





Wanaka is a superb winter destination. On this 9-day Ski/Snowboard Package, you will have time to enjoy everything that this beautiful alpine town has to offer, combined with 5 days at Treble Cone the largest ski area in the South Island where there are uncrowded groomed runs and legendary off-piste terrain with exceptional views of Lake Wanaka.





This itinerary can be customised to suit you perfectly. We can add more days, remove days, change accommodations, mix it up, add activities to suit your interests or simply design and create something from scratch. Call us today to get your custom New Zealand itinerary underway.





Inclusions:

Includes: Late model rental cars

Includes: Fully inclusive rental car insurance (excess may apply)

Includes: Unlimited kms

Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring

Included activity: Electronic Travel Guide and In-Country Support App

Included activity: Cardrona & Treble Cone - 5 Day Lift Pass and Rental Package with 7 Day Window







Day 1











Collect Rental Car

This tour's from price includes an intermediate-sized vehicle, setting you up for comfortable travels. Yet, we understand every adventure is unique! Feel free to select the perfect wheels from our incredible collection of rental cars, spanning from economy hatchbacks to premium SUVs.

Queenstown to Wanaka

Leaving Queenstown you head over New Zealand's highest sealed road, Crown Range Road before dropping into Wanaka. During winter months the Crown Range Road experiences alpine conditions, so you need to be prepared before driving this road. As it is New Zealand's highest sealed road it can be prone to ice and snow. There are many signs advising the road conditions so take notice of these or ask locally if the road is fine to be driven that day. The alternative route via the Kawarau Gorge (State Highway 6) is just 20 minutes longer. The golden rule is check and drive to the conditions. If you have snow chains with your rental vehicle please make sure you know how to fit them.

Arrive into Wanaka and collect your lift pass

Wanaka offers more than just incredible skiing – spectacular scenery, thrilling adventures, and endless activities await. Beyond the slopes, a diverse selection of cafes and restaurants provide the perfect place to unwind and recharge after each action-packed day. Pick up your pass today from the Cardrona x Treble Cone Wanaka Office and save valuable time tomorrow! Skip the morning lines and head straight to the slopes for more skiing and riding.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 2











Cardrona & Treble Cone - 5 Day Lift Pass and Rental Package with 7 Day Window

Cardrona is New Zealand's fun and family-friendly ski resort with the most reliable snow conditions in the region. Its high elevation and southerly aspect mean dry natural snow is plentiful, which is further enhanced by snowmaking facilities. Cardrona is the perfect place for beginners and intermediates, with NZ's only combined gondola chairlift, easy-to-use surface lifts, specialised beginner packages and plenty of wide open trails spread over three basins. If you're up for a challenge, you'll find it in Arcadia, with secret powder stashes, chutes and cliff drops. This pass also allows access to Treble Cone Ski Field, the largest ski area in NZ's South Island It is famous for its long, uncrowded groomed runs, legendary off-piste terrain and unrivalled views over Lake Wanaka and the Southern Alps. Located just a 35-minute scenic drive from Wanaka and a 90 minute drive from Queenstown via the Crown Range road.

Cinema Paradiso - Suggested Activity

Feel like a relaxing night, take yourself to the movies, Cinema Paradiso is not your average cinema. A classic movie theatre with comfy old sofas, an old Morris Minor car, and a cafe & bar serving delicious meals before, during, or after the movie. A great option for days when the weather is not so great up the ski field, especially for families! Paradiso provides a novel experience - they even have a half-time intermission where you can get homemade ice cream, a hot chocolate, or a freshly baked cookie! Tickets can be purchased at your own expense at the cinema prior to the session or up to a few days before the movie you wish to see. The seating is unallocated, so if you arrive early you get the pick of the couches, chairs, and cinema seating.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 3











Treble Cone Ski Field

If you are feeling familiar with the home basin maybe it is time to head out wide and explore Matukituki Basin, be sure to stop out there and take in the spectacular views of the Southern Alps and down to Lake Wanaka.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Cardrona Distillery Classic Tour

The tour includes a journey through the working distillery and barrelhouse and finishes with a tutored tasting of Cardrona Distillery's artisan spirits.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 4











