



WEIR TOURS
NEW ZEALAND



High Country Stations, Gardens & Homesteads

15th - 27th November 2026

Step away from the everyday on this 13-Day South Island Journey and immerse yourself in the timeless beauty of the South Island on this carefully crafted High-Country adventure.

This exceptional journey combines spectacular alpine scenery, gracious homesteads, historic stations, private gardens, and authentic farm experiences — all enjoyed at a relaxed and comfortable pace. Travel through the heart of the South Island, from Wellington across Cook Strait and down through Marlborough, Canterbury, Mackenzie Country, Central Otago and into Queenstown, discovering the people and places that define our rural heritage.

Throughout the tour, you'll be warmly welcomed onto some of New Zealand's most iconic high-country stations. Meet the farming families, hear their stories, and gain a genuine insight into life in these remarkable landscapes. Enjoy sheep dog and working horse demonstrations, woolshed lunches, garden strolls, heritage buildings, and memorable homestead hospitality.

Scenic highlights include dramatic coastal drives, braided rivers, alpine lakes, the Southern Alps, Mackenzie Country's wide-open spaces, and the sparkling beauty of Queenstown and Lake Wakatipu. Special experiences — from 4WD high-country adventures to cruising aboard the historic TSS Earnslaw — add depth and variety to this unforgettable itinerary.

If you appreciate beautiful gardens, rural history, breathtaking scenery, and meaningful connections with like-minded travellers, this High-Country tour promises lasting memories and a true celebration of New Zealand's remarkable landscapes and heritage.

DAY 1: Sunday 15th November (L, D)

Home - Wellington

The coach departs Taranaki this morning and travels at a relaxed pace south toward the Manawatū for our first special visit of the tour — **Hiwinui Country Estate**.

If travelling from other locations, you will be given a personalized itinerary to join the tour.

On arrival, we are warmly welcomed by our hosts and enjoy a guided farm tour, offering insight into rural life and the story of the property. Following our visit, we sit down to a delightful country-style lunch at the homestead.

This afternoon we continue to Wellington. If time and weather permit, we'll take a scenic drive up to Mount Victoria for spectacular 360-degree views over the city and harbour.

We then check in to our centrally located hotel, where you'll have time to relax and freshen up before meeting again for dinner at the hotel this evening.

A comfortable and enjoyable beginning to our high-country journey.

➤ Accommodation: **Ibis hotel (04 496 1880)**

DAY 2: Monday 16th November (B, MT, D)

Wellington – Picton

After a relaxed breakfast, we are joined by a knowledgeable local guide for a visit to **Shenandoah Farm**. Here, we enjoy a guided tour of the property with the owner, gaining fascinating insight into the region's farming history and modern rural life.

Late morning, we return to central Wellington and stop at **Te Papa Museum**. You may choose to explore the museum's engaging exhibitions at your own pace or take a leisurely stroll into the city for some shopping and lunch.

Mid-afternoon, we make our way to the ferry terminal to board the **Interislander** for our scenic crossing to the South Island. Relax and enjoy the spectacular views as we cruise through Cook Strait and the beautiful Marlborough Sounds.

On arrival in Picton, it's a short drive to our accommodation. We gather to enjoy dinner and reflect on another enjoyable day of travel.

Accommodation: **Beachcomber (03-573 8900)**

DAY 3: Tuesday 17th November (B, MT, L, AT, D)

Picton - Kaikoura

After a scrumptious breakfast, we travel south to Blenheim for a special visit to **Rowley Estate Homestead**. Here, the owner personally guides us through the homestead, sharing the history and stories behind this gracious property. We enjoy a light morning tea in charming surroundings before continuing our journey.

Travelling down the picturesque East Coast, we stop for lunch at the well-known café at Kekerengu — a perfect spot to relax and enjoy the coastal views.

This afternoon we follow the dramatic coastline south, pausing at **Ōhau Point** to view the local seal colony in its natural habitat — a wonderful photo opportunity.

Arriving in Kaikōura, we visit the historic **Fyffe House**, one of the region's oldest surviving buildings, rich in maritime and whaling history.

