

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**

*DISCOVER MORE CRUISE	4
NATURE CRUISE	6
CRUISE & WALK	8
*CRUISE & KAYAK	10
GETTING THERE	12
DAY TRIP	14
BY PLANE	16
BY HELICOPTER	18
LUNCH OPTIONS	19
VESSELS	20

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

TAWAKI PROJECT	21
CONTACT DETAILS	23

\*Our Discover More experiences which include the Underwater Observatory & Kayaking are currently unavailable.

Milford Sound

# UNDERWATER OBSERVATORY

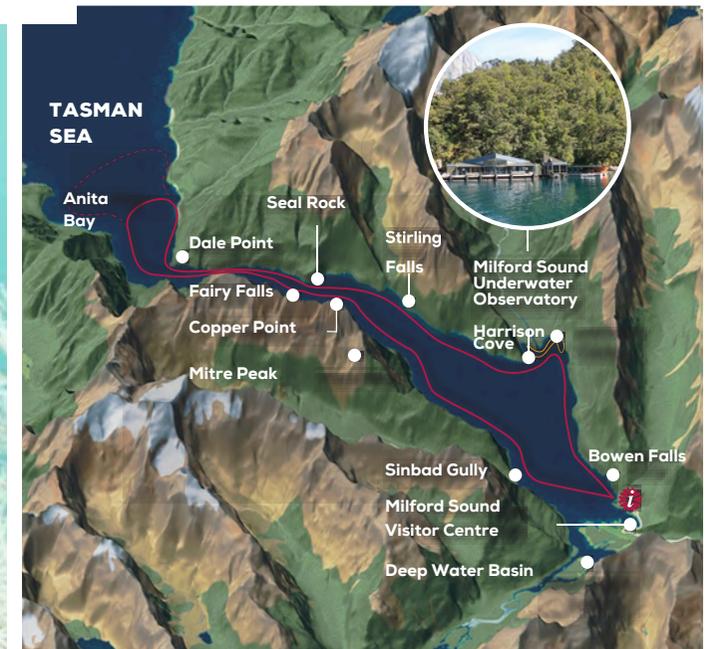


If your customers are looking for an experience that's more authentic, more insightful and more personal – this is it! Cruise on our small boat while our friendly skipper and boat hosts chat with you and answer your questions. Drink glacial water, touch natural artefacts and get under massive waterfalls. 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!

### The Highlights

- Cruise on the original, locally owned and operated Milford Sound Cruise
- New Zealand's only floating underwater observatory in a unique marine reserve
- 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

**UNFORTUNATELY, OUR DISCOVER MORE EXPERIENCES, WHICH INCLUDES THE UNDERWATER OBSERVATORY, ARE NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR THE 2024 / 2025 SEASON.**



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	1 Oct - 30 April	9.15am	9.30am	11.15am
Nature Cruise	All year	10.15am	10.30am	12.15pm
Nature Cruise	1 Oct - 30 April	11.00am	11.15am	1.00pm
Nature Cruise	All year	12.30pm	12.45pm	2.30pm
Nature Cruise	1 Oct - 30 April	1.00pm	1.15pm	3.00pm
Nature Cruise	All year	1.15pm	1.30pm	3.15pm
Nature Cruise	1 Oct - 30 April	2.30pm	2.45pm	4.30pm
Nature Cruise	1 Oct - 30 April	3.00pm	3.15pm	5.00pm
Nature Cruise	16 Dec - 28 Feb	3.30pm	3.45pm	5.30pm
Coach & Nature Cruise ex Queenstown	All year	6.15am	6.30am	7.15pm
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	9.15am	9.30am	5.00pm
Coach & Nature Cruise ex Te Anau	All year	9.45am	10.00am	4.45pm



