

WWT25-0802 - Tour Itinerary

Offering the Best of the West Coast – Wild, Wonderful, and Adventurous!

On this tour, we start by exploring the new Kawatiri Cycle Trail! Then, we head to the West Coast Wilderness Trail, biking through breathtaking scenery, from wild coastlines to lush rainforests. Enjoy beautiful sweeping downhill trails, cycle along historic waterways, pass by waterfalls, and ride through stunning backcountry tracks. Plus, we sneak in a thrilling treetop adventure among the giants of the West Coast rainforest.

Day 1: Christchurch - Arthur's Pass – Greymouth (TranzAlpine train optional)

Begin your journey to the West Coast with the option to take the TranzAlpine Express through Arthur's Pass to Greymouth (optional; [more info](#)). Otherwise, we meet you in Christchurch between 9:30 am and 10:00 am.

On our way over the Southern Alps, we take time to explore Arthur's Pass National Park, known for its spectacular winding gorge roads and stunning mountain views. We enjoy lunch at a café in Arthur's Pass Village (not included) and stretch our legs on a short nature walk in breathtaking alpine scenery.

We continue to the coastal town of Greymouth, where we meet the participants who took the train. Upon arrival in Greymouth, we have the chance to visit the Pounamu Pathway Experience Centre (optional), where you can step into Māori legends, ancient trade routes, and the history of Pounamu (Greenstone) through immersive exhibits designed by Wētā Workshop. This engaging centre brings to life the stories of explorers, guardians, and pioneers of the West Coast in a unique and memorable way.

We will be based in Greymouth for our first two nights. We celebrate our first evening together with a welcome drink (included) in our accommodation before we explore the local Speight's Ale House for our first dinner (not included).

Accommodation: Greymouth – Hotel

Meals: no meals included today

Day 2: Cycle the Kawatiri Trail

In the morning, we collect our bikes and drive to Westport (~ 100 km), the starting point of the Kawatiri Cycle Trail. This new trail stretches between

the eastern mountains and the western coastline, offering stunning views of the majestic Paparoa Mountain Range.

When completed, the 42 km journey covers eight gentle sections, traversing diverse landscapes and providing a memorable cycling experience. Currently, five consecutive sections, totaling 28 km, are open between Westport and Ōkari Lagoon. We cycle these completed sections back and forth, or if the trail is fully completed, we ride the entire route.

In the evening, we return to Greymouth and head out for dinner (not included).

Cycling: ca 4-6 hours / 56 km, easy

Accommodation: Greymouth – Hotel

Meals: B, L, S

Day 3: Cycle Greymouth – Kawhaka Intake, Evening Hot Tub

Today, we embark on our first cycling day along the West Coast Wilderness Trail. Starting from the historic Greymouth Railway Station, we ride alongside the mighty Grey River and pass a bustling port before reaching the rugged Tasman Sea. Following the coast south, we cycle behind sand dunes and along tidal lagoons until we cross the Taramakau River.

The trail then leads us through the historic Kumara bush rail tracks, winding through regenerating forests and new farmland toward the gold mining town of Kumara. From there, we continue to Kapitea Reservoir, passing handmade dams and crystal-clear mountain-water weirs on our way to today's final cycling stop at Kawhaka Intake.

Our van will then transfer us approximately 20 km to Hokitika, which will be our base for the next three nights.

In the evening, we relax and soothe our muscles in a wood-fired hot tub (included), surrounded by birdsong and the twinkling stars.

Cycling: ca 4-6 hours / 49 km, easy

Accommodation: Hokitika - Twin bed Cottages / ensuite

Meals: B, L, D, S

Day 4: Cycle Kawhaka Intake – Lake Kaniere - Hokitika

After a hearty breakfast, we hop back on our bikes for another exciting day of cycling. Today's ride is a bit more challenging, with a few short, steep

sections, but the scenery is well worth it! Around every corner, new surprises await as we pass remnants of the gold rush and follow old logging tramlines and water races up the Kawhaka Valley.

