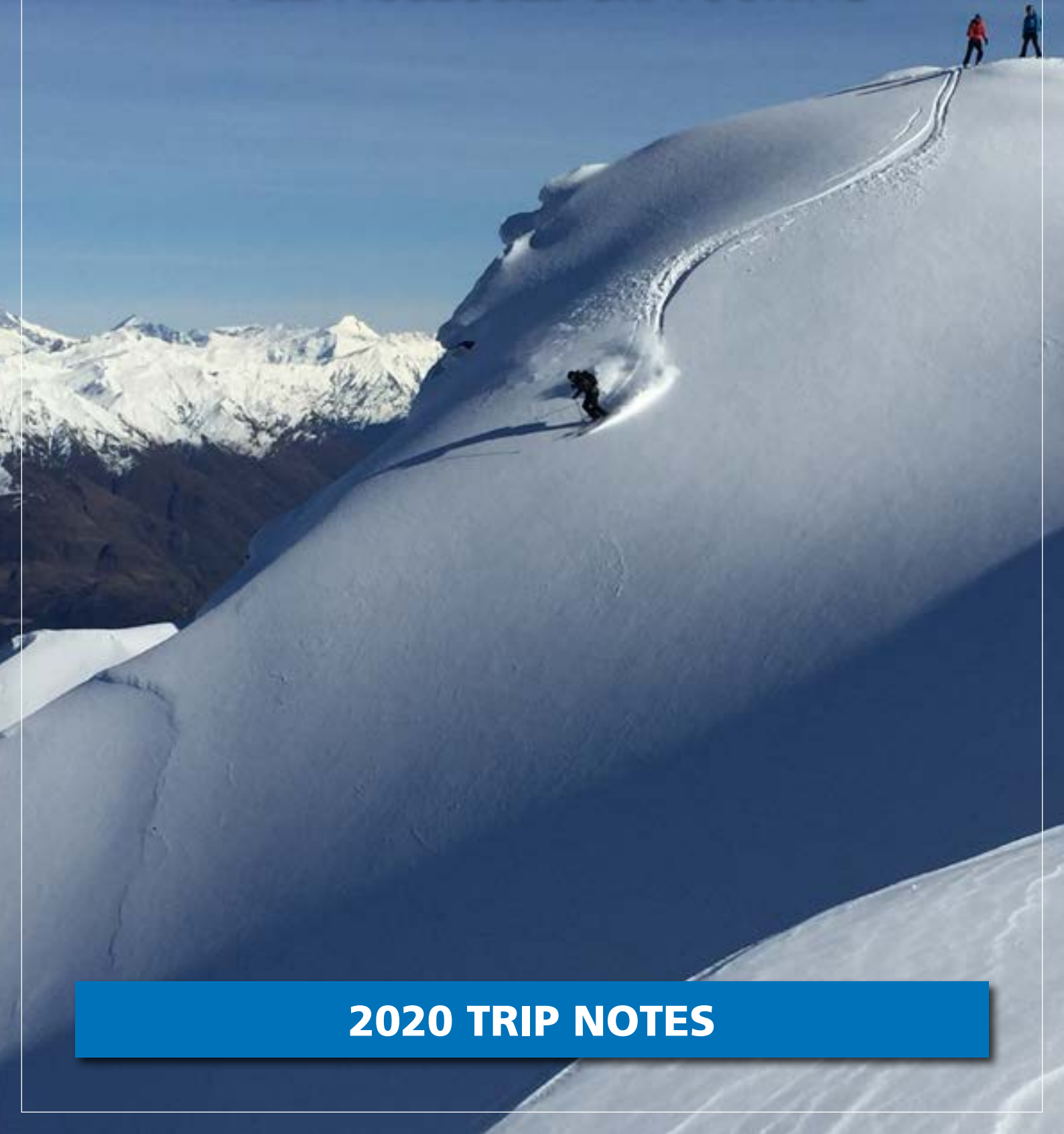




FIRST TRACKS WANAKA

HELI ACCESSED SKI TOURING



2020 TRIP NOTES



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2020 TRIP DETAILS

Dates: Available on demand
August to September

Duration: 1 day

Departure: ex Wanaka, New Zealand

Price: From NZ\$750 per person



▲ Escape the crowds. Photo: Dean Staples

Heli-Accessed Ski Touring allows you the opportunity to ski tour in Wanaka's premier mountain terrain. A morning helicopter ride will deliver you to a remote mountain top, from where you can enjoy a day of ski touring on high alpine terrain with your friendly and highly qualified ski guides.

