Fox Glacier Guiding
Fox Glacier, West Coast
Glacier Walks & Heli-Hikes

The Fox Glacier is the West Coast's longest glacier. It starts at around 2,600m (8,500 ft) plunging some 12 km down to the coast, one of the few glaciers to end among lush rainforest only 300 metres (980 ft) above sea level. Guiding on Fox Glacier has attracted visitors to the West Coast for almost 100 years. In 1928 the Fox Hotel, first offered guided trips onto the glacier.

Fox Glacier Guiding offer a premier guiding experience and a full range of trips to suit all fitness levels, budgets and timeframes, whilst ensuring the highest level of safety management and service. The company has been owned since 1974 by mountaineer and founding member of the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association, Mike Browne. All Fox Glacier Guiding's guides are either qualified or in training for Glacier Guides certification, through the internationally recognised New Zealand Mountain Guides association(NZMGA).

Whilst the company has grown and evolved and now employs some 60 staff, it hasn't lost that 'family' feel. Experience their friendliness and hospitality for yourself. Matching clients with suitable trips is a company specialty.

The town of Fox has a wonderful village feel and also benefits from exceptional views of Mt Cook, the views along Cook Flat Road are some of the best of New Zealand's highest mountain.

Flying Fox - Heli Hike

The fly-in, fly-out helihike combines the excitement of walking on the Fox Glacier with the thrill of helicopter flights. By flying in you are able to access and explore a part of the glacier where its forces work hardest and often create spectacular ice caves and arches. Your landing site on the ice is a remote and exceptionally beautiful part of the glacier. You follow the ice steps cut by your guide as you explore the amazing formations and ice caves which are only seen here.

Departs 07:50 to 2:50 approx hourly | Duration 4 hours

Fox it up - Heli Ice Climbing

This day long experience introduces the adventurous to the exhilarating sport of ice climbing, on the spectacular ice walls in the upper part of the Fox Glacier. Your professional guide will tailor the day to offer variety and challenge to the novice and expert alike. Before heading to the ice you will be equipped with specialised mountaineering boots, crampons, ice axes and technical gear. During your thrilling return helicopter transfers to the ice you will enjoy breathtaking views of the magestic Fox Glacier and surrounds.

Departs 8am | Duration 7-8 hours

Fox Trail - Terminal Face and Ice Walk

This is an informative and leisurely trip to the dynamic face of the glacier which is suitable for children from 5 years. It is here that the Fox River emerges from the ice and where ice collapses are often heard and seen. This trip is for people with limited time or for those who would find the walks onto the glacier too strenuous. Although you will not walk on the glacier your guide will take you to the final resting place of the ice that has travelled 12 kilometres from the base of the Southern Alps, all the way to the river valley floor. Your guide may take you closer to the ice than the unguided public (if it is safe to do so at the time) and you will have the opportunity to learn the role of the Fox Glacier in shaping its environment.

Departs 09:10am (year-round) or 4:50pm (summer) and 2.20pm (winter) | Duration 2 hours

Price: $59 to $499

Directions

All trips depart from our base on State Highway 6 in Fox Glacier township.

Terms

CHILD POLICY Heli-hike 9 years or older, Ice climbing 13 years or older

CANCELLATION 24 hours 100% | Full refund if trip is cancelled by the operator for any reason

SEASON Open year round

Contacts

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Contact: Bookings

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Accommodation in this area

- Mahitahi Lodge
- Wilderness Lodge Lake Moeraki