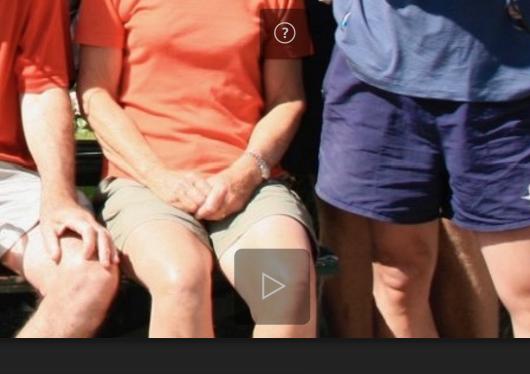


# 200803 New Zealand (South Island)

Our first trip together !! Anne went early so that she could visit her friends near Wellington. We then met up in Queenstown and both enjoyed exploring the area climbing Queenstown Hill and up to the Gondola with spectacular views of Queenstown and surroundings. We then joined our guides for Ultimate Hikes' 6-day Grand Traverse trek together with a collection of other Kiwis and Aussies. Dave had been on the trek before with his daughter but this was Anne's first trek - we both found it to be a very rewarding experience on many counts. After the trek we drove back to Christchurch via the west coast including Wanaka, Haarst (sand flies) and Fox Glacier plus a very rewarding flight over much of the South Island. Our trip ended with a sumptuous meal at



Q



# Anne visits her friends Jenny and Richard near Wellington

A good time was had by all as Jenny enjoyed her 'real' birthday having been born on the last day of February in a leap year!

Jenny and Anne first met on the...

6 images



#### Dave and Anne explore Queenstown

We spent a couple of days in Queenstown exploring the town and surroundings. We climbed up Queenstown Hill (just to the east of the city) on top of which we saw...

7 images



#### Grand Traverse Day 1 - Elfin Bay to Steele Creek

Our first day on the Grand Traverse. The bus took us to Glenorchy at the head of Lake Wakatipu. We crossed the lake by boat to the start of the trek near Elfin...

15 images



# Grand Traverse Day 2 – Steele Creek to Lake McKellar

After a hearty breakfast, we continue through a sea of red tussock grass on the Greenstone River flats. Ancient pines and cottonwoods cling to the sheer...

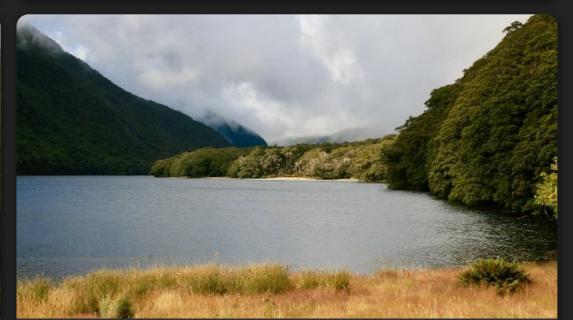
18 images



#### Grand Traverse Day 3 - Lake McKellar

Day 3 was supposed to be our rest day. The weather was not very nice but we all decided to hike up to the lookout up the steep slope through dense vegetation of...

4 images



# Grand Traverse Day 4 - Lake McKellar to Lake Mackenzie

The track follows the sides of Lake McKellar and Lake Howden where we had a welcome hot drink and lunch at the Lake Howden DOC Hut. The weather prevented us...

16 images



#### Grand Traverse Day 5 - Lake Mackenzie to Routeburn Falls

We started by climbing up from the Lake Mackenzie valley and with improving weather we were able to enjoy spectacular views of the Darren Mountains and the...

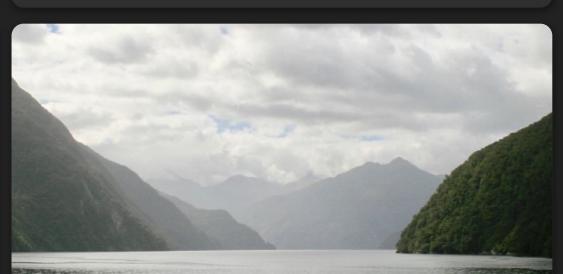
39 images



## Grand Traverse Day 6 - Routeburn Falls to Road Fnd

The last day was on a well-made track down to the Routeburn River valley flats. After a morning cuppa we continued on a more gentle track. Our lunch spot beside...

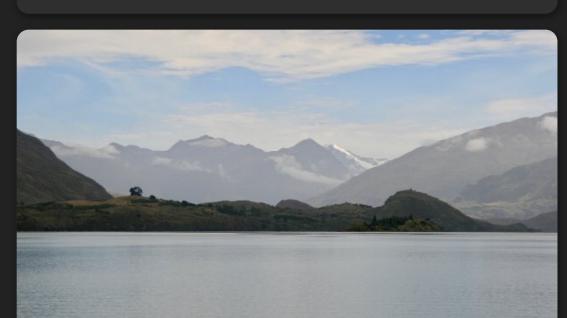
31 images



### Doubtful Sound bus and boat tour

We took a bus and boat tour from Queenstown to Doubtful Sound. The bus trip to Lake Manapouri is long and not very interesting. We crossed the Lake on a ferry...

26 images



### Queenstown via Wanaka to Haast

We hired a car to take us back to Christchurch. Our first stop was at the old settlement of Arrowtown - very pretty and full of tourists. We then proceeded...

17 images



### **Haast to Franz Josef**

From Haast we drove north along or near to the west coast.

Our first stop was at Knight's Point where the lookout provides good views of the Point, offshore...

20 images



### Glaciers Flight from Franz Josef

We were lucky to be be able to organise a small plane flight with Air Safaris on their Grand Traverse from Franz Josef Airport. The route took us over the Fox...

29 images



### Franz Josef to Christchurch via Arthur's Pass

Travelling north along the Franz Josef and Harikari Highways we made our way up the west coast to Greymouth. There was a long delay on the Arthur's Pass road...

14 images



# 200803 New Zealand (South Island) Contact Sheets

Thumbnail images of all slides in Fotomagico presentation.

4 images

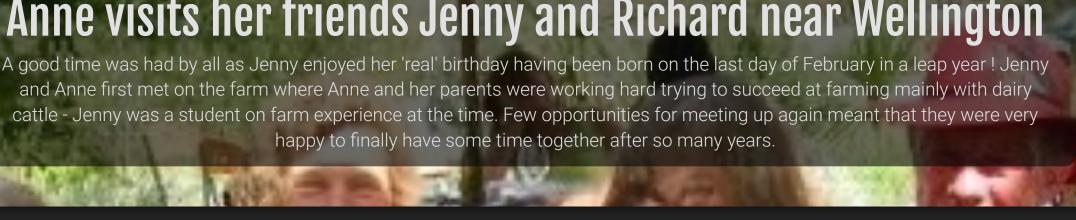
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Trek Map
Grand Traverse (Greenstone and Routeburn)
Ultimate Hikes



# Anne visits her friends Jenny and Richard near Wellington





Jenny's 68th birthday party



Jenny and Richard at Jenny's 68th birthday party



Jenny and Richard at work in the garden



Part of Jenny and Richard's garden



Jenny's horse with the vet plus Jenny, Richard and dog



Jenny's horse with the vet



## Dave and Anne explore Queenstown

We spent a couple of days in Queenstown exploring the town and surroundings. We climbed up Queenstown Hill (just to the east of the city) on top of which we saw the beautiful Basket of Dreams sculpture and enjoyed a surreal experience as well. We also went up to the Gondola by cablecar to enjoy spectacular views of Queenstown, Lake Wakatipu and mountain scenery. We walked back down through the trees to Queenstown and packed for our trek.