We soon descend through ancient podocarp forests, crossing a sweeping suspension bridge, before cycling through native bush to Cowboy Paradise (Milltown), a replica Wild West town. An easy, enjoyable descent follows, taking us through native bush and open paddocks to the Arahura River, where we soak in stunning valley views.

Continuing on, we arrive at Lake Kaniere, surrounded by towering Kahikatea trees and rich birdlife. From here, the trail winds through lush bush along an old water race, offering beautiful views of the Hokitika River as we make our way back to Hokitika.

Cycling: ca 4-6 hours / 50 km, moderate

Accommodation: Hokitika - Twin bed Cottages / ensuite

Meals: B, L, D, S

Day 5: Cycle Hokitika – Treetop Walk – Hokitika, Evening Boat Cruise

On our last day on the West Coast Wilderness Trail, we cycle from Hokitika to another highlight – the Treetop Walkway. Here, we get off the bikes and immerse ourselves in the forest from an exciting new perspective (included). For those feeling extra adventurous – and if time allows – you can add a thrilling zipline ride to your Treetop Experience. The West Coast Tower Zipline spans 425m, reaching speeds of over 60 km/h at a height of 45m (approximately 15 storeys), with a ride time of 40 seconds (additional cost applies).

After our treetop adventure, we hop back on our bikes. Instead of cycling the last straight and gorse-lined section of the official trail to Ross, which we find less scenic, we return to Hokitika via the beautiful bush trail, enjoying the views from a different angle.

In the evening, we explore the stunning West Coast lowland wetlands and Lake Mahinapua on an Eco Adventure Boat Cruise, departing at 7 pm (included). We enjoy the tranquil birdsong, stunning scenery, and picturesque Mahinapua waterways, capturing the essence of the region's history and natural wonders.

Cycling: ca 3-4 hours / 30 km, easy

Accommodation: Hokitika - Twin bed Cottages / ensuite

Meals: B, L, D, S

Day 6: Hokitika Gorge – Arthur’s Pass - Kura Tāwhiti - Christchurch

Before we leave the beautiful West Coast, we’ll make a stop at the breathtaking Hokitika Gorge (weather dependant), a picturesque haven where brilliant turquoise waters meet white limestone cliffs and lush rainforest. Accessible via an easy forest trail, this spot is a visual feast, showcasing nature's vibrant colour palette.

On our bus journey back across the Southern Alps we pass waterfalls and wild rivers and enjoy a break for lunch at Arthur’s Pass café (not included). We also make sure to stop at Castle Hill / Kura Tāwhiti Conservation Reserve, where we can wander among the majestic limestone rock formations. Our estimated arrival time in Christchurch is around 4 pm.

Meals: B

B-Breakfast L-Lunch D-Dinner S-Snack

Included in Tour

- Transport in minibus from/to Christchurch
- 1 day cycling on Kawatiri Trail – Westport/Cape Foulwind
- 3 days cycling on West Coast Wilderness Trail
- 4 days Ebike hire including helmet, rear carrier bag, drink bottle cage**
- 2 nights in hotel (twin room/ensuite bathroom)
- 3 nights in cottages (twin room/ensuite bathroom)
- All transfers from/to daily start/finish of cycle track
- 5x breakfast, 4x picnic lunch, 3x dinner, snacks
- Welcome drink first night
- Entrance Fee Treetop Walk
- Guided short nature walk Arthur’s Pass
- Visit Castle Hill / Kura Tawhiti conservation area
- Professional female guide/driver
- All access and concession fees
- Detailed map & track brochure

**Please note that the hire bikes do not come with a bell – if you want to bring your own, we are happy to attach it for you.

Optional

Pounamu Pathway Experience Centre in Greymouth

NZ\$37.88 Supergold Card (65+) cardholders only - proof may be required

NZ\$47.35 All other adults