

# Hiking New Zealand's Fjordland

January 2014





New Zealand today

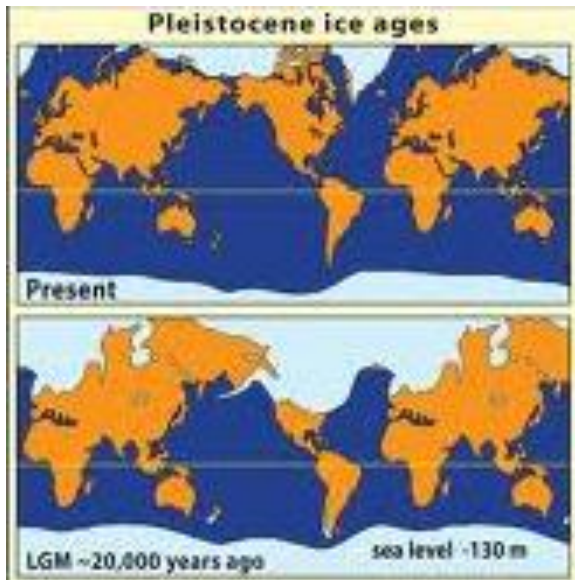
"New Zealand" originally





- Maori's migrate from eastern Polynesia around the 13<sup>th</sup> century
- Europeans become aware of country's existence in 1642
- Captain James Cook visited New Zealand during his first voyage in 1769 – he circumnavigated and mapped both islands

# Fjordland National Park





# Sound vs. Fjord

- **Sound**, a large sea or ocean inlet larger than a bay, deeper than a bight, and wider than a fjord; or it may be **defined** as a narrow sea or ocean channel between two **bodies** of land (see also strait).
- **Fjord**, a long, narrow arm of the sea bordered by steep cliffs: usually formed by glacial erosion

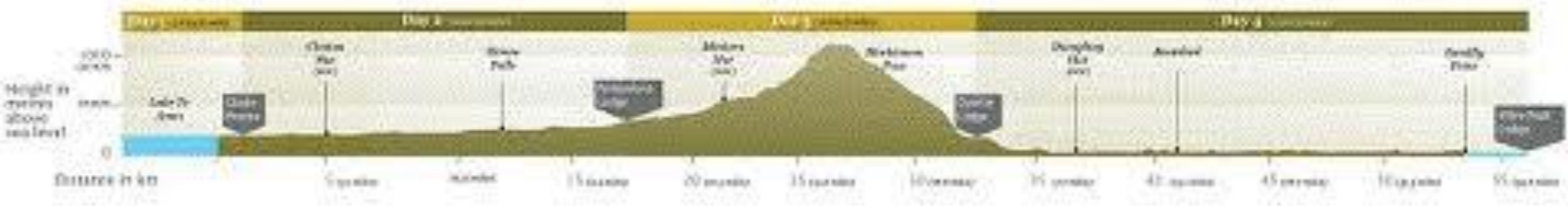
*New Zealand's "sounds" are misnamed;  
they should technically be called "fjords"*



# The Milford Sound

- Runs 9.3 miles inland from the Tasman Sea
- 1812 European “discovery” by Captain John Grono
- *A UNESCO World Heritage Site*
- Judged as one of the world’s top tourist attractions
- Acclaimed as New Zealand’s top tourist attraction
- Named after Milford Haven (harbor) in Wales
- Is the “wettest” inhabited area in New Zealand and one of the wettest in the world (average 268” of rain per year)





# A 4 Day Hike

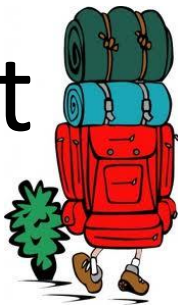


# The Milford Track

- 33.5 mile trail between *Lake Te Anau* and *Sandfly Point, Milford Sound*
- 1888 the official track was “opened”
- For much of its history only hikers with *commercial* companies were allowed on the track
- Now approx. ½ of “allotted” hikers are independent vs. guided
- Until road completed in early 1950’s it was the only overland means of getting to the gorgeous Milford Sound