Milford Sound  
**CRUISE  
& WALK**



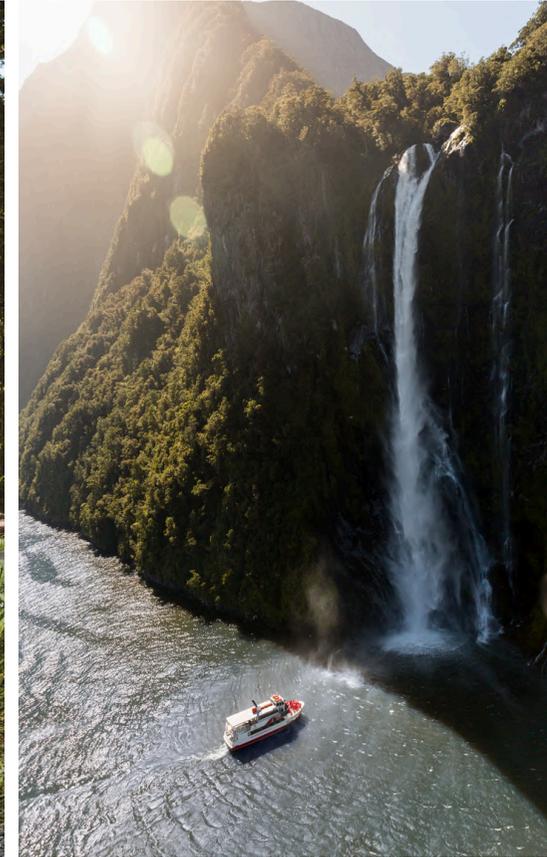
## OFFERING TWO INCREDIBLE PERSPECTIVES OF THIS NATURAL WONDER

Experience Milford Sound by land and sea on an unforgettable journey that can begin with either the walk or the cruise. Depending on your departure time, you may start your adventure on the world-famous Milford Track with a self-guided walk to the breathtaking Giant Gates Falls—a perfect spot for a relaxing picnic and a refreshing swim. Upon your return to Milford, board a Nature Cruise to explore the stunning fiord and soak in its grandeur from the water.

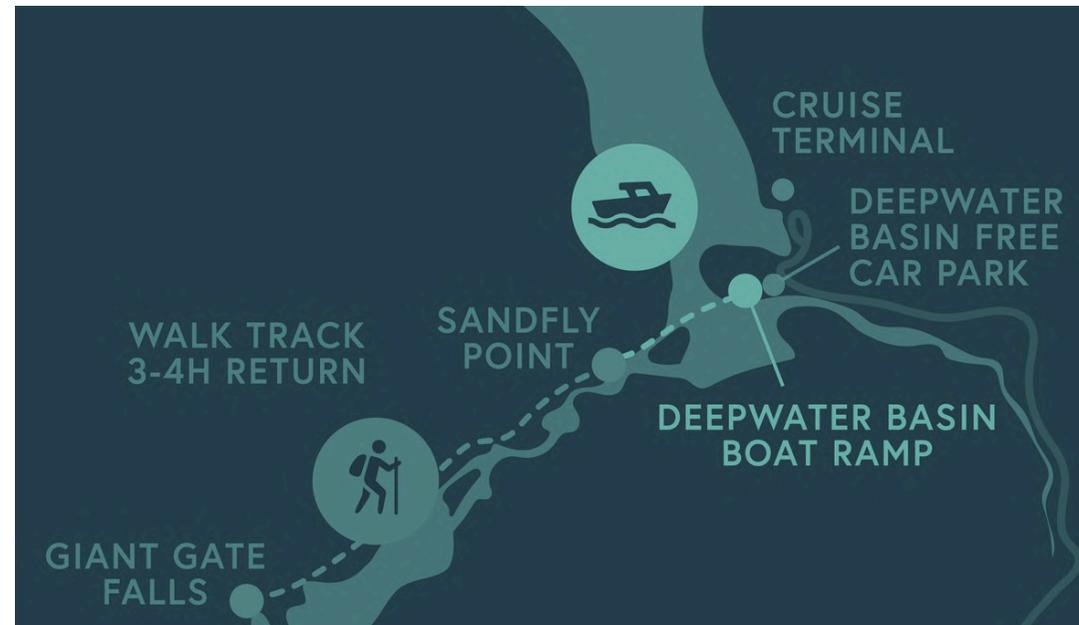
Alternatively, you may begin with the Nature Cruise before completing your adventure with the scenic Milford Track walk.

