## with Southern Crossings

Leading destination specialists Southern Crossings team up with All Blacks legend Richie McCaw



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## Southern Crossings CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS OF TRAVEL EXCELLENCE

hen Southern Crossings began in 1986, they saw the dramatic landscapes of New Zealand, Australia and the islands of the South Pacific as the perfect canvas to create personally designed holidays, catering to the most discerning travellers—an entirely new concept at the time.

34 wonderful years later, they continue to lead the way in luxury vacations to the Southern Hemisphere. Every holiday they design is tailor-made to each client to ensure a trip of a lifetime. It is this continual and relentless drive to provide an impeccable level of service and attention to detail that has earned Southern Crossings consistent praise from peers and clients alike.

Being recognised by the prestigious Virtuoso network as one of the Top 5 inbound travel companies in the world twice in the past four years and directors, Sarah Farag and Stuart Rigg's repeat inclusion in the coveted Condé Nast Traveler Top Traveller Specialists list for 2020 are clear indicators of this quality of service. But, it is their ability to exceed the expectations of even the most exacting of travellers that really sets Southern Crossings apart and keeps their clients coming back for more.





ew Zealand's leading travel expert won't tell you where to go or what to see - Sarah Farag listens, a quality that has been at the very foundation of Southern Crossings' success.

Celebrating their 34th Birthday in 2020, Southern Crossings have consistently dazzled dignitaries and delighted discerning travelers from around the globe (and from down the road) – and have never once repeated an itinerary. Each carefully crafted itinerary begins with a blank canvas to ensure every moment is individually designed to connect travelers with their personal passions and deliver the tailored experiences that memories are made of.

With a family history that she can trace back to the legendary Pink and White terraces in the pioneering days of tourism in New Zealand, Sarah was raised here by parents with an insatiable passion for globetrotting and now loves travelling the length and breadth of New Zealand with her own children at every opportunity.



It seems almost inevitable that Sarah would pursue a career in travel - but that was more than two decades ago, and she now leads the talented travel team at Southern Crossings, New Zealand's leading bespoke travel company.

Sarah shares her vast knowledge generously and insightfully. Her connections—both from within, and beyond, the travel industry—can open the doors that others can't and tailor personalized experiences others haven't even thought of. Her ability to listen, and her gift of being able to read clients' passions, enable her to incorporate thoughtful touches and personalized New Zealand





travel experiences that wow both first-time international visitors and life-long locals alike.

Spend anytime time with Sarah and her passion for travel, pride in her home country, her dedication to perfection and her ability to connect people are immediately clear – and clearly infectious! Sarah is surrounded by a team of equally dedicated and very talented travel designers, many of whom have worked together at Southern Crossings since its early beginnings – and to whom Sarah will very proudly attribute the company's success.



In fact, collaboration is at the heart of everything that Sarah and the team at Southern Crossings do. They listen, carefully and intuitively, to really understand clients' desires and travel aspirations. They collectively discuss each new travel request; sharing ideas, knowledge and perspectives; to curate individually tailored itineraries that benefit from the team's combined knowledge and connections. And they work closely with the inspirational locals from across New Zealand who bring clients' travel dreams to life. It is this team approach that also ensures every Southern Crossings moment is delivered with silky smooth attention to detail, almost as if they heard your requests before you even asked.

The following 17-day itinerary highlights this attention to detail. It is one Southern Crossings designed based on a typical UltraLuxe request. Their clients expect New Zealand's retreats to deliver on the global stage of luxury and anticipate to be blown away by the jaw-dropping scenery, but it is the surprise and delight they feel when encountering the Kiwi people that stays in their hearts long after they've left.

S O U T H E R N C R O S S I N G S



#### Day 1: Auckland - Mangawhai, check in to Te Arai Lodge

On arrival at Auckland International Airport you will be met airside by a representative of Southern Crossings who will hand over your New Zealand documentation, assist with Customs Clearance and luggage collection, and transfer you by private vehicle to your accommodation.

Enjoy the gentle journey north over the Auckland Harbour Bridge and up through the suburbs of Auckland's North Shore, each suburb seemingly with its own beach and collection of beachfront cafes and shops. Then take the scenic route along the coast through many small beachside holiday towns before arriving at your exclusive accommodation at Te Arai Lodge.





#### Day 2: Explore Mangawhai and Te Arai on foot

Enjoy a day of local hiking with your host of Te Arai Lodge and exploring the white sand surf beaches.

The Mangawhai and Te Arai regions boast a wide range of walks to meet every skill and fitness level. From short 20 minute walks with rewarding panoramic views over the inner estuary to more challenging cliff, bush and sand dune walks.

Take a strenuous hike up a range of waterfalls through native bush to an ancient Kauri dam or a more leisurely walk around the estuary or a stroll along some of the region's amazing white sandy beaches.

Ride the pristine Te Arai beach on our Trek 'fat tyre' bikes. This is a truly unique experience riding along 11km of untouched golden sand beaches. On your ride, you can climb the sand dunes, swim in the crystal clear ocean and explore the beautiful Mangawhai estuary often without another person in sight.

Enjoy swimming, surfing and a remote picnic location chosen by your host.



#### Day 3: Private sea charter to Cooper Residence at The Landing

Following breakfast, you will be met at your accommodation by private vehicle and driver and transferred to Marsden Point Marina for your onward journey by sea. Enjoy a privately chartered transfer aboard your luxury vessel to your accommodation in New Zealand's world famous Bay of Islands.

Enjoy a delicious lunch and well stocked galley onboard as well as preferred activities such as dolphin watching, fishing and snorkeling or diving as your cruise by the numerous islands en route to your accommodation, Cooper Residence at The Landing.

On arrival at The Landing you will be greeted with a Powhiri, as a traditional Maori welcome onto the property, steeped in indigenous and colonial history.

#### Day 4: Tour the property

This morning your hosts will take you on a private tour of The Landing to learn about the historical sites on the property including the remains of a Maori pa (fort) and an 1800's mission house, as well as early settlers' graves, historic trees and other points of interest. You will also learn about the historical significance of the Bay of Islands known as the birthplace of New Zealand. In 1840 a historic colonial treaty was signed at the far north settlement





of Waitangi, cementing the Bay of Islands' significance as the birthplace of modern New Zealand.

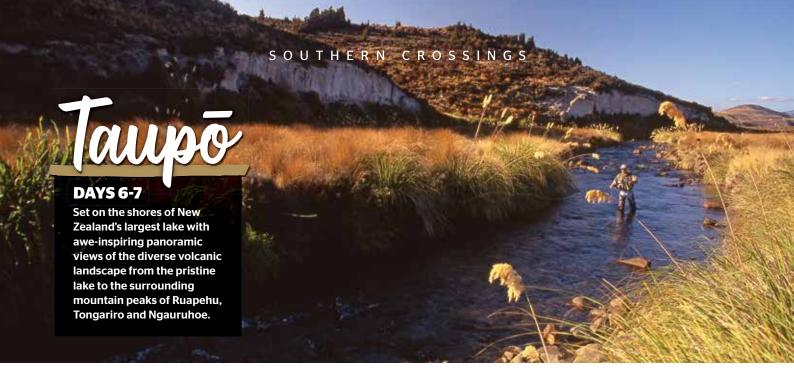
Late afternoon enjoy a private wine tasting at The Landing's impressive cellar. The Landing itself is blessed with some of the best grape-growing land in the region, with a vineyard producing award-wining wine, which is bottled on site under their own label, The Landing.

