

EXCLUSIVE CRUISES

FIORDLAND / TE WAHIPOUNAMU

DOUBTFUL, BREAKSEA AND DUSKY SOUNDS, AND PRESERVATION AND CHALKY INLETS

The beauty of a Fiordland cruise on the Fiordland Jewel is that you can take it at your own pace, either enjoy the scenery around you onboard our luxury nine-cabin boat, or get out and about and explore the area. On most days there will be the opportunity to head to shore, with the chance to stretch your legs and experience the Fiordland wilderness for yourself.

Of course, the weather is central to any Fiordland experience, so the itinerary of your cruise may differ depending on the conditions of the day.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Arrival: We recommend you arrive at Queenstown Airport the day before your boat cruise. Then drive (or bus) to Te Anau/Manapouri and stay the night at Te Anau/Manapouri before you board the boat to start your cruise.

If you are boarding the Fiordland Jewel in Doubtful Sound you will depart from: Real Journeys Visitor Centre, Pearl Harbour, 64 Walau Street, Manapouri @ 9.45am-10.00am Please check in 20 minutes prior to your departure.

If you are boarding the Fiordland Jewel in Dusky Sound you will depart by helicopter from: Southern Lakes Helicopter Hangar on Sandy Brown Road, Te Anau. Please check in between 10.30-11am for 11.30am lift off. Arrive onboard early afternoon.

Departure: If you are departing the Fiordland Jewel in Doubtful Sound you will return from Deep Cove at 3pm and arrive in Manapouri (Real Journeys Visitor Centre) mid to late afternoon, 5.15pm at the latest. Times may vary depending on timetables.

if you are departing the Fiordland Jewel in Dusky Sound you will depart by helicopter early afternoon and return to Te Anau.

After you have finished your cruise we recommend you stay in Te Anau, Manapouri or Queenstown and depart the next day from Queenstown Airport.

Transfer to Manapouri /Te Anau from Queenstown can be arranged by Fiordland Discovery at an additional cost, please contact us for more information and pricing.

Fiordland Discovery recommends guests should always have private travel insurance.



EXCLUSIVE CRUISES

SAMPLE ITINERARY

Please note there are variations are subject to the weather. This sample itinerary is from **Dusky Sound ending in Doubtful Sound, Doubtful Sound to Dusky Sound is in reverse.**

Day 1 -

Fly via helicopter from Te Anau and land directly onboard the Fiordland Jewel, which will be waiting in Dusky Sound.

Days 2-5

In Dusky Sound we'll cruise amongst various islands, coves and passages, visiting many historically significant sites such as:

- Luncheon Cove, where we walk around predator-free Anchor Island (2.5 kilometres), a bird sanctuary near the mouth of the fiord. You may see the South Island saddleback and, occasionally, one of the 40 rare kakapo on the island. This track travels up to a small lake in the centre of the island.
- Anchor Point, where Captain Cook anchored HMS Resolution in 1773. Also Pickersgill Harbour where Cook moored off Astronomer Point for five weeks.
- Pigeon Island, where we walk up the DOC pathway to visit the site of the home of New Zealand's first conservationist, Richard Henry, who tried to save the kakapo from extinction in the late 1800s. Here there is also an incredible viewpoint towards the entrance of Dusky Sound.
- We then cruise through the narrow channels of the Little Harbour to The Basin where you can go kayaking or explore Resolution Island on foot.
- There is also the possibility to launch the ROV to view black coral and marine life, giving you the unique opportunity to experience this remarkable place in a way that, until now, has been impossible.

At some stage, depending on the weather, we leave Dusky Sound and cruise down to Chalky Inlet.

We cruise around the inlets, and may do activities such as:

- View the rusting hulk of the wreck "Stella", a steamship that purposely ran aground in the 1800s after damaging itself on a reef.
- Walk on the beach at South Port Cove and visit McCallum's sawmill boiler.
- Walk up to Lake Cadman, via the falls in Lake Cove at the head of Edwardson Sound (20 minutes).

Right beside Chalky Inlet is Preservation Inlet, separated by Broke-adrift Passage and Treble Mountain. In the 1890s, a gold rush occurred and mining towns sprang up at Cromarty and Te Oneroa, where tracks and old mining machinery can still be found. Possible activities include:

- Land at Krisbee Bay to view an old sawmill boiler at Cromarty. The gold mine itself is many kilometres into the hills.
- Land at Te Oneroa Beach and walk 10 minutes inland to the old Morning Star battery boiler, where you may be able to see the mine drives and even the remains of an aerial cableway. On the other side of the inlet is the site of the first whaling station in the South Island.

