

This is an active trip including mountain biking and hiking. Raw countryside yet with reminders of the terrain that the Early Settlers encountered on arrival in New Zealand.

Clean air, wide open spaces and an active holiday.



### At a glance

**Duration:** 10 days, 9 nights

**Connection points:**  
Christchurch or Dunedin airport  
Invercargill airport

**Activity level:** active

**Best season:** November-April

### Indicative Price from \$4,703

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.

### Driving times

Christchurch - Oamaru: 3 hours  
Oamaru - Dunedin: 1 1/2 hour  
Dunedin - Te Anau: 3 1/2 hours  
Te Anau - Invercargill: 2 hour

SOUTHERN EXPLORER

Body & soul



SOUTH ISLAND



**Day 1 - Oamaru, North Otago**

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

Starting in either Christchurch or Dunedin, head to the historic town of Oamaru with its distinctive white stone buildings. A gourmet centre with excellent restaurants, farmers market and the home of Whitestone Cheeses.

Pen-y-bryn is a fine historic mansion with many original pieces of furniture and a grand dining room in which to enjoy James' excellent cuisine.

**Day 2 - Oamaru, North Otago**

Do [Vertical Ventures | Alps2Ocean Cycle Trail & Heli-Bike](#)

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

The Alps to Ocean bike ride is part of New Zealand's new bike trail. Fully supported and guided adventures or rent the bikes and all the equipment you need to go exploring independently. Cruise the beaches at Kakanui or head down Dansey's pass, it's all out there to be done.

**Day 3 - Dunedin, Otago**

Stay [Fletcher Lodge](#)

A relaxed day today gives you time to explore the Otago Peninsula with its penguin and albatross colonies or to stop for lunch at Fleurs seafood restaurant by the Moeraki Boulders.

Fletcher Lodge is easy walking distance to the Octagon and the restaurants in Dunedin. Another beautiful historic house you will feel in touch with New Zealand's heritage.

#### **Day 4 - Dunedin, Otago**

**Do** [Dunedin Railways | Taieri Gorge & Seaside Trains](#)

**Stay** [Fletcher Lodge](#)

Take a historic train journey along the Taieri Gorge and learn about early settler history in this rugged terrain.

#### **Day 5 - Te Anau, Fiordland**

**Stay** [Dock Bay Lodge](#)

The drive across Central Otago takes you through the wine and fruit growing areas via Alexandra, the Kawarau Gorge and Queenstown for lunch. Te Anau is two hours further south and your accommodation has magnificent mountains views across Lake Te Anau and the golf course.

#### **Day 6 - Te Anau, Fiordland**

**Do** [Mitre Peak Cruises | Milford Sound Day Cruise](#)

**Stay** [Dock Bay Lodge](#)

Experience Milford Sound and the majesty of this steep-sided valley with a an afternoon cruise and a tour round the underwater observatory.

#### **Day 7 - Te Anau, Fiordland**

**Stay** [Dock Bay Lodge](#)

Spend your day exploring one of the many hiking trails around Te Anau - the Kepler Track, the Routeburn or a hike around the lakefront to the Department of Conservation bird sanctuary.

#### **Day 8 - Oban, Stewart Island**

**Do** [Stewart Island Flights | Stewart Island Flights](#)

**Stay** [Sails Ashore Lodge & Ulva Island Trip](#)

Two hours drive south and you reach Invercargill and your short flight over to Stewart Island. Stewart Island Air not only fly from the mainland, they also operate flights within Stewart Island and Masons Bay is one of the only places you can have a daytime kiwi encounter.

#### **Day 9 - Oban, Stewart Island**

**Stay** [Sails Ashore Lodge & Ulva Island Trip](#)

Join your hosts for a guided walk and water taxi ride to see some of Stewart Island's beautiful remote countryside and birds on Ulva Island.

#### **Day 10 - Journey's End**

On arriving back at Invercargill Airport you can connect to the domestic flight network.