

Milford Sound and Fiordland

About Milford Sound

Milford Sound (Piopiotahi) is a Fiord of spectacular beauty and natural grandeur...

It is a deep, icy blue waterway flowing into the Tasman Sea and is part of the majestic Fiordland National Park.

Wet or fine the magic of Milford Sound will enthrall you. Annually, Milford Sound receives between 5 to 9 metres of rain and you will see waterfalls thunder down the sheer cliffs of the Fiord.

Carved over time by glaciers the deepest part of the Fiord is 400 metres. Dale Point denotes the entrance to the Sound and is 12km from the Milford Wharf Visitor Centre. The actual length of the Fiord is 16km from St Annes Point.

With so many photo opportunities that abound, taking a camera on your Red Boat Cruise is a must. Milford Sound not only boasts spectacular scenic wonders, it also teems with beautiful wildlife including dolphins, seals and the Fiordland Crested penguin (one of the worlds rarest penguins).

About Fiordland

Located on the South West Coast of the South Island of New Zealand, Fiordland stretches over 124 miles (200 kilometres), from Milford Sound in the north to Preservation Inlet in the south. Covering 1.25 million hectares, Fiordland is the largest National Park in New Zealand and is administered and managed by the Department of Conservation.

It is also one of the wettest places in the world but it is the rain that contributes to the area's beauty. Waterfalls tumble down steep mountains to the sea and rain nourishes rich beech forest.

Fiordland's extraordinary serrated coastline and deep branching lakes were carved out by glaciers millions of years ago. The glaciers left behind a land internationally acclaimed for its spectacular scenery, isolation and uninhabited environment which became a designated World Heritage Area in 1986.

Described as the eighth wonder of the world, Milford Sound remains the only Fiord in this region that can be accessed by road and it is 16km from the head of the Fiord to the open sea.

The Road to Milford Sound

The Milford Road offers a stunning scenic journey from Te Anau to Milford Sound into the heart of the Fiordland National Park.

From Queenstown you'll drive south through the rolling countryside to Te Anau, the gateway to the World Heritage, Fiordland National Park.

From here as you take the journey into Milford Sound you'll experience magnificent scenery as you drive over alpine roads. Take time to stop at the many points of interest along the way.

