



Nau Mai, Haere Mai.

Welcome to the Southern Lakes.

Queenstown, Lake Wānaka, and Central Otago – our home, our passion, our place.

This land has a rich history of welcoming and providing for people, of forging deep connections to whenua and the environment. From the time of Waitaha arrival in 850 AD, through to the start of the 20th century, Kāi Tahu Whānui lived off the land, from the land, with the land and across the land.

It is a place steeped in whakapapa, from the Kāi Tahu Whānui settlements through to the early European settlers, the prospectors drawn by the allure of gold, and then the tourism entrepreneurs who turned their passion into enterprise. Behind this history sits a host of characters and an abundance of stories. This past informs the present and the future of this place and its people.

This region is rich in natural beauty, culture, heritage, and diversity. The soaring peaks of Glenorchy, the beech forests of Makarora, the historic townships of Arrowtown, Clyde and Ophir, the wine regions of Gibbston, Cromwell and Bannockburn, and the vibrant centres of Queenstown, Wānaka and Alexandra are only a few of the elements that shape this place's unique identity. A warm welcome is extended, inviting you to slow down and enjoy an immersive and scenic experience.

We invite you to join us for a 5-night journey through the *Queenstown, Lake Wānaka, and Central Otago* region to discover new and mature tourism offerings that offer a regenerative approach to tourism.

- ***While this itinerary is a guide to 5-nights of inspiration in our region, please note it will be subject to change based on the operators that confirm to attend TRENZ as a seller, that support the Tourism Sustainability Commitment and regenerative tourism practices.***
- ***We would also like to acknowledge that this would not be possible without the generous support from our regional operators - transport, accommodation, and product suppliers.***

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US, PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST, [HERE](#).

Your EOI will be reviewed by the team at Destination Queenstown, Lake Wānaka Tourism & Tourism Central Otago.

Confirmation of acceptance to attend this famil will be by Friday, 2 February 2024.

Upon confirmation, we will also provide the recommended flight for you to book from Wellington to Queenstown on Saturday, 11 May 2024.

Please note there is a maximum of 15 participants.

ITINERARY

SUNDAY 12 May 2024 - Welcome to Queenstown

Arrive to Queenstown and transfer to Lake Wānaka.



Wānaka perfectly complements neighbouring Queenstown. It is a place of awe-inspiring natural beauty, steeped in history and stories, ancient and new. The wairua (spirit) created by the landscape is what shapes the experience of being in Wānaka and connects everyone who visits — whether for a few hours, or a lifetime. Where the mountains, lakes and terrain make for some of the most incredible adventures and activities that are shaped by locals who want to share their passions, who want visitors to experience and love the outdoors as they do, and who honour and respect the environment they operate in.

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| AM | Enjoy a stop in on-route to Wānaka at a renowned local distillery. |
| PM | Check-in to your accommodation (<i>group will be split between properties</i>) |
| PM | Prepare for a special Māori welcome by the lakefront. |
| PM | Enjoy a welcome dinner with the Lake Wānaka Tourism and Destination Queenstown team as we enjoy farm to table dishes and famous Southern Lakes hospitality. |
| PM | Overnight Wānaka |

| MONDAY 13 May | |
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| AM | Enjoy the local café culture for breakfast. |
| AM | Choice of three activities (<i>group split</i>) This day's activities are woven together by a common theme: an unwavering commitment to sustainability and reverence for our precious whenua, the land we call home. |
| AM/PM | Trip A – Experience Wānaka’s thriving bike culture. Choose between e-bike tours and pedal only adventures. |
| AM/PM | Trip B – Water Adventures: Delve into the pristine waters surrounding Wānaka through activities like paddleboarding, kayaking, and eco tours that shed light on how our operators contribute to the reforestation of Mou Waho island. |
| AM/PM | Trip C - Guided Exploration: Embark on a guided walk to Diamond Lake, Mt. Aspiring National Park, or venture into the picturesque Siberia Valley, immersing yourself in the natural beauty and rich history of our region. |
| PM | Enjoy pre-dinner drinks at a local winery overlooking Lake Wānaka which will include a networking session as a chance to connect with local experts and businesses who couldn’t be included in the main itinerary due to time constraints. |
| PM | Finally, gather for a group dinner at one of Wānaka's celebrated restaurants. |

TUESDAY 14 May



There are few places in the world which will leave you with a lasting sense of difference and Central Otago is undoubtedly one of them, from its landscapes, seasons, welcoming locals, export quality produce and experiences. Moment by moment it will quietly reveal its differences to you in subtle and unexpected ways. Our living history will enrich you, our people will welcome you and our Food & Beverages will delight you. Enjoy a day immersing yourself amongst our landscapes, in an unhurried pace of life – we look forward to slowing your pace down and allowing you the joy of connecting with nature.

