

FOREST & BIRD TOURS

SUPPORTING CONSERVATION

DEPARTING SEPTEMBER 2021 through to APRIL 2022

Our ever-changing country is full of natural spectacles to be enjoyed, challenged, or held in awe. Travel off the beaten track, in small groups, and experience some less visited, but still spectacular treasures. Join us to explore New Zealand's natural heritage and feel good knowing your tour's profits will be supporting Forest & Bird's conservation work!

It was a truly remarkable experience and we are very grateful for it. Thank you Mark and Forest & Bird!

Inge Bremer and Rolf Mueller-Glodde
Footsteps through Conservation Battlegrounds tour October 2020

UNFORGETTABLE LANDSCAPES

YOUR GUIDE

Naturalist and Forest & Bird President Mark Hanger has been leading small-group nature tours throughout New Zealand and Australia for more than 30 years. He has put together this incredible fundraising journey for our supporters. Travel is by comfortable small coach equipped with an excellent nature reference library. Accommodation is in pleasant hotels and lodges with private facilities. A flexible tour itinerary offers multiple start and finish points and different journey lengths. All tour profits go to Forest & Bird's conservation work.





Latitude 42°S

Departures from Nelson
October 3 2023



Oct 3

Abel Tasman National Park.

Travel from Nelson to the southern edge of Abel Tasman National Park. Hop on board our water taxi and cruise the shore of this delightfully scenic park, with time for a 2 hour walk on one of the coastal trails, before arriving at the southern entrance to the park at Kaiteriteri. Continue through to Takaka for three nights

Oct 4

Kahurangi National Park – Cobb Valley

The Cobb Valley is one of the floristically most diverse regions in Aotearoa. The region is full of stunning landscapes and ever-varying geology. Today we hike from the head of the lake through lush red beech forests towards Peel Ridge. A hugely diverse alpine flora awaits once we emerge from the fascinating beech forests that surround the lake.



Oct 5

Kahurangi National Park, Wharariki Beach, Mangarakau Wetland

The far western edge of Golden Bay holds hidden treasures that will enthral. From Cape Farewell you can walk along spectacular cliff tops to the magnificent seascapes of Wharariki.. The Mangarakau Swamp is a fascinating diverse wetland at the southern end of Westhaven Inlet. Rising above the inlet is Knuckle Peak with its stunning diversity of lowland forest species, including giant northern rata, then stunted pakihi vegetation on the summit region.

Oct 6

Takaka Hill Walkway, Grove Reserve, French Pass.

This morning we explore the limestone landscape of Takaka Hill. We'll begin at the Grove Scenic Reserve, then continue on the walkway on the summit of Takaka Hill. This afternoon travel through to French Pass at the extremity edge of the Marlborough Sounds.



Oct 7

Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island, French Pass

Ferry across to little visited, fascinating d'Urville Island. Travel the main spine of the island learning of the ecology of the forest and enjoying stunning coastal vistas on this island free of possums, ship rats and Norwegian rats.

Oct 8

Te Hoiere Bat Project, Pelorus Valley, Kaipupu Peninsula Eco-sanctuary

We travel to the Pelorus Valley to walk amidst tall, mixed podocarp and beech forest, then meet the Te Hoiere Bat Project team to learn of their ambitious project. Early afternoon travel to Picton. Water taxi to the Kaipupu Peninsula for a walk through this newly established eco-sanctuary. Stay Picton two nights.



Oct 9

Marlborough Sounds, Blumine Island

The waters and inlets of the Marlborough Sounds are our focus this morning. A charter vessel will carry us through Queen Charlotte Sound to small rocky islets, where a small colony of the rare King Shag roost. We'll explore the outer sound and call in at predator-free Blumine Island. Here the endangered Orange-fronted Kakariki/Parakeet is finding a safe haven.

