

2024/25

# PRODUCT DIRECTORY

Milford Sound • Te Anau

NEW ZEALAND



southern  
discoveries

GO FURTHER  
GET CLOSER  
DISCOVER MORE







# Kia ora, welcome to **SOUTHERN DISCOVERIES**

We're dedicated to sharing some of New Zealand's most iconic scenery and extraordinary experiences with the world. Our mission is take our guests further, closer and deeper for an adventure they'll never forget.

As Milford Sound's original cruise operator, we provide the most comprehensive range of tourism activities and amenities in the fiord.

We're locally and family-owned. Kaitiakitanga (guardianship) of our unique environment and manaakitanga (hospitality and respect) of our guests are core to our company values. We celebrate living our values and receiving Qualmark Gold for all our experiences in Milford Sound, which recognises outstanding customer service and sustainability practices. We are also a very proud supporter of the Tawaki Project - a long term study of the marine ecology, breeding biology and population dynamics of the world's least known, most enigmatic penguin species.

## MILFORD SOUND

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the **tawaki**  
project  
[www.tawaki-project.org](http://www.tawaki-project.org)



Milford Sound

# DISCOVER MORE CRUISE



# DISCOVER MORE OF MILFORD SOUND ABOVE AND BELOW THE WATER

If your customers are looking for an experience that’s more authentic, more insightful and more personal – this is it! Cruise on our small boat while our friendly skipper and boat hosts chat with you and answer your questions. Drink glacial water, touch natural artefacts and get under massive waterfalls. The adventure continues at the Milford Sound Underwater Observatory where you can experience the amazing world beneath the surface. Descend 64 steps (10 metres) underwater into a large viewing area where windows open your eyes to this underwater haven. Unlike an aquarium, the fish are free to come and go; it’s the people who are contained. Stay a little longer and you won’t just see Milford Sound, you’ll experience it!

## Why choose a Milford Sound Discover More Cruise

- Cruise on the original, locally owned and operated Milford Sound Cruise
- The only cruise that includes a visit to New Zealand’s only floating underwater observatory
- See rare black coral growing in its natural habitat and meet colourful sea creatures
- Learn about the story of Milford Sound and our conservation efforts with entertaining videos and easy to read information panels
- FREE tea and coffee
- Cruise & Underwater Observatory is 3hrs duration (approximate)
- Option to add a picnic lunch, or, on selected departures, the To Kai buffet

| Option                                       | Season         | Check-in closes | Departs | Returns |
|--|----------------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 9.15am          | 9.30am  | 12.30pm |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 10.15am         | 10.30am | 1.30pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 11.00am         | 11.15am | 2.15pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 12.00pm         | 12.15pm | 3.15pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 1.00pm          | 1.15pm  | 4.15pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 2.15pm          | 2.30pm  | 5.30pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 Oct- 30 Apr  | 3.00pm          | 3.15pm  | 6.15pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 May - 30 Sep | 9.45am          | 10.00am | 1.00pm  |
| Discover More Cruise                         | 1 May - 30 Sep | 1.15pm          | 1.30pm  | 4.30pm  |
| Coach and Discover More Cruise ex Queenstown | 1 May - 30 Sep | 7.15am          | 7.30am  | 8.30pm  |
| Coach and Discover More Cruise ex Te Anau    | 1 May - 30 Sep | 9.45am          | 10.30am | 6.30pm  |
| Coach and Discover More Cruise ex Queenstown | 1 Oct - 30 Apr | 6.15am          | 6.30am  | 7.30pm  |
| Coach and Discover More Cruise ex Te Anau    | 1 Oct - 30 Apr | 10.15am         | 9.30am  | 6.30pm  |





Milford Sound  
**NATURE  
CRUISE**





# EXPLORE THE 8TH WONDER OF THE WORLD ON THE ORIGINAL NATURE CRUISE

Join us on the original Milford Sound Nature Cruise for an epic voyage of discovery. We'll get you so close to this famous fiord you can reach out and touch the sheer rock walls, or stand under Stirling Falls for a glacial facial. Our passionate skipper will provide entertaining nature commentary from the wheelhouse, while our boat hosts are on hand for a chat and to answer any questions. Get a picture of a basking New Zealand fur seal or relax in our spacious cabin with a hot drink. This is one experience you do not want to miss!

