Abercrombie & Kent



QUEENSTOWN TO WANAKA: WILDERNESS ESCAPE

Witness the natural wonders of Queenstown and nearby Wanaka on this 5-day escape.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries

New Zealand & South Pacific, 5 days Call for a quote pp New Zealand

Private

Journey Overview

Witness the natural wonders of Queenstown and nearby Wanaka on this active five-day escape. Immerse yourself in the stunning scenery of the renowned Routeburn Track and hike magnificent Mount Iron, taking in the region's breathtaking beauty from a myriad of angles. Paired with an artistic appreciation of the quaint town of Cromwell, known for its local art and handicrafts, all while staying in a luxurious lakeside haven – this is a truly unforgettable adventure.

Journey Highlights

- Stay in a local family home on the shores of beautiful Lake Hayes
- Hike the Routeburn Track, one of New Zealand's Great Walks
- Explore Mt Iron, witnessing 360-degree views of the Pisa mountain range and Southern Alps
- Discover the historic town of Cromwell, famous for its unique arts and crafts



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Queenstown

Queenstown is situated on the shores of Lake Wakatipu and is surrounded by rolling farmland and mountains. As well as being a base for countless outdoor activities, the city is well known for its gourmet dining, boutique shops and surrounding vineyards. On arrival, meet your A&K driver/guide and transfer by private vehicle to your accommodation at beautiful Lake Hayes in the Wakatipu basin.

ReflectioNZ on Lake Hayes

Day 2: Queenstown

Today you'll experience the Routeburn Track, one of New Zealand's Great Walks, on a privately guided, full-day hiking adventure. Steeped in history the route was originally used by the early Maori as access for hunting expeditions.

Following the Routeburn River and wandering through impressive beech forest, you'll be surrounded by spectacular plant life and local fauna, with the opportunity to spot many native birds including Mohua (Yellowhead), Whio (Blue Duck) and the Kakariki (native NZ Parrot). You'll make your way to Routeburn Flats, a beautiful mountain amphitheatre, an ideal lunch stop in alpine meadows. If you're feeling adventurous, the 300 metre climb, over three kilometres to the Routeburn Falls promises outstanding views of the falls and surrounding natural wonders. Returning via the same track, rejoin your vehicle and return to your lodge.

ReflectioNZ on Lake Hayes | BL

Day 3: Queenstown

Today you'll discover the many wonders of nearby Wanaka on a full day guided tour. Travelling by the Crown Range you'll admire magnificent views of the region, known as the gateway to the Mount Aspiring National Park. Stretch your legs with a guided hike of Mt Iron, an impressive glacier-carved rocky knoll that rises nearly 250 metres above the surrounding countryside. The summit offers 360-degree views of the Pisa mountain range, the Upper Clutha Basin, Lake Wanaka and the Southern Alps.

Enjoy a hearty local lunch before an afternoon exploring the powerful landscapes of Central Otago. Walk the Bannockburn Sluicings track, and witness the extraordinary, scarred landscape of a bygone mining era. This afternoon, explore quaint 'Old Cromwell Town', famous for its eclectic range of arts, crafts and stone fruits. Visit Mrs Jones Fruit Stall, tasting local fruits, honey and fruit ports, before driving through the Kawarau Gorge back to your accommodation.

ReflectioNZ on Lake Hayes | BL

Day 4: Queenstown

Today Queenstown and its surrounds are yours to explore as you like. Take a self-guided walk along the Lake Hayes track, or enjoy a bike ride to explore the Queenstown Trail, or simply relax at the lodge.

ReflectioNZ on Lake Hayes | B

Day 5: Depart Queenstown

Transfer to Queenstown Airport for your departure flight.

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