### Why choose Milford Sound Cruise & Milford Track Walk

- Choose your order of activities based on your departure time.
- The 9:00am departure starts with the Milford Track Walk which includes a 10-minute boat journey from Deepwater Basin in Milford Sound to Sandfly Point.
- Walk at your own pace, and explore this stunning 11-kilometre return walk on the famous Milford Track for up to 4 hours.
- Then join a Milford Sound Nature Cruise for up to 2 hours.
- Our friendly team will answer your questions and provide entertaining commentary
- Outdoor decks and comfortable indoor lounge decks, perfect for Milford Sound in any weather
- Includes FREE tea and coffee and licensed bar onboard.
- The 9:30am departure will start with the Milford Sound Nature Cruise followed by the 1pm departure from Deepwater Basin to start the Milford Track Walk.



Option	Season	Check-in closes	Departs	Returns
Milford Track Walk & Nature Cruise	1 Oct - 30 April	8:45am	9.00am	4.30pm
Nature Cruise & Milford Track Walk	1 Oct - 30 April	9:15am	9:30am	5.00pm



Milford Sound  
**CRUISE &  
KAYAK**



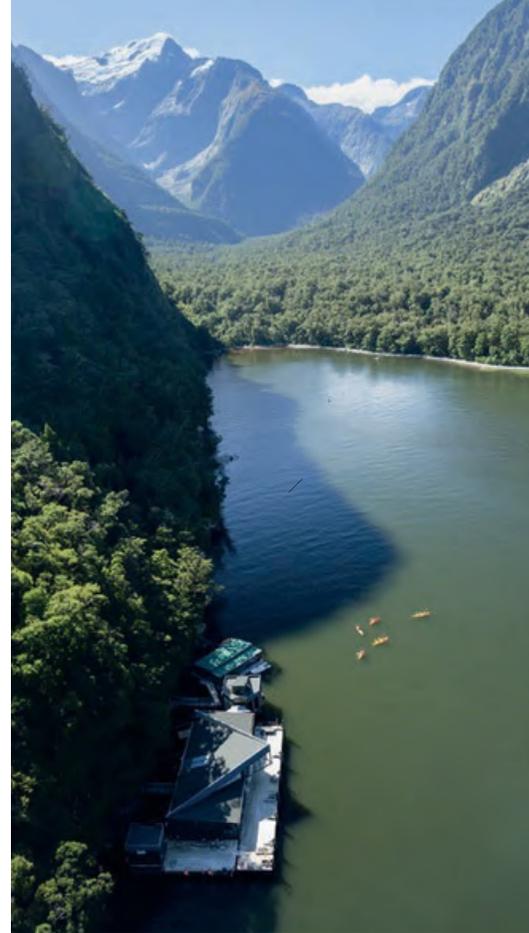
## DOUBLE THE ADVENTURE AND AND GET CLOSER TO NATURE

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

**UNFORTUNATELY, OUR KAYAKING EXPERIENCES ARE NOT CURRENTLY  
AVAILABLE FOR THE 2024 / 2025 SEASON.**



# Key

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

Tasman Sea

## MILFORD SOUND

- Visitor
- Centre
- Toilets
- Telephone
- Photo opportunity
- The Chasm
- Homer Tunnel

## GLENORCHY

## QUEENSTOWN

## ARROWTOWN

- Toilets
- Photo opportunity
- Knobs Flat
- Mirror Lakes

- Visitor
- Centre
- Toilets
- Telephone

Lake Te Anau

Lake Wakatipu

Mt Nicholas

## FIORDLAND NATIONAL PARK

Te Anau Downs

## KINGSTON

TE ANAU

## MOSSBURN



# 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.



### Eglington 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 Eglington 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**