## Why choose a Milford Sound Nature Cruise

- Whatever the weather, our newly refurbished lounges offer amazing views through large viewing windows.
- With 360° views, the spacious outdoor decks are perfect for photographers
- Our passionate skippers delight in sharing their knowledge with entertaining commentary
- Option to add a delicious, freshly prepared picnic. The To Kai Buffet is available on selected departures.
- FREE tea and coffee
- Duration 1hr 45mins - 2hrs

| Option   | Season           | Check-in closes | Departs | Returns |
|--|------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Nature Cruise  | All year         | 10.15am         | 10.30am | 12.15pm |
| Nature Cruise  | All year         | 1.00pm          | 1.15pm  | 3.00pm  |
| Nature Cruise  | 1 Oct - 30 April | 11.00am         | 11.15am | 12.55pm |
| Nature Cruise  | 1 Oct - 30 April | 1.15pm          | 1.30pm  | 3.15pm  |
| Nature Cruise  | 1 Oct-30 April   | 2.15pm          | 3.15pm  | 4.15pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise ex Queenstown                    | All year         | 6.45am          | 7.00am  | 7.30pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise with return flight ex Queenstown | All year         | 6.45am          | 7.00am  | 4.00pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise with return heli ex Queenstown   | All year         | 6.45am          | 7.00am  | 4.00pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise ex Te Anau                       | All year         | 9.45am          | 10.00am | 5.00pm  |





Milford Sound  
**CRUISE &  
KAYAK**





# DOUBLE THE ADVENTURE AND AND GET CLOSER TO NATURE

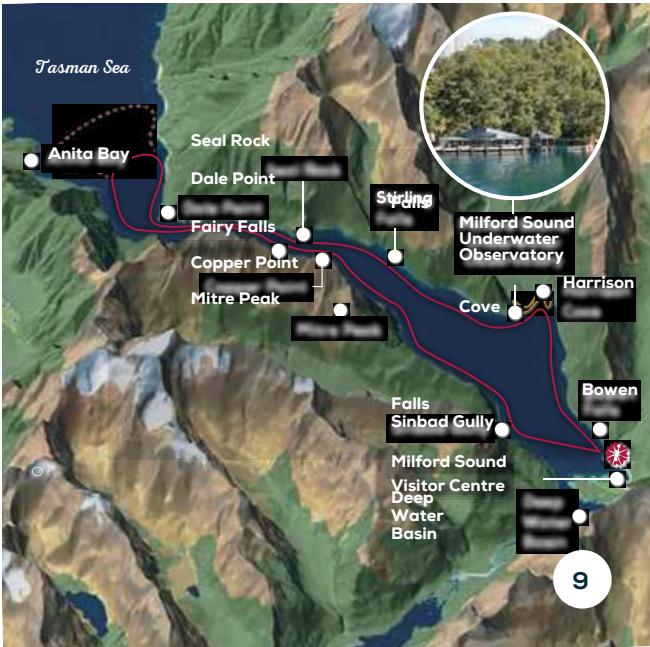
Imagine a peaceful silence, broken only by bird calls and the sound of your paddle in the water. Our kayak experience is an incredible addition to an already breathtaking Milford Sound Cruise. Take in the sights on the fiord before discovering Milford Sound up close on a guided kayaking adventure in sheltered Harrison Cove. Complete the ultimate Milford Sound adventure with a visit to New Zealand's only floating underwater observatory, where you will come face to face with the local marine life below the surface. In one day you'll experience waterfalls, wildlife and paddling in a Marine Reserve.

## Why choose Milford Sound Cruise & Kayak

- Trip includes a Milford Sound Cruise, up to 90 minutes of kayaking around Harrison Cove, a visit to the Milford Sound Underwater Observatory & a picnic lunch
- Includes all equipment, safety briefing and a specialist kayak guide
- Suitable for all fitness levels and no previous experience is necessary
- Our automated lift lowers you into the water which makes for an easy entry and exit from the kayaks
- Double kayaks are perfect for families so children 5-14 years can join in with an adult
- Spectacular views of Harrison Valley looking up to the Pembroke Glacier
- After your kayak trip, descend 10 metres below the surface at the Milford Sound Underwater Observatory to check out local marine life under the water
- FREE tea and coffee
- Duration 5hrs










| Option         | Season          | Check-in closes | Departs | Returns (Approx) |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 9.15am          | 9.30am  | 2.15pm           |
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 May - 30 Sept | 9.45am          | 10.00am | 4.15pm           |
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 10.15am         | 10.30am | 4.30pm           |
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 10.15am         | 10.30pm | 4.30pm           |
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 12.00pm         | 12.15pm | 4.30pm           |
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 1.00pm          | 1.15pm  | 5.00pm           |
| Cruise & Kayak | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 1.15pm          | 1.30pm  | 5.30pm           |
| Kayak only     | 1 Oct - 30 Apr  | 8.15am          | 8.30am  | 1.15pm           |

\*Milford Sound Cruise & Kayak operating dates may vary throughout the year





## Key

-  Visitor
-  Centre
-  Airport
-  Toilets
-  Telephone
-  Walking track
-  Road
-  Scenic flyback option
-  Photo opportunity





# Milford Sound GETTING THERE

If Milford Sound is the eighth wonder of the world, the road to Milford is surely the ninth. The best way to experience both is by travelling on a Southern Discoveries coach and cruise day trip from Queenstown or Te Anau.