We then continue around the peninsula to **Point Station**, where we meet the farmer for an engaging insight into the area's farming heritage, including a sheep shearing demonstration.

Late afternoon, we head to our accommodation, the much-loved Donegal House. Set in a peaceful location with plenty of character, it's a wonderful place to relax and enjoy dinner together this evening.

➤ Accommodation: **Donegal House (03 319 5083)**

DAY 4: Wednesday 18th November (B, MT, L, D)

Kaikoura - Christchurch

This morning, we travel toward Christchurch via the scenic Inland Road — historically the first route in and out of Kaikōura to reopen following the 2016 earthquake. The drive offers beautiful rural views and a different perspective of the region.

We pause in the historic township of **Waiau** for morning tea, with time to browse the charming Waiau Cob Cottage Museum, showcasing local heritage and early settler life.

Continuing into North Canterbury, we visit **Hurunui Hills**, a hill country station cared for by the same family since 1884. We are warmly welcomed by our hosts and enjoy lunch in the woolshed, where the farmer shares an informative and engaging talk on breeding premium Merino sheep and managing Angus cattle in this unique landscape.

A short drive takes us to **Black Hills**, a 250-acre fourth-generation sheep and beef property. Here we gain fascinating insight into the lives of early New Zealand settlers. Beautifully restored heritage buildings dating back to 1863 include a pioneer cob cottage, original stables, sheep dip, and horse-drawn agricultural equipment.

Late afternoon, we arrive in Christchurch where we board a double-decker bus for an in-depth **guided city tour**, learning about the city's history, regeneration, and vibrant future.

We then transfer to our accommodation for the evening, where dinner awaits and you can relax after a full and rewarding day.

Accommodation: ***Scenic Hotel Cotswold (03 355 3535)***

DAY 5: Thursday 19th November (B, MT, L, D)

Christchurch - Methven

Enjoy a relaxed start to the morning before we travel out onto the picturesque Banks Peninsula, heading toward Little River.

Our first visit is to the beautiful **Manderley Farm**, where Ross and Mary Millar farm 300 hectares of rolling hill country, running sheep and beef cattle. Here we enjoy an entertaining sheep dog demonstration, showcasing the remarkable skill and partnership between farmer and dog.

We then relax inside the lovingly restored 1876 homestead and enjoy a delicious homemade morning tea while taking in sweeping bush-clad views across Lake Forsyth. There is time to wander at your leisure through the extensive gardens before we continue our scenic drive around Lake Ellesmere and across the wide-open Canterbury Plains.

Next, we visit the remarkable **Homebush Stables**. We are warmly welcomed by the owners and guided through this Category One heritage-listed 1870s property. The museum and stables house an extraordinary collection reflecting pioneering country life on the Canterbury Plains — including vintage farming and mining machinery, military and sporting memorabilia, and fascinating everyday items from early settler days. A highlight is the rare Dayton Ohio water turbine, believed to be the only one of its kind still operating in its original location.

We enjoy a delicious lunch here while listening to captivating stories of the region's past.

Later this afternoon we travel to Methven, our home for the next three nights. En route, we visit the engaging **New Zealand Alpine and Agriculture Encounter**, an interactive experience showcasing the unique connection between high country farming and alpine life.

A short drive then brings us to our accommodation, where you can settle in and relax before enjoying dinner together this evening.



➤ Accommodation: ***Ski Time Methven (03 302 8398)***

DAY 6: Friday 20th November (B, MT, L, AT, D)

Methven – MiddleRock – Methven

After a relaxed start to the morning, we board the coach and travel toward the majestic Southern Alps, enjoying ever-changing high-country scenery as we make our way to Windwhistle for our first visit of the day.

At **Point Station**, one of Canterbury's early pastoral runs, we are welcomed by the owners and treated to morning tea while hearing the fascinating history of this long-established property. There is time for a gentle stroll through the expansive garden, known for its mature rhododendrons and traditional English trees, before concluding with a visit inside the historic homestead.

