NEW ZEALAND REGIONAL SNAPSHOT Te Tai Poutini - West Coast



Nestled on two continental plates, the West Coast is a place like no other. One coastline, extending from Buller to Haast, more than 600kms long and sandwiched between mountains and sea. One plate extending far into the Tasman Sea, pushing up

TOP 10 MUST DOS

- 1. Discover an ancient world beneath Oparara Arches
- 2. Witness nature's power at the Pancake Rocks
- 3. Hook a world-beating brown trout at Lake Brunner
- 4. Be captivated by the colours of Hokitika Gorge
- 5. Cycle the Wilderness Trail
- 6. Fossick for pounamu pebbles on Hokitika Beach
- 7. Encounter rare wildlife on Okarito Lagoon
- 8. Enjoy spectacular heli-hiking on a temperate glacier
- 9. Immerse yourself in Haast's UNESCO wilderness
- 10. Challenge your tastebuds at the Wildfoods Festival

against the other to form the Southern Alps.

Whilst the West Coast may cover 9% of New Zealand's total land area, it harbours 25% of Aotearoa's conservation land — a diverse region of wonders, landscapes and experiences. With three national parks, world-class cycle trails like the fabled Old Ghost Road and the Wilderness Trail and the world's best and most accessible glacier experience, the West Coast is as far from your day to day as you will get.

Here, it's as if nature didn't

TOP 5 for FAMILY ADVENTURES

- Paid Activities & Accommodation
- 1. Encounter rare kiwi at West Coast Wildlife Centre
- 2. Step back into a different time at Shantytown
- 3. Get a bird's-eye view on West Coast Treetop Walk
- 4. Kayak Lake Mapourika with Franz Josef Wilderness Tours
- 5. Relax at Carters Beach Top 10 Holiday Park

know how to stop: From temperate glaciers to mirror lakes, wetlands and waterways, wild coastlines fringed by verdant rain forests and spectacular alpine vistas, to the remote and precious primeval wilderness of the UNESCO World Heritage Te Wahipounamu South Westland. The region abounds with wildlife and is a haven for rare and endangered species. It's a place where culture and heritage are very much alive. **There's no better time to**

discover Aotearoa's untamed natural wilderness.

TOP 5 for COUPLES

- Paid Activities & Accommodation
- 1. Cosy up in a Rainforest Retreat tree hut
- 2. Chill out in naturally beautiful Maruia Hot Springs
- 3. Breakfast with mountain giants at Lake Matheson Café
- 4. Get your tandem thrills with Skydive Franz Josef
- 5. Conquer the ice on a Fox Glacier Guiding heli-hike

WÊST COAST UNTAMED NATURAL WILDERNESS

#No7

www.westcoast.co.nz

Email info@westcoast.co.nz

Getting There

Fly into Hokitika (daily flights from Christchurch - 35 mins, with connections from throughout NZ) or take the TranzAlpine scenic train from Christchurch to Greymouth. Pick up a rental car from the airport or railway station.

Greymouth is 3 hours by road from Christchurch, under 4 hours from Nelson.

From Greymouth, Hokitika is 30 mins (south), Westport is 90 mins (north); Hokitika to Franz Josef / Fox is 1 hour 45 mins; Fox to Haast is 1 hour 30 mins.

TOP 5 for OLDER TRAVELLERS Paid Activities & Accommodation

- 1. Tick off the glaciers on a scenic flight with Helicopter Line
- 2. Cruise the tranquil Mahinapua Wetlands with Scenic Waterways
- 3. Experience World Heritage with Waiatoto River Safari
- 4. Ride the West Coast Wilderness trail with Cycle Journeys
- 5. Watch the sun go down over Punakaiki Resort

do something NEW ZEALAND