



Hike Milford Track & Explore Queenstown

Begin your journey in Tāhuna / Queenstown, the adventure capital of New Zealand, before setting off on the world-renowned Milford Track. This fully guided four-day hike with Ultimate Hikes takes you through the heart of Fiordland's breathtaking landscapes, with cosy lodge stays each night surrounded by towering peaks, lush rainforest, and glacial rivers.

The rates displayed for this tour are based on a per-person occupancy in the Milford Queen Room. For single or twin room occupancy, kindly contact our sales consultants.



Starts in: Queenstown
 Finishes in: Queenstown
 Length: 8days / 7nights
 Accommodation: Boutique Lodges & Hotels
 Can be customised: Yes

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: All coach transport
 Includes: All pick ups/drop offs at destinations
 Includes: Afterhours emergency support while touring
 Included activity: Private Transfer Queenstown Airport to your Accommodation
 Included activity: Electronic Travel Guide and In-Country Support App
 Included activity: The Visitor Promise - Cultural Learning Course
 Included activity: The Milford Track 5 Day/4 Night Guided Walk with Ultimate Hikes
 Included activity: Private Transfer Queenstown Accommodation to Airport (LSQ)
 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners



Day 1



Welcome to Queenstown

Renowned for its adrenaline inducing activities Queenstown is synonymous with adventure. Parked on the shores of Lake Wakatipu this small alpine town is nestled below soaring vistas of The Remarkables Mountain Range. While arguably the brightest gem in New Zealand's crown, Queenstown offers far more than an action-packed getaway. Spend time on the Gibbston wine trail and end with a meal at Michelin star chef Josh Emett's restaurant, Rata. Take a trip down memory lane on a 100 year old steamship the TSS Earnslaw. Soak in the scenery on your walk around the lake, or venture further afield into Fiordland National Park. Head over the hill to resort town Wanaka, or re-live scenes from Lord Of The Rings by four wheel drive. But - if you really do want that rush - head out on the Shotover Jet, dive off the Nevis Bungy, freefall on the Canyon swing or Zip line the Gondola. Just be sure it's done on an empty stomach; don't say we didn't warn you!

Private Transfer Queenstown Airport to your Accommodation

On arrival you will be met by a private driver and delivered to your Queenstown accommodation.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Time Tripper Cinematic Experience

Queenstown's only underwater experience takes you on a journey through time and legend beginning many millions of years ago. Your time travel pilot will guide you back 90 million years, through the time of the dinosaurs, take you to when New Zealand was formed, fly you deep into the earth when the Southern Alps were created and through the glacier that carved out Lake Wakatipu. Ending in present-day Queenstown, you then experience adventure activities you can do – all from the comfort of your rumbling seat! You then experience 10 – 15 minutes of underwater viewing where you can feed the famous diving ducks, slinky eels and rainbow & brown trout that lie beneath.

Your accommodation: Novotel Queenstown Lakeside

Novotel Queenstown Lakeside is centrally located, offering a modern stay just steps from the town centre and nestled beside Lake Wakatipu. Contemporary rooms feature stunning mountain views or peaceful scenes of the gardens. Enjoy modern amenities and easy access to all Queenstown adventures.



Day 2



Explore Queenstown

Well-known as New Zealand's adventure capital, Queenstown is home to a range of adventures, from the world's first and most famous bungy jumps to jet boat thrills, white-water rafting, and skydiving. However, Queenstown offers far more than a fast-paced, action-packed holiday. Settled on the shores of beautiful Lake Wakatipu beneath a soaring panorama of the Remarkables Mountain Range, this alpine town is surrounded by many historic, gastronomic, and scenic wonders. Take a stroll through the beautiful lakefront parks and gardens, browse through market stalls on weekends, dine in wonderful al-fresco restaurants, or ride on the 100-year-old historic Steamship - TSS Earnslaw to Walter Peak Station. Take the Queenstown Gondola up to Bob's Peak and soak up the panoramic views of the magnificent lake and mountain ranges. And after all of that, if you do want the adrenaline rush, Queenstown is known for taking your pick from the Shotover Jet, Canyon Swing, Zipline, Luge, or Heli-hike.