We then follow the picturesque course of the Rakaia River to **Middle Rock Farm**. Here, our hosts warmly welcome us and share stories of the property while a light lunch is served in the garden setting. There is time to wander through the impressive Middle Rock Garden before enjoying a comfortable farm tour by coach, accompanied by in-depth and engaging commentary.

Our final visit today is to **Benlea Station**. We begin with a short farm tour, including a visit to the nearby Terrace Downs Resort, set against a spectacular alpine backdrop. Returning to the homestead, you will have time to explore the extensive garden before enjoying afternoon tea. We then travel through the dramatic scenery of Rakaia Gorge as we return to Methven.

Once settled into our accommodation, those who wish may visit Ōpuke Thermal Pools & Spa. Fed by mountain water and solar powered, these pools offer a wonderfully relaxing soak with views of the Southern Alps — a perfect way to unwind.

We gather again this evening for dinner and a restful night ahead of another rewarding day of exploration tomorrow.

➤ Accommodation: ***Ski Time Methven (03 302 8398)***

DAY 7: Saturday 21st November (B, L, D)

Methven – Erewhon Station - Methven

This morning, we are collected from our accommodation for a true High-Country experience, travelling in purpose-built 4WD vehicles designed for comfort and excellent viewing.

Our journey takes us through the foothills of Mount Somers and on to the beautiful **Lake Clearwater**, a peaceful alpine lake often described as one of the region's hidden gems. Here we pause to stretch our legs and enjoy the expansive mountain views.

Continuing deeper into the Southern Alps, we travel past braided rivers and high-country lakes en route to **Erewhon Station**, a remarkable 35,000-acre sheep and beef station. Nestled among towering peaks, Erewhon is also home to an impressive Clydesdale horse stud, where traditional horsepower remains very much part of daily farm life.

We enjoy a memorable wagon tour behind these magnificent Clydesdales, taking in sweeping high country scenery at a gentle pace. A working horse demonstration showcases the skill involved in

traditional station work. We then travel to a rustic station hut where a picnic lunch is served, accompanied by engaging stories and history shared by our knowledgeable local guides.

After lunch, we begin our return journey, stopping at remote **Mount Potts Station**, home to iconic Mount Sunday. This spectacular landscape served as the backdrop for scenes from *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, helping showcase New Zealand's dramatic beauty to the world.

After a day immersed in crystal-clear lakes, glistening rivers, and fresh alpine air, we return to Methven. There is time to relax at the hotel before gathering together for dinner and reflecting on an unforgettable High-Country experience.

➤ Accommodation: ***Ski Time Methven (03 302 8398)***

DAY 8: Sunday 22nd November (B, L, D)

Methven – Lake Heron Station – Geraldine

This morning, we are once again collected in purpose-built 4WD vehicles for another comfortable High-Country adventure. Travelling across the expansive Canterbury Plains and into the foothills of the Southern Alps, wide-open landscapes and sweeping mountain views set the scene for a very special visit.

Our destination is **Lake Heron Station**. Here we explore the property by vehicle, travelling across rolling paddocks and alongside stunning alpine scenery. Your guide shares insight into the daily workings of this traditional high-country station and the unique environment in which it operates — all enjoyed without the need for strenuous walking.

We are warmly welcomed into the historic woolshed, where the farmer hosts an engaging and informal talk. Hear fascinating stories of high-country life, wool production, and the rich history of the station, with plenty of opportunity to ask questions.

Following this, we are invited into the homestead to enjoy a relaxed and hearty lunch with our hosts. Savour delicious, locally sourced fare while experiencing genuine rural hospitality in this memorable setting.

After lunch, we begin our scenic journey out of the Alps and return to town, reflecting on another authentic high-country experience.

Rejoining our coach, we travel south to the charming township of Geraldine, where we settle into our accommodation for the evening and enjoy dinner together.

