



GLACIER HIKE NEW ZEALAND

ITINERARY



Outside polar regions, New Zealand has the highest percentage of glaciers in the world. You don't need to be a mountain climber to enjoy simply travelling and exploring the Fox and Franz Glaciers. There are few places in the world that offer comparable views; you are surrounded by enormous glaciers while watching the sun set into the Tasman Sea. Trekking from hut to hut or simply doing day trips, you will be amazed.

If you are interested in learning some new skills this is a great trip to cover some basics of glacier travel such as:

- Planning and preparation
- Glacier travel and crevasse rescue
- Fundamental mountaineering techniques such as use of ice axe and crampons
- Mountain navigation
- Snow caving and emergency shelters

LENGTH	5 days
GRADE	E (up to 8hrs of physical activity per day)
START	Wanaka at 8.30 am
FINISH	Fox Township
DEPARTURES	Jan 2018: 18, 23 Feb 2018: 12
PRICE	NZ\$4,100 per person with 1:2 guide ratio NZ\$3,400 per person with 1:3 guide ratio

ITINERARY

DAY 1 WANAKA

Meet at the office - 58 McDougall St, Wanaka - at 8:30am, for a final check of your equipment and answer of any last minute questions. You'll drive 3 hours to the small village of Fox where we load the helicopter and relocate to Pioneer Hut (2400m) at the head of the Fox Glacier. Your guide will instruct you on the safety aspects of glacier travel. The journey from the rain forest of the West Coast to the world of massive glaciers is one that you will never forget.

DAY 2 SOUTHERN ALPS

You'll walk to Grey Peak, which takes you high up onto the very spine of the Southern Alps. Views of Mt Tasman and the eastern glaciers and lakes are a treat while we have lunch. Spectacular is an understatement for this area, with the views over the Tasman Sea, Mount Tasman (second highest peak in New Zealand) and the Tasman Glacier (largest glacier in New Zealand) making this a day you will remember forever.

DAY 3 CENTENNIAL HUT

We travel across the glacier to Centennial Hut. Navigating the crevassed ice fields is an experience you will never forget. There is one pass to get over with some tricky glacier travel involved. This is the country's premier glacier walk, taking two of the country's finest glaciers.

DAY 4 GRAHAM SADDLE

We will spend another night here at Centennial, so we either have a rest today, or take a day trip up to Graham Saddle for views of the Tasman Valley. Graham Saddle is the watershed for the Franz Joseph and Tasman glaciers providing views from one side of the South Island to the other.

DAY 5 AYLMER HUT

Travel to Aylmer Hut brings us down to the top of the Franz icefall. The lower we get the more broken the ice becomes until it finally it turns into a broken cascade of tumbling ice. A helicopter rendezvous takes us back to Fox Township.

PACKING LIST

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Body

- ☐ Base layer - polypro or merino e.g. icebreaker (no cotton): 2 x tops & 1 x bottom thermal underwear
- ☐ Mid layer: fleece top
- ☐ Mid layer: insulating jacket e.g. primaloft, synthetic down or fleece
- ☐ Climbing trousers: polymide/nylon or light weight fleece
- ☐ Shell jacket: water & windproof e.g. Gore-Tex
- ☐ Shell pants/overpants: water & windproof e.g. Gore-Tex (available for hire)
- ☐ Underwear (one spare only)

Feet

- ☐ Lightweight mountaineering boots. Suitable for crampons (e.g. La Sportiva Trango)
- ☐ 2 pairs of warm socks
- ☐ Gaiters - full calf length (available for hire or purchase)

Hands

- ☐ Lightweight thin polypro gloves
- ☐ Warm windproof gloves

Head

- ☐ Warm hat / balaclava
- ☐ Sun glasses
- ☐ Sunhat & cotton scarf or buff for sun protection

Personal equipment & accessories

- ☐ Back pack (35-45 litres) with 2 loops for ice axe and crampon attachments (available for hire)
- ☐ Water bottle - 1.5 to 2 litres - wide mouth (available for purchase)
- ☐ Head torch with LED plus sport beams & spare batteries (available for purchase)
- ☐ Foot blister protection & personal medication
- ☐ Small container of sun block & lip screen - maximum protection
- ☐ Sleeping bag liner (supplied at no charge)



LIFE ON THE TRAIL

Technical equipment (supplied at no charge)

Climbing helmet
Crampons - preferably clip on with anti-balling plates
Ice axe - standard curve & length (60–80cm) with leash
Technical ice axe
Technical ice hammer
Ice Screws x 1
Quickdraw x 1
Snowstake
Climbing harness
Belay device
Sling: 120cm sewn spectra
Carabiners - Screw lock x 4 Snap link x 3
Prussic slings (6 mm) – 1 x 2.8m and 2 x 1.6 m (loop length)
Avalanche transceiver/shovel/probe

Trip dependent

If you have these items please bring them along on your trip if it's not a hassle, otherwise they can be hired or purchased in Wanaka if they are needed. Your guide will discuss if these items are required when you do your equipment check at the beginning of your trip.

