

Milford Sound & Doubtful Sound

WEATHER

Glorious on sunny days and breathtaking on rainy days, does it really matter what the weather is like in Fiordland?

Piopiotahi/Milford Sound is a landscape commanded by water. The area receives around 6.5 - 7 metres (21-23 feet) of rainfall each year and has been known to receive up to 9 metres (29.5 feet), making it the wettest inhabited place on the planet.

Patea/Doubtful Sound receives a huge amount of annual rainfall (around 6 metres/20 feet/) and luckily for you there's a good chance it will rain when you visit.

These truly unique environments come to life on a rainy day and weather can change quickly in the mountainous regions. Pack your raincoat, your sunscreen and prepare for whatever may come, we promise you won't be disappointed.



MILFORD SOUND

Piopiotahi/Milford Sound is an immense and dramatic landscape, that casts a spell over all who visit.

Astonishing geological formations and rich Maori legends are revealed whether you're exploring by land, sea or air.

Visitors often underestimate the stunning alpine drive that is the road to Piopiotahi/Milford Sound, because of the popularity of the area it can be a busy place in summer. Basing yourself in Te Anau will mean you can avoid peak times and enjoy Piopiotahi/Milford Sound with less people and more time.

- Iconic Mitre Peak - one of the world's tallest sea cliffs
- Steep and narrow, glacially carved valleys
- 2 1/2 hr drive Te Anau - Milford Sound
- Milford Deep...
- Guided sea kayaking
- Day and overnight cruise options
- Diving trips



DOUBTFUL SOUND

Larger, yet less visited than its neighbour, Patea/Doubtful Sound is a popular choice for wilderness seekers and those willing to go a little further to see a little more.

Day cruises and overnight cruises to Patea/Doubtful Sound depart from Manapouri, just a 20-minute drive from Te Anau. Prepare to be blown away by lush rainforest, immense waterfalls and local populations of kekeno, the New Zealand Fur Seals and tawaki, the Fiordland Crested Penguin.

- Known as the Sound of Silence
- Deepest of all fiords
- Doubtful Sound is practically untouched by man
- Outstanding waterfalls
- You may see Fiordland Crested penguins, bottlenose dolphins and NZ fur seals
- Guided kayaking and rentals available
- Overnight cruise options

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MILFORD SOUND

Milford is the jewel in Fiordland's crown and the only fiord that can be reached by road in a 2 1/2 hour car journey from Te Anau. The Fiord is approximately 16km from the 'head' to the open sea, which means visitors can comfortably travel the length of the fiord to the Tasman Sea and return in only 1½ to 2hrs.

FACILITIES IN MILFORD

Visitors need to be aware that there are limited facilities in Milford itself. Full lunches are provided on board by some cruise operators (if pre-booked), and there are limited options at Discover Milford Sound Information Centre & Cafe and Pio Pio Cafe at the Milford Sound Lodge.

There is no fuel available within Milford Sound so you need to fill up before departing Te Anau.

Check in for boat trips is 20 mins prior to departure times.

There is a free bus that completes a circuit between the airstrip, cafe and car park, and the boat departure terminal.

ACCOMMODATION

Overnight Boats, Milford Sound Lodge and Rainforest Caravan Park are the only options for accommodation and visitors need to book these well in advance.

DOUBTFUL SOUND

The trip to Doubtful Sound starts with a boat trip across Lake Manapouri, followed by a bus journey over the rugged Wilmot Pass. This 22km road connects West Arm in Lake Manapouri to Deep Cove in Doubtful Sound, and was built during the construction of the power project.

Doubtful Sound is the deepest of the fiords at 421m deep, and is long and winding with three distinct 'arms' between Deep Cove and the open sea — a distance of over 40 kilometres.

ACTIVITIES MILFORD SOUND

Milford Sound Day Cruise

Cruise Milford
cruisemilfordnz.com

W R

Go Orange

GoOrange.co.nz

W R

Jucy Cruise Milford Sound

jucycruise.co.nz

W R

Mitre Peak Cruises

mitrepeak.com

W R

Real Journeys

realjourneys.co.nz

W R

Southern Discoveries

southerndiscoveries.co.nz

W R

Milford Overnight Cruise

Fiordland Discovery
fiordlanddiscovery.co.nz

W R

Real Journeys

realjourneys.co.nz

W R

Milford Sound Guided Kayaking

Go Orange Kayaks

GoOrange.co.nz

W R

Rosco's Milford Kayaks

roscomilfordkayaks.com

W R

Southern Discoveries - Kayaking

southerndiscoveries.co.nz

W R

Underwater Observatory

Milford Discovery Centre & Milford Deep Underwater Observatory

southerndiscoveries.co.nz

W R

Diving (scuba)

Descend Scuba Diving Milford Sound

descend.co.nz

W R

ACTIVITIES DOUBTFUL SOUND

Doubtful Sound Day Cruise

Go Orange
GoOrange.co.nz

W R

Real Journeys

realjourneys.co.nz

W R

Doubtful Overnight Cruise

Deep Cove Charters
doubtful-sound.com

W R

Fiordland Expeditions
fiordlandexpeditions.co.nz

Real Journeys
realjourneys.co.nz

W R

Southern Secret - Fiordland Cruises
doubtfulsound.com

W R

Doubtful Sound Guided Kayaking

Doubtful Sound Kayaks - Day

fiordlandadventure.co.nz

W R

Go Orange

GoOrange.co.nz

W R

Multi-day Cruises

Cruise Fiordland
cruisefiordland.com

W R

Fiordland Discovery
fiordlanddiscovery.co.nz

W R

Pure Salt

puresalt.co.nz

W R

Real Journeys

realjourneys.co.nz

W R

Southern Secret - Fiordland Cruises
doubtfulsound.com

W R

W R These symbols indicate that operators have advised they are prepared to pay Wholesale or Retail commission rates.