Following dinner, venture through the property's wetlands with your hosts on a privately guided kiwi spotting excursion. Try to spot the treasured native bird, the kiwi, in the wild.

#### Day 5: A day aboard the Ata Rangi

Today enjoy a full day aboard your privately chartered vessel, Ata Rangi, through the glittering bays, past untouched islands, and to isolated golden beaches. Continue with your private guide to Paroa Bay winery for lunch at Sage Restaurant. From the end of the fishing line cast into the Bay of Islands to the orchard doors of our suppliers, the locally grown and sourced ingredients combine seamlessly into a refreshingly creative New Zealand take on sustainable coastal cuisine. All dishes are thoughtfully matched from wines directly from Paroa Bay's award winning cellar.

Following lunch, board your vessel for your return journey to The Landing.



#### Day 6: Fly to Huka Lodge via a scenic helicopter flight and lunch on Waiheke Island

Lift off from The Landing this morning aboard your private helicopter for a scenic flight south over the northland coastline to land at Waiheke Island.

The idyllic island of Waiheke provides a welcome haven with its magnificent beaches and warm, inviting island lifestyle. Stands of lush sub-tropical forest are bounded by farmland and vineyards. Enjoy lunch at Tantalus Estate, a premium winegrower and craft brewery with an expansive, light-filled restaurant and seasonal menu built around fresh, local produce.

Following lunch, continue by private helicopter to Alan Pye Cottage at Huka Lodge, Taupo. Since it was founded in the 1920's, Huka Lodge has been bought by the world's most discerning travellers for its generous hospitality and magnificent location. The Allan Pye Cottage boasts its own infinity pool and private separate spa above lush rolling green lawns on the banks of the Waikato River.

#### Day 7: Explore Lake Taupo and surroundings

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private guide before being transferred to Kinloch to enjoy a nine kilometre hike through native bush to the beautiful Kawakawa Bay situated in the Western Bays of Lake Taupo.

At Kawakawa you will board your private launch to enjoy a half day charter on Lake Taupo, visiting the many bays and inlets accessible only by boat with Stand Up Paddle Boards included to take advantage of the typically calm lake waters with lunch enjoyed in a sheltered bay.



Aboard your cruise, view Maori rock art for one of the most extraordinary contemporary carvings New Zealand has ever seen and only accessible by water. Surrounded by smaller sculptures, the carving towers above the deep water of Lake Taupo. Fishing licenses have been included for the opportunity to trawl for trout with any catch of the day then taken back to Huka Lodge where the chef will weave your catch into your evening degustation meal.





#### Day 8: Taupo - Marlborough, check in at Cloudy Bay winery

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by private vehicle and driver for a short transfer to Taupo Airport prior to your onward flight.

Depart Taupo aboard your private charter flight to Blenheim.

On arrival at Blenheim Airport you will be met by your private driver and vehicle and transferred to your accommodation at the acclaimed Cloudy Bay winery. Your hosts will escort you to your accommodation at 'The Shack', before inviting you to take a relaxed lunch in the winery gardens at Cloudy Bay's Jack's Raw Bar.

After lunch, enjoy a private introductory tour of Cloudy Bay's special vineyards and unique terroir, with a private tailored wine tasting at the Treehouse, including some rare or back vintage wines.

Accommodation for three nights at The Shack Villa including dinner and breakfast at; The Shack, Cloudy Bay, Blenheim, Marlborough

#### Day 9: Explore the Marlborough Sounds

You will be met at your accommodation by your Cloudy Bay host in the morning and transferred to Picton, the gateway to the breathtaking Marlborough Sounds, to begin your day of seaforaging and exploration.

You will board your private launch for your scenic cruise through the crystal-clear waters of the Sounds, giving you the opportunity to see wildlife such as seals, dolphins, orcas and maybe even whales in their natural environment. During your time in the Sounds, the crew will forage for paua, clams and mussels, which will be part of your final dinner.





Depending on weather conditions, you may also be able to make a stop at Motuara Island to enjoy a walk on this bird sanctuary island. At times penguins can also be seen on this island. Enjoy a gorgeous locally-sourced lunch on board as you cruise through the pristine sounds.

This evening enjoy a relaxed BBQ Style dinner at Cloudy Bay showcasing your sea forage today.

#### **Day 10: Land Foraging**

You will be met at your accommodation by your Cloudy Bay host in the morning, and transferred to Argyle Canal in the Wairau Valley to begin your day of land foraging. A local fishing guide will meet you there, and teach you how to fish for both trout and salmon. From there you will travel to meet with a local cheesemaker and enjoy a cheese tasting and a light lunch.

On your return to Cloudy Bay you will meet the Cloudy Bay chef, who will create a delicious final dinner at The Shack, using the produce you have foraged. During the afternoon, you are at leisure to relax and enjoy The Shack and its surrounds.

In the early evening, you will meet with another local food producer to learn about the wild harvesting of Cloudy Bay clams, including a shucking lesson and the opportunity to try fresh clams.

During the evening, enjoy a Forage Dinner at Cloudy Bay showcasing your land forage today. Each dish is complemented by a Cloudy Bay wine from the 'Wine Library'.



#### Day 8: Nelson wine and art tour, check into Falcon Brae Villa

Today you will be met at your accommodation by your private guide and vehicle to enjoy a wine and art tour around the scenic Nelson area.

Your guide will take you to visit a range of boutique wineries and vineyards where you will meet the wine makers, walk among the vines, and enjoy tank and barrel samples as well as taking you to meet talented local artists and visit galleries.

You will also visit winemakers and enjoy lunch with their expertly matched wines at Forsters Restaurant at Moutere Hills Vineyard, followed by accommodation for two nights in the Falcon Brae Villa including pre dinner drinks, dinner and breakfast at: Falcon Brae Motueka Near Nelson.

Day 9: Private sailing in Abel Tasman National park

This morning you will be met at your accommodation by your private vehicle and guide and transferred to meet your private yacht.

Depart Kaiteriteri and enjoy a private sailing experience within the breathtaking Abel Tasman National Park. You will be

able to enjoy one of New Zealand's loveliest stretches of coastline, where you will be taken close to the shore giving you spectacular views of the many sandy coves and highlights. Offshore lies numerous islands, punctuating the broad sweep of Tasman Bay, providing a sanctuary for seabirds, seals and penguins.

Your excursion allows you to relax and enjoy the park, with opportunity to stop along the way to view wildlife of the park on the coast which may include colonies of New Zealand fur seals, blue penguins, shags or cormorants, plus on occasion dolphins and orcas. Or take to the water by sea kayak for a more intimate experience.

During your day, you may wish to walk a section of the delightful Abel Tasman Track with your experienced guide. The track in this park is spectacular, allowing for views of blue-green water and

golden sand, set against a back drop of forest and tree ferns.

