

ITINERARY

BREWSTER GLACIER ADVENTURE





Escape into New Zealand's Southern Alps on this unforgettable 3-day trek. From lush native forest to glacial lakes and panoramic mountain peaks, this trip offers a true alpine experience.

Camp beneath the stars beside the stunning Brewster Lakes, explore the icy terrain of Brewster Glacier, or summit Mt. Armstrong for epic views. With expert guides tailoring the journey to your pace and experience, this adventure blends challenge, beauty, and unforgettable moments in the heart of the wilderness.

LENGTH	3 days
GRADE	D (Average 5-7 hours physical activity per day, alpine hiking with uneven terrain)
PRE TRACK BRIEFING	Meet your guide in Wānaka at 4.30 pm the day before your departure to check your clothing and equipment and confirm final details.
START	8.00 am, Wanaka
FINISH	4.00 pm, Wanaka
DEPARTURES	On request: dates available from November to March Book a private or custom trip with dates that suit you.
PRICE	**1 Jul 2026 - 30 Jun 2027** Rates available on request.

"WE HAD SUCH A GOOD TIME"

We had such a good time! [The staff in the office] were very helpful in planning the best trip for us, always available for any questions we had. Our guide was the most passionate and fun guide we ever met, spending 3 days in the mountains with him was a treat. We look forward using the learned mountaineering skills in the future

~Eva, Brewster Glacier

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DAY 1 WANAKA TO BREWSTER LAKES

Up to 4.6 km (3 mi) 4-6 hours hiking, +/- 1,320m elevation

Depart from Wānaka, heading for Fantail Falls carpark (approximately 1 hour's drive from Wānaka). From here, we will cross Fantail Creek from the carpark to get onto the Brewster track and continue up a very steep and unformed track.

We reach Brewster Hut just above the bushline, making for the perfect stopping point to enjoy lunch and rest the lungs. From here we will hike another couple of hours to the incredible setting of Brewster Lakes, home of the beautiful icy blue pools fed directly from Brewster Glacier. This is your stunning camp for the night. *Includes lunch and dinner*

DAY 2 MT ARMSTRONG OR BREWSTER GLACIER

+/- 534m elevation (Mt Armstrong)

Today, you have the option to walk on the stunning Brewster Glacier with your ice axe and crampons and explore in true mountaineering fashion. If you have chosen to keep your pack light with less technical equipment and don't have an interest in getting onto the snow, there is the option to hike along the tussock and scree bringing you to the top of Mt Armstrong with impressive panoramic views.

Your guide will help to tailor the day to your experience and preferences before returning to camp to enjoy a warm meal. *Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner*

DAY 3 BREWSTER LAKES - WĀNAKA

Up to 4.6km (2.8 mi), 6 hours hiking, +/- 1,320m (4330 ft)

Start your day with a relaxed, hearty breakfast surrounded by the awe-inspiring beauty of the alpine landscape, the towering peaks, shimmering lakes, and the silent majesty of the glacier nearby. Take a few final moments to soak it all in, snap those last photos, or simply breathe deeply and enjoy the stillness.

When you're ready, we'll begin our gentle descent back down the trail, retracing our steps through this stunning wilderness. At the carpark, our vehicle will be waiting to take us on the scenic journey back to Wānaka. *Includes breakfast and lunch*











LIFE ON THE TRAIL

GRADE D, CAPABALE OF:

- 500m ascent and descent in a day
- 6-8 hours of physical activity a day
- 3 consecutive days ascent and descent
- Carrying 8-12kg pack
- Some uneven track surfaces and river crossings.
- Multi-day trekking experience using huts or camping
- Comfortable in a range of adverse weather conditions

Our main aim is for mountaineers to enjoy this experience and be safe doing so. This is as much about the expectations you form as well as being realistic about your current abilities. If you're in doubt, we recommend using the above guide to determine if this course is for you.

GUIDES AND SAFETY

Guides are hand-picked, qualified to international standards, and there with you from your first day. You're paired with people that live and breathe guiding. Their mountaineering achievements are matched only with their level of passion for creating experiences for clients that linger in your soul long after the descent. They're there as you accomplish lifelong ambitions, reach new heights, and dig deep as you pursue the grittiest of adventure experiences. Overcome your limits, and discover the moments that lead to enduring achievement and pride of what you can accomplish.

FOOD

We put a lot of work into supplying you with wholesome meals with a variety of healthy and tasty ingredients and snacks catering to common preferences. Where possible, we provide fresh vegetables and real coffee. However, there will always be limitations when cooking in an alpine or wilderness environment. Meals like salads are limited or not possible to provide. Some trips 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 to us 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 and the team will shop and cook accordingly.

