

# Road to MILFORD SOUND

The Milford Road offers a spectacular journey from Te Anau to Milford Sound through the heart of Fiordland National Park. Experience magnificent scenery as you follow this alpine highway, and for those self-driving on a more leisurely itinerary, you may wish to stop at the following points of interest.

- 1 Lake Mistletoe:**  
Enjoy an easy walk through regenerating beech forest to a small glacial lake. Suitable for all ages, it's a perfect spot for a family picnic (45 minutes return).
- 2 Te Anau Downs:**  
The departure point for Milford Track walkers and a great spot for viewing the Murchison Mountains.
- 3 Eglinton Valley:**  
This beautiful valley is glaciated with steep sides and a flat floor. It's between half a kilometre to two kilometres wide and has a shingle riverbed floor which is constantly being changed by the Eglinton River.
- 4 Mirror Lakes:**  
Take a short walk along a boardwalk through native forest to the beautiful Mirror Lakes. On a calm day the lakes give perfect reflections of the Earl Mountains that lay behind them (10 minutes).
- 5 Knobs Flat:**  
Interpretation panels show the effect of avalanches on the Milford Road and provide information on the wildlife of the Eglinton Valley. Visitor amenities include toilets and a telephone (card payment only).
- 6 Lake Gunn:**  
This easy loop track takes you through red beech forest to the shores of Lake Gunn. A variety of mosses and native birds can usually be seen. Wheelchair accessible (45 minutes).
- 7 The Divide:**  
This is the lowest east-west pass in the Southern Alps (531 metres) and marks the start of the Routeburn, Caples and Greenstone Tracks.
- 8 Key Summit:**  
The track starts at The Divide carpark and follows the Routeburn Track for about an hour. It then branches off with a 20 minute climb through native forest, then over open ground past alpine lakes and shrub land to the top for spectacular views of the Hollyford, Greenstone and Eglinton Valleys (3 hours return).
- 9 Hollyford Valley Lookout (Pop's View):**  
This lookout spot provides spectacular roadside views down the Hollyford Valley.
- 10 Lower Hollyford Road:**  
The Hollyford Road turn-off leads to Lake Marian walking track, Gunns Camp, Humboldt Falls and the Hollyford Track.
- 11 Lake Marian:**  
The carpark is one kilometre down the Hollyford Road. Cross the swing bridge into the Marian Valley and ascend through beech forest to this beautiful alpine lake situated in a hanging valley (3 hours return).
- 12 Monkey Creek:**  
Take in great views of the upper Hollyford Valley while you fill up your water bottle from this glacier fed spring. Friendly keas love this area so it's a great stop for some kea spotting.
- 13 Homer Tunnel:**  
At an altitude of 945 metres above sea level and 1.2 kilometres in length, the unlined road tunnel allows access through sheer rock to Milford Sound with a gradient of 1 in 10. Completed in 1953, traffic lights control traffic flows through the tunnel and can create delays.
- 14 The Chasm:**  
Dramatic views of a rock chasm and waterfalls formed by the rushing waters of the Cleddau River. This is an easy walk along a well maintained trail (20 minutes return).

## Tips for Travellers

- ▶ The drive to Milford Sound takes about 2 hours 30 minutes from Te Anau and 5 hours from Queenstown. This does not allow for photo stops
- ▶ Allow for possible delays at the Homer Tunnel of up to 20 minutes
- ▶ There are no fuel stations between Te Anau and Milford Sound so fill up before you go
- ▶ Bring warm and waterproof layers of clothes so you can best enjoy the short walks and your Milford Sound cruise
- ▶ Please do not feed birds as this is harmful to their survival
- ▶ There is no cell phone coverage along the Milford Road or in Milford Sound
- ▶ Snow chains must be carried during the months of May to November

## Multi-Lingual Commentary App

- ▶ Download the app prior to your journey and be entertained by our multi-lingual commentary. Simply scan the QR code or search for 'Southern Discoveries' in the Apple or Google Play stores.
- ▶ The App is available in the following languages: English, Chinese (Simplified), French, German, Japanese, Korean (South Korean), Portugese and Spanish.



SCAN ME



Front



# Milford Sound

# CRUISE

# MAP

Tasman Sea

Anita Bay

Dale Point

Seal Rock

Stirling Falls

Fairy Falls

Copper Point

Hanging Garden

Four Sisters

Mitre Peak

Underwater Observatory

Harrison Cove

Bowen Falls

Sinbad Gully

Deepwater Basin

D Discover More Cruise

N Nature Cruise

Extended cruise route (weather permitting)

K Kayaking route

Milford Sound Visitor Terminal

## Discover Milford Sound Café & Information Centre

Don't forget to visit one of New Zealand's most beautifully-located cafés for the best barista coffee, snacks and souvenirs in Milford Sound. We can also help with all your cruise and activity bookings.

**Open hours**  
Summer: 8.00am – 4.30pm  
Winter: 9.00am – 4.00pm

## Milford Sound Parking

Car parking in Milford Sound costs \$10 per hour.

You can prepay prior to your arrival.

Visit [stellar.org.nz/payments](https://stellar.org.nz/payments).

Visit [milfordsoundtourism.nz](https://milfordsoundtourism.nz) for more information.

## Milford Sound Short Walks

- Milford Sound Foreshore Walk:**  
A wooden boardwalk takes you to the edge of the fiord offering uninterrupted views of Mitre Peak. This is a looped walking track with information panels along the way (20 mins).
- Milford Sound Viewpoint Walk:**  
The walk starts off near the main car park, by the historic grave of Donald Sutherland, a Scottish immigrant who was the first European to make Milford Sound his home. Further up the track you will find a fantastic viewpoint overlooking the fiord and the village of Milford Sound (15 mins).
- Milford Sound Walkway:**  
This short walk, starting at the main car park, takes visitors to the Milford Sound Visitor Terminal to check in for their cruise. Along the way there are a number of viewpoints and information boards (10 mins one way).
- Breakwater Walkway:**  
Walk along the breakwater to take in a different perspective of the fiord and the Milford Harbour (5 mins).

Airport

Toilets

Telephone

Walking track

Road

Photo opportunity

Parking

Milford Sound Visitor Terminal

Freshwater Basin

The Insta-famous Milford Swing

Milford Sound Airport

Discover Milford Sound Café & Info Centre

To Te Anau

To Deep Water Basin

Milford Sound Lodge



southern discoveries

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Back

74171 Southern Discoveries - Milford Sound Map A4 Presentation

10 October 2023 | Page 2 of 2

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