

WALKING & HIKING

Destination Queenstown

Travel Trade Training



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WALKS & HIKES IN QUEENSTOWN

Queenstown is renowned for its awe-inspiring panoramas and dramatic landscapes, inviting visitors to explore and reconnect with nature.

Situated near three of New Zealand's Great Walks, Queenstown also offers a variety of beautiful short walks, day hikes, and multi-day adventures for all skill levels. Just a 10-minute journey from the vibrant town center leads to stunning hillsides where the region's natural beauty truly shines.

To enhance the hiking experience, plan your Queenstown adventure with local services that provide track transport, hiking equipment hire, and guided hikes led by knowledgeable experts. These local guides share insights about the flora, fauna, and geological features, making each trek even more enriching. Whether seeking a peaceful stroll or a challenging hike, Queenstown has something for everyone, ensuring unforgettable memories amidst breathtaking scenery.



Queenstown
NEW ZEALAND

SHORT & HALF DAY WALKS



Short walks in Queenstown offer a chance to stretch your legs, even with just a couple of hours to spare, featuring lakeside ambles and steeper hillside ascents, many accessible from downtown.

Popular options include the **Queenstown Hill Time Walk**, a 2-hour return offering 360-degree views and the 'Basket of Dreams' sculpture; the **Arrowtown River Trail**, a 1-hour family-friendly loop; the **Tiki Trail**, a quick ascent up Bob's Peak; and the **Glenorchy Lagoon Walkway**, a leisurely 1-hour loop.

For those with more time, half-day guided walks provide deeper exploration of the region's nature and wildlife.

FULL DAY WALKS



Full-day walks in Queenstown offer options for independent hikes or fully-guided experiences. A guided walk is ideal for those who prefer exploring with a knowledgeable local or want safety while navigating challenging alpine terrain.

Popular full-day hikes include **Ben Lomond**, a 6-8 hour return hike with breathtaking views; the **Gibbston River Trail**, a 3-5 hour scenic walk with detours to nearby wineries; or walk a section of the **Routeburn Track**, starting from Glenorchy, just a 45-minute drive from Queenstown. Each hike features diverse landscapes of native forests, rivers, waterfalls, lakes, and mountains.

MULTI-DAY WALKS



In the heart of the South, Queenstown's stunning landscape features lakes, mountains, and rivers, with access to three Great Walks: Milford, Kepler, and Routeburn Tracks. Multi-day hikes allow for an immersive experience in the region's untouched wilderness.

Iconic multi-day hikes include the **Greenstone & Caples Tracks** (51 km, 4 days), forming a loop through valleys and beech forests; the **Rees-Dart Track** (63 km, 4-5 days), linking the Rees and Dart Valleys in Mt Aspiring National Park; and the **Hollyford Track**, a 3-day all-inclusive wilderness experience bookable through the Department of Conservation.

GREAT WALKS



Queenstown provides access to three renowned Great Walks: Milford, Kepler, and Routeburn Tracks. The walking season runs from late October to April, with ideal hiking conditions in March and April for those avoiding summer crowds.

The **Milford Track** (54 km, 4 days) is celebrated for its glacier-carved valleys and rainforest, featuring stunning views from Mackinnon Pass. The **Routeburn Track** (32 km, 2-4 days) links Mt Aspiring and Fiordland National Parks, while the **Kepler Track** (60 km, 3-4 days) offers breathtaking ridgeline views above Lake Te Anau. Opt for a guided walk, bookable via local Queenstown companies.

HELI HIKING



Another exciting option for accessing complete backcountry and off-the-beaten-track wilderness is to enjoy a heli-hike. This thrilling adventure allows exploration of remote areas that are otherwise difficult to reach, making it a trip of a lifetime. Heli-hiking can include breathtaking glacier hikes, where visitors walk on ancient ice formations, and ascents to backcountry mountain peaks that offer stunning panoramic views. Some experiences even feature overnight wilderness camping, providing a chance to immerse oneself in nature under the stars. A heli-hike is truly a bucket-list experience that combines breathtaking scenery with unforgettable adventure.

Queenstown
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AMENITIES & SERVICES

Track Transport – If you’re planning a multi-day hike or tackling a Great Walk in Queenstown, it’s wise to arrange track transport to drop you at the start and pick you up at the end. This way, you can enjoy your hiking adventure without worrying about parking your car or being stranded.

Hiking Equipment Hire – Don’t have your own hiking gear? No problem. Queenstown offers a selection of outdoor equipment rental options for visitors, including boots, poles, clothing, and tents. Most outdoor shops also sell essentials like cooking gear, gas canisters, insect repellent, hydration packs, and water bottles.

The Department of Conservation – There’s an office right in the center of town. Your clients can visit DOC for additional information and support on track transport and equipment hire, helping anyone looking to book Queenstown for their next hiking adventure.



WALKING & HIKING

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HIKING INFORMATION

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Explore Queenstown on foot, with trails for every boot size

One of the most rewarding ways to experience this corner of the globe is on foot, whether you're planning a morning stroll or multi-day adventure. Queenstown is near to three of New Zealand's [Great Walks](#), two national parks and a stunning collection of [short walks](#), [day walks](#), and [multi-day hikes](#). Explore our collection of the best walks in Queenstown, alongside transport, gear suppliers, accommodation and guided tours to help you make the most of our natural paradise.

Before heading out on your outdoor adventure, visit the Queenstown [Department of Conservation](#) for up-to-date information on mountain safety and track conditions, and the [Mountain Safety Council](#) for practical tips and planning advice.

For more information on hiking tracks and activities in the lower South Island, visit the [Fiordland](#) website.

STAY IN THE KNOW WITH TRADE



TRADE NEWSLETTER

[Sign up and stay up to date](#) with seasonal updates on the latest news in Queenstown, New Zealand to share with your clients.



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