

6 DAY EXPLORER PACKAGE

KEPLER TRACK & DOUBTFUL SOUND

\$1399

PER
PERSON
TWIN
SHARE

TE ANAU • MT LUXMORE • DOUBTFUL SOUND • IRIS BURN WATERFALL

THE OFFER

Over tussock-covered ridge lines and into the heart of ancient beech forest, skirting the icy waters of alpine lakes and standing atop remote lookouts where lush valleys and wild plains unfold before you; the Kepler Track is one of New Zealand's most enchanting multi-day hiking trails. And it's not going to explore itself. This six day self-guided tour is your chance to discover it one step at a time.

Begin with two nights at the historic Te Anau Lodge, a renovated former convent set in a truly spectacular location, and enjoy a day cruise on the deep waters of Doubtful Sound. Then, put your best foot forward as you experience the Kepler Track - considered one of New Zealand's Great Walks. Rugged mountain ranges, scenic grasslands, hidden waterfalls, rocky cliffs and ancient forest are just a teaser on what's in store. Along the way you'll stay in Department of Conservation Huts, each strategically located to take advantage of the area's natural beauty. Following the hike, treat yourself with another night at Te Anau Lodge, swapping stories with fellow travellers about the incredible experience you've just shared.

Please note: This is a physical tour, requiring a good level of fitness with long days hiking, but you will be rewarded with the most spectacular views.

STANDARD PACKAGE

\$1399

WITH GEAR UPGRADE

\$1649

**Trip
aDeal**
Est. 2011

Offer available for a limited time or until sold out. TRIP A DEAL PTY LTD: 50149240433

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THE ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrive Te Anau, New Zealand

Today make your own way to Te Anau and check into your accommodation at the historic Te Anau Lodge. Upon check-in you will find all your hiking food - lightweight, easy to prepare meals packed full of nutrition with dietary requirements catered for, along with your gear (if gear hire option is chosen) conveniently located in your room for the start of your 3-day hike the following day. Prior to your arrival date, you will be provided with menu choices for the food you will take on your guided hike, giving you the freedom to choose a menu that best suits your preferences.

Experience the genuine warmth of traditional hospitality in the tranquil environment of this 1936 relocated former convent, in one of New Zealand's most scenic locations - Fiordland. With breathtaking lake and mountain views, Te Anau Lodge has been lovingly restored while maintaining its original charm, with modern facilities. Te Anau Lodge is quiet and secluded, yet only 15 minutes walk from Te Anau town centre. Leisurely enjoy a delicious breakfast in the Chapel, take in the views from our sunny courtyard and spend your evenings relaxing in our cosy library.

Please note:

- A good level of fitness is needed to walk the Kepler Track and you should make sure it suits your abilities. At a minimum you need to be able to walk 5-7 hours a day up to 21km, carrying a backpack weighing 10-15kgs. By starting at Brod Bay, your first day will largely be uphill as it is a gradual climb up to Luxmore Hut, which gets the hard part out the way first, but either direction is equally rewarding. If you have any concerns please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.

- This tour requires use of your own vehicle or rental vehicle.
- The optional premium-quality equipment gear hire is recommended and comes with: pack + pack cover, pack liner, sleeping bag + liner, inflatable pillow, rain jacket + pants, cooking/eating utensils, first aid kit, inflatable pillow, thermos.

Overnight: Te Anau Lodge, Te Anau

Meals included: None

Day 2 Doubtful Sound Day Cruise

This morning drive to the nearby town of Manapouri to start your Doubtful Sound day tour.

Doubtful Sound is a beautiful fiord; three times longer than Milford Sound, it has a surface area ten times larger with twisting arms. With its rugged peaks, verdant rainforest and twisting, hidden inlets, Doubtful Sound will take your breath away.

There's no direct road access, so the only way you can get to Doubtful Sound is a cruise across the picturesque Lake Manapouri, followed by a bus trip over Wilmot Pass - New Zealand's most expensive (and majestic) road. Pause along the way to experience the dense Fiordland rainforest and view Doubtful Sound glistening below. This isolation makes this fiord a very special place, only those in the know get to see.

