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.

The park has been recognised internationally as part of the Te Wähipounamu UNESCO World Heritage Area. The region boasts more than 140 peaks over 2000m (6500ft) and contains all but five of New Zealand's 27 peaks over 3000m (10 000ft).

The mighty Aoraki ('cloud piercer') Mount Cook stands at 3754 metres and is the highest peak in Australasia.

40% of the park is made up of glaciers. The Tasman Glacier is the longest in the Southern Hemisphere and the largest in New Zealand. As the glacier is retreating it has formed a terminal lake, in which you can often witness floating icebergs. There are few places in the world where the process of glaciation is easily accessible and so perfectly demonstrated.

There is an abundance of native flora and fauna, including species unique to the Aoraki Mount Cook National Park. Over 750 different native flowering plants thrive in the park, including the famed Mount Cook Lily, the world's largest buttercup. About 40 species of birds are found in the park. The most distinctive is the kea, a mountain parrot well known for its mischievous antics.

The 55km drive from State Highway 8 along the shores of the stunning turquoise waters of Lake Pukaki is one of the most picturesque in New Zealand. It is a fitting welcome to the spectacular surrounds of New Zealand's highest mountain, Aoraki Mount Cook.
Aoraki Mount Cook Village exists under the guidelines of the National Park and is home to approximately 120 permanent residents (the population rises to 300 during summer months) all of which must work in the village or reside with those who do. There is no privately owned land and the village centres around The Hermitage Hotel. The hotel has been a New Zealand icon for more than 125 years and offers a complete alpine retreat. Accommodation to suit all budgets includes hotel rooms with stunning mountain views, mid-range studio and one bedroom motel units and A-framed chalets. To enhance the holiday experience, The Hermitage Hotel also boasts two restaurants, two bars, a cafe and a retail centre.
There are many different room classifications. All 164 rooms in the main hotel have ensuites, tea and coffee making facilities, satellite TV, IDD telephones and fridges. Check in time is after 2pm and check out is before 10am. (late check out upgrade is available)

**PREMIUM PLUS**
Our 10 top floor Premium Plus rooms have incredible views of Aoraki Mount Cook through large picture windows. Rooms also include extra touches like a personal Nespresso machine, bathrobes, slippers and free WiFi. Premium Plus rooms are available with 1 Super King size bed or 2 Queen size beds. 
Maximum 4 people per room.

**PREMIUM**
Our Premium wing offers 50 deluxe rooms over 5 floors with exceptional views of Aoraki Mount Cook through large picture windows. Rooms also include a mini bar. Premium rooms are available with 1 King size bed or 2 Queen size beds. 
Maximum 4 people per room.

**SUPERIOR**
The Superior wing offers 40 rooms over 4 floors, each with private balcony or patio, looking out to Aoraki Mount Cook. Superior rooms are available with 2 Queen size beds. 
Maximum 4 people per room.

**STANDARD MOUNT COOK VIEW**
Enjoy balcony or patio views towards Aoraki Mount Cook in the original wing of the present Hermitage. Standard rooms are available with King, Split King or Queen size beds. Refurbishment completed Oct 2011. 
Maximum 2 people per room.
The 32 Motel and 20 Chalet units can cater for up to 5 people and include ensuites, kitchenettes, satellite TV, IDD telephones, bathroom with shower and toiletries and outside patios in the Motels. Guests have full use of all hotel facilities including a courtesy shuttle service between their accommodation and the main hotel complex. Rate includes a continental breakfast per person in the Alpine Restaurant each morning, or upgrade to a full cooked breakfast for a small charge.

Motel Studio
Located approximately 800 metres from The Hermitage Hotel, the self-contained studio units with Queen sized beds offer quality and comfort. Maximum 2 people per room.

Motel Family
Located approximately 800 metres from The Hermitage Hotel, the self-contained Motel Family Units have one Queen size bed & a Double fold out sofa bed in the lounge, plus a bedroom with either one Queen or two Single beds. Maximum 5 people per room.

Chalet
Located approximately 200 metres from The Hermitage Hotel, the Chalets offer self-contained accommodation. All units provide quality and comfort in an open plan design featuring a Queen sized bed and two Single beds. Please note that the chalets are closed during the winter months. Maximum 4 people per room.

Guest Services & Facilities
The hotel provides the following services for guests:

- 24 hour reception
- Currency exchange
- Multilingual staff
- Activities/tour desk
- Complimentary shuttle
- Automated wake-up calls
- Babysitting service
- Wireless internet
- Porters
- Board games
- Guest laundry

There is a retail centre located adjacent to the lobby which offers a wide range of items including many which are unique to the store. The retail centre also incorporates a small grocery section for self catering guests.
The Hermitage Hotel offers some of the finest dining options in New Zealand. Choose from à la carte, buffet style or informal café fare. All options offering the freshest and finest in New Zealand produce. Our culinary experts bring a wealth of knowledge and experience from all over the world to produce menus rich in Kiwi fare and infused with international flavours.

**The Alpine Restaurant**
Offering sumptuous breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets accompanied with spectacular views of Aoraki Mount Cook from every seat. The breakfast buffet offers the choice of either a full cooked or continental breakfast. The dinner and lunch buffets offer a wide range of New Zealand and international cuisine, using only the freshest ingredients dishes change seasonally. During winter the Alpine buffets may occasionally be replaced with a three course set menu dining option, relative to demand.

