

THE ULTIMATE KIWI ADVENTURE



SMALL GROUP GUIDED TOURS. **RATED #1 IN NZ!**



MTB



SNOW



ADVENTURE



PREMIUM



PRIVATE



7-DAY ULTIMATE HELI TOUR

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL 
Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

Dreams of untracked powder runs with no crowds become a reality on our Ultimate heli ski tour!

The early bird gets fresh tracks, so day one kicks off with a 6am departure from our Christchurch hotel accommodation, stopping off to hire the gear needed for your first day of heli, less than 1.5 hours away in Methven.

With a combination of three days of Heli, 1 day at Mt Hutt and 1 day of backcountry (Treble Cone) riding booked, you will experience skiing and snowboarding like never before.

Staying in 3 to 4 star accommodation at various locations in the South Island, you can treat your body to a soak in the local hot tubs, dine out, eat in, or just relax with a wine or craft beer reflecting on the moments of awesomeness you have lived that day.

The last day of the tour ends in the scenic and adventure capital of New Zealand, Queenstown. You can choose to take part in another day of heli, or enjoy back to back runs with a day up Remarkables or Coronet Peak, or look at doing the iconic bungy jump, luge, shot over jet or freefall over the Southern Lakes in a tandem skydive.

If you have time at the end of the tour, we can arrange further heli skiing/snowboarding in Wanaka or Queenstown or lift passes at The Remarkables, Coronet Peak or Cardrona.

REGULAR DEPARTURES OVER WINTER.



TOUR INCLUSIONS

AWESOME INCLUSIONS

- ▶ 3 full days of heli-skiing.
- ▶ 1 day of guided backcountry skiing / boarding at Treble Cone, Wanaka.
- ▶ 6 nights of twin-share hotel accommodation.
- ▶ 7 cooked breakfasts.
- ▶ 4 lunches.
- ▶ 2 dinners.

ALL SNOW TOURS INCLUDE

ORIENTATION TOUR OF EVERY MOUNTAIN

We give you the low-down on every location.

ALL TRANSPORT AND MOUNTAIN TRANSFERS

Taking you to our favourite snow locations.

BREAKFAST EVERY DAY

Heaps of options for everyone (you too, vegans!)

ACCOMMODATION

For every night of your tour.

EXPERT TOUR MANAGER

Friendly snow experts who are passionate about NZ.

SMALL GROUPS

Because you're more than just a number!