Once you arrive, you will board the Patea Explorer for a 3 hour (approximately) cruise on Doubtful Sound. During the cruise knowledgeable and friendly nature guides will share their passion for the region with you. They're always ready to answer questions, point out landmarks and provide all the information about the varied wildlife you may see, including

6 DAY EXPLORER PACKAGE | KEPLER TRACK



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dolphins, fur seals and the rare Fiordland crested penguin.

Finish the day back at Manapouri and drive back to Te Anau.

Overnight: Te Anau Lodge, Te Anau

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3 Begin Kepler Track - Broad Bay via Lake Te Anau to Luxmore Hut (3.5 to 4.5 hours, 8.2km)

Set out on a wilderness adventure above the clouds, high in the mountains above Lakes Te Anau and Manapouri in Te Wāhipounamu – South West New Zealand World Heritage Area. The drama of these vast tussock-covered ridgelines and spectacular alpine vistas contrasts with the peaceful lakes and the beech forest of the Iris Burn Valley.

Your journey begins with a water taxi across the shore of Lake Te Anau, the largest body of freshwater by volume in Australasia, to Broad Bay. From here a challenging climb under impressive limestone bluffs takes you above the bush line to panoramic views of the Te Anau basin and surrounding mountains. Luxmore Hut is a 45 min walk from the bush line.

Luxmore Hut, overlooking Lake Te Anau and mountains beyond is a very special place for relaxing with your hiking buddies.

The accommodation on the Kepler Track is in the Department of Conservation huts. These huts are located in the most beautiful settings in the national park, surrounded only by nature. The huts are basic, clean and comfortable and must be shared with other walkers on the trail. They will all have a resident DOC Ranger for emergencies and local information about the trail conditions and environment. The huts are usually (but not always) divided into three main rooms. Two unisex bunk rooms with mattresses provided (but no linen or

pillows) and space to organise your gear.

The usual etiquette is that, once you arrive at the hut, you claim your bed space by placing your sleeping bag on a mattress and keep your personal possessions in a tidy manner (it's very easy to misplace things if they are scattered around the room). The third room is a communal living and cooking area. There is running water and a fireplace within the huts along with flush toilets (sometimes located outside). Shower facilities are not available in the huts, but there will be welcome opportunities for a dip in the rivers for those brave enough to face the chill! The huts are a great place to relax and meet new people.

Overnight: Luxmore Hut (Department of Conservation Hut), Kepler Track

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 4 Luxmore Hut to Iris Burn Hut (5 to 6 hours, 14.6km)

Start your day on top of the world. From the hut, you'll climb to a ridge just below Mount Luxmore. In good weather, there are stunning views across the south fiord of Lake Te Anau to the Murchison Mountains. After a wonderful day on the tops, you'll arrive at Iris Burn Hut, situated in a large tussock clearing. There is an optional short walk to the nearby Iris Burn Waterfall for those who are up for a little more adventure.

Overnight: Iris Burn Hut (Department of Conservation Hut), Kepler Track

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

6 DAY EXPLORER PACKAGE | KEPLER TRACK



THE ITINERARY

Day 5 Iris Burn Hut - Rainbow Reach - Te Anau (6 to 8 hours, 22km)

Experience ever-changing scenery as the track takes you over a low saddle, then down to Rocky Point, past a large slip caused by heavy rain. You'll then wind through a gorge and lowland beech and podocarp forest, before reaching the shore of beautiful Lake Manapouri. Continue onwards past Maturau Hut and to Rainbow Reach where your trek concludes. Here you will find your vehicle conveniently awaiting you so you may drive back to the nearby Te Anau Lodge for a well-deserved shower and rest.

Optional Extra - Jetboat pick up from Cosy Nook/Shallow Bay to Rainbow Reach Carpark - \$145 NZD per person

For customer who would like to reduce the amount of walking on this final day and enjoy a jet boat ride on Lake Manapouri this may be purchased directly through the land operator after purchase with TripADeal. This jetboat ride will pick you up from Cost Nook or Shallow Bay at approximately 3.30pm and transfer you to Rainbow Reach Carpark where your vehicle will be conveniently located. This will reduce the walk on this day by 7km.

Overnight: Te Anau Lodge, Te Anau

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch

Day 6 Depart Te Anau

Today check out and make your own arrangements.

