

unforgettable
**aoraki
mt cook**

the home
of kiwi
adventure
start yours today



**YOUR
GUIDE TO:**

**ACCOMMODATION
DINING**

**ATTRACTIONS
TOURS**

www.hermitage.co.nz
0800 68 68 00





unforgettable aoraki mt cook

Home to arguably the most dramatic landscape in New Zealand, Aoraki Mount Cook National Park boasts the tallest mountain, largest glacier, darkest skies and the only glacial lakes



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with icebergs. With activities, tours and attractions to suit every taste, The Hermitage is the perfect place to base your adventure and discover why this region has endeared itself to Kiwi adventure seekers for so long.



KEY TO SYMBOLS



This product is bookable online at **www.hermitage.co.nz**



Hints & tips from Mt Cook locals to help you make the most of your holiday



Find us on Facebook



Amongst this remote landscape and hostile environment thrives an abundance of native flora and fauna.

Over 750 different native flowering plants are found in the park, mainly in the alpine shrublands and tussock grasslands. The most well-known of these are the mountain buttercup (*Ranunculus*) and daisy (*Celmisia*). The famed Mount Cook Lily, *Ranunculus Lyallii* is the largest buttercup in the world. Flowering in late spring to early summer the Mount Cook Lily creates a spectacular carpet across the upper Hooker Valley floor.



Learn more about the flora and fauna in the Aoraki Mount Cook National Park with a Guided Day Walk (see page 18) up the Hooker Valley.

aoraki mt cook

unforgettable flora & fauna

Climatic extremes provide a challenging habitat for a diverse range of flora & fauna.

Image courtesy Stu Jackson



About 40 species of birds are found in the park. The most distinctive is the Kea, the world's only mountain parrot. Well known for its mischievous antics and bright colours, the Kea, along with Falcons, can be found soaring in the high mountain areas. But the Keas are also frequent visitors to The Hermitage Hotel during the warmer months, entertaining tourists with their clownish behaviour for hours on end. In the braided Tasman River bed adjacent to the park, the endangered black stilt is staging a comeback thanks to persistent conservation efforts.



Order a Picnic Hamper, freshly prepared from the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre Café, packed with all your favourites for a day exploring the National Park.

aoraki mt cook

unforgettable adventure

Throughout the seasons you'll find an adventure (or several) for all ages and fitness levels.



Aoraki Mt Cook National Park is home to a breathtaking environment of glaciers, terminal lakes, turbulent rivers, rising peaks and unique flora and fauna, it has also long been the playground of great mountaineers, including our own Kiwi hero, the late Sir Edmund Hillary.

Part of the Te Wāhipounamu UNESCO World Heritage Area, the region boasts more than 140 peaks over 2000m and contains all but five of New Zealand's 27 peaks over 3000m. The highest peak in Australasia, the mighty Aoraki ('cloud piercer') Mount Cook stands at 3724m.

40% of the park is made up of glaciers, including the Tasman Glacier, the longest in New Zealand.



Mount Cook is part of the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve, so is one of the best places in New Zealand to view the southern night sky. Don't miss Big Sky Stargazing (see page 18)



To complement this you'll find an awesome range of activities, tours and attractions at Mount Cook that will suit every taste. There's so much to do you'll need to stay an extra night!

- Glacier Boat Tours
- Argo Tours – ATV & 4WD
- 3D Theatre
- Planetarium
- Hiking
- Climbing
- Scenic Flights
- Stargazing

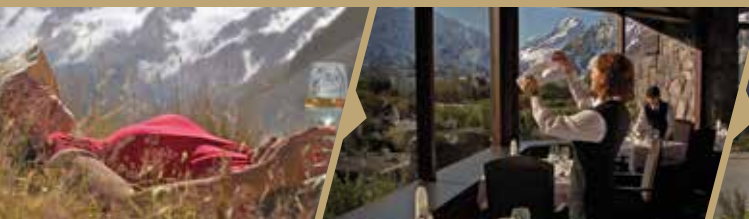


Stand quietly on the moraine wall of the Tasman Glacier and hear the eerie sounds as the glacier retreats up the valley. Get up close and personal to this process with Tasman Valley 4WD & Argo Tours (see page 19).