Milford Track Guided Walk Briefing

Please check in at 2:45pm on the day prior to your walk for a group pre-track briefing. The briefing is held at the Ultimate Hikes Centre, Ground Floor, The Station Building, Duke Street Entrance, Queenstown. At the briefing, you will have the opportunity to confirm your dietary, medical information, and emergency contact details. You will be able to pick up any gear you need or purchase any last-minute items. The customer service staff will also give you an overview of what to expect while you are on track. If you cannot make the pre-track briefing, please contact Reservations on +64 3 450 1940 or info@ultimathikes.co.nz as soon as possible.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Shotover Jet Canyon Jet Boat Ride

Shotover Jet is the only company permitted to operate in the Shotover River Canyons. It's a thrilling ride! Skim past rocky outcrops at close range in your Shotover Jet 'Big Red', as you twist and turn through the narrow canyons at breathtaking speeds. And a major highlight - hold tight for the world-famous Shotover Jet full 360-degree spins! It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information please see [here](#).

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Meals included: Breakfast



Day 3



The Milford Track 5 Day/4 Night Guided Walk with Ultimate Hikes

Traversing the heart of New Zealand's wild fjord country, the Milford Track has long been described as "the finest walk in the world". Since Quintin Mackinnon pioneered the route in 1888, everyone from hardened trekkers to novices sporting their first pair of boots has taken up the challenge of the Milford Track.

The Fiordland National Park is the cornerstone of the Te Wahipounamu Southwest New Zealand World Heritage Area. Enjoy close encounters with the native birdlife: the Robin, Kea, Weka, Fantail, Parakeet, Bellbird, and even Kiwi have been spotted! Walkers on the track to Milford Sound encounter Fiordland at its most spectacular: deep lakes, silent fjords, luxuriant forest, and sheer canyons carved out of imposing granite define this landscape. On a fine day, there is a postcard shot around every corner, but only when it rains and torrents of water cascade down the mountainsides have you truly experienced the magic of the Milford Track.

The Milford Track Guided Walk is a 5-day, 4-night all-inclusive guided walk from Queenstown to Queenstown through the heart of Fiordland National Park to Milford Sound. The package includes all transport, accommodation, meals, snacks, backpacks, and rain jackets.

Accommodation is in lodges and you will be led by expert Ultimate Hikes guides. It is important you read and understand the risks associated with this activity. For more information please see [here](#).

Queenstown to Glade House

The coach departs from the Ultimate Hikes Centre in Queenstown. Please arrive by 9.15am to meet your guides and board the coach for the two hour drive to Te Anau. We will have lunch in Te Anau before travelling on to Te Anau Downs, where a boat will take you up to the start of the track at the northern end of Lake Te Anau. It's a short walk to the historic Glade House, where you will be greeted with afternoon tea and shown to your room. Your guides will take you on a nature walk in the afternoon to give you an idea of the terrain and the environment you will be walking. In the evening, you'll have time to get to know your group over dinner.

Your accommodation: Glade House

Located at the head of Lake Te Anau and the mouth of the Clinton River, Glade House serves as the historic starting point for the legendary Milford Track. Originally built in 1895 as a holiday house for tourists, the site has been rebuilt several times following fires in 1928 and 1929.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 4



Glade House to Pompolona

Your first full day of walking begins by crossing the Clinton River bridge. The smooth track follows the river up the valley to the Hirere Falls lunch shelter. Take a side walk to the wetlands, a complex eco-system unique to this section of track. After lunch look out for your first glimpse of Omanui/McKinnon Pass in the distance. You'll stay in the beech forest, until you come out onto the Prairie – detour down to soak your feet in Prairie Lake. From this meadow you can capture the true nature of the ice-carved Clinton Canyon. From here, it's a short climb to Pompolona Lodge. Today's walk is 16 km (10 miles) and takes 5-7 hours.

