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TOUR ITINERARY

RIDING LEVEL 2

New Zealand

New Zealand Bike Tour

Queenstown to Wanaka: Cycling Central Otago + Lake Dunstan Trail

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride the most essential bike routes through the Central Otago and Southern Lakes region, including Lake Dunstan Trail, Kawarau Gorge, Lake Wānaka, and Lake Hāwea
- Hike along the shores of Lake Wānaka, where New Zealand's Southern Alps meet the cerulean waters of the country's fourth-largest lake
- Stay at just two exceptional properties: Millbrook in Queenstown, a luxury lifestyle resort, and a sleek private villa with unfettered views of Lake Wānaka and the surrounding mountains
- Taste estate-grown wines that exemplify the Central Otago wine region and have lunch at a charming wine country inn
- Delve into the island's past with a visit to a high-country station, a sprawling ranch that evokes the frontier spirit of the 1800's









ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

Arrival Details

- **Airport City**: Queenstown, New Zealand
- **Pick-Up Location**: Queenstown Airport or Downtown Queenstown
- **Pick-Up Time**: 9:00 am

Departure Details

- **Airport City**: Queenstown, New Zealand
- **Drop-Off Location**: Queenstown Airport or Downtown Queenstown
- **Drop-Off Time**: 12:00 pm

NOTE: DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

Emergency Assistance

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or **emergency@duvine.com**.

Travelers Take Note

U.S. Travelers visiting New Zealand are required to obtain a **New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA)** prior to departure.

Some of the riding on this tour takes place on packed gravel or dirt roads.



TOUR ITINERARY

Tour By Day

DAY 1 Welcome to Queenstown

Touch down in Queenstown—New Zealand's adventure capital—where your guides will greet you at the airport or downtown. A short transfer brings us to the shores of Lake Hayes, where we'll get fitted on our bikes. Ease into the week with a warm-up ride through Coronet Peak Valley and along Speargrass Flat Road, a favorite among local cyclists. We'll stop for a casual coffee in Arthurs Point. then continue cycling, marveling at the majestic peaks of the Southern Alps. A lovely outdoor lunch awaits along a scenic creek. From there, it's a short ride to the luxurious Millbrook Resort, set against snow-capped peaks in the heart of Central Otago's wine country. Spend the afternoon settling in and exploring the property or tack on some extra miles. This evening, we'll gather for a traditional Māori Pōwhiri welcome ceremony before enjoying sunset cocktails. Dinner follows at one of our favorite local restaurants, just a stone's throw from our hotel—the perfect introduction to New Zealand's exceptional ingredients and wines.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Queenstown, Lake Hayes, Arthurs Point
Accomplished: 21 miles / 34 km, elevation gain: 1,709 feet / 521 meters
Longer Option: 28 miles / 45 km, elevation gain: 2,060 feet / 628 meters
Accommodations: **Millbrook Resort**

DAY 2 The Queenstown Basin

This morning we ride straight out of Millbrook for a loop through the Queenstown Basin, a region rich in glacial lakes, rushing rivers, and alpine valleys. Our route follows scenic, traffic-free trails that trace the Shotover and Kawarau Rivers, where blue-green waters feed beautiful pools and hidden coves. Our destination is Arrowtown, a former mining town that sprung up overnight when prospectors found gold in the Arrow River in 1862. You'll feel like you've stepped into the 19th-century as you stroll through the town's beautifully preserved historic center, now filled with cafés, galleries, and artisan boutiques, including a workshop where master carvers shape *pounamou* (greenstone) into *taonga* (treasure). Here we'll learn the cultural importance of this sacred craft and hear the stories behind the traditional designs. Pedal back to the hotel for a dip in the pool or a visit to spa—or challenge yourself with an extra ride up the scenic slopes of Coronet Peak. Tonight we'll return Arrowtown, gathering at a local cocktail bar before heading to dinner at a restaurant right in town.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Shotover River, Kawarau River, Arrowtown
Accomplished: 25 miles / 41 km, elevation gain: 1,545 feet / 471 meters
Longer Option: 51 miles / 82 km, elevation gain: 4,612 feet / 1,406 meters
Accommodations: **Millbrook Resort**