unforgettable accommodation

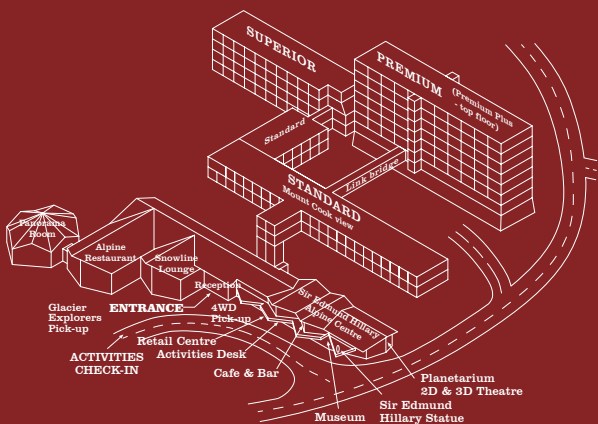
Our range of accommodation, facilities, restaurants and bars is perfect for any occasion and suits different budgets and tastes.



Since first being built in 1884 The Hermitage Hotel has been the cornerstone of Aoraki Mount Cook Alpine Village and synonymous with the Kiwi spirit of adventure. Despite a history scattered with flood, fire, triumph and tragedy, The Hermitage has stood as a perfect escape destination for generations of Kiwis and international travellers, spellbound by the Mount Cook region.

Today The Hermitage Hotel is fully committed to sustaining and enhancing the character of *Aoraki* Mount Cook - its unique environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of the Mount Cook residents.

We understand that we play a significant role in enhancing this destination – in teaching people about its importance and helping them to leave here with the same love and respect for the Mount Cook region that we have.



Like a bit of peace and quiet? Stay during the low season (May – Sept) and take advantage of great deals. You'll also enjoy winter treats such as complimentary use of toboggans and free marshmallows to toast by the fire.



The Footstool

mount cook
guided day
walks

7

5

1

6

10

3

2

4

Mount Sebastopol

◀ **Aoraki Mount Cook**
(3724m/12,218 feet)

▲ Mount Wakefield

Tasman
VALLEY FOOD & BEVERAGE
TASMAN
Aoraki Mount Cook, New Zealand

glacier
explorers
AORAKI MOUNT COOK
NEW ZEALAND

BIG SKY
STARGAZING

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Hermitage Hotel | 7 Hooker Valley |
| 2 Mount Cook Motels | 8 Mount Cook Airport |
| 3 Mount Cook Chalets | 9 Tasman Glacier Terminal Lake |
| 4 Mt Cook Backpacker Lodge Chamois Bar & Grill | 10 DOC Visitor Centre |
| 5 Camping Ground | 11 Tasman Valley |
| 6 Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre | |



