

Itinerary New Zealand West Coast and Glacier Cycle Tour



Day 1

Queenstown to Wanaka

You will meet the tour in central Queenstown around 08:00am for a bike fit. Our first cycle takes us through quiet back roads to the old gold-mining town of Arrowtown for morning tea. From here strong riders can carry on biking up & over the challenging the Crown Range For the rest of us we travel by bus and bike over the Crown Range, with a lunch stop at the historic Cardrona Hotel. We continue cycling down the Cardrona Valley into the picturesque alpine village of Wanaka. Late afternoon you have the chance to enjoy some free time in vibrant Wanaka before our first group dinner. Cycling Distance: 45 to 78km / 28 to 49miles

Meals: L,D

Day 2

Wanaka to Haast

An early cycle ride takes us to Lake Hawea. We drive to the top of the Haast Pass and enter the famous West Coast forests. We cycle down through the 'Gates of Haast' on sealed roads to the flats of the Landsborough River for lunch. Our route continues down the Haast River with its rainforest clad mountain slopes and numerous waterfalls until the days spectacular journey ends on the coast at Haast. An evening walk on the beach provides a chance to watch the sun set into the Tasman sea. Cycling Distance: 48 to 105km / 30 to 65miles

Meals: B,L,D

Day 3

Haast to Fox Glacier

This morning we cycle peaceful forest roads to Bruce Bay and then onto Fox Glacier. The rest of the day is available for sightseeing in the township as well as providing the chance to take a scenic helicopter flight, which is highly recommended. Maybe you would rather a trip to nearby Lake Matheson famous for its reflection views of the Southern Alps, or enjoy any of the local walks in the area. Cycling Distance: 49 to 115km / 31 to 71miles

Meals: B,L

Day 4

Fox Glacier to Franz Josef Glacier

For those who want to challenge themselves there is an optional heli-hike which combines the excitement of walking on the Fox Glacier with the thrill of helicopter flights. The afternoon sees

us cycling another West Coast challenge, the road between Fox and Franz Josef Glacier. Cycling Distance: 25km / 15.5miles

Meals: B,L

Day 5

Franz Josef Glacier to Hokitika

The support vehicle is always nearby if needed, but a metric century (100 kms) is the challenge today on long flat roads with spectacular mountain views as a backdrop. We cycle through podocarp rainforests and over wild rivers to hidden Lake Ianthe for our lakeside picnic. The dark waters hold the sun's heat and swimming is an option. In the afternoon you can keep cycling or enjoy a ride in the support vehicle to the Tasman coast and the craft orientated town of Hokitika. Cycling Distance: 63 to 133km /39 to 83miles

Meals: B,L,D

Day 6

Hokitika to Christchurch

From Hokitika township we travel by bus and bike on quiet inland roads through native forests to Lake Brunner. We lunch at a local cafe with stunning lakeside views and an option for the hardy to swim before more scenic quiet roads take us back to the West Coast highway. There is the option to cycle some more through sweeping rural landscapes and beneath rugged mountain peaks of Arthur's Pass. Here we board the TranzAlpine Express train for a leisurely scenic trip back into Christchurch where our coach will meet and drop you off in central Christchurch around 7pm. Cycling Distance: Stillwater to Jacksons - 56km / 35miles

Meals: B,L

Inclusions

What's included

- 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 3 dinners
- 5 nights hotel/motel ensuite accommodation on twin share basis
- Professional qualified driver/guide
- 2 professional guides/drivers on trips with 8 or more people
- Private vehicle transport (except TranzAlpine Train)
- TranzAlpine scenic train journey from Arthur's Pass to Christchurch
- Water and snacks while cycling
- Access and concession fees paid to the Department of Conservation
- New Zealand Goods and Services Tax (GST)

What's not included

- International or domestic flights and taxes
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- All beverages, other than breakfast
- Bike hire (including helmet)
- Water bottle (help us save the environment and bring your own bike drink bottle)
- Optional activities (eg. Heli-hike onto Fox Glacier)
- Personal expenses (eg. phone calls, internet, laundry, shopping etc)
- Travel insurance
- Visa (if required)
- Tips