



High Country Escape

ITINERARY



The mountains are calling...

On this exhilarating 5-day getaway, your private guides will share with you the most beautiful hikes, the freshest meals, and the most extraordinary locations where few get to go. The High Country Escape will transport you into a World Heritage Park, taking in the diverse landscape of an ancient beech forest, braided rivers, and glacier-carved valleys. You'll explore a historical high country station, hike on the famous Routeburn Track, and journey deep into Mt Aspiring National Park – all with a local expert guide by your side and the tranquil Headwaters Eco Lodge as your home base. Feed your soul and experience some of New Zealand's most stunning landscapes. Treat your body to delectable food and drink and optional yoga and gentle stretching classes each morning.

In the evenings, listen to fascinating short stories on topics you can select from: our unique flora and fauna, southern sky star gazing, local artwork on site, sustainable design, or meet with a local geologist or historian - whatever topic you fancy. Our legendary personal service each day promises to create a getaway that is unique and memorable.

Come discover just how warm and welcoming time away in nature can be.

DURATION

5 days, 4 nights

BASE

The Headwaters Eco Lodge

PER PERSON FROM

\$4595,00 NZD

Upgrades available



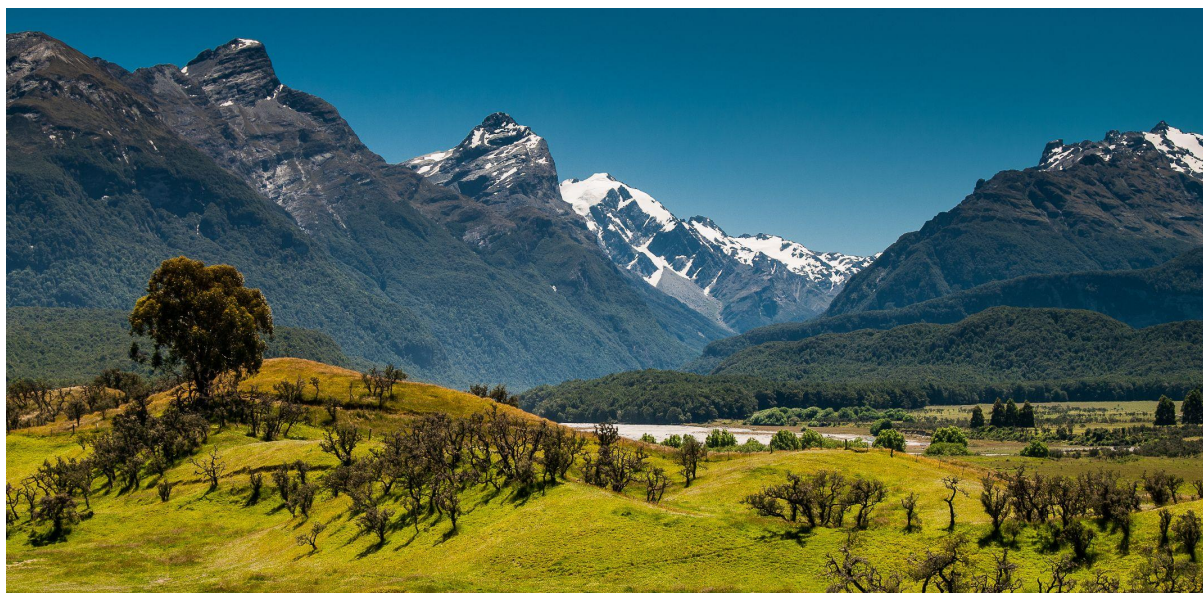
Trip Highlights

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

- Routeburn Track hike
- Whakaari hike
- High Country Paradise Tour
- Bob's Cove walk
- High country sheep station hike
- Hands-on community regeneration planting project
- Walking tour of Glenorchy's iconic waterfront Red Shed and black swan lagoon walk

RELAXATION & INSPIRATION

- Visit to the Paradise Trust historical site
- Inspiring evening programmes
- Stay in new warm cosy cabins
- Sustainability and art tour of The Headwaters Eco Lodge
- Morning yoga and stretching classes



Trip Inclusions

- Private eco cabin lodging with ensuite at The Headwaters Eco Lodge
- Local expert guides on all activities in the itinerary
- Arrival and departure transfers between Queenstown CBD/Airport and Glenorchy
- Daily morning yoga and stretching classes
- Community restoration project
- All meals during the trip
- All non-alcoholic beverages
- One alcoholic beverage per dinner (additional alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase)
- Evening programmes themed to your choosing



