



HOLLYFORD TRACK

ITINERARY



Located in Fiordland National Park, the dramatic Hollyford Track is one of New Zealand's greatest walks, representing the country's most untouched and inspiring wilderness areas. The wilderness is geologically spectacular and ever-changing - snow capped mountains, glaciers, rainforests, rivers, lakes, waterfalls, reefs, sand dunes and surf. The experiences are diverse - hiking, wildlife interaction, historical tales, jet boating, and a magnificent scenic flight to Milford Sound. The diversity within this one valley is unequalled; it's a wonderful way to explore the very essence of New Zealand's wilderness.

LENGTH	3 days			
GRADE	B (Average of 4-5 hrs physical activity per day)			
PRE-TRACK BRIEFING	5:30pm the day prior to departure. Please check in at 5:15pm Queenstown: The Spire Hotel is located on Church Lane, which runs between Church Street and Earl Street. Te Anau: Distinction Hotel Te Anau, 64 Lakefront Drive			
START	Queenstown at 6:30am from your hotel, or Te Anau at 8:30am from Distinction Hotel, 64 Lakefront Drive			
FINISH	Te Anau at 4:30pm (approx.) Queenstown at 7:00pm (approx.)			
DEPARTURES	April 2019: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 October 2019: 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 November 2019: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 December 2019: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 26, 28, 30 January 2020: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 February 2020: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 March 2020: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 April 2020: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 *All April trips depart from Te Anau only			
PRICE	8 Apr 19 - 30 Apr 19	1 Oct 19 - 23 Dec 19	24 Dec 19 - 30 Apr 20	
	Adult NZ\$1990 Child NZ\$1570	Adult NZ\$2050 Child NZ\$1625	Adult NZ\$2250 Child NZ\$1825	
	Single Supplement NZ\$995	Single Supplement NZ\$1025	Single Supplement NZ\$1025	

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PRE DEPARTURE BRIEFING

Your pre-departure briefing begins at 5:30pm on the evening prior to your departure date. The guide will explain the details of the track, and hand out rain jackets and backpacks to those requiring them. Please check in at your briefing at 5:15pm. Arrangements will be made for pick-up from your Queenstown hotel the following morning, or details reconfirmed regarding your 8:30am departure from Distinction Hotel (64 Lakefront Drive) if you are joining in Te Anau.

DAY 1 WATERFALLS - PYKE RIVER LODGE - GLOW WORMS

19.5km hiking

Depart Queenstown and travel alongside the beautiful Lake Wakatipu and on to Te Anau, or pick up in Te Anau. After a brief stop here, travel on through the majestic Eglington Valley to the start of the track in the Hollyford Valley, visiting Gunn's Camp Museum on the way. Re-trace the footsteps of early explorers along the Hollyford River to Pyke River Lodge. As the track undulates gently through native beech forest and beside tumbling waterfalls, enjoy interesting historical tales and interpretation of the forest and bird life. In the evening you can visit the nearby glow-worm colony.

DAY 2 JETBOATING - 1000 YEAR OLD TREES

15 km hiking

Begin your day with a short walk to Lake Alabaster and learn the history and geology of the area amidst stunning surroundings. Cross Fiordland's longest swing bridge and then enjoy a captivating jet boat journey down the Hollyford River and across Lake McKerrow to the historic site of Jamestown which was intended to be the capital of the South Island in the late 1900's. Walk through the ancient Podocarp forest (New Zealand native pines) with huge rimu, totara and kahikatea trees wrapped in massive rata vines. Arrive at Martins Bay Lodge by 5:00pm.

DAY 3 WILDLIFE - MARTINS BAY BEACH - FLIGHT TO MILFORD SOUND

8.5km hiking

Walk through the young rejuvenating forest of Jerusalem Creek and visit the fur seal colony at Long Reef on the wild West Coast. You may see the rare Fiordland crested penguin. Travel by jet boat to the beach and explore the seven kilometre Martins Bay Beach sand-dunes and lagoon. Learn about its history and the plant, sea and bird life. Return to Martins Bay Lodge and enjoy a scenic flight to Milford Sound, with views of the track, Hollyford Valley and Mt Tutoko, Fiordland's highest peak. Board your coach for your return journey to Te Anau or Queenstown with stops of interest along the way. Arrive back no later than 4.30pm (Te Anau) or 7:00pm (Queenstown).