## Road to Milford Sound highlights:



### Mirror Lakes

Small tarns (mountain lakes) on the roadside provide outstanding reflections in calm weather. A 10 minute walk with views of the Earl Mountains.



### Eglinton Valley

A beautiful glaciated valley with steep sides and a flat floor. It's up to 2 kilometres (1.2 miles) wide and has a shingle riverbed which is constantly being changed by the Eglinton River.



### Homer Tunnel

At an altitude of 945 metres (3100 feet) above sea level and 1.2 kilometres (0.75 miles) in length, the road tunnel allows access through sheer rock to Milford Sound with a gradient of 1 in 10.



### Monkey Creek

Located in the Hollyford Valley, Monkey Creek is a glacial fed spring with water so pure you can drink straight from it. It's the perfect place to fill up your water bottle. You are likely to spot some friendly Kea here too.



Milford  
Sound  
**DAY  
TRIPS**





# WHERE THE JOURNEY IS JUST AS SPECTACULAR AS THE DESTINATION

Take a guided adventure to Milford Sound with our friendly team offering 60 years of local knowledge. Our expert drivers will entertain you with their insight and knowledge while showing you the best photo stops and short walks on the incredible road to Milford Sound. Once in Milford you'll join the original Nature Cruise to explore the 8th wonder of the world. We'll get you so close to this famous fiord you can reach out and touch the sheer rock walls. Our passionate skipper will provide entertaining nature commentary from the wheelhouse, while our boat hosts are on hand for a chat and to answer any questions. Our Milford Sound day trips are an unforgettable experience!

## Why choose a Milford Sound Coach & Cruise day trip

- Board our coach and settle into a modern, spacious seat with plenty of legroom
- Our local coach drivers provide you with entertaining and informative commentary in English
- Translated, commentary available via pre downloadable ap on the coach in Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, French, German & Portuguese
- Joins a Milford Sound Nature Cruise, or Milford Sound Discover More Cruise
- Our passionate skippers delight in sharing their knowledge with entertaining commentary
- Option to return to Queenstown on a scenic flight or by helicopter
- Option to include a delicious, freshly prepared picnic lunch
- Duration is 7 hours from Te Anau, 12 hours and 30 minutes from Queenstown

| Option   | Season         | Check-in closes | Departs | Returns |
|--|----------------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Coach & Nature Cruise ex Queenstown                    | All year       | 6.45am          | 7.00am  | 7.30pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise with return flight ex Queenstown | All year       | 6.45am          | 7.00am  | 4.00pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise with return heli ex Queenstown   | All year       | 6.45am          | 7.00am  | 4.00pm  |
| Coach & Nature Cruise ex Te Anau                       | All year       | 9.45am          | 10.00am | 5.00pm  |
| Coach & Discover More Cruise ex Queenstown             | 1 Nov - 30 Apr | 6.15am          | 6.30am  | 7.30pm  |
| Coach & Discover More Cruise ex Te Anau                | 1 Nov - 30 Apr | 9.15am          | 9.30am  | 6.30pm  |





# Queenstown to Milford Sound **BY PLANE**



## **TAKE TO THE SKIES FOR THE ULTIMATE BIRD'S EYE VIEWS**

Enjoy the most spectacular view of Milford Sound and the Southern Alps as you fly into (or out of) this breathtaking fiord.