Day 1

Queenstown pick-up with scenic walk en-route to your Glenorchy experience

Walking Distance

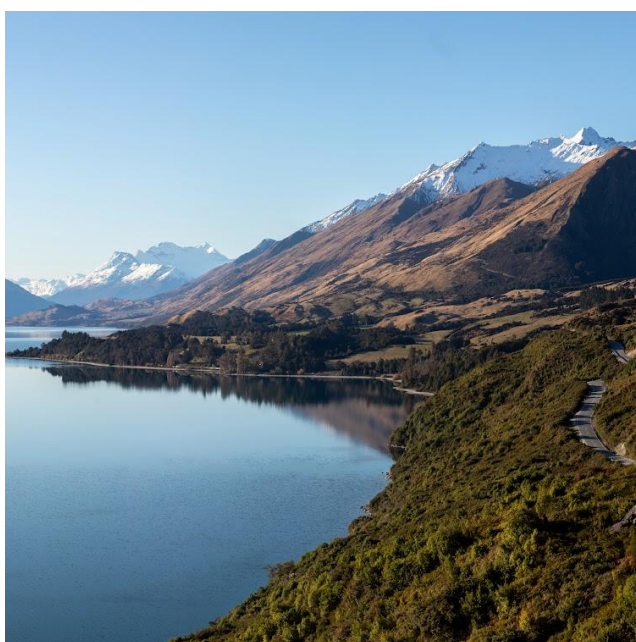
Bob's Cove walk: 2 - 3km

Walking Elevation

Bob's Cove walk: +/-200m

Meals

Snacks, dinner



Your guide will pick you up early afternoon in Queenstown, or at the airport, before driving up to Glenorchy on one of the world's most scenic lakeside drives! We'll stop along the way to stretch our legs with a stunning lakeside walk at Bob's Cove.

After we've taken lots of beautiful pictures, your guide will continue on the spectacular 30-minute drive to the end of the lake, and to our destination, The Headwaters Eco Lodge. Upon arriving, you'll be welcomed by your hosts and shown to your private room with ensuite,

before getting together with your group for a short tour of your new home base. Explore the lodge and learn about its collection of New Zealand art and craft or take a behind the scenes guided tour to discover what makes New Zealand's most sustainable accommodation so unique. Your expert guides will then provide you with an overview of the next five days and offer a walking tour of Glenorchy, which includes the iconic Red Shed, the lagoon boardwalk, and surrounding wetlands full of birdlife. Or if you prefer, stay behind and relax in your private cabin to enjoy the serenity of the Lodge. The evening will commence with pre-dinner drinks and canapés before a sumptuous dinner, featuring an assortment of the Otago region's finest foods. We'll finish the evening with a short programme that is sure to inspire! Choose from a variety of topics such as stargazing, the unique flora and fauna, artworks on-site, geology, or a conversation with a local historian. Upon booking your trip, your Getaway Specialist will speak to you about your preferences for these evening programme topics, so they are tailored to fit your personal interests and passions.



Day 2

A day on the Routeburn Track

Hiking Distance

Routeburn Track: 15km

Hiking Elevation

Routeburn Track: Up to
+/-495m

Meals

Breakfast, lunch, dinner



Wake up in paradise and look outside your cabin window to see the sun coming up on the mountains! After an optional morning yoga and stretching class, followed by a delicious breakfast, we'll head off to hike one of our favourite walks. Enjoy a day on the breathtaking Routeburn Track within Mount Aspiring National Park. Walk through an ancient beech forest, created thousands of years ago and home to thousands of birds. Experience a variety of landscapes, framed by soaring mountain peaks, crystal blue rivers, and roaring

waterfalls. This Great Walk is famous for a good reason! (If you've already experienced this particular hike, no worries. Blessed with the most stunning backyard, we have excellent alternatives up our sleeves – just chat to your Getaway Specialist upon booking.) After a thrilling day walking in the beautiful beech forests, we'll stop at Mrs. Woolly's General Store to indulge in the famous Full Monty, a delicious homemade gelato sundae, or one of their home-baked treats. Returning to the Lodge, you'll have some free time before re-joining your group for a well-deserved dinner, followed by a short, entertaining programme.



