

MILFORD SOUND WITH AIR MILFORD

NZ\$565.00 per person – 9.30am departure.

Milford Sound is an area of extraordinary beauty. It offers a majestic fiord, dramatic and awe **inspiring scenery** and prolific **flora and fauna**. Although the **flight to and from Milford Sound** has regularly been described as the **most stunning part of our tour options, combining this with a Milford cruise** on the fiord happens to be the **most popular option**.



Each tour begins with a **complimentary pick-up** from your central **Queenstown accommodation** provider (charges may apply to rural locations). After check-in completion, your pilot will give a thorough pre-flight briefing on the route and scenic highlights likely to be encountered. These include the famous **Skippers Canyon**, the **Paradise** region (recently made popular as film locations for **Lord of the Rings/Hobbit Trilogies**), and the **Donne glacier** among many other awe-inspiring features. Your **35 minute flight** concludes with an over flight of the **fiord of Milford Sound**, prior to landing.



The second half of the adventure begins in **Milford Sound**, where your pilot personally escorts you to the boat docks to board the “**Sprit of Milford**” to enjoy your **Milford Sound Nature Cruise**. Numbers aboard are capped at 150 passengers and on this intimate experience, **Nature Guides** offer a personal commentary. The “**Spirit of Milford**” catamaran explores nooks and crannies along the edge of the fiord, nudging into sheer rock faces to examine **flora and fauna** in detail.

Following your **Milford Sound cruise** you **return flight** takes in many of the **pristine alpine lakes** and **waterfalls** that **Fiordland National Park** is recognised for, including the **Sutherland Falls** which span 580m (1900ft). **Flight time** is another **35 minutes**, with a **total trip time of approximately 4 hours**. After enjoying your **Scenic Flight** back from **Milford Sound** landing back in **Queenstown** we will return you to **your accommodation** to complete the journey.

Why do Air Milford choose to link with a Nature Cruise?

- This 'ecotour' is perfect for close-up shots of **seals** basking on the rocks, **birds** and other **Fiordland wildlife**, including **dolphins** 'riding' the bow wave and the rarest penguin in the world, the **Fiordland crested penguin** (Spring & Autumn).
- **Join the skipper on the bridge** for a birds-eye view and see first-hand how the boat operates, whilst helping yourself to complimentary tea, coffee and filter water.
- The **smaller boat** helps you appreciate the sheer size and grandeur of the fiord's cliff faces rising hundreds of meters out of the water, scarred here and there by tree falls. You'll get **within touching distance** of impressive geological features and close enough to catch and drink pure glacial water, or feel the full force from the powerful 15,000-year-old **Stirling Falls** (they've got jackets on board to keep you dry!).

Top Tip:

Because of the weather dependent nature of flying in the Southern Alps to Milford Sound, we recommend **booking in for your first available day in Queenstown**. So that, should the weather be unfavorable for flying on the first day, you will have maximum flexibility to roll your excursion on to a following fine weather day.

Duration: Allow 4 hours



Tour Includes

- Courtesy pick up and drop off from your centrally located Queenstown accommodation
- Return **Milford Sound scenic flights**
- **Milford Sound Nature Cruise** aboard catamaran cruise ship
- **Reserved seating** on the boat
- **Complimentary tea and coffee**
- Pilot escort on a **gentle bush walk** from plane to boat through native forest (time permitting)