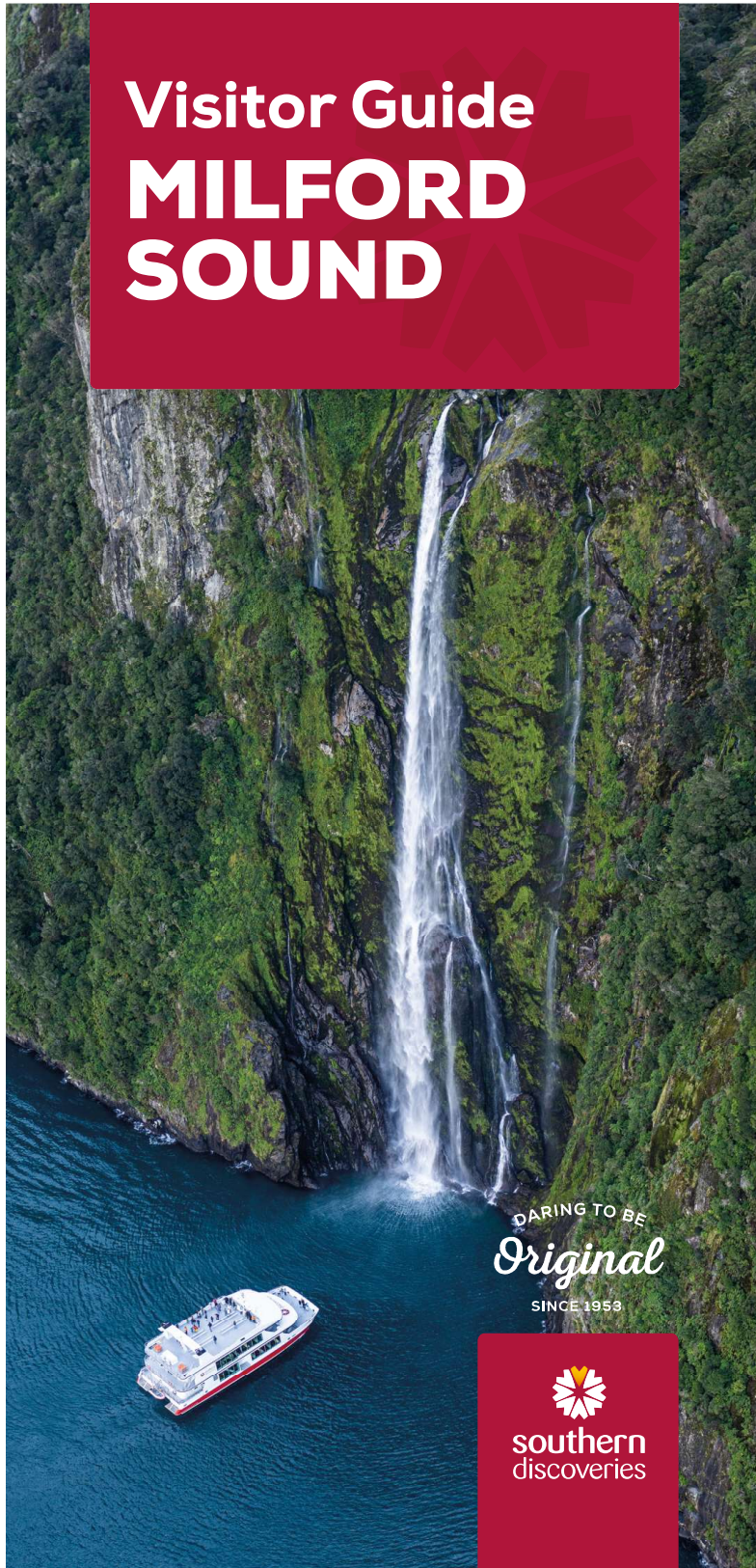


Visitor Guide **MILFORD SOUND**



DARING TO BE
Original
SINCE 1953



southern
discoveries

The Milford Sound *Originals.*

Southern Discoveries' story began in 1953, not long after the Homer Tunnel opened and road access to Milford Sound began. Since then, we've taken great pride in sharing the wonder of this remarkable place with visitors from every corner of the globe.