Day 3

High Country Paradise tour & craft beer experience

Hiking Distance

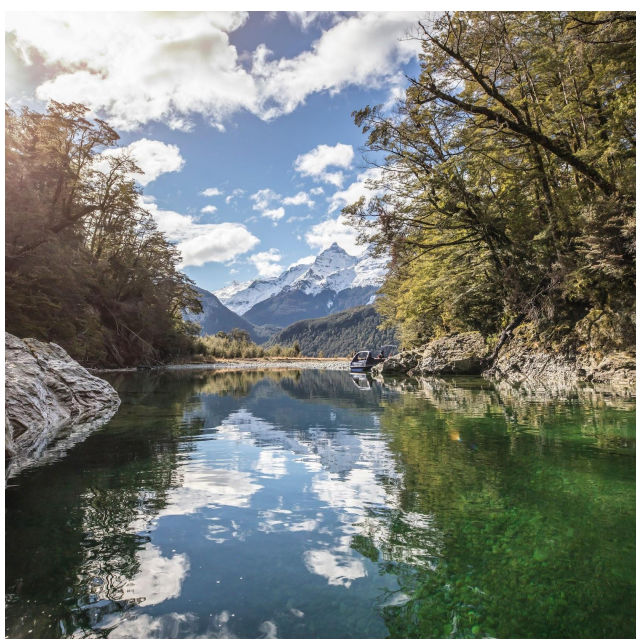
High Country walk: 5km

Hiking Elevation

High Country walk: +/-100m

Meals

Breakfast, lunch, dinner



Today you'll have a chance to enjoy another gentle morning yoga class, followed by a hearty breakfast before getting ready for a day in one of New Zealand's most stunning landscapes. We'll venture back into the heart of Mt Aspiring National Park for a beautiful hike that winds alongside the mountain-fed waters of the Dart River. After a picnic lunch we will visit a 130-year-old high-country working farm set in the spectacular alpine scenery, where you will gain real insights into country life. We'll take in a range of

sights and landscapes, including locations used for several well-known films such as Lord of the Rings, Narnia, Wolverine, and The Hobbit. At the end of this unforgettable day, we'll visit the historic lodge at Paradise - yes, Paradise is a real place! Run by a charitable trust, Paradise is a 300-acre property recognised for its outstanding heritage significance and unspoiled natural beauty. We'll enjoy pre-dinner drinks and canapés in the rustic setting of the old schoolhouse, including an intimate craft beer tasting experience with our local brewmaster. Dinner will follow, featuring the best of the region's fresh local fare before heading back to our base for a well-deserved rest.



Day 4

High country sheep station hike

Hiking Distance

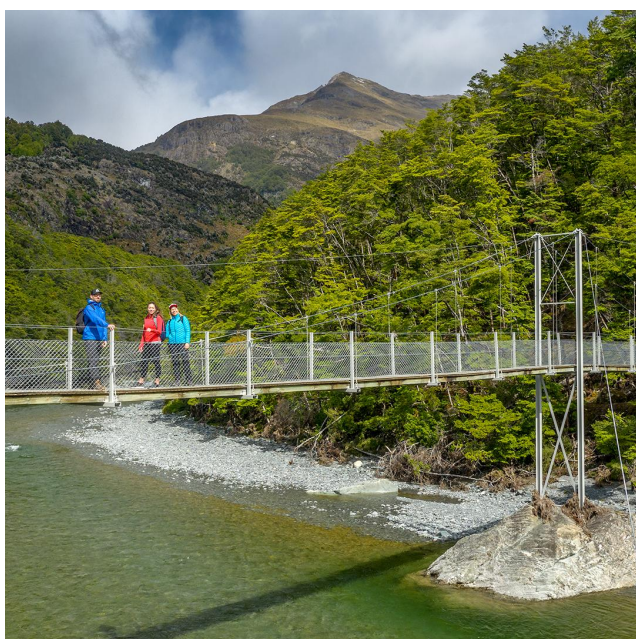
High country station: 8.5km

Hiking Elevation

High country station: +/-400m

Meals

Breakfast, lunch, dinner



Following your daily option of gentle yoga and morning breakfast routine, today's excursion will become treasured landscape photos for your memory banks. The drive to our destination is just as stunning as the walk through this rural farm landscape. We'll have these vistas all to ourselves too as we traverse these private lands and say hello to the friendly farm animals who have grown up with soaring mountains and crystal clear rivers as their natural backdrops. This working farm provides you with expansive views you will never forget.

After our hike, we'll celebrate the completion of our morning adventure with lunch in the beautifully restored historic homestead. And if we're lucky, along the way we might meet the friendly farmers who run this fabulous high country station. After you've had your fill of nourishing food and gorgeous views, we'll take the drive back to the Lodge, where you can enjoy some relaxation time before pre-dinner drinks in our Solarium, followed by our farewell dinner and one last evening programme before slipping off to count sheep in your own cosy bed.