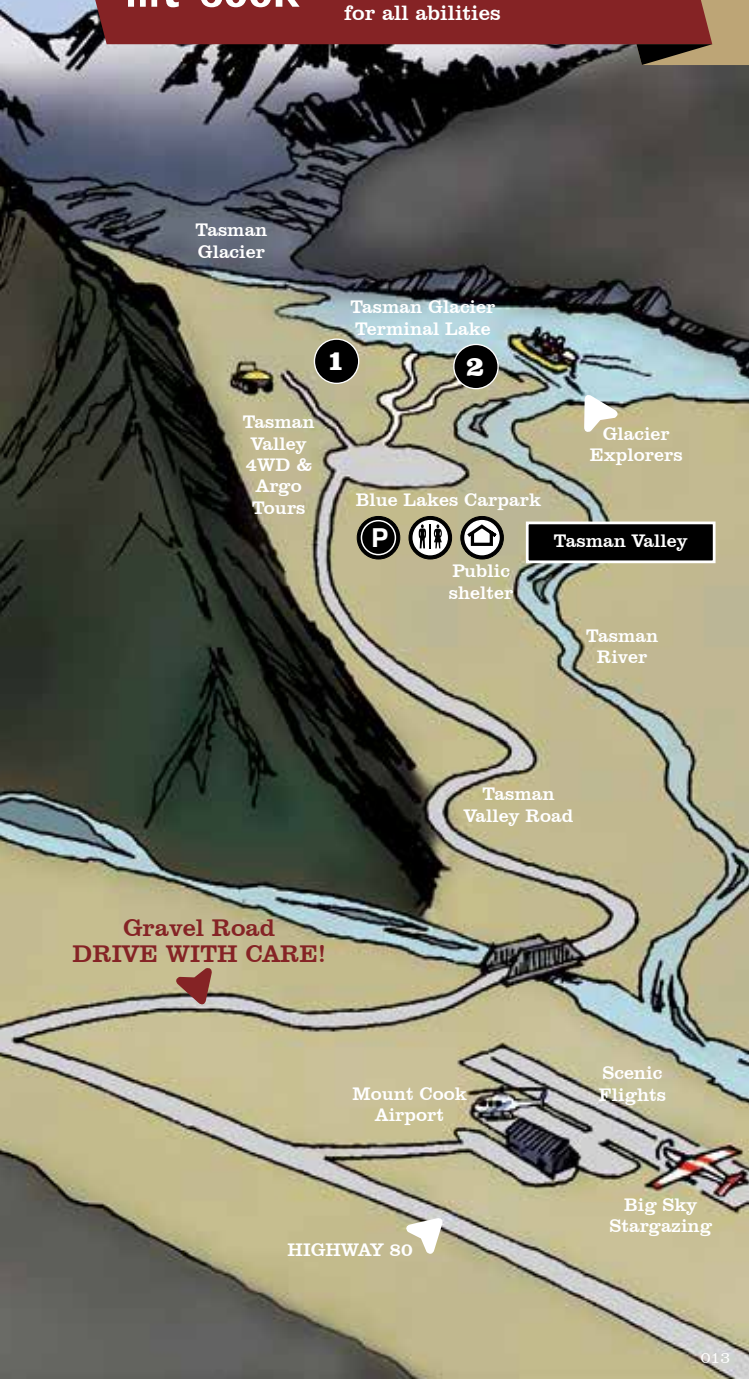
WALKS KEY (Walk times)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Blue Lakes & Tasman Glacier View (40mins return) | 5. Governors Bush (45mins - 1 hour loop track) |
| 2. Tasman Glacier Terminal Lake (1 hour return) | 6. Glencoe Stream (30mins) |
| 3. Hooker Valley (various options 30 mins to 4 hours return) | 7. Red Tarns (1.5 - 2 hours) |
| 4. Kea Point (1.5 - 2 hours return) | 8. Sealy Tarns (2 - 4 hours return) |
| | 9. Mueller Hut (6-8 hours return) |
| | 10. Bowen Bush Walk |

aoraki mt cook

unforgettable walks

Experience the area's amazing beauty with walks catering for all abilities



Tasman
Glacier

Tasman Glacier
Terminal Lake

1

2

Tasman
Valley
4WD &
Argo
Tours

Glacier
Explorers

Blue Lakes Carpark



Public
shelter

Tasman Valley

Tasman
River

Tasman
Valley Road

Gravel Road
DRIVE WITH CARE!

Mount Cook
Airport

Scenic
Flights

Big Sky
Stargazing

HIGHWAY 80



unforgettable accommodation

The Hermitage has a range of hotel rooms, motels & chalets to suit every budget, most with spectacular views of *Aoraki Mount Cook*.

The Hermitage Hotel has a range of room types and all 164 rooms have ensuites, tea and coffee making facilities, satellite TV, Wifi access and fridges.

PREMIUM PLUS (max 4 people)

Top floor location premier Aoraki wing. Enjoy breathtaking views of *Aoraki Mount Cook* with extra LAVISH touches like personal Nespresso machine.

PREMIUM (max 4 people)

Stunning views of *Aoraki Mount Cook* through large picture windows.

SUPERIOR (max 4 people)

Includes private balcony or patio looking out to *Aoraki Mount Cook*.

STANDARD - MOUNT COOK VIEW (max 2 people)

Includes balcony or patio views of *Aoraki Mount Cook*.

STANDARD (max 2 people)

Rooms are orientated towards Tasman Valley or Mount Sefton (do not have *Aoraki Mount Cook* views).