➤ Accommodation: ***Asure Scenic Route Motor Lodge (03 693 9700)***

DAY 9: Monday 23rd November (B, L, D)

Geraldine – Twizel

After a hearty breakfast, we travel into the stunning Mackenzie Country, following the scenic shores of Lake Tekapo. We then venture off the beaten track to visit one of New Zealand's ultimate high-country properties, **Mount Cook Station**, located on the northeast side of Lake Pukaki.

Spanning 2,619 hectares and stretching approximately 20km up the Tasman Valley, the station offers spectacular vistas of Aoraki/Mount Cook, the Southern Alps, Lake Pukaki, and the Jollie and Tasman Rivers. Joined by the station farmer, we enjoy a relaxed coach tour across the property, learning about life on a high-country station in this remarkable landscape.

On our return around the lake, we pause for photos and enjoy a lakeside lunch before making our way into Twizel.

This afternoon, we explore more of the region with a visit to the **High-Country Salmon Farm** at Lake Ruataniwha. Here you'll see salmon farming in action, enjoy an engaging farm talk, and have the chance to relax with afternoon tea amidst the scenic surroundings.

We return to Twizel for the evening and dine at a highly rated local restaurant, completing another full day of high-country discovery.

➤ Accommodation: ***Alps Motel (03 435 0595)***

DAY 10: Tuesday 24th November (B, L, D)

Twizel - Wanaka

Our exploration continues as we leave the Mackenzie Basin, crossing over the scenic Lindis Pass. We pause briefly in the charming township of Tarras before continuing to one of New Zealand's most beautiful and historic deer farms, **Criffel Station**.

Here, we enjoy a fully guided farm tour, with an informative and hands-on introduction to deer farming, beekeeping, and authentic Kiwi farm life. Lunch is served in the Woolshed, giving us the chance to savour delicious, locally prepared fare while soaking in the atmosphere of this family-run working station.

After our visit, we continue toward Wanaka, stopping en route at the delightful **Wanaka Lavender Farm**. Here, you'll have free time to wander the gardens, enjoy the fragrant blooms, and take in the peaceful surroundings.

Upon arrival in Wanaka, you will have some leisure time to explore the town at your own pace before we gather for dinner at one of the region's most iconic establishments, the **Cardrona Hotel**, renowned for its history, charm, and hearty meals

➤ Accommodation: ***Wanaka Hotel (03 443 7826)***

DAY 11: Wednesday 25th November (B, L, D)

Wanaka - Queenstown

This morning we follow the majestic Clutha River to Lake Dunstan, where our first visit is to **Jackson Orchard**. We explore the orchard on a small, motorised vehicle designed to weave through the grounds, learning about the orchard's operation, history, and produce along the way.

From there, we continue on a scenic drive through the stunning Kawarau Gorge into the **Gibbston Valley**, also known as the "Valley of the Vines." This renowned wine region offers one of New Zealand's most picturesque vineyard landscapes. Here, we enjoy a wine tasting and a leisurely lunch at one of the country's finest wineries.

In the afternoon, we make our way to our premium destination, Queenstown, where you will have free time to soak up the vibrant atmosphere of this alpine town before checking in to our hotel for the next two nights.

This evening promises a real treat. We board the iconic century-old coal-fired steamship, **TSS Earnslaw**, for a cruise across Lake Wakatipu to **Walter Peak High Country Farm**. At the farm, enjoy engaging demonstrations of high-country life before savouring a gourmet barbecue dinner at the Colonel's Homestead. After dinner, we cruise back across the lake, taking in the breathtaking scenery and enjoying a sing-along of classic songs to round off an unforgettable evening.

➤ Accommodation: ***Rendezvous Heritage Hotel Queenstown (03 450 1500)***

DAY 12: Thursday 26th November (B, L, D)

Queenstown

On our final full day, get ready for a very special experience! Today is a **mystery day**, carefully designed to surprise and delight, offering unique adventures and unforgettable moments.

While we can't reveal all the details, you can expect a day filled with scenic beauty, engaging activities, and memorable encounters — the perfect way to celebrate the final major visits of our tour.