Towards the east - Queenstown's airport and The Remarkables



Queenstown with The Remarkables in the background



Gondola cablecar and the Ledge Bungy and Swing



Paragliders heading down towards Queenstown



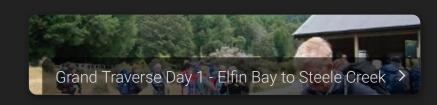
The Basket of Dreams and Lake Wakatipu to the west

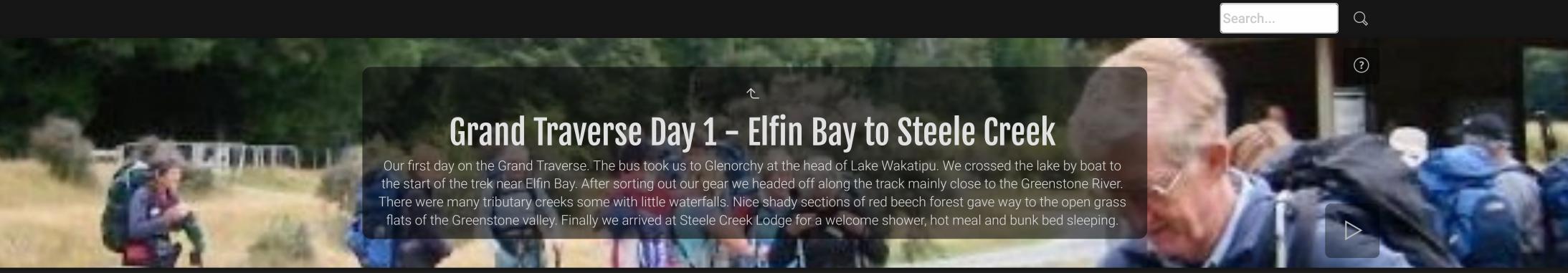


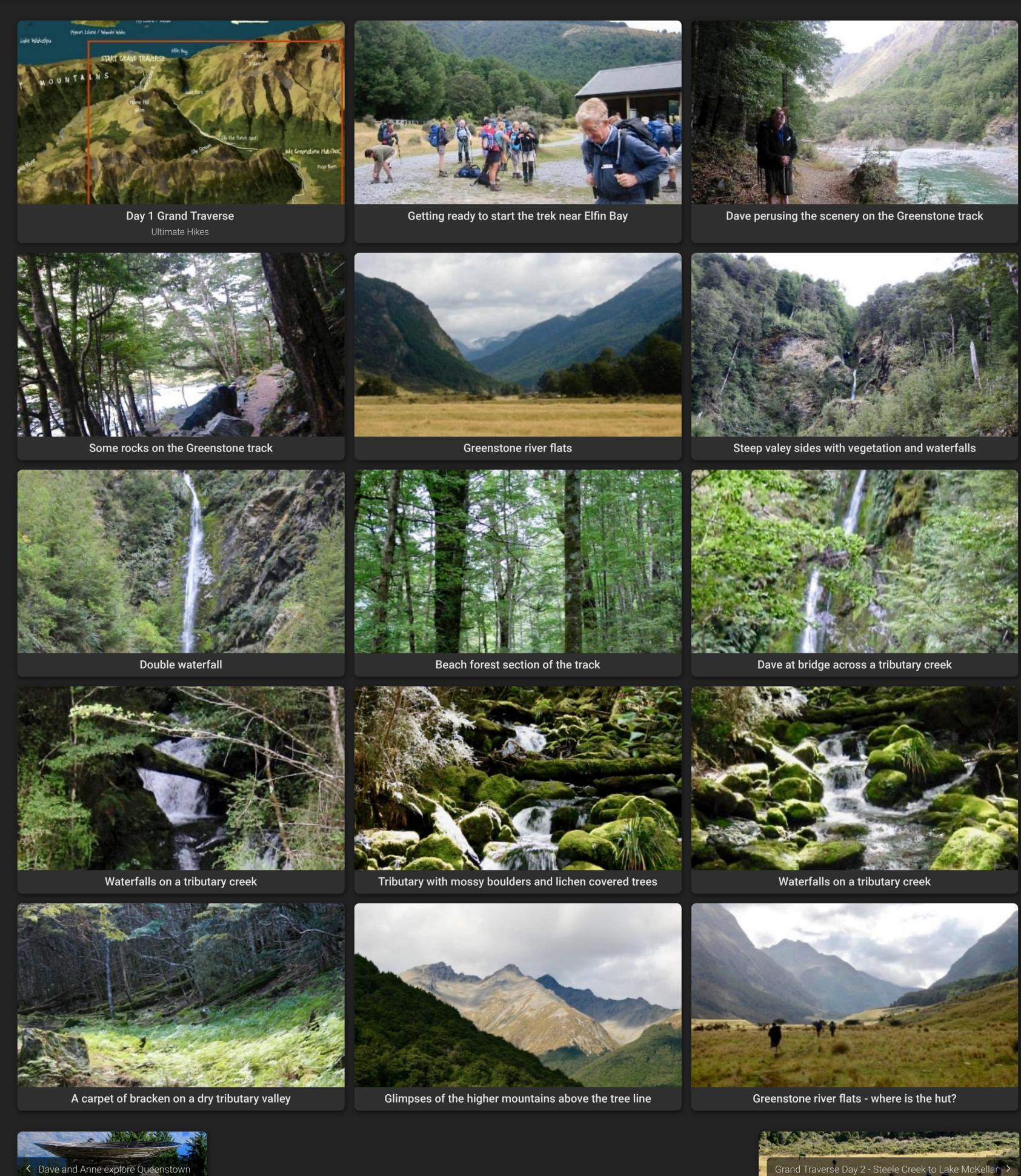
The Basket of Dreams with Lake Wakatipu and mountains behind





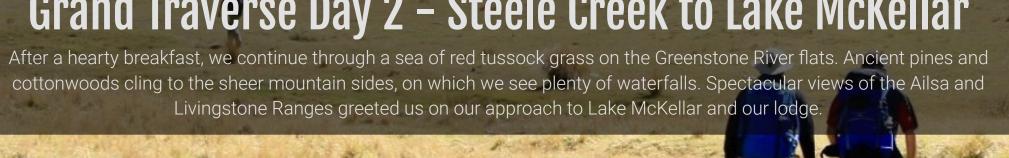






Dave and Anne explore Queenstown







Day 2 Grand Traverse Ultimate Hikes



Valley flats and shruby slopes along the track



Trees and steep valley sides



Tall grass along the track



Steep tree-covered valley sides



Crossing a boulder field from an old watercourse



Steep tree-covered valley sides



Tributary creek with mossy boulders



Valley flats and shruby slopes along the track



Lunch spot near a dry boulder tributary



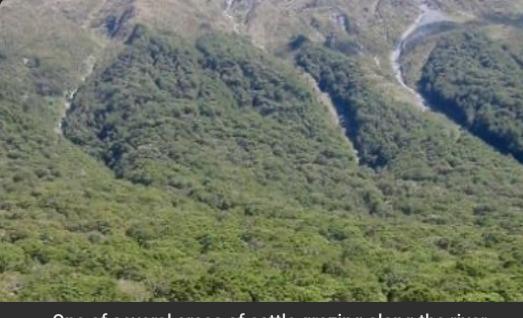
Valley flats along the track



Track crossing grassy flat and entering trees



Dave and other walkers looking at the next section of track



One of several areas of cattle grazing along the river

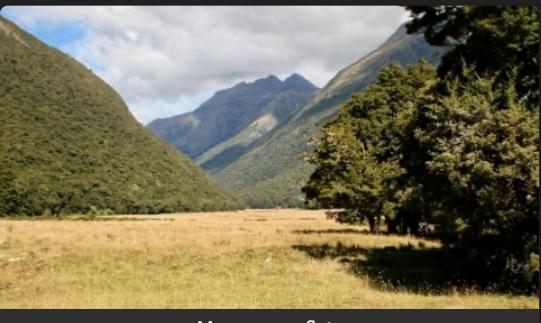


Anne - the intrepid treker

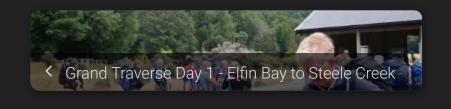


Mossy vegetation by the track





More grassy flats



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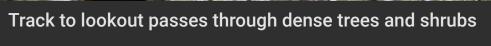
## Grand Traverse Day 3 - Lake McKellar

Day 3 was supposed to be our rest day. The weather was not very nice but we all decided to hike up to the lookout up the steep slope through dense vegetation of shrubs, trees and smaller plants. We were hoping that the top would be above the cloud but instead we saw a view of nothing at all!!



