



# QUEEN CHARLOTTE TRACK

## ITINERARY



The Queen Charlotte track stretches 70 kilometres from the legendary Ship Cove at the head of Queen Charlotte Sound to Anakiwa. The scenery is tremendously varied as the track meanders its way around hidden bays and inlets and climbs to the ridgelines for expansive views. The Marlborough Sounds has both an intricate coastline and surprisingly high bush-clad mountains. The Queen Charlotte guided hike offers a unique opportunity to enjoy stunning and invigorating hiking by day, and the comfort of resort-style accommodation and fine Marlborough wine and cuisine by night. Your friendly and informative guide will impart inspiring stories and knowledge about the rich history and plentiful wildlife you will see along the way.

<b>LENGTH</b>	5 days	
<b>GRADE</b>	C (Well graded track. Day-packs carried)	
<b>START</b>	Start: Picton 8:00 to 8:25am (pick-up from your Picton accommodation)	
<b>FINISH</b>	Picton 5:30pm (approx.)	
<b>DEPARTURES</b>	<b>5 DAY:</b> November 2022: 2, 14, 28 December 2022: 5, 12, 19 January 2023: 4, 9, 16, 23, 30 February 2023: 8, 13, 20, 27 March 2023: 6, 13, 20, 27 April 2023: 12, 17	<b>4 DAY:</b> November 2022: 2, 7, 14, 21, 28 December 2022: 5, 12, 19, 28 January 2023: 4, 9, 16, 23, 30 February 2023: 8, 13, 20, 27 March 2023: 6, 13, 20, 27 April 2023: 3, 12, 17
<b>PRICE</b>	<b>1st Oct 22 - 30th Sep 23</b> 5 Day Guided Walk Adult                    NZ\$2,550 5 Day Guided Walk incl. single supp.    NZ\$3,270 5 Day Guided Walk Child                    NZ\$1,625 4 Day Guided Walk Adult                    NZ\$2,050 4 Day Guided Walk incl. single supp.    NZ\$2,605 4 Day Guided Walk Child                    NZ\$1,350	
	Single supplement applies to ALL individual travellers. If another single traveller of the same gender is willing to share and this can be arranged, the single supplement may be refunded.	
	Children's rates apply 12 years and under, and are for children accompanying two adults and sharing a room. If accompanying one adult only, then adult rate applies to children.	

# ITINERARY

## DAY 1 PICTON TO FURNEAUX LODGE

15km/5 hours walking

Departing from Picton your trip begins with a customized eco-tour with your guide on board The Cougar Line as you travel to the Motuara Island bird sanctuary in the outer-Queen Charlotte Sound. Here you may have the opportunity to see the rare South Island Saddleback and South Island Robin who have been re-colonised on to this island sanctuary.

From Motuara Island you will cross the Sound to be dropped off at Ship Cove where you will begin your walk on the Queen Charlotte Track. Ship Cove is one of the most historic areas in the Sounds as it was one of James Cook's most popular destinations on his many world travels. The area is surrounded by bountiful virgin bush and the walk to the top of the ridge provides spectacular views. As you make your way down into Endeavour Inlet, you will spy Furneaux Lodge, your first night's accommodation. You will stay in twin share Studio Suites. Dinner will be served in the restaurant with a glass of wine.

## DAY 2 FURNEAUX LODGE TO PUNGA COVE

11.7 km/4 hours walking

After a leisurely breakfast at Furneaux Lodge you may walk up to the waterfall and see the magnificent stands of virgin native bush. Re-join the track as it winds its way around the coastline to the other side of Endeavour Inlet. Prolific birdsong dominates the day as you walk through some regenerating and virgin native bush. Your accommodation this evening is at Punga Cove Resort in twin share chalets. Dinner is served in the restaurant with a glass of wine.