# Independent vs Guided Hiker



## Independent Hiker

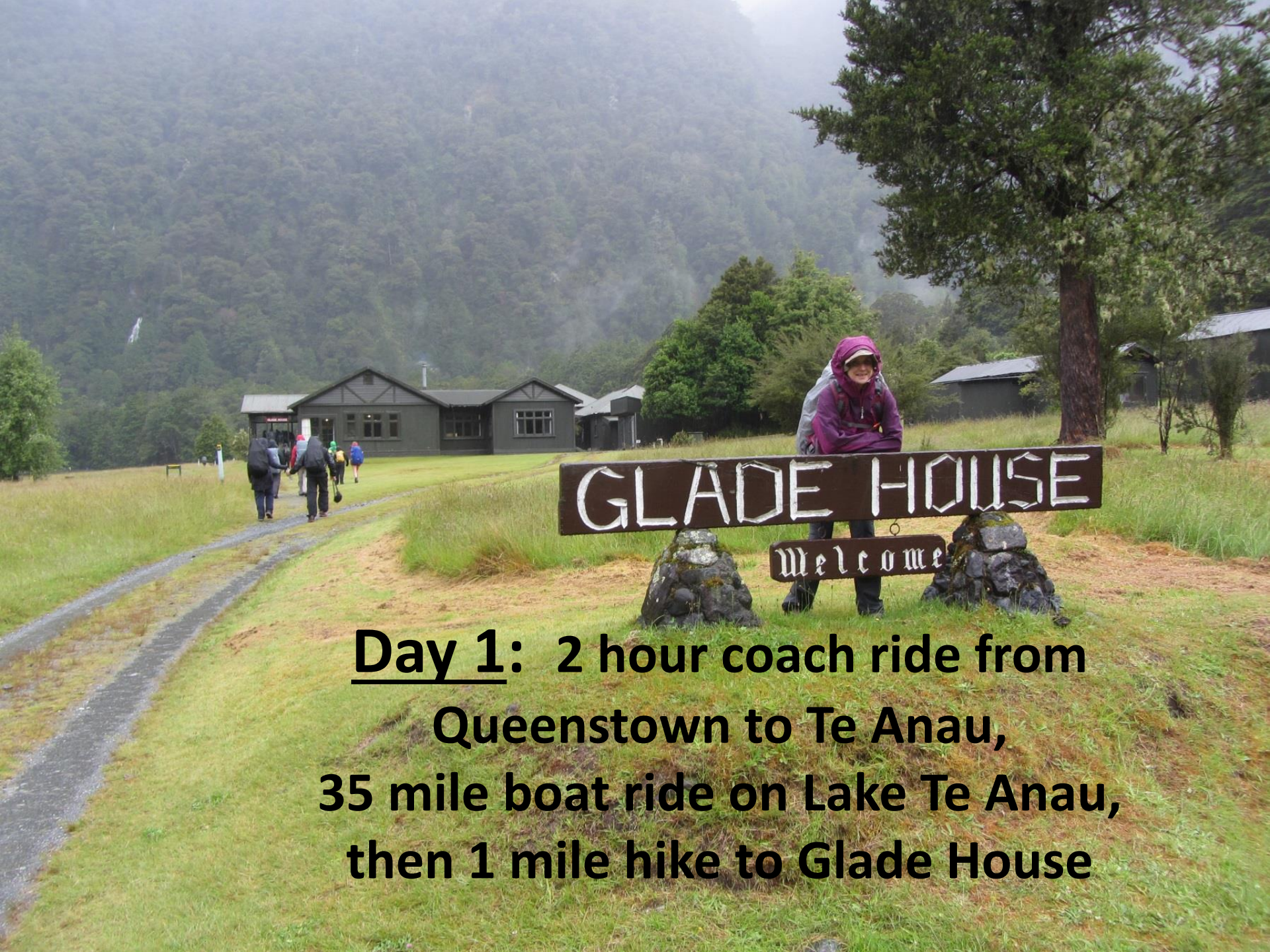
- Carry pack with all needed items: sleeping bag, food for entire hike, cooking utensils, clothing, toiletries, etc.
- Stay in unheated huts with no running hot water or showers
- Sleep in sleeping bag (after not showering)
- Wet clothing and boots are left on their own to dry the best they can
- Provide food for all meals and cook/fix said meals ... freeze-dried meals: yum!
- Want wine, beer, soft drinks, etc.? Only if you pack them in!
- Minimal charge for 3 nights at huts (<\$200)
- Additional cost of Milford Sound cruise and to/from bus transportation or other arrangements



## Guided Hiker


- Carry day pack with one change of clothes, toiletries, rain gear, and sack lunch
- Stay in lovely lodges with heat and hot running water and showers
- Sleep in a bed with provided linens and pillows
- Wet clothing/boots can be washed then dried in the “drying room”
- Served delicious dinners and breakfasts; make sack lunch from provided supplies
- Help yourself to provided happy hour snacks and/or purchase optional beverages including wine & beer
- Rather expensive (from approx. \$2000/person but nearly all inclusive)





**Day 1: 2 hour coach ride from  
Queenstown to Te Anau,  
35 mile boat ride on Lake Te Anau,  
then 1 mile hike to Glade House**



A person wearing a red hooded rain jacket and blue rain pants is standing in a lush, mossy forest. They are positioned next to a shallow stream that flows through the forest. The trees are covered in thick moss, and the ground is also covered in moss and ferns. The water in the stream is a murky brown color. The person is smiling and looking towards the camera. The text "Day 2: 10 mile hike to Pompolona Lodge" is overlaid in red on the right side of the image.

