

NEW ZEALAND - BALL PASS TREK

GUIDED MOUNTAIN WALKING HOLIDAY - 2008/09

Mount Cook National Park offers New Zealand's most spectacular alpine scenery. With all but one of its 29 peaks over 3000m, it is New Zealand's climbing mecca. Most peaks are accessible only to experienced mountaineers. However, hiking or trekking is possible close to Mount Cook on the Ball Pass Trek.



Ball Pass is a demanding 3 day trek which crosses the Mount Cook Range from the Tasman to the Hooker Valley. The route follows the Ball Ridge, via a vis the Caroline Face of Mount Cook, and overlooks the Tasman Glacier. Guided walkers spend two nights at the fully refurbished Caroline Hut at 1830m/6000ft.

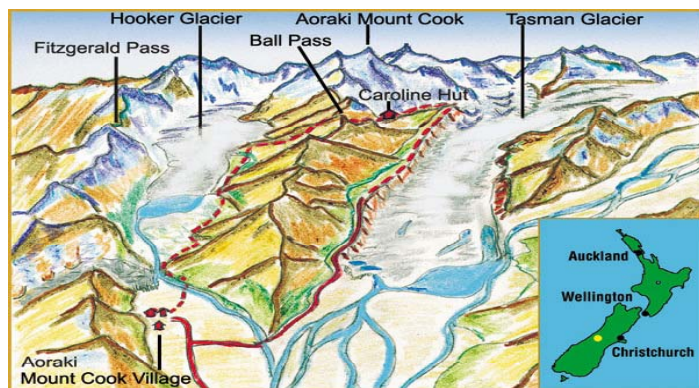
This walk offers breathtaking views of Mount Cook and New Zealand's highest mountains, rich alpine flora and unique bird life, with moderate snow & glacier travel. The Ball Pass Trek is a good alternative to the Copland Pass Track, which is now only accessible to experienced mountaineers. You need to have previous backpacking, tramping or bushwalking experience. All equipment is provided.

Ball Pass Trek Guided walk - 3 days (2 nights)

Day 1: After an equipment check in Lake Tekapo you travel to Mount Cook Village. From the Tasman Glacier you climb 850m/2800ft up the Ball Ridge to Caroline Hut at 1800m/6000ft, perched right opposite the awe-inspiring Caroline Face of Mount Cook. The panorama includes Mts Cook and Tasman, all the mountains adjoining the Tasman Glacier, and Lake Pukaki. 6 hours.

Day 2: Receive instruction and practice using crampons and ice-axe while climbing one of the peaks adjacent to Ball Pass: Pukaki Peak 2222m/7290ft or Turner Peak 2341m/7680ft. Dramatic views of the South Ridge of Mount Cook. 6 hours return.

Day 3: Cross Ball Pass, 2130m/7000ft. Now the view opens to the South Face of Mount Cook, the Hooker and Mueller Glaciers, Mount Sefton and the Copland Pass. The descent from Ball Pass is very steep and snow conditions may require the use of crampons (no previous experience required). The terrain is rugged and untracked and you rely on your professional mountain guide to find a safe route around gorges and bluffs down to the East Hooker Valley. Following old moraine terraces you meander through some of the lushest vegetation to be found in the National Park and return to Mount Cook Village. (8-12 hours). Return travel to Lake Tekapo.



Tour Cost in Australian Dollars

Per person (share room) \$670

Departure Dates

2008

Nov: 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18, 21, 23, 25, 28

Dec: 1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29

2009

Jan: 2, 4, 6, 8, 11, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30

Feb: 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 27

Mar: 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31

Apr: 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28

Fitness: The guided Ball Pass Crossing is suitable for experienced hikers capable of sustained walking, at times over steep, rugged, untracked and very exposed terrain. It is NOT a tourist excursion. Participants need to be of above average fitness, need to be secure-footed and need to have good balance. No mountaineering experience is required. Our guides will give you instruction on how to cross snow slopes safely using crampons and ice-axe. If necessary your guide will belay you on a rope for the steep snow descent. Besides personal clothing you'll need to carry some items of fresh food to the hut. Your pack on Day 1 should weigh no more than 10-12 kg. Several walks of at least 6 hours' duration are recommended as preparation for Ball Pass.