The motel and chalet units are located in close proximity to the main hotel and rates include a continental breakfast buffet in the Alpine Restaurant.

MOTEL STUDIO (max 2 people)

Self-contained unit with fully equipped kitchenette, outside patio area.

MOTEL FAMILY (max 5 people)

Self contained unit with separate bedroom, fully equipped kitchenette, outside patio area.

CHALET (max 4 people)

Open plan alpine design including kitchenette.

Check-in: after 2.00pm / Check-out: 10.00am



Facebook/TheHermitage



unforgettable dining

The Hermitage Hotel offers some of the best dining options in New Zealand. Choose from a la carte, buffet style or informal café fare. All offering the freshest and finest in New Zealand produce.

PANORAMA ROOM (open for dinner)

Our signature a la carte restaurant first opened in 1969. A simple philosophy of using just the freshest local ingredients is still the secret to success today.

ALPINE RESTAURANT

(open for breakfast, lunch & dinner)

Offering sumptuous buffets accompanied with spectacular views of Aoraki Mount Cook.

SIR EDMUND HILLARY CAFÉ & BAR

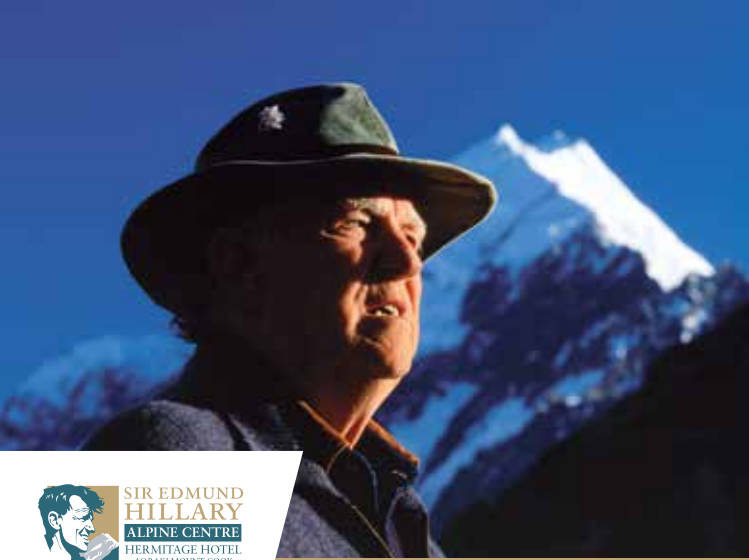
(open for morning & afternoon tea and lunch)

Specialising in classic Kiwi fare, the self-service café and bar have perfect views of Aoraki Mount Cook from indoor and outdoor balcony seating.

SNOWLINE LOUNGE (open from 3pm till late)

Curl up by the open log fire or sit back and take in the majestic view of the Southern Alps.

The Snowline Lounge serves all your favourite cocktails, as well as some that you won't find anywhere else. The bar also has an extensive selection of wines and beers from New Zealand and around the world.



SIR EDMUND
HILLARY
ALPINE CENTRE
HERMITAGE HOTEL
AORAKI MOUNT COOK



A tribute to Sir Edmund Hillary, humanitarian, ambassador and one of the world's greatest explorers, the centre showcases the Aoraki Mount Cook region, its people and its place in the universe.

The Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre's 126-seat custom-designed theatre is the world's first theatre with 2D, 3D and Digital Dome Planetarium, contained within the same space.

View planetarium movies, documentaries such as Hillary on Everest and the 3D cinematic experience, Mount Cook Magic. This is the next best thing to climbing Mount Cook, flying across the Southern Alps or skiing the Tasman Glacier.

In the foyer of the theatre you'll find our museum showcasing the history of the Mount Cook region through transport, climbing, The Hermitage Hotel and pioneer extraordinaire, Sir Edmund Hillary himself.

explorer
pass

Purchase an Explorer Pass: Explorer Pass includes unlimited entry into the museum, theatre, featuring 3D Movie, documentary and all planetarium features within a 24hr period!



Facebook/SirEdmundHillaryAlpineCentre



BIG SKY STARGAZING



mount cook guided day walks

BIG SKY STARGAZING

The Aoraki Mackenzie Dark Sky Reserve is a “gold-rated” reserve, meaning the darkness of our night skies is almost unbeatable!