Meals included: Breakfast

6 DAY EXPLORER PACKAGE | KEPLER TRACK



TOUR INCLUSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay at Te Anau Lodge, a former convent in a spectacular location
- Breathe in the serenity of Doubtful Sound in Fiordland National Park
- Enjoy a scenic cruise amid the narrow fjords and towering waterfalls of Doubtful Sound
- Put your best foot forward with a 3 day self-guided walk on Kepler Track, one of NZ's Great Walks
- Take a water taxi across Lake Te Anau to Broad Bay
- Stroll through ancient beech forest along the shores of Lake Te Anau
- Enjoy panoramic views of the Te Anau basin and surrounding mountains
- Take in amazing views of the Murchison Range from just below Mount Luxmore
- Hike along vast tussock-covered ridgelines above the tree line
- Walk past alpine meadows, reflective tarns and idyllic waterfalls on the Kepler Track
- Stay in the heart of the South West New Zealand World Heritage Area
- Marvel at the impressive Iris Burn Waterfall
- Enjoy panoramic views over Fiordland mountains and alpine lakes

ACCOMMODATION

- 2 nights pre-trek and 1 night post-trek accom. at the 4-star Te Anau Lodge
- 2 nights bunk accommodation in Dept. of Conservation huts with shared facilities

DINING

- 11 meals incl. daily breakfast and all meals and snacks on the Kepler Track

TOUR ESSENTIALS

- All high-quality hiking food on the trail
- High quality, lightweight and easy to manage gear hire (Gear Hire Package only)
- Pre-tour support and advice by local Fiordland experts
- Private car relocation from Te Anau to Rainbow Reach carpark

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*Please note: All information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current deal for up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.

BOOKING INFORMATION

On purchasing this Travel Offer you are bound by the General Terms and Conditions, in addition to the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

Please note: bookings are subject to Department of Conservation Hut availability which changes daily. Please wait until you receive an additional booking confirmation from the local operator Easyhike before making any connecting travel arrangements. You will receive confirmation directly from Easyhike via email and/or phone within 5 business days of making the booking with TripADeal.

*Book With Confidence

If your stay is affected by Government travel restrictions as a result of COVID-19, a one off date change will be permitted free of charge. For any changes not associated with COVID-19, please refer to the Schedule of Fees.

- Please note: Date change requests need to be made at least 14 days prior to the original date of travel. Date changes within 14 days are subject to availability and not guaranteed.

Please note: all additional charges are payable direct to your Travel Consultant in AUD (unless otherwise stated).

OFFER ESSENTIALS

Travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 30th of March 2023.

This travel offer is priced for one person based on twin share.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers, a mandatory single supplement of \$460 applies.

Travel Period

1 November 2022 - 30 April 2023

Please note: See checkout for live dates and

availability.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation Used

4 Star (self-rated)

- Te Anau: Te Anau Lodge

No Star Rating

- Luxmore Hut: Department of Conservation Hut (bunk bed accommodation with share facilities)

- Iris Burn Hut: Department of Conservation Hut (bunk bed accommodation with share facilities)

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type, and are subject to availability based on seasonality. Properties will be confirmed, no later than two weeks prior to travel.

Extra Nights

Extra nights are subject to availability and requested and booked directly with the land operator after purchase with TripADeal.

Maximum Room Capacity

3 people (subject to availability - please check with TripADeal prior to booking).

Child Policy

- No child discounts. Full price applies for all children travelling with their parents.

- Valid for Children 12 years old and over.

Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors allowed.

Triple Share

No discounts apply for 3rd person travelling. Full price applies, subject to availability.

Please note: Triple shares may be required to share existing bedding.

Bedding Configuration

Te Anau Accommodation

2 x Single or 1 x Queen (subject to availability).

Kepler Track (Department of Conservation Huts)

Single Bunk Beds in shared Unisex Rooms

Adjoining / Interconnecting Rooms

Subject to availability and at the hotels discretion. Please enquire on booking if you require this option.

GENERAL TOUR INFORMATION

Optional Upgrade

Premium-quality equipment gear hire - \$250 per person

Please note: the optional premium-quality equipment gear hire is available and comes with: pack + pack cover, pack liner, sleeping bag + liner, inflatable pillow, rain jacket + pants, cooking/eating utensils, first aid kit, thermos, headlamp.

Optional Tours / Activities

Day 5: Jetboat pick up from Cosy Nook/ Shallow Bay to Rainbow Reach Carpark - \$145 NZD per person

Prices are based on per person, are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions and paid directly to the land operator.