## DAY 3 PUNGA COVE TO PORTAGE RESORT HOTEL

23.6 km/8 hours walking

Walk from Punga Cove to the Portage Resort Hotel along the ridge between Kenepuru and Queen Charlotte Sound. Spectacular views are offered as you negotiate the undulating ridge between the two sounds. This section is considered the most difficult on the track and you will need to have a good level of fitness to enjoy this day. There is an option to take water transport from Punga Cove to the Portage Resort Hotel if you require a rest. Upon your arrival at the Portage Resort Hotel, you can rest and relax in the spa and enjoy the view overlooking the Kenepuru Sound. You will be staying in twin share suites, and dinner will be served in the restaurant with a glass of wine.

## DAY 4 REST DAY AT PORTAGE RESORT HOTEL

Sleep in, rest, relax and enjoy the leisure activities around Portage Resort Hotel. If you feel like a little more activity you may like to go fishing, play golf on the local rural golf course, or go sea kayaking with your guide. Join this intimate paddling experience in the Kenepuru Sound, the smallest of the three sounds. As you paddle from the Portage Bay foreshore on the Kenepuru Sound you can visit a mussel farm, paddle past a ship-wreck from a bygone era, or experience a chance encounter with dolphins. You will have time to stop on a tranquil beach where you can enjoy a leisurely lunch, go for a swim or a short bush walk before paddling back to Portage Bay foreshore. No experience is necessary to enjoy this trip and your guide will ensure that you have a fun, safe sea kayaking experience. This is included in your package and is subject to a minimum of 2 people.





## DAY 5 PORTAGE RESORT HOTEL TO ANAKIWA AND PICTON

20.7 km/7.5 hours walking

Your final day on the Queen Charlotte Track. Today you will ascend to a ridgeline track which provides wonderful vistas of the Sounds as you walk along. After Mistletoe Bay, the track sidles along the hill and drops down into Davies Bay before the last half an hour through mature beech forest ending at Anakiwa where your water transport will collect you for your return to Picton.

### The Day Before departure

We strongly recommend that you spend the evening prior to your trip in Picton and if you have time you are invited to come to the Marlborough Sounds office when you arrive into Picton. This enables you to have any questions answered and last minute details given but this is not essential.

A welcome pack will be delivered to your accommodation house which will include details such as: your guide, the names of the rest of the walkers in your group and pick-up/arrival time at the office for your trip.

### Alternative Options

4 Day Guided Walk and Paddle & Walk – includes Day 1 to Day 3 of above itinerary, then Day 5, eliminating the rest day and second night stay at Portage Resort Hotel.

### “AWESOME EXPERIENCE”

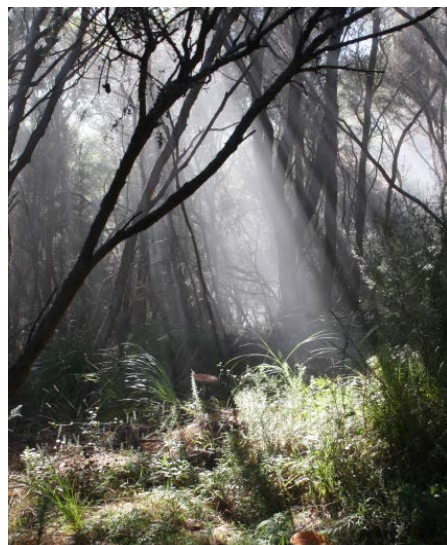
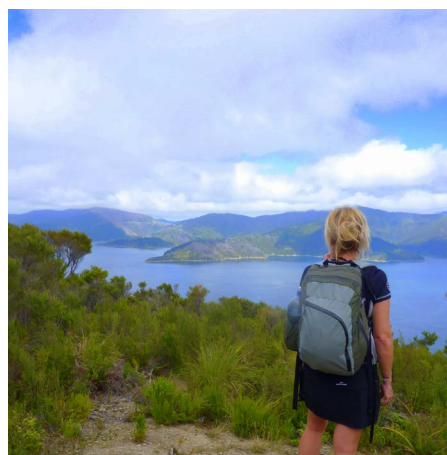
*Everything as described and expected. Couldn't be happier. Will happily recommend to friends. Thanks for everything.*