Begin with an introduction and orientation in the comfort of our Theatre Planetarium using a special Digital Sky presentation highlighting unique features in our southern sky.

Our informative astronomy guides then take you on a short drive (transport provided) to our outdoor stargazing site. Use telescopes, Astronomy binoculars and the naked eye to put your newly acquired knowledge into practise, identifying and exploring different elements of the spectacular southern sky.

Mandarin and Japanese headphone translations available for planetarium presentation.

Season: Big Sky Stargazing departs all year round, subject to weather conditions
Departures: Times vary depending on the time of year.

MOUNT COOK GUIDED DAY WALKS

Take a guided day walk of the Hooker Valley, providing breathtaking views of some of New Zealand’s highest and most enthralling peaks. Our knowledgeable and enthusiastic guides will tell you all about the unique flora and fauna of the region and the local history as you trek through this amazing landscape.

From The Hermitage Hotel we head to the White Horse Hill camping ground. Enjoy a stunning 8km return trek along the well-maintained track to the terminal lake of the Hooker Glacier. The journey takes in the poignant Alpine Memorial and passes over the turbulent Hooker River by swingbridge to unsurpassed vistas of Aoraki Mount Cook’s south face and the surrounding glaciers and mountains.

Season: Operates from September to May. Winter and half day guided walk options available on request.
Departures: 9.00am daily
Duration: 6 hour tour





GLACIER EXPLORERS

An amazing encounter with New Zealand's largest glacier, the Tasman Glacier. Explore and learn about the ever-changing glacial landscape as you journey across the terminal lake in our custom-built MAC Boats with your experienced guides. Icebergs of every shape and size periodically tear away from the face of the glacier into the rapidly growing lake. Lateral moraines rear up almost 200m to remind us of the scale and greatness that the glacier has reached in previous times.

Season: Early September to late May

Departures: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm, 2pm, 3.30pm and 5pm (*subject to weather, daylight and lake conditions*)

Check-in required 30 mins before departure at The Hermitage Hotel

Duration: 2.5 hr: including transfer from The Hermitage, ½ hr walk to the terminal lake & 1 hr boat cruise.

What to bring: Warm layer of clothing, sunblock, sunglasses, waterproof jacket, sturdy walking shoes.

TASMAN VALLEY 4WD & ARGO TOURS

A unique 4WD & Argo adventure with close-up views of the Tasman Glacier and its gigantic moraine walls. Your friendly guide is a real Mount Cook character, learn about the area and be entertained by their wealth of knowledge and local stories. A short walk to a vantage point overlooking the Tasman Glacier and terminal lake provides one of the most spectacular photographic opportunities in the Aoraki Mount Cook National Park.

What is an ARGO?: ARGOS are 8 wheel all terrain vehicles (ATV's) capable of conquering virtually anything in their path. This makes them ideal for your exploration of the rugged and beautiful Aoraki Mount Cook National Park.

Season: All year round (Your safety is our first priority. Some trips may not operate due to prevailing weather, road conditions or avalanche danger)

Departures: 9am, 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4pm. Check-in required 20 min before departure at The Hermitage Hotel. 90 minute duration.

What to bring: Warm layer of clothing, sunblock, sunglasses, waterproof jacket and sturdy walking shoes.



Facebook/GlacierExplorers



Facebook/TasmanValley4WDArgo

unforgettable aoraki mt cook

getting to this unforgettable destination

Aoraki Mount Cook is located on State Highway 80 and is 322km from Christchurch and 264km from Queenstown. Daily coach transport is available.



DESIGN YOUR OWN HOLIDAY ONLINE

Visit our website to create your own unique year-round alpine adventure perfect for the family holiday or your next romantic getaway. Choose from one of our Hot Deals, or create your own unique package. Choose from our range of premium hotel rooms, motel units or cozy chalets. After selecting your accommodation, you can choose to pre-book your meals or special treats. Then add world-class activities such as Glacier Explorers, Tasman Valley 4WD and Argo Tours, Big Sky Stargazing, scenic flights or the visual extravaganza of the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre.

For our best rates & great package deals book online at

> www.hermitage.co.nz



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