Originally known as the "Milford Sound Red Boats," we were the first cruise operator to welcome visitors to this magnificent fiord. For over 70 years, our family has shared Milford Sound's wonders with the world, building deep connections and an intimate knowledge of this unique and precious landscape. Throughout our time in Milford Sound we have maintained a commitment to authentic and considered experiences that honour this World Heritage landscape.

Why choose us?

Southern Discoveries is Milford Sound's *Original* Cruise Operator.



More than 70 years of experience in Fiordland.



Experience 11kms of the world-renowned Milford Track.



Milford Sound's most modern fleet of vessels and coaches for extra comfort and less environmental impact.



Free Multi-Lingual commentary app.



Purpose-built sightseeing boats for the fiord; view spectacular waterfalls and towering cliff faces.



A passionate guiding team always on the lookout for *kekeno*/seals, *aihe*/dolphins, or even the rare *tawaki*/Fiordland Crested Penguin.



A Department of Conservation approved mammal viewing operator.

Did you know?

A percentage of each ticket is provided to the Department of Conservation.

How to get to Milford Sound

There are several ways to reach Milford Sound for your cruise experience, each offering its own perspective of Fiordland's stunning landscape.

 **By Coach**

 **Most Popular**

Let our expert drivers navigate the stunning bush and alpine roads while you soak in breathtaking sights. The road from Te Anau to Milford Sound (State Highway 94) is consistently ranked among the world's most scenic drives. Our coaches depart daily from Queenstown (5 hours one-way) and Te Anau (2 hours one-way).

 **Self-Drive**

If you choose to drive yourself, allow extra time for plenty of stops along this unforgettable journey. The road to Milford Sound is one of New Zealand's highest highways, so make sure you check weather conditions before you depart. Prepare for narrow, winding roads climbing to 1270 metres at the Homer Tunnel. Te Anau is your last option for a fuel stop.

 **By Air**

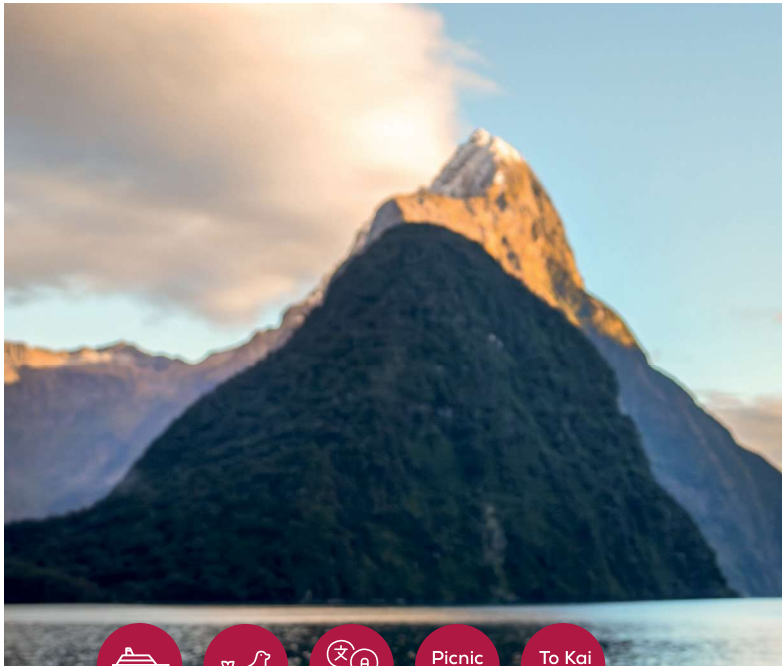
There's nothing quite like Fiordland's grandeur from above. Flights to Milford Sound depart from Queenstown and Wanaka and land at Milford Sound Airport. From the airport, it's an easy 20-minute walk to the Milford Cruise Terminal. A Milford Sound scenic flight by light plane or helicopter reveals staggering views of the Southern Alps and its many hidden glaciers, alpine lakes, waterfalls and beech forests.



Download our FREE Multi-Lingual Commentary App available for our experiences.



 **SCAN ME**



Milford Sound Nature Cruise

Experience the majesty of Milford Sound with our signature cruise of New Zealand's most famous fiord.

