



NEW ZEALAND *FREEDOM WALKS*

2010/11

MILFORD TRACK - ROUTEBURN TRACK - KEPLER TRACK

Self-guided wilderness backpacking treks

As specialists in walking holidays worldwide Outdoor Travel understands that self-guided walks are very popular and not everyone wants or can afford the guided walks offered in areas such as Milford Sound.

We offer '*freedom walks*' or unguided backpacking treks in these New Zealand wilderness areas. You carry your own gear and food but, working with the NZ Department of Conservation, we offer reservation on three of the most popular walks where your bus and boat transfers are pre-booked to/from the start/finish of the walk, simple DOC hut accommodation (bring your sleeping bags) is provided and you will receive a pre-track briefing with track/route information/maps.

Walkers are required to provide & carry all their own food, basic cooking equipment and bedding. Space is very limited in DOC huts so early booking essential – especially over the summer holiday period!

MILFORD TRACK - Renowned as the world's finest walking track, New Zealand's Milford Track is 55 kilometres from Lake Te Anau to Milford Sound in the Fiordland National Park. The well-maintained trail follows the Clinton River to its source in Lake Mintaro, crosses the MacKinnon Pass before descending to the Arthur Valley and Milford Sound.

ROUTEburn TRACK - This historic alpine track travels through both the Fiordland and Mount Aspiring National Parks following a trail through the Southern Alps pioneered in the 1860's gold rush era.

KEPLER TRACK - A 60 km circular track that traverses the Fiordland National Park. It is part of the Te-Wāhipounamu – South West New Zealand World Heritage Area, located in the south west of the South Island. It is an easy tramping track that takes three to four days to complete.



Freedom Walk Costs: Per person In Australian Dollars

Milford Track 4 day:	Adult \$575	Youth (15-17 years) \$395	Child (10-14 years) \$345
Routeburn Track 4 day:	Adult \$540	Youth (15-17 years) \$350	Child (10-14 years) \$320
Routeburn Track 3 day:	Adult \$335	Youth (15-17 years) \$220	Child (10-14 years) \$210
Kepler Track 4 day:	Adult \$405		

Walks depart: Daily from 25th October 2010 to 27th April 2011 – subject to hut space available

Self Guided *Freedom Walks* include: All track transport (bus & boat), ex Queenstown, pre-walk briefing in Queenstown the day before the walk, (4pm - Milford, 3pm / 5pm - Routeburn, 2pm - Kepler), all DOC hut bookings and fees, track map and information, souvenir track book, NZ Mountain Safety Council approved pack liner.

Hire equipment available: if pre-requested at NZD\$145 (paid locally) which Includes: backpack, jacket/pants, boots, sleeping bag, cook set

Call *OUTDOOR TRAVEL* on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

MILFORD TRACK Self-guided Freedom walk - 4 days (3 nights)

Pre-departure briefing on the day before your walk begins. Meet in Queenstown at 4.00pm. No accommodation provided on this night – ask us for options.

Day 1: Pick up at 8.00am and travel by coach to Te Anau. After morning tea, board your ferry and cruise up Lake Te Anau to the Milford Track jetty at Glade House. A 1½-hour walk takes you to Clinton Hut.

Day 2: Today your walk follows the Clinton River for approx 5-6 hours to reach Mintaro Hut. Mintaro Hut is situated at the base of the Mackinnon Pass.

Day 3: After breakfast you will climb to the top of the pass approx. two hours from the hut. This is the highest point on the track, 1073 metres. After the descent you can take an optional side walk to Sutherland Falls before carrying on to Dumpling Hut (6 hours walking).

Day 4: Follow the Arthur River to Lake Ada and to the track end at Sandfly Point (6-hours walking). Launch transfer to Milford Sound to board your coach for the journey back to Queenstown, arriving around 8.00pm.

ROUTE BURN TRACK Self-guided Freedom walk - 4 days (3 nights)

Pre Departure Briefing the day before your walk

Meet in Queenstown at 3.00pm. No accommodation provided on this night – ask us for options.

Day 1: Depart Queenstown at 9.00am and transfer by coach via Glenorchy to the beginning of the Routeburn Track. The first day is an easy 3-4 hour walk to the Flats or Routeburn Falls Hut.

Day 2: The track rises steadily past waterfalls, alpine lakes and rock studded basins to the Harris Saddle, 1277 metres. Crossing the Saddle you can take in views of the beautiful Hollyford Valley before descending to the hut beside Lake Mackenzie (6-7 hours walking).

Day 3: It's a leisurely walk this morning down to Howden Hut. Approximately 4 hours walking. Stop and listen for the bush robins, tomtits or the wood pigeons. After lunch, climb the 919m Key Summit, where an amazing array of plants flourish, such as orchids, bog pines and bog daisies (approx. 1.5 hours walking), before returning to overnight at Lake Howden Hut.

Day 4: The track continues down past Lake Howden and through beech forests to finally join the Milford Road at the Divide (1.5-hours walking). At 12noon you will be picked up and taken onto Milford Sound for a boat cruise with a picnic lunch supplied, before returning to Queenstown, arriving around 8.00pm.

For those with a more limited time we offer a 3-days (2-nights) Routeburn Track Self-guided freedom walk with the same itinerary as above, except a 5.00pm pre-departure briefing time and NO Howden Hut stay or boat cruise on Milford Sound.

KEPLER TRACK Self-guided Freedom walk - 4 days (3 nights)

Pre-walk briefing the day before your walk: Meet in Queenstown at 2.00pm. No accommodation provided on this night – ask us for options.

Day 1: Depart by coach at 7.00am from Queenstown for Te Anau, arriving at 9.10am. Then take the 9.30am Kepler water taxi to Broad Bay & the start of the Kepler Track. Walk from Broad Bay to Luxmore Hut, on the summit of Mount Luxmore (3.5 – 4.5hrs walking).

Day 2: Take the high altitude alpine walk from Luxmore Hut to Iris Burn Hut (5-6 hours walking)

Day 3: Walk from Iris Burn Hut, taking in the valley and Lake Manapouri to Moturau Hut (5-6 hours walking)

Day 4: Walk from Moturau Hut to the Kepler Track's end at Rainbow Reach Swing Bridge. You will be picked up at 10am at Rainbow Reach Swing Bridge & dropped off at the Te Anau Lake View Holiday Park, in time for your 11.45am coach departure back to Queenstown, arriving in the early afternoon.

Contact Outdoor Travel experienced staff for more details and reservations

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