

A silhouette of a person standing on a mountain peak, looking out over a vast landscape. The sky is filled with clouds, and the sun is setting or rising, creating a warm, golden glow. The person is standing on a dark, silhouetted ridge.

**BREWSTER
GLACIER TREK
2018/2019 TRIP NOTES**



Brewster Glacier Trek

Trip Notes

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Brewster Glacier is located on the Main Divide near the Haast Pass. Only a short driving distance from our office base in Wanaka, the Brewster Glacier Trek offers a true alpine trekking adventure. Tucked into the eastern corner of Mount Aspiring National Park, this area is a hidden gem and offers stunning views and varied trekking. After crossing the Haast River at Fantail Falls, a relatively short, steep climb through beech forest takes you to the alpine tussock tops and the stunningly situated 12 bunk Brewster Hut.

The track is steep and your efforts are duly rewarded when breaking through the tree line and reaching the impressive ridgeline that leads through the alpine zone to the hut. Once at Brewster Hut (1,450m), spectacular views of Mount Brewster (2,516m), Mount Topheavy (2,057m) and the Haast Pass can be seen. From Brewster Hut, trekking options include a visit to the Brewster Glacier or trekking to the top of nearby Mount Armstrong (2,179m). The route to the Brewster Glacier is marked by poles and as you reach the glacier edge, beautifully sculpted schist rock offers excellent trekking and views of the glacier, the picturesque lake at the glacier's base and Mount Brewster. Alternatively, the trek to the top of Mount Armstrong is enjoyable and the views from the top make every step worthwhile.

Sample Itinerary

An example of how the trip can run:

Day 1: Meet your guide in Wanaka, check gear and drive to the Fantail Falls carpark on the Haast Pass Highway (1hr). Cross the Haast River and ascend through the silver beech forest and open tussock tops to Brewster Hut (4-5hrs)

Day 2: Awaking early we trek above Brewster Hut, sidle around towards the terminus of the Brewster Glacier or enjoy a trek up the slopes of Mount Armstrong. In the afternoon walk back down to the Fantail Falls carpark and drive back to Wanaka, stopping along the way for ice cream in the small rural settlement of Makarora.

Our Guides

Adventure Consultants trekking guides are NZMGA or NZOIA qualified guides. They are truly professional and operate to the highest industry standards.

You will find your guide friendly, approachable and focused on providing a safe and enjoyable trip in line with your objectives and comfort level.



Communication and Messages

Our guides are in radio, cell or satellite phone communication with our operations base and the Department of Conservation headquarters throughout the trip. This assists us with schedule and weather forecast updates, helicopter coordination and safety back up. Urgent messages can be relayed via our office to the field if required. Each party carries a locator beacon for additional security.

Trekking Season

We trek to Brewster Glacier from November through to April as conditions allow. From December onwards, we can expect less snow and as temperatures warm up into the summer months of January and February, we traditionally experience more settled weather. From March through April, late summer conditions exist, however, cooling temperatures can bring snow falls to the Alps. At this time of year, the days begin to get noticeably shorter.

Weather

New Zealand has a maritime climate and the weather is always a consideration in the high mountains. In the event that weather or snow conditions were not suitable to enter the Brewster region at the start of the trip, we can talk with you regarding trekking in different region or an alternative activity. When booking your trip, please specify the dates you are available.



Fitness and Health

To make the most of your trekking experience, we encourage you to work on your fitness prior to the trip. You will find that training with a 15kg + pack on is the best preparation for the mountains, with the aim of getting 'pack fit' and building your endurance. Your guide places special focus on fitness levels and will regulate the pace accordingly.

Our registration form requests that you advise us of any medical problems you may have and if you are on any medication. Any information you supply will be treated as confidential.



Equipment

Trekking in the Southern Alps requires good personal gear due to the potential weather conditions. Our focus is on having the essential clothing and equipment, whilst keeping pack weights as light as possible for your comfort and ease of travel.