At lunch time, your yacht will anchor in a sheltered bay, where a relaxed platter luncheon will be served.



#### Day 10: Fly to Otahuna Lodge with All Blacks Legend Richie McCaw

This morning you will be met by your private helicopter for a scenic flight to your accommodation with your Christchurch Helicopter's pilot and All Black Legend Richie McCaw as he pilots you through his breath-taking big backyard, sharing his love for New Zealand and his unique insights. Richie McCaw is the most capped test rugby player of all time, and has been named player of the year three times, he is also the only player to ever captain and win two consecutive rugby world cups.

Lift off from Falcon Brae for an incredible helicopter adventure. Begin the journey by tracing the white sandy beaches and crystal clear waters of the Abel Tasman National Park before climbing over vibrant native forests of the Tasman mountains rich in wild life such as kea and chamois. Follow the untouched rugged West Coast south before arriving at the staggering formations of Pancake Rocks and Putai Blowholes. Take a short walk around these 30 million year old limestone formations to get up close and personal and watch out for the splash!

Meet up with local department of conservation ranger Lyndon Slater known as the 'kiwi' Steve Irwin around these parts for his immense enthusiasm and passion for New Zealand. With Lyndon aboard, fly further west into some of the most beautiful landscapes in the southern alps. Venture over towering mountain ranges and deep native valleys and learn about the wildlife, landscape and what rangers like Lyndon are doing to preserve it. Along the route experience places few people have ever set





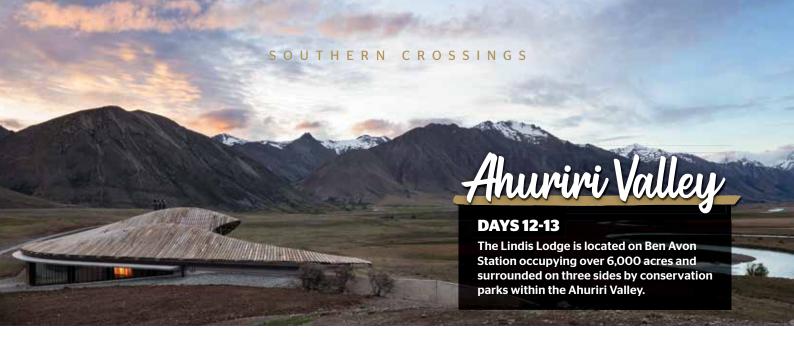
foot such as the national hot springs pouring out of the ground at Lyndon's secret location. Once reaching the top of the valley take a well-earned break while Lyndon pulls out the barbecue to cook up some sustainably sourced fresh Whitebait and other locally sourced delicacies accompanied by some of Canterbury's finest wines. Once finished marveling in this beautiful landscape and hearts full of gratitude fly towards the east coast over the extensive farmland, over braided rivers and country towns to arrive on the manicured lawn at Otahuna Lodge.

#### Day 11: Tour the property's extensive gardens

This morning take a private tour of Otahuna Lodge's extensive garden, one of National Significance. Head Gardener Steve Marcham will delve into the rich history of the grounds with its many themed areas including the formal Dutch Garden, Great Lawn, and Woodland.

During this tour you will begin the first stages of your cooking class where fresh produce is harvested from Otahuna's organic working gardens. Food chosen and freshly picked will form the basis of your cooking class and for the planning of your evening's menu.

With your gathered garden produce, enjoy a hands on cooking lesson with executive chef Jimmy McIntyre. Culinary excellence is a cornerstone of the Otahuna experience with Jimmy providing an overview of the philosophies behind the Lodge's celebrated food and wine programme – a special chance to learn first-hand cooking techniques in their kitchens before tasting the results for yourself.



#### Day 12: Lift off and explore the real, untouched New Zealand check into The Lindis

You will be met at your accommodation and continue by private helicopter and pilot Richie McCaw to explore the plethora of secret gems, both pictorial and delectable, in the centre of the South Island while getting to know the real, untouched New Zealand.

Lift off from the edge of the city on an expedition like no other, with the visual smorgasbord of the Canterbury Plains beneath. Trace the meandering threads of the braided Rakaia River running through the luscious farmlands.

Fly alongside the immense main divide to zoom in on the slow rolling Murchison Glacier, where you'll see the Ramsey, Lyell Glaciers and Mount D'Archiac ice shelves come into view. Touch down at the base of the glaciers to chip off million-year-old ice to enjoy at a stunning location for lunch.

As the views transform from verdant green to the hard rock of the Mackenzie Basin, come shoulder to shoulder with the Rangitata Gorge as you soar towards the Two Thumbs mountain range, and onto the glistening sapphire of Lake Tekapo. Standing proudly at 3,742 metres see the almighty Aoraki, Mount Cook pierce the sky above Lake Pukaki. Circle New Zealand's most well-known glacier, the Tasman Glacier, before landings on The Lindis Helipad.





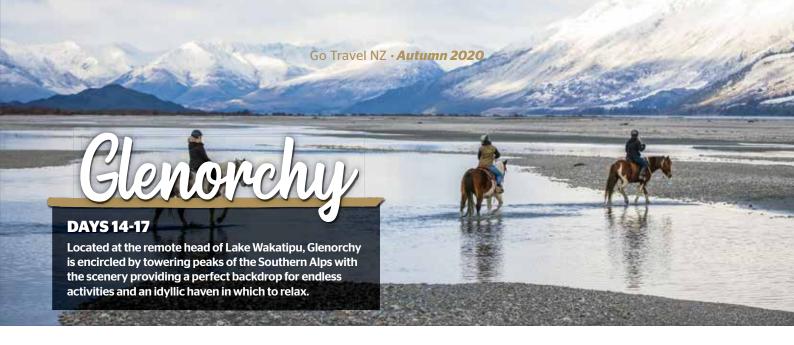
#### Day 13: Half day hike on rugged mountain country, photograph the night sky

This morning you will be met by your private guide for a half day hiking on the 49,000 hectares of rugged mountain country. See valuable and vulnerable wet lands, tussock lands, beech forest and sub alpine herb fields in the Ahuriri Valley.

This evening experience the Ahuriri by night! Dark, clear skies; unique celestial features and otherworldly landscapes make stargazing in New Zealand a breathtakingly magical experience.

In the heart of the South Island, the sky is so clear and vast that millions of stars seem to appear right before your eyes. The clear skies found in this part of the world are like nothing else in New Zealand. With very limited light pollution within the Ahuriri Valley, the views of the night sky seem to stretch on as far as the eye can see. Where you are located on the Earth determines which constellations are in your sky.

The Lindis offers a magical experience where you will head outside into the night sky and using a star map you will be able to learn about the stars you can see in the night sky, while using the app to find stars & constellations in our sky. Your guide will show you some basic photography techniques advising how to take your own star gazing images, or you may choose to simply enjoy the experience and have a one of a kind photograph taken of you under the New Zealand night sky.



#### Day 14: Experience Fiordland's pristine, remote wilderness check in to Blanket Bay

Today depart from The Lindis by private helicopter for this unique full day experience. The scenery unfolds dramatically with vast U-shaped glacier carved valleys rich with primeval beech forests.

