Fiordland Discovery offers bespoke, private-multiday scenic, fishing, hunting and diving charters.

The beauty of a Stewart Island 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 Stewart Island for yourself.

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

**AVAILABLE DATES**

**2019/2020**

**Stewart Island** - 7 days/6 nights - from Oban
8 August-14 August 2019
1-7 August or 8 August-14 August 2020

All meals included

**MAXIMUM**

18 PASSENGERS

**ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE**

Arrival: We recommend you arrive at Invercargill or Bluff the day before your boat cruise.

Arrival & departure: Travel to and from Stewart Island on the express catamaran (60 minutes) or by air from Invercargill.

Own arrangement please let us know if you need assistance with booking transport.


Fiordland Discovery recommends guests should always have private travel insurance.
FISHING CHARTERS

- The very latest in fishing technology, a 3D Wassp seafloor mapping system, is onboard. From years of commercial fishing, skipper Rob Swale has comprehensively mapped the fishing grounds of Fiordland and Stewart Island, enabling guests to make the most of their fishing time.

DIVING CHARTERS

- A warm current from the Australian Great Barrier Reef flows around Stewart Island bringing a greater diversity of marine creatures than would normally be found in waters of this latitude.
- You will encounter many species. Fish, crustaceans, mollusca and spectacular underwater forests of tall bladder kelp.
- The Marine Reserve in Paterson Inlet, which was established in 2004 and covers 1075 hectares, is the ultimate diver's paradise. On show here are up to 170 species of seaweed and over 50 species of fish. Please be aware of the reserve outer limits and do not remove anything from within the boundaries.
- Fiordland Discovery provides all dive tanks and weight belts and Fiordland Jewel has its own onboard compressor. Divers must have their dive ticket and this is to be brought onboard.

HUNTING CHARTERS

- Stewart Island offers hunters the only readily accessible herd of Virginian White-tail deer in the Southern Hemisphere and is therefore a popular destination for deer hunters.
- Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre administers 35 hunting blocks and an open zone on Stewart Island. A further 13 blocks on the island are administered by Rakiura Maori Land Trust.
- Permits are required for all hunting and these need to be applied for in advance. For further information contact Rakiura National Park Visitor Centre or Rakiura Maori Land Trust.
- Hunters must supply their own gun, and have their current gun licence and a valid hunting permit. Fiordland Discovery provides a VHF radio and arranges drop-offs and pick-ups to suit.

PRIVATE CHARTERS

Exclusive charters are available: Day, Overnight, and multi-day – upon request. Fiordland Discovery cruises are guided by expert crew, are fully catered, with all equipment supplied.
Please note there are variations are subject to the weather.

**Plan A** is to travel the distance around Stewart Island - approx. 130 to 160 kms. **Plan B** is to do as much as we can given the Skipper’s judgement and weather conditions whilst you are onboard. In addition to below there is also lots of cruising, fishing and kayaking or walking where time allows.

**Day 1** - Board the Fiordland Jewel in Halfmoon Bay, Oban in the morning, and then return 7 days later to Halfmoon Bay, Oban. Explore Paterson Inlet/Whaka a Te Wera, a 8,900-hectare inlet with 188 kilometres of coastline, formed by post-glaciation flooding 12,000 to 16,000 years ago. The Rakeahua River flows into its South West Arm and the Freshwater River near North Arm.

**Day 2** - Spend the morning exploring the largest island in Paterson Inlet/Whaka a Te Wera the Ulva Island bird sanctuary. In the afternoon visit the historic Norwegian whaling station in Prices Inlet and/or kayak Kaipipi Bay. Cruise to Port Adventure, a bay 10 kilometres south along the coast from The Neck the long peninsula at the mouth of Paterson Inlet, popular for fishing, diving and hunting. It was the site of a settlement of 36 Maori who arrived from The Neck in 1843.

**Day 3** - Port Adventure to Port Pegasus
Cruise along the coast which is largely rocky with occasional beaches. South of Lords River/Tutaekawetoweto it is exposed and mostly cliffs. Subsidence has created drowned river valleys such as Tikotatahi Bay, Tutaepawhati Bay and Big Kur i Bay. On arrival in Port Pegasus there may be time for kayaking and/or a short walk before dinner.

**Day 4 & 5** - Port Pegasus/ Pikihatiti
Explore this large sheltered harbour on the south-east coast. Its inlets, coves and bays cover some 40 square kilometres, with many safe and sheltered anchorages. Four major passages provide access to the sea. The passages in turn open out into two main arms - North Arm and South Arm.

It was first charted by William Stewart in 1809. A colonisation enterprise in the 1820s was not successful.

Activities around Port Pegasus can include walks and kayaking.

**Day 6** - Commence the journey back to Oban along the west or east coast.

**Day 7** - Explore Oban on foot and return by catamaran to Bluff or Invercargill by air. Own arrangement, please let us know if you need assistance with booking transport.

This cruise around Stewart Island, may include (weather permitting) activities such as:
- Kayaking
- Tender boat excursions
- Walking
- Launching the ROV to view underwater marine life
- Some fishing
- Bluff Oyster dredging
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.

FIORDLAND DISCOVERY CANCELLATION OR POSTPONEMENT

Fiordland Discovery reserves the right to amend, cancel, or 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 plus any additional costs

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 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’s 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 IS 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 To Ahau (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

FIORDLAND DISCOVERY EXPEDITIONS

Fiordland Discovery Expeditions (Multi-day Cruises) are suitable for people of all ages, with the exception of children under 18 years of age. If you are 70+ years of age or pregnant, we ask that you consult your primary 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.

FIORDLAND 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 adults, 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. Risk 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.

FIORDLAND 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.

FIORDLAND 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.

FIORDLAND 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 scuba diving, kayaking, helicopter, or similar.

TRANSACTIONS, AMENDMENTS 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)

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