



# LUXURY BACKCOUNTRY SKI TOUR

**2022 TRIP NOTES**



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## 2022 TRIP DETAILS

**Dates:** Available on demand  
July to October

**Duration:** 1 day

**Departure:** ex Wanaka, New Zealand

**Price:** From NZ\$2350 per person

▲ A stunning mountain retreat. Photo: Whare Kea Lodge

Nestled alongside the peaks and glaciers of Mount Aspiring National Park, with endless views and countless ski touring opportunities you'll find the Whare Kea Mountain Chalet—the ultimate mountain retreat after a long day of adventure. With exclusive use of the chalet our Luxury Backcountry Ski Tour brings big mountain adventure together with luxury and comfort not normally found at such heights.

## TRIP OVERVIEW

An exhilarating 15-minute scenic helicopter flight will take you from Wanaka's Matukituki Valley, high into the heart of New Zealand's Southern Alps, dropping you at the doorstep of the Whare Kea Mountain Chalet. This relaxed style mountain retreat offers pure luxury against the rugged mountain backdrop of the Albert Burn Saddle and nearby towering peaks of Mount Aspiring National Park.

The area surrounding the chalet offers a variety of mountainous terrain suitable for intermediate level skiers through to more technically difficult steeper lines for expert skiers keen to push their backcountry skiing limits. Non-skiers are not left out—with the option of snowshoeing excursions from the Chalet for those wishing to venture further into the nearby mountains.

Options abound, with as many runs as time allows before returning to the comfort of the warm chalet each night. Enjoy a gourmet meal and the company of friends as you relax in the heated mountain retreat.

Trips include return helicopter flights, exclusive use of the Whare Kea Mountain Chalet, meals and guided ski touring or snowshoeing with our experienced and qualified mountain guides. With 2 or 3 day options available, the Luxury Backcountry Ski Tour ticks all the boxes!

## OUR GUIDES

Professional and experienced mountain guides run all of our trips. Adventure Consultants has a commitment to ensuring the highest standard of instruction and guiding practices and we only employ guides who share our philosophy. Our guides will offer you the best possible experience, and a safe and enjoyable time.

Our guides are all NZMGA and/or IFMGA internationally qualified. They have been trained and assessed through the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association, and operate to the high standards and guidelines set out by the association.

## TERRAIN

Whare Kea Mountain Chalet is located in the Albert Burn Saddle, close to Mount Aspiring National Park at an elevation of 1,750m/5,741ft. Accessed by a scenic 15-minute helicopter flight, the Chalet is surrounded in a range of terrain suitable for intermediate to expert skiers. Non-skiers will be equally occupied with the option of snowshoeing adventures from the Chalet. Views from the surrounding terrain take in the glaciers and peaks of the nearby Mount Aspiring across the Southern Alps to Aoraki Mount Cook.

## EQUIPMENT

While winter ski touring in the New Zealand mountains requires good personal gear due to the potential cold weather conditions, your regular ski clothing, bulked up with some extra warm layers will normally suffice.

We will provide avalanche safety equipment, transceiver, probe and shovel, but you will need to come prepared with your ski touring equipment, personal clothing, sleeping bag, sunscreen and water bottle.

There are a number of rental options available in Wanaka and we can help you with sourcing rental of specialised touring skis, boots and climbing skins. We have snowshoes available for rent for snowboarders or we can help you rent a split board and climbing skins.

## TRAVEL

We commence our Luxury Backcountry Ski Tour from our office in Wanaka. Air New Zealand and Qantas/ Jetstar provide daily services to Queenstown from Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch airports. There are also direct flights from most major Australian cities.

A shuttle service operates several times daily between Queenstown and Wanaka (approximately one hour driving time and at a cost from NZ\$35 each way), check <https://www.ritchies.co.nz/wanaka> for details. Bus services operate daily between Christchurch and Wanaka (approximately 6 hours travel time).

## FITNESS & HEALTH

To make the most of your experience we encourage you to work on your fitness and skiing/snowboarding prior to the trip. You should be a minimum of an intermediate level off-piste skier. Non-skiers wishing to join a snowshoeing excursion should be of moderate fitness, confident at walking on uneven, hilly terrain.



▲ Sublime backcountry skiing. Photo: Suze Kelly



▲ The perfect luxury mountain escape. Photo: Guy Cotter



▲ Helicopter to and from the chalet. Photo: Whare Kea

# PRICE

The trip fees are detailed below, prices are per person and in New Zealand dollars:

NUMBER OF PEOPLE	2 DAYS/1 NIGHT	3 DAYS/2 NIGHTS
1	NZ\$4,750	NZ\$5,900
2	NZ\$2,950	NZ\$3,650
3 or 4	NZ\$2,550	NZ\$3,100
5	NZ\$2,350	NZ\$2,900

**NOTE:** All prices are subject to change without notice.

The price of your trip includes the following:

- Guide and permit fees
- Helicopter flights in and out
- Return transport from Wanaka office to staging area
- Exclusive use of Whare Kea Luxury Chalet
- Meals while in the mountains
- Avalanche rescue equipment (transceiver, shovel and probe)
- 15% NZ Goods and Services Tax

The price of your trip **does not** include:

- Personal equipment (clothing, day pack, sunblock etc.)
- Ski touring equipment (skis with touring binding, skins and poles)
- Alcoholic drinks (BYO)

## REGISTRATION & PAYMENT DETAILS

Book your Luxury Backcountry Ski Tour online and forward your trip payment at <https://www.adventureconsultants.com/skiing/new-zealand-guided-ski-touring/luxury-backcountry-ski-tour/book-now>.

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following bank and account:

**Bank:** Bank of New Zealand  
**For the Account of:** Adventure Consultants Limited  
**Account Number:** 02 0673 0043443 00  
**Account Type:** NZ Dollars

We also accept your deposit and balance payment by credit card (Visa, Mastercard and Amex) plus a 3% card charge.

## DEPOSIT & BALANCE PAYMENTS

To confirm place on one of our trips, we require a completed registration form with a deposit of NZ\$1,000 per person. The balance payment of is due 60 days prior to the trip start date.

## CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

A trip member may then cancel their participation on the following basis:

- Cancellations outside of 60 days incur a NZ\$250 cancellation fee.
- For cancellations made within 60 days of the trip commencement date, we reserve the right to retain 50% of the full fee.
- For cancellations made within 30 days of the trip commencement date, we reserve the right to retain 75% of the full fee.
- For cancellations within 15 days of the departure date a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fee applies.

We recommend you take out trip cancellation insurance via your travel agent if you wish to be covered against cancellation due to medical or personal reasons.

If you require more information, please contact us at:

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Adventure Consultants is affiliated to the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association (NZMGA), New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) and a corporate member of the American Alpine Club (AAC). Adventure Consultants is a supporter of the dZi Foundation in Nepal for their 'Revitalise a Village' programmes.

Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.

