

Lakes, Fiords & Mountains

Your optional activities in Fiordland

In Manapouri, we are dwarfed by the mountains looming all around us and are right on the edge of the wonderfully rugged and remote Fiordland National Park. On Day 3 of your tour you have a day off to do whatever you might still have on your bucket list – how about exploring either the world-famous Milford Sound or the serene Doubtful Sound on a day tour? Or maybe you would like to visit the Te Anau Glowworm Caves? We can help you pre-arrange any of those tours if you wish.

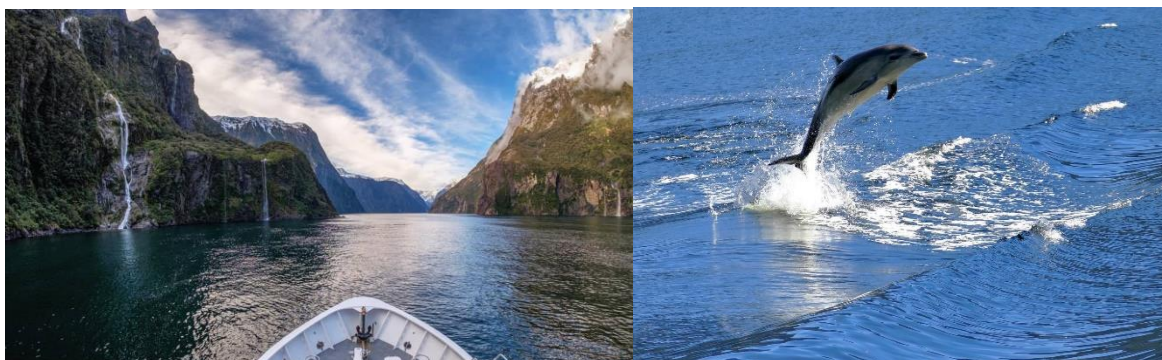
Maybe you feel like stretching your legs a bit after two days of cycling? If wandering along lake shores is not quite enough, how about walking part of one of Southlands' Great Walks? The Kepler Track to Rainbow Reach or Luxmore Hut is well worth considering. Another option for a hike is the Circle Track in Manapouri. Your guide can help with plenty of other suggestions and make any bookings from this plethora of optional activities.

Now international tourism is in full swing again, it pays to plan and book longer in advance. To make sure you don't miss out, we would like to book your optional activities as early as possible, so have included them in our tour booking form.

These are your options that require pre-booking:

- **Doubtful Sound Day Trip ex Manapouri**
- **Milford Sound Day Trip ex Te Anau**
- **Glowworm Caves ex Te Anau**
- **Water taxi to go on Kepler Track Day Walk ex Te Anau**
- **Water taxi to go on half-day Circle Track ex Manapouri**

Doubtful Sound Day Trip ex Manapouri



Experience the spectacular, remote wilderness of Doubtful Sound on our guided day trip. Journey across Lake Manapouri, over the breathtaking Wilmot Pass and into the heart of Fiordland National Park. This is a must-do for nature lovers and explorers alike.

- Duration: 7 hours
- Start with a cruise across Lake Manapouri, followed by a coach trip over the epic Wilmot Pass through Fiordland's rainforest and into the Sound
- A 3-hour cruise through the waterways of Doubtful Sound
- Cruise onboard the Patea Explorer (or similar ship)
- Commentary by a knowledgeable Skipper and Nature Guide
- Wildlife viewing, including dolphins, fur seals and even occasionally penguins
- Picnic lunches available for purchase from Manapouri Café
- Snacks and drinks available for purchase (cash only onboard)

Departure from Manapouri 10:30 am, return to Manapouri ~ 5:30 pm.

Operated by RealNZ

Price per person: \$389

Milford Sound Day Trip ex Te Anau



Travelling along Milford Road is one of the finest alpine drives in the world. The scenery is exceptional, ranging from broad grassy flats, dense rainforests, and towering mountains to glacial lakes and alpine herb fields.

About the trip:

RealNZ drivers have been selected for their knowledge of the Fiordland region and driving experience on Milford Road. They'll provide insightful and entertaining commentary along the way.

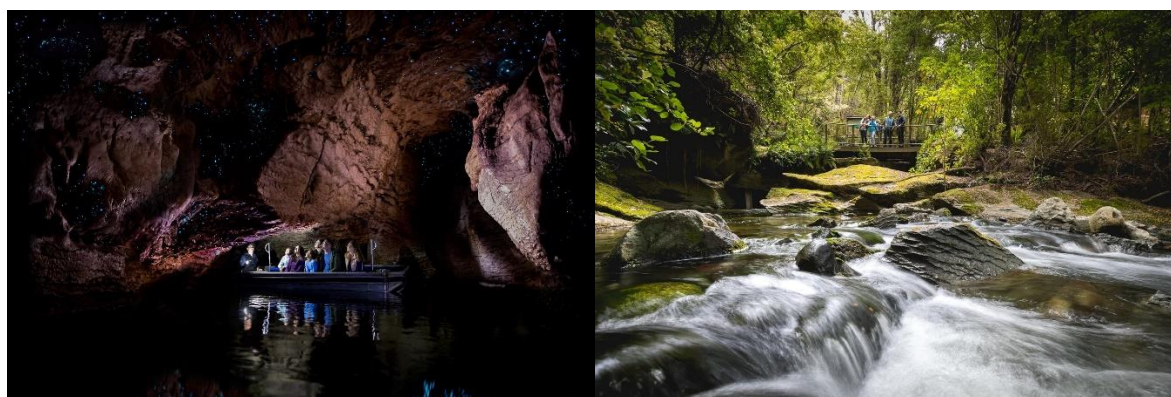
1. The schedule allows plenty of time for all the best photo stops
2. They have glass-roof coaches so you can be sure to see the magnitude of the mountains at all times!
3. When you get to Milford Sound itself, you'll take to the water and cruise in style on board the Milford Mariner or Milford Haven, a cruising bar and Café

**Departure from Te Anau 10:05 am, return to Te Anau 4:45 pm.
Operated by RealNZ**

Price per person: \$ 250*

*The price includes your transport from Manapouri to Te Anau and back.