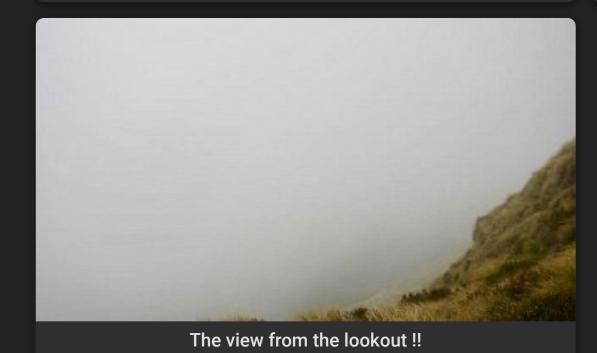


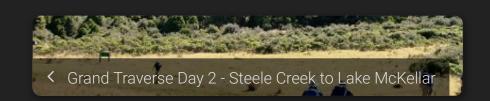






Dave and Anne at the lookout where we didn't see any views [Guide photo]

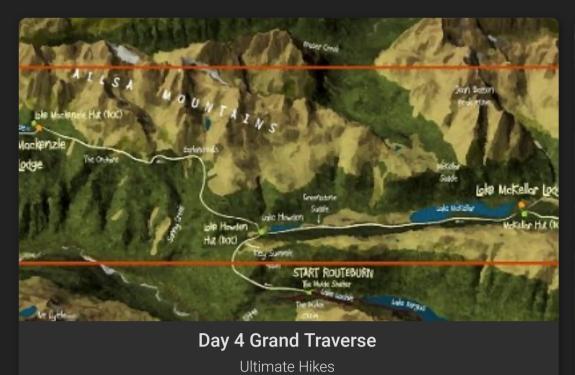




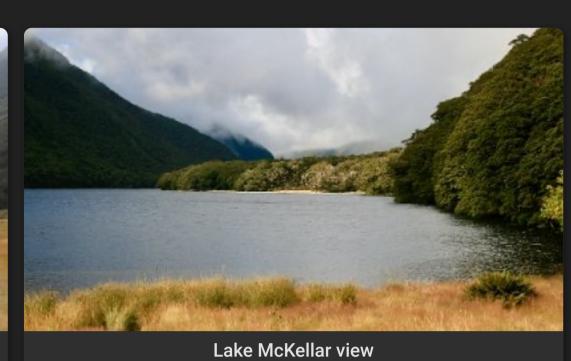


## Grand Traverse Day 4 - Lake McKellar to Lake Mackenzie

The track follows the sides of Lake McKellar and Lake Howden where we had a welcome hot drink and lunch at the Lake Howden DOC Hut. The weather prevented us from going up to Key Summit. After lunch we crossed over the valley at the head of Lake Howden and then gradually ascended to the spectacular 174 m high Earland Falls. Crossing through the falls was quite tricky as it was very wet, slippery and noisy. The track gradually descends (mainly) down to our lodge at Lake Mackenzie. A good day in spite of the weather.

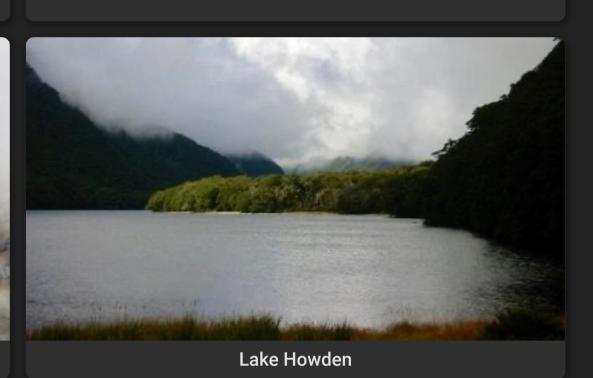


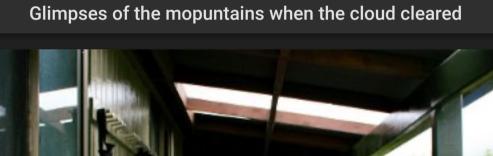




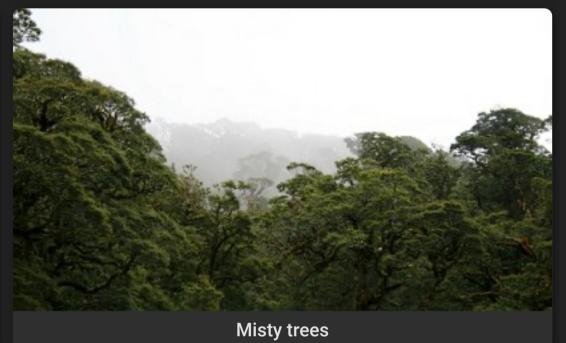








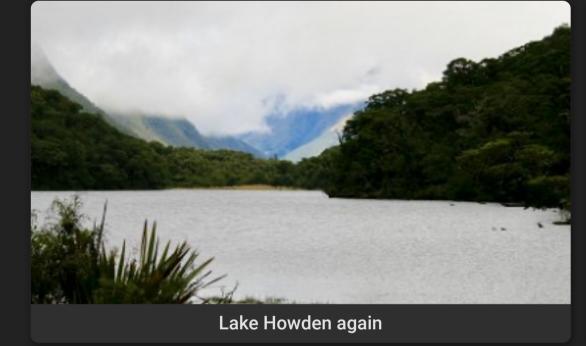


























Grand Traverse Day 3 - Lake McKellar



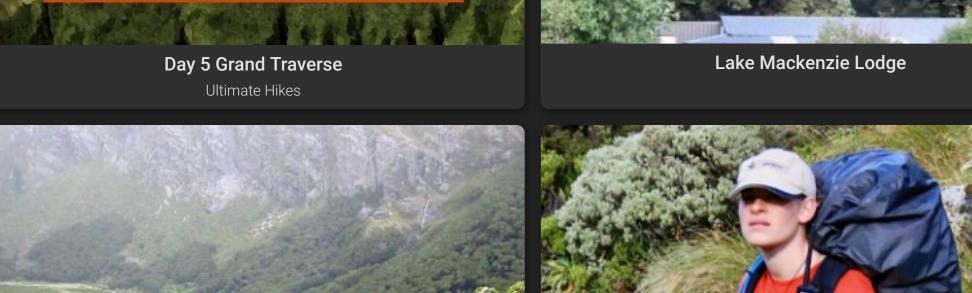


We started by climbing up from the Lake Mackenzie valley and with improving weather we were able to enjoy spectacular views of the Darren Mountains and the Hollyford Valley (including Lake McKerrow and Martin's Bay). We reached Harris Saddle (the highest point of the track) where Dave went up Conical Hill - with wonderful views! Meanwhile Anne went down the track and saw a helicopter carrying Dave's body - thankfully not the case. Dave followed shortly after and we met up again at the Lodge for a special evening.



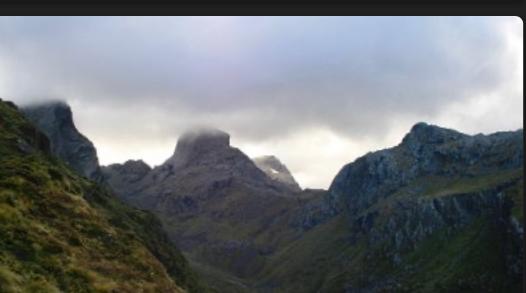
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Search...



Setting out near Lake Mackenzie Lodge





View of Lake Mackenzie



Track climbing up the ridge

A very patient guide



further from the lake

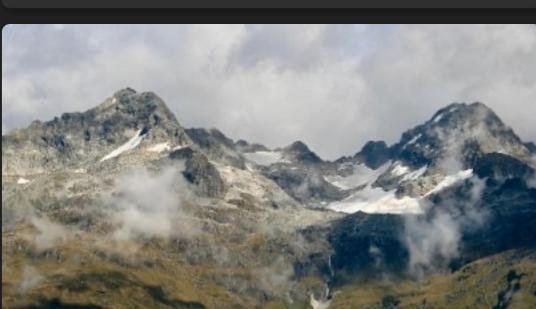
View of Lake Mackenzie with DOC's hut and our Lodge

