

# Mackenzie and Mid Canterbury



**Mackenzie Region**  
New Zealand

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**Mid Canterbury and Mackenzie offer amazing adventures for those wanting to explore some of the South Island's most epic scenery.**

The world's largest gold standard dark sky reserve, New Zealand's highest peak and largest glacier,

spectacular turquoise lakes, golden grasslands and 'that charming lakeside church', the Mackenzie Region is home to some of the country's most iconic landscapes and nature activities.

The region consists of four main townships: Aoraki/Mount Cook Village, Lake Tekapo, Fairlie and Twizel. The region has four distinct and equally picturesque seasons which create compelling reasons to keep coming back. Over the cooler months the region transforms into a winter playground, with three boutique ski fields, a range of 'bucket list' ski experiences and family friendly

snow fun.

Mid Canterbury is one of the great secrets of New Zealand, with an inspiring range of energetic and relaxing activities. Stay as long as you can to explore Mid Canterbury's breath-taking scenery, from stunning snow-capped mountains, to impressive braided rivers and crystal-clear lakes. Experience Mid Canterbury's dining options from relaxed cafes and bars to romantic dining.

This diverse region has something to satisfy all tastes and budgets. Embark on a journey of exploration and exhilaration.

## Getting There

Fly to Christchurch or Timaru, hire a car, and it is a one-hour drive from either airport to Mid Canterbury. Alternatively, Intercity, Methven Travel and Mid Canterbury Shuttle offer scheduled services to Ashburton and Methven.

The Mackenzie Region is a 2.5 hour drive on the main highway between Christchurch and Queenstown. In addition to rental car options, Intercity and Cheeky Kiwi Travel offer regular transport services through the Mackenzie Region. A range of helicopter charter options is available for premium guests.

## TOP 10 MUST DOS

1. Dark Sky Project The Summit Experience
2. Tekapo Adventures Mackenzie Alpine Hike (new!)
3. Glacier Explorers Boat Tour The Hermitage (September to May)
4. Tasman Glacier Heli Hike with Mt Cook Helicopters and Ski Planes
5. Ski The Tasman Glacier (July – November) with Alpine Guides
6. Adrenaline-fuelled UTV ride with Dirt Bandits
7. Jet boat the stunning Rakaia Gorge
8. Play golf on the superb Terrace Downs Course
9. Ski New Zealand's No#1 Ski Field – Mt Hutt
10. Fly with Ballooning Canterbury over the Canterbury plains

## TOP 5 for OLDER TRAVELLERS

### Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Glentanner High Country Heli-Hike with The Helicopter Line
2. Air Safaris Grand Traverse flight-seeing adventure
3. Alps 2 Ocean guided tour with Adventure South
4. Take a break at The Suites Ashburton
5. Tekapo Star Gazing tour at Tekapo Springs

## TOP 5 for COUPLES

### Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Be pampered at Lakestone Lodge or Mt Cook Lakeside Retreat
2. Take a Tekapo Adventures multi-day backcountry tour
3. Ride an Alps 2 Ocean assisted tour with Cycle Journeys
4. Unwind in Opuke Pools' adults exclusive area
5. Stargaze from your glass-ceilinged bedroom at SkyScape

## TOP 5 for FAMILY ADVENTURES

### Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Tekapo Adventures 4WD experience at Glenmore Station
2. Archery and clay-shooting with Newzengland
3. Visit the amazing Ashburton Aviation Museum
4. Explore with Mackenzie Alpine Horse Trekking
5. Enjoy a family stay at Bella Vista Ashburton



DO SOMETHING  
**NEW**  
NEW ZEALAND