WHY FIRST TRACKS?

Professional and experienced mountain guides run all of our trips. First Tracks Wanaka 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.

Experience the solitude of being in the big mountains without the expense of heli-skiing or the time commitment of a trip into the glaciers. Once the helicopter departs, enjoy the peace and quiet of the Southern Alps and as much action as your legs can handle!

ITINERARY

You will need to visit the AC Office (corner of Brownston and Russell Streets, Wanaka) to register for your trip the day before it begins. You will view a helicopter briefing video and a transceiver search video.

On the day of the trip, be back at the Adventure Consultants Office by 7:45am. Your guide will check your equipment to ensure it is serviceable as well as checking your clothing for the day.

We will transport you on the 30-minute drive from the AC office to the staging area at 8:00am and the helicopter will pick us up soon after. We will land on a summit, then ski as far down the run as the guide deems appropriate. Then you will attach the skins to your skis, put your bindings into walk mode, and 'skin' back up the slope.

The length of each climb varies, but generally you will climb back up for 30–45 minutes after each run. That

will give you around 200–250m/650–800ft of ascent/descent each time. We travel at a leisurely pace so we don't over-tire ourselves and retain enough energy to enjoy the next few runs.

We will stop for lunch to enjoy the views, and your guide will discuss touring techniques and help you become a better ski tourer.

At the end of the day, the helicopter will return to pick us up and deliver us back to the staging area. You can expect to be back in Wanaka around 4–5.00pm.

It is important to note that the focus of the day is to enjoy the skiing and being in the mountains. If you are a small group of fit, go-getter types, the guide will be happy to do more runs with you than a standard group might expect. Alternatively, if your group's focus is to extend your backcountry touring skills, your guide can include some instructional sessions throughout the day. Simply talk to us at the time of booking about your group's goals for the trip.

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

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.

FOOD

We provide a packed lunch for the day, generally a sandwich and two energy bars. If you're a big eater or have strict dietary requirements and feel you need more, then please bring some extra snacks or food.

FITNESS & HEALTH

To make the most of your skiing experience we encourage you to work on your fitness and skiing/snowboarding prior to the trip. Skiers should be a minimum of strong intermediate off-piste skiers. You will be grouped with similar ability skiers as much as possible to maximise your day.

PRICE

The trip fees are per person and in New Zealand dollars:

| NO. OF PEOPLE | DAILY RATE |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 2 | NZ\$1,050 per person |
| 3 | NZ\$750 per person |

NOTE: All prices are subject to change without notice.



▲ Fly directly into the McKerrow Range. Photo: Kristen Rabe

The price of your trip includes the following:

- Guide and permit fees
- Helicopter flight in and out
- Return transport from Wanaka office to staging area
- Lunch
- Avalanche rescue equipment (transceiver, shovel, probe)
- 15% NZ Goods and Services Tax

The price of your trip does not include:

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

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT DETAILS

Book your First Tracks Wanaka Heli Accessed Ski Touring trip online and forward your deposit payment of 50% of the package price at:

<https://www.adventureconsultants.com/skiing/new-zealand-guided-ski-touring/first-tracks-heli-accessed-ski-touring/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.

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

A full refund will be given if the cancellation is received before 2pm the day prior to the package commencing. No shows and any cancellations made after 2pm the day prior to the package commencing incur a 100% charge with no refund entitlement without exception.

CONTACT US

If you require more information, please contact us at:

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▲ A variety of terrain. Photo: Andy Cole



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First Tracks Wanaka is operated by Adventure Consultants Ltd. 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 perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.

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