Rock climbing shoes (available for hire from MT Outdoors: www.mtoutdoors.co.nz)
Snow goggles (available for hire)
Snow shoes (available for hire)
Sleeping bag down or synthetic 3/4 season weight (available for hire)

Optional

Mid-layer down jacket
Camera
Swiss army knife or leatherman
Collapsible trekking poles (available for hire)
Ear plugs for sleeping

Hire gear	Price per day (NZ\$)
Climbing Boots – rigid sole, plastic or leather	\$17.50
Back pack with ice axe & crampon attachments	\$10
Shell pants/overpants with full leg zips	\$10
Snow gaiters (also available to purchase from \$49.90)	\$10
Sleeping bag with silk liner	\$10
Inflatable sleeping pad	\$10
Bivi (bivouac) bag	\$10
Snow goggles	\$10
Trekking poles	\$10
Snow shoes	\$20

GRADE E

Physical Difficulty

You will be required to carry your personal clothing and sleeping bag as well as technical gear including ice axe, harness and crampons. No need to carry tents or cooking supplies. The glaciers can change radically depending on the time of year or weather conditions. Travel can vary from easy walking on smooth firm snow to soft breakable snow where going is much harder. Good balance is necessary with some crevasse travel requiring steady footing. Days can be varied to suit the group with plenty of room to push even the fittest of travelers.

Technical Difficulty

Your guide will brief you on the necessary skills required. Cramponing and using your ice axe for self arrest will be practiced. There is no technical roped climbing required but sometimes a short rope or handline will be used to give you confidence. Abseiling or rappelling is sometimes needed depending on the time of year. The ice in this area is hundreds of feet thick and party members will be roped up for glacier travel whenever leaving the hut.

GUIDES AND SAFETY

The specialist guides are 'hand-picked' from within the industry. The climbing team are qualified through the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association. The NZMGA are affiliated to the International Federation of Mountain Guides Association which governs mountain guiding worldwide. The high level of expertise, comprehensive logistics support and refreshing personalities are the basis of our internationally renowned reputation for providing a quality and personalised service.

FOOD

A lot of work is put into supplying you with wholesome meals with a variety of healthy and tasty ingredients and snacks catering to common preferences. However, there will always be limitations when cooking in an alpine environment. Some trips/courses are not recommended for people with very restrictive or complex dietary requirements. If you do have a restrictive eating regime we ask that you disclose this at the time of booking and we may ask you to provide us with an advance copy of what you would typically eat on a wilderness trip.

LIFE ON THE TRAIL

For highly specialised diets requiring special food purchases - we may ask that you attend our offices on the day before your trip is due to commence. If you are joining a scheduled group that doesn't have food requirements, we may ask you to shop & pay for some of your preferred dietary requirements. You will also be required to carry this food and your guide may ask you to assist in the preparation of any separate meals required for you individually.

TRANSPORT

The trip includes a drive from Wanaka to Fox Glacier and helicopter flights to and from the glacier.

ACCOMMODATION

You will be staying in alpine huts or tents.

INCLUDED

- air access (where applicable)
- meals and energy snacks
- alpine hut / tent accommodation
- national park, landing & guide fees
- 15% goods and services tax.
- technical equipment - see equipment section below for details
- weather contingency

ADDITIONAL COSTS

If your party is unable to egress from the mountains at the end of your trip for any reason, a fee of NZ\$550 plus expenses (including but not limited to hut & park fees) per extra day is applicable to your party, and is divided between the trip participants.



BOOKING CONDITIONS

Changes

Please note that this itinerary is a sample only and the actual itinerary may vary at the discretion of your guide. Weather, conditions and personal ability and needs may make changes necessary or advantageous to the participants.

Payment

For bookings 4 or more months in advance of the departure a 25% deposit can be paid with the remainder due 65 days prior to your trip. For bookings within 4 months of the departure, full payment is required.

Cancellations

Over 60 days before tour: \$200 per person cancellation fee

Between 60 and 30 days before tour: 50% of total trip fee as a cancellation fee

Between 29 and 15 days: 75% of total trip fee as a cancellation fee

15 days or less before tour: NO REFUND

No refund for any services not utilised after tour has started.

If the weather remains adverse and prevents the trip from operating, you have the opportunity to carry out sub alpine adventure and skill development activities. The Guide fee applies and any trip costs not utilised will be refunded.

Travel Insurance

Injuries are covered by the New Zealand Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC). ACC pays for the majority of costs incurred in evacuation and treatment of injured people. They do not cover you in case of illness. We recommend that you have travel insurance that will cover you in being repatriated to your home country. Most standard travel insurance policies that cover lost deposit or cancellation fees will cover you in case you are somehow prevented from participating in the trip.

Medical Conditions

When you book you must notify us of any medical condition, medical history, or medications that you are on. In particular, asthma, diabetes, heart conditions, anti-depressants, allergies to wasp/bee stings and food allergies.

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.