

# Cruise Milford

Milford Sound NZ

# Milford Sound Drive Guide

"the drive to Milford is as important as the Sound itself"

	Adult	Child
Cruise 10.45am	\$90	\$18
Cruise 12.45pm	\$90	\$18
Cruise 2.45pm	\$90	\$18
Coach & Cruise ex Queenstown	\$199	\$100
Coach & Cruise ex Te Anau	\$169	\$89

\*Child Rates apply for 5-14 years. 0-4 years are free of charge on Cruises.



Mirror-Lakes

## Fuel

Make sure you have a full tank of fuel before leaving Te Anau as there are no fuel stations until Milford Sound. You can get petrol only at Gunn's Camp in the Hollyford Valley, which is a detour from Milford Road. Otherwise you can get petrol and diesel in Milford Sound, although the service is limited to certain credit cards with pin number access only.

## Phone Coverage

There is no cell phone coverage after leaving Te Anau. Telephone services are available at Knobs Flat (card phone), Homer Tunnel (satellite phone – emergency use only) and the Milford Sound Visitor terminal (card phone).

## Chains

Over the winter months you might be required by law to carry snow chains in your vehicle. FOR UP TO DATE ROAD INFORMATION go to [www.cruisemilfordnz.com/info](http://www.cruisemilfordnz.com/info)

## Te Anau

Te Anau is considered to be the walking capital of the world. We also consider it to be the gateway to the Fiordland National Park. This very scenic town with a population of 2000 lies nestled on the edge of Lake Te Anau, the South Island's biggest lake with the deepest point recorded at 417 metres.

Te Anau offers a wide range of activities and attractions for tourists such as hunting, fishing, hiking and of course sightseeing. It is the perfect place to experience true New Zealand hospitality and connect with nature.

For any advice on what to do and where to stay in Te Anau give us a ring on 0800 MILFORD (645367).

### Guaranteed Uncrowded Cruises

For the purpose of passenger comfort and satisfaction we endeavor to maintain our loadings to half of our capacity.

### Newly Refurbished Upper Cabin

We have the most comfortable luxury lounge suites all facing outward.

### The Smaller Size Vessel

Enables us to get much closer to the local wildlife and waterfalls.

### Complimentary Coffee

Tea and biscuits on all sailings.



Freephone:  
0800 MILFORD (6453673)  
Email:  
[info@cruisemilfordnz.com](mailto:info@cruisemilfordnz.com)  
Book Online:  
[www.cruisemilfordnz.com](http://www.cruisemilfordnz.com)

## Getting there on time

The drive to Milford Sound is one of the most scenic drives in the world. Everywhere you look you'll see breathtaking beauty and stunning vistas. We firmly believe that the drive to Milford Sound is just as important as the cruise on the fiord itself. Take plenty of extra time to explore this unique area. This drive guide will give you estimated driving times, couple of handy tips for comfort on the road and your own personal tour guide for the day. On the other side of this guide you will find our personal favourites for stops along the way to Milford Sound. If you discover something amazing that's not on this list but you think we should share with other guests please email us at [info@cruisemilfordnz.com](mailto:info@cruisemilfordnz.com). Want to relax and leave the car behind for a day? No problem, just book one of our day tour packages from Queenstown or Te Anau. Our local driver-guides will make sure you get to see it all.

