

FOOD & DRINK

Destination Queenstown
Travel Trade Training



Queenstown
NEW ZEALAND

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CENTRAL OTAGO WINE REGION



Queenstown
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QUEENSTOWN MAP



This map shows the proximity of Queenstown to various surrounding regions.

Glenorchy, bordering a World Heritage Area, is a 45-minute drive away, while Arrowtown is just 25-minutes from Queenstown.

Gibbston, the ‘Valley of the Vines’ is 25-minutes from Queenstown and boasts several world-renowned Central Otago wineries.

Queenstown’s vibrant town centre boasts over 150 bars, restaurants and cafes. Whether you’re craving a world-famous burger, a paddock to plate feast or seasonal local produce, there’s plenty to choose from.

EXPLORING GIBBSTON

Gibbston, known as the Valley of the Vines, boasts some of the region's oldest vineyards nestled amid stunning schist mountains.

Just a 25-minute drive from downtown Queenstown, this heart of Central Otago wine country features numerous wineries, restaurants, pubs, and charming accommodations, including lodges, historic cottages, and cozy B&Bs.

Renowned for its award-winning pinot noir, Gibbston offers a range of cellar doors for tastings from Central Otago's six sub-regions. Enjoy delicious food at various restaurants and pubs that provide inviting al fresco dining experiences.

Explore the area by hopping on a shuttle, biking through the vineyards, or joining a guided wine tour—there are countless ways to savor the local terroir, along with plenty of other attractions to discover.





TRANSPORT

The Queenstown Trail

A fantastic option for cyclists, the Queenstown Trail winds through Gibbston, offering one of the most scenic ways to explore. The Gibbston River Trail begins at Kawarau Bridge and meanders past several cellar doors and attractions. Ride from Queenstown (6-8 hours/40kms), Arrowtown (2-3 hours/13kms), or start at Gibbston Valley Winery and ride the valley.

Gibbston Valley Shuttle

This convenient shuttle bus runs 2–3 times daily from downtown Queenstown to Gibbston Valley Winery, a hub for bike hire and local products.

Hop-on Hop Off Shuttle

Departing Queenstown at various times, these shuttles provide a fun, flexible way to explore wineries. You can hop off at various stops to begin your self-guided tour.

Self-drive

Designate a driver, pick up a wine map, and enjoy a personalised tour with highlights like historic Arrowtown and Chard Farm winery.

WINE TOURS



Discover why Queenstown and Central Otago are renowned for some of the world's best Pinot Noir on a winery tour.

Choose from a variety of guided tours, including popular group trips and private experiences tailored to your tastes.

Many wineries offer diverse selections, ensuring every wine lover finds something delightful. Explore Gibbston's vineyards on a bike, enjoy a shuttle tour, or opt for a helicopter tour for a unique experience.

Don't miss Queenstown's historic wine cave and visit local food and wine stores for a wide selection of vintages to take home.

GIBBSTON VALLEY WINE



Located just 25 minutes from Queenstown, Gibbston Valley Winery boasts New Zealand's largest wine cave and some of the region's oldest vineyards. Discover the evolving winemaking story shaped by innovative individuals who care for the soil, vines, and surrounding ecosystem. Experience a tasting in the stunning wine cave, watch the winemakers at work, and learn about the art of wine and cheese pairing. Visit the cellar door for a relaxed tasting of premium, handcrafted wines, and browse the Cheesery & Deli for local handmade products and gifts, or enjoy a leisurely lunch featuring seasonal, locally sourced produce at the winery restaurant.

KINROSS WINERY & CELLAR DOOR



Welcome to a corner of paradise at Kinross, where five world-class local wineries are proudly represented. Visitors can experience unique tastings of different winemakers' expressions from Gibbston to Central Otago, each showcasing its own complexities and stories.

Wine partners—Coal Pit, Hawkshead, Valli, and Wild Irishman—are steps away and range from boutique family businesses to renowned classics, offering new wines to explore each year. Internationally qualified wine advisors add to the experience with insights into flavors and stories behind the brands. Guests are invited to visit the cellar door and relax amidst the beauty of Central Otago!

MORA WINES & ARTISAN KITCHEN



Mora Wines and the team at Artisan share a commitment to delivering exceptional wine and food experiences.

Mora believes that the land is essential in producing premium Central Otago wines, while Artisan focuses on using the finest sustainable ingredients from around New Zealand's South Island. The Artisan kitchen prides itself on handcrafted cuisine made from scratch and emphasising local seasonality. Dishes are designed to be comforting and social, perfectly paired with the purity of Mora Wines for a memorable dining experience. Enjoy the beautiful garden setting and historic cottage for coffee, breakfast, or shared lunches.

MT ROSA



Nestled within the vines in Gibbston, Mt Rose is a cellar door and restaurant, offering a unique and elevated setting, perfect for spending an hour or an afternoon.

At the Cellar Door, the tasting experience is celebrated as much as the quality of the wine, with every visitor warmly welcomed from the moment of arrival. Guests can enjoy a guided tasting of over five varietals, all grown onsite at the vineyard.

The winemaking philosophy emphasises passing on the land in pristine condition, adopting a hands-off approach to allow the vines and wines to authentically reflect their environment

CHARD FARM



Chard Farm is a family-owned winery located just 25-minutes from Queenstown, established in 1987 as one of Central Otago's pioneering vineyards. With five estate-owned vineyards in the Cromwell and Gibbston regions, Chard Farm specialises in exceptional Single Vineyard pinot noirs, showcasing the unique terroir of the area.