We will provide an equipment list as a guideline to your equipment requirements. We carry a good range of modern rental equipment and if you will be renting equipment from us, please advise your requirements in advance to ensure correct sizing and availability. If you intend on buying any equipment items, we are happy to advise on recommended brands and models, and of key importance; their suitability to the type of activity. We offer our clients discounted prices on a selection of trekking equipment and clothing, and can arrange for the equipment to be available upon your arrival.

Your guide will go through an equipment checklist with you prior to the trip. These will vary subject to seasonal weather and route conditions. All group equipment including ropes and stoves will be organised by your guide.

Food

We place emphasis on providing nutritious meals and a good supply of snack food throughout the trip. If you have any special dietary requirements, please advise us at the time of registration.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out trip cancellation insurance to protect yourself in the case of injury or mishap prior to/ or whilst on our trips.

Whilst our focus is on safety and our track record supports this, the mountains do have hazards and there is always the potential for mishap.

If you were injured whilst on the trip, the New Zealand Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) will pay rescue costs upon review of the circumstances and authorisation by the Police. This service may not apply to evacuation costs for medical conditions. You are not eligible for bulk compensation payments from ACC, and you are responsible for any medical or evacuation costs beyond the cover provided by ACC.

Travel and Accommodation

We commence our Brewster Glacier Trek from our base in Wanaka. Air New Zealand and Qantas/Jetstar provide daily services for flights from Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington to Queenstown. There are also direct international flights from most major Australian cities to Queenstown.

A shuttle service operates several times daily between Queenstown and Wanaka (approximately one hour driving time and at a cost of \$35 each way), check <http://www.alpineconnexions.co.nz> for details. Bus services also operate daily between Christchurch and Wanaka (approximately 6 hours travel time).

Wanaka has a range of accommodation from backpackers, youth hostels, motels, and hotels to luxury lodges. We are happy to assist with your accommodation and bus transfer arrangements.

Accommodation during the Trip

Adventure Consultants will provide your accommodation while the trip is running, which is from 9.00am on Day 1 until 5.00pm on Day 2. All food and accommodation outside this time is at your expense. When in the mountains you will stay in a mountain hut with shared bunkrooms and basic facilities. There are no single rooms available and unlike European huts, you need to provide your own sleeping bag.

If our schedule requires us to overnight in Wanaka, we accommodate you in dormitory style backpacker's rooms with shared bathroom facilities. You may decide to upgrade to single accommodations in Wanaka at your own expense, should you require.

Price

The price for our **2 day guided trek is NZ\$1,480** for 1:1 guiding and **NZ\$890 per person** for 1:2 guiding.

The price includes; *Guide and permit fees, hut fees all trip related meals and energy foods, technical equipment, ground transport ex Wanaka and 15% NZ Goods and Services Tax.*

Trip Registration and Payment

In order to confirm a guide and your trip, please complete our online booking form at <https://www.adventureconsultants.com/treks/new-zealand-treks/brewster-glacier-trek/book-now> and submit this along with a deposit of NZ\$500.00 per person. The balance of payment is then due 60 days prior to the start date.

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following bank and account:

Bank:	Bank of New Zealand
For the account of:	Adventure Consultants Limited
Account number:	02 0673 0043443 00
Account Type:	NZ Dollars

We can also accept your deposit and balance payment by credit card – **Visa, Mastercard, Amex**

Please note: *In order to reserve a guide, we recommend that you book well in advance. This especially applies to the high season period (December through February).*

Trip Cancellation Policy:

- Cancellations outside of 60 days incur a NZ\$250.00 cancellation fee.
- For cancellations made within 60 days of the trip commencement date, we reserve the right to retain 50% of the full fee.
- For cancellations made within 30 days of the trip commencement date, we reserve the right to retain 75% of the full fee.
- For cancellations within 15 days of the departure date a cancellation fee of 100% of the full fee applies.

We recommend you take out trip cancellation insurance via your travel agent.

We look forward to trekking to the Brewster Glacier with you!

If you require more information, please contact us at:

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Adventure Consultants – is affiliated to the New Zealand Mountain Guides Association (NZMGA), New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) and a corporate member of the American Alpine Club (AAC). Adventure Consultants perform to IFMGA/UIAGM standards and are world leaders in high altitude guiding.

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