

QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND

5-day / 4-night Marlborough Sounds **SELF-GUIDED** walking ... in the footsteps of Captain James Cook



This is one of our most popular scenic walking holidays in the north of New Zealand's South Island. When English explorer Captain James Cook sailed into the calm waters of the Marlborough Sounds in the late 17th Century, he must have believed he was in paradise. Today you can follow in Cook's footsteps along the scenic 71km of the Queen Charlotte Track, exploring a vast network of drowned river valleys and lush coastal forests.

Unlike some other wilderness walks in New Zealand here you carry only a small daypack during a walking day, making the Queen Charlotte Track an ideal introduction to wilderness walking. These self-guided walks offer quality accommodation (all rooms with private bathroom) and access to a la carte restaurant dining for breakfast or dinner.

Duration: 5-days / 4-nights in either standard or upgraded accommodation.
Departs daily on demand year-round. Minimum 2 travellers.

Cost from: Standard \$1010 per person twin share Upgrade: \$2025 per person twin share

Includes: Four nights twin share accommodation with private ensuite (Furneaux Lodge, Punga Cove and Hillside chalet at Portage Hotel on Standard walk or upgraded, sea-view rooms at Furneaux Lodge, Mahana Lodge and Lochmara Lodge on Upgrade walk), water transport to and from track, luggage transfers, 4 x packed lunches, (plus 4 x breakfasts, 4 x dinners and welcome drink on the upgrade tour only), transfers to and from water taxi in Picton and an information pack including track guide.

Suggested itinerary:

Day 1: Ship Cove to Endeavour Inlet / Furneaux Lodge **walking @ 14km (5 hours)**

Depart from your accommodation in Picton to join the water taxi to Ship Cove to begin walking. This scenic and historic reserve was an anchorage for Captain James Cook during his explorations in the 1770s. You can experience virgin beech forest at its best with stunning views of the Queen Charlotte Sound. Take time to explore the waterfall walk and the Captain Cook memorial and then set off on the track proper.

Accommodation: Furneaux Lodge comprises the original homestead, restaurant, bar, fully self-contained chalets and upmarket studio units in a delightfully picturesque setting. Furneaux Lodge has an excellent restaurant for dinner and/or breakfasts.

Day 2: Endeavour Inlet to Camp Bay/Punga Cove **walking @ 12km (4 hours)**

Today's mainly coastal walk takes you around the inlet through regenerating native bush to the call of bellbirds, fantails and other NZ native birds. Pause at the head of the bay to learn more about antimony and the mining industry that thrived there in the 1880s. Follow the main track onwards and into Big Bay before working your way towards Camp Bay and, five minutes on from there, Punga Cove.

Accommodation: Punga Cove is nestled amidst the native bush with well-appointed individual chalets. The gourmet restaurant with an impressive view over the bay caps off a perfect day and is also open for breakfast.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Day 3: Punga Cove to Torea Saddle/The Portage

walking @ 24km (8 hours)

A challenging day on the ridgeline between Punga Cove and Torea Saddle. Truly grand vistas abound round every corner – a wonderful reward indeed. At the end of the day, walk from Torea Saddle down to the Portage Hotel or catch the waiting water taxi to your night's accommodation at Lochmara Lodge.

Those who prefer a day's rest can opt for a boat ride around the bays of the Queen Charlotte Sound to Portage (at additional cost, please ask when booking).

Standard Accommodation: Portage Hotel - Nestled at the narrowest point between Queen Charlotte and Kenepuru Sounds, the Portage Hotel is a well-established accommodation place with a fine restaurant and comfortable natural timber chalets. Upon arrival, please collect your baggage from the pack rack and your key from the office. Book in for dinner for the evening. Breakfasts are available in the restaurant from 7.00am.

Upgrade Accommodation: Lochmara Lodge Wildlife Recovery & Arts Centre - Set on the tranquil shores of the Queen Charlotte Sound is the Marlborough Sounds' only Wildlife Recovery and Arts Centre. Lochmara Lodge features quality accommodation as well as aviaries and enclosures with endangered species, an organic vegetable garden and orchard, educational signage, sculpture trail and art gallery. Our independent walkers stay in the luxurious suites, each with ensuite and view to the sea. The lodge features a licensed café with a seasonal menu serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as all-day coffee and house-made treats.

Day 4: Rest Day

free day – walking optional

Today is your chance to rejuvenate and relax. We can arrange guided sea kayaking tours for those interested. Lunch is not included today unless you are pre-booked on an organised day tour (at additional cost, please ask when booking).

Day 5: Portage Hotel / Lochmara Lodge to Anakiwa

walking @ 21km (7 hours)

Farewell Portage Hotel or Lochmara Lodge and ascend to the ridgeline once again, enjoying stunning views. Open farmland and a grand native bush section to finish is a fitting finale. Return by boat from the Anakiwa Jetty to Picton to complete your journey. Accommodation overnight in Picton is at your own arrangement.



Outdoor Travel offer a wide range of guided or self-guided walking experiences in New Zealand including the **Milford Sound Track, Routeburn Walk, Grand Traverse, Hollyford Track, Abel Tasman National Park Walk** and the spectacular **Akaroa / Banks Peninsula** walk. Self-guided cycling holidays are available in the Marlborough Sounds region or on the Otago Rail Trail from Queenstown to Dunedin.

We also offer guided or self-guided walking and cycling holidays in Australia, Europe and North America.

Contact Outdoor Travel direct for more details and reservations

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright 3741, Australia