- Enjoy panoramic views as you fly over untouched wilderness and stunning alpine scenery
- We coordinate daily options by small plane connecting with our Milford Sound Nature Cruise
- Pilots provide commentary on the untouched wilderness only seen by air
- Seamless Coach/Cruise/Fly connections you see more meaning
- Up to six daily departure times for Fly/Cruise/Fly
- Complimentary accommodation pick up and drop off
- Flights are subject to weather conditions



# Queenstown to Milford Sound BY HELICOPTER



## SOAR OVER THE ALPS AND TOUCH DOWN ON A MOUNTAIN

Enjoy an exhilarating flight over spectacular rivers, valleys and mountains with blue-green icefalls, as well as an alpine landing on the return flight from Milford Sound

- See the best of New Zealand's spectacular and pristine landscapes
- We coordinate daily options by helicopter our Milford Sound Nature Cruise
- Pilots provide commentary on the untouched wilderness only seen by air
- Seamless Coach/Cruise/Heli connections you see more
- Up to five daily departure times for Heli/Cruise/Heli
- Complimentary accommodation pick up and drop off
- Flights are subject to weather conditions



# Milford Sound

# LUNCH OPTIONS



## TO KAI BUFFET LUNCH

Our Kiwi-style buffet lunch includes a selection of delicious hot and cold dishes and salads freshly prepared on board by our chefs using local produce. Only available on select Milford Sound Cruises.



## INDIAN BUFFET

Individually boxed lunches. Vegetable curry, samosa, vegetable spring roll, spicy dahl, rice, roast pumpkin, steamed vegetables, aloo gobi, cucumber raita, green salad, mango chutney and naan bread (all Thali Indian lunches are served vegetarian, if passengers request non-vegetarian, we serve a tandoori chicken dish). Available on select Milford Sound Nature Cruises.



## PICNIC LUNCH

Individually packaged lunches. Sandwich or wraps with ham/chicken, cheese and salad, cheese and crackers, biscuit/sweet slice, chocolate bar, crisps and fresh fruit. Available on all Milford Sound Nature Cruises and Milford Sound Coach & Cruise day trips. Included on Milford Sound Discover More Cruise and Milford Sound Cruise & Kayak.



## JAPANESE OBENTO

Individually boxed lunches. Prawn salad, grilled salmon, crumbed fish, chicken thigh teriyaki, sushi, steamed rice, blanched seasonal vegetables, cucumber/radish/ ginger pickles, miso soup, palmier pie, fresh fruit and green tea. Available on select Milford Sound Nature Cruises.

- Tasty lunch options are available on all cruises and must be ordered at least 24 hours prior to departure
- Our international chefs will create lunches to order for groups if prearranged.
- All meat is Halal certified
- For specific dietary requirements or special group requests, please contact reservations who will provide you with a menu and prices
- Vegetarian, vegan and gluten free alternatives to all food options are available. Please request when pre-ordering
- Chinese, Korean and Indian dishes available for 10 or more paying passengers. Please request when pre-ordering
- Complimentary tea and coffee available on all cruises
- All vessels have onboard cafés with a selection of hot and cold snacks available for purchase, as well as a fully licensed bar





# Milford Sound **VESSEL FLEET**

Charters available  
on all vessels

**PRIDE OF MILFORD**

**SPIRIT OF MILFORD**



**LADY BOWEN**

**LADY STIRLING**





Conservation

# THE TAWAKI PROJECT





A close-up photograph of two Tawaki penguins on a rocky shore. The penguin in the foreground is looking down at the other penguin, which is slightly behind it. Both have dark blue-black heads and backs with a distinctive yellow stripe running from the beak, over the eye, and down the side of the head. Their chests and underparts are white. The background is a blurred rocky coastline.

## PROTECTING AND ENHANCING MILFORD SOUND'S NATIVE WILDLIFE

Southern Discoveries is passionate about preserving Milford Sound's wildlife for future generations. We are a proud supporter of the Tawaki Project, a long term study of the marine ecology, breeding biology and population dynamics of the world's least known, most enigmatic penguin species, New Zealand's crested penguins – Tawaki.



### **Our sustainable business practices include:**

A mammal viewing permit issued by the Department of Conservation to ensure the protection of all mammal life in Milford Sound

New Zealand coastal permits are issued for all our vessels. This ensures safe operating practices; that all vessels operate below certain noise levels, no discharge is allowed into the fiord and all emissions are closely monitored.

Japanese Obento and Thali Indian Lunches are prepared in reusable packs. Anti-waste packaging purchasing decisions are mandatory in our business

Our brochures are proudly printed in New Zealand using environmentally friendly paper and vegetable based, mineral oil free inks





#### **SOUTHERN DISCOVERIES SALES DIVISION**

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[southerndiscoveries.co.nz](http://southerndiscoveries.co.nz)  
[media.southerndiscoveries.co.nz](http://media.southerndiscoveries.co.nz)

#### **SOUTHERN DISCOVERIES RESERVATIONS**

PO Box 814, Queenstown 9348  
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Email: [reservations@southerndiscoveries.co.nz](mailto:reservations@southerndiscoveries.co.nz)