Oct 10

Blackbirch Peak

Towering above the Awaterre Valley stands little known Blackbirch. If the plants do not take your breath away the unrivalled panoramic views into the South island's heartland are sure to! There is no better place to study alpine scree and rock outcrop vegetation. Here giant vegetable sheep abound amidst a dry cushion flora. Scree plants, rock outcrop species, herb field daisies and cushion plants feature. Mid-afternoon return again to sea level and trip completion in Blenheim.



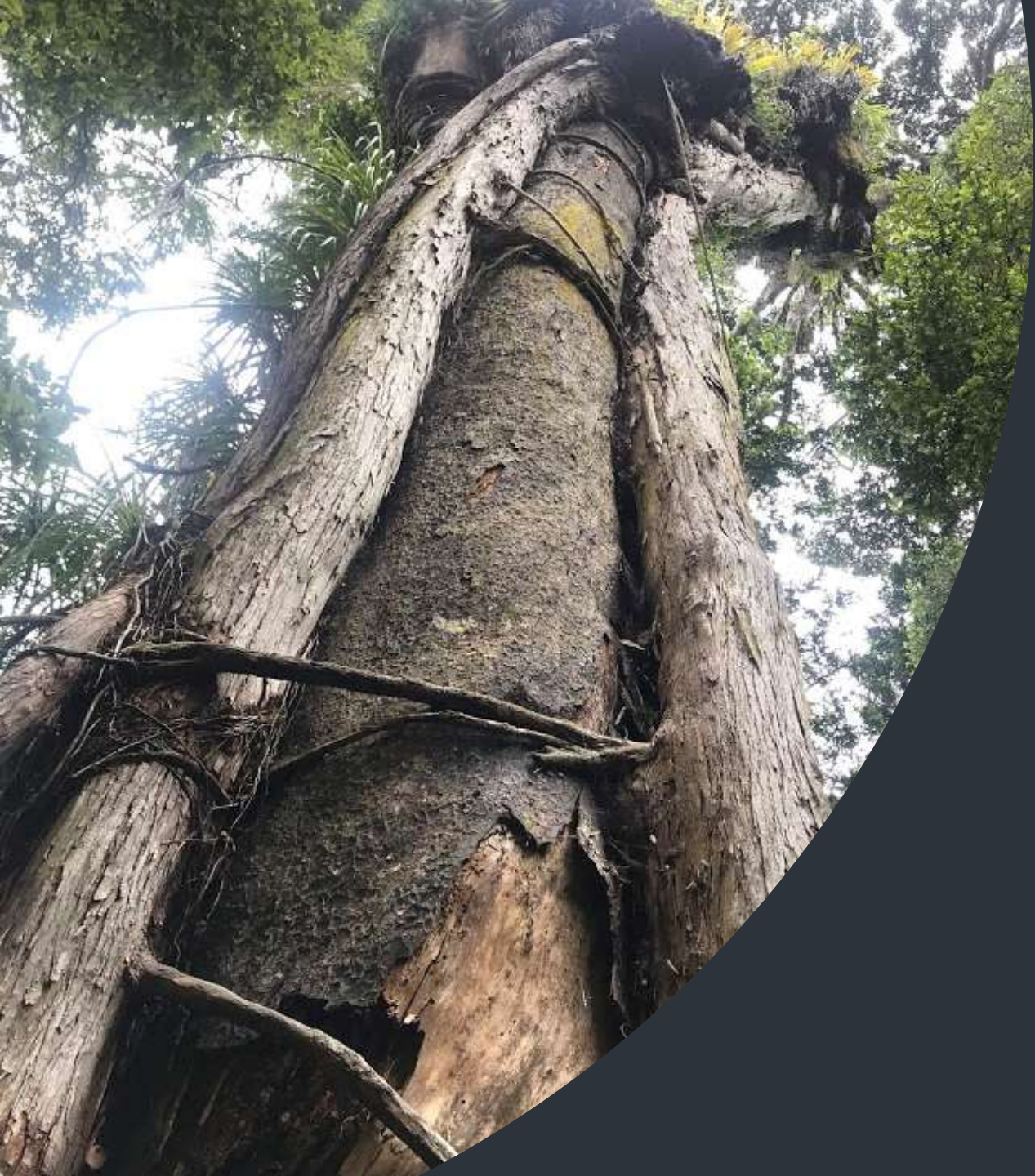
Departs from Nelson and terminates in Blenheim.