Glowworm Caves ex Te Anau



Experience a mysterious underground world with a guided cave tour past the rushing water of an underground stream before drifting in silent darkness beneath the luminous shimmer of hundreds of glowworms.

Your trip to the Te Anau Glowworm Caves begins with a cruise to the western shores of Lake Te Anau on a purpose-built scenic cruise vessels.

At the entry to the caves at Cavern House, view the informative displays and learn about this geological wonder before you join your guide underground. On the tour of the caves, the friendly guides will point out the highlights and share their knowledge of the caves and its history.

This underground world is astonishingly beautiful. By geological standards, the caves are very young (12,000 years) and are still being carved out by the force of the river that flows through them. The result is a twisting network of limestone passages filled with sculpted rock, whirlpools and a roaring underground waterfall.

Deep inside the caves, beyond the roar of the water, you will be taken by small boat into a silent hidden grotto inhabited by hundreds of glowworms, unique to New Zealand. In the subterranean darkness, they produce a glittering display that is nothing short of extraordinary.

Includes return lake cruise and forest walk

Duration 2 hrs 15 mins

Departure from Te Anau 10:15 am, return to Te Anau 12:30 pm.

Operated by RealNZ

Price per person: \$ 149*

*The price includes your transport from Manapouri to Te Anau and back.

Water taxi to go on Kepler Track Day Walk ex Te Anau



**Access Te Anau's best day walk: Luxmore Summit Challenge
7-8 hrs / 26 km return / 928 m elevation change**

The Water Taxi departs Te Anau Lakefront, 09:45 am and 10:30 am

Price per person: \$50*

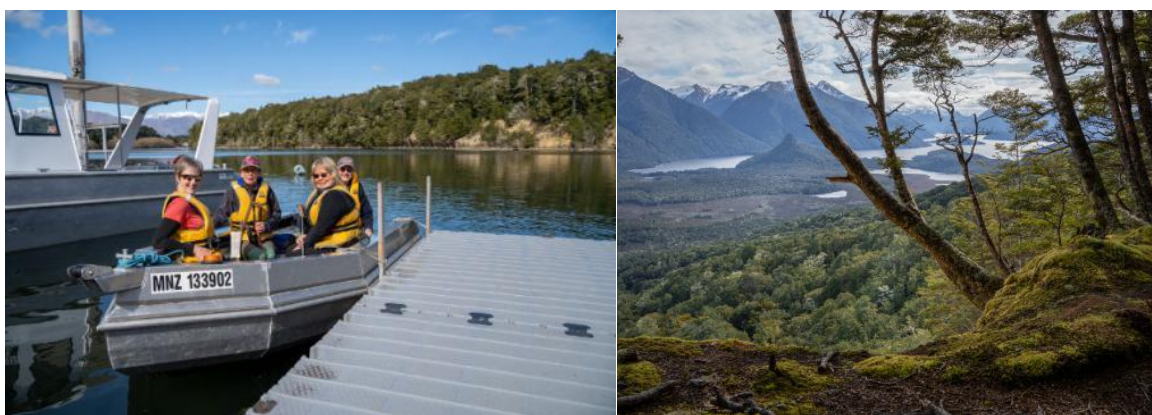
*The price includes your transport from Manapouri to Te Anau and back.

Please note:

The Luxmore Summit Walk on the Kepler Track is not 'a walk in the park'. Day 1 of the Kepler Track starts on the shores of Lake Te Anau. You will walk for about an hour and a half through the forest before reaching the Brod Bay campsite.

If you choose to take the water taxi - which we highly recommend - you will start your day's hike here at Brod Bay. The climb to Luxmore Hut from Brod Bay takes about 3-4 hours. It is a steep and steady climb and good fitness is required. Be prepared for wind and rain in an open alpine environment.

Water taxi to go on half-day Circle Track ex Manapouri



Access the picturesque half-day loop track via river taxi from Manapouri

3.5-4 hrs / 8 km / 360 m elevation change

The water taxi to cross the Waiau River departs Manapouri at 10 am and 11 am and returns at 3 pm and 4 pm, pre-bookings essential

Price per person: \$30 return trip

Please note:

The Circle Track is an 8km circular route, with a stunning viewpoint 300 meters up. It takes about 3.5 to 4 hours to walk (incl stops to enjoy the views, take photos and see the birdlife).

We recommend walking in a *clockwise* direction, which takes you up the steepest bit first. As a result you do need **medium to good fitness** to enjoy this walk. This way the climb is undertaken first to the viewpoint for lunch / drink and then when you descend there is a wonderful sandy beach where you can stop and enjoy the views over Lake Manapouri to the Cathedral Mountains. On a sunny day it's a perfect place for a swim.

Other options at no cost and with no need to pre-book:

- take your bike and cycle around Manapouri or back to Te Anau
- take your bike and cycle to the Manapouri end of the Kepler Track and enjoy a two to three-hour easy walk

Your tour guide can give you more info about your options.

Of course, you can also use the day to just relax and recharge!