DAY 3 The Kawarau Gorge Trail

Thanks to the success of the Otago Central Rail Trail, the Otago Valley has emerged as a premier cycling destination, with an impressive network of bike paths spanning a stunning landscape of rugged river canyons, sheer rock faces, and mountain lakes. Today's ride on the Kawarau Gorge Trail is nothing short of spectacular: we'll follow the Kawarau River as it tumbles out of Queenstown carving a deep gorge from Gibbston—home to the world's first bungee-jumping site—to Bannockburn. Pedal across suspension bridges and take in dramatic views of rushing rapids and Central Otago's prized vineyards, stopping for a tapas-style lunch at a historic inn with a stellar wine list. From there, transfer to the private lakeside villa in Wānaka where we'll spend the next three nights. Watch the sun set over Lake Wānaka and the Southern Alps, then gather for an incredible barbecue featuring grilled local meats and the season's best produce prepared by our in-house chef.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch/ Dinner
Destinations: Gibbston, Kawarau Gorge, Bannockburn
Accomplished: 31 miles / 50 km, elevation gain: 1,614 feet / 492 meters
Accommodations: **Whare Kea Lodge**

DAY 4 Peaceful Lakes and a High Country Farm

Start the day with a homemade breakfast, then choose your own adventure: a hike along the secluded shores of Lake Wānaka or a ride on country roads and well-paved bike paths to neighboring Lake Hāwea. Whichever route you select, the scenery will be vast and beautiful—think glassy alpine basins, gently swaying grass, and glacier-sculpted valleys. Regroup for a picnic lunch by the shore of Lake Hāwea, then set off on a special afternoon adventure—a visit to a remote high-country station accessible only by four-wheel drive. Dating back to the 19th century, this working farm offers incredible views along with behind-the-scenes access to a way of life that helped define Kiwi culture here on the South Island. Tonight, go at your own pace and dine where you wish in Wānaka. Your guides are happy to recommend local restaurants in this lovely little resort town.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch
Destinations: Mount Iron, Glendhu Bay, Lake Wānaka
Accomplished: 31 miles / 50 km, elevation gain: 1,614 feet / 451 meters OR 2-4 hours hiking
Longer Option: 40 miles / 65 km, elevation gain: 1,847 feet / 563 meters OR 2-4 hours hiking
Accommodations: **Whare Kea Lodge**

DAY 5 Lake Dunstan by Land and Water

This morning we'll transfer south to explore Otago's most iconic cycling route. Start with a warm-up ride along the shores of Lake Dunstan, spinning toward Cromwell—a picturesque mining town that was partially submerged when the Clutha River was dammed in the 1990s. After a coffee and a snack at a lakefront winery, our ride continues on the Lake Dunstan Trail. This bucket-list ride follows a car-free, single-track path that hugs the lake's edge for peaceful and pristine riding with uninterrupted views. The trail ends in Clyde, a historic gold-rush town on the banks of the Clutha River. A wine-lover's lunch is served at an estate founded by a French winemaker in the 1860s. Taste to your heart's content then enjoy a relaxing boat ride back up the lake. Back at the villa, we'll toast with celebratory cocktails and share our favorite moments of the trip while our private chef prepares dinner.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Destinations: Pisa Moorings, Cromwell, Clyde
Accomplished: 27 miles / 43 km, elevation gain: 1,804 feet / 550 meters
Longer Option: 37 miles / 59 km, elevation gain: 1,988 feet / 606 meters
Accommodations: **Whare Kea Lodge**

DAY 6 Haere Rā: Farewell to New Zealand

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast or head out for a quick final stroll along the shores of Lake Wānaka. Your guides will take you back to Queenstown to continue your time in New Zealand or head onto your next adventure.

Meals: Breakfast
Destinations: Lake Wānaka, Queenstown
