

Please note that all of the itineraries listed in our web site are actual private tour itineraries we have prepared for clients over the past 12-18 months. By the very nature of what we do, each private tour itinerary is custom, exclusive and unique unto itself. Our over-riding goal is to create lifelong memories that you and your family will forever carry deep within your hearts.

Overview

Hiking and idyllic walks being among our favorite Lynch Family global travel activities, we feel New Zealand’s extraordinary “Milford Track” to be truly the “finest walk in the world (!)” Located within the picturesque mountains and temperate rainforests of Fiordland National Park, on New Zealand’s South Island, this is one of the globe’s great family outdoor hiking adventures. The Milford Track hiking option is an ideal pristine complement to our luxury New Zealand private tour featuring Queenstown and the spectacular 5,000-acre Wharekauhau Lodge and County Estate near Wellington. The medium level difficulty 33 mi trail (for ages 11 and above) starts at the head of Lake Te Anau (near Queenstown) and ends at otherworldly Milford Sound, traversing lush, green rainforests, wetlands and a striking alpine pass.

NEW ZEALAND
Temperature Range
Highs: High 60’s
Lows: Mid 50’s
Area
270,534 SQ KM
104,454 SQ MILES
Population
4.5 Million
Language
English/Maori
Capital
Wellington
Currency
New Zealand Dollar

Day 1

Fly to Queenstown

Through our sister company, premium air provider TRAVNET, we may assisted with your international airfare, as well as with mileage points conversion.

Day 2

Arrive Queenstown

Upon arrival in Queenstown, you will be privately transferred to Eichardt’s Private Hotel.

Eichardt’s Private Hotel

This is our favorite 5-star luxury property in the resort town of Queenstown. Eichardt’s Private Hotel is a small boutique property located in the lakeside historical district, with easy walking distance to many restaurants and shopping. This hotel includes 5 suites (each with a fireplace) and a 2-bedroom lakefront cottage—high touch, personal service besides Lake Wakatipu!

Meals: --

Accommodations: Eichardt’s Private Hotel

Day 3

Shotover River & Bungee Bridge

Today you will visit the rapid Shot River where you will board a jet boat touring through the dramatic canyons. Your day will end to Kawarau Bridge, considered the most famous bungee leap in the world. In the afternoon you will attend a pre-Milford track briefing.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: Eichardt’s Private Hotel

Day 4

Milford Track Day 1

Following breakfast at the Eichardt, you will be met by your private driver and transferred to the Queenstown office to board a coach bus that will take you to Te Anau where you will have lunch. Following lunch, you will board a launch to the head of Lake Te Anau where you will then make your way to Glade House for afternoon tea. The rest of the day is free for you to explore the area.

Milford Track Overnight Accommodations (Glade House, Pompolona, & Quintin):

Though all three lodges have been upgraded over the past few years, the accommodations are still quite Spartan, but very clean. They are designed to absorb the local natural wonders and offer delicious, hearty food after your day of rigorous hiking! The options for lodging range from 4-6 people, bunk-style rooms, with shared bathroom facilities, to private rooms with en-suite bathrooms.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Glade House

Day 5

Milford Track Day 2

Following breakfast at the Glade House, you will cross the emerald green Clinton River, walking up the valley to the Hirere Falls where you will stop for lunch. You will then continue through a beech forest, making your way to the prairie overlooked by the ice-carved Clinton Canyon.

Day 2: Glade House → Pompolona Lodge

Distance: 16 km (10 miles)

Time: 5 – 7 hours

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Pompolona Lodge

Day 6

Milford Track Day 3

Considered the most demanding day, especially in inclement weather, you will begin at the head of the Clinton Valley before climbing the Mackinnon Pass. Upon reaching the top, you will stop for lunch at Pass House and then continue down a rocky descent into the Arthur Valley. Upon arrival at Quintin Lodge, you will be welcome with a refreshing drink before an optional 90 minute roundtrip hike to the Sutherland Falls, the world's fifth highest waterfall.

