

170  
Motorhome  
FEBRUARY 2016  
TRAVEL: NEW ZEALAND'S SOUTH ISLAND  
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DASHCAMS MEGA-TEST  
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February 2016

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# NEW ZEALAND

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# Where in the world?



#### WHY TOUR HERE?

It may look like the set of *Jurassic Park*, but this is actually New Zealand's temperate South Island; thanks to the plethora of motorhome-rental companies that operate in the country, it's now easier than ever to take a tour there. Gary Blake and his partner, Wendy Johnson, did just that; you'll find the first instalment of their two-part feature on p28.

#### WHAT MOTORHOME?

Maui Platinum Beach

PHOTOGRAPH BY Gary Blake



**GRAND TOUR**  
New Zealand

**TOTAL DISTANCE**  
1350 miles

**MAUI**  
Platinum Beach

**DURATION**  
20 days

**Pass stunning fjords and see soaring mountains on this fly-drive of a lifetime**

The Mount Cook mountain range sits alongside the blue waters of Lake Pukaki on New Zealand's South Island

# The road to MIDDLE EARTH

New Zealand is on many a motorcaravanner's bucket list, but for **Gary Blake**, that dream came true. In the first of a two-part feature, he explores South Island





**Gary Blake** and **Wendy Johnson** are avid travellers. Gary is an ex-pat Kiwi who has caravanned and camped in every corner of this fantastic country



Left, clockwise from top Wendy beside the Kiwi Rail train at Greymouth; Arthur's Pass is 920m high; trams run across Christchurch; Greymouth is a former gold-mining town Below left Akaroa lighthouse overlooks Glen Bay Below right Gary and Wendy's rental 'van Right Overlooking Akaroa on the Banks Peninsula

The train rattled on, past flat pastoral land that eventually gave way to Alpine-style foothills with wild rivers.

The English settlers here had tilled this land for grazing, and the area became known as the **Canterbury Plains**: it stretched 200 miles between the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Alps.

I was to be the tour guide for my partner Wendy's latest adventure; we would be revisiting areas that I had hitchhiked to in my youth, and places where I had holidayed with my parents in their self-built caravan.

So why, then, were we on a train? I'd decided to take advice from the New Zealand AA, which suggests not driving for 48 hours after a long-haul flight. So our first impressions of the country that we were going to travel through for 41 days were from the TranzAlpine Express daily return service from Christchurch to Greymouth, one of the best train journeys in the world. The route crosses **Arthur's Pass**, which stands at 920m (3020ft) and is the highest pass over the Southern Alps.

Arriving in the old gold mining town of **Greymouth**, we had time for a pie and a pint in Speight's Ale House – one of its original pubs – before returning to our comfortable seats on the train.

We were due to begin our motorhome tour in April (which is autumn in New Zealand), so decided that the South Island was best seen first, given that the weather there was likely to deteriorate sooner than on the North Island. We decided to circumnavigate it, before crossing the southern Haast Pass and heading to the North Island via car ferry.

### Finding faults in the city

**Christchurch** is the largest city on South Island, and was our first port of call on this trip. We took the hop-on-hop-off Routemaster bus tour for a history lesson, and a journey through the city – which is a shadow of its former self. Major earthquakes in 2010 and 2011 revealed an unknown geological fault beneath the Canterbury Plains, and



created a surface rift that lifted the ground by as much as four metres.

We were firmly in earthquake country here, with the two major tectonic plates – Pacific and Asia – bumping into each other below us. New Zealand's terrain has been compared to a piece of paper crumpled up then stretched out – there's interesting and spectacular scenery, but it has a challenging topography and some places are difficult to get to.

The repairs to the city are still on the drawing board; in the meantime you'll find The Transitional Cathedral – part of which is made from cardboard – and a shopping mall constructed from shipping containers.

Next, our tour took us out of town to the **Littleton Hills**, which provided us with a view of the route that we were to take along the south coast in a few days. It only fuelled our curiosity to see the neighbouring port of **Akaroa**.

