



Hollyford Wilderness Experience

Guest Information

Welcome

We're delighted you'll be joining us on the Hollyford Wilderness Experience

You'll be exploring a remote and inspiring landscape that's remained largely untouched for thousands of years, from snow-capped mountain peaks to the rugged surf of the west coast.

Your expert guide will bring to life the diversity of landscapes, vegetation and wildlife within this beautiful valley, as well as the captivating stories of the original Māori and early pioneers.

The Hollyford Valley is as unique as it is remote, and we want to make sure you get the best out of your Hollyford Wilderness Experience.

We've put together a summary of the key facts and information you'll need to know before you start your Hollyford journey.

What's included in your package:

Queenstown Transfer

A transfer between Queenstown and Te Anau is available on the day before you commence your walk.

Pick ups are as follows:

- 2:30pm - Central Queenstown Hotels
- 3:00pm - Station Building, Duke Street
- 3:30pm - Queenstown Airport

Pre-Departure Briefing

We ask that all guests attend the briefing. This is where you will pick up your borrowed pack and raincoat, meet your fellow walkers and make sure you have everything you need for your trip.

The briefing is located at: Hollyford Valley Walks Office, Shop 10/23 Town Centre, Te Anau (upstairs off Mokonui St).

Starts: 6:30pm

Meals

Day 1: (Briefing night) dinner

Day 2: Breakfast, snacks, lunch & dinner

Day 3: Breakfast, snacks, lunch & dinner

Day 4: Breakfast & lunch

A selection of beer, wine and soft drinks are available for purchase.

Specific dietary requirements can be catered for; please advise our team.

Accommodation

Accommodation and dinner at the Distinction Luxmore Hotel in Te Anau is provided on your first night.

While on the Hollyford Track you will spend two nights at our private lodges (Pyke Lodge & Martins Bay Lodge).

All bedding, linens, and towels are provided each night.

Bathrooms are ensuite in Te Anau. We have shared unisex facilities at Pyke Lodge, and Men's / Women's at Martins Bay or ensuites, depending on which room type you have booked. Complimentary shampoo and shower gel are provided, and hair dryers are also available.

Please note: You will need to book your accommodation post your Hollyford trip, which can be either in Te Anau or Queenstown.

Walking Gear

- Backpacks
- Day packs
- Pack liners
- Rain jacket
- Walking poles

You need to bring:

A reasonable level of fitness and a light pack will ensure you get the most from your experience.

The Hollyford track is mostly well-formed but does contain some challenging, uneven terrain in parts. It's essential you have comfortable hiking boots and that you keep your pack as light as possible as you'll be carrying it for 19.5kms, from the Hollyford road end to Pyke Lodge.

If you follow our check list below, your pack should weigh no more than 7kg. Once you've reached Pyke Lodge, we'll supply you with a smaller day pack for your essentials for the remaining two days of hiking, while your main pack will be transported via jet boat between the lodges.

The weather in Fiordland is unpredictable and can change rapidly. It is important that you are prepared with the

appropriate equipment and clothing. We don't recommend walking in cotton, silk or denim garments as these are unsuitable for Fiordland conditions. Both our lodges have drying rooms and lightweight, quick-drying clothing has a better chance of drying overnight if it does get wet.

We recommend taking a preventative approach to blisters, by taping up pressure points e.g. heels and making sure your boots are well worn in.

Fiordland is also known for its sandfly population so insect repellent is essential and long sleeves are recommended.

Checklist:

Walking Gear

- ☐ Base layer – wool or polypropylene thermal long sleeve and long leg
- ☐ First layer – wool or micro fleece long sleeve
- ☐ Mid layer – warm jersey or jacket (wool or fleece, preferably windproof)
- ☐ Outer layer – 100% waterproof rain jacket with hood (we can provide if you don't have one)
- ☐ Trouser – quick dry hiking trousers (zip offs give a good shorts option)
- ☐ Boots – hiking boots (preferably with ankle support and well 'broken-in'!)
- ☐ Socks – wool or thermal blend
- ☐ Hat – wool / fleece for cold & peaked / brimmed for when hot
- ☐ Gloves – wool or fleece
- ☐ Waterproof trousers and gaiters (optional)
- ☐ Walking poles (we can provide these if you need them)

Evening Gear

- ☐ First layer – shirt or t-shirt
- ☐ Mid layer – jersey or sweater
- ☐ Trouser – lightweight trousers or track pants
- ☐ Night wear – whatever you like to sleep in
- ☐ Underwear / Socks
- ☐ Additional footwear – light shoes, sandals or jandals for the lodges

Other

- ☐ Travel insurance - we strongly recommend all guests, both N.Z. residents and visitors have this.

Accessories

- ☐ Water bottle – 750ml bottles are recommended as easier to fill up from streams
- ☐ Sunscreen – SPF 30+
- ☐ Insect repellent (we also recommend anti-histamines if you react badly to bites)
- ☐ Blister pack – 'Second Skin' or other blister protection
- ☐ Toiletries – toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Camera – with memory card / spare film and charger / batteries
- ☐ Money – debit or credit card for beer, wine and souvenirs

For more information on these points, please see the FAQ section of our website: hollyfordtrack.com/all-you-need-to-know/faqs/

You can also follow the Hollyford Wilderness Experience on Facebook and Instagram for photos and inspiration.  