

## Get Routed's Magical Tour of the South Island of NEW ZEALAND

### Suggested Itinerary

Don't forget the camera.

Christchurch - When you collect your bike from NZ Express in Christchurch visit the French settlement of Akaroa – a great days ride around Banks Peninsula

In Chch stay at the Arcadia Motel about 4 kms away (ph 00 11 64 3 389 4756) 564 Ferry Rd, Woolston, Christchurch, New Zealand <http://www.arcdiamotel.co.nz/>

Chch to Akaroa is 80kms and takes a whole day there and back with lunch & sightseeing. Ask me at the time the best way to and from Akaroa – I might even go with you as a guide.

This trip can be done at the end of your stay in the South Island if you arrive back in Chch a couple of days before the loading date. ride Christchurch to Kaikoura (2hr 30min) stop off in Kaikoura for a night and see the Whale Watch and have a good feed of mussels at Mussel Boys restaurant.

In Picton you can do a wine trail around the Blenheim vineyards – ph 03 573 8843 Sounds Connection – they will collect you from where ever you are staying in Picton and take you on a half day wine trail. Tell 'em I sent you. taste samples are included. Yum!! Mudhouse Sauvignon Blanc is sublime!!

Make sure you try some of the Monteiths range of beers while you are in NZ. My current favourite is the Summer Ale. They only brew it for the Summer months. There's about 7 beers in the range and all are excellent. Just chill & drink. Easy.

and then Picton to Havelock via the Queen Charlotte drive. 1hr 30 mins

Havelock to Nelson 1hr 30 mins Nelson to Motueka 1 hr and over the Takaka Hill to Collingwood 1 hr and then to Collingwood to Westport 3hrs 30 mins (down the amazing Buller Gorge) and down the coast to Westport to Greymouth 2 hrs and Greymouth to Franz Josef. 3hrs Collingwood or Takaka are nice places to stay.

Takaka to Westport via Motueka – take the road from Motueka to Motupiko then to Murchison then to Inangahua. (there is some Hua singing and some who are not – old Catholic joke)

Westport to Franz Josef via the coast road. stop and see the Punakaikai Rocks & blow holes

Franz Josef to Wanaka 3hrs 30 mins or Queenstown 4hrs via the Haast Pass and Lake Hawea - it's the only bloody road, but you'll love it!

Queenstown to Te Anau 2hrs and stay a night or two and visit Milford Sounds – do the coach & boat trip. Or ride down and through the longest road tunnel in NZ.

Then Te Anau to Invercargill 2hrs 30 mins via Riverton Invercargill to Dunedin via the Catlins Rd. 4hrs

Dunedin to Fairlie 3hrs 30mins via Oamaru & the Waitaki Valley to Omarama. Stop at the lookouts for Lakes Pukaki and Tekapo

Fairlie to Geraldine 30mins to Sheffield 45mins to Greymouth 1hr 30 mins via the Arthur's Pass

Greymouth to Reefton 45 mins (via the Grey River valley) to Hanmer Springs 1hr (Yes, thermal springs) via the Lewis Pass

Hanmer Springs to Christchurch 1hr 30mins & back to NZ Express

This is as good a ride around the South Island as you could do – look at this itinerary in conjunction with the Top 10 Accommodation map.