Your journey begins at the historic Bowen Falls, continuing past the iconic Mitre Peak, where sheer rock faces plunge dramatically into deep waters. Feel the spray of the 15,000-year-old Stirling Falls cascading from ancient rainforest high above.

At Copper Point, watch for New Zealand fur seals lounging on rocky outcrops, while bottlenose dolphins are often seen swimming in the vessel's wake. You may even spot the rare Fiordland crested penguin.

With spacious outdoor decks and comfortable indoor viewing areas, you can choose your perfect vantage point to soak in the sights while onboard commentary reveals the secrets of this remarkable ecosystem. The Nature Cruise comes with the option to include a return coach transfer from Queenstown or Te Anau.

Upgrade your experience to our Captain's VIP Lounge

\$109 per person

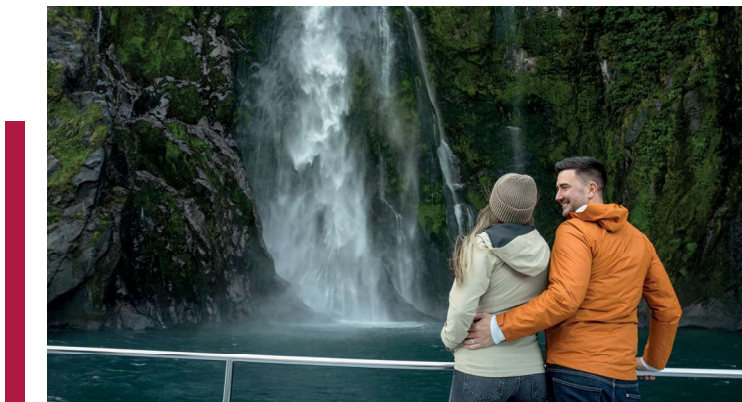
- Enjoy priority boarding, exclusive seating for up to 20 in the Captain's VIP Lounge, private deck access and complimentary food and beverages

*Available on select cruises



- ▶ Purpose-built cruise vessel to get you close to the famous sights like Stirling Falls and Bowen Falls
- ▶ Sail with the original Milford Sound operators with commentary sharing insights about the fiord's formation, conservation efforts and wildlife behaviour
- ▶ Spacious outdoor decks for incredible views and comfortable indoor cabins with panoramic windows
- ▶ Download the free multilingual app for commentary in many language options
- ▶ Choose to add a delicious fresh picnic lunch or our famous To Kai buffet lunch

Up to 2 hrs





Discover More Cruise

Take your time to truly discover Milford Sound on our longest, most immersive cruise experience.

This extended two-hour journey features an expert onboard Nature Guide, who will accompany you throughout the cruise, sharing fascinating insights about the fiord's ancient formation, unique ecosystem, and the wildlife that calls this pristine wilderness home. Perfect for those who want to delve deeper into Milford Sound's natural wonders, this relaxed-pace cruise allows you to fully absorb the majesty of towering waterfalls, dramatic cliff faces, and the incredible wildlife encounters that make this World Heritage destination so extraordinary.

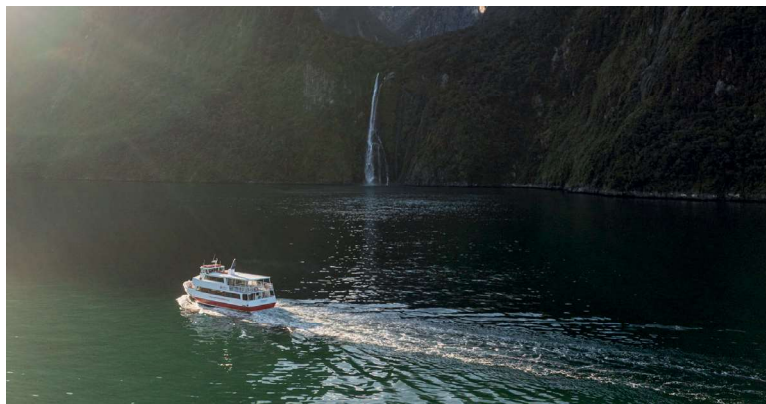
With over two hours on the water, you'll have ample time to capture memories and connect with one of nature's most spectacular creations.