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| AM | Breakfast in Wānaka town central and LWT team say Mā Te Wā (see you soon). |
| AM | Scenic drive to Cromwell, Central Otago Nau mai (welcome) to our ancient land carved by receding glaciers. The Tourism Central Otago (TCO) crew welcome you to just one of our four valleys within the Central Otago region. |
| AM | Prepare your tastebuds and ready your camera for a tour of Jackson Orchard by e-vehicle. This 72acre orchard is an autumnal wonder and the sampling of fresh fruit directly from the tree is one of life’s simple pleasures. |
| AM | Embrace the outdoors with a TCO hosted walk along the Lake Dunstan Trail where the 2 rivers (wai) meet adjacent to the Cromwell Heritage Precinct. A place of rich history connecting Wānaka, Cromwell and Queenstown. |

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| AM | <p>Choice from 2 pre-lunch activities (<i>group split</i>)</p> <p>Our community thrive on being outdoors and active. We explore our trails by foot or by bike and fuel up at cafés, cellar doors and restaurants enjoying export quality food grown locally. Our visitor experiences are a vital connector between community, visitors and landscapes. Our operators have been active in corporate responsibility for years contributing to community wellbeing, the conservation of our land, flora and fauna and are proven leaders in environmental stewardship and sustainability practices.</p> |
| PM | <p>Trip A – 2-wheel action</p> <p>E-bike along a 10km section of the Lake Dunstan Trail graduating from easy to intermediate cycling, concluding at an organic vineyard (estimate up to 1 hour of scenic cycling).</p> |
| PM | <p>Trip B – 4-wheel action</p> <p>This is an e-vehicle experience designed to power you up! And for 10 years Highlands have led the way in social good with community at the heart. – learn more about their story of commitment to the community.</p> |
| PM | <p>Lunch at Carrick Winery is in the heart of the wine region. Hosted by Carrick and Tourism Central Otago teams, your regionally inspired and sourced menu will be beautifully matched with organic wines. This is your chance to sit back, savour and relax. Enjoy this moment to soak up the exceptional scenery of Bannockburn, Central Otago.</p> |
| PM | <p>Unique inspection of an eco-accommodation perched on a high-country station, hidden away from the world. Discover the magic of the Tāima PurePod. (<i>Note; a 300m uphill walk to this hidden accommodation gem</i>).</p> |
| | <p>Mā Te Wā (see you again) from Central Otago! This 35min drive follows the winding course of the Kawarau River into the wine sub-region of Gibbston.</p> |
| PM | <p>Discover Gibbston the Valley of Vines with a visit to Kinross for a Meet the Winemaker experience, followed by dinner with the Destination Queenstown team.</p> |
| EVENING | <p>Check-in to your accommodation (<i>group will be split between properties</i>)</p> |
| | <p>Overnight Queenstown</p> |

WEDNESDAY 15 May



Queenstown is our precious home. It is our privilege to steward these natural surroundings that sustain lives and livelihoods and share them with like-minded people. We immerse ourselves in landscapes that fuel our creative spirit, our courage, and an expanding sense of possibility. We are nurtured by vibrant communities that connect and enrich us. Together, we commit to protecting and nurturing this place for future generations. Our deep love of place drives our passion for the environment, and we invite others to help us care for it. With open minds and hearts, we welcome visitors – our fellow visionaries – who bring their courage and curiosity, who share our values, and take action toward a thriving planet and community.

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| | Enjoy a hosted breakfast at your accommodation. |
| AM | Today you will have the choice of taking in the sights with the choice of a scenic e-bike or Tesla Tour experience. |
| NOON | Lunch will be a feature of a new place to eat and drink, shared with our tourism community that provides a chance to network with local experts and businesses who couldn't be included in the main itinerary due to time constraints. |
| PM | Scenic Flight Experience (<i>group will be split between operators</i>). |
| | <i>*A bad weather back-up will be in place should we be unable to fly.</i> |
| PM | Check-in to accommodation (<i>the group will be split between two or three properties for a 2-night stay</i>). |



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| PM | This evening will be at your leisure. We welcome you to take this opportunity to check out downtown Queenstown and its delights. Dinner suggestions will be provided. |
| | Overnight Queenstown. |

| THURSDAY 16 May | |
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| | A choice of two activity offerings (<i>group evenly split</i>) |
| AM & PM | Trip A – take a visit Glenorchy and into Aspiring wilderness – walking, jetboating, picnic, and a lodge visit. |
| AM & PM | Trip B - stay closer to downtown for a selection of experiences – Gondola, Zipline, Conservation and Eco tour, lunch, and lodge visit. |
| PM | Conclude your stay with us for a group dinner of Southern Lakes hospitality. |
| | Overnight Queenstown. |

| FRIDAY 17 May | |
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| AM | Hosted breakfast at accommodation. |
| AM | Check-out of accommodation. |
| | Free to travel on departure flight that works best with your ongoing travel arrangements. If your flight be later in the day, you are free to make your own arrangements or additional inclusions can be added to this day. |