This is a day to relax, explore, and make lasting memories before we enjoy a final dinner together in Queenstown, reflecting on the incredible journey through New Zealand's high country, historic stations, and alpine landscapes.

➤ Accommodation: ***Rendezvous Heritage Hotel Queenstown (03 450 1500)***

DAY 13: Friday 27th November (B)

Queenstown - Home

All good things must come to an end. After a relaxed breakfast and some final moments to enjoy the stunning surroundings, we make our way to Queenstown Airport for your **flight** home.

This marks the conclusion of an unforgettable journey through New Zealand's high country, historic stations, and breathtaking alpine landscapes — a tour full of stories, scenery, and memories to treasure.

Total cost of the High Country Tour 2026:

Tour payments per person

- Twin/Double share: **\$ 7850pp** ex Taranaki/Wanganui/Manawatu
- Single Room Cost: **\$ 9250pp**
- Deposit due at time of booking **\$1500pp**

Please note your seat is not secure until deposit has been paid!!

Balance of tour payment due 60 days prior to departure – 15 September 2026

Tour cost covers:

- All amazing farm visits as stated in itinerary.
- All other activities/attractions stated in **bold**.
- Queenstown – New Plymouth flight.
- All coach travel as stated in the itinerary.
- Interislander Ferry travel.
- Two course or buffet dinners every night.
- Breakfast every morning (continental and/or cooked on occasions).
- Lunch on day 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12
- Morning & afternoon teas as stated in itinerary.
- Twin share accommodation (or single accommodation available–contact office)
- Experienced Tour Leader.
- 5-star quality tour coach.
- Tour photos.



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TERMS & CONDITIONS....

(Applicable for New Zealand Tours 01 July 2025 – 30 Dec 2026)

Acceptance Of Terms & Conditions

If you have booked a tour with us and pay your deposit, you are deemed to have accepted these terms. We may ask you to sign a copy of these terms when you join a tour to provide a record that you have accepted these terms.

Itineraries

The Itinerary for your tour package was correct at the time of date and printing, however it is subject to change without notice. Your itinerary could change due to road or weather conditions, changes imposed by other tour operators or a range of other factors beyond our control. You agree that we have no liability to you for changes to your itinerary.

Price Amendments

Prices were correct at the time and date of printing; however, Weir Bros Tours reserves the right to amend the price subject to any changes in price imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary or increases in government or other levies.

Health & Fitness

All passengers are required to acknowledge they are in reasonable health and are considered fit to travel and are not traveling contrary to any medical advice. By acknowledging their health and fitness to participate passengers are indemnifying us from all actions, claims and demands arising out of any lack of health and fitness.

Health & Safety Information including COVID-19

At Weir Bros our first priority is your safety and enjoyment while you are travelling with us.

While we have always maintained a high standard of cleaning on our coaches. We have increased the frequency of cleaning when we are traveling on tours to help ensure your safety. Hand sanitiser will be provided, and we ask that you maintain government standards in terms of hygiene practices, this includes washing or sanitising hands frequently. For the health and safety of all passengers and staff on tour, any passengers showing symptoms of illness (such as fever, coughing or difficulty breathing) will not be accepted onboard the coach unless they can provide a negative Covid-19 test result received within the past 24 hours.

Should any passenger start to feel unwell on arrival or while on tour, they must immediately advise their Tour Manager and may be required to visit a medical practitioner/medical centre/hospital. To continue the tour the passenger must provide a negative Covid-19 test and be deemed fit and well to participate fully on a coach tour. Any costs incurred will be at the passenger's own expense.

Payments, cancellations & Amendments

A deposit of 20% is required to Weir Tours at the time of booking to confirm your reservation and acknowledges your agreement to our terms and conditions. All balance payments must be received by Weir Bros prior to or on the date specified for final payment. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure. If the full tour price is not received by this date, we reserve the right to cancel your booking. Payments can be made with Cash, Eftpos / Credit or Direct Debit via the account number supplied on the payment form. Please note if paying via credit card you will incur a fee of 2.5% on top of the original price. Weir Bros reserves the right to amend or reschedule the tour due to the result of circumstances outside the company's control. Weir Bros also reserves the right to cancel the tour due to insufficient numbers and in this instance a substitute date may be offered, or a full refund will be made available. Tour Prices exclude drinks, travel insurance or items of personal nature.