EXCLUSIONS

- Meals/beverages not stated in the itinerary
- Optional gratuities/tipping
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Airport transfers
- Travel insurance (Mandatory)

Please note: A comprehensive travel Insurance policy must be organised BEFORE all details can be finalised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

KEPLER TRACK

Climate and Weather

- The environments surrounding the Fiordland are renowned for climatic extremes, so regardless of the season, it pays to be prepared for a range of weather conditions. The best hiking begins in spring (September to November in the Southern Hemisphere) when vast fields of the famous Mount Cook buttercup (*Ranunculus lyallii*) are in full flower. Spring temperature averages range from 9C (48F) - 17C (62F).

- The summer months of December, January and February bring the highest temperatures



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

on the trail, averaging 10C (50F) - 18C (64F) and reaching a maximum of 28C (82F). In spite of this, cold snaps can occur at any time and low temperatures can fall below 0C (32F), so don't forget to pack your warm gear. February is generally the driest month of the year with an average of only nine rainy days.

- Late autumn (April and May) can be characterised by the first snow fall on the mountains, with average temperatures sitting between 8C (46F) - 16C (61F).

- Regardless of the season, the rivers and rainforests of the Kepler Track are nourished by some impressive rainfall, averaging around 7m (23ft) per year. Far from discouraging, this precipitation can bring with it some incredible spectacles in the form of rivers and waterfalls. But that's not to say it rains every day on the Kepler - warm, golden sunshine is also a common mood of these mountains, bringing stunning alpine views and pleasant hiking conditions.

Food

Food provided for your hike are high quality, lightweight, easy to prepare meals packed full of nutrition with dietary requirements catered for. In Te Anau and Glenorchy breakfast is included.

Luggage

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings during the walking tour. Guests carry their own pack containing personal clothing and sleeping bag.

What to Bring

- The optional premium-quality equipment gear hire takes care of all of the key elements you need for your Great Walk, but you do still need to bring your clothing, personal effects such as medication, cameras, any night time entertainment etc.

- This is recommended and comes with: pack + pack cover, pack liner, sleeping bag + liner, inflatable pillow, rain jacket + pants, cooking/eating utensils, first aid kit, inflatable pillow, thermos, headlamp.

See all suggested items to bring below:

- Pack with large waterproof/plastic liner
- Boots should be comfortable and well broken in

- Drink bottle minimum 1 liter capacity it's important to drink regularly during the day

- Eating and cooking utensils knife fork spoon can opener plate cup pot pan or billy and cleaning kit

- Extra socks underwear shirt or lightweight jersey

- First aid kit insect repellent sunscreen blister kits pain relief antiseptic cream assorted bandages

- Jeans heavy wool and cotton clothing are left behind

- Matches or lighter in waterproof container

- Mid-layers wool or polar fleece

- Optional extras camera lightweight shoes for in hut ear plugs for communal bunkrooms you will be sharing huts with up to 40 trampers

- Over trousers wind and water proof

- Personal equipment

- Raincoat waterproof windproof with hood

- expect at least one rainy day and to need a change of clothes just in case of a river crossing or rainstorm

- Shirt wool or polypropylene

- Shorts quick dry material

- Sleeping bag good quality down or hollow fill

- Socks wool or polypropylene are best

- Survival kit survival blanket whistle paper permanent marker bright colored ribbon pencil high energy snack food

- Toiletries soap toothpaste small towel Please remember not to wash or use soap or detergents in lakes or streams

- Torch/flashlight and spare batteries

- Under layers top and bottom merino wool or polypropylene

- Warm hat and gloves sunhat and sunglasses

- You will need at least one set of clothes to walk in preferably Merino as it absorb moisture stays warm when damp and doesn't give you that 'trampers scent' Also take another dry set of clothing to change into at night It is not possible to dry clothes in the huts to take clothes and towels that dry quickly and are light even when damp

CAR TRANSFER SERVICE

How It Works

Easyhike will collect the vehicle from the car park at the start of the track and drive it to the finish of the track before the mutually pre-arranged deadline. Your clients will be supplied with a mini steel lockbox with a combination to attach to their car. The car key is secured in the lockbox and left with the car for our driver to collect and stow in the same location at the other end.