Learn of the age-old glaciers and prehistoric rainforests in a habitat seldom frequented by man. This interpretive expedition distils the essence of New Zealand's most dramatic scenery. This experience features four landings, each at diverse and pristine locations. At each landing site, the helicopter will shut down for you to enjoy the quiet sound of the mountains. Perhaps a curious kea, one of New Zealand's native parrots will drop in to say hello.

For lunch, descend to land on the helipad of an exclusive vessel moored in spectacular Milford Sound. Cruise along the magnificent fiord and get up close to feel the energy of the many waterfalls cascading off the towering cliffs. The knowledgeable local crew will share with you the incredible wilderness and local wildlife, which can include seals, dolphins, penguins and the rare black coral. A delightful seafood lunch will be prepared by your chef and may include crayfish, blue cod and Bluff oysters which are some of the fine delicacies to be found in this corner of the world (seasonal availability).

After lunch, board your helicopter and lift off to a different world of ice and snow for a glacier landing, before making your way back to Queenstown. An immersion in a primeval world and a paradise for photographers; this trip will remain with you for a lifetime. Later this afternoon, land on the lawn at Blanket Bay.

> Accommodation for three nights in the Villa including pre dinner drinks, dinner and breakfast at: Blanket Bay Glenorchy Near Queenstown

gracious surroundings of Blanket Bay directly overlooking Lake Wakatipu and the mountains beyond. Enjoy the facilities available at the lodge such as the games room, pool table, TV lounge, cards tables and shuffle board, fully equipped gym, steam rooms and spa, outdoor lap pool, mountain bikes, and a private jetty with boat and canoes.

This afternoon you will be met at Blanket Bay's jetty by your guide and private jet boat for your excursion on the Dart River. Onboard your exclusive jet boat, head into the heart of Paradise to experience a unique combination of breath-taking scenery and an exhilarating jet boat ride as you travel up the braided, glacier-fed rivers. Your guides give you their authentic touch, talking about the area's rich history, the Greenstone Trail and countless Maori legends.

There is also the opportunity to tie up the boat and let you walk amongst the ancient beech tree forests, an atmosphere you may recognize from The Lord of the Rings films (approximately 3 hours).

#### Day 16: Privately guided half day hike through Mount Aspiring **National Park**

Your hike takes you into ancient forest and woodlands -the Flats Hut section of the Routeburn Track is perfect for those who may not be the most experienced hikers but still want to enjoy some of the Routeburn Track's stunning landscapes. A relatively easy 15 kilometre return trip, this section is rather flat, and sheltered from the weather. Highlights along this section include the turquoise water of the Routeburn River, Bridal Veil Falls, views of the Southern Alps and thick, untouched forest with the opportunity to see native birds.

Enjoy a picnic lunch at a scenic site before returning along the track the way you came. You will be returned to your accommodation later today (approximately a 5 hour duration).

#### **Day 17: Departure**

You will be met at your accommodation and transferred to Queenstown Airport prior to your onward flight (approximately a 1 hour journey). Depart Queenstown internationally or fly to

## LUXLUYY ACCOMMODATION

New Zealand has an enviable reputation for offering highend accommodation in wonderful hideaway locations, and Southern Crossings have options for every pace and style.



## Falcon Brae Villa

The new Falcon Brae Villa at Stonefly Lodge is breathtaking.



n exciting new development at Stonefly Lodge, near Nelson and Abel Tasman on the South Island, provides the option of an Exclusive-use luxurious Villa for groups of up to 10 guests (6 adults & up to 4 children) staying in complete luxury, with access to three individual suites and an additional bunkbed room. Falcon Brae is perfect for multigenerational families or those seeking total privacy.

"Falcon Brae" Villa is perched on a hilltop high above Stonefly Lodge, with spectacular 360 degree views over the surrounding mountains and the Motueka River below. The Falcon Brae is 720 sq metres in size, located on 350 acres of property surrounded on two sides by rivers, including a private forest and spectacular native bush walks.

The architecturally designed contemporary residence, features a large central lounge area with a 5 metre ceiling, sunken bar, grand piano, media theatre, commercial kitchen, 3 dining areas and a stunning collection of New Zealand and local art. Directly in front of the Helipad Terrace, guests can relax in the "Games Den" housing modern gym equipment, pool table, table tennis, darts and a games table. The large deck space overlooks the mountains and river, featuring a pool & outdoor heated spa, barbeque area for outdoor dining and entertaining with a shaded pergola.

Two master suites ranging in size from 124 to 135 sq metres, and a Junior Suite of 57sq metres are finished to the highest of standards all with private deck space, full cocktail bar, coffee &



tea making facilities, luxurious bathrooms, heated towel rails, spa tub, spectacular fire place, high quality TV and audio system. For the larger family, a bunk room with ensuite is also available for up to 4 children.

The entire Villa can be booked as exclusive use with a private chef, and house staff, offering complete exclusive privacy. For larger groups, there is the option of renting both the Villa and Stonefly Lodge for a total capacity of 14 adults and 4 children.

As with Stonefly Lodge, the Falcon Brae Villa is completely off the "grid" with solar panels and batteries providing all the power required, without sacrificing any luxuries.





Centrally located between 3 major National Parks the Falcon Brae Villa is an ideal luxury private retreat, of the highest of standards, providing easy access to all the major activities in the Nelson -Tasman Region.



- ☐ info@stoneflylodge.co.nz
- **L** +64 3 522 4479



As a family of architects and builders, Hapuku Lodge & Tree Houses was designed to be a contemporary country hotel. Not limiting their design efforts to the building, they also designed and handcrafted - with local wood working friends - the majority of the furniture throughout the Lodge, including the custom designed beds that quests say are, "the most comfortable beds in the South Island."

It is here just off the Coastal deep waters of the Pacific Ocean, the well known haven for seafood and sea-based adventure activities that Executive Chef Fiona Read & husband General Manager Chris Sturgeon run this Luxury Eco Lodge. Both talk of the "responsibility" of enabling as many people, New Zealanders and those from abroad to experience this small slice of heaven.

One might be forgiven for thinking that the contemporary design of the lodge itself and its imposing tree houses are reason enough to stay. You may not be aware of the food culture and passion that also goes hand in hand with this luxury accommodation.



Owner Tony Wilson commenced creating Hapuku Lodge and its surroundings with his nephew Paul and brother Peter in the early 2000's. The property now boasts a fully functioning deer farm,1000 tree olive orchard, native bird breeding program, vineyard and extensive native garden.

The Kiwi born, Californian based businessman has a passion for food which led him to work with his sister Sara in the creation of their food businesses in San Francisco which periodically enables Fiona the opportunity to visit and soak up the food-heavy influences of the Bay City.

Back at the lodge its produce comes from a combination of Fiona's own fruitful garden, the producing olive grove, local growers and seafood direct form the boats in Kaikoura. As Fiona says herself "it is a chef's dream with the amazing food bowl around Kaikoura and fresh produce at my fingertips, how can I not be inspired?". Together with her team of experienced chefs they are able to create a daily changing menu that takes its influences and produce from the surroundings, with the team utilizing over 75% of their fresh produce from the Kaikoura area.