*~ Sam F., January 2018*

### “HASSLE FREE”

*Organisation of our transport, luggage, accommodation etc. was great. You accommodated last minutes changes efficiently. We felt very supported throughout the walk.*

*~ Patherine W., March 2018*



# LIFE ON THE TRAIL

## GRADE C

- Up to 6 hrs of physical activity per day.
- At times carrying a backpack of 5-6kgs.
- Tracks generally in good condition.
- Altitude gains of up to 600m on harder days.
- No hiking experience necessary.
- Reasonable standard of fitness required.

## GUIDES AND SAFETY

The guides are experienced in first aid and carry first aid kits and communication equipment at all times. They have backgrounds from all walks of life but all have a passion for the outdoors and the Marlborough Sounds environment.

## FOOD

All meals are served in the resort restaurants. The rates do not include alcohol, however this can easily be purchased at the accommodation house each evening.

## TRANSPORT

You are transported to the start of the track by a Cougar Line catamaran. Your luggage will be transported between the lodges by boat. You only need to carry what you require for the day. You are returned from the end of the track (Anakiwa) to Picton by water-taxi.

## ACCOMMODATION

You will enjoy Superior Twin share accommodation with sea views (studio chalet at Furneaux Lodge, A-Frame studio unit at Punga Cove Resort and Hillside Suite at Portage Resort Hotel). Furneaux Lodge is isolated, and no roads lead to it. It is privately owned and family run and is unique in the Marlborough Sounds with expansive grounds running from the native bush down to the sea. Punga Cove offers tastefully furnished chalets nestled into the bush-clad hillside, with sun decks giving privacy and superb views across the bay. At Portage Resort, rooms are spread across the expansive gardens with spectacular views, specifically of Kenepuru Sound. All meals are served in the resort restaurants.



# LIFE ON THE TRAIL

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

Alcohol at lodges.

### Price includes:

- Cheerful, informative guiding from mature experienced guides
- Wholesome, quality food, a glass of wine with your evening meal (other alcohol can be paid for directly to the accommodation house)
- Four nights superior twin share en-suite accommodation with sea views (studio suites at Furneaux Lodge, A-Frame chalet at Punga Cove Resort and Hillside Suites at Portage Resort Hotel)
- Transport forward of luggage
- Eco tour on Motuara Island
- Sea kayaking
- Water transfer return at end of walk.

## BOOKING CONDITIONS

### 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

Cancellations received 30 to 16 days prior to departure date receive - 75% of total package refunded  
Cancellations received up to 15 to 8 days from the date of departure - 50% of total package refunded  
Cancellations received 7 days or less from date of departure - no refund

### Travel Insurance

It is suggested that clients take out comprehensive travel insurance.

### COVID-19

Please contact us for the latest COVID-19 assurance.

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

# PACKING LIST

## ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Strong broken-in walking shoes, preferably walking boots
- Camera, film and memory sticks.
- Peaked sunhat
- Sunscreen and Sunglasses
- Insect repellent
- Cotton shirts and shorts
- Rainproof jacket (must be more than showerproof)
- Warm wool or fleece jersey/sweater
- Money for possible purchases
- Bathing gear
- Nightwear
- Toiletries
- Handkerchiefs (not tissues)
- Casual change of clothes for the evening.

If walking in early spring or late autumn we recommend you include the following:

- Woollen socks
- Hat and gloves
- Warm wool or fleece pants
- Warm wool or polypro shirts.

## WE SUPPLY

- Light day pack (if required)
- All meals & snacks
- Welcome pack with details such as: your guide, the names of the rest of the walkers in your group and pick-up/arrival time at the office for your trip.
- All water transport
- Accommodation as listed in the itinerary
- Portage of luggage each day