Preservation Inlet also has some spectacular land features and viewpoints, including:

- Puysegur Point, where we land at the old oil store (now a DOC hut) and walk to the most isolated lighthouse in New Zealand.
- Spit Island, an island connected to the mainland by a beautiful sandspit at low tide. It was the site of two tragic Maori battles in the 1780s.
- Cascade basin, a magnificent waterfall that plunges into Long Sound.

Day 6-7

We'll start to head back north through Breaksea and Doubtful Sounds. At Doubtful Sound on Day 7, you'll disembark and take a bus over Wilmot Pass, a boat over Lake Manapouri and return to Manapouri..

EXCLUSIVE CRUISES

SCENIC & NATURE

The massive glaciers that tore the landscape apart 15,000 years ago left 14 fascinating fiords, the northernmost being the famous Milford Sound, with its narrow valley and steep cliffs, and the southernmost being Dusky Sound, and Chalky and Preservation Inlets.

Strictly speaking, a "sound" is formed by a river, while a "fiord" is a glacier-formed valley. Fiordland's southern fiords are much larger than its northern fiords, with mountains and hills complementing their islands and coves. The remote islands in particular have been a real opportunity to establish bird sanctuaries, such as Anchor Island, which is now home to the likes of the kakapo and saddleback.

Fiordland receives about 6500mm of rainfall each year, the perfect catalyst for beautiful waterfalls and lush podocarp forest, both abundant in Dusky Sound. This rainfall also creates a freshwater layer on top of the fiords, resulting in a unique marine environment.

Wildlife

Dusky Sound and its surrounding fiords are havens for marine and bird life. From the comfort of our vessel you can enjoy seals and a variety of birds in their natural habitat.

Birds

Fiordland has many pest-free islands, the best known being Anchor Island, where you may see the endangered kakapo, South Island saddleback, South Island robin and yellowhead.

The most intriguing of birds is the rare Fiordland crested penguin. It is the only penguin to breed exclusively in New Zealand, mainly in Fiordland and Stewart Island. We may also see falcons, white-faced herons, white herons, cattle egrets, petrels, a variety of shags and the common black-backed gull.

Out in the Tasman Sea we frequently see Albatross including the Royal Albatross which has the longest wing span in the world.

Seals

Fiordland is home to the New Zealand fur seal (kekeno). Although almost hunted to extinction in the 1800s, New Zealand now boasts approximately 80,000 fur seals, with a large population found in Dusky Sound.

Dolphins are frequently seen in the sounds and, on rare occasions, pilot, humpback and Southern Right whales. Orca have been spotted along the coast and it is always a special privilege to see these incredible animals.

Underwater

Fiordland is home to ten marine reserves. Depending on the weather, we may use the ROV to view the Five Fingers Peninsula and Wet Jacket Arm reserves in Dusky Sound and the Long Sound Reserve at the head of the Preservation Inlet.

The extreme amount of rainfall in the fiords results in a freshwater surface layer that can be as deep as seven metres. The run-off from the surrounding mountains collects vegetable particles, which are responsible for the tannin-like colour of the water. This creates a light barrier and encourages deep-water plants and animals to thrive at shallower depths.

The marine reserves have an impressive variety of habitats and species from sponges, lampshells (brachiopods), starfish lobsters, rock crabs and fish, to some of the world's biggest populations of black coral trees. This black coral - said to be more expensive than diamonds - can be more than 300 years old.

EXCLUSIVE CRUISES

HISTORY

Maori

Fiordland/Te Wahipounamu was well known to the Maori, and many legends recount its formation and naming. Demigod Tuterakiwhanoa is said to have carved the rugged landscape from formless rock. Takiwai, a translucent greenstone, was sought from Anita Bay and elsewhere near the mouth of Milford Sound/Piopiotaahi.

Early Maoris began to explore Fiordland from about 800 years ago. They were inventive, adventurous and resilient, as all who venture off the well-trod way must be. Remnants of the major southern Maori tribe Ngatimamoe, fled into remote parts of the Fiordland in the late 18th century. They were pursued by Ngaitahu tribesmen from the north, and about 1780 two battles are said to have been fought in the far southwest at Preservation Inlet which the Maoris called Rakituma, 'the threatening sky'. About 5 years later legend has it that Pukutahi led another group of fleeing Ngatimamoe intending to take refuge and settle in the Murchison Mountains ('the land of the moho' - takahe) between the south and middle fiords of Lake Te Anau. Te Hau, a Ngaitahu warrior, led a party which caught and slew some of the escapers in a fracas thought to have taken place across the lake from the hotel at Te Anau.