- Open daily for breakfast, lunch & dinner.

**The Panorama Room**
The Panorama Room, our signature a la carte restaurant, opened in 1969.
A simple philosophy of using just the freshest, local ingredients, in particular from New Zealand's South Island, is still the secret to our success today. Our menu has a strong international influence which reflects our clientele's taste. Menus change seasonally to take advantage of the best local produce.

- Open daily for dinner.
- Due to high demand, reservations are essential.
THE SNOWLINE LOUNGE

The perfect location for a pre or post dinner drink, the Snowline Lounge offers spectacular views of Aoraki Mount Cook. Take the opportunity to relax and unwind after an adventurous day in the park. 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 lounge also has an extensive selection of wines and beers from New Zealand and around the world.

THE SIR EDMUND HILLARY ALPINE CENTRE CAFÉ & BAR

Providing a unique and inspiring atmosphere in which to refresh, refuel and relax. Specialising in classic Kiwi fare, the self-service café & bar also offers floor to ceiling views of Aoraki Mount Cook, from indoor or outdoor seating. Relax with a game of pool or sit back in our big comfy lounge chairs and watch the rugby, tennis, golf or whatever game is playing on the Sports channel.

- The café and bar are open daily for morning tea, lunch or afternoon tea. Hot and cold meals, pastries, cakes, tea, coffee and a wide range beverages are available.

PICNIC HAMPERS

Enjoy one of our delicious hampers as the sun rises behind the mighty Aoraki or take a well deserved break with a picnic lunch prepared with love by the Hermitage kitchen! Choose from either a Breakfast, Picnic or Tramper Hamper. All hampers are made to order and always delectably fresh.

Hampers must be preordered from Reception.

THE SNOWLINE LOUNGE

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There is a reason that Aoraki Mount Cook was named as the #1 place in the world to get married (UK Times). The sheer natural beauty of The Hermitage and surrounds combined with a fantastic range of venues, accommodation and activities adds the “X factor” to weddings, conferences, gala dinners, cocktail parties, retreats, local activities and public events.

The Hermitage Hotel has a professional, experienced events team to help you create the perfect atmosphere whether it be casual, formal, romantic, inspiring, relaxing or indulgent. The Hermitage is pleased to offer four conference/function rooms.

Wedding packages range from small intimate ceremonies with just the bride and groom to large grand affairs with all the friends and family. Packages can include the reception, photographer, meals, accommodation, entertainment, celebrant, activities, flowers, cake, hair, make up, band, DJ and entertainment. They can be tailor-made to be exactly what the couple desire, whether it is on the grounds of the hotel, on the shores of Lake Pukaki or on top of a mountain or glacier.

Other conferences and events can be held at the hotel and can be tailor-made to suit their purpose.

Options include four different conference/function rooms, conference equipment hire, refreshment, beverage and dining options, team building activities and accommodation.

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The history of The Hermitage Hotel dates back to 1884 when construction of the original hotel was completed. Over the following years it underwent a number of expansion projects before being severely damaged by flood in 1913.

The second Hermitage Hotel was opened for business in 1914 and a progression of extensions continued, resulting in a total of 77 rooms by 1922. Hot running water was installed to The Hermitage in 1924. In September 1957 the now stately Hermitage, having just undergone an extensive refurbishment, was gutted by fire. Averaging 80 hours per week, it took 180 workmen 7 months to build the new Hermitage. Expansion and refurbishment projects continued over the following years with the majestic Aoraki Wing added in 2001.

Work commenced on the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre in early 2007 at a cost of almost $10 million. Today the world-renowned Hermitage Hotel is owned by Trojan Holdings. Trojan Holdings has a long association with tourism in New Zealand as owner of Ultimate Hikes and majority shareholder of NZSKI.

The Hermitage Hotel has a 4.5* Qualmark hotel rating, a 4.5* self catered apartment rating and was also one of the first companies in New Zealand to be awarded Enviro-gold status (please see Environmental Sustainability section for further details).

There are a range of accommodation and dining options catering to every budget. The hotel is the focal point of Aoraki Mt Cook Village and serves as the post office, local grocery store and entertainment venue for the local community.
We also know our capacity to minimise the negative impacts of our operations, promote social responsibility, ensure tourist satisfaction, and conduct business in such a way that benefits our community and our unique environment. The Hermitage Hotel operates within the National Park under Department of Conservation concessions and was one of the first hotels in New Zealand to receive an Enviro-Gold rating from Qualmark. As one of the major stakeholders in the Aoraki Mount Cook region, we have always taken our responsibility to the environment very seriously and continue to assess and improve our operation.

No visit to Aoraki Mount Cook is complete without a visit to the Sir Edmund Hillary Alpine Centre. 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 our world. It features a 3D Movie Theatre, Planetarium and museum which includes the Hillary Gallery.

From walking the many surrounding trails, to learning about the ever changing glacial landscape with Glacier Explorers, there are activities for everyone. Visitors can be amazed by the sheer size of the Tasman Glacier on the Tasman Valley 4WD & Argo Tour, learn all about the southern night sky in the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve on a Big Sky Stargazing tour, land on a glacier in a helicopter, experience ice climbing or even heliski during the winter months, fishing and guided walking. The possibilities are endless!

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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For more information visit
hermitage.co.nz/en/trade-and-media

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