



Gourmet Safari to New Zealand
Friday 7 March – Thursday 13th March 2025
SAMPLE Itinerary

Day 1 - Friday – 7th March

Meet you at the airport in Queenstown early afternoon (Virgin arrives from Sydney 2.30pm/ Air NZ 2.30pm)

We will do a group transfer to the hotel (approx 3pm), but if you do arrive early (or later), the good news is that the airport is very close to the hotel so grab a taxi.

Check in and at 5pm we will enjoy a glass of the region's best wine in the Hilton Hotel's famous Pinot Pit, situated right on Lake Wakatipu. We'll enjoy a snack (you find you're a bit hungry due to time change) then let you settle into rooms.

7pm meet for dinner in the hotel's restaurant, Wakatipu Grill. **Drink, snack, dinner**

Day 2 - Saturday – 8th March

Breakfast at the hotel and then a visit to the best situated market in the world - the Remarkables Markets with the dramatic range as a backdrop - where we will explore the stalls of local food and have a chat with locals.

We'll take our finds back to the hotel and then head to lunch at the acclaimed Amisfield winery where you'll enjoy 4 great courses with matched wines...all in the private dining room.

Free evening to relax (or you may want to take the water taxi into Queenstown to explore). **Breakfast, lunch**

Day 3 - Sunday – 9th March

Breakfast at our hotel and then we travel up over the Crown Range to Lake Wanaka and a private boat tour to Moa Wahu Island which is a wildlife sanctuary where the endangered buff weka birds roam free. There are strict limits on the number of visitors and it's a real joy to climb the track to the secret lake at the top of the island and turn in every direction to find wilderness and silence. It's pure 360 degree beauty.

Late lunch at brilliant local restaurant Paloma with our chef friend James Stapley.

Free evening for you to enjoy the spa and steam room. **Breakfast, morning tea, lunch**

Day 4 – Monday – 10th March

Breakfast at our hotel before we board the water taxi into Queenstown - one of the most spectacular trips as you travel across the lake surrounded by mountain peaks.

We meet a charming greenstone carver and learn the significance of pounamu – the carved greenstone (Sam Neill often seen wearing his around his neck). Plus we explore some Kiwi natural beauty products through a morning with the founder of Linden Leaves, Brigit Blair who is flying in especially for our group. Her company makes the most superb range of products including a divine rose oil.

We then visit The Romer Gallery to meet Nadine and Stephan Romer – he's the foremost photographer in New Zealand and hearing him talk about how he captures the essence of landscape is wonderful.

After a light lunch we tour the 3 galleries that make up Art Bay – the biggest gallery in Queenstown. Fascinating and with a glass of bubbles.

The rest of the afternoon is yours for shopping in some of Queenstown's boutiques, or taking the cable car up the mountain to enjoy the luge (it's fun!), a walk through the stunning Botanical Gardens - the path around the lake with tall pines all around is lovely. Or take a trip on the TSS Earnslaw up the lake past the two soaring mountains Walter Peak and Cecil Peak.

We'll enjoy dinner this evening in Queenstown **Breakfast, lunch, dinner**

Day 5 - Tuesday – 11th March

Breakfast in the hotel then we are out to explore. We visit the acclaimed Chantecler Gardens for a guided tour with creator Mike Henry who dreamed of designing the perfect garden since he was 8 years old. What he has made is stunning.

We will pop in to a nearby orchard for fruit icecream and coffee.

We then drive to Two Paddocks Winery (Sam Neill's place) and meet up with our dear chef friend James Stapley who is creating a special lunch just for us using the best local produce. James' restaurant Kika is world class - in fact it's on the World's 50 Best Discovery list. Free evening. **Breakfast, lunch, tastings**

Day 6 - Wednesday – 12th March

Breakfast at the hotel. Mid-morning we'll depart for a visit to a farm producing some of the best eggs in the area. Followed by a cooking demonstration and lunch.