Day 2:  
10 mile hike  
to  
Pompolona  
Lodge













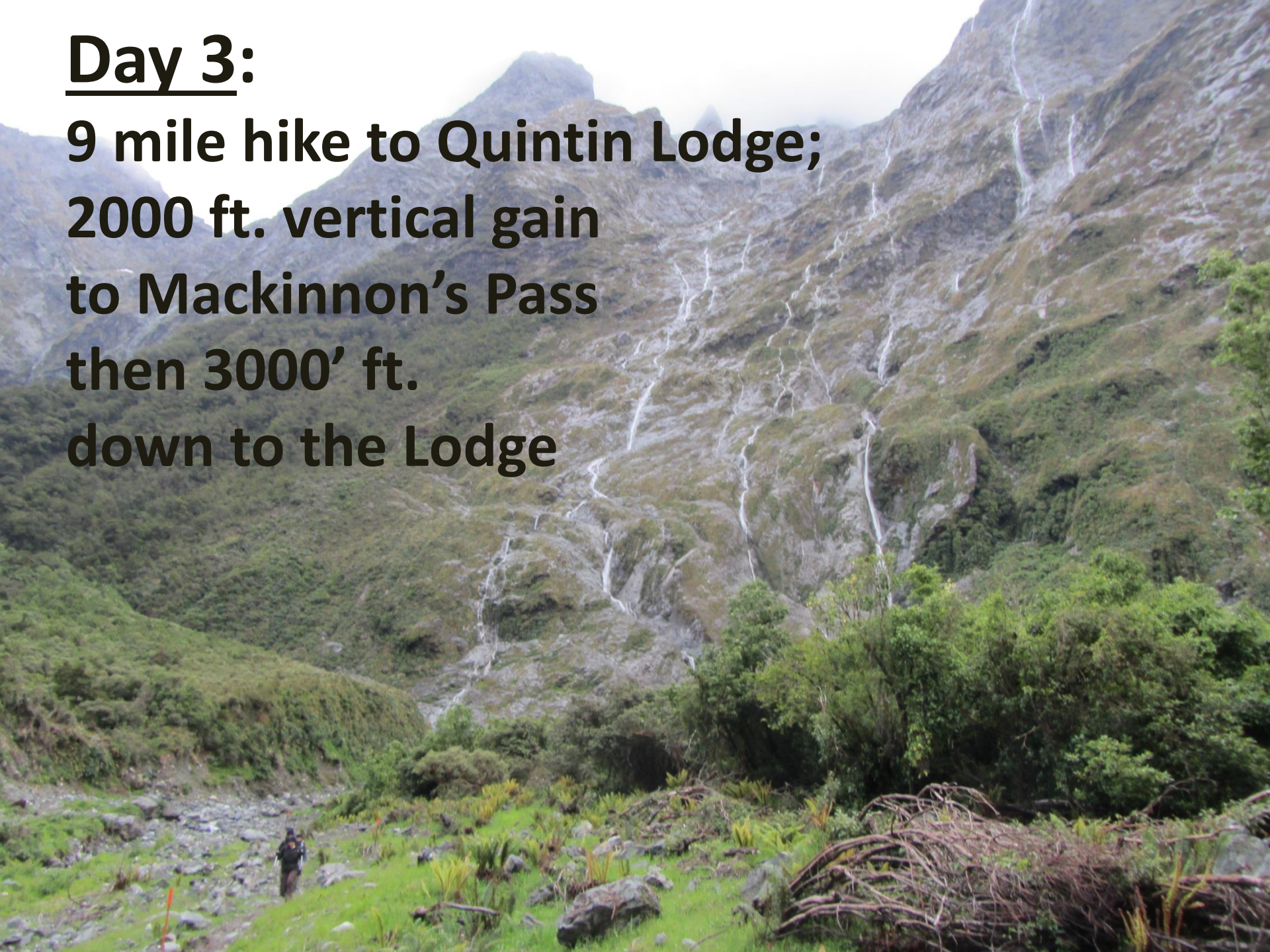
# Pompolona Lodge





## **Day 3:**

**9 mile hike to Quintin Lodge;  
2000 ft. vertical gain  
to Mackinnon's Pass  
then 3000' ft.  
down to the Lodge**











**Furled Silver Fern**

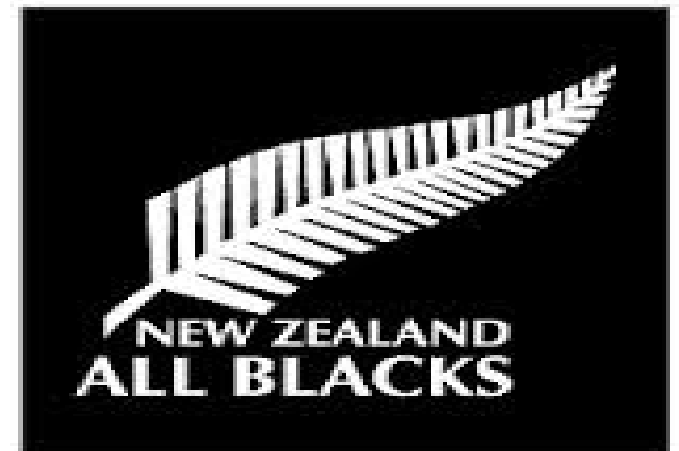
**Maori Koru**



**AIR NEW ZEALAND**



**Unfurled  
Silver Fern**











Clinton River

































**Sutherland Falls**  
**NZ's Highest**  
**1904 ft.**



**Day 4:**  
**13.5 miles**  
**Quintin Lodge**  
**to Sandfly Point**



















SANDFLY  
