



TEKAPO HIKE

ITINERARY



If you enjoy challenges and a good physical workout in a scenic environment, then this trek is for you. If you appreciate getting off-the-beaten-track, then this is definitely the place to go – it is rare to encounter any other people outside your own group. This area is famed for its exceptionally clear skies and intense light, highlighting the turquoise-blue glacial lakes, golden grasses, and white snow-capped peaks.

This hike also has a 2 day option.

LENGTH	3 days (2 days also available)
GRADE	D (alpine hiking with uneven terrain)
START	Edelweiss Lodge, 8 Erebus Place, Lake Tekapo, 10 am (3 day option)
FINISH	Approximately 1.00pm in Lake Tekapo (3 day option)
DEPARTURES	Please contact us for details.
PRICE	<p>1 May 2021 - 30 Apr 2022</p> <p>2 day hike NZD \$610.00 3 day hike NZD \$930.00 2 day hike 1:1 Guide ratio NZD \$1,070.00 3 day hike 1:1 Guide ratio NZD \$1,620.00 Public holiday surcharge (per Public Holiday day) NZD \$100.00</p> <p>Please note: The 2 day hike begins at Edelweiss Lodge, 8 Erebus Place, Lake Tekapo at 1pm, and finishes at approximately 5 - 6pm the following day.</p>

“WHAT MORE CAN WE WANT”

Weather is amazing, beautiful, stunning and the views and scenery even better! Was about a 7 hour round trip to BZ (Beuzenberg) Peak, drowned our faces in the stream, followed by a cup of tea and a glass of wine!

~ S & I Kremenskiy - Russia, February 2015

“THE TRIP EXCEEDED ALL MY EXPECTATIONS”

The professionalism, knowledge and friendliness of the company and the guides. The warm welcoming hospitality. Real connection to the land. The hut is well appointed and we were always careful to be environmentally conscious. It was a perfect trip.

~ V. Fransisca - Sydney 2015

ITINERARY

DAY 1 LAKE TEKAPO TO REX SIMPSON HUT

7km/ 3 hours walking

From Lake Tekapo township the drive along the lakeshore takes you to a typical high country sheep station. Three hours' walking with a climb of 550m/1805ft brings you to the cosy Rex Simpson Hut, at 1300m/4265ft. The only sounds to be heard are the skylarks singing, or the chirp of an occasional pipit. This peacefulness is one of the first powerful impressions, giving a real sense of isolation and remoteness. The views over Lake Tekapo are expansive. Evening entertainment regularly comes in the form of an inspiring sunset behind the alps and/or spectacularly clear displays of the Southern Hemisphere stars.

DAY 2 SNAKE RIDGE AND BEUZENBERG PEAK

6-8 hours walking (770m in altitude to ascend and descend)

Trek along a 6 kilometre-long ridge-top, nicknamed "Snake Ridge", which was formed by ice-age glaciation, and ascend "Beuzenberg Peak" (2073m/6800ft). The terrain is untracked with a moderate gradient. As you gain height the splendour of the Southern Alps unfolds with the East Face of Mount Cook dominating the skyline. Unique alpine scree plants and maybe an alpine weta can be spotted by the observant. Early summer the tussock will be interspersed with mountain daisies (*Celmisia lyallii*). In late summer the red berries of little mountain heath (*Pentachondra pumila*) dot the ground, along with white and pink snowberries. Return to Rex Simpson Hut to be well fed and entertained by your guide.

DAY 3 REX SIMPSON HUT TO LAKE TEKAPO

8km/ 2-3 hours walking

Visit an old musterers' hut before walking back down through the farm and returning to Lake Tekapo. The hut door carries part of a dog collar, dated 1898, and the interior could be reminiscent of Scott's hut in Antarctica. Finish approximately 1pm in Lake Tekapo (or 5pm for the 2 day option).



LIFE ON THE TRAIL

GRADE D

- Average 4-5 hours physical activity per day, up to 8 hours on longer days.
- Pack weights of 8-10kgs on some days.
- Altitude gains of up to 800 metres.
- Some uneven track surfaces and river crossings.
- Agility and fitness required.