TRANSPORT

You have an hour journey to Makarora before your hike starts.

ACCOMMODATION

You will camp for the duration of your trip. Sit back in the door of your private tent while a good wholesome meal is prepared (no freeze dried food here!). Everything is supplied for you so all you need to do is relax and enjoy this alpine paradise.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

There are no additional costs for this trip, however, if the group are required to stay longer due to adverse weather conditions, additional charges will be made to cover costs. Currently the cost is $500 per party per day + $100 per person per day.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

Book one of our scheduled group departure dates or request a private departure. If there are no departures advertised, or the advertised dates don't work for you, request a date that works for you and us, and we'll advertise it for others to join as a group trip. If a scheduled group trip doesn't reach the minimum number of guests, you'll have the option to pay an additional fee to guarantee it goes ahead. This gives you flexibility and peace of mind, ensuring your adventure happens as planned.

Changes

Weather can be temperamental in our mountains and can impact on trips and planned itineraries and routes. If weather events require the guides to alter the original trip itinerary, we will find another amazing alternative where weather is more favourable. Every effort will be made to ensure the trip can be enjoyed as planned. If the trip cannot proceed, some costs that were not incurred may be refunded, such as a heli transfer, however other costs that are absorbed in planning and booking will not be refunded, such as guide costs. The guides may refund up to 50% off trips that do not proceed at all, or offer a credit on future trips. Any cancelled trips are assessed individually for refund options. If the group are required to stay longer due to adverse weather conditions, additional charges will be made to cover costs. Currently the cost is $500 per party per day + $100 per person per day.

Payment

For bookings made four or more months prior to the departure date, a deposit of NZD$1000 per person is required, with the remainder due 95 days before your trip. For bookings made within four months of the departure date, full payment is required at the time of booking.

Cancellations

45 days or more prior to departure date: Full refund, less $500 per person forfeited.
44 to 31 days: 50% of tour price forfeited.
30 days or less: 100% of the tour price forfeited..

Travel Insurance

We strongly recommend that you have comprehensive travel insurance.

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

PACKING LIST

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Please bring all your equipment to the scheduled pre-trip meeting.

Summer weather is usually quite warm however, you will be in a remote alpine location and winter type conditions can happen any time of year in New Zealand. Required clothing can vary somewhat according to the time of year or the current weather.

While parts of your trip are hut based, some huts can't be reserved and in some cases clients should expect to camp during peak times of the season. You will need to carry your own personal gear as well as some group fresh food. Many people prefer to use their own sleeping bag, pad and backpack. We recommend an inflatable sleeping mat, 60+ litre backpack and 2 season sleeping bag graded to 0° C (and liner). Lighter is OK for mid-summer. On most days there are unavoidable river and stream crossings, so it is likely your boots will get wet and stay wet.

- ☐ Inflatable sleeping mat – available to borrow
- ☐ Backpack (60+ litres) – available to borrow
- ☐ Sleeping bag (2 season, 0° C) & liner – available to borrow
- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Base layer (150-200g, merino or polypropylene, no cotton)
- ☐ Oasis LS Crewe)
- ☐ Top
- ☐ Leggings
- ☐ Mid layer top (fleece or windproof)
- ☐ Insulating jacket (fleece or synthetic fill)
- ☐ Waterproof jacket (eg Gore Tex® or similar)
- ☐ Overpants (waterproof as above) – available to borrow
- ☐ Lightweight, quick drying shorts or trousers
- ☐ Light collared trekking shirt or short sleeve t-shirt
- ☐ Sturdy, stiff ankle height trekking boots - your boots will get wet from river crossings
- ☐ Gaiters (recommended)
- ☐ 3-4 pairs of trekking socks (merino)
- ☐ Sunhat - cap
- ☐ Warm hat & neck gaiter (eg Buff®)
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Warm waterproof gloves
- ☐ Bowl & spoon (supplied)
- ☐ Personal toiletries and medication
- ☐ Packliner or dry bags
- ☐ Insect repellent - for sandflies
- ☐ Sun cream and lip cream
- ☐ Water bottle (at least 1 litre)
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ Headtorch

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- ☐ Collapsible trekking poles (recommended) – available to borrow
- ☐ Light book or magazine
- ☐ Earplugs (handy for communal huts)
- ☐ Plastic cup for drinking from streams – available to borrow
- ☐ Lightweight hut or camp shoes (eg Crocs)

