



# The ultimate off-grid sanctuary

*Immerse yourself in nature with a PurePod stay and revel in the silence, the privacy and the panoramic views.*

Words Kyra Xavia

For a life-enhancing experience unlike any other, New Zealand now offers a wilderness retreat that will leave visitors spellbound. Tucked away in secluded pockets of paradise, a PurePod is much more than just a special place to stay.

Imagine an abode so still and beautiful, where it's quiet, private and spacious enough to tune into your own rhythms and desires. Picture, too, complete freedom to rest and relax, and enjoy the power of the pause without distraction and intrusion.

Set as close to nature as possible and as far from the demands of society as practical, it's the exceptional combination of rare and

precious elements that creates PurePod alchemy. What manifests is unique for each visitor, and their gift to treasure.

This is what happened for me.

The magic starts at the moment of booking, when an email is received with a map to the PurePod's secret location. The anticipation only builds while driving to your destination. An hour north of Christchurch, I turned onto a gravel road and slowly made my way up rugged ranges and beyond.

When I parked the car, I was enveloped in silence – then, on the short hike, I felt a welcome sense of distance as I left the busy world behind.

A panorama of the Waipara Valley unfurled below, and nestled in a sheltered curve in the hillside above was the PurePod.

A thrill ran through me as I entered 'goosebump terrain'.

With its streamlined, light-filled interior, transparent floor, ceiling and sliding walls, all suspended above the ground so the growth beneath is visible – this off-grid, glass eco-cabin is the ultimate sanctuary. As light on the earth as a tent, with all the romance and intimacy plus plenty of luxury, the PurePod has been innovatively designed to minimise its impact on the environment, while deepening our bond with it via 360-degree views and a structure that lets the outdoors in, for full sensory immersion.

After enjoying a meal in silence, I lay cocooned in comfort on the bed and savoured the soft transition of day into dusk, watching birds fly overhead. I showered in the gloaming with the lights off, and let the night enfold me like a velvet blanket.

Although I had hoped to see a sky dusty with the Milky Way, it didn't matter that the cloud closed in. (Whatever theatre is on show weatherwise, it's bound to be memorable.)

Infused with calm, feeling safe and blissful, I went to sleep with the doors open, inhaling fresh air, loving how silky the sheets felt

against my skin, while a cool, light breeze kissed my cheeks. I woke with the rising sun, and in the serenity with my senses tickled, knew just what my morning required. In such a seclusive setting it was time for naked yoga!

The space works wonders. Clarity increases, inhibitions dissolve, time slows and the heart fills up, which might explain why a single rejuvenating night in a PurePod feels like a week spent elsewhere.

Purity flows freely inside and out. Water comes from an artesian spring, solar power provides electricity, and heat and hot water is powered by bio-fuel combined with solar when available. And aligned with a love of the land, this particular PurePod is located in an organic vineyard.

Deliberately devoid of noisy, power-hungry appliances, and without TV, DVD, Wi-Fi or power plugs, there's a richer connection to be found with yourself, your loved ones, and your surrounds – and that's the whole point.

There are other PurePods in the South Island, each one sequestered somewhere stunning with unique flora and fauna – and it's no surprise their enchanting effects have generated a phenomena called pod hopping.

Thanks to mine, I left Greystone with my step a little lighter. **g**



*The Greystone PurePod is fitted out with a super-comfortable bed made up with fresh, crisp linen. You'll also find a fabulous shower, flush toilet and cooking equipment. If you don't want to bring supplies, pre-order a dinner and breakfast package, made from fresh, local ingredients.*



*There are four PurePods, all in the Canterbury region. Each is located a 1km walk from where you're instructed to park, to introduce you to your surroundings and reinforce the privacy you will experience.*



**PurePod**  
Located in a secret location in the Waipara Valley, north of Christchurch.  
[purepods.com](http://purepods.com)