It was at this settlement that New Zealand's history might have been changed forever, when the local Maori tribes spread rumours that the French were to colonise the land. This produced a rush for the English government to declare it their territory, and the country became part of the British Commonwealth.

Finally – rested and well prepared after six months of planning – we set off on day four to collect our rented Maui



Platinum Beach four-berth motorhome. We were about to embark on a 4346km (2700-mile) journey in autumnal bliss, with off-season campsite rates and empty South Island roads.

### Setting off on four wheels

The rental depot was beside the airport, and next to the International Antarctic Centre. Its motorhomes are based on Mercedes or VW lightweight rear-wheel-drive twin-axle vehicles, with New Zealand-built habitation areas.

Wendy was happy to find a fitted kitchen with a good range of equipment in our 'van. The king-size rear bed could be left made up, leaving the overcab for easy-access storage.



“Automatics are easy to drive,” the handover man assured us, but we were pleased to find that the system could be overridden by the clutchless manual mode. That gave us the option of changing down while descending steep mountain roads to help stop the brakes overheating.

The vehicle was also fitted with GPS-activated 'tourism radio', which we found useful – it provided us with local information as we motored along. The 24-hour hotline assistance also came in handy when a dashboard warning light appeared. It was dealt with at the next depot, where our bed linen and towels were also exchanged, free of charge.

### Top selection of sites

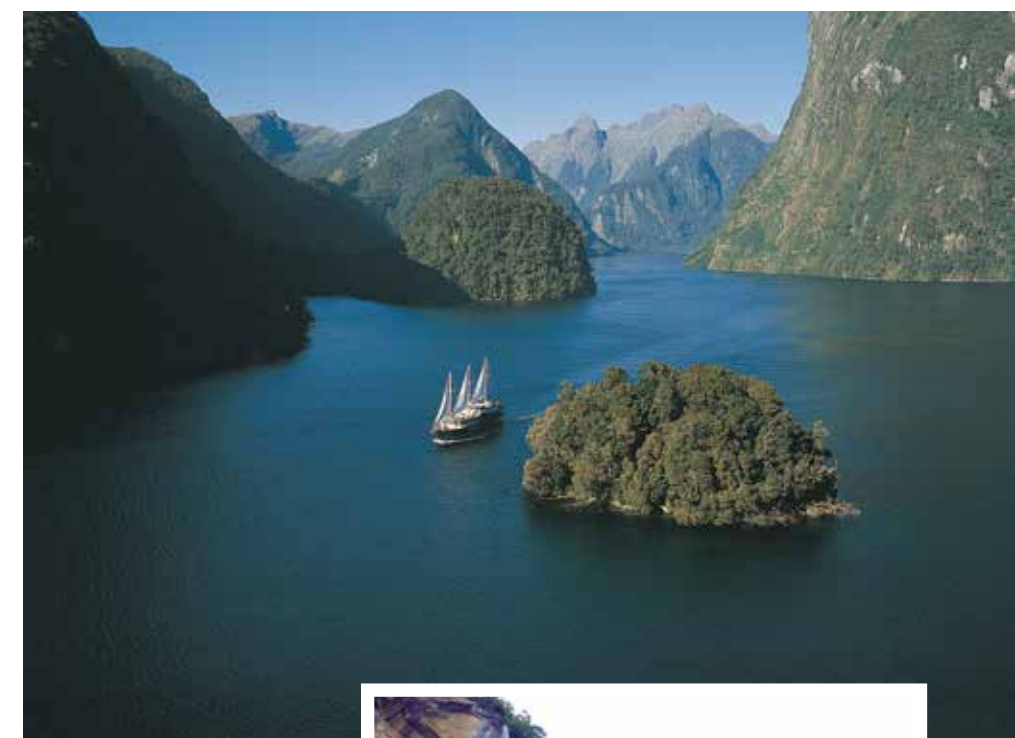
Our first stop was at nightfall at **Oamaru's** TOP 10 site. We decided to use holiday parks for their convenience, and mainly stayed at New Zealand's TOP 10 network (which comprises 49 sites) for their quality of accommodation and great locations.