Your accommodation: Pompolona Lodge

Nestled in the picturesque Clinton Valley, Pompolona Lodge is a private sanctuary used by guided walkers on the second night of the Milford Track. The lodge is famously named after the traditional "Pompolona" scones once served by explorer Quintin MacKinnon, who reportedly learned the recipe in Pamplona, Spain.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 5



Pompolona Lodge to Quintin Lodge

From Pompolona Lodge the track leads up to Lake Mintaro at the head of the Clinton Valley, before climbing the Omanui/McKinnon Pass in a series of zig-zags. Take your time and enjoy the views. At the top you can rest at McKinnon memorial before passing the highest point and stopping for lunch in Pass Hut overlooking the Clinton Valley. The descent into the Arthur Valley is steep and uneven so take care and use poles. Viewing platforms give you a great view of the Cascades waterfalls. Quintin Lodge is a welcome sight at the bottom of the Pass. Take a short break to revive with a drink and a snack then we highly recommend doing the optional 90-minute round trip to Sutherland Falls, at 580m/1904ft it is one of the highest in the world and well worth seeing. Today's hike is 15 km (9 miles) and takes 6-8 hours.

Your accommodation: Quintin Lodge

The lodge is situated at the foot of the Mackinnon Pass on the Roaring Burn River. It is historically significant, named after Quintin McKinnon, the explorer who discovered the overland route to Milford Sound in 1888.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 6



Quintin to Mitre Peak Lodge via Sandfly Point

Your final day on the track is the longest section at 21km. You'll walk down the Arthur Valley to the historic Boatshed. After a short break and a hot drink, the track continues on past MacKay Falls through lush beech forest to the lunch spot at Giants Gate waterfall. The final stretch of the track follows tranquil Lake Ada to Sandfly Point. From Sandfly Point it is a short boat trip across the renowned Milford Sound; the fjord often referred to as the eighth wonder of the world. Mitre Peak, the famously photographed pinnacle rises almost sheer from the Sound to a height of 1692m (5551ft). At Mitre Peak Lodge, relax in the bar enjoying the view, before sitting down to a celebratory dinner. Today enjoy 21km (13 miles) 6-8 hours of walking.

Your accommodation: Mitre Peak Lodge

Mitre Peak Lodge is a comfortable, motel-style property offering the only overnight accommodation at Milford Sound for guided hikers. It provides a much-needed sanctuary after the final 21km leg of the journey, with captivating views of the iconic Mitre Peak directly from many of its guest rooms.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 7



Mitre Peak Lodge to Te Anau and Queenstown

This morning after breakfast we'll take you on a cruise on Milford Sound. Watch for dolphins and fur seals and, if the waterfalls are in full flow, you'll have seen Fiordland at its very best! Following the cruise it's time to head back to Queenstown. The coach trip follows the scenic Milford Road through Homer Tunnel and on to Te Anau, where there will be a short break before the last leg of the journey to Queenstown. Lunch will be eaten along the way.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY - Gondola and Buffet Dinner with Skyline Queenstown

With breathtaking views across Queenstown and Lake Wakatipu, the Skyline Complex is a must-do. Catch the fully enclosed gondola to the summit for a remarkable panorama of the city's surroundings. Wander the outdoor viewing decks then enjoy a gourmet buffet meal in the Stratosphere Restaurant.

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Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch



Day 8



Private Transfer Queenstown Accommodation to Airport (LSQ)

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to Queenstown airport to meet your flight.

Farewell from Aotearoa / New Zealand

Bid farewell to Aotearoa / New Zealand, taking with you unforgettable memories of its breathtaking landscapes and incredible adventures. In Māori, it is said mā te wā, which is not goodbye, it is see you soon!

Tour details

Departures: Daily
Tour type: Independant Bus & Coach
Starts: Queenstown
Finishes: Queenstown
Tour length: 8
Accomodation: Boutique Lodges & Hotels
Car/transport type:

Accommodation summary

Day 1	Novotel Queenstown Lakeside
Day 2	Novotel Queenstown Lakeside
Day 3	Glade House
Day 4	Pompolona Lodge
Day 5	Quintin Lodge
Day 6	Mitre Peak Lodge
Day 7	Novotel Queenstown Lakeside