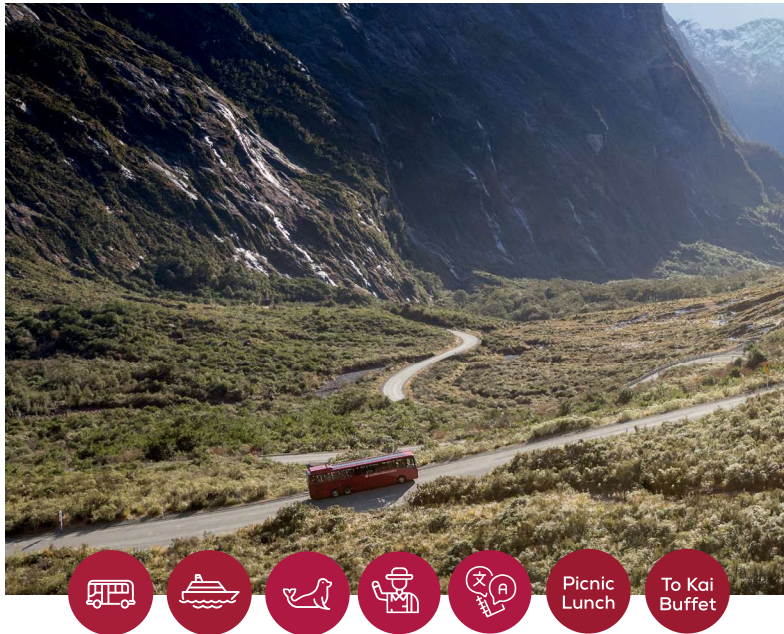




- ▶ Travel with a knowledgeable onboard guide who brings Milford Sound's stories to life, from geological formation to wildlife viewing
- ▶ Our longest cruise gives you over two hours to fully immerse yourself in the fiord's grandeur at a relaxed, unhurried pace
- ▶ Spot fur seals, dolphins, and perhaps the rare Fiordland crested penguin with expert guidance on their habits and habitats
- ▶ Download the free multilingual app for commentary in many language options
- ▶ Combine with a coach transfer from Queenstown or Te Anau, which will also include commentary
- ▶ Option to add a freshly prepared picnic lunch to your cruise when booking

Up to 2 hrs 15 mins





Milford Sound Coach & Cruise

Add our premium coach transport to your Nature Cruise or Discover More Cruise experience.

If you'd rather keep your eyes on the scenery instead of the road, leave the driving to us. Choose to include return coach transport from Queenstown or Te Anau. Our premium coaches feature glass roofs for incredible panoramic views of lakes, mountains, forests and valleys along the way.

Your driver guide will reveal the fascinating stories behind every mountain peak and hidden valley as you journey through this World Heritage wilderness in complete comfort. Discover how ancient glaciers carved these dramatic landscapes, marvel at the dense Fiordland beech forest and learn about the remarkable engineering feat that is the Homer Tunnel. From your premium coach seat, the journey will be as memorable as your destination.