Group Size: Min. 2, Max. 8; 4 clients per guide

Inclusions:

- Transport ex Lake Tekapo
- Pre-walk briefing the day before the walk
- All hut accommodation, including sleeping bags.
- All food on trek
- National Park concession fees
- Crampons, ice-axe, and all other climbing equipment and boots
- Qualified NZMGA, UIAGM mountain guides



All Reservations Call 1800 331 582

Or email info@outdoortravel.com.au

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Travel Agent Licence No 31102

MEDICAL INFORMATION & APPLICATION FORM FOR BALL PASS TREK

To make your Ball Pass Trek booking, please:

1. Complete this form for each person &
2. Outdoor Travel New Zealand Booking Form &
3. Full payment

Return these to your travel agent or **OUTDOOR TRAVEL**, PO Box 286, Bright VIC, 3741, fax to: 03 5750 1020; or e-mail to info@outdoortravel.com.au. Any information you provide will be treated as strictly confidential.

Please enrol me for a **Ball Pass Crossing**. Date:

PERSONAL

Given name:..... Family name:

Date of birth: Occupation:.....

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name:..... Relationship: Phone:

MEDICAL

Please provide the following information about your health and fitness which may affect the adventure you are going to undertake. Circle the appropriate answer and answer all questions.

- A) Do you/have you suffered from:
- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| a heart condition? | Yes / No | a bronchial disorder? | Yes / No |
| high blood pressure? | Yes / No | asthma? | Yes / No |
| epilepsy? | Yes / No | diabetes? | Yes / No |

- B) In the last five years, have you:
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| suffered any severe injury? | Yes / No |
| undergone any surgical operation? | Yes / No |

C) Do you have any known allergies? Yes / No

D) Are you taking any medication? Yes / No

E) Do you suffer from any other medical condition(s) which might affect your ability to participate in a Ball Pass Crossing? Yes / No

If you have answered 'Yes' to any part of A) to E) above, would you please elaborate?

EXPERIENCE & FITNESS

- 1) Do you have previous tramping/hiking/backpacking/bushwalking experience? Yes/No
If so, how many years?
- 2) Can you walk 6-8 hours in a day without difficulty? Yes/No
- 3) Are you able to climb up and down steep slopes with no fear of heights? Yes/No
- 4) Can you clamber up and around big rocks where you may need to use both hands as well as feet? Yes/No
- 5) Do you have good balance and are you well-coordinated? Yes/No
- 6) How do you rate your overall level of fitness? average / above average / very strong

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Please indicate if you have any dietary requirements.

CANCELLATION

I accept the booking conditions and acknowledge that Alpine Recreation cannot refund any trip fees if a trip has to be cancelled after commencement due to unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances (inclement weather, bad road conditions etc.). If I choose to cancel a trip, I will pay the appropriate cancellation fee as set out in the Booking Conditions.

EQUIPMENT

If I damage the Company's equipment beyond normal wear and tear or lose their gear on a trip, I will be liable for replacement or repair costs as the directors of the company decide.

SIGNATURE..... DATE.....

PLEASE NOTE Fitness Failure: If a client needs extra services due to lack of fitness to continue with the group, additional fees may apply. E.g. In the case of Ball Pass if a client underestimates his/her fitness to the extent that on Day 1 he/she is not able to reach Caroline Hut; or if the guide judges that the client is not fit enough to continue with the group, then he/she may need to pay an extra fee of NZ\$250, to cover the cost of an additional guide to evacuate him/her, plus NZ\$35 transport fee. Client will be liable for his/her own accommodation/meal expenses outside the tour in such a case.