ITINERARY SUMMARY

**DAY 1 - CHRISTCHURCH TO METHVEN | ARROWSMITH/
RAGGED RANGES/PALMER RANGES**

DAY 2 - METHVEN TO MOUNT COOK | MOUNT HUTT

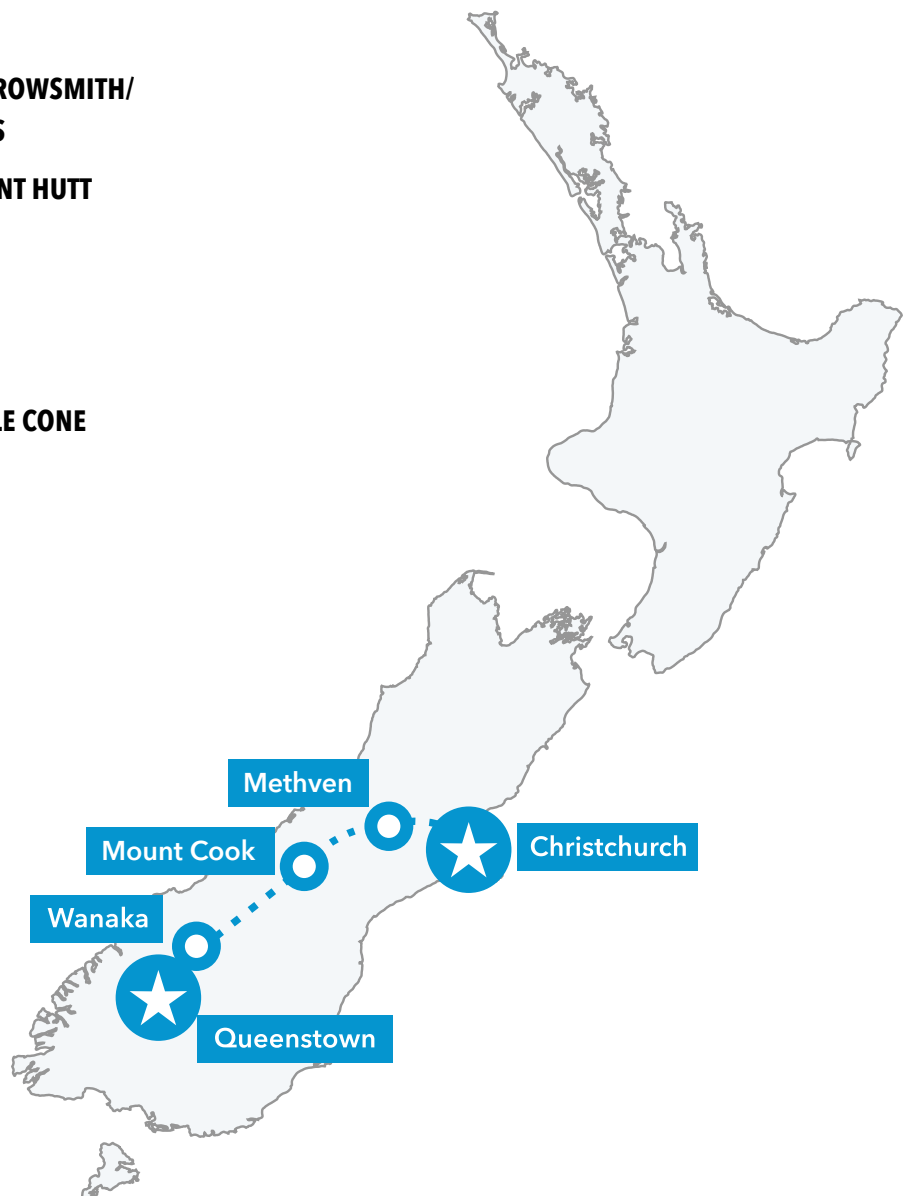
DAY 3 - MOUNT COOK

DAY 4 - MOUNT COOK TO WANAKA | OHAU

DAY 5 - WANAKA

DAY 6 - WANAKA TO QUEENSTOWN | TREBLE CONE

DAY 7 - QUEENSTOWN





METHVEN / MOUNT HUTT

DAY 1 - CHRISTCHURCH TO METHVEN ARROWSMITH/RAGGED RANGES/ PALMER RANGES

Kia ora and welcome to Christchurch. Your tour starts bright and early with a 6am departure from the central city. Before departure, you'll be fuelling up with a fully cooked breakfast to get your body amped for an amazing day of heli skiing/boarding. With just a 1.5 hours drive to the helipad, your tour guide will make a scheduled stop at the rental store to collect any equipment you require.

Today you will be heli skiing and boarding a vast mountainous area spanning three 3 ranges - The Arrowsmith, Ragged and Palmer Ranges. Charge up your cameras, because this is footage you'll be bragging to your mates about.

Your heli guides know all the sweet spots, with over 200 named heli runs across the 3 mountain ranges, so there is plenty of terrain to suit your skiing/boarding ability.

Tonight we will be staying at Methven Resort. You can take in the starry night sky while soaking in the hotels sought after hot pools. We will then enjoy a meal together at either the iconic Blue Pub or Brown Pubs.

INCLUDED

Heli ski day
Cooked breakfast
Lunch

SLOPE INFO

Arrowsmith, Ragged & Palmer Ranges

Runs for all standards of heli-boarder and heliskier.
Over 1000 km² of terrain
Over 200 named heli-skiing runs
Average vertical drop approximately 850m
Highest landing: Wilderness Experience (2500m)
Biggest drop: Wilderness Experience (1200m)
Longest Run: Reischek Glacier (3km over 1100m descent)

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DAY 2 - METHVEN TO MOUNT COOK MOUNT HUTT

Today you rest your heli legs and venture up Mt Hutt. Located in the Southern Alps, Canterbury's Mt Hutt Ski Area receives some of the lightest and driest powder in Australasia. Mt Hutt caters for everyone, with great terrain covering 365 skiable hectares. Accessing to terrain is quick on the 6 seater chairlift, with some light traversing to get to the black diamond runs.