POINT

MILFORD TRACK

33.5  
MILES

FROM GLADE HOUSE  
LAKE TEANAUHI  
VIA  
MACKINNON P



# Day 5: Cruise on Milford Sound then Coach Ride to Te Anau

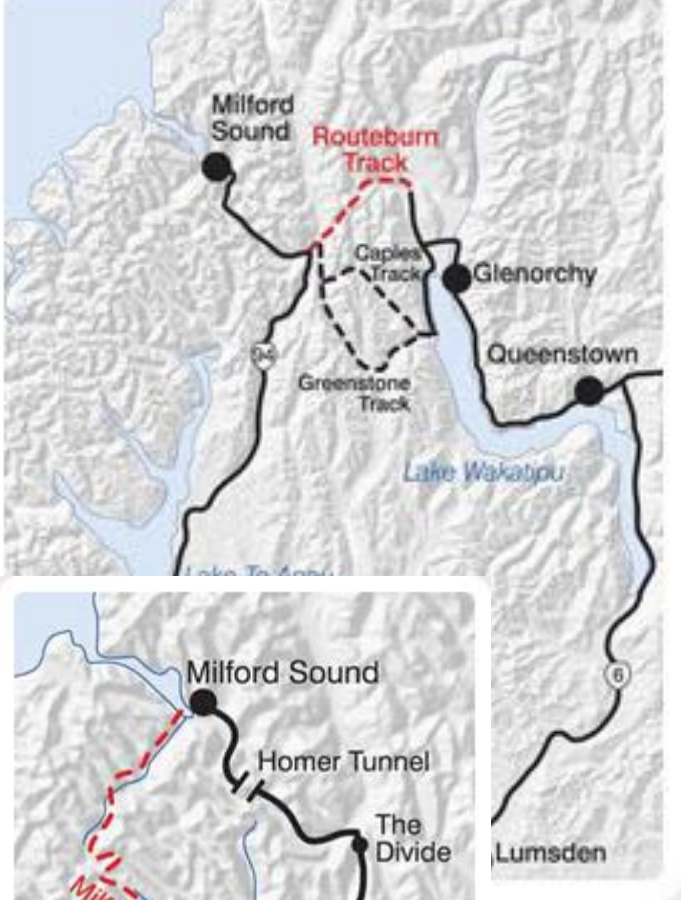








# Routeburn Track



















Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

Mount Aspiring  
National Park

## ↑ Routeburn Track

▣	Routeburn Nature Walk	1 hr return
▣	Routeburn Flats Hut	1.5 - 2.5 hr
▣	Routeburn Falls Hut	2.5 - 4 hr
▣	Harris Saddle / Tarahaka Whakatipu	4 - 6.5 hr