Day 5

Whakaari hike or regenerative native planting

Hiking Distance

Whakaari hike: 3km

Hiking Elevation

Whakaari hike: +/-560m

Meals

Breakfast, morning tea



As all mornings precede this one, we will enjoy a beautiful breakfast with fresh baked goods and some of the best coffee that New Zealand has to offer. Before we drive back to Queenstown, you have the option to take one last morning hike up the historic Whakaari Conservation Area to take in the view of the township from high on the site of the former scheelite battery. Or if you prefer, you'll have the opportunity to leave a piece of you in Glenorchy to come back to one day, by planting your very own native tree or

shrub at our chosen restoration area - an incredible way to give back to the community. After your chosen activity, we'll have morning tea before your guides return you to Queenstown, retracing our steps on the most picturesque drive in the country. Arriving in Queenstown by midday, we'll bid farewell...until next time!





We're thrilled to share paradise with you.

In 2018, Adventures in Paradise founders Debbi and Paul Brainerd created The Headwaters Eco Lodge, New Zealand's only net positive energy accommodation, which sits in the heart of the beautiful village of Glenorchy. Adventures in Paradise is the next step in their journey towards inspiring, educating and delighting visitors with small, intimate travel journeys that invite you to connect with this beautiful landscape.

Run as a triple-bottom-line business, all our profits flow back into the community through the Glenorchy Community Trust to benefit the vibrancy and resilience of this small village we call home. From providing for school children to restoring the environment, you can feel good about choosing Adventures in Paradise as something that's good for you, as well as the greater good.

Our Adventures in Paradise experiences will help you explore the best of a very special place and give you time to connect with the breathtaking natural world around you.

This is unlike group adventure travel as you know it!



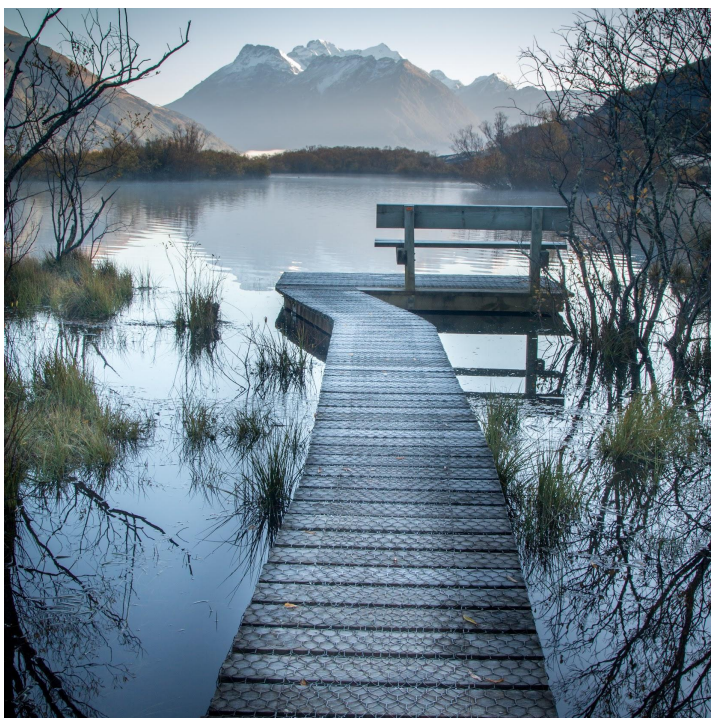
Upcoming Trip Dates

To view our upcoming High Country
Escape departures, click below:

[VIEW TRIP DATES](#)

Looking at different dates?

*Please contact us for bespoke bookings for
5 people or more - we'll be happy to craft
something special just for you.*



Get in touch!

GABRIELA DIAZ - GETAWAY SPECIALIST

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Activity Level

Our getaways are fully flexible, meaning there are various activity options per day - so you can challenge yourself as little or as much as you want. We can cater to a wide range of fitness levels and with an expert local guide by your side, you can rest assured you will be looked after.



Transportation

All transport throughout your experience is included in the comfort of our luxurious Mercedes Sprinter. On the first day of your getaway, there will be two pick-up points - Queenstown Airport and The Sofitel in Queenstown CBD. On the last day of your getaway, we will return you back to Queenstown CBD/Airport or you can choose to extend your stay at The Headwates Eco Lodge.



What to Bring?

Upon booking your getaway, you'll receive a comprehensive gear list, as well as additional useful information to help prepare for your trip. The main items to keep in mind are:

- A pair of worn-in, lightweight, waterproof hiking boots
- Quick-dry activewear
- Warm layers
- Waterproof jacket
- Small daypack
- Hiking poles (if necessary for you)
- Sun hat
- Casual, comfortable clothing and shoes for relaxing at The Headwaters Eco Lodge

Glenorchy Weather

We run our experiences all year round, so there's really no bad time to visit Glenorchy! Being an ever-changing alpine environment, it's important to be prepared for all types of weather.