With the restaurant open to in-house guests as well as those not staying but are looking for something a little special, Hapuku has to be added to every Kiwi's food experience bucket list. With only being a bit over an hour from Blenheim and a little longer from Christchurch, experiencing Hapuku is within many foodies grasp.



Bringing guests closer to nature without negatively impacting on it is another core focus of the lodge and clearly shared by nearby Kaikoura, which was the first local authority in the world to become a Green Globe certified community.

Sustainability is ensured through many efforts, including recycling, composting, solar heating, rainwater capture and reuse and most notably their commitment to planting at least one New Zealand native plant for every night a guest stays at the lodge. At well over 16,000 to date to make it even more memorable, guests receive a certificate with the name of the tree planted on their behalf, as well as GPS details of its location so they can monitor its growth via Google Earth.

It is clear that the marriage of plethora of elements is what gives Hapuku Lodge & Tree Houses and the people that run it the opportunity to live and work in their own small part of paradise.



#### MAP U K U

**LODGE + TREE HOUSES** 

Gourmet Seasonal Escapes at Hapuku Lodge & Tree Houses from just \$679 for two (twin share)

includes luxury accommodation, a fireside three-course evening meal, complimentary mini bar & delicious Hapuku breakfast

Visit us at Hapukulodge.com or phone (64) 3 319 6559





elena Bay Lodge located on the north-east coast of New Zealand's North Island in a secluded bay is ideally situated to provide easy access to the Bay of Islands and Poor Knights Islands.

The Lodge hosts a maximum of five individual couples accommodated in five luxury Suites named after New Zealand native birds. All the Suites have extensive balconies with views

overlooking Helena Bay beach and beyond. Guest facilities are generous and include a gym, sauna, massage room, a 25-metre heated swimming pool, library, lounge areas, both informal and formal dining areas and an outdoor fire pit.

Helena Bay has brought the celebrated Michelin starred Ristorante Don Alfonso 1890 of Southern Italy to New Zealand.



Under the direction and the influence of Don Alfonso's philosophy of respecting the local food culture while incorporating the ageold traditions of the Sorrento peninsula and the Amalfi Coast, fine dining will define the hospitality experience at Helena Bay.

Guests can explore the spectacular Northland coastline from our luxury cruising and fishing vessel 'Ruru' or, experience Helena Bay's Agusta Westland 109s Grand helicopter, the fastest and only one of its kind in New Zealand.

Helena Bay Lodge is set on 800 acres of land where guests can practice their aim shooting clay-birds while taking in the stunning views of the Pacific Ocean. Take an immersive farm tour with one of our knowledgeable farmers - from feeding the donkeys and alpacas to learning all about our resident kunekune pigs and Wagyu cattle.





Alternatively, take advantage of our 4WD Polaris Rangers and explore the estate at your own pace, stopping off at one of the many private beaches for some kayaking or paddleboarding. Helena Bay Lodge has approximately 15 kilometres of beautiful walking trails on the property. The hikes take you deep into New Zealand bush; while also taking you high onto the coastal headlands or down to secluded golden sand beaches.

Here, amidst the sound of crashing waves, guests will find a home away from home.



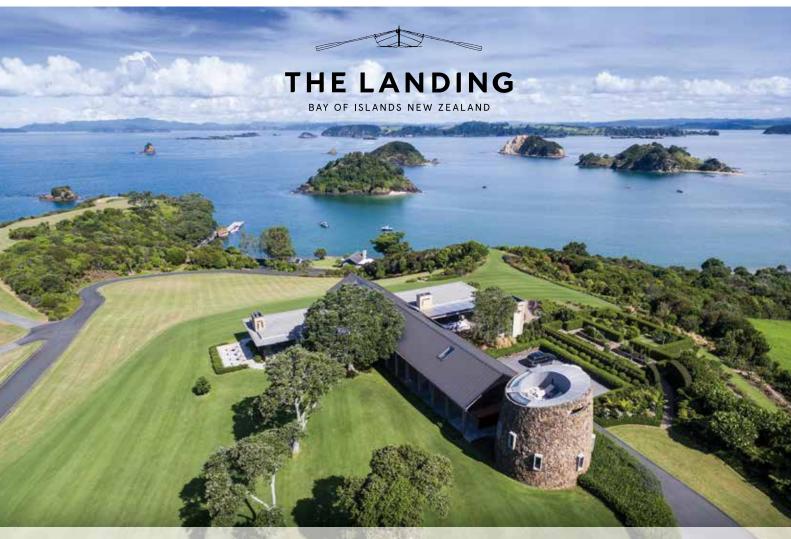


The Landing encompasses four superb Residences offering luxury, privacy, and bespoke service in unparalleled surrounding. The Cooper Residence features five luxurious bedroom suites, each with their own distinctive theme and character, sleeping 10-12 guests.

The Residence and its grounds provide a range of versatile entertainment and hospitality spaces, including a large lounge with fireplace, a private library and spacious indoor and outdoor dining

and catering areas. The comfortable spaces and intimate corners dotted around the Residence allows you to discover, explore, interact or sit and enjoy different aspects of the spectacular outlook.

Explore the 1,000-acre property, its archaeological sites, six private beaches, Kiwi habitat, native bush and an award winning vineyard, the largest in Northland. Enjoy a specialty garden-to-plate dining experience by The Landing chef in the privacy of your own Residence.



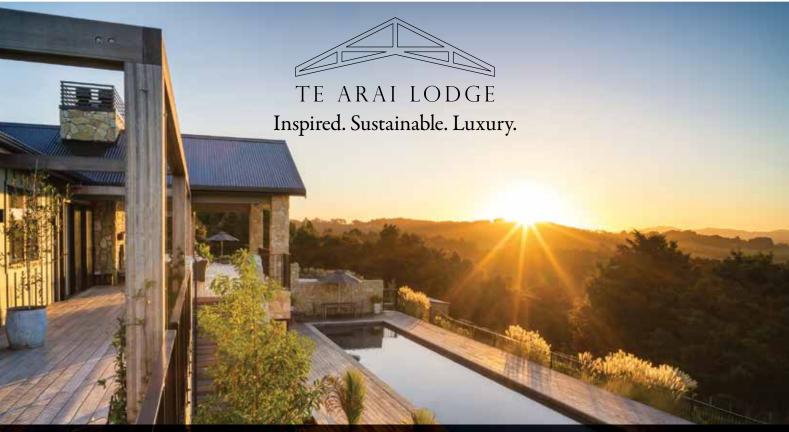


Lodge is an eco-friendly oasis offering boutique luxury and warm hospitality, only 1 hour 15 minutes north of the Auckland harbour bridge. Surrounded by over 20 acres of ancient podocarp forest and native bush, Te Arai Lodge sits on an elevated ridge with panoramic views across the rolling hills of the Brynderwyn Ranges out to the stunning beaches and surrounding islands of the Mangawhai coast.

We welcome our guests to experience a homestay boutique luxury lodge like no other. One that is inspired by the beauty of the surrounding native flora and bird life, our passion for sustainability and organic garden-to-table dining, and our love of hospitality and meeting people from all over the world.