As for free wild camping: it might be possible, if you fancy trying it, but it's wise to check with the local information centre beforehand, because each district has different rules around where it's permitted.

However, if you're a food and wine enthusiast, you should track down one of the number of farms and vineyards that allow you to park up at their ☺



Left The Moeraki Boulders  
This pic Dunedin's Otago Peninsula Inset Delicious food at Fleur's Place



premises for free. Check out [www.okay2stay.co.nz](http://www.okay2stay.co.nz) for more information on this great scheme, which is very similar to France Passion.

Unfortunately our 7am start the following day wasn't early enough for us to see the Little Blue Penguin colony on the headland. They cross the road from their burrows for a morning plunge – but 5am is their preferred time. However, some of New Zealand's best-preserved 19th-century limestone buildings were lit by rays of bright sunlight; the structures are evidence of the town's prosperous past when, in the 1840s, lamb and butter left for London on the first refrigerated ships. It was also here that Shackleton's *Terra Nova* Antarctic expedition set sail from the port; you can find out more about the ill-fated trip in the Settlers Museum.

Before reaching **Dunedin** – New Zealand's southernmost city – we pulled in to see the famous **Moeraki Boulders**. Maori legend says that these massive, round, black-stone boulders – which are reputed to be four million years old – grew in situ 'like pearls'.

TV chef Rick Stein loves Fleur's Place restaurant – which specialises in fresh-fish dishes – and so did we. It's a low-key place that's set on a jetty overlooking the sea; we lunched on blue cod and clams brought straight from the Moeraki Bay fishing boats.

Sadly, because we were delayed by the good food, we didn't allow enough time to reach the Royal Albatross Centre on Dunedin's Otago Peninsula and see

## NEW ZEALAND KNOWHOW



Our flight luggage was restricted to 23kg, but we needed a fair bit of warmer clothing and walking boots. We therefore used a courier company called Send My Bag to forward over more luggage ([www.sendmybag.com](http://www.sendmybag.com)). Its staff will guide you through the NZ customs forms, too.

the world's only mainland breeding colony of Northern Royal Albatross. But we were in time to see the Little Blue Penguins, which are the world's smallest. Blue floodlights illuminated the sea and we watched the birds arriving at 6.30pm; they leapt out of the freezing water and waited for their partners before scurrying off to their cliff-face burrow. By this time we were in full winter gear, and a gale-force southerly wind was blowing; we realised the saying that New Zealand can offer 'four seasons in one day' had a ring of truth to it!

### Scotland abroad

Dunedin is a hilly city, and is even in the *Guinness Book of Records* for having the steepest residential road in the world. The place was founded by Scottish immigrants in 1848, and is often called 'a little piece of Scotland at the other end of

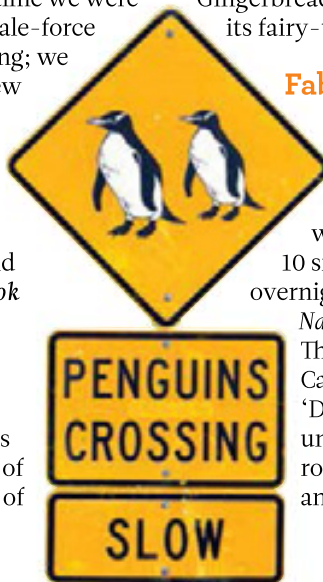
the world'. With grand stone buildings, its architecture is different to the primarily wooden clapboard structures you'll find across of the rest of New Zealand.

It was an easy bus trip into the centre for us from our TOP 10 site and, as usual in New Zealand, the Central Business District area had free Wi-Fi zones that allowed us to catch up on news. Our concern was any inclement weather yet to come, but here on the east coast of the Southern Alps it was dry, chilly and sunny.