Inclusions :

Services of tour naturalist leader
All tour travel
All accommodation in quality hotels and lodges
Three meals daily excepting one night in Takaka
Information booklet with background ecological information
Contribution to Forest & Bird Goods and Services Tax of 15%
Admission fees where applicable

Cost per Person -NZ\$2945.00 twin-share

Single room rate add \$NZ600.00 per person

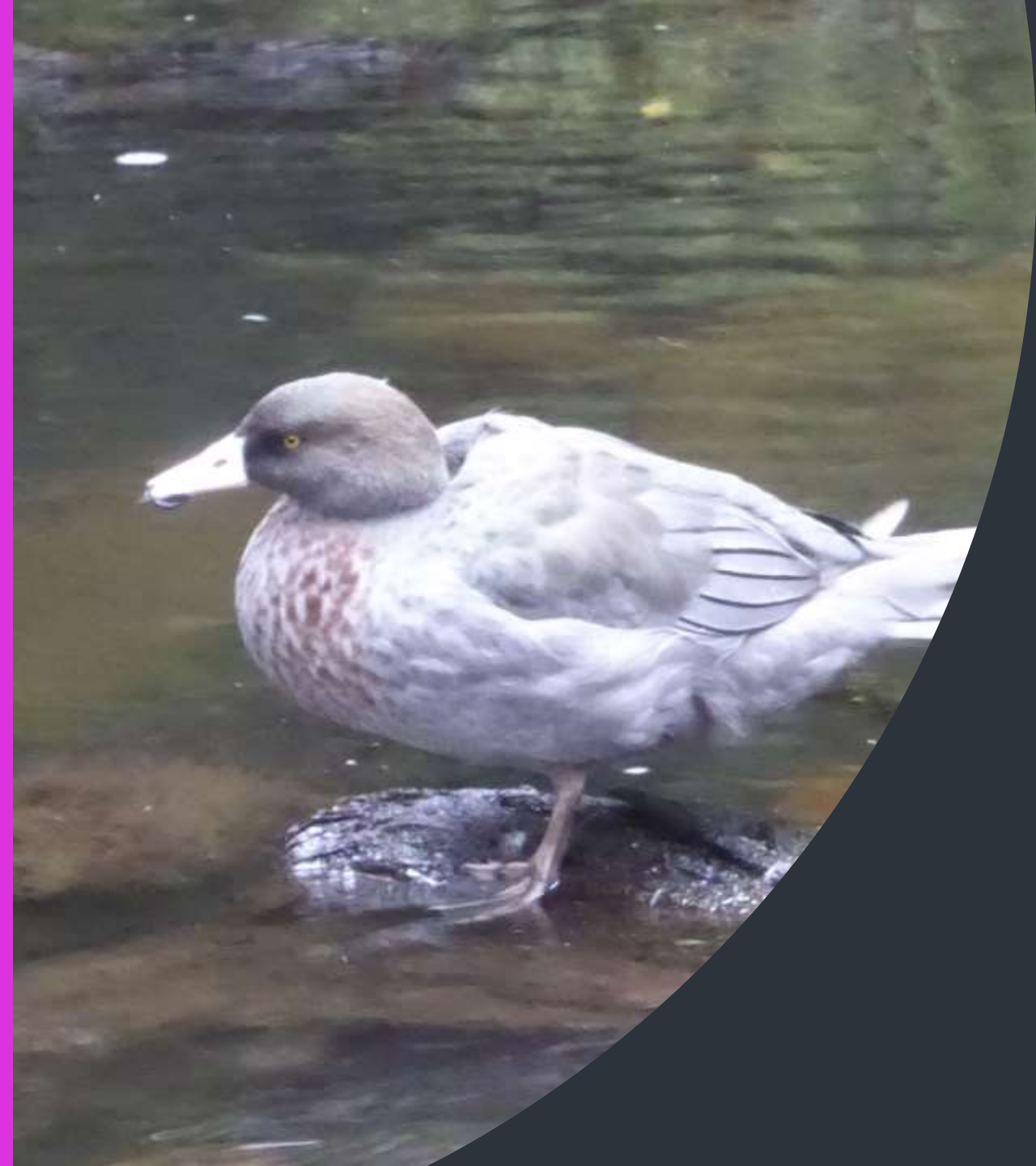


Te Ao o Tane

Departs Napier
April 17 2022



The forests of Aotearoa are a reminder of a world now long gone, of ferns, of ancient conifers, flightless ground birds, prehistoric reptiles and insects, and virtually no mammals. We traverse the North Island from Napier to Whanganui in search of the finest forests amidst dramatic fascinating landscapes. From the sub-antarctic beech forests to the ever changing podocarp forests of the volcanic plateau, we study the intricacies of the forests saved from destruction by Forest & Bird and others in the 1980s-90s



April 17

Te Urewera National Park, Lake Waikaremoana, Kohutapu Lodge

Home of the Tūhoe, the rugged and remote Te Urewera region is full of stunning landscapes. As we travel through the hills surrounding Lake Waikaremoana, we'll stop to walk amidst the ancient native forests, visiting Lake Wakareiti, and gaining an insight into this region steeped in history and rich in biodiversity that is now administered by a Tūhoe/Crown Board. Stay Aniwheua.

April 18

Whirinaki Forest, Minginui, Whirinaki Footsteps Cultural tour

A guided cultural walking tour deep into the heart of the Whirinaki rain forest with members of the Ngāti Manawa. Discover the history of the forest, traditional medicinal uses of key plant species, and listen to and view a number of threatened forest bird species



April 19

Bay of Plenty Marine Issues day with Te Atarangi Sayers from a Mōtiti hapū