With authentic personal service from the owners Vince & Kathy Moores, their family and a team of carefully chosen staff, Te Arai Lodge creates a special escape for those seeking the finest comforts without compromising the environment.







ocated at the top of New Zealand's scenic South Island, nestled in the renowned vineyards of Marlborough is the beautiful Marlborough Lodge.

Sitting in 16 acres of magnificent gardens where tall shady trees, a gentle flowing creek, lavender bushes, orchards, vegetable gardens, free range chickens and stunning vineyards surround the elegant building.

Starting life in 1901 as a convent before being moved in 1994 to its current location, provides an interesting history to the Lodge. A complete renovation in 2017 created it into a luxury 10-suite lodge. Retaining many of its historic elements and combining those with a contemporary decor, a warm and inviting environment has been created.

The 10 elegant rooms with large modern en-suites are each different in decor and layout, some retaining stained glass windows, giving a nod to its past, yet providing all the creature comforts required for today's living.

A heated swimming pool, grass tennis courts, bicycles and walking trails through the gardens means there is plenty to do on site.

Alternatively, spending time in the converted chapel, which is

now a spacious guest entertainment area, or relaxing by the large outdoor fireplace with a glass of wine, makes it the perfect place to relax and unwind at the end of the day.

A daily changing a la carte menu served each evening, showcases the fabulous seasonal produce from the property and greater New Zealand. The restaurant is also open for lunch and dinner to diners who are staying elsewhere in the region and private wine tastings are available on site.

Surrounded by the world-famous Marlborough vineyards, producing 75% of all of New Zealand's wine, means there is an abundance of choice as to how you want to experience the wine of the region. Then just 20 minutes' drive from the Lodge are the magnificent vast waterways of the Marlborough Sounds. With a variety of marine life such as dolphins, seals, sting rays and the occasional whale there is much to see in the water. Although its hidden coves and valleys covered in native bush running down to the water's edge are the highlight. This area can be explored by either hiking on the Queen Charlotte track, kayaking, cruising or a combination of all for a most unforgettable experience.

The Marlborough Lodge provides a unique haven to base yourself when exploring all that the top of the South Island has to offer.

#### MARLBOROUGH LODGE

#### WHERE LUXURY, FOOD & WINE MEET...







#### THE MARLBOROUGH LODGE

776 Rapaura Road, Blenheim, Marlborough 7273, New Zealand | Ph: +64 3 570 5700 Web: wwwthemarlboroughlodge.co.nz | Email: reservations@themarlboroughlodge.co.nz



Set on a magnificent, glacier-carved lake 40 minutes' drive from Queenstown in the South Island, Blanket Bay is a perfect place to experience New Zealand's most exhilarating wilderness adventures. It's also an area where your imagination can run wild. The local landscape has been a shooting location for many films, including Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings movie series.

Owned by Tom Tusher, retired president of Levi-Strauss, and his wife Pauline, who spend a good part of the year at their spectacular hideaway, Blanket Bay is located within Wyuna Station, which at 10,000 acres is one of New Zealand's largest high country stations (ranches).

The lodge's name recalls an event more than a century ago, when a mob of sheep owned by Mr William Gilbert Rees was shorn on the shores of Lake Wakatipu in a bay just south the small town of Glenorchy. To protect themselves and the wool from the elements, Maori shearers used blankets to create the shed and shelters, and so Blanket Bay was born.

Little expense has been spared in creating a perfect haven, which is a far cry from the blanket shelters erected in 1861. Heart of the lodge is the Great Room, where lofty ceilings, a massive log fireplace, vaulted wharf-timber beams and antique wooden floors embrace a singular kind of rustic elegance.

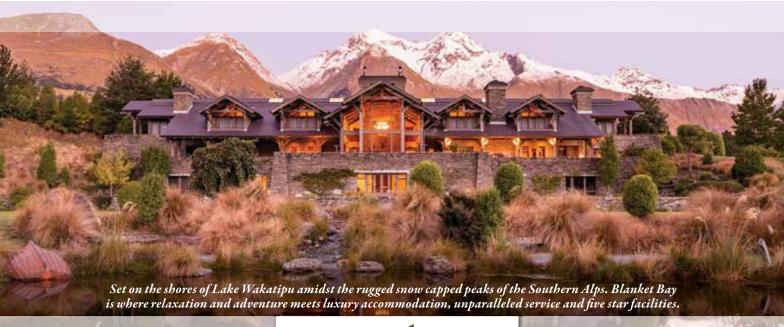
Guest accommodation at Blanket Bay is sumptuous, but also full of character. Three magnificent lodge suites offer bedroom and sitting areas with stone fireplaces, and the generous bathrooms come with steam shower and separate tub. Chalet suites are another option, beautifully designed to reflect New Zealand's colonial architecture and complement the main lodge through the use of schist stone and timber beams.

Daytime activities include guided fly-fishing, heli-flight-seeing to Milford Sound, jet boating on the Dart River, biking on the trails or hiking in Mt Aspiring National Park. Blanket Bay's stables offer horse riding on the adjoining Wyuna High Country Station, and in winter the lodge is the perfect base for heli-sking with your own qualified guide.

A description of Blanket Bay wouldn't be complete without a salute to the food. Every day the lodge's culinary team live up to guests' highest expectations with ever-changing menus of creative Pacific Rim cuisine. Over the years, many of Blanket Bay's chefs have been recognised with awards and accolades; the kitchen is a hotbed of culinary talent.

Complemented by an impressive list of outstanding local and international wines, meals are served at your own table in the dining room, the privacy of the wine cave or on the terrace, where you'll be warmed by a huge outdoor fireplace.

A stay at Blanket Bay is a profound experience. A Forbes Traveller reviewer was moved to say: "In 35 years of hotel design and visiting, this is the best hotel experience I have ever had. Such a wonderful location and such wonderful service—it was a magical experience. I was hearthroken to leave"











s New Zealand's newest luxury residence group; The Lindis Group, we've created a portfolio of properties that span the length of the country and the breadth of New Zealand's incredible scenery. From the tropical azure of the North to the rugged and muted tones of the South, our three properties espouse New Zealand's astounding natural beauty—and employ artistic architecture to complement and enhance these unique environments.

Our flagship property—The Lindis—is nestled almost imperceptibly in the Ahuriri Valley in the country's South. Architecturally designed to mimic the rolling contours of the valley floor, the buildings create a blurred sense of indoor and outdoor. With sweeping floor to ceiling windows, and modern interiors designed to exist in seamless parallel with the outside world, one gets the sense that the lodge is not sitting on top of the land, it is an intrinsic part of it.

A little further South, we have Chalet New Zermatt—a beautiful elevated and supremely luxurious property—overlooking the famed Lake Wakatipu and the awe-inspiring Remarkables mountain range. With a nod to European chalet style, Chalet New Zermatt puts a modern spin on a rich tradition.

A short flight to the North of the country and you will find our third property, Paroa Bay. With three luxury villas, the acclaimed Paroa Bay Winery, and our restaurant, Sage, all onsite, Paroa Bay is the epitome of coastal beauty and luxury.