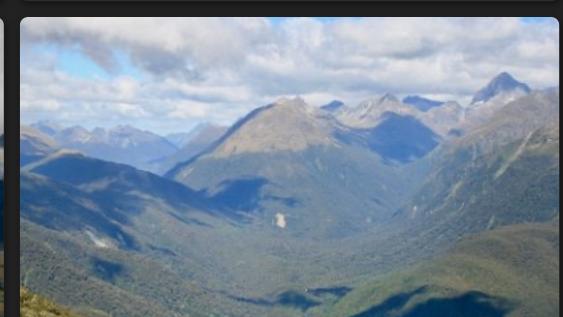




Hollyford Valley view

Darren Mountains in clearing weather





View to the southeast













View from Conical Hill



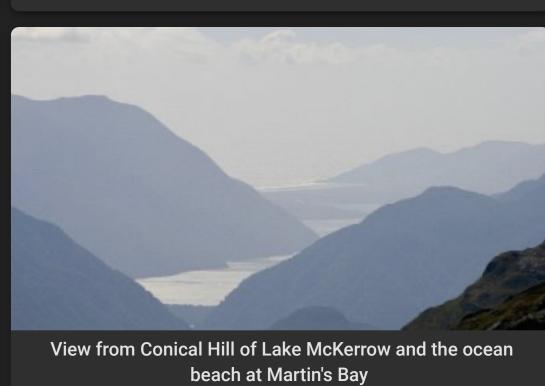


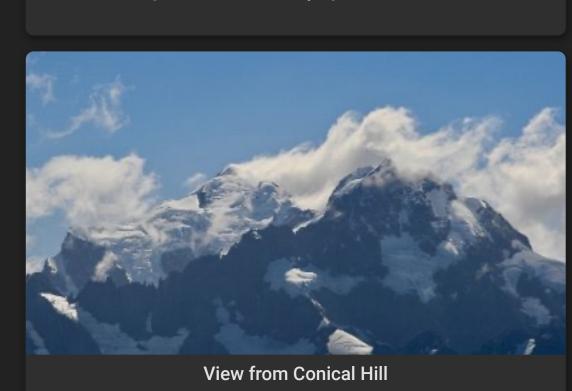














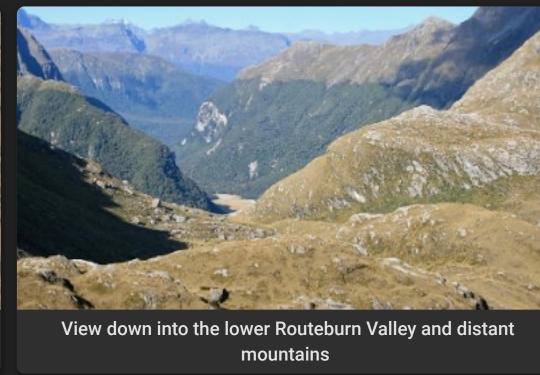




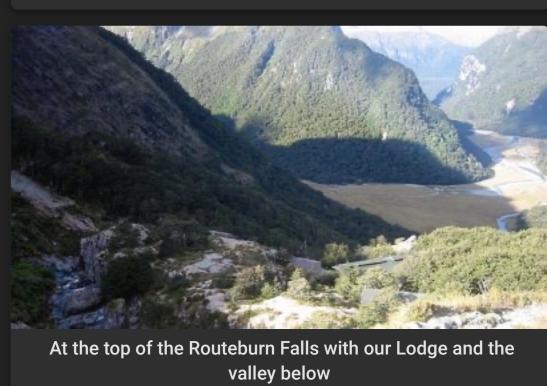




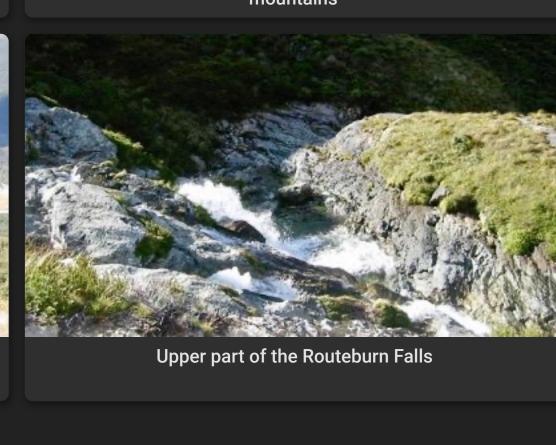


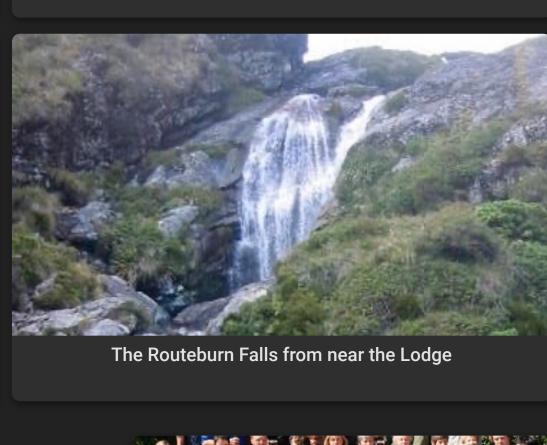






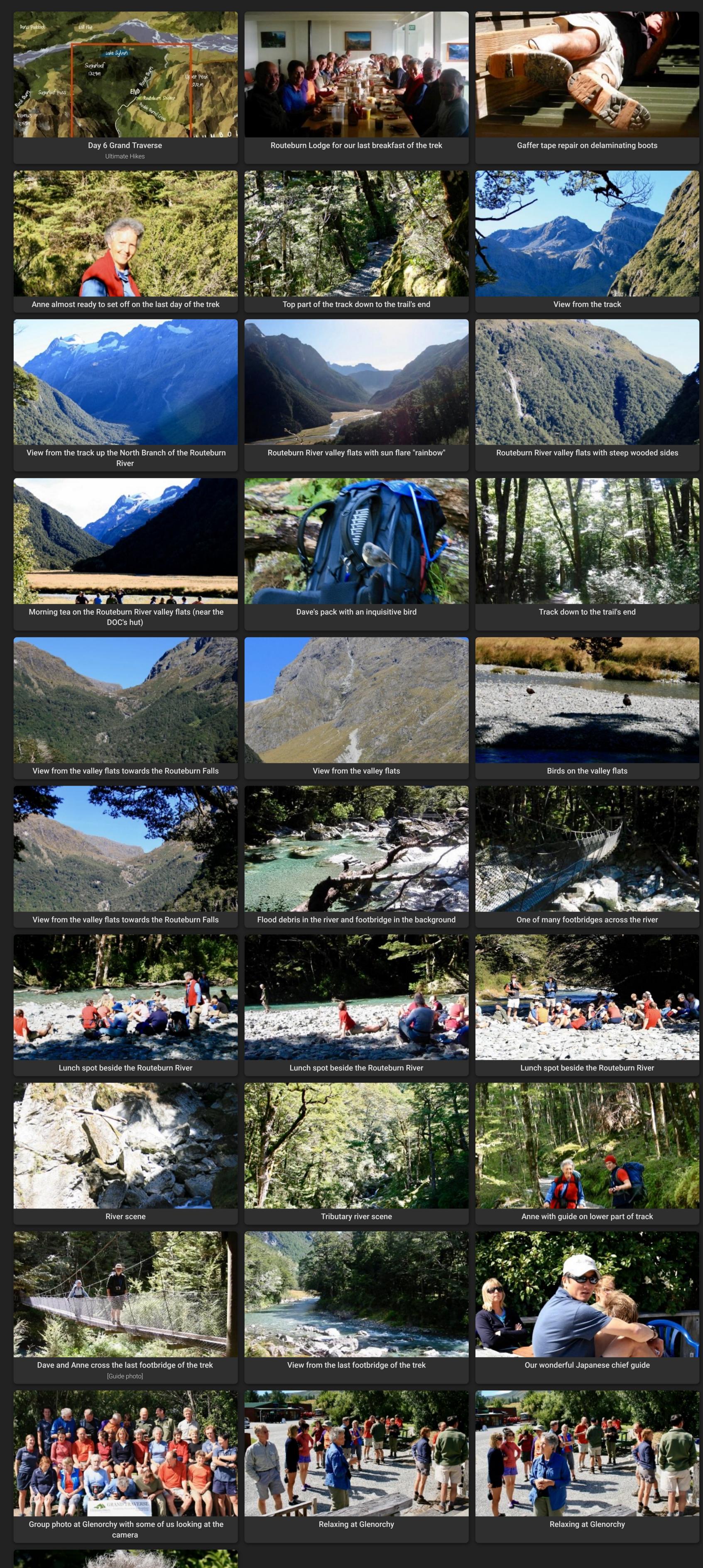
Grand Traverse Day 4 - Lake McKellar to Lake Mackenzie