Vehicle Condition & Breakdowns

In the interest of health and safety of our drivers, we reserve the right to refuse to move any vehicles without drivers airbags. The vehicle to be transferred must be road legal, mechanically sound and safe to drive complete with drivers airbags. There must be jumper leads, sufficient oil, water and fuel provided for the vehicle transfer. If the vehicle is older than 20 years old or doesn't travel on the open road comfortably at 100k/h, Easyhike reserves the right to charge a surcharge. Please advise this at the time of booking, along with any specific quirks that effects the operation of the vehicle. Easyhike takes no responsibility in the case of a vehicle breakdown and all reasonable costs incurred in keeping the vehicle safe (i.e.. On road assistance and/or towing the vehicle) will be met by the customer. If the vehicles battery is flat and it won't start upon collection, Easyhike reserves the right to charge a breakdown/service fee (between \$100 - \$350) to get the vehicle started. This breakdown/service fee also applies for flat tyres and other issues which may cause delay. Easyhike takes no responsibility for costs associated with windscreen damage, flat tyres or starting a battery with jumper leads

Accidents & Incidents

If an accident or incident occurs through no fault of Easyhike or the Easyhike driver, the customer is liable to pay all costs including the insurance excess.

Rental Cars

Easyhike will add an additional driver to the rental agreement for insurance purposes. If there are fees associated with adding additional drivers, this is a cost to the customer and the rental agency will charge the customer's credit card on file.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Campervans

Easyhike takes no responsibility for damage to appliances or articles stored in campervans or mobile homes. It is the customers responsibility to ensure these are all secured for transport. Easyhike will take all due care to ensure there is no damage, but the transfer may involve travel along unsealed roads where items may move if not properly secured. A small surcharge applies for relocating Sleeper/ Campervans. This is due to the fact that they are often slower on the open road than standard vehicles.

Private Vehicles

It is the customers responsibility to notify their insurance company regarding additional drivers (usually this will not be required). All Easyhike drivers are over 25 years of age with a full drivers licence and driver details will be provided by Easyhike if required by the insurance company.

Key Transfer

Easyhike takes all due care required to keep vehicle keys safe and will provide either a lockable key transfer option at both end of the track or with an authorised third party to hold until required by the customer. If this lock box is not returned after the relocation, Easyhike reserves the right to charge a \$100 replacement fee.

Fuel

Vehicles must be full of fuel prior to the relocation.

Start Times & Vehicle Delivery

- Schedules and drivers are planned around the start and finish times indicated at the time of booking. If the customer commences their walk after the specified start time and our driver is required to wait, Easyhike reserves the right to charge an administration fee to cover the drivers time.

- Likewise, Easyhike will the very best to deliver the vehicle before the indicated deadline time, however sometimes due to circumstances outside our control (i.e mechanical issue, road closure) there may be a delay. In this circumstance, Easyhike will do its very best to get a message to the customer with further information.

OTHER

Fitness Level Required / Mobility

Please note: A good level of fitness is needed to walk the Kepler Track and you should make sure it suits your abilities. At a minimum you need to be able to walk 5-7 hours a day up to 21km, carrying a backpack weighing 10-15kgs. By starting at Brod Bay, your first day will largely be uphill as it is a gradual climb up to Luxmore Hut, which gets the hard part out the way first, but either direction is equally rewarding. If you have any concerns please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

• Changes - \$100.00 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

• If the incorrect name has been advised to TripADeal, charges of \$100.00 per booking + any additional charges applied by the airline/ cruise company/accommodation/other travel providers.

Supplier Fees

In the event the Travel Offer you have purchased is unable to proceed, and/ or a travel Supplier is unable to fulfil the Travel Offer due to external circumstances (Limitation of Liability e.g. a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our Suppliers and is unrecoverable. This may be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins or unrecoverable payments with our land/accommodation partners. TripADeal has committed to these costs as your Agent and will endeavour to recover all funds committed and/or paid for your Travel Offer, but this may not be possible in all circumstances. If refunds are not available from Suppliers, we will endeavour to obtain a travel credit on the best terms available and communicate these

outcomes to you. In the event, TripADeal is unable to obtain a refund or travel service credit, or part thereof, this cost is passed on to the customer as a Supplier Fee. This fee is not revenue-raising and is paid to or withheld by our suppliers when recovering payments.