With a fourth property, Mt Isthmus set to open in NZ's South Island in Summer 2020, the Lindis Group is cementing itself as the premier luxury accommodation provider in New Zealand.

These four distinct locations provide us with not only amazing scenery but also incredible flora and fauna. And we know food is important, which is why we take the utmost pride in sourcing the freshest local ingredients and preparing refined and diverse menus at all of our properties. Paired with an unparalleled quiver of New Zealand and International wines, including our very own Paroa Bay selection—our culinary standards are matched only by the landscapes that surround them.

And still, we know that experience doesn't stop there—and that stepping outside into these environments is an integral aspect of visiting these remarkable places. Whether it be angling in the Ahuriri River on the doorstep of The Lindis, an exclusive helicopter trip to Milford Sound from Chalet New Zermatt, or learning about the rich and complex viticulture techniques of Paroa Bay—each property offers activities of every speed, for every age.

We know we offer an unmatched and all-encompassing experience of luxury New Zealand at The Lindis Group, but you don't have to take our word for it. We welcome you to come and experience it for yourself.





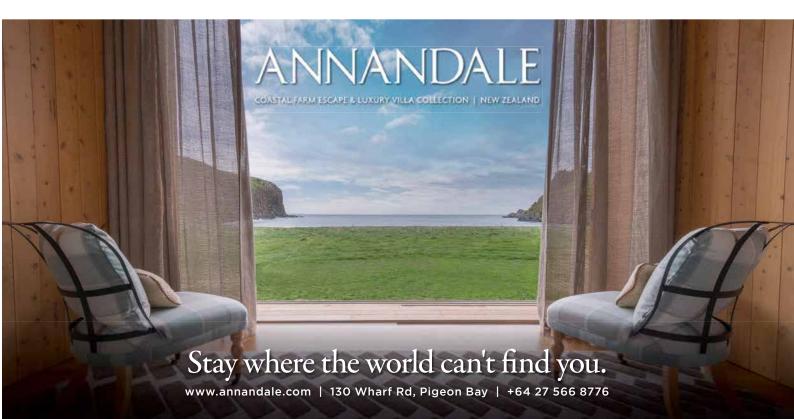
n an area of outstanding beauty and off the tourist trail lies Annandale, an iconic coastal farm escape offering four awardwinning luxury villas with relaxed Kiwi-style informality. Developed in 1843, Annandale was one of the earliest and most renowned farms in New Zealand's South Island. With 10 kilometres of spectacular and rugged coastline, Annandale boasts 4,000 acres, 500 cattle and between 7,000 and 14,000 sheep. Our aim is to breed the finest stock through sustainable farming practices for the



most delicious meat and best quality wool, while providing worldclass luxury accommodation, farm-to-table cuisine and uniquely authentic experiences for our guests.

The centrepiece of this historic farm is the restored 5-bedroom Annandale Homestead overlooking the ocean and surrounded by magnificent gardens, a restored fernery, infinity pool, spa pool and tennis court. Authentic, rustic and thoroughly charming, the historic Shepherd's Cottage provides an inspiring rural retreat for two with uninterrupted views of the sparkling ocean. Scrubby Bay, a luxurious 4-bedroom cedar-clad beach house in its own bay is the perfect location for a once-in-a-lifetime celebration of family and friendship. The sparkling jewel in Annandale's crown is Seascape, an ultra modern retreat in a picturesque private bay providing a truly romantic experience for couples.

While we offer every luxury and comfort on the inside, it is what's on the outside that really sets Annandale apart. The turquoise waters surrounding the property are perfect for guided kayaking and nature cruises potentially seeing the famed Hector's dolphins, seals, blue penguins or orca. Guests can arrange for an off road 4WD motorbike tour adventure, enjoy a hike or bike across the spectacular farm, practice their aim with clay target shooting, or relax with spa service in their villa. Additionally, there are onsite farm-to-table cooking lessons with our award winning chef or helicopter scenic flights.





rom the moment you pop your welcome Champagne while admiring the spectacular 180 degree panorama - you realise you're in for an unforgettable stay at The Glasshouse.

This spacious architecturally designed one bedroom retreat has everything you need to spend time exactly how you choose, whether it's getting cozy by the outside fire, enjoying a long shower with ocean views or napping in a hammock.

A short meander down from the house you'll find our ingenious natural rock pool. A first in New Zealand, this secret oasis is continually refreshed and cooled by ocean water which gently cascades from rocks above. A magical place to spend time and soak in the rugged coastline up close. Whether that's cooling off during the day or enjoying a starry swim at night, this one of a kind experience is found nowhere else.

We can also help if you want something special organised. Our talented local chef can serve your favourite dish at The Glasshouse or we can arrange a visit from a massage and beauty therapist.

If you're able to tear yourself away from the comforts of The Glasshouse, there's so much to enjoy on Kauri Mountain Point and beyond.



Explore the 20 acre peninsula itself, with its own tracks and secret coves from which you can swim, fish, kayak or simply take in the views.

We're fortunate that The Glasshouse is hosted by Paul and Susanne Olsen, who for over a decade looked after superyacht owners and their guests. Paul and Susanne are experts on the local area, and can help you with advice and bookings for range of experiences, including guided kayak tours, the best beaches, fishing options, scuba and snorkelling, golf, famous tracks and a kauri forest walk.



# THE GLASSHOUSE'S NATURALLY FILLING SEA-WATER ROCK POOL OF A KIND



## EXPERIENCES STATEMENTS

From adventure to leisure, New Zealand has it all, and Southern Crossings can make it happen for you.

rom hitting adrenaline overdrive in the skies over Queenstown to hitting three under and a lovely Sauvignon Blanc over lunch, New Zealand's is a traveller's paradise for any style of travel. Let our experience guide you toward the experiences you will appreciate most, and enjoy New Zealand to the fullest knowing you've seen the absolute best it has to offer.

Getting outdoors in New Zealand is a must; suffice to say you could spend a lifetime getting up close and personal with this incredible landscape and wildlife (some do), so ask us about activities to suit your style.

The Maori are New Zealand's indigenous people, and their culture, Haka (war dance), patterns, carving and language are an integral part of our national identity, deserving of special mention. We can arrange insightful private experiences with local Maori, and are often told later by guests that these moments of connection were some of the most special memories they took from their trips.



### Cheese Please

#### Discover the lesser-known gems of Hawke's Bay with International Cheese Expert, Juliet Harbutt

t is said the best way to explore a destination is through your palate. Having done this for 30 years in Europe as a food writer and cheese master, Juliet, has returned to New Zealand and now applies her knowhow hosting foodie tours from her home in Hawke's Bay.

You could argue that Juliet is more chameleon than kiwi. From geologist to IT nerd, café owner, and now tour operator she has turned her hand to many ventures over the years. But one thing has remained constant, her love of cheese.

In 1985 she sold her cafe in Wellington and set off to Europe, visiting cheesemakers, tasting cheeses and educating and inspiring a generation of people to love, respect and understand the miracle that is cheese.

Considered to be one of the world's leading authority on cheese, she was the go to person for the BBC for cheese info, taught at Leith's school of food and wine for 10 years, created and ran the British Cheese Awards for 21 years and was even asked to look into creating a cheese for the Prince of Wales.