The excellent bus tour of Dunedin was our way of avoiding having to find somewhere to park in the hilly town. This was followed by a guided walk, then we paid a visit to another Settlers Museum, next to the Dunedin railway station – the latter is known as the Gingerbread House, because of its fairy-tale appearance.

### Fabulous fjords

**Te Anau**, a small neat lakeside town, is the starting point for trips to the Fiordland region; so we left our 'van at the TOP 10 site there and took an overnight cruise on the *Fiordland Navigator* to Doubtful Sound. The name originates from Captain Cook, who called it 'Doubtful Harbour'; he was unaware that he could sail round the steep rock face and into calm water.



After unzipping our winter clothes from a suitcase sent out to us via the courier company 'Send my Bag', we donned warmer waterproof clothing as the heavens opened. The scenery remained spectacular, though, with waterfalls cascading down the vertical-sided fjords. "How lucky you are to see this area with its annual seven-metre rainfall in all its glory," the ship's commentator told us.

Once back on dry land we visited the local Fiordland cinema – which had warming log fires and a wine bar – to view *Shadowland*: a film taken from a helicopter flying over the awe-inspiring World Heritage landscape of the area.

### A snowy-weather surprise

The weather forecast for the following day was snow. Should we hire snow chains for our visit over the mountains to **Milford Sound**, we wondered? We decided against it and instead booked onto the Southern Discoveries 'Go Milford' tour, for which we would be collected from our campsite.

Above The *Fiordland Navigator* sets sail across the stunning Doubtful Sound  
Right Water tumbles at Milford Sound  
Left Handsome Dunedin Station, aka the Gingerbread House



By the time we began our climb up to the Homer Tunnel, we were driving through blizzard conditions with other vehicles stopped or in the ditches beside the road. Our driver did mention that it was very unusual for snow to fall so early in autumn.

Luckily the 0.75-mile tunnel was still open, and as we exited it a spectacular winter mountain scene came into view. The subsequent boat trip took us out into the Tasman Sea where the next stop would be the South Pole, 2000 miles away.

### Merino in Middle Earth

Soon it was time to head on to our next campsite and, after setting off on roads cleared of snow, it was an easy run along Lake Wakatipu to **Queenstown**. The Remarkables mountain range – freshly dusted with snow – created an impressive backdrop to the city. It's the range used in Peter Jackson's film *Lord of the Rings*, and you'll find 'Middle-Earth' safari tours starting here.

But it's adrenaline sports that are the name of the game in Queenstown,

where our highlight was a trip on "the world's most exciting jet boat ride". And the Shotover Jet truly lived up to its reputation (to watch a video that shows it in all its glory, see <http://po.st/UnlATq>)! If flying over the Shotover River using two Hamilton jet engines was safe enough for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on their trip to New Zealand in 2014, it was good enough for us.

We'd been wearing merino wool clothing to keep warm up this point, so it was apt that another Southern Discoveries trip – this time across Lake Wakatipu – took us to the isolated, 100,000-acre Mt Nicholas High Country Farm, where 29,000 merino sheep roam the mountainous landscape.

Travelling around the farm on a 4WD wilderness experience, we were told how these extraordinary sheep grow fleece that is luxuriously soft, yet strong enough to cope with anything that nature throws at it. The animals can survive summer temperatures of 35C, or -20C in the winter. Maori shearers were on

NEW ZEALAND  
KNOWHOW 

Top tips for driving  
in New Zealand

- As in the UK, you'll drive on the left-hand side of the road. The maximum speed limit for campervans is 95kph (60mph).
- You must carry your driving licence with you at all times.
- New Zealand has many hilly, narrow or windy roads, so your journey might take longer than you expect.
- State Highways are more like British A-roads than motorways. Most roads are single carriageway without barriers between the two lanes.
- When parking your vehicle, you must face the same way as the traffic direction. Otherwise, you'll face a fine.
- Weather-related hazards are commonplace. If you're driving in the South Island in winter, spring or late autumn, snow is a possibility – ensure that you're carrying chains if a cold snap has been forecast. You can check the weather at [www.metservice.com/national/home](http://www.metservice.com/national/home).