LIFE ON THE TRAIL

GRADE B

- Average of 4-5 hrs physical activity per day.
- At times carrying small backpack of 4-5kgs.
- Tracks generally in good condition.
- Altitude gains of up to 600m on harder days.
- No hiking experience necessary.
- Reasonable standard of fitness required

The days are long but not difficult. There are often guests from the ages of 10 to 84 doing the walk and as long as you are an actively fit person you will manage the walk. You only carry your pack on the first day's walk in (the contents of what you need to bring will fit in a medium sized backpack, weighing approximately 5-7kg), the rest of the time it is taken by boat/plane. As all linen, duvets, towels and food are provided, you need only bring your personal gear keeping your packs light for a more enjoyable adventure.



GUIDES AND SAFETY

The guides are experts on the flora, fauna, history and geology of the area, so you take away so much more than just photographs of beautiful scenery. You'll be enriched with the understanding of the valley, instilled by the staff who share their passion for this special part of the world with you. They will educate and enlighten you with historical tales and interpretation of the environment around you.



FOOD

Lodge chefs prepare hearty breakfasts, picnic lunches and superb evening dining. Breakfasts are tasty, hearty and well balanced to give you just the right fuel for the day ahead. Then for lunch you'll receive a delicious packed picnic lunch. Dinner is a mouth-watering delight – the lodge chefs take great delight in preparing superb evening dining. The menu may include such delights as antipasto misto, seared whole roasted sirloin, Hollyford Valley styled roast vegetables and lemon tart.

Individual dietary requirements can also be catered for. If you would like wine with your meal please carry in some cash as there is a selection of wines to be bought at the lodges.

TRANSPORT

This hike involves a combination of coach travel from Queenstown/Te Anau to the start of the track, jet boat travel on the Hollyford River, a scenic flight to Milford Sound, and finally a coach trip back to Te Anau/Queenstown. You do hike as well!



ACCOMMODATION

At the end of an invigorating day of exploration, you'll arrive at a warm and dry lodge, to a hearty welcome and fine cuisine. The evening of Day 1 is spent at Pyke River Lodge, at the confluence of the Hollyford and Pyke Rivers. Night 2 is spent at Martins Bay Lodge, close to the mouth of the Hollyford River.

The lodges are a great place to unwind, watch the beauty of the night descending and reflect on your day. The well-appointed lodges have unlimited hot water, separate toilet and shower facilities, as well as a drying room. Towels, duvets and linen are all provided. The lodge bedrooms are twin share rooms, and should you be travelling alone, every effort will be made to accommodate you privately. However, when the group is at maximum capacity (16) this may not be possible. The lodges run on generator power, and usage is conserved by turning out lights at 11:00pm. If you wish to read later, please pack a torch.

LIFE ON THE TRAIL

ADDITIONAL COSTS

There are no additional costs, your price includes:

- Pre-departure briefing
- Specialist, experienced guide for the complete itinerary
- Coach transport from Queenstown or Te Anau to the start of the Track
- Lodge accommodation on the Track, in well-appointed twin share rooms with shared bathroom facilities
- All meals on the track
- Jet boat journey
- Duvets, towels, shampoo, soap, hairdryers & hot water bottles
- Scenic flight to Milford Sound
- Return coach transport from Milford Sound or Hollyford Track end to Queenstown or Te Anau
- Use of backpacks and rain jackets if required

Child rates apply 10 - 14 years inclusive.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

All itinerary details and prices are subject to change at any time without prior notice. The Operator reserves the right to alter, amend or cancel any tour should weather conditions or any other situation demand this. The operator will finalise all tour arrangements upon the express condition that they will not be liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of weather or any defect in any vehicle, vessel or aircraft or through the acts or defaults of any company or persons engaged in conveying passengers, or in carrying out the arrangements of the tours.