Back in New Zealand Juliet decided to share her worldly cheese knowledge through masterclasses, workshops and tastings. And when she set up Hunter Gatherer Tours in 2017 she saw it as the perfect opportunity to not only share her passion for cheese but the stunning region she now calls home. Clearly visitors agreed, less than a year later she won Hawke's Bay Tourism's 'Rising Star' award.

Juliet talks to Go Travel's Adam Shirra about her journey, the beautiful Hawke's Bay and what the future holds for Hunter Gatherer Tours.

#### Why cheese? Did you wake up one day and decide you wanted to be a leading world expert or is it something you've always had a passion for?

In 1984 I took a sabbatical to Europe looking for ideas for my café/deli *The Parsons Nose* in Wellington and instead discovered *real* cheese! In a tiny shop under the shadow of the Eiffel Tower stacked floor to ceiling with an unimaginably range of cheese. Button sized goat, towering Blues and 120kg wheels of mountain cheeses. Even before I started tasting I was hooked.

#### Did you have a clear plan in mind when you decided to move to the other side of the world?

I returned, sold my shop, with indecent haste, and returned to London determined to open my own cheese shop. three years later my wine partner and I opened Jeroboams, the Wine & Cheese Shop to the cheers of the French community in South Kensington. And so began my career – it was a very steep, all-consuming and unimaginably inspirational, learning curve!

#### Where does New Zealand sit on the world cheese map?

In my opinion less than 20 New Zealand cheesemakers make truly exceptional cheese. Those that carry unique names like Harvest Moon or Black Tie and exude the character of the land, the grazing, the maker and the animals are worth seeking out. In



other words, terroir—its importance recognised by winemakers for centuries. They are New Zealand's classics of the future.

#### What made you return to New Zealand and set up shop in Hawke's Bay?

After Jeroboams I was a Cheese Consultant but my key project and passion was the British Cheese Awards. After 21 years much as I loved running it I needed a new challenge. The decision to move from my Cotswolds cottage back to NZ was tough and I still have doubts not least that I miss the pub, the village green and the sense of community but eventually family and Hawke's Bay with its long summers, great wines, amazing fresh produce and wild beaches won out.

#### Hunter Gatherer Tours doesn't look like you average food & wine outing, what do people generally like to do? Are there set schedules?

Every Tour is personalised for the people involved, what they like to do, see and experience. I pick them up and our journey takes us through the diverse, often stunning scenery of Hawke's Bay, as we visit artisan producers, artists like Maori sculptor Ema Scott, taste wild honey and fig products and discover where to pick the best apples or find fresh walnuts. As we go we assemble things for an a amazing lunch at my home that reflects the seasons and always includes a tutored Cheese & Wine, Beer or Cider Tasting. Of Course! Winston my Jack Russell shows them my potager before heading to our next destination. They all love it and recommend it to anyone who will listen!

#### What are your plans for Hunter Gatherer Tours moving forward?

I've been planning on creating a series of tours for New Zealanders and the Covid crisis has proved the catalyst. Like the Hunter Gatherer Tours they are personalised to give visitors a taste of Hawke's Bay but because they drive themselves they have more time. So, I can add things that are quirky, fun and unexpected. From finding the best coffee, to seeing how a cricket bat is made or learning how to distil gin! You only discover your next destination when you open the next envelope which contains a new map, tasting tickets, discounts and suggested detours or sneaky picnic spots. It's a chance to see and experience people and places even the locals don't know. If you want to find out more you'll have to email or call me.

To find out more or book a tour please visit: www.thecheeseweb.com or email Juliet on: cheese@thecheeseweb.com

#### Hunter Gatherer Tours

#### A taste of Hawke's Bay









#### Tour highlights & options

- Discover lesser known people & places of Hawke's Bay
- Indulge yourself at 2-3 stunning, award winning wineries
- Meet artisan producers of figs, olives, seasonal fruit, bread & more
- Experience how to match Cheese & Wine
- Meet the bees and taste wild, native NZ honeys

- Explore local galleries & artists
- Hastings Farmers Market [Sundays only]
- Black Barn Market [Saturdays in Summer]
- Hunter for pine nuts with Juliet's Jack Russell
- Gather all the elements to create an amazing lunch

Whatever your age [18+], shape or style Tours are specifically designed to entertain, inspire and give a unique insight into Hawke's Bay and New Zealand's culinary world

- Drive yourself Tours - Individual Bespoke Guided Tours - Cheese & Wine Masterclasses - Full details are available on our website

Stories of Cheese

Whether you're wanting a bespoke guided Hunter Gatherer tour or a specifically designed self-drive Road Less Travelled tour - Juliet Harbutt, world cheese expert, cook and food writer, has you covered. Juliet also hosts cheese evenings, tastings and masterclasses. Educational and inspirational Juliet imparts her extraordinary knowledge with humour while matching cheeses with great wines, beers, wine or even gin!

t doesn't get much better than New Zealand's Fiordland National Park. It is a place of ancient glaciers, endangered wildlife and World Heritage status. Around here, words like spectacular, breathtaking and jaw-dropping are thrown around daily. But for Mark and Christine Wallace, owners of Fiordland Outdoors Co., it is simply their backyard.

Rather than offering typical trips, the couple wanted to create experiences based on how locals love to see Fiordland. Today, Fiordland Outdoors Co. offers an incredible range of bespoke private guiding experiences run by a team of expert local guides, including renowned nature guide, Bard Crawford.

Bringing together Bard's impressive expertise (which is matched only by his irresistible wit) and Mark's 20-plus years' fishing and guiding experience the company has struck the perfect balance for those looking for a high-end experience but don't want to forgo adventure. A Fiordland Outdoors Co. experience can involve anything from hiking, helicopters and jet boats to a gourmet lunch in a remote backcountry hut, trout fishing or stopping for a chat with a local character. Central to any experience with Fiordland Outdoors Co. is your private guide whose kiwi charm is matched only by an impressive bank of knowledge on just about everything.

#### Fiordland experiences like no other

Mountains to Sea is a once-in-a-lifetime journey showing you the best Fiordland has to offer in one day. Expect to cover glaciers, native forests, rugged peaks, alpine lakes and wild west coast beaches by helicopter and by foot.

The Sanctuary is a journey into an area of Fiordland very few get to see. It is a wildly remote location and where Mark and Christine love to take their family to escape. The Sanctuary is a rare chance to visit the deep heart of Fiordland, journey across a hidden lake and visit one of Fiordland's oldest huts.

#### Tailored for you

With a team of skilled guides and decades of combined local knowledge, Fiordland Outdoors Co. makes tailor-made touring in Fiordland seamless. Whether it's a short day walk and water taxi across Lake Te Anau or a full day exploring the world-famous Milford Sound road. With Fiordland National Park covering an area of more than one million hectares it would be impossible to see it all in one visit. But you can make the most of your time here by taking an adventure with a passionate local guide and getting to know the real Fiordland.



Transporting you to nature.







Call 0800 3474 538 +64 21 197 4555 info@fiordlandoutdoors.co.nz

fiordlandoutdoors.co.nz