This page, clockwise from above Gary and Wendy stopped to admire the stunning Remarkables mountain range in Otago; you can take a wild, wet and thrilling ride down the Shotover River on the Shotover Jet craft; 29,000 sheep roam at the remote, 100,000-acre Mt Nicholas High Country Farm; the view of Queenstown from the Skyline Gondola is incredible



This page, clockwise from above The sole road to Jackson Bay makes for a beautiful drive; it's an easy walk alongside Waiho River, which is fed by glacier meltwater; the Franz Josef Glacier stretches for 12km and drops 2600m to sea level



the farm, so we took the opportunity to watch what they were up to.

There was much more to see in the area before we left: from the high vantage of the Skyline Gondola we viewed the whole of Queenstown, and after hiring eBikes we cycled beside the lake at Frankton. A trip on the vintage steamship *TSS Earnslaw*, meanwhile, took us to Walter Peak High Country Farm for an indoor BBQ.

After four full-on days it was time to leave for the restored gold-mining settlement of Arrowtown, where we panned for a few grains of gold. Arrowtown to Haast took us through the Kawarau Gorge, Cromwell and Wanaka. With its dramatic lakes and mountain scenery, this stretch deserved more time than we could give it, but we had to press on to make the Haast Pass in daylight. The road is metalled, but with the threat of rockfalls we were pleased to safely reach the top.

After being greeted by the manageress of the Haast River Top 10 site, she told us we must visit Jackson Bay; so the next morning we set off on the 40km drive. At the end of the only road to the bay we found a fishing settlement with a café in an old container, where we enjoyed a crayfish lunch.

**A really wild wonder**

This part of the south-west coast is a UNESCO World Heritage Area and offers wild coastal scenery, beaches littered with driftwood, remote rivers, mountains that fringe the coast, and even glaciers to explore. The long and narrow strip of land is hounded by the prevailing winds from across the rough Tasman Sea; what's more, rain falls for more than 200 days of the year!



Our next trip was to the Franz Josef Glacier via helicopter, and we landed on Fox Glacier. The latter had retreated badly since I saw it in 1960 but Franz Josef, which is more protected from wind and sun, is still 12km in length and drops 2600m to sea level.

Our helicopter trip took place before the terrible crash in November 2015, when seven people were killed. The tours continue to take place, but only you can decide whether you're prepared to consider one. We would recommend taking the trip on a clear day, and don't prebook: wait to see what the weather is like before you commit.

**Possum pies**

The West Coast is known for its eccentrics, as Billy Connolly discovered on



This page, clockwise from above The sole road to Jackson Bay makes for a beautiful drive; it's an easy walk alongside Waiho River, which is fed by glacier meltwater; the Franz Josef Glacier stretches for 12km and drops 2600m to sea level



his *World Tour of New Zealand*, and it was here that we found Possum Pete (as I named him). He's doing his best to keep down one of the major pests in New Zealand: the possum. Pete owns the Bushmans Centre – which has a shop, café and small zoo – on Highway 6 at Pukekura. The building is easily recognisable because it displays a huge model sandfly on the outside.

He told us that, during the winter months, he and his wife, Justine, use their helicopter to trap possums for their pelts, and then make garments to sell in the shop. We also found that he made possum and roadkill pies for the café, although we weren't brave enough to try any.

We donned our walking boots several times for a number of short loops from Highway 6, but we could only envy those who were 'tramping'. These are long hikes with participants staying in huts en route.



We continued our journey in the motorhome and, with virtually no traffic on the roads, the numerous single-lane bridges that we crossed didn't prove to be a problem. However, we were surprised to come across a bridge that was shared by trains and vehicles; what's more, there was a train not far behind us!