The winemaking philosophy emphasises creating interesting wines to be enjoyed alongside delicious food and engaging conversation. Each bottle invites exploration, and every sip an opportunity to discover the complexity and character that define Central Otago's renowned winemaking tradition.

AMISFIELD



Established in 1988, Amisfield is a renowned Central Otago producer of exceptional Pinot Noir and aromatic white wines.

The Bistro features the signature ‘Trust the Chef’ menu, a celebrated shared dining experience crafted by award-winning chef Vaughn Mabee. Lunch and dinner showcase a multi-course degustation menu that highlights local and seasonal produce, promising an exciting exploration of the region’s flavors.

Guests can indulge their love of fine wine at the Cellar Door as passionate staff guide them through the intricate flavors of Central Otago, creating a memorable culinary experience.

RESTAURANTS

Queenstown is renowned worldwide for its exceptional food and wine scene, boasting over 150 bars, restaurants, and cafés that offer extraordinary culinary experiences. Whatever you're in the mood for, you'll savor the flavors of local produce crafted and served up by passionate, talented chefs.

Diners are truly spoiled for choice, with a diverse range of cuisines available—from famous burgers joints and delicious ethnic dishes to contemporary New Zealand fare and seasonal garden-to-plate feasts. Quick bites for those on the go and vegetarian and vegan options ensure everyone finds something to enjoy.

Early diners can stake out a spot at a lakeside bistro, or for a foodie adventure, embark on a vintage steamship cruise for a BBQ feast at a high-country station, or discover fine dining tucked away from the main streets.

Families will appreciate fast, friendly eateries as well as hearty meals after a day of adventure.

In cosmopolitan Queenstown, there's something to satisfy every palate and mood, making dining a memorable part of the experience.



CAFÉ SCENE

Nothing beats a lazy breakfast or brunch when on holiday, and Queenstown is home to a delightful array of stylish cafés.

Whether it's a leisurely brunch or quick bite, Queenstown's café scene offers expertly crafted barista coffee, refreshing drinks, and beautifully presented cabinet food alongside light meals that cater to every palate.

In winter, cafés provide a cozy respite from the cold, inviting guests to relax and take their time. When summer arrives, diners can enjoy al fresco meals in sun-drenched courtyards or at scenic lakefront spots.

Queenstown's food culture increasingly emphasises local and seasonal produce, ensuring a taste of the land with each dish. Visitors can pack a picnic basket with treats from local bakeries, grab an award-winning pie to fuel a day of adventure, or take a break from shopping and sightseeing.

Wholesome, tasty food highlights local and free-range ingredients at many cafes at restaurants around Queenstown, making every meal a pleasure. With spectacular views and a warm welcome, Queenstown's cafés create an inviting atmosphere for unforgettable dining experiences.



PUBS & BARS

Queenstown offers a vibrant array of local owned and international bars and pubs, ensuring something unique for everyone, whether you're after a local brew, Central Otago pinot noir, or a fancy cocktail.

Experience the legendary nightlife by exploring the town's lively bars and nightclubs. In the colder months, cozy up next to a roaring fire for après ski or embark on a bar-hopping adventure through Central Queenstown, where hidden laneways reveal unique venues. Many bars and clubs feature live music from talented cover bands or visiting DJs, making it easy to dance the night away.

During warmer months, guests can dine alfresco, sit lakeside, and soak in stunning views while sipping on crafted cocktails.

Queenstown's bars and clubs frequently offer happy hours and drink specials throughout the week, making it an ideal spot for a night out.

Whether seeking a lively atmosphere or a laid-back experience, Queenstown's nightlife caters to every preference, ensuring memorable evenings for all visitors.



LOCAL DELI & FARM SHOPS

When visiting Queenstown, if you're after a true taste of the region, a stop at Royalburn is a must. An old shed in Arrowtown has been transformed into a charming farm shop, connecting visitors directly with local food sources. This small yet vibrant space is filled with fresh produce, meats, charcuterie, free-range eggs, and artisanal goods, perfect for assembling beautiful meals or picnics, as well as culinary gifts like premium wool blankets.

Back in town, Raeward offers a delightful experience, sourcing fresh fruit, vegetables, meats, and cooking essentials from local markets, featuring a full-service deli and a bustling café that celebrates local quality.

And don't miss the Gibbston Valley Cheesery, nestled in Gibbston Valley Winery, where knowledgeable staff provide samples and custom cheese cuts in a cozy tasting area. Fully stocked with Whitestone Cheeses and local delicacies such as cold meats, chutneys, and honey, the cheesery also hosts daily tours and tastings, highlighting the exquisite pairing of wine and cheese while celebrating the connection between land, craft, and exceptional products.





Edit



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EAT & DRINK

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The best places to eat and drink in Queenstown

When it comes to places to eat and drink in Queenstown, you are spoilt for choice. Take your tastebuds on a tour of local produce brought to life by culinary creators, with a flavour for every appetite. From hatted restaurants and award-winning Central Otago pinot noir, to world-famous burger joints, crafty pubs and conscious cafes, here's your guide to the best places to eat and drink in Queenstown.

Bon appétit!



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