Your 3rd day at Treble Cone Ski Field

Now you know your way around Home Basin and have explored Matukituki Basin it's time to head over the back to Saddle Basin. Saddle Basin is famous for open powder faces and natural half pipes, you can definitely spend a whole day here.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 5











Explore the winter wonderland of Wanaka

Explore what else Wanaka has to offer, including a range of cafes, bars, and restaurants to enjoy, miles of scenic walking and biking tracks, vineyards and distilleries to visit, and if you are looking for something indoors experience Puzzling World, Transport and Toy Museum or the Base Indoor Climbing Wall. If you still want to be skiing and your legs can handle it then book heli-skiing as it's one of the most breathtaking places to do it in the world.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Puzzling World Great Maze and Illusion Rooms

Puzzling World is a world unique attraction specialising in puzzling eccentricity. For over 35 years this remarkable business has entertained and amazed visitors of all ages. Offering the world's first "modern-styled" Great Maze, incredible Illusion Rooms, a Puzzle Centre/Cafe and eccentric architecture and oddities. Each remarkable illusion room is an illusion in its own right. On entering you pass through the Hologram Hall. As there is nothing quite like this in the world we can only assure you that you will find the collection of amazing 3-D holograms fascinating! Carry on into the Ames Forced Perspective Room. The technique of this illusion was used in The Lord of the Rings film to create tall people and little people. Move on into the Hall of Following Faces illusion room where 168 giant models of famous faces seem to turn and follow you around the room. This illusion room offers visitors a world unique encounter of being followed left and right, up and down by some very illustrious company. The newest room, the Sculptillusion Room is themed around an illusionary sculpture garden, the gallery invites visitors to wander around the various larger-than-life exhibits that showcase visual trickery at its best. Featuring over 20 large sculptures, artworks and displays the building itself offers illusionary aspects within its design. From Living Walls, wave ceilings, stone carpet and hanging waterfalls the visitor is met with stunning creations from some of NZ's finest artists. All of this is located in the heart of the breathtaking Southern Lakes region of the South Island of New Zealand, set amongst 7 acres of rolling lawns, trees and gardens.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Wanaka Wine Tours Boutique Central Otago Wine Trail

This small group wine tour (maximum 8) offers a relaxed and personal introduction to the wines and scenery of the Central Otago region. This tour is a great way to explore award-winning vineyards hidden amongst the rugged landscape of Central Otago. Visit and enjoy tastings at 4 Central Otago vineyards including a delicious mid-afternoon platter to enjoy with your tastings. You'll also discover the history of the region with a visit to Old Cromwell Town, a charming heritage precinct that has been revitalised into a boutique arts and crafts village.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 6











Enjoy another day of exploration in Wanaka

Embrace another day of winter magic in Wanaka! With a full day at your leisure, you can choose your own adventure. Perhaps you'll wander through the charming town center, browsing unique shops and galleries that you haven't had the opportunity to see, or watch a movie in Paradiso Cinema. Treat yourself to a delicious meal at one of Wanaka's renowned cafes or restaurants, savoring local flavors beside a cozy fireplace. If you're seeking adventure, venture out on a scenic winter hike, marveling at snow-dusted landscapes and crisp mountain air. Or, opt for a relaxing cruise across the lake, taking in the breathtaking scenery from a different perspective. For a truly unique experience, consider a visit to Mou Waho Island, a pristine natural sanctuary nestled in the heart of the lake. Don't forget to snap a photo with the iconic Wanaka Tree – a must-do for any visitor!

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Heli Ski - Classic 4 Run Day ex Wanaka

The mountains surrounding the world-renowned resort towns of Queenstown and Wanaka feature thrilling backcountry terrain and dramatic scenery. Enjoy an unforgettable day with 4 runs of heli-ski or heli-board bliss. Runs vary between 1500 to 2500 vertical feet of treeless skiing in sheltered basins, bowls and wide rolling mountain flanks with the opportunity to sample some of more advanced terrain. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information click here.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 7











Your 4th day at Treble Cone Ski Field

If you are enjoying the beautifully groomed runs and the famous off-piste then stay happily exploring every nook and cranny of the 3 main basins. But if you are ready for a little bit more then head out to Motatapu Basin this is definitely for advanced skiers and if you drop too low a walk out to get back to the bottom of the Saddle Basin Quad, but so worth it.