**Rocks and rolling landscapes**

Our next port of call was Shantytown Heritage Park, between Hokitika and Greymouth. The park has some recreated historical buildings and a steam train, so we got a sense of what it must have been like to live during the times of the gold rush.

The Maori people prized the local pounamu stone – which is also known as jade or greenstone – above all others, and shaped it into tools, weapons and jewellery; it is still carved by them today. We dropped





**Above** Gary and Wendy dined on fresh crayfish cooked beside the road  
**Right** The waters of Kaikoura sparkled in the bright autumnal sunshine



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into Garth Wilson's studio nearby, where he hand-carves each item and is happy to chat about the meanings of the Maori designs and shapes.

The Lewis Pass took us back over the Alps and on to **Hanmer Springs**, a small mountain spa town with mineral pools. We were pleased to wake to the drier, sunnier climate of the east coast, and took a dip in some of the 15 open-air hot pools at the rather smart Spa. It's set in lovely surroundings, and is just along the road from the TOP 10 site.

After taking advice from the campsite, we followed the Leader (lower) Road to **Kaikoura** through impressive rolling countryside.

#### A fine time for wine

Kaikoura faces east, so bright light dances on its sparkling waters – and it was those waters upon which we embarked on a whale-watching trip. There's a really high chance of seeing one, but if you don't, you'll get a large percentage of your money back. Fortunately, we weren't disappointed.

Following a BBQ crayfish lunch from a roadside stall, we made for the car park at Point Keen, which gave us the best opportunity to view fur seals close up. We witnessed many sleeping on 'haul-outs' along the scenic rocky shores, but at Ohau – along the coast road to **Blenheim** – seal pups could be seen playing in the rock pools.

With Blenheim being at the heart of the Marlborough wine region, we made a pilgrimage to Cloudy Bay's vineyard where we enjoyed a tasting at the cellar door. We couldn't have much, though, because we were

driving; with more time we could have cycled around the vineyards.

Sauvignon Blanc is the primary grape here, closely followed by Pinot Noir and Chardonnay – but don't expect the wine to be cheap. We stocked up at the local Sunday market in Blenheim, before setting off for **Picton**. We'd then make the infamous crossing at the Cook Straits, through the beautiful Charlotte Sound, to my home town of **Wellington**. The city is the seat of the New Zealand government, and where English settlers arrived in 1837.

We were now halfway through our two-island tour; still to come were the cities of Wellington and Auckland, the Maori heartlands of Rotorua, the forests of giant Kauri trees, a 90-mile beach and the edge of New Zealand where two oceans meet. If the first half of the trip was anything to go by, it would be a superb experience!

*\* Gary and Wendy travelled to New Zealand with the Camping & Caravanning Club's Travel Service. The Club runs two escorted tours, or can arrange bespoke travel. Visit [www.worldwidemh.co.uk/newzealand](http://www.worldwidemh.co.uk/newzealand) or call 024 7647 5340.*



**You can enjoy a spot of wine-tasting at the Cloudy Bay vineyard in Blenheim**

## NEW ZEALAND KNOWHOW



### Camping in New Zealand

Camping in New Zealand is a popular pastime, because it really is the land of the great outdoors. It's well worth the long-haul flight to get there.

On our trip we primarily used TOP 10 Holiday Parks, which have 45 excellent sites in prime locations around New Zealand. A membership card gave us a 10% discount at NZ attractions, on inter-island ferries, and best guaranteed rates on sites across the park's network.

You can also enjoy the natural world by staying at a Department of Conservation campsite (see [www.doc.govt.nz/campsites](http://www.doc.govt.nz/campsites)). For \$5 per person you're provided with a kitchen, shower and electricity in large and well-maintained park areas.

And don't worry – New Zealand has no snakes, poisonous spiders, killer jellyfish or other deadly creepy crawlies.

