

The Green Gourmet Journey through the South Island provides an opportunity to explore and indulge in New Zealand's best food and wine regions, whilst enjoying local fare and a high standard of cuisine at specially chosen accommodations along the way. Our lodges offer you with an insider's view of local wine and food providers. Blenheim is New Zealand's best known wine region, the home of sauvignon blanc. Oamaru is a hidden food-lovers delight, full of small artisan producers and wonderful pioneers such as Fleur's at Moeraki. Pass through Central Otago's wine areas, staying at an historic inn, near Queenstown, the Gibbston Valley is famous for its pinot noir and Arrowtown's chefs are passionate about sharing their wild local produce, orchard fruits and game meats.



At a glance

Duration: 12 days, 11 nights

Connection points:
Blenheim airport or Inter Islander ferry
Queenstown airport

Activity level: easy

Best season: year-round

Driving times

Blenheim-Christchurch 4 hours
Christchurch-Oamaru 3 hours
Oamaru-Ophir 1 1/4 hours
Ophir-Arrowtown 1 1/4 hours

Indicative Price from \$6,001

Price is for accommodation only and excludes meals, ground or air transport unless stated. [Contact one of our Travel Agents](#) or use [My Holiday](#) to contact the operators and book direct.



GREEN GOURMET SOUTH

Sauvignon to Pinot

SOUTH ISLAND





Day 1 - Blenheim, Marlborough

Stay [The Peppertree](#)

You can join this journey by flying into Blenheim airport or by taking the Interislander Ferry from Wellington. The Peppertree is a gracious Edwardian Villa, nestled quietly amid the world famous Marlborough wine region surrounded by ten acres of farmland, a vineyard, olive groves and beautiful gardens.

Day 2 - Blenheim, Marlborough

Do [Marlborough Tour Company | Marlborough Wine & Gourmet Tours](#)

Stay [The Peppertree](#)

This gourmet wine and food tour is designed for those who have a real interest in wines and gourmet foods. Each of the stops has been specifically designed with an emphasis on wine appreciation, wine and food matching, or wine education and viticulture, and you get to meet great people who know wine and love sharing their passion.

Day 3 - Blenheim, Marlborough

Do [Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre | Aviation Museum & Biplane Joyrides](#)

Stay [The Peppertree](#)

Spend the afternoon exploring the beautiful Marlborough Sounds or cycling round the vineyards. Stop at Omaka Aviation Heritage Centre to marvel at Peter Jackson's personal collection of World War I planes and the amazing lifelike scenes done by Weta Workshops.

For the thrill seekers, you can actually fly one of these bi-planes!

Day 4 - Christchurch

Stay [The George](#)

The 2 hour drive today is magnificent; from Blenheim down the Kaikoura Coast to Christchurch. In Kaikoura break for lunch at Cafe Encounter on The Esplanade.

Day 5 - Christchurch

Stay [The George](#)

Take time to explore the new city centre, with the cardboard cathedral and container shopping precinct.

The George boasts one of Christchurch's best restaurants.

Day 6 - Oamaru, North Otago

Do [Te Ana Maori Rock Art Centre | Maori Rock Art Tours](#)

Stay [Pen-y-bryn Lodge](#)

It is an easy 3 hour drive from Christchurch to Oamaru.

As you come through Timaru, stop at the Te Ana Ngai Tahu Rock Art Centre for a personalised tour and a Maori Cultural experience.

Pen-y-bryn Lodge is high on a hill above the old town. The lodge gives you an insight into what New Zealand would have been like in the early days of the colony, with its billiard room and extensive formal living areas. Your hosts are superb chefs and you should endeavour to eat here most nights of your stay.

Day 7 - Oamaru, North Otago

Do [Oamaru Blue Penguin Colony | Blue Penguin Viewing & Walks](#)

Stay [Pen-y-bryn Lodge](#)

Spend an enjoyable day discovering the food and wine artisans of the Waitaki district. Do not miss lunch at Fleur's seafood restaurant close to the famous Moeraki boulders - cuisine straight from the sea to plate.

This evening take in the blue penguin tour.

Day 8 - Ophir, Central Otago

Stay [Pitches Store](#)

The drive from Oamaru to Ophir will take just over 2 hours, passing through some very different Otago landscapes.

Day 9 - Ophir, Central Otago

Do [Appellation Wine Tours | Winery Tour Central Otago](#)

Stay [Pitches Store](#)

Enjoy Central Otago's wines on a private wine tour.

Day 10 - Arrowtown, Queenstown

Stay [Arrowtown House Boutique Hotel](#)

It is a 1 hour 15 minute drive between Ophir and your accommodation in the Arrowtown. Arrowtown is a quaint historic centre with some of New Zealand's best restaurants. Ask your hosts to book dinner tonight.

Day 11 - Arrowtown, Queenstown

Stay [Arrowtown House Boutique Hotel](#)

Queenstown is just an hour away so explore Lake Wakatipu and the Gibbston Valley, take the gondola or hike to the top of Ben Lomand for fantastic views. Pick one of Queenstown's fine restaurants for dinner.

Day 12 - Journey's End

Queenstown airport has multiple connections with other New Zealand destinations as well as some direct flights from Australian cities. Alternatively you can continue south or across to Dunedin or Christchurch.