Ideally you should have previous tramping or hiking experience, because much of the trek is across untracked terrain and you need to be sure-footed. However, if you are relatively new to tramping, then this is an ideal introduction, especially for families. Your pack will contain just your clothing and a few items of fresh food to be carried to the hut on Day 1. Non-perishable food and sleeping bags are at the hut.



GUIDES AND SAFETY

The Tekapo Hike guides are extensively experienced in both hiking and mountaineering, and are familiar with the terrain you will encounter on your hike. Guides are all licensed to drive passenger service vehicles and have mountain safety and first aid qualifications.

FOOD

All food is provided for on the Tekapo Trek. Please advise us if you are a vegetarian. A catering manager prepares the food: fresh fruit, vegetables, bread, quality cheeses and meats. Together with the gourmet skills of the guides, this ensures a consistently high standard cuisine. All snacks are included. Non-perishable food is at the hut.

Because food quantities are carefully planned and prepared there is minimal waste to be carried out at the end of the trip and minimal effect on the environment.

TRANSPORT

Transport from the meeting point in Tekapo to the start of the Tekapo Hike and return is included in the price. Transport is normally by small minibus.

ACCOMMODATION

Rex Simpson Hut belongs to Alpine Recreation. It has a woodburner, solar lighting, gas cookers and well-equipped kitchen. Firewood and non-perishable food are helicoptered in once a year. The hut consists of three rooms, sleeping ten participants and two guides in total. Sleeping bags are at the hut; liners and pillow cases are provided for each trip. There are no showers, but warm water and basin can be provided for washing – or you can find a private spot somewhere along the alpine stream. The toilet is a traditional longdrop loo with a view!

You should book accommodation in Lake Tekapo for the night before your walk. Please let us know if you would like assistance. Guide can also pick you up from your accommodation at 9.50 am from your accommodation in Lake Tekapo on the morning of departure.



LIFE ON THE TRAIL

ADDITIONAL COSTS

There are no additional costs on the Tekapo Hike.

Minimum 2 participants , Maximum 10 participants.

Price includes

Guide, all meals on tour, hut accommodation, transport from Lake Tekapo and return, 15% GST.

Not included

Meals and accommodation before and after tour.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Changes

The operators reserve the right to alter, amend or cancel any tour, should weather or any other situation demand this.

Liability

The operators and its agents finalise all arrangements for these tours upon the express condition that they shall not be liable for loss of life, injury, illness, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of weather or any defect in any vehicle or aircraft or through the acts of default of any company or persons engaged in conveying the passengers or carrying out of arrangements of the tours. All clients have to complete a waiver form before starting their tour.

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

More than 50 days prior to departure: Full refund less \$300 cancellation fee applies.

Between 31 and 50 days prior to departure: 50% refund of the total trip price.

30 days or less prior to departure: no refund.

No refund for any services not utilised after tour has started. If a client needs extra services due to lack of fitness and inability to continue with the group, additional fees may apply.

Travel Insurance

We highly recommend comprehensive travel insurance.

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.

COVID-19

Please see our website or contact us for the latest COVID-19 booking assurance.

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

PACKING LIST

The following items must be brought by you (these are not provided):

- personal underwear
- shirt (long-sleeved to avoid sunburn/keep cool)
- quick-drying (nylon) trekking pants or shorts
- sunglasses
- sunscreen/lipscreen
- sun scarf - for protecting back of neck
- personal first aid (please provide your own blister kit**)
- toilet gear (minimal)
- drink bottle (minimum 1 litre)
- camera
- ear plugs

**Please note that currently boots available for hire range from European size 37 - 48, so if you have feet outside this range and do not have suitable boots of your own, you should let us know and we can offer advise as who to contact to arrange hire.

**Compeed and Leukoplast are recommended, available at chemists

The following items can be provided if you do not have your own:

- backpack of minimum 45 litre capacity
- hiking boots (well broken in, waterproof and with good ankle support*)
- snow gaiters (only necessary in November)
- 2 pairs woollen socks
- polyprop long johns (thermal leggings)
- polyprop singlet and long-sleeved top
- waterproof trousers
- fleece jacket
- waterproof parka (with hood)
- gloves and overmits. (polypro gloves are good, but you need warmer gloves)
- wool hat or balaclava
- sun hat
- headlamp or torch with spare battery
- plastic bags
- pack liner (heavy duty plastic bag)
- ski/hiking poles