with en-suite

\$95 per night (average cost for single room)

Can I hop-on and off the bus?

It is possible to take extended breaks at any point – buses go past every 9 days in the summer season so you can hop off for any increment of 9 (9, 18, 27 days etc).

What is the average age of travellers on Flying Kiwi?

Flying Kiwi appeals to people of all ages. The majority of people are between the age of 20 and 40 but we happily welcome travellers of all ages over the age of 10yrs.

How fit do I have to be?

You don't have to be super-fit to travel with Flying Kiwi – all walks, bike rides and activities are optional and they range from light strolls to full day hikes in Alpine terrain. Your driver or guide will discuss the level of fitness required.

Is it ok to travel alone on Flying Kiwi?

Flying Kiwi is perfect for people travelling by themselves.

I'm a vegetarian or have other dietary requirements – is that a problem?

No problem at all, we are used to catering for all kinds of dietary requirements. As we cook for ourselves we can easily accommodate most needs. Just let us know when you book.

Where can I charge my camera, phone, batteries, i-pod or MP3 player?

Charging facilities are available at the commercial campgrounds (most nights) and some buses are also able to charge appliances.

Is there mobile phone / wi-fi coverage?

Approximately ½ of the camps in the South Island have no network coverage. For many people a highlight of our trips is the remote overnight locations and escaping connectivity!

What is a bush camp?

A bush camp is a campsite usually in a remote or wilderness location with stunning views and basic facilities.