Cardrona Hotel

If you feel like spoiling yourself and learning about the area's history we recommend taking yourself out for lunch or dinner at The Cardrona Hotel, one of New Zealand's oldest and most iconic hotels which sits between Queenstown and Wānaka on the stunning Crown Range Road. Nestled in a beautiful mountain valley, the town of Cardrona boasts a rich and vibrant history: settled in the 1860s as hundreds of hopeful prospectors flooded into the valley chasing gold, the Cardrona Hotel was one of four hotels quickly established to offer accommodation, food, livery services and a coaching-stop for miners and travellers. With the short-lived gold mining boom beginning to wind down in the late 1800s, the area quietened down, with the Cardrona Hotel eventually becoming the sole remaining hotel in the valley. In more recent times the township of Cardrona has seen a resurgence in visitors, people clamouring to get a taste of old the old town feel, stopping in for a pint or delicious meal and a few fantastic photo opportunities in the quaint village that harkens back to a time of hope, gold and good fortune.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 8











Your 5th day at Treble Cone Ski Field

By now you must know Treble Cone so well you are getting mistaken for a local. But there is still one last thing to conquer, the short hike to the top, its a must-do, and the views from the top and ski down are well worth the effort, go on.

Wanaka Self-guided Short Walks - Suggested Activity

Waterfall Creek Track

A must when you visit Wanaka, the track starts from the west end of Roys Bay and soon reaches Wānaka Station Park, a beautiful picnic area, on the left. The track then winds along the lake's western shores for superb views and a great photo opportunity at the famous " Wānaka Tree". The trail then passes Edgewater and Rippon Vineyard – where a cellar door and wine tastings are available – and on to Waterfall Creek with views of Ruby Island.

Distance: 2.5km Completion Time: 1 hour

Outlet Track

This is a local favourite as it is an easy walk suitable for all ages and abilities. It begins from Wanaka town centre and takes you around picturesque Lake Wanaka to the outlet to the Clutha River and on to Albert Town. This track can also be explored by bike. Distance: 3 km one way. Completion Time: 1 hour one way.

Mount Iron Track

This very popular, close-to-Wanaka-town loop walk suits all ages and abilities and offers great views of Lake Hawea from the summit. Distance: 4.5 km. Completion Time: 1.5 hours.

Diamond Lake and Rocky Mountain Tracks

These two excellent walks in the Diamond Lake Conservation Area give wonderful views of the surrounding alps and Lake Wanaka. Distance: 2km - 7 km depending on the trail. Completion Time: 45 minutes - 3 hours depending on the trail.

Your accommodation: Wanaka Hotel

Situated right in the heart of Wanaka, only a couple of minutes walk to the town center and lakefront. Beautiful garden or lake-facing rooms and great facilities.



Day 9











Wanaka to Queenstown

Leaving Wanaka you head over New Zealand's highest sealed road, Crown Range Road before dropping into Queenstown. During winter months the Crown Range Road experiences alpine conditions, so you need to be prepared before driving this road. As it is New Zealand's highest sealed road it can be prone to ice and snow. There are many signs advising the road conditions so take notice of these or ask locally if the road is fine to be driven that day. The alternative route via the Kawarau Gorge (State Highway 6) is just 20 minutes longer. The golden rule is check and drive to the conditions. If you have snow chains with your rental vehicle please make sure you know how to fit them.

Return your vehicle to Queenstown Airport

Explore more of Queenstown before dropping your rental car at the airport depot and continuing your onward journey.

Tour details

Departures: Daily

Tour type: South Island Self Drive

Starts: Queenstown Finishes: Queenstown

Tour length: 9

Accomodation: Hotel 3 star

Car/transport type:

Included activities

Includes 5 day lift pass for Cardona or Treble Cone Ski field

Accommodation summary

Day 1 Wanaka Hotel Day 2 Wanaka Hotel Day 3 Wanaka Hotel Day 4 Wanaka Hotel Day 5 Wanaka Hotel Day 6 Wanaka Hotel Day 7 Wanaka Hotel Day 8 Wanaka Hotel