Day 3: Pompolona Lodge → Mackinnon Pass → Quintin Lodge

Distance: 15 km (9 miles)

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Quintin Lodge

Day 7

Milford Track Day 4

Walking down the Arthur Valley, you will reach Boatshed where you'll stop for a quick break prior to continuing passed Mackay Falls and Bell Rock. Following lunch at Giant's Gate waterfall, you will walk along Lake Ada to Sandfly Point where you will board a launch taking you to Mitre Peak Lodge. At the Lodge, you will enjoy a celebratory dinner complimented by sweeping views of Mitre Peak, which some consider to be the 8th wonder of the world.

Day 4: Quintin Lodge → Sandfly Point → Mitre Peak Lodge

Distance: 21 km (13 miles)

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Accommodation: *Mitre Peak Lodge (Private Ensuite Room)*

Day 8

Fly (or Drive) Milford Track/Queenstown

Following breakfast at Mitre Peak Lodge, you will board a cruise along the Milford Sound, watching for dolphins and fur seals. After the cruise, you have two options for your return to Queenstown. You may travel to Queenstown via coach through the Fiordland National Park and Homer Tunnel, or via helicopter beginning at Mt. Aspiring National Park (dependent on weather).

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch*

Accommodation: *Eichardt's Private Hotel*

Day 9

Fly Queenstown/Nelson

Take a scenic flight from Queenstown to Nelson, over the golden sand beaches and pristine waters of Abel Tasman National Park before with a stop at Awaroa Lodge for lunch and a swim in the bay.

Stonefly Lodge

For our many fly-fishing enthusiasts, the 5-star luxury Stonefly Lodge is a special, heavenly place. Located approx. 50 min drive from Nelson, New Zealand. The lodge is ideally located on the banks of the crystal- clear Motueka River, a fly- fisherman's paradise. The average catch size of Brown Trout in this area is 4-5 lbs.! Meticulously built from local stone and timber, the lodge is made up of only 4 spacious deluxe guest rooms. World class fly- fishing, coupled with an intimate high touch luxury; an amazing place!

Meals: *Breakfast, Dinner*

Accommodation: *Stonefly Lodge*

Day 10

Free Day

Enjoy all the amenities of the Stonefly Lodge including some fly fishing!

Meals: *Breakfast, Dinner*

Accommodation: *Stonefly Lodge*

Day 11

Fly Nelson/Wellington

After an arrival in Wellington, you will stroll through the artistic center of New Zealand, home to exceptional museums, restaurants, and a fine music scene. Your tour includes Wellington's alluring botanic garden via a cable car. After seeing the likes of native species and foreign, like the Californian redwood, you will visit Otari Reserve Rain Forest and walk above the forest canopy on the "Tree Top Walkway." Your day will end visiting Wellington's city-center institutions and monuments.

Wharekauhau Lodge and Country Estate

This is a spectacular 5,000 acre working sheep station/country estate that is a big favorite of clients seeking a private idyllic setting with many optional activities. Bill Gates is a regular visitor here. Similar to Southern Ocean Lodge, the accommodations/dining here are world-class, beyond 5-star luxury. Activities include horse trekking overlooking Palliser Bay, fishing, archery, picturesque hiking and mountain biking, even clay target-shooting! The pasturelands here climb through lake-dotted forests into the adjacent mountains, and can only be described as amazingly emerald green. The white stucco cottage suites feature a fireplace, among other luxury amenities. The spa is a big plus, in addition to a 65 ft. indoor pool, a tennis court and fitness gym. Yes, Wharekauhau may be close to heavenly!

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Wharekauhau Lodge and Country Estate

Day 12

Wellington Countryside

Taking a break from the buzzing city of Wellington, you will visit a farm in Wharekauhau showcasing New Zealand's legendary farming heritage, including sheep shearing demonstrations, and sheepdogs in action.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Wharekauhau Lodge and Country Estate

Day 13

Winelands

Today you will spend time at New Zealand's esteemed small-scale Winelands. Not only will you taste the acclaimed wines, but meet the owners and sample other products like olive oil, fruit, and other gourmet creations.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: Wharekauhau Lodge and Country Estate

Day 14

Fly Wellington/Home

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodations: —