If you're creating an itinerary for your New Zealand road trip, you ought to know about freedom (or wild) camping and the law in New Zealand. The Freedom Camping Act was passed by parliament in 2011. Even though wild camping is legal in many places, that doesn't apply everywhere. When in doubt, it's best to check with the local Visitor Information Center (found in most towns).

For more information on touring in NZ, see [www.newzealand.com/uk/](http://www.newzealand.com/uk/).



## Our route and stops

We mainly used TOP 10 sites; bookings can be made at [www.top10.co.nz](http://www.top10.co.nz). The average nightly cost for a pitch with electric hook-up was \$NZ30-50 (£12.80-£21.50).

### Oamaru TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 434 7666

**Web** [www.oamarutop10.co.nz](http://www.oamarutop10.co.nz)

Best for the dawn walk (or tours from the site) to the Little Blue Penguin colony.

### Dunedin TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 476 4725

**Web** [www.aaronlodgetop10.co.nz](http://www.aaronlodgetop10.co.nz)

Best for the bus to central Dunedin (for tours of the city and surrounds).

### Te Anau TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 249 7462

**Web** [www.teanautop10.co.nz](http://www.teanautop10.co.nz)

Handy for the Doubtful Sounds overnight cruise, and the Milford day trip; tour operators collect from the site.

### Queenstown Holiday Park

**Tel** 00 64 3 442 9447

**Web** [www.camp.co.nz](http://www.camp.co.nz)

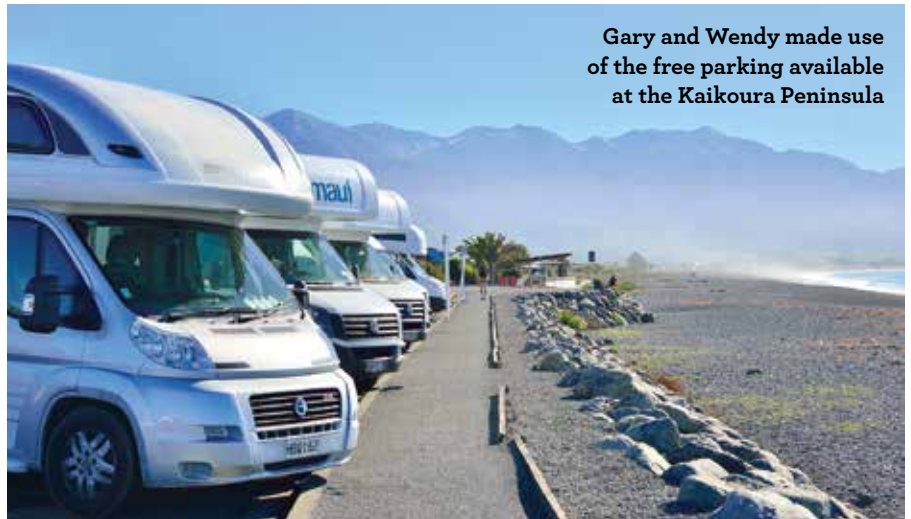
Ideal for walking to central Queenstown and enjoying the local activities.

### Haast TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 750 0020

**Web** [www.haasttop10.co.nz](http://www.haasttop10.co.nz)

This is a great place to stop after crossing



Gary and Wendy made use of the free parking available at the Kaikoura Peninsula

the Haast Pass. It's also ideal for visiting Jackson Bay before you travel north.

### Franz Josef TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 752 0735

**Web** [www.top10.co.nz/parks/franz-josef/](http://www.top10.co.nz/parks/franz-josef/)

Handy for accessing the Franz Josef Glacier, although the site is 2km outside town. Some local restaurants will pick guests up from the site and deliver them back.

### Greymouth TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 768 6618

**Web** [www.top10greymouth.co.nz](http://www.top10greymouth.co.nz)

It's an easy drive into town from this site, and it's located close to the Shantytown Heritage Park.