Join Te Atarangi Sayers, Forest & Bird Board member, as he takes us through the Bay of Plenty. He weaves an inspiring spiritual journey with his hapū as they strove to gain firstly awareness, then understanding, and protection for the unique waters surrounding Mōtiti waters that were all but destroyed when SS Rena ran aground. Stay Tauranga tonight.

April 20

Pureora Forest, Blue Duck Station

Today we visit the so-called 'dinosaur forests' of Pureora. changed little over 100 million years and are typical of the forest cover of Gondwana.. Pureora was a flashpoint in the late 1970s and the actions of conservation stalwarts here paved the way for other significant lowland forests in the North island to be protected. We study the podocarp forest communities in detail today Later travel to Blue Duck Station for two nights.



April 21

Blue Duck Station

Situated on the banks of the Whanganui and Retaruke Rivers where their core values are protecting endangered wildlife and increasing the health of the surrounding forest and rivers. You may opt to partake in any, but we'll take a walk through native forest to Kaiwhakauka Waterfall, with very good opportunities for good views of Whio/Blue Duck.

April 22

Bushy Park Reserve, Wanganui

Bushy Park Tarapurahi is a special place cared for by the present Bushy Park Trust with its many volunteers, in partnership with local iwi Ngā Rauru Kīitahi and Forest & Bird. We'll Meet Mandy Brooke, Forest & Bird's Bushy Park ranger and gain an insight into the significance and conservation work being undertaken in this now predator free sanctuary

April 23

Wanganui/Wellington

Travel to Whanganui/Wellington for trip completion.



Departs : from Napier and terminates in Whanganui/Wellington.

Inclusions :

Services of tour naturalist leader

All tour travel

All accommodation in quality hotels and lodges

Three meals daily excepting dinner in Tauranga

Information booklet with background ecological information.

