



8Day Road Tour Queenstown to Dunedin T1

Route: Queenstown – Te Anau – Otautau – Stewart Island – Catlins – Owaka – Dunedin

This 8 day -7 night exciting new itinerary combines awesome rides on quiet Southland roads and a two night stay on magical Stewart Island, with the wildlife of the remote and beautiful Catlins Coast.

Pre – Tour Night in Queenstown

Your guides will contact you at your local hotel late afternoon to arrange to visit you for a fitting of your bike. They will also arrange pick-up times for the next morning.

Day 1 Queenstown to Te Anau

An early morning start gets us on the road down the side of Lake Wakatipu and the rolling rural roads of upper Southland. The native red tussock covered hills lead us into the township of Te Anau, perched on the edge of the Fiordland National Park. Stronger riders can be challenged by the possibility of a century ride today, for the rest the sag wagon is always available, or for the train enthusiast there is an opportunity to travel on the Kingston Flyer steam train alongside part of our route.

Meals: L/D

Cycling: 176kms. Short option Queenstown to Five Rivers 99kms

Day 2 Te Anau to Otautau

The morning's ride takes us alongside lakes Te Anau & Manapouri before we head south through an ever-changing landscape. The stark arid mountains give way to more gentle pastures as we enter the productive Southland farm country. At Otautau we are met by our "Kiwi" farmer hosts who will take you back to their homes to enjoy some on the farm hospitality. A farm tour is included as part of your experience.

Meals: B/L/D

Cycling: 106kms

Day 3 Otautau to Stewart Island

After saying goodbye to your new kiwi friends the road heads further south through rural farmland and beech-forests. Small communities dot the landscape and the coastal riding becomes spectacular. This coast is exposed to southerly blasts creating

Tour includes:

- 6 overnight stays 3 Star twin share hotels and motels
- 1 Farm stay and farm tour
- 7 breakfasts - (B)
- 5 lunches (L)
- 5 dinners (D)
- Tour guide
- Support vehicle & Luggage transfer
- Ferry to / from Stewart Island
- Cycle hire
- All activities as shown
- DOC Fees

Grade:

3 Challenging



some surreal windswept scenery. Gradually we quit the farmlands and approach Invercargill, NZ's southern most city. At Bluff we board our ferry for the short voyage across Feauvoux Straight to Stewart Island.

Meals: B/L/D

Cycling: 110 kms. shorter option Otautau to Riverton 65kms

Day 4 Stewart Island

Known as a wildlife sanctuary, Stewart Island & the Rakiura National Park provide plenty of opportunities for exploration. Options include hiking on Ulva Island bird sanctuary or sea kayaking in magical Patterson Inlet. There are some lovely beaches & local bus & boat tours provide information on the history of this special place. Fishing charters can take you to the great local fishing grounds and if all this is too much your hotel is a great place to relax. We do recommend you take the night Kiwi Spotting tour, a unique experience.

Meals: B

Day 5 Stewart Island to Catlins

The route today skirts the beautiful and undiscovered Catlins Forest Park and coastline. The roads are quiet and the scenery diverse as the coastline increasingly becomes spectacular. The ride ends at beautiful Curio Bay where we enjoy a leisurely picnic by the sea, walks along the beach, a swim for the brave & a visit to a petrified forest on the sea-shore. This is a renowned wildlife area & you are likely to see the rare Hector's Dolphins, Fur Seals & Yellow Eyed Penguins.

Meals: B/L/D

Cycling: 92 kms

Day 6 Catlins to Owaka

More scenic cycling along quiet roads today as we continue along the Catlins coast. The cycling is tough with some serious climbs but the rewarding views of the coastline make the effort well worth it. Another picnic by the sea gives us the chance for a final beach walk before continuing cycling on to Owaka. Late afternoon we drive out to Surat Bay for yet another walk on a remote and beautiful beach to visit the resident Sea Lions

Meals: B/L

Cycling: 58 kms

Day 7 Owaka to Dunedin

This morning we ride out to Nugget Point to a magnificent view point before continuing on to Balclutha for lunch. In the afternoon you have the option to drive over the busy highway section to Milton, from here a serious climb will challenge you before you drop down to the coast for the final gentle ride along the beach into Dunedin.

Meals: B/D

Cycling: Owaka to Balclutha 43kms Milton to Dunedin 54kms

Day 8 Dunedin – Departure Day

Sadly your tour ends today after breakfast but there are plenty more adventures to be had...

Meals: B

Cycling: No cycling today

Optional Extra One Day Otago Peninsular

Our guides are always keen for a ride & can easily be dissuaded from driving straight back to Christchurch. There is some lovely riding on a 71 km loop around the spectacular Otago Peninsular and we invite you to extend your tour by one more day. The ride would include some wonderful coastal views, lunch at Larnach Castle and a visit to the Albatross & yellow-eyed Penguin colonies at Taiaroa Heads. This option is available for a minimum of two clients – cost NZ \$415 per person.

Includes Cycling guide

- Larnach Castle
- Albatross Colony
- Penguin Colony
- Accommodation
- Breakfast and Lunch