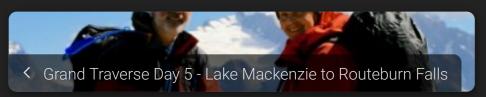


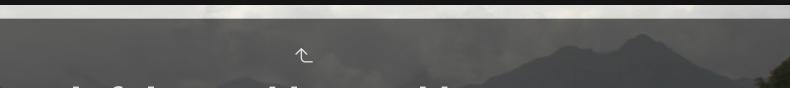
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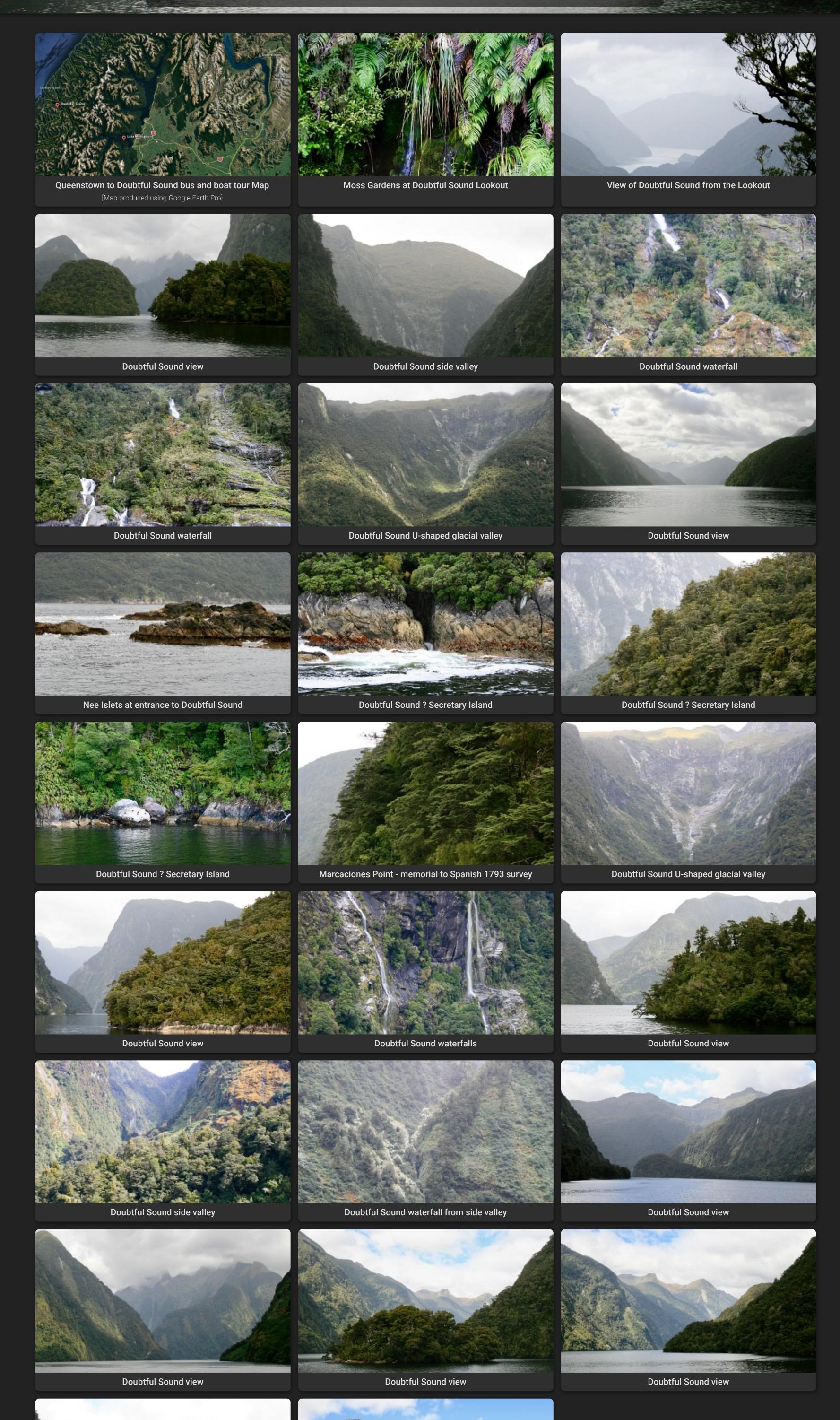
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Search...

## Doubtful Sound bus and boat tour

We took a bus and boat tour from Queenstown to Doubtful Sound. The bus trip to Lake Manapouri is long and not very interesting. We crossed the Lake on a ferry and joined another bus to take us across the Wilmot Pass to Doubtful Sound. We boarded our large boat for the exploration of Doubtful Sound. The weather wasn't great and there had not been very much rain for the waterfalls. The cruise around the many arms of the sound seemed to go on for ever as the cruise tries to show off most of the large fjord system. On the way back we were shown over the Lake Manapouri hydro-electric power station in which New Zealanders take great pride. The return bus trip to Queenstown was very quiet as most people were asleep. A good but very long day.











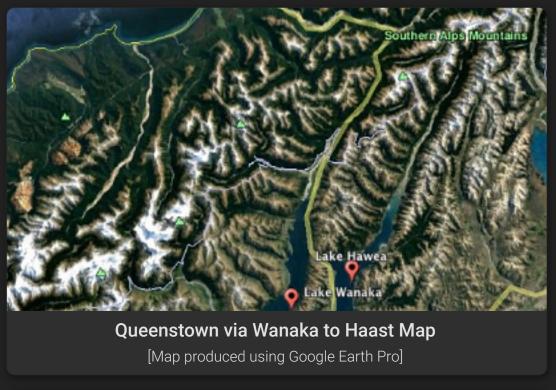
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## Queenstown via Wanaka to Haast

We hired a car to take us back to Christchurch. Our first stop was at the old settlement of Arrowtown - very pretty and full of tourists. We then proceeded northwards over the hills along the Carona Highway to Wanaka - a very pretty place at the southern end of beautiful Lake Wanaka. After lunch we continued north via Lake Hawea and then back over The Neck to Lake Wanaka. North again through Makarora up to the Haast Pass. The Gates of Haast waterfall was flowing well and many other waterfalls and wonderful river scenes were enjoyed. We ended our day in the little coastal town of Haast and enjoyed the beach very briefly as we were eaten alive by mossies and sandflies. We had another encounter with them later that night after dinner.







