

Sample section of a full itinerary

ITINERARY

There are all sorts of suggestions for things to do and places to go along the way – you won't be able to do everything and you will, of course, want to find your own things, so don't feel obliged to follow this to the letter of the law! It is not a task list. It is not exhaustive either – do take advice from others along the way – your hosts at the various accommodations, the I Sites and the Department of Conservation Offices, people you meet along the way, will all be willing to help.

Don't hesitate to call us at any time should you need anything. We have our cell phones with us at all times.

Have a wonderful holiday

Jenny & Graham

Monday 14 February

WANAKA

2 nights

Accommodation

Wanaka Luxury Apartments
8 Stonebrook Drive
Wanaka
03 443 4943
<https://wla.co.nz/>



Booking Ref:

Room type:

Meals:

Laundry facility: Service

Restaurants and Cafes

Fine Dining and sharing plates:

Kika: <https://kika.nz>

It's very very good.

Italian:

Francescas: <https://www.fransitalian.co.nz/wanaka-home/>

Café:

Pembroke Patisserie (Albert Town 5km from Wanaka). Amazing and definitely local!

<https://www.pembrokepatisserie.co.nz>



Lots more cafes in town and excellent ice cream in Patagonia.

Supermarket

New World on Dunmore St and an enormous one at Three Parks a couple of km out of town.

There is very little available at Mount Cook (restaurants of course and essentials but no main shops) so stock up on anything you wish to take there).



The Drive

Queenstown to Wanaka

Distance: 70km

Approximate time: Just over an hour

Go over the Crown Range. Stop at the view points. And stop at the Cardrona Hotel. Definitely for a photo but also a coffee!



Ideas

That Wanaka Tree: Initially caught the imagination of photographers the world over and now Instagram but still worth a visit! Walk west along the lake shore. Not far from the car park.

Lakeshore Millenium Time line: A series of tiles along the footpath with significant dates from 1 – 2000AD. Worth a look

Puzzling World: Fun! \$25. <https://www.puzzlingworld.co.nz>

Hook: Catch and eat a salmon. <https://hookwanaka.nz>



Walks

Roy's Peak

I know this is on your agenda. Honesty box in car park. \$5, I think. It is a slog, a few hours up hill, but all on a good path. The classic view is about 30 mins from the summit. Hopefully not too busy. We were up there last year and had it to ourselves. A couple of years ago there was a 20 minute queue for the view!



Rob Roy Valley Track to Glacier Lookout

10km return into dramatic alpine landscape. 3-4 hours. Good Fitness required.

Drive 54km to the Raspberry Creek Car Park. The last 30km is unsealed.

Walk up the Matukituki Valley for 15 mins and cross the swing bridge. Moderate fitness required.

Ely Point Walk 20 mins, 1km each way to a nice picnic area. Follow the lakeshore, past the marina. Head around the point to Bremner Bay and continue on to Beacon Point (another 500m) .Good picnic spot.

Diamond Lake. 18km west of Wanaka on the Wanaka – Mount Aspiring Road. 45 minute return to the lake. Option to climb up to the lookout (an extra hour and steep).

Iron Hill for views over the town. Quite steep.

Wednesday 16 February

AORAKI MOUNT COOK

2 nights

Accommodation

The Hermitage Hotel
Terrace Road
Aoraki Mount Cook 7946

+64 3 435 1809

www.hermitage.co.nz

Booking Ref:

Room type:

Meals: Breakfast

Laundry facility: Guest & Service



Restaurants and Cafes

Several restaurants and eating options in The Hermitage.
Ask at check in.

Breakfast is included in your room booking.



The Drive

Wanaka to Aoraki Mount Cook

Distance: 200km

Approximate time: 2 hrs 20 mins

This is a spectacular drive over the Lindis Pass. Do stop at the viewpoints. It is worth a quick stop at Tarras. There is a nice café and country store but also a tiny museum dedicated to Shrek the sheep – a merino who evaded mustering for several years, and eventually came up for air with a 27km fleece!



If your legs are achy after Roys Peak, go for a hot tub at Omarama! <https://www.hottubsomarama.co.nz>

Clay Cliffs are worth the detour. Just after Omarama turn into Quailburn Road, after 4km turn left onto gravel, few more km left through shut gate and another few km to car park. Costs \$5 per car – honesty box. There is a sign saying to pay at the hot tubs at Omarama, but last time we were there (December 2017) we used the honesty box.

Turn off SH8 10km after Twizel and it is about 40 mins along Lake Pukaki to Aoraki Mount Cook. Lots of view points. Peter's is a good one.

Ideas

Mainly walks. See below.

However the DoC office has some great displays so make sure you call in.

The Hermitage runs several trips e.g. Glacier Explorers boat trips on the Tasman Lake to the glacier.

Kayaking trip on Tasman Lake

And scenic flights inc heli hiking also available.



Walks

Hooker Valley: Approx 3 hours return and mainly flat. Wonderful.

Tasman Glacier Viewpoint: 30 mins each way. You could extend walk by coming back down via blue lakes (which are now green) and keep going, track gets thinner and thinner but after about 20 mins will hit the 4WD track, turn left and follow back to car park.



Kea Point one hour return. Great views. Easy

Sealy Tarns. An awful lot of steps (?2000)! This is the first part of the walk up to Mueller Hut. The views are great, the tarns quite small but great reflections of Aoraki Mount Cook. If you go for this, try to do Hooker Valley on Weds once you have arrived. You need good weather otherwise a slog for nothing. We went up to Mueller Hut last year and it was great.

Thursday 17 February

Big Sky Star Gazing

Booking Ref:

Time: 10.30pm Report to Hermitage Activities Desk at 10.15

Wear: Good shoes and bring a jacket.

Duration: Approx. 1 hour



HAVE FUN !!!!!