

**FOOTSTEPS WALKING AND TRAVEL CLUB
of AOTEAROA / NEW ZEALAND**

the best day-walks in 20 regions

SOUTH ISLAND EXCURSIONS

2023-2026

SOME OF THE ABSOLUTE BEST SOUTH ISLAND SHORT WALKS

OVER FOUR YEARS WE COVER THE ENTIRE SOUTH ISLAND

2023

BRILLIANT BULLER: 26 March – 1 April 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- The walkway rated as one of NZ's best (Charming Creek)
- The magnificent limestone arches and caves of Oparara
- Impressive gold and coal-mining relics from our extractive past
- The spectacular tussock tops and tarns of Lewis Pass
- The most spectacular rock overhang in NZ – large enough to house an army (Fox River)
- The silent, sobering atmosphere where one of our worst tragedies occurred (Cave Creek)



Moria Arch

WONDROUS WESTLAND: 2-8 April 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- The sparkling waters and reflections of some of our most beautiful lakes (Kaniere, Matheson, Ianthe, Paringa, Moeraki)
- The homes of kotuku (white heron), inanga (whitebait), and our rarest kiwi (rowi)

- The two most accessible glaciers in New Zealand (Franz Josef, Fox)
- The unrivalled scenery of the remote Te Waipounamu SW NZ World Heritage Area



Hokitika Gorge

SOUL-BUILDING SOUTHERN LAKES: 9-15 April 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- The spectacular trails around the edge of Lake Wakatipu
- Picturesque Queenstown, the alpine jewel of the South Island
- Picture-perfect reflections in Moke Lake
- The scenic wonders at the start of one of our most popular Great Walks (Routeburn)
- The unknown scheelite mines which contributed to the Allied war effort
- Historic Arrowtown: gold mining relics and *Lord of the Rings* locations
- The grandeur of Mt Aspiring National Park – graced by our 2nd highest peak.
- Wonderful lakeside and riverside trails in the Wanaka district
- The cheeky kea at the Rob Roy Glacier lookout
- Fascinating geology and gold-mining relics (Cromwell area)



Moke Lake

2024

TREMENDOUS TRANSALPINE

(NORTH CANTERBURY, ARTHUR'S PASS, BRUNNER): 14-20 April 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- The beautiful parks and walkways of the Garden City (Christchurch)
- A taste of the Banks Peninsula volcanic landscapes/seascapes
- The spectacular rock formations of Castle Hill and scree slopes of Craigieburn
- Classic vistas of the central Southern Alps along the famous TranzAlpine train route
- The awesome mountain scenery of Arthur's Park National Park: kea country!
- The world-class wetlands around beautiful Lake Brunner
- The best of the Canterbury foothill forests, gorges, tussock-lands and lakes



Lake Brunner

AMAZING ALPS TO OCEAN: (CENTRAL LAKES/SOUTH CANTERBURY)

21-27 April 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- NZ's largest Dark Sky Reserve and the only one in the southern hemisphere (Tekapo)
- The best of the central south tussock-lands and alpine lakes (MacKenzie Country)
- NZ's longest and largest glacier, calving into its terminus lake (Tasman)
- The unrivalled scenery around NZ's highest mountain (Mount Cook National Park)
- The power of the mighty Clutha River, harnessed at NZ's largest earth dam (Benmore)
- Film locations for *Lord of the Rings*, and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*
- The unique braided rivers flowing across the patchwork plains



Sealy Tarns

2025

FANTASTIC FIORDLAND: 23-29 March 2025

HIGHLIGHTS

- Bluff, site of the famous Paua Shell House and Tiwai Point aluminium smelter
- Granite and grebes in the beautiful Borland
- The magnificent “Lord of the Rings” filming location at Mavora Lakes
- A lake saved by NZ’s largest ever petition (Manapouri) and one that wasn’t (Monowai)
- Some of the most glorious alpine lakes in NZ (Te Anau, Green Lake, Lake Marian)
- The magnificent Eglinton and Hollyford Valleys
- A taste of some of our best Great Walks (Routeburn and Kepler)



Lake Marion

SUPER SOUTHLAND (with STEWART ISLAND): 30 March – 5 April 2025

HIGHLIGHTS

- The legendary Hokonui Hills, reputed to inspire moonshine and meandering.
- The “country music capital” of New Zealand (Gore)
- An ancient fossilised forest exposed at low tide (Curio Bay)
- The most southerly point of the South Island mainland (Slope Point)

- Thoroughly impressive waterfalls in the Catlins
- Spectacular coastal scenery at Nugget Point lighthouse
- The unspoilt beauty of NZ's third-largest island (Stewart Island) (3 days)



Purakaunui Falls

OUTSTANDING OTAGO: 13-19 April 2025

HIGHLIGHTS

- The superb seascapes and wildlife of the Otago Peninsula
- The unique tussock and tors landscape of central Otago and the Otago Rail Trail
- A stunning lake created from a goldmine, alongside a haunted hotel (St. Bathans)
- Pristine lakes that freeze in winter to become iceskating and curling venues
- New Zealand's "Edinburgh" (Dunedin), plus our hottest/coldest town (Alexandra)
- The site of NZ's first gold strike, sluicing fields, water races, diggings and relics • Awesome autumn colours throughout the entire region



Clutha River Walkway

2026

MARVELLOUS MARLBOROUGH: 1-7 March 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

- Picturesque Picton, the gateway to the Sounds and to the south.
- The stunning seascapes and walkways of the Marlborough Sounds
- The unrivalled juxtaposition of mountains and valleys in Nelson Lakes
- The magnificent tussock and tarns of Rainbow Station
- The relaxing hot springs and gentle forest walks of a true spa town (Hanmer)
- The grandeur of the Kaikoura mountain ranges plunging down to the coast



Lake Rotoiti

NOBLE NELSON AND GOB-SMACKING GOLDEN BAY: 8-14 March 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

- The geographical centre of New Zealand and unique boulder bank (Nelson)
- The pristine golden sands and sparkling waters of Abel Tasman National Park
- An intriguing story of romance and isolation in the backcountry (Asbestos Cottage)
- NZ's clearest and most beautiful natural spring (Te Waikoropupu)
- Spectacular cliffs, arches, caves, pillars, stacks and spits in Golden Bay
- The ingenious rock shelters of the Flora Valley and Mount Arthur
- The Tolkien-like scenery of weathered marble on the Mount Owen massif



Split Apple Rock

TRIP PRICES:

6+ participants \$1150pp; 5 participants \$1250pp; 4 participants \$1350pp.

Includes: accommodation, transport, breakfasts, information, guiding.

Not included: airfares, lunches and dinners.

WE WELCOME YOUR ENQUIRY: footstepsanz@gmail.com, 021 172 3244

Or visit our website www.footstepswalkingclub.com