We'll have some time for a walk in pretty Arrowtown with its historic gold diggings, before a movie in the charming little jewel box cinema Dorothy Browns...then to an Italian feast at Aosta just downstairs in the private room which feels like stepping back in time. **Breakfast, lunch, dinner**

Day 7 – Thursday – 13th March

Breakfast at hotel and check out. Group transfer at 12 noon. **Breakfast**

2025 Costs TBC: \$5895.00 per person twin share/DBL. Land content only. Single Supplement +\$1250.00

Included: 7 days, 6 nights, 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners including wine, wine tastings & transport as per itinerary.

(If you are out and about, transfers to hotel at your own expense. Hilton Queenstown run a shuttle service from town to the hotel. Airport transfers will be advised – we will do a group transfer on arrival and departure. If you arrive in Queenstown earlier or later and/or depart earlier/later, airport transfers will be at own expense. Airport is approx. 10 mins from hotel).

Tariff does not include: Airfares, Gratuities, hotel mini bar, incidentals, spa treatments.

Your guide: Maeve O'Meara - Safaris director, devotee of good food, great pinot and golden experiences.

Terms and conditions:

Deposit & Payment: A non-refundable deposit of **\$600.00** per person is required on confirmation in order to secure your reservation. Final payment is due before **60 days** before your departure date.

Special Requirements: Please advise Gourmet Safaris of any special requirements such as Special Meals, Medical Requirements etc., as soon as possible. If you get motion sickness it is imperative that you bring with you motion sickness pills.

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is **highly recommended** and can be arranged by our booking agent. We strongly recommend you organise travel insurance at the time of booking. Insurance covers cancellation fees payable for airline tickets, accommodation, loss of deposit, luggage etc. Normal travel insurance conditions apply. (Insurance may not cover trip cancellation due to pre-existing medical conditions). Please read your policy carefully.

Cancellation: If cancelling prior to final payment the deposit is non-refundable. After final payment is received a cancellation fee of approximately 75% applies. This percentage may be less depending on the date of cancellation. A cancellation fee of 100% is applicable within 14 days of travel. If cancellation is not due to pre-existing illnesses, travel insurance will cover most or all of the cancellation fee. Please read your policy carefully.

Pricing: All prices are shown in Australian dollars and are current at the date of printing this itinerary. If there is a dramatic fluctuation in the exchange rate or the price of services provided, which are beyond the control of Gourmet Safaris, Gourmet Safaris reserves the right to adjust tour prices accordingly, even though the balance of payment may have been made. This would only happen in unusual circumstances.

Exclusions: International airfares, Insurance, Excess baggage, extra meals, laundry, drinks, items of a personal nature and tips.

Itinerary Validity and Content: This itinerary is **valid for the period of 2025** only, unless otherwise specified. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Gourmet Safaris shall not be liable for any injury, damage or loss caused by any inaccuracy. Gourmet Safaris reserves the right to change tour arrangements or accommodations due to safety or security reasons, and will endeavour to provide alternative arrangements of the same standard as that originally booked.

Disclaimer: Gourmet Safaris is not a carrier or hotelier, nor do we own aircraft, hotels or coaches. The services Gourmet Safaris supplies consist of arranging and co-ordinating accommodation, tours and transfers, making bookings and issuing vouchers to be redeemed by suppliers if necessary. We exercise every care in the selection of reputable airlines, tour operators, coach operators, hotels and other suppliers of the various travel services which are used in these tours. It is important to note, therefore, all bookings with Gourmet Safaris are subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of liability imposed by the service providers whose services we utilise, some of which limit or exclude liability in respect of death, personal injury, delay and loss or damage of baggage. Because of this Gourmet Safaris does not accept liability for events beyond our control.

Clients' Responsibilities: It is your responsibility to obtain passports, health certificates or other travel documents where required for the tour. It remains your responsibility to ensure that these documents are in order and to meet any additional costs incurred as a result of failure to comply with such requirements. It is also your responsibility to obtain any vaccinations that may be required to travel.