

South of the South, Stunning Stewart Island - itinerary

30% Deposit Required on Booking.

DAY ONE

D

Today, we begin our exciting adventure to Stewart Island! Departing from Tauranga, we'll fly together to Invercargill, ready to explore one of New Zealand's most captivating destinations. Upon arrival, we'll check into our accommodation and take some time to relax before the evening festivities. We'll meet for a welcoming drink, providing a perfect opportunity to connect, share stories, and anticipate the experiences ahead. A delicious group dinner will follow, offering great food and warm company as we prepare for the stunning scenery, unique wildlife, and unforgettable moments awaiting us on Stewart Island. Let the adventure begin!

DAY TWO

B, D

This morning, we head to Bluff for our ferry crossing to Stewart Island. Upon arrival, we'll check into our accommodation before enjoying some free time for lunch, you can choose from dining at the charming South Sea Hotel or the quirky French Café, both offering delicious local fare. This afternoon, we'll gather for an insightful village and bay bus tour from real journeys. On this we'll discover the unique flora and fauna of Lee Bay, the stunning Horseshoe Bay, and the panoramic views from Observation Rock. Keep a lookout for the elusive Rakiura Grey Ghost or even a kiwi wandering along a quiet beach. This evening we'll unwind with a drink among the friendly locals before indulging in a delectable dinner—perhaps fresh Blue Cod—to complete a day filled with adventure, discovery, and island charm.

DAY THREE

B, L, D

Enjoy some free time after breakfast for a wander on nearby short walk tracks and or spend a moment to look through the brand new Rakiura Museum found right beside the DOC Information Centre. Later that morning, we will Discover Stewart

Island from the water on a leisurely cruise of beautiful Paterson Inlet and a guided walk in Ulva Island Wildlife Sanctuary. The journey will showcase some of Paterson Inlet's stunning scenery with its hidden coves and unspoilt beaches. You'll hear fascinating stories of early Maori history and European settlement from your guide as we pass various landmarks. Our guide is passionate about the area, providing informative commentary being more than happy to answer questions. While on board, keep a lookout for fur seals and penguins - we see many of them around this area. Paterson Inlet is home to renowned wildlife sanctuary Ulva Island, and we'll stop there for a 45-minute guided walk. The island is home to Weka (native wooden), bush robins, rare saddlebacks and yellow heads, amongst other species. It is also a protected habitat for some of New Zealand's unique plant species. A regular highlight is to meet an inquisitive Weka on the beach. For the rest of the cruise around Paterson Inlet, relax onboard our modern catamaran and enjoy the coastal scenery before heading back to base.

DAY FOUR

B, MT, D

After breakfast, we'll board the ferry for a one-hour crossing back to Bluff. Upon arrival on solid ground, we'll be greeted by our local guide and begin our exploration of Bluff, Invercargill, and the surrounding areas. First, we'll enjoy a delightful morning tea before setting off on a full-day tour. As we journey through these historic country towns, we'll uncover fascinating stories about the people and places that shaped this region. A highlight of the day includes a visit to the impressive Transport World, a massive complex showcasing an extraordinary collection of vehicles, memorabilia, and innovative displays. We'll stop along the way for a relaxing lunch before continuing our discoveries. By mid-afternoon, we return to our accommodation, giving you time to unwind before gathering for our final dinner together. This evening promises delicious fare and good company, a perfect way to conclude our adventure-filled journey.

DAY FIVE

B

Sadly, it's time to bid farewell to the southern charm and the newfound friends we've made on this wonderful adventure. Today, we'll travel through the

breathtaking landscapes of the South Island as we make our way to Queenstown. Along the journey, marvel at the ever-changing scenery, from rolling green hills to majestic mountains and sparkling lakes that perfectly showcase the region's natural beauty. Upon arriving in Queenstown, we'll take time to enjoy a leisurely lunch in this vibrant lakeside town, known for its incredible views and charming atmosphere. After lunch, we'll continue to the airport for your onward journey. If you're enchanted by the beauty of this region and wish to extend your adventure, consider joining us for our Te Anau & Autumn Colours tours. Please enquire at the time of booking for more details. Safe travels, and we look forward to welcoming you on another memorable journey soon!