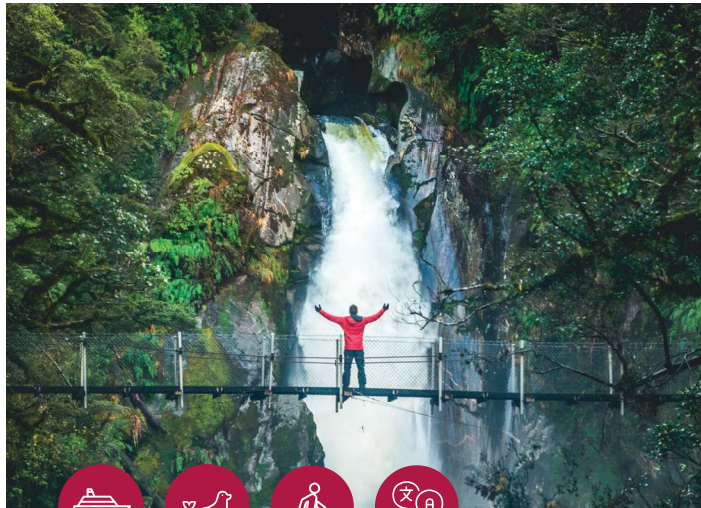


- ▶ Premium coaches with a glass roof and large, panoramic windows
- ▶ Learn about geological formations, local wildlife, and cultural history with onboard commentary
- ▶ Visit famous scenic stops like Mirror Lakes and Homer Tunnel, with time to explore
- ▶ Daily services from both Queenstown (5 hours) and Te Anau (2 hours) with comfortable, modern facilities
- ▶ Coach transfers meet with the Nature Cruise or Discover More Cruise at the Milford Sound Cruise Terminal
- ▶ No mountain driving, no parking hassles, just pure enjoyment of New Zealand's most scenic route
- ▶ Option to add a fresh picnic lunch or the To Kai buffet lunch

Up to 12 hrs 30 mins for a Coach & Nature Cruise

Up to 13 hrs 30 mins for a Coach & Discover More Cruise





Milford Sound Cruise + Milford Track Walk

The ultimate Fiordland combination. Walk a section of the world-famous Milford Track—one of New Zealand's Great Walks—then take a cruise on the dramatic fiord all in one day.

This incredible Fiordland adventure combines the best of land and sea, allowing you to experience the pristine rainforest, crystal-clear streams, and thundering waterfalls that define this World Heritage wilderness. Available October through June, this remarkable day out showcases why Fiordland captivates visitors from around the globe, offering both active adventure and scenic relaxation in one seamless experience.

- ▶ Walk the Milford Track: experience 11km of one of the world's finest walks through pristine rainforest to spectacular Giant Gate Falls
- ▶ Premium Milford Sound cruise: get up close to towering waterfalls, spot wildlife, and sail to the length of the fiord aboard our purpose-built sightseeing vessel
- ▶ Flexible adventure options. Choose to walk first or cruise first, the choice is yours
- ▶ Option to include return coach transfer from Te Anau
- ▶ All logistics handled, from boat transfers to Sandfly Point to guided commentary throughout your cruise, including access to the free multilingual commentary app
- ▶ Available during the Great Walks season (October to June)
- ▶ Option to add a picnic lunch

Up to 7hrs

Queenstown Wine Tour



An intimate wine tour through Central Otago's renowned Gibbston Valley

Step beyond Milford Sound and enjoy a sophisticated 5-hour journey introducing you to passionate winemakers and their world-class wines in a small, intimate group. Visit carefully selected boutique cellar doors, including Brennan Wines, Waitiri Creek, Chard Farm and Nockie's Palette, where the dramatic Central Otago landscape isn't just scenery—it's what makes these wines extraordinary. With personal introductions to cellar door hosts, pre-arranged reservations, and a relaxed pace, this tour offers true wine enthusiasts an authentic taste of New Zealand's most celebrated wine region.

- Visit four renowned Gibbston Valley wineries, each chosen for their exceptional wines and unique character
- Hear from the cellar door hosts and learn why Central Otago is world-famous for Pinot Noir and other distinctive varieties
- Journey in comfort aboard a Mercedes Sprinter with Wi-Fi and friendly local driver-guide
- A small, sophisticated tour perfect for true wine enthusiasts seeking authentic cellar door encounters
- Enjoy a delicious light platter lunch along the way
- Daily departures from central Queenstown with all winery reservations managed for you

Up to 5hrs

Where to find us?



Milford Sound

- Milford Sound Visitor Centre
In the Milford Sound Cruise Terminal
- Discover Milford Sound
Information Centre & Café
State Highway 94, Milford Sound

Queenstown

- Queenstown Visitor Centre
St Omer Wharf, 110 Beach Street
- Discover Queenstown
Information Centre
Top of the Mall, 38 Ballarat Street

Te Anau

- Fiordland isite Visitor Centre
80 Lakefront Drive



Download the FREE Southern Discoveries app for access to multilingual commentary available on cruise and coach experiences.



A SCAN ME

Reservations and enquiries

☎ Freephone: 0800 264 536
International: +64 3 441 1137

@ southerndiscoveries.co.nz
reservations@southerndiscoveries.co.nz



Booking conditions apply, see our website for details.