Lake Wanaka from Wanaka at the southern end



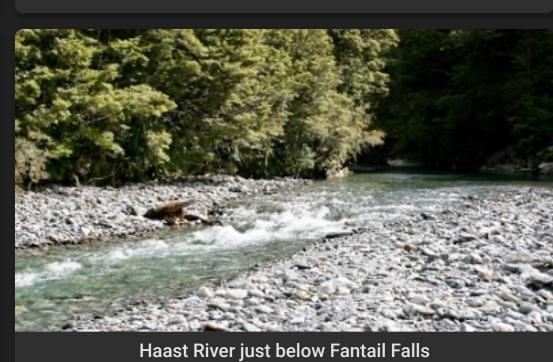






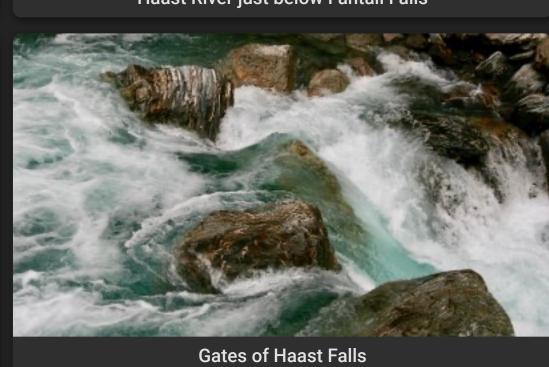




















sandflies

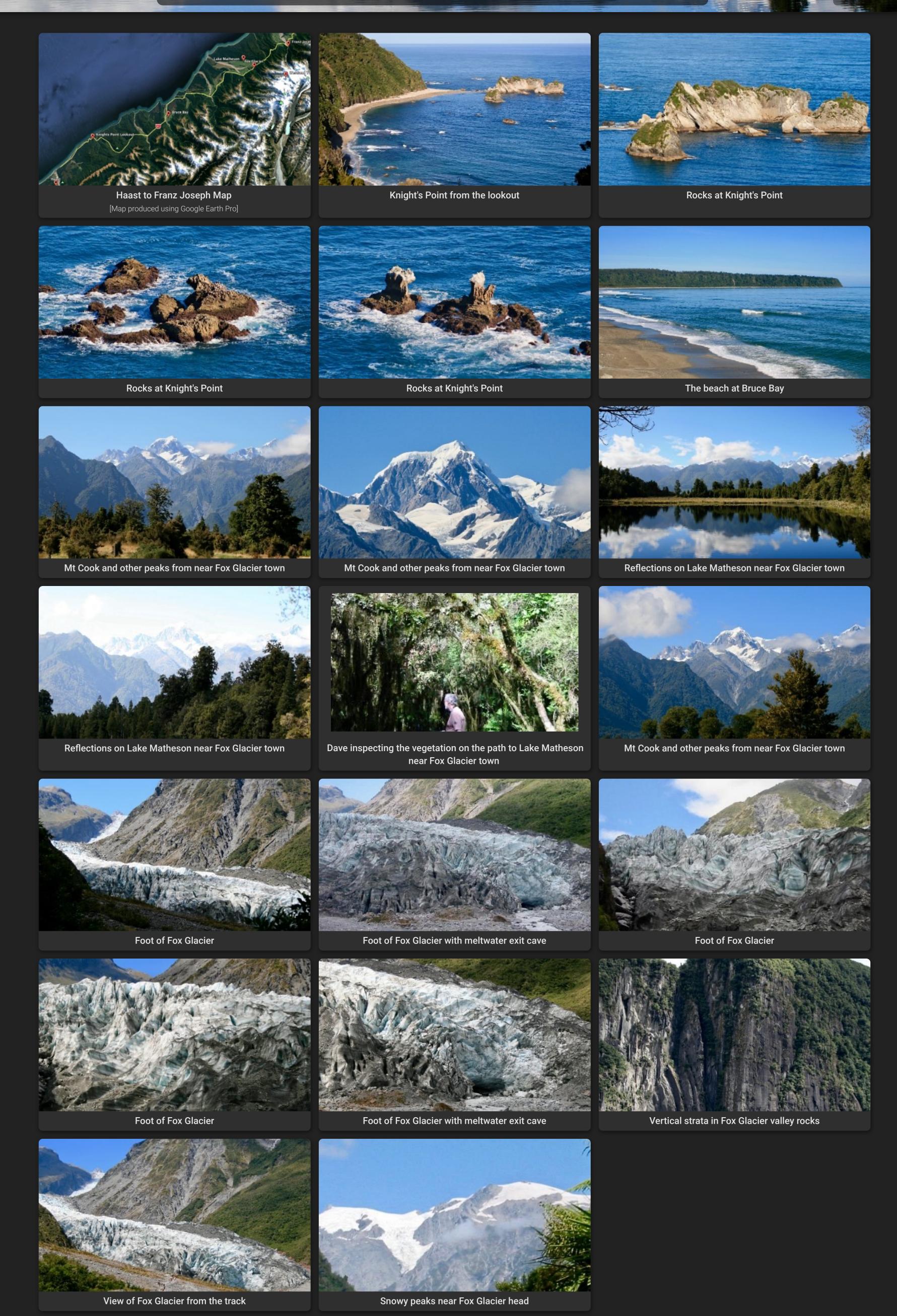




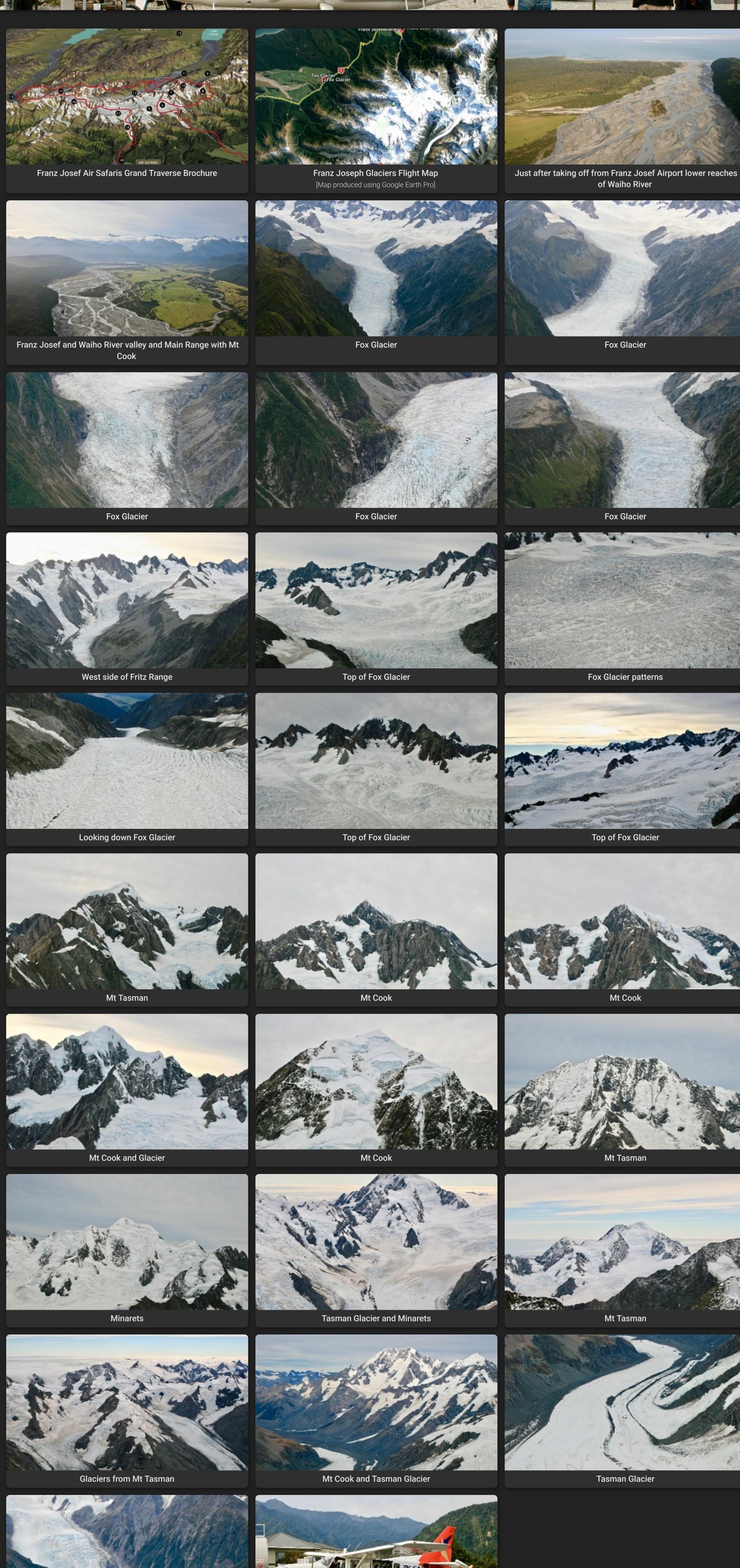
Oubtful Sound bus and boat tour







Queenstown via Wanaka to Haast

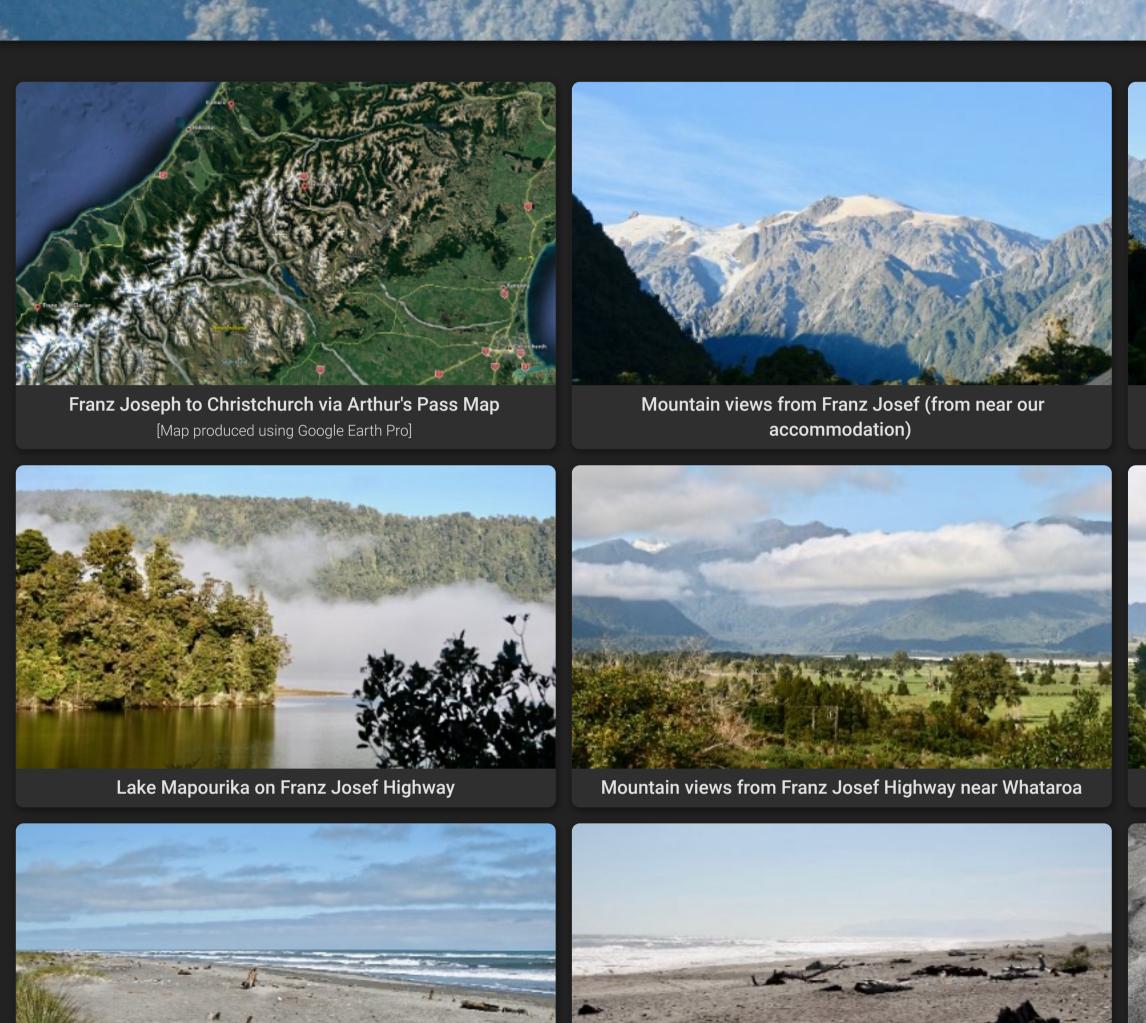




Franz Josef Glacier

Our plane for the Glaciers Flight