The survivors disappeared and entered lore as the poignant holders of the names 'lost tribe' or 'wild natives' of Fiordland. In 1851 Captain Stokes of the survey ship Acheron recorded that he and his crew 'came on the fresh foot-marks of some natives' in Bligh Sound, most likely members of the 'lost tribe' that Paddy Gilroy, skipper of the Amazon, had seen there in 1842. And Captain Cook had earlier made contact with Maoris when he put the Resolution in to Dusky Sound for repairs and to rest his crew from March to May of 1773.

Dusky Sound and its surrounding fiords are steeped in rich New Zealand history and stories of the early beginnings of this remarkable region are fascinating.

In 1770, Captain Cook, sailing the Endeavour, saw Five Fingers Point "standing up like four fingers and thumb of a man's hand". It was nearing dusk so Cook, arguably the greatest mariner the world has ever seen, decided it would be unwise to sail into the fiord. He named it "Dusky Bay" and kept sailing,

In 1773, he returned in Resolution and, having spent 117 days at sea, he sailed straight into Dusky Sound and anchored off the eastern tip of Anchor Island. The next day he found a safe anchorage and used his boats to tow the Resolution to Pickersgill Harbour, where the ship moored alongside Astronomers Point for five weeks. It had been an arduous voyage through the Antarctic waters - the ship needed repairs and the crew needed a rest.

An acre of forest was cleared where tents were erected, a brewery constructed and a forge was set up. The stumps can still be seen and there is now a boardwalk around the Point.

It was named "Astronomers Point" because it was an observation for William Wales of the Board of Longitude to establish the position of New Zealand. This was important so they could test the accuracy of John Harrison's watch, the "H4" (finding an accurate marine watch was the challenge of the 1700s and Harrison was the leading contender). The Royal New Zealand Navy has marked the site of the observatory and mounted a plaque to commemorate this important historic location.

Cook made a very accurate chart of Dusky Sound, scientific data was collected, and he left weeks later via Acheron Passage and Breaksea Sound.

New Zealand's first house and ship

In 1792, Captain Raven of the Britannia left a gang of sealers at Luncheon Cove on Anchor Island. Here they built the first European house and ship in New Zealand. A mound of boulders near the stream is believed to be a tidal platform on which the sealers built their boat "Providence".

EXCLUSIVE CRUISES

HISTORY

Whalers also established a whaling station in 1829. By the 1840s, sealers had almost hunted fur seals to extinction and Dusky Sound once again became deserted.

The first shipwreck

In 1795, the 800-tonne East Indiaman Endeavour, carrying 244 people, sunk in Facile Harbour after being caught in a storm. In 1910, the cruise ship SS Waikare sank after hitting an uncharted rock in the Sound. Modern-day electronic sonar is a useful thing to have!

New Zealand's first conservator and sanctuary

After the ecologically disastrous introduction of possums, ferrets, stoats and rabbits, by the late 1800s, it had become obvious that native bird populations were heading towards extinction. In 1891, Resolution Island was chosen as New Zealand's first sanctuary and Richard Henry was appointed caretaker and curator. He became an international pioneer of the live transfer of birds to island refuges, even though his methods proved to be a disheartening failure.

In 1894, he arrived on Pigeon Island and built a three-story house with his assistant - the piles of which you can still see today. He then proceeded to catch and transfer over 700 kakapo and kiwi from the mainland to surrounding islands.

On 4th August 1900, to his utter despair, he discovered a weasel on Resolution Island. He trapped and poisoned for another eight years but left in 1908. His capture techniques, however, were pioneering and his observations were a foundation for later successful bird recovery programs. He went on to be the Kapiti Island ranger before he retired in 1912 and died in 1929.

Mystic moose

Some believe moose may still live in Wet Jacket Arm after they were released in 1910 and although most New Zealanders are convinced that they died out long ago, there are still people prepared to spend time and money trying to prove their continued existence.

Preservation Inlet

The Gold Rush

In 1887, the Puysegur Point lighthouse keeper found gold on Coal Island and triggered the gold rush. The Cromarty township was created to service the Golden Site and Alpha mines, and the Te Oneroa township sprang up to serve the Morning Star mine.

On the hills on the west of Isthmus Sound, halfway down Preservation Inlet, gold, silver, copper and lead were found. A company was formed and, in 1897, a shaft was driven 50 metres inland and 30 metres underwater. Blasting fractured its roof and it filled with sea water and the mine never recovered.

In 1908, a second attempt was made, but this time a smelter was built and 35 tonnes of ore was smelted only to produce no returns and the whole site was abandoned once more. The smelter remains with its long brick chimney running up the hill behind it.