Contribution to Forest & Bird

Goods and Services Tax of 15%

Admission fees where applicable

Cost per Person NZ\$2495.00 per person twin-share

Single room rate add \$NZ595.00 per person



ALPINE AOTEAROA TOURS

Departs Queenstown January 4 2024,
and Christchurch January 11 2024

Journey through the alpine wonderlands of the South Island and discover botanical treasures as spectacular as the scenery. Learn more about the flora you find under the guidance of an expert naturalist who is as passionate about plants as you are!



Visit stunning floral landscapes, including glaciated valleys, scree slopes, and sub-alpine lakes and tarns. Walk through boulder and herb fields and search for special alpine flora. From the treeline to the snowline, the changing pattern of life is as fascinating as it is diverse. Join us for a Southern Alps tour that takes in the fascinating flora of the Hollyford Valley, the Old Man Range, Mackenzie Country, Aoraki Mount Cook, Mount Hutt, and Arthur's Pass.

Continue your journey with a Top of the South Island tour to Clarence Valley, Hanmer Springs, Mount St Patrick, Nelson Lakes National Park, Mount Arthur, Blackbirch, and Kaikōura. The two tours can be booked separately or together. Travel is by comfortable small coach equipped with an excellent nature reference library. Accommodation is in pleasant hotels and lodges with private facilities.



SOUTHERN ALPS TOUR

DEPARTING QUEENSTOWN JANUARY 4 2024 (SEVEN NIGHTS)

Jan 04: Arrive in Queenstown. Meet your naturalist guide in central Queenstown or Queenstown Airport. Short drive to Te Anau. Stay Te Anau three nights.

Jan 05: The upper Hollyford Valley, through which the famed Milford Road passes, contains superb alpine boulder fields and herb fields. The Gertrude Cirque has arguably the finest accessible alpine communities in the country. The day is devoted to discovering at your pace this botanical treasure trove in the Darran Mountains. Studying nature in such awesome surroundings is guaranteed to put all in perspective.



Jan 06 : South of Te Anau lies Lake Manapōuri and beyond is Borland Saddle and the Hunter Mountains. Superb alpine vistas and local endemics characterise this area. This truly memorable day will enable us to view the bizarre local wild Spaniards, hybrid giant buttercups, Buchanan's buttercup in profusion, plus several species of Celmisia (mountain daisy).

Jan 07 : Leave Fiordland and cross into Central Otago with its rocky rugged landscapes. This area is a schist plateau, now appearing as a series of block mountain ranges. Lodged amid the silvery schist vegetation of the Old Man Range are many species of cushion plants and snowbank vegetation unique to this type of extreme climate. The Lilliputian world of the plants on top of this range stands in stark contrast to the grandeur and vastness of the surrounding mountains. Late afternoon continue to Cromwell. Stay Cromwell tonight.

Jan 08 : Cross Lindis Pass to the arid intermontane basins of the Mackenzie Country and Lake Ōhau. The Ōhau range rises directly from Lake Ōhau. Little visited, the tarns, slopes and bluffs of this range hold a fascinating array of alpiners. Cushion Spaniards, with their ball-like inflorescences are spectacular, not to mention the fields of the blue-leaved Celmisia, cushions of Donatia, and delicate mats of alpine Raoulia. Stay Lake Ōhau two nights.



Jan 09: A day to explore the renowned Aoraki Mount Cook National Park. At the foot of Mt Cook, lies the spectacular Hooker Valley. The walk along the trail enables us to study the changes in vegetation on successive moraines as the Hooker, then Mueller, glaciers are reached. Giant Mt Cook buttercups, golden Spaniards and sub-alpine shrubs abound amid unforgettable landscapes. An alternative for the more energetic is to walk up the Sealy Range to Sealy Tarns. Several alpine communities will be visited en-route with tussocklands, herb fields, and outcrop plants most conspicuous. Late examples of the famed Mt Cook 'lily' (actually a buttercup) may be found up here.

Jan 10: Morning drive to Mount Hutt, with afternoon to explore the screes, bluffs, and upper slopes. Stay Methven tonight.