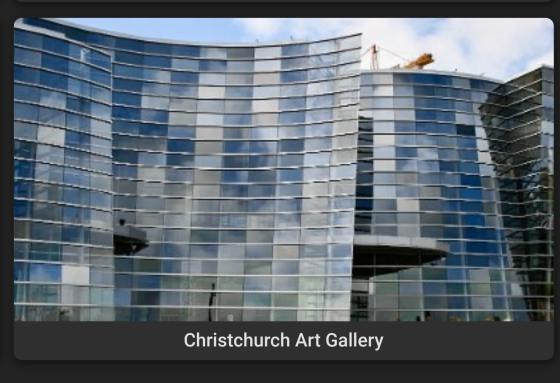
Mountain views from Franz Josef

Coastal views from Franz Josef Highway near Whataroa



Arthurs Pass scenery

Beach scene near Greymouth

















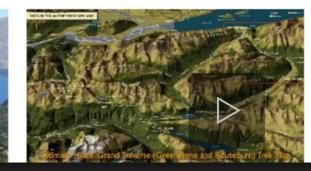


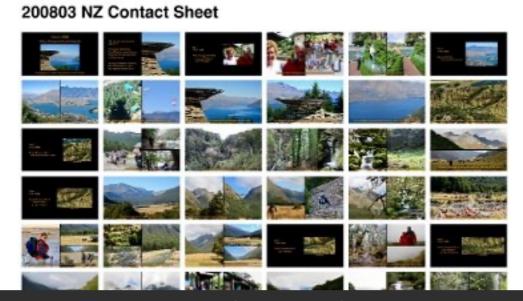






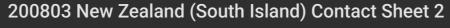














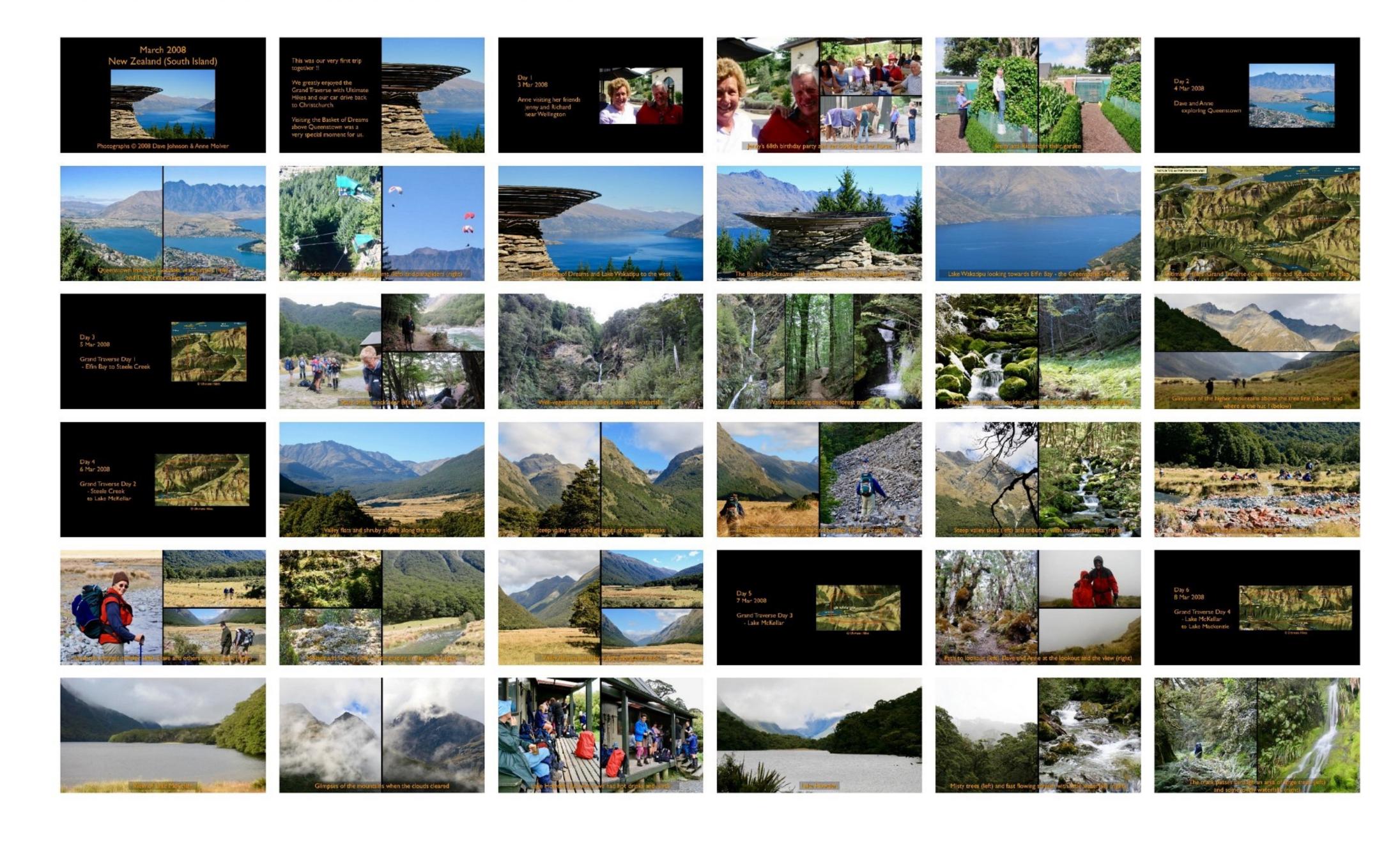
200803 New Zealand (South Island) Contact Sheet 3

