



NEW ZEALAND - QUEEN CHARLOTTE TRACK GUIDED WALKING IN THE MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS

2009/10



When English explorer Captain James Cook sailed into the settled waters of the Marlborough Sounds in the late 17th Century, he must have believed this was paradise. Join us for a modern day journey in Cook's footsteps along the renowned 71km Queen Charlotte Track. Explore this vast network of drowned river valleys from the unique perspective of this well-formed trail. Here lush coastal beech forest reaches out to greet lapping tides of ever-changing hues. Each night we come to rest at a comfortable, quality hotel-style accommodation place complete with restaurant, fine local wines & a superb setting.

Introduce yourself to the New Zealand outdoors in comfort. These gourmet guided walks feature quality hotel-style accommodation, a la carte restaurant dining and the necessity to only carry a small daypack during a walking day. This is hiking at its most comfortable and civilized! We give you the choice of exploring the Queen Charlotte Track in 4 days, or to extend your experience with an extra day on the 5 day option. And for those wanting a more relaxed pace or non-walking partners, we can shorten your walking with water taxi cruising in the beautiful Marlborough Sounds. We also have a Boutique Lodge 4 day Guided walk, for those seeking an exclusive walking experience!

Departs: 4 & 5 day guided walks depart most Tuesdays, from October 2009 to April 2010

Boutique Lodge guided walks can be arranged on demand, for a minimum of two clients.

Inclusions: Return transfers/cruising ex Picton, twin share rooms with ensuite, all bedding/towels at lodges, all meals on the track (gourmet packed lunch) & a glass of wine with dinner, experienced guide, daily luggage transfers (you carry a day pack only).

Tour Cost (per person, twin share)

	4 day guided walk	5 day guided walk	Boutique Lodge 4 day walk
Adult	\$1145	\$1335	\$1695
Single supplement	\$245	\$300	\$600
Child (5-12 years)	\$860	\$1115	

Sea kayak trips are also available: please ask for details

Queen Charlotte 5 Day (4 night) Guided Walk

Stay an extra (well deserved!) night at The Portage Resort Hotel after Day 3 of the 4 Day walk, with the option to just relax, explore on your own, or take an optional one day guided sea kayaking trip (at extra cost, please ask for details).

Boutique Lodge 4 Day (3 night) Guided Walk Explore the Queen Charlotte Track by day & stay in luxury private ensuite rooms at night. Glorious views, food & hospitality await you at the end of every satisfying walking day.

As specialists in active holidays Outdoor Travel offer a wide range of guided walking experiences in New Zealand including the Milford Track, Routeburn Walk, Grand Traverse, Hollyford Track, Abel Tasman National Park Walk, Stewart Island Trek, Hump Ridge Track and several on the North Island. In Europe walks are available in most destinations including France, Italy, Spain, UK, Germany, Switzerland Croatia & Greece.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Suggested itinerary: QUEEN CHARLOTTE 4 DAY (3 NIGHT) GUIDED WALK

Day 1: Ship Cove to Endeavour Inlet (5-hours/14km)

Early morning pick up in Picton, then cruise to Motuara Island en route to Ship Cove: an anchorage used by Captain Cook in the 1770s. Walk through virgin beech forest with stunning views. Stay overnight in a suite at Furneaux Lodge, comprising the original homestead, restaurant, bar and chalets/units in a picturesque setting.

Day 2: Endeavour Inlet to Punga Cove (4-hours/12km)

A mainly coastal walk around the inlet through regenerating native bush to the call of NZ native birds. Learn about antimony & the mining industry that thrived there in the 1880s. Stay tonight at Punga Cove resort, nestled amidst the native bush, the resort's well-appointed A-frame chalets/units are a welcome respite. The gourmet restaurant and impressive view caps off a perfect day.

Day 3: Punga Cove to The Portage (8-hours/22.5km)

Note: Optional boat trip to Portage for non-walkers (at own cost). A challenging day traversing the ridgeline between Punga Cove & Torea Saddle near Portage with grand vistas around every corner. Those who feel like a day's rest are treated to a boat ride around the bays of the Queen Charlotte Sound. Stay tonight either a Hillside Chalet at The Portage or in a regular Chalet at Lochmara Lodge.

*For those wanting the 5-day (4-night) Queens Charlotte experience, have an extra night here.

Day 4: The Portage to Anakiwa (7-hours/20.5km)

Ascend to the ridgeline, enjoying stunning views. Open farmland and a grand native bush section is a fitting finish to Anakiwa. Return to Picton by water taxi and enjoy a finale at our office before returning to your accommodation, ferry or air connection after 6pm.

Suggested itinerary: QUEEN CHARLOTTE TRACK BOUTIQUE LODGE 4 DAY GUIDED WALK

Day 1 – Ship Cove to Endeavour Inlet (5-hours)

Same as for the standard itinerary above

Accommodation – No Road Inn: Newly completed for 2008, the No Road Inn is a small waterfront lodge on the only privately owned land in Queen Charlotte Sound where the virgin native forest extends right to the sea. Four spacious suites – the Queen Charlotte Suite, Howden Suite, Resolution Suite and Adventure Suite – await walkers, each with its own super king or twin bed, clawfoot bath and stunning sea and bush views.

Day 2 – Endeavour Inlet to Craglee Lodge Retreat, Bay of Many Coves 8-hours or short walk of 4-hours)

Farewell the No Road Inn and continue similarly to the itinerary above, until you turn off the main Queen Charlotte Track to join the private Craglee Lodge Retreat track. This track is very well marked, however care should be taken underfoot as there are many tree roots and small loose rocks. Walking poles are recommended. NB. A shorter option is available to walk from No Road Inn to Camp Bay and catch a water taxi from there to Craglee Lodge - a four hour walk option only.

Accommodation – Craglee Lodge Retreat: At Craglee Lodge, you will find a just reward after your hike today as this is a stunning retreat and a sanctuary to be spoilt with superb food, relaxed atmosphere and attentive hosts. The lodge consists of three levels all enjoy unspoilt views over the pristine waters of the bay.

Day 3 – Craglee Lodge Retreat to Lochmara Lodge (7-8 hours)

We depart Craglee Lodge Retreat and return to the Queen Charlotte Track, similar to the above itinerary. We conclude our walk at Torea Bay and transfer by waiting water taxi to our Lochmara Lodge.

Accommodation – Lochmara Lodge Wildlife Recovery & Arts Centre: Set on the tranquil shores of the Queen Charlotte Sound is the Marlborough Sounds' only Wildlife Recovery & Arts Centre. Lochmara Lodge has achieved national and international recognition as one of the best places to stay in New Zealand. A fitting finale to your boutique lodge experience!

Day 4 – Lochmara Lodge to Anakiwa (5-hours) Farewell Lochmara Lodge and ascend to the Queen Charlotte Track once again, enjoying stunning views. Return by boat back to Picton..

Contact Outdoor Travel direct for more details and reservations

Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020

Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au

Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>

Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright 3741, Australia

Travel Agent Licence No 31102