Jan 11: Arthur's Pass National Park is renowned for its spectacular Southern Alps scenery and for a wide diversity of readily accessible alpine flora. There are easy walks with good viewing of sub-alpine wetlands and tarns, and sub-alpine herb fields. Those with more energy can climb into the Temple Basin where alpine vistas and a wonderful array of alpine plants await. For the Southern Alps tour only, your trip terminates at Christchurch Airport late afternoon. Those on the Top of the South tour continue through to Hanmer Springs.



INCLUSIONS

Services of tour naturalist, Forest & Bird President, Mark Hanger.

All tour travel departing Queenstown and terminating in Christchurch.

Accommodation in comfortable hotels and motels.
Private facilities at all locations.

Meals as specified – three meals daily except for one evening meal in Te Anau.

Permit fees where applicable.

Information folio, including species lists for each area visited.

Contribution to Forest & Bird.

Goods and Services Tax at 15%.

Cost per Person NZ\$2,790

Add-on: Single Room Supplement, add NZ\$665.00.



SOUTH ISLAND TOUR TOP OF THE SOUTH

DEPARTS CHRISTCHURCH 11-18 JANUARY 2024
(SEVEN NIGHTS)

This tour can be booked as an extension to the Southern Alps trip or you can book this as a standalone seven-night tour starting and finishing in Christchurch.

Jan 11: After dropping some participants at Christchurch Airport, we continue through to Hanmer Springs for four nights.

Jan 12 : Gentians abound en-route to Lake Tennyson in the upper Clarence Valley. Just above the valley floor, the fine shingle supports a grand scree flora including scree harebells, lobelias, forget-me-nots, and penwipers. Further on at Island Pass we further study the scree and rock outcrop endemics. Late afternoon return to Hanmer.



Jan 13: A day to relax on your own. Lunch and dinner not provided today

Jan 14: Day excursion to Mt St Patrick. A widely diverse herbfield, and unique scree and rock outcrop species feature today as we explore the ridges above the Amuri Ski-field. Special plants include *Swainsonia novae zealandiae*.

Jan 15: Travel via sup-alpine tarns at Lewis Pass to Nelson Lakes National Park. The beautiful Lakes Rotoiti and Rotoroa nestle amongst the northern peaks of beech forest. This afternoon enjoy short walks in this enchanting forest. Stay St Arnaud two nights.

Jan 16: Day excursion to nearby Mount Arthur, a marble region with a wide diversity of upland and sub-alpine species. Mid-afternoon return to Nelson Lakes.



Jan 17: The journey today takes us back east. A study of New Zealand alpine scree and rock outcrop vegetation begins with a trip to the summit of Blackbirch. Here giant vegetable sheep abound amid a dry cushion flora. Scree plants, rock outcrop species, herb field daisies, and cushion plants will feature today. If the plants do not take your breath away the panoramic views are sure to! Mid-afternoon return again to sea level and continue to Kaikōura.

Jan 18: This morning an optional three-hour marine trip should enable viewing of sperm whales which inhabit the deep water just off the Kaikōura coast (approximate cost NZD\$155). Alternatively you may opt for the Oceanwings Albatross excursion (approximate cost NZD\$125). Early afternoon depart for Christchurch. Trip termination at Christchurch.



Inclusions

Services of tour naturalist Forest & Bird President Mark Hanger.
All tour travel departing and terminating in Christchurch.
Accommodation in comfortable hotels and motels. Private facilities at all locations.
Meals as specified – three meals daily except for one lunch and one evening meal in Hanmer Springs.
Permit fees where applicable.
Information folio including species lists for each area visited.
Contribution to Forest & Bird.
Goods and Services Tax at 15%.

Cost per Person NZD\$2,610.00.

Add-ons Single Room Supplement, add NZD\$665.00.

**FOREST & BIRD
TOURS
SUPPORTING
CONSERVATION**



**Forest
& Bird**
TE REO O TE TAIAO
Giving Nature a Voice

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

**Mark Hanger 021 680 524 or email
m.hanger@forestandbird.org.nz**

Fundraising for Forest & Bird
Profits from all of these tours will go to the Society.