The Lighthouse

Puysegur Point Lighthouse is the most isolated lighthouse in New Zealand. There are superb views looking along the south coast and, on a fine day, the Solander Islands can be seen to the east and the tip of Cape Providence to the west.

It was first built in 1879 on the most south-westerly point of the South Island, but burnt down in 1942 by an eccentric gold miner who was annoyed by the light keeping him awake. In 1989 it was automated, but remains an iconic and fascinating part of Fiordland's history.

World Heritage Area

Fiordland National Park was officially constituted in 1952. Today it covers over 1.2 million hectares and was declared a World Heritage Area in 1986.

EXCLUSIVE CRUISES

CABINS

Governor's Cabin - one cabin available. The Governor's Cabin is at the top of the boat all by itself with its own full width forward window and large side windows. Super King double bed, the ensuite has a separate shower and toilet.

Captain Cook Cabins - four cabins available. On the main deck all with sea views. Super King double bed, the ensuite has a separate shower and toilet.

Endeavour Cabins - two cabins available. On the main deck both with sea views. Two King single beds, the ensuite has a separate shower and toilet.

Resolution Cabins - two cabins available. On the main deck both with sea views. Two bunks single beds, the ensuite has a combined shower and toilet.

INCLUDED

- Helicopter transfer (one way) to and from Te Anau to Dusky Sound and a coach/boat transfer (one way) to or from Doubtful Sound to Manapouri
- All meals (please advise if you have any dietary requirements), complimentary tea & coffee
- In each cabin: Toiletries, body wash & Shampoo/Conditioner (Evolu), hairdryer, linen & bath towels
- Use of top-deck hot tub (weather dependent)

BEVERAGE INFORMATION

- There is a licensed bar onboard and alcohol is available to purchase. We have a selection of wine, beer & soft drinks (no spirits). Please note: Do not bring alcohol onboard with you, as this would breach our liquor license.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

A 20% non-refundable deposit is required to book.

Full payment must be received 3 months prior to trip departure date, unless stated otherwise. However, we realise circumstances can change.

If we receive written notice of your cancellation to our email address (bookings@fiordlanddiscovery.co.nz) two months or more from the trip departure date, we will refund 80% of the full price payment.

If we receive written notice of your cancellation to our email address (bookings@fiordlanddiscovery.co.nz) less than two months from the trip departure date then you will forfeit the full price payment and your deposit.

FIORLAND DISCOVERY CANCELLATION OR POSTPONEMENT
Fiordland Discovery reserves the right to amend timetables, cancel cruise departures and substitute vessels at any time for safety or operational reasons including due to unsafe weather conditions or vessel maintenance.

Minimum numbers apply to Multi-day and charter cruises.

In the event of a cruise being cancelled prior to departure, passengers will be given the option of an alternative sailing or a full refund on the cruise portion only.

If a cruise is cancelled during a sailing due to unforeseen circumstances, adverse weather affecting passenger safety and comfort, unforeseen operational reasons or any other issue, passengers may receive a partial refund at Fiordland Discovery's sole discretion. Full refunds will only be given when a cruise is cancelled prior to departure.

Due to variability of weather and other conditions beyond our control, Fiordland Discovery cannot guarantee certain activities will be available. The actual route activities and anchorages may vary.

Fiordland Discovery recommends guests should always have private travel insurance.

LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

Passengers travel at their own risk (to the extent permitted by law) and Fiordland Discovery is not responsible for any loss, damage, cost, expense or injury suffered by passengers or loss or damage to a passenger's property.

Without limiting the foregoing, the following conditions apply:

In respect of all passengers, Fiordland Discovery is not liable for any loss, damage or delay caused by or arising from an event beyond the control of Fiordland Discovery, including any act of God, inevitable accident, riot, civil commotion, strike, lock-out, stoppage or restraint of labour, regardless of the cause and whether partial or general.

Fiordland Discovery does not warrant that Fiordland Discovery's services are available at any particular time or at all. Fiordland Discovery is not liable to a passenger or any other person:

For any consequences arising from any variation or delay in the time of arrival or departure from any stop of any vehicle;

For any loss or damage as a result of a cancellation or any variation of the time of arrival or departure from any stop of any vehicle;

For damage to any property of a passenger; or
For the death of any passenger or other person or for injury, harm, disease or damage to health, whether physical, mental or otherwise (including mental or nervous shock or distress) suffered by a passenger or any other person.

If there is contributory negligence on the part of a passenger or other person, Fiordland Discovery's liability is subject to the law relating to contributory negligence.

Fiordland Discovery may vary or cancel wholly or in part the scheduled services shown in Fiordland Discovery timetable or may vary the point at which Fiordland Discovery will pick up and set down passengers.