Weir Tours is not liable for any cancellation or change cost or penalties incurred via third party travel arrangements, including air travel, that may be affected thereby. All additional costs incurred are not liable by Weir Tours and will be passed onto you. Please ensure you have sufficient insurance to cover any costs incurred for unforeseen disruptions. Weir Tours is not responsible for other travel arrangements that you or your party have made outside of those made by Weir Tours and which are affected by our cancellations or amendments.

Force Majeure

Force Majeure Event means any event or circumstance beyond the control of Weir Tours, which has the effect of preventing, restricting or changing the nature of the products and services sold to you including but not limited to: (a) an act of god (such as earthquake, flood, fire, explosion, landslide, lightning, action of the elements, force of nature,



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washout, typhoon, hurricane cyclone, tsunami, storm or storm warning of natural disaster); (b) industrial disputes, work ban or other labour dispute or difficulty; (c) acts of terrorism, political unrest, war or threat of war, riots or civil strife; (d) failure or delays to scheduled transportation and the closure of airports or ports; (e) Pandemic, epidemic or health risk including Covid-19; (f) all governmental and administrative actions, guidance and measures in any territory (including closure of borders and travel warnings and restrictions) Weir Tours have the right to cancel amend or reschedule your packaged tour during or following any force Majeure and if we do so you agree that we have no liability to you for any direct or indirect consequences of the cancelation, amendment or rescheduling.

Travel Insurance

Weir Bros strongly advises all passengers to purchase travel insurance when booking a tour. A comprehensive travel insurance policy gives peace of mind for unexpected issues or emergencies that may arise prior to or during a tour. Weir Tours cannot be held responsible for your failure to obtain Insurance which is appropriate, and we recommend you purchase your insurance at the time of, or soon after, booking your trip. Weir Tours will not be held liable for any costs incurred resulting from your failure to obtain adequate travel insurance.

Luggage

Although every effort will be made to will be made to handle guests' luggage carefully, we cannot be responsible, assume liability or accept claims for loss or damage to luggage and personal effects due to breakage, theft or fair wear and tear through hotel, airline, and group carrier handing. Therefore, it is important for protection that passengers make certain that they have adequate travel insurance to cover such eventualities.

Our Responsibilities

Weir Tours are responsible for booking and packaging goods and service provided by other operators such as hotels, attractions, and transportation companies to create your packaged tour. We take all practicable steps to ensure the safety and comfort for all involved in this packaged tour.

Your Responsibilities

You agree to behave reasonably throughout the tour and not to be a nuisance to other passengers. You agree to comply with our reasonable requests and the

requests of other operators. You indemnify Weir Tours for any liability, costs, damages or other expenses we suffer or incur as a direct or indirect consequence of your behaviour while part of your package tour.

Removal From Your Package Tour

For the Well being of all passengers on your packaged tour, Weir Tours reserve the right to remove you from the tour and cancel your booking with us if you breach any of your obligations under the terms provided that, except in the case of a serious breach (as determined by Weir Tours) we will give you notice of your breach and a reasonable opportunity (which will be no more than 2 days) to remedy the breach before exercising our cancellation right. In the case of a serious breach, we can exclude you from the tour and cancel your booking by immediate, verbal, or written notice to you. In the event of such cancellation, you will be responsible at your cost for arranging any accommodation or travel costs and other matters as required as a direct or indirect consequence of the cancellation. In the event of removal form a tour no refund will be given.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation fees depend on when Weir Tours receives notification in writing of a cancellation.

Bookings cancelled more than 60 days before departure incur 20% of tour cost.

Bookings cancelled between 59 and 45 days before tour commencement will forfeit 50%

31-44 Days Prior to tour commencement you will forfeit 75%

0-30 Days prior to tour commencement you will forfeit 100% of your tour price (No Refund)