

# Mt Aspiring Discovery

East Matukituki Trek




  
season  
nov-april

  
price  
nz \$ 940 p.p.

  
access  
walk-in /walk out

  
location  
Mt Aspiring National Park -  
World heritage area

  
grade  
easy / moderate

  
Group size  
max 5; min 2

  
Trek dates: 3 days

Nov 26-28  
Dec 6-8, 28-30  
Jan 9-11, 17-19, 31-2 Feb  
Feb 14-16, 28-2 Mar  
Mar 14-16, 28-30  
Apr 11-13; 22-24

Relax at a stunningly beautiful mountain retreat.

We guide 2-5 discerning clients on the wildest back country trekking and hiking in New Zealand. We operate primarily in Mount Aspiring National Park out of Wanaka or Queenstown. We are professional mountain guides, not tour operators. Because we guide small groups, we can take you, not on the great walks, but the best walks ... where no-one else can go.

Visit our Aspiring Camp which is placed high over the Matukituki Valley. With stunning views of Mount Aspiring, this is the ideal place to explore or to just relax. Cool off in a mountain stream or scale a peak, the choice is yours. Not as demanding as our other treks.

Our Mount Aspiring Discovery trek offers 2-5 people two fantastic nights at our incomparable high-end Aspiring Camp Site. Situated high over the East Matukituki Valley this camp site has incredible views of Mount Aspiring, Popes Nose and Kitchener Cirque. It is your base to explore this magnificent sub-alpine and alpine wonderland. Day trips include the remote Albert Burn Saddle or the gorgeous Ruth Flat. You can hike, jump in a crystal clear stream or just relax. Trips begin and end in Wanaka.

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We stay at pre-placed camp sites instead of crowded huts. This means you only carry a light pack. We rarely see other parties. All you need is appropriate clothing, a good pair of walking shoes or hiking boots (and a spirit of adventure). You will welcome the comfort of our fantastic home away from home. Our astonishing food is only outdone by the mountain scenery. Join a trek, or book out your private trek on or around the dates listed below.

The Mount Aspiring National Park is a majestic and seldom travelled area, literally off the beaten track. The surrounding peaks and huge tracts of unmodified native bush, give a feeling of timelessness. This is the basis of the area's reputation as having some of the most dramatic and undiscovered trekking in NZ. The park forms part of the Te Wahipounamu World heritage site. Many people do not realize that New Zealand does not have any large predators, no bears, no fox or wolf. There are no snakes in New Zealand. There are absolutely no animals which will harm you.

New Zealand is a truly unique country. Due to its geographic isolation many plants and animals have evolved which exist no where else on earth. The only way to appreciate this biodiversity and get a sense of how glaciation shaped the Southern Alps is to walk through the densely forested valleys, relax by the crystal clear rivers and endure the trek up to a high alpine pass.

Maori walked through what is now Mount Aspiring National Park in search of pounamu (greenstone). They discovered routes through the Southern Alps which would take them from the west coast into the interior. Towards the end of the 19th century the

European settlers came "exploring". They were looking for pastoral land, mineral deposits (mostly GOLD) and also routes through to the West coast. We now follow in the footsteps of Maori and the Pakeha surveyors as we trek through this stunning mountain wilderness.



## itinerary

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day one	We meet with transport and guide at 8:30 a.m. and travel an hour down the magnificent Matukituki Valley, the gateway to Mt Aspiring National Park. After a river crossing, the East Matukituki Track follows the river valley for about three hours before turning and climbing sharply. It usually takes four and a half to five hours to reach the camp.
day two	It is your base to explore this magnificent sub-alpine and alpine wonderland. Day trips include the remote Albert Burn Saddle or the gorgeous Ruth Flat. You can hike, jump in a crystal clear stream or just relax.
day three	A leisurely breakfast. We then head home with a final river crossing. The van is waiting for the 60 minute ride back to Wanaka. We usually arrive back in Wanaka around 4.30pm.

