

The Nature of Wilderness *No need to travel the South Island - you can see it all here - mountains, lakes, rare and endangered birds, vast landscapes, rainforest, waterfalls, mountain streams, braided rivers. The mix of natural history phenomena - the geology, fauna and flora - of our area is unique. A wide range of tours and experiences is available - the choice depends on your interests, fitness and the weather!*

ECOTOURS

- Personalised guiding for 1, 2 or 3 days.
- Available all year
- All tours include morning & afternoon teas and lunch each day. Two day tour includes dinner, bed & breakfast for three nights. Three day tour includes dinner, bed & breakfast for four nights.
- Quality meals and accommodation provided in historic cottage and modern lodge.
- We know the area well and have a passion for it. We are keen to share our wildlife and natural history with you.



INFORMATION

- All tours leave from Staveley at 9.00am and return by 5.30pm. Pick up from Christchurch can be arranged - an extra charge will be made.
- Maximum group size 6 persons
- Poor weather conditions or particular preferences may lead to a tour being changed.
- No hiking experience is necessary but some fitness and enthusiasm is required.
- Prices include all transport, guiding, accommodation, meals and Department of Conservation fees.

CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR REQUIREMENTS

waterproof parka • insect repellent • tramping boots or stout walking shoes • sun hat • sun screen • small day pack • warm clothing



WILDLIFE REFUGES AND NATURE RESERVES

Pristine subalpine lakes, the main nesting areas in New Zealand for the endangered Australasian crested grebe. Wide variety of birds including NZ scaup, Australian coot, black swan and 5 duck species. Lakes Heron, Emma, Camp, Clearwater & Maori Lakes.

ALPINE FLOWERS (December - January)

Mt Hutt Conservation Area is home to a fascinating array of plants adapted to thrive in a harsh alpine environment - edelweiss, vegetable sheep, black cotula, alpine daisies & mountain buttercups. Road access.

BEECH FOREST

Follow a crystal-clear stream to the Sharplin Falls or walk beside the blue-green water and white rhyolite boulders of Woolshed Creek to an ancient forest remnant. Mountain beech forest with rata, filmy ferns, native orchids, honey dew, bellbird, fantail, tomtit, rifleman, kereru (NZ pigeon).

ARTHURS PASS NATIONAL PARK

An excellent tour for alpine plant enthusiasts and ornithologists. Plants which may be seen include the rare penwiper, alpine daisies and mountain buttercups. The Hawdon Valley (APNP) is home to some rare & endangered forest birds such as the yellowhead and orange-fronted parakeet.

BIRDWATCHING

Habitats visited include - freshwater lakes, beech forest, wetlands, braided rivers, alpine, subalpine and tussocklands. Species which may be seen include the rare wrybill and black-fronted tern, black-billed gull, banded doterrel, Australasian crested grebe, black swan, paradise shelduck, bittern, kereru, NZ falcon.

LORD OF THE RINGS - HIGH COUNTRY WILDERNESS

Follow in the footsteps of the hobbits to Mt Sunday, site of Edoras in The Lord Of The Rings film trilogy. The Erewhon landscape is inspiring: a wide braided river; deep, clear trout spawning streams; Mt D'Archiac & the Gardens of Eden and Allah icefields.

MT SOMERS SUBALPINE WALKWAY

Hiking on one of the top 10 walkways in New Zealand. Walk through beech forest, snow tussock and subalpine shrublands. Spectacular slot gorges & waterfalls. bellbird, pipit, kea & NZ falcon may be seen.

MT SOMERS SUMMIT

A full-day climb of this 1687 metre volcanic mountain. Superb views of the Canterbury Plains and Southern Alps. Alpine plants and birds - kea and pipit may be seen. Good level of fitness required.

HISTORY & GEOLOGY

Learn about the early history of inland Canterbury. Historic buildings, Staveley Historical & Geological Centre, lime kilns, coal mines, Samuel Butler & early high country stations.

PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

Personal guiding to prime locations for landscape and nature photography. Early morning and late afternoon light. Available any season of the year - winter is a special time for photography in the high country.



This is a tour to remember. Come and see what we have to offer - we are people who care.