The passenger indemnifies Fiordland Discovery at all times against any loss, damage or cost suffered or incurred by Fiordland Discovery as a direct or indirect result of a breach by the passenger of its obligations under these terms and conditions.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Our passengers health, safety and comfort is foremost for Fiordland Discovery.

Prior to every cruise departure, the skipper gives clear safety instructions over the public address system or direct to passengers. Passengers should listen carefully to these messages and comply with all aspects of safety advice. In the unlikely event of an emergency, passengers must obey all instructions from the Fiordland Discovery fully trained skipper and crew.

New Zealand has a 'no-fault' government-backed medical injury treatment scheme, administered by the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC).

Under ACC legislation, passengers are prevented from suing the operator for any mishap or misadventure. Should there be a medical incident or injury Fiordland Discovery will do everything in its power to organise prompt medical assistance. In the case of injury, the cost of that assistance will be borne by the ACC scheme. The nearest medical centre to Dusky Sound is located in Te Anau (over 45 minutes by helicopter).

All passengers while in an area controlled by Fiordland Discovery must:

- Act in a safe and reasonable manner
- Cooperate with, and observe all instructions from Fiordland Discovery staff
- Follow all signs and notices
- Not smoke
- Not consume alcohol unless available on Fiordland Discovery service
- Not interfere with or use emergency equipment or emergency exits except in an emergency
- Not behave in an unsafe, noisy, violent or antisocial manner
- Not litter or tamper with or damage any property of Fiordland Discovery

FIORLAND DISCOVERY EXPEDITIONS

Fiordland Discovery Expeditions (Multiday Cruises) are suitable for people of all ages, with the exception of children under 9 years of age. If you are 70+ years of age or pregnant, we ask that you consult your personal doctor (General Practitioner), to verify your current physical wellbeing and suitability for the expedition.

EXCLUSIVE CRUISES & CHARTERS

Cruise activities, and desired locations, are not guaranteed by Fiordland Discovery, they remain at all times at the discretion of the Skipper.

In order to transfer our vessel to different locations within New Zealand, we require clear and safe weather passage on both inbound and outbound journeys. If this is not possible Fiordland Discovery reserves the right to alter the location, without warning and without recompense to clients and their agents.

These decisions are made in the interest of safety for our guests, crew and vessel, and are not taken lightly. They are not grounds for pricing alteration, discount, or compensation.

FIORLAND DISCOVERY ACTIVITIES

KAYAKING

All passengers must be able to swim and wear an approved life jacket in accordance with weight.

Kayaking is subject to weather conditions. Kayaks are only available for adult passengers, not children. Fiordland Discovery reserves the right to cancel or modify any kayaking trip due to unsafe weather conditions or not meeting the minimum number requirements. Detailed risk management and strict safety procedures are observed, however there still remains an element of risk. Risks in Milford Sound include extreme weather and water conditions which can change rapidly, cold water and limited kayaking landing sites. Fiordland Discovery accepts its legal responsibilities but cannot be held responsible for personal injury or loss, theft or damage to passenger belongings outside of any legal liability.

Fiordland Discovery cannot absolutely guarantee passenger safety. Passengers on kayaking trips must follow guide instructions and adhere to safety requirements.

FIORLAND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

Fiordland is a remote part of New Zealand and a natural environment, Fiordland Discovery cannot guarantee Fiordland wildlife sightings while cruising with us.

FIORLAND HUNTING

Hunters must supply their own gun, and have their gun licence and a valid hunting permit, from the Department of Conservation (DOC). Please contact us for further information.

FIORLAND DIVING

Due to the new adventure activity regulations, we can only offer diving from the vessel under special new rules. Please contact us for further information and you will be required to sign and complete a liability release and assumption of risk form. While Fiordland Discovery supplies weights, tanks, and carries emergency oxygen equipment, our charters are not 'guided' diving trips. All divers must have a current diving ticket, and accept that they are completely responsible for their own actions.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

No refunds will be given in the event that activities cannot be undertaken, such as ROV, fishing, lifting craypots, and kayaking.

TRANSACTIONS, AMMENDMENTS AND CONTRACTS

All transactions are conducted in New Zealand Dollars (NZD). Due to exchange rate fluctuations, at times there may be some variance in the amounts refunded compared to the amount initially charged. Fiordland Discovery Ltd does not accept any liability for these variances or any subsequent credit card/bank charges relating to these transfers to customers' accounts.

All agreements/contracts are subject solely to New Zealand (NZ) Law and the exclusive jurisdiction of the New Zealand Courts.

In the event of a cancellation or amendment to your booking, notification period is in NZ time (NZST).