### Hanmer Springs TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 315 7113

**Web** [www.hammerspringstop10.co.nz](http://www.hammerspringstop10.co.nz)

The perfect location for nearby Hanmer Springs thermal baths.

### Kaikoura TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 319 5362

**Web** [www.kaikouratop10.co.nz](http://www.kaikouratop10.co.nz)

Ideal for whale-watching tours.

### Blenheim TOP 10

**Tel** 00 64 3 578 3667

**Web** [www.blenheimtop10.co.nz](http://www.blenheimtop10.co.nz)

A great base for driving to the nearby vineyards. Some vineyard tours will pick guests up from the site and drop them off.

## **i** Find out more

### CHRISTCHURCH

#### •TranzAlpine Express

**Web** [www.kiwirailscenic.co.nz](http://www.kiwirailscenic.co.nz)

**Charges** \$358pp

#### •Christchurch open-top bus tour

**Web** [www.hasslefreetours.co.nz/tours/discover-christchurch](http://www.hasslefreetours.co.nz/tours/discover-christchurch)

**Charges** \$69pp

### DUNEDIN

#### •Dunedin City Tours

**Web** [www.goodcompanytours.co.nz](http://www.goodcompanytours.co.nz)

**Charges** \$25pp

#### •Royal Albatross Centre

**Web** [www.albatross.org.nz](http://www.albatross.org.nz)

**Charges** Classic Albatross Tour \$45pp

Blue Penguin Viewing Tour \$25pp

### TE ANAU, DOUBTFUL SOUND, MILFORD SOUND

#### •Real Adventures

Overnight boat tour of Doubtful Sound.

**Web** [www.realjourneys.co.nz/en/destinations/doubtful-sound/](http://www.realjourneys.co.nz/en/destinations/doubtful-sound/)

**Charges** \$417pp

#### •Milford Sound Day trip

**Web** [www.southerndiscoveries.co.nz/milford-sound/go-milford-day-trip/](http://www.southerndiscoveries.co.nz/milford-sound/go-milford-day-trip/)

**Charges** \$159pp

### QUEENSTOWN

#### •Skyline Gondola

**Web** [www.skyline.co.nz](http://www.skyline.co.nz)

**Charges** \$32pp

#### •Mt Nicholas Farm

#### and 4WD Wilderness Experience

**Web** [www.southerndiscoveries.co.nz/queenstown/mt-nicholas-farm-experience](http://www.southerndiscoveries.co.nz/queenstown/mt-nicholas-farm-experience)

**Charges** \$159pp

#### •Shotover Jet

**Web** [www.shotoverjet.com](http://www.shotoverjet.com)

**Charges** \$135pp

### FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER

#### •Fox Glacier and Franz

#### Josef Heliservices

**Web** [www.scenic-flights.co.nz](http://www.scenic-flights.co.nz)

**Charges** \$195pp for a 25-minute flight

### GREYMOUTH

#### •Shantytown

**Web** [www.shantytown.co.nz](http://www.shantytown.co.nz)

**Charges** \$33pp

### KIAKOURA

#### •Whale Watch

**Web** [www.whalewatch.co.nz](http://www.whalewatch.co.nz)

**Charges** \$145pp

### BLENHEIM

#### •Cloudy Bay Vineyard

**Web** [www.cloudybay.co.nz](http://www.cloudybay.co.nz)

### INTERISLAND FERRY

**Web** [www.interislander.co.nz](http://www.interislander.co.nz)

**Charges** From \$403 to \$525 each way

## **🏠** The motorhome

We rented a Maui Platinum Beach four-berth coachbuilt from Kea New Zealand (<http://nzrentals.keacampers.com>). It was well-equipped with a spacious and comfortable rear bed.

## **£** Costs

Diesel .....	£160
LPG .....	£2
Groceries .....	£310
Site fees .....	£360
Attraction fees .....	£1510
'Van hire .....	£1400
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>£3742</b>