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## trek dates 2010-2011 or book your own private trek

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November 26 - 28	December 6 - 8 28 - 30	January 9 - 11 17 - 19 31 - 2 feb	February 14 - 16 28 - 2 mar	March 14 - 16 28 - 30	April 11 - 13 22 - 24
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## logistics

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duration	4 days
price	NZ\$940 per person (min 2 – max 5) (join a scheduled trek or book your private trek)
access	Walk in, walk out
season	Nov-April
guide-client ratio	1:5 maximum; 1:2 minimum
prerequisites	Easy / Moderate Grade. This trip requires a moderate level of fitness. There is some off trail and a good uphill section. The trail is sometimes rough and muddy. Not suitable for children under 12.
accommodation	Pre-placed high-end camp site
maps	E39 Aspiring

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The trip price includes: *good wholesome food catering for all tastes, backpack, sleeping bag, liner and all camping gear, permits and goods and service tax (GST). All you need is warm clothes, raincoat and a pair of walking shoes. We supply everything else. All you carry is a light day pack.*



## difficulty scale

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Easy/Moderate Grade. This trip requires a moderate level of fitness. There is some off trail and a good uphill section. The trail is sometimes rough and muddy. Not suitable for children under 12.

Easy	Moderate	Hard
Average level of fitness. Age 12+. 5-6 hours each day. Light packs. Previous hiking recommended	Formed tracks perhaps rough or slippery. 6-8 hours each day. Long ascents/descents. Light packs. Previous hiking recommended.	High level of fitness and good balance. Max 8+ hours each day. Off trail, loose rock & insecure terrain in places. Occasional exposure where falling is a possibility if care is not taken. Previous hiking experience required. Large ascents/descents can be expected. Light packs.

## we care about you

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We want to maximise your chance of having a mountain experience that is successful and enjoyable. Our philosophy here at Aspiring Guides is such that we aim to cover all aspects of a trekking trip with you. This includes preparatory housekeeping matters too: let us know what you do/don't like eating, any allergies/medical conditions, and any special requests. We have a sound environmental policy (small groups, avoidance of machine prepared tracks, zero waste, operated and owned locally). We are professional mountain guides not tour operators. We take you, not on the great walks, but the best walks.

## location and itinerary

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We usually meet the evening before your trip starts at 4.30pm in Wanaka. The trip starts 8:30am on day one. The Aspiring Guides office is situated at Level One, 99 Ardmore Street, Wanaka on the main thoroughfare and only 50 metres from the shores of Lake Wanaka. Wanaka is the gateway to the Mount Aspiring National Park, and the Southern Alps. Our office staff can offer advice on accommodation and shuttle reservations, and of course, local attractions. Wanaka is very popular during the winter and summer months. Please arrange your accommodation as early as possible.

## booking and cancellations

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NZ\$500 deposit per person confirms your booking. Full payment must be made 60 days before commencement date. Should you cancel your booking for any reason you will receive a full refund less a cancellation fee: more than 60 days NZ\$200 per person, between 60 and 30 days NZ\$500 per person, between 29 and 15 days 75% of the total course or trip fee. Cancellation less than 15 days or during your trip no refund will be given.

## weather

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New Zealand is famous for its changeable weather. The mountains here are characterized by long sunny fine periods mixed with sudden and sometimes heavy rain or snow. Our experienced guides are well equipped to provide the best possible trip and have many years experience in judging the conditions. Travel in bad weather is an art in itself, the temperate rain forest here is absolutely beautiful in the rain. By using Wild Walks you give yourself the best chance of a successful dealing with whatever the weather may throw at you. It is very rare for trips to be cancelled due to weather; in the unfortunate event that



this happens, there is a 50% cancellation fee. Once a trip begins there are no refunds. The trekking area of our website has detailed information on weather.

## meals and snacks

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Energy snacks and nutritious meals are an essential ingredient in helping you perform to your highest standard. We provide excellent meals and plenty of it. We cater for your specific dietary requirement.

## insurance

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Injuries are covered by the New Zealand Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC). ACC pays for the majority of costs incurred in evacuation and treatment of injured people. They do not cover you in case of illness. For more information concerning what ACC covers check out <http://www.acc.co.nz/claims/am-i-covered/index.htm>. We recommend that you have travel insurance that will cover you in being repatriated to your home country. Most standard travel insurance policies that cover lost deposit or cancellation fees will cover you in case you are somehow prevented from participating in the trip.

## how to book

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To register for a trip, you can book online through our excellent website. Your deposit of NZ\$500 may be paid by Visa or Mastercard, or bank transfer (NZ only). The forms required can be found on our website. Our booking terms and conditions are detailed on our online booking form on our website. Balance of payment is required 60 days before your trip start.

We will send an appointment email approximately 4 weeks before your trip is due to commence. We will provide final appointment information and ask for more information from you, e.g. dietary requirement, objectives and/or concerns, fitness and any equipment rental required.

We look forward to sharing your aspirations...  
and the opportunity of spending time with you in the future

the team @ aspiring guides