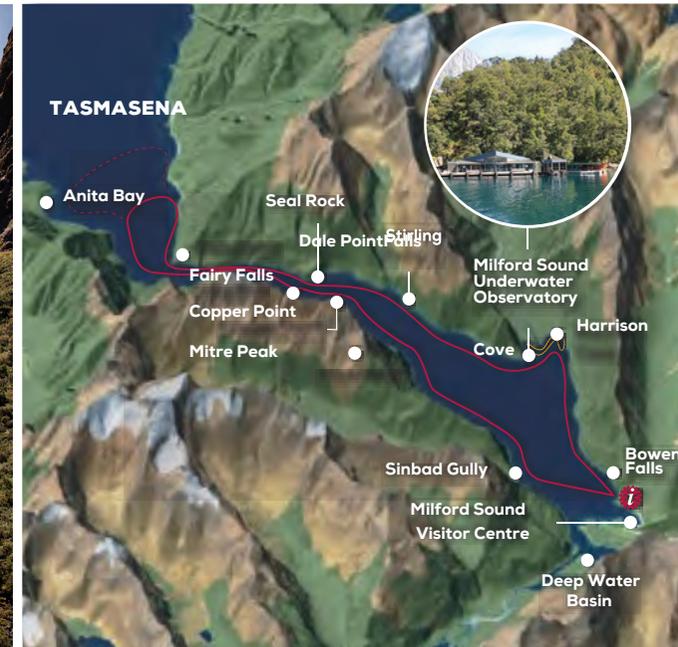
## WHERE THE JOURNEY IS JUST AS SPECTACULAR AS THE DESTINATION

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 app on the coach in Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, French, German & Portuguese
- Join our Milford Sound Nature 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 or To Kai buffet
- 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	6.15am	6.30am	7.15pm
Coach & Nature Cruise ex Queenstown	All year	6.45am	7.00am	7.30pm
Coach & Nature Cruise with return flight ex Queenstown	All year	6.15am	6.30am	4.00pm
Coach & Nature Cruise with return heli ex Queenstown	All year	6.15am	6.30am	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	9.15am	9.30am	4.45pm
Coach & Nature Cruise ex Te Anau	All year	9.45am	10.00am	5.00pm



# Wanaka to Milford Sound **BY PLANE**



## **EXPERIENCE THE SOUTHERN ALPS FROM ABOVE**

Immerse yourself in the UNESCO World Heritage area of Te Wahipounamu. The landscapes are unspoilt, remote and best viewed from the air.

- 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
- Flights are subject to weather conditions
- Pilots provide commentary on the untouched wilderness only seen by air

# 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
- 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

Indulge in our Kiwi-style buffet lunch. Featuring a selection of hot and cold dishes and salads freshly prepared on board daily by our chefs. We use locally sourced produce and change the menu seasonally, all meat used is certified halal. Dishes include roasted pork belly, beef cheeks, fried chicken, roasted vegetables, seafood and more. Available on select Milford Sound Nature Cruises.



## INDIAN BUFFET

Enjoy our selection of Indian cuisine. 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.



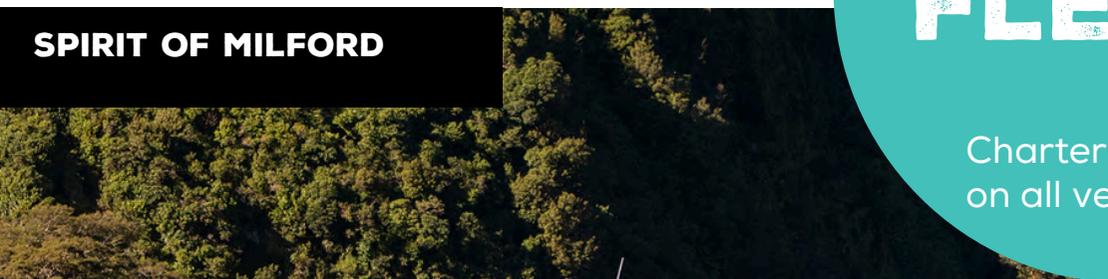
## JAPANESE OBENTO

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



**PRIDE OF MILFORD**



**SPIRIT OF MILFORD**



**LADY BOWEN**



**LADY STIRLING**

Milford Sound  
**VESSEL  
FLEET**

Charters available  
on all vessels

Conservation

# THE TAWAKI PROJECT





## 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**

PO Box 814, Queenstown 9348  
Freephone (NZ): 0800 264 536  
International: +64 3 441 1137  
Email: [sales@southerndiscoveries.co.nz](mailto:sales@southerndiscoveries.co.nz)

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

#### **SOUTHERN DISCOVERIES RESERVATIONS**

PO Box 814, Queenstown 9348  
Freephone (NZ): 0800 264 536  
International: +64 3 441 1137  
Email: [reservations@southerndiscoveries.co.nz](mailto:reservations@southerndiscoveries.co.nz)