For those seeking adrenaline inducing goodness, Towers, South Face, Montesumas will deliver. With views reaching out across the quilted landscape to the ocean, or back out across the Southern Alps, photo backdrops are in abundance.

If the heli bug has taken a bite out of you, there's the heli-upgrade option for you. This will be with the same company we used yesterday.

In the evening we drive to Aoraki Mt Cook Village so we can rise early for Day 3.

Day 2 will be the heli day if we had bad weather on day 1.

INCLUDED

Cooked breakfast
Lift Pass

SLOPE INFO

Ohau

Difficulty: 20% Beginner, 50% Intermediate, 30% Advanced
Height: 1825m
Vertical: 400m Dri
Skiable Area: 125ha

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Upgrade to a heli day



MOUNT COOK / OHAU

DAY 3 - MOUNT COOK

Waking up in the shadow of the most prominent mountain in New Zealand, your day of heli riding is going to be one to crow about.

Today you're spoilt for choice. Mount Cook Heliski region is the largest heliski area in NZ, operating among the highest peaks in Aoraki Mount Cook National Park, covering 6 mountain ranges across to the Ben Ohau Range, that tower above the shores of azure Lake Pukaki.

Mount Cook heli has the highest landings, longest runs, greatest snow accumulation and most consistent conditions of any backcountry area in New Zealand.

No matter your experience there will be terrain to suit your ability, from mellow open powder bowls to challenging descents - today will not disappoint.

As the sun sets over Aoraki Mt Cook, we can relax and talk about today's adventures over your included dinner at the Mt Cook Lodge restaurant.

INCLUDED

Heli ski day
Cooked breakfast
Lunch
Dinner

SLOPE INFO

Mount Cook

Run length varies depending on terrain and snow conditions, from 600 vertical metres to as much as 1300 vertical metres. Average run length ranges from 800-1000 vertical metres.

DAY 4 - MOUNT COOK TO WANAKA OHAU

Today we you can kick back and be driven through the scenic views that this part of New Zealand has to offer. If the snow gods have blessed us with a fresh dose of powder we will stop in at Ohau snow fields for a half day of skiing.

Ohau is the hidden gem of the Southern Alps. With no crowds, at times it can feel like you have the mountain to yourself. There are some groomed runs, but most of the runs are off piste. With a good mix of learner, intermediate and expert runs, you will have an awesome day. For those who are keen to earn their turns, hike up to the 'Ridge Run' for some unforgettable views and riding.

After our time riding at Ohau we drive through to Wanaka where we stay the night, ready for another amazing day of heli skiing.

Day 4 will be the heli day if we had bad weather on day 3.

INCLUDED

Lift Pass
Cooked breakfast

SLOPE INFO

Ohau

Difficulty: 20% Beginner, 50% Intermediate, 30% Advanced
Height: 1825m
Vertical: 400m
Skiable Area: 125ha



WANAKA / TREBLE CONE

DAY 5 - WANAKA

Rise and shine! We hope you recharged your bodies and the camera batteries last night because today is going to be another amazing day of heli skiing/boarding.

Heading into the mountainous areas around Wanaka and the surrounding lakes, we have access to over 8,500 square metres of terrain spreading across 11 different mountain ranges - this is over 3000 times the size of Coronet Peak! You have hit the money load of run choices.

With your legs and bodies now conditioned to riding virgin snow, your experienced heli guides will be taking you to some of their favourite spots.

INCLUDED

Heli ski day
Cooked breakfast
Lunch
Dinner

SLOPE INFO

Wanaka Heli-Skiing

Over 8500 m² of terrain
11 different mountain ranges

DAY 6 - WANAKA TO QUEENSTOWN TREBLE CONE

Treble Cone lies within the heart of the Southern Alps. The views from TC across majestic Lake Wanaka are astounding.

Treble Cone is the largest ski area in the South Island, and is renowned for its terrain and dry powder. Because of its proximity to the Southern Alps it has reliable weather and snow conditions and it is protected from the bitterly cold southerly winds.

Treble Cone accesses some of New Zealand's best backcountry terrain. Today you will be joining professional guides for an incredible day of backcountry skiing/snowboarding beyond the boundaries of Treble Cone ski area.

You can reflect on your unforgettable day of backcountry touring as we travel over to Queenstown for the last night of the tour.

Day 6 will be the heli day if we had bad weather on day 5.