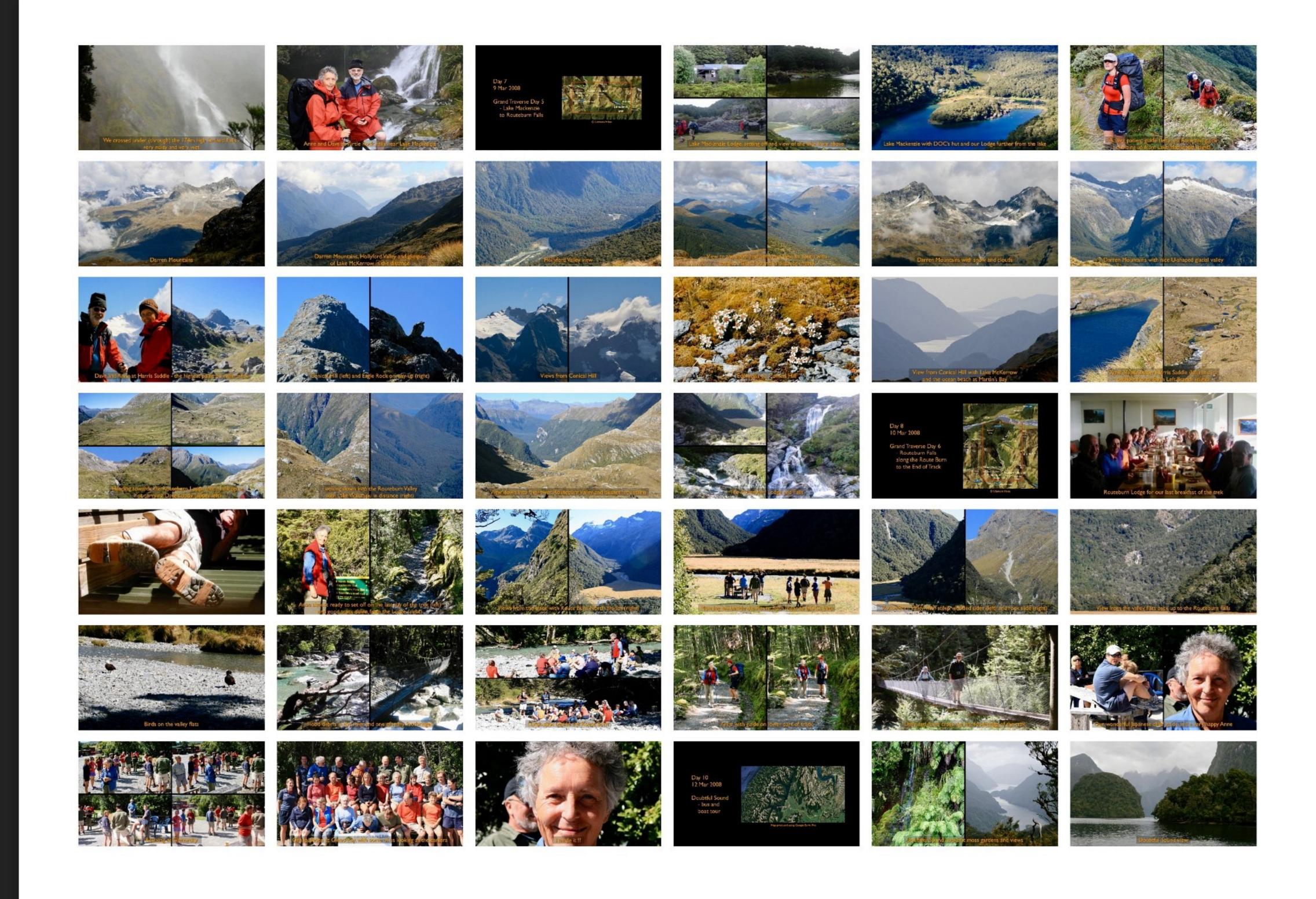


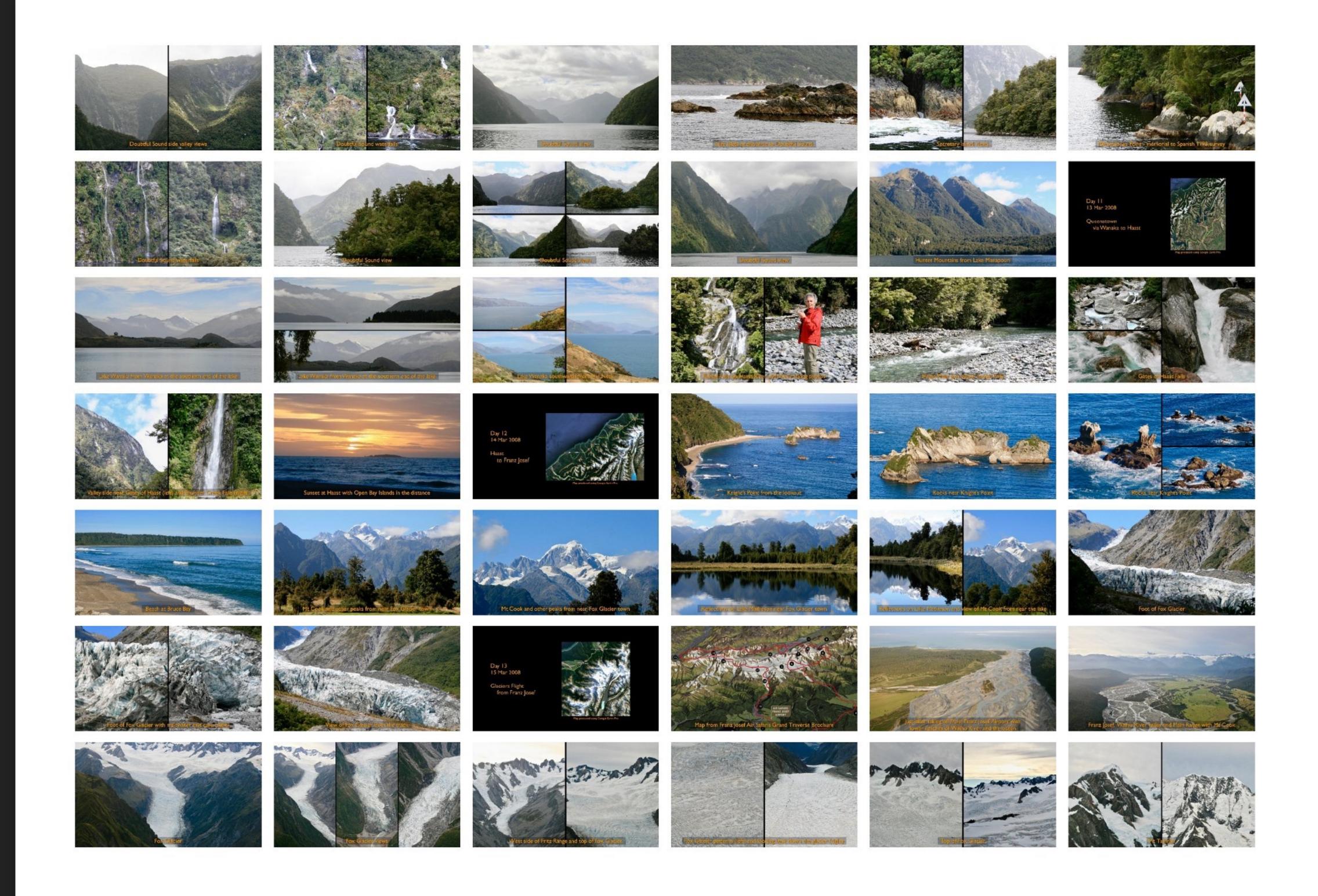
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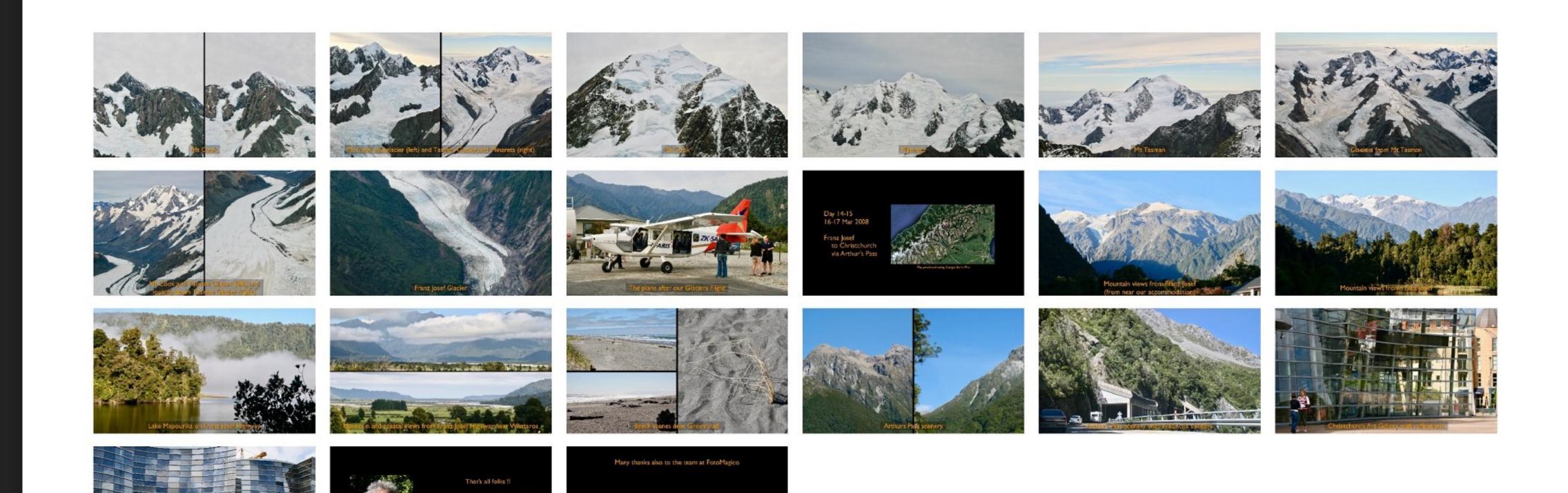


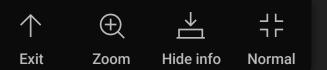
# 200803 NZ Contact Sheet













Ultimate Hikes