Payment

For bookings four 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 four months of the departure, full payment is required.

Cancellations

90 days or more prior to departure: NZ\$ 100 per person cancellation fee

60 - 89 days prior to departure: cancellation fee is NZ\$ 500 per person

21 - 59 days prior to departure: cancellation fee is 50% of the total trip cost

Within 21 days of walk departure date: No refund.

Once your walk has commenced, there is no refund available for any portion due to any circumstances.

Travel Insurance

It is suggested that clients take out comprehensive travel insurance.

Notes

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

The operators of The Hollyford Track are committed to the prudent management and sustained preservation of the conservation estate in which it exists. The company appreciates and honours the opportunity it has to operate within Fiordland National Park and Te Wahipounamu, a unique environment which deserves respect and care. Despite this protected area being increasingly sought for its wilderness quality, The Hollyford Track management demands of itself and all its guests the preservation of its beauty for all future generations.

PACKING LIST

SUPPLIED IF REQUIRED (at no extra cost): Backpacks, day packs, pack liners, rain jackets.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Waterproof rain jacket with hood
- Sturdy footwear - hiking/tramping boots (preferably with ankle support and 'worn in')
- Two or more pairs woollen or thermal blend socks
- Polar fleece - (preferably windproof)
- Wool or micro fleece mid layer
- Polypropylene or wool thermal long sleeve tops (1 or 2 pairs)
- Polypropylene or wool long leg bottoms (1 or 2)
- Shorts (1 or 2 pairs) or quick dry walking trousers
- Shirts or t-shirts if warm
- Peaked cap
- Wool or fleece hat
- Gloves
- Insect repellent and sunscreen
- Water bottle

OPTIONAL ITEMS

You may like to include the following:

- Sunscreen
- Torch or headlamp
- Money or credit card for beer, wine and souvenirs
- "Second skin" if you are prone to blisters
- Your camera (with extra film or large memory card)
- The book you've been trying to read
- Notepaper, pen, wallet, travel documents

Supplied: All meals, towels, linen, duvets, hot water bottles, soap, shampoo, headlamp and hair-dryers.

EVENING WEAR

- Nightwear
- Light shoes for the evenings at the lodge
- Light comfy socks and underwear
- Shirt or T-shirt
- Warm outer layer like fleece or jumper.
- Trousers or track pants for the evenings at the lodge

Should you get wet during the day, there are drying rooms at both lodges so if you keep your gear lightweight and fast drying, it should dry overnight.

Cotton garments, jeans or silk thermals are not recommended. Perspiration means you are likely to feel damp and cold inside the best raincoat.

"WONDERFUL 3 DAY TREK"

The first day was quite long, and although it was listed as an easy trek, probably due to the lovely overnight accommodation, a reasonable level of fitness is required. The scenery was spectacular along the entire route. There is a real sense of wilderness and some great stories about the early settlers from our great guide and all round action man - Graeme. Apparently Deet doesn't seem to deter the sandflies, take long sleeves if the weather is overcast.

~ G.M. - Outwood, UK, April 2018, **Trip Advisor**

"AMAZING EXPERIENCE"

Wow - this is a truly fantastic Guided 3 day walk that included jet boating and a scenic helicopter flight! We are Kiwis and have done other walks in the area the "hard way" (Milford, Routeburn, Kepler) so this was a first for us. Having Graeme aka "Mr Hollyford" as our guide, and keeping to less than 16 in the group, really made the whole experience - you'll be fascinated hearing about the Maori and early pioneering history of the area, as well as local flora and fauna including bush remedies. Anyone with a reasonable fitness level can manage this, walking poles and good sized day packs are available to borrow free of charge. Highly recommended - treat yourselves to a truly memorable experience :)

~ K. - Wellington, New Zealand, February 2018, **Trip Advisor**