

EAT AND DRINK

Queenstown and Wānaka Travel Trade Training



Wānaka



Queenstown
NEW ZEALAND

DINING

Queenstown and Wānaka are renowned worldwide for their exceptional food and wine, offering more than 150 restaurants, cafés, and bars across both towns. From high-end fine dining and contemporary New Zealand fare to famous burger joints, creative food trucks, and family-friendly favourites, there is something to suit every taste and budget.

Menus across the region celebrate seasonal, locally sourced produce with garden-to-plate dining, and creative cuisine led by passionate chefs. In Queenstown, the cosmopolitan dining scene offers international flavours from Japanese to Mexican alongside locally inspired dishes, while Wānaka brings a boutique scale with intimate eateries, award-winning fine dining, contemporary international cuisine, and casual eateries.

Both destinations showcase award-winning Central Otago Pinot Noir, complemented by craft breweries and boutique distilleries. Every dining experience reflects the landscapes, people, and stories of the region, ensuring unforgettable flavours at every turn.



CAFÉS AND DAYTIME EATS

The café culture in Queenstown and Wānaka is as vibrant as their alpine landscapes. Visitors can enjoy expertly crafted barista coffee, freshly baked treats, and seasonal menus that celebrate locally sourced ingredients. From hearty brunches to cabinet food on the go, there are options for every appetite.

In Queenstown, stylish cafés and daytime eats line the streets and lakeside, serving everything from award-winning pies to vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options. Wānaka offers a relaxed pace, with artisanal cafés and a lively food truck scene that serves international flavours with every dish. Both towns also feature local bakeries and delis, perfect for picnic supplies or casual lakeside dining.

Cosy cafés provide warmth and comfort through winter, while summer brings al fresco dining on sun-drenched terraces and lakefront spots. Whether seeking a leisurely brunch or quick fuel before an adventure, the café culture here ensures a warm welcome and a true taste of the region.



PUBS, BARS AND APRÈS

Queenstown and Wānaka both offer exceptional places to unwind, from classic après spots to character-filled pubs and vibrant late-night venues. In Queenstown, après can mean fireside mulled wine in winter, relaxed wine bars, or late-night dancing in hidden laneway clubs. The town offers a wide range of venues, from cocktail lounges and live-music pubs to breweries pouring local ales and bars serving fine wines.

Wānaka's scene is more intimate, with boutique bars, lakeside pubs, and craft breweries at its heart. The iconic Cardrona Hotel and Cardrona Distillery add depth to the region's hospitality offering as welcoming alpine pubs and tasting venues.

Both destinations showcase locally brewed beer, Central Otago wine, and creative cocktails, ensuring something for every style of traveller. Whether your clients seek lively nightlife or relaxed lakeside sessions, après in Queenstown and Wānaka always deliver.



Wānaka

Queenstown

NEW ZEALAND

WINERIES

GIBBSTON

Just 25 minutes from Queenstown, Gibbston is home to some of Central Otago's oldest and most acclaimed vineyards. Known as the "Valley of the Vines," the area is world-famous for its award-winning Pinot Noir, with cellar doors and vineyard restaurants set among dramatic schist mountains. Clients can explore Gibbston on guided wine tours by shuttle, e-bike, or private vehicle, many of which include a visit to the region's famous wine cave. Trade-friendly packages make it easy to curate seamless experiences for all travellers.

WĀNAKA

Wānaka's wine scene is boutique, scenic, and warmly welcome. Small-scale wineries often invite visitors to taste alongside the winemakers themselves, with every glass reflecting the cool-climate terroir and mountain-lake setting. Alongside tastings, cultural wine tours add rich storytelling, connecting visitors to the land and people who shape each vintage. With fewer but highly distinctive wineries, Wānaka offers a relaxed, authentic wine experience that pairs perfectly with the town's intimate, community-driven charm.