INCLUDED

Lift Pass
Guided Backcountry Tour
Cooked breakfast
Lunch

SLOPE INFO

Treble Cone

Difficulty: 10% Beginner, 45% Intermediate, 45% Advanced
Height: 1960m
Vertical: 700m
Skiable Area: 550ha



QUEENSTOWN

DAY 7 - QUEENSTOWN

We spend the last day of the tour in Queenstown - the adventure capital of the world. The only problem you'll have today is deciding what to do first. You can add another day of heli skiing to your adventure or make a dent in your bucket list with skydiving, bungy jumping, jet boating, skiing Coronet Peak or The Remarkables... the list is long and the choice is yours!

INCLUDED

Cooked breakfast

SLOPE INFO

Coronet Peak

Difficulty: 30% Beginner, 40% Intermediate, 30% Advanced

Height: 1649m

Vertical: 462m

Skiable Area: 280ha

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Heli-skiing
- Canyoning
- Horse trekking
- Canyon swing
- Bungy (Kawarau or Nevis)
- Paragliding
- Skydiving
- Milford Sound trip
- Extreme jet boating



FAQ

WHAT IS THE TOUR BUS LIKE?

We normally use a 12 seater 4WD late model Toyota HiAce, with a trailer for all your gear. As we only fill the bus to a maximum of 8 people, there are always some extra seats to lounge about!

WHO ARE THE TOUR GUIDES?

Our tour managers are all passionate snow enthusiasts with heaps of experience in guiding. They are there to ensure you have the best time possible. Head guide Mike Burton is a current international snowboard judge and was the guide for the Quiksilver Team when they travelled NZ with us - and as for the rest of the team, you can check out their profiles online to get to know them.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A MOUNTAIN IS SHUT?

We make amendments to our tour route on the rare occasions that any mountains are shut or have poor conditions - going to a different mountain when possible. If not possible, we will refund the wholesale rate for your day lift pass.

I'M A BEGINNER. IS THIS TOUR SUITABLE FOR ME?

Yes. If after your two initial lesson days you still feel you would like more instruction, we can organise this for you on the day. The price is from approximately NZ\$55 per person for a group lesson.

WHAT IS THE HIRE GEAR LIKE?

Skis are from 4FRNT, Atomic and Salomon. Boards are from Burton and Academy. Poles are from Scott. Clothing is from Aggression and ski boots are from Nordica. Equipment/gear will be hired on the morning of day one and you will have the same gear for the duration of the tour, which means you can get used to your equipment for maximum comfort and ride time.

CAN YOU HELP ME OUT FOR EXTRA DAYS BEFORE AND AFTER THE TOUR?

Yes, we can arrange trips to Mt Hutt near Christchurch with accommodation in Methven, or time at Coronet Peak or The Remarkables, with accommodation in Queenstown.

WHAT IS THE SIZE OF A SNOW TOUR GROUP?

The maximum size of a snow tour is 8 people. We book out in advance for during peak season so our average passengers can be very close to 8.



TOP 10 REASONS TO COME ON A SNOW TOUR

- 1** Forget about hiring cars and using chains - all our snow tours include daily transport direct from your accommodation to the snow.
- 2** Stop looking for accommodation - your accommodation is pre-booked and guaranteed by us. We own our very own nationwide backpacker chain, First Light Travel lodge which are award winning hostels, with super friendly staff.
- 3** Sit back and relax after a hard day on the mountain and be taken to your next destination.
- 4** Included breakfast - on a tour, your guide will have breakfast waiting for you in the morning, so you'll have heaps of energy for the day ahead!
- 5** Make great new mates. We restrict our tours to a maximum of 8 people, as our core philosophy is that small groups make for a far better experience.
- 6** Our Tour Manager will tell you about the best secret spots and powder stashes - they know the mountains like the back of their hand
- 7** When you hire gear with us, you use it for the whole tour, so you only need to get fitted out once.
- 8** Talk to your guide if you want any extra lessons - these can be easily arranged.
- 9** Pre-book any extra activities you want to do, and we guarantee you a spot. These can be booked on the road, but during peak season popular activities often sell out.
- 10** We know the best places to eat and drink, so don't hesitate to ask your guide - they are there to make your life awesome!

CONTACT US TODAY FOR THE BEST PRICES AND SERVICES

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OR PHONE US NOW

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