We've put together a quick guide to the weather in our beautiful town:



Summer

December, January, February

15-24°C
(60-75°F)

Typically the warmest, driest time of year. The longer days make for extra exploring time!



Autumn

March, April, May

6-21°C
(43-70°F)

With the changing colours of the leaves and quieter feel to Glenorchy, this is a stunning time to explore our backyard.



Winter

June, July, August

1-15°C
(34-60°F)

Generally the quietest time of year in our small village town. Take advantage of the ski fields in nearby Queenstown before or after your getaway!



Spring

September, October, November

5-21°C
(41-70°F)

This is when the lupins bloom, birds are singing and the fields are dotted with newborn lambs - all making for spectacular photos!



What's Included?

TRIP INCLUSIONS

- Private eco cabin lodging with ensuite at The Headwaters Eco Lodge
- Local expert guides on all activities in the itinerary
- Arrival and departure transfers between Queenstown CBD/Airport and Glenorchy
- Daily morning yoga and stretching classes
- All meals during your trip
- All non-alcoholic beverages
- All alcoholic beverages during tastings & one alcoholic beverage per dinner (additional alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase)
- Community restoration project
- Evening programmes themed to your choosing

OPTIONAL UPGRADES

- 60 or 90-minute on-site massages
- Private yoga and/or stretching classes
- Early check-in or late check-out
- Extra nights stay at The Headwaters Eco Lodge before or after your getaway
- A variety of add-on experiences detailed below



Add-on Experiences

We have various add-ons available for you to enjoy before, after, or even during your getaway. Just speak to your Getaway Specialist if any of these extras catch your eye:

LODGING

- Extra nights at The Headwaters Eco Lodge before or after your getaway
- A stay in Queenstown with our preferred provider before or after your experience

ART & WELLNESS

- 60 or 90-minute on-site massages
- Private yoga and/or stretching classes
- Photography tour: whether you're an experienced photographer or just keen to try something new, we have options to suit you.
- Wine and craft beer tastings

GUIDED WALKS

- Lake Sylvan: A beautiful hike through moraine river terraces and red beech forest, full of birdlife and vistas along the way.
- Invincible Gold Mine: Take a step back in time on this track built by miners in the 1880s.
- Earnslaw Burn heli-hike: Hike alongside a glacial-fed river surrounded by cascading waterfalls, towering cliffs, and hanging glaciers.
- Mt Alfred heli-hike: Stand atop the region's best viewing platform and soak in stunning 360-degree views filled with snow capped peaks, braided rivers, lakes, and an alpine wonderland.
- Your choice: Let us know what's on your list and we'll see what we can do to make it happen.

OTHER OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

- Biking/Heli-biking: Glenorchy is full of stunning biking trails ready to be ridden!
- Fly fishing: Experience some of the best fly fishing in the country.
- Heli-skiing: A must during winter!
- Scenic heli flights: Tick off the iconic Milford Sound or venture to the rugged West Coast.
- Skydiving: Get your adrenaline pumping with an exhilarating skydive.
- Canyoning: Abseil down cliff faces, slide down waterfalls, and scramble through rocks on this epic day adventure.
- Pack rafting: Enjoy a peaceful day out on the water.
- Ziplining: Soak in the views from above as you zip through beech forests.
- Kayaking: Head to the beautiful Pig or Pigeon Island.
- 4WD guided tour: Explore the area via four wheels made famous by many well-known films.
- Horse riding: Journey through pristine countryside.



Visiting from Overseas

Entry to New Zealand from all countries is currently strictly controlled to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Adventures in Paradise are committed to preventing the spread of COVID-19, as well as protecting our guests, staff, and the wider community. Please find the latest travel policies here:

[Immigration NZ](#)

You do not need a visa when visiting New Zealand if you are:

- A New Zealand or Australian citizen or resident
- A UK citizen and/or passport holder (you can stay up to six months)
- A citizen of a country which has a visa waiver agreement with New Zealand (you can stay up to three months). You can find a list of all these countries here: [Visa Waiver Countries](#)

All visitors from visa waiver countries are required to request an NZeTA before travel. This is a quick and easy process, and only costs \$17 - 23 NZD. You will also be required to pay an International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) at the same time as your NZeTA.

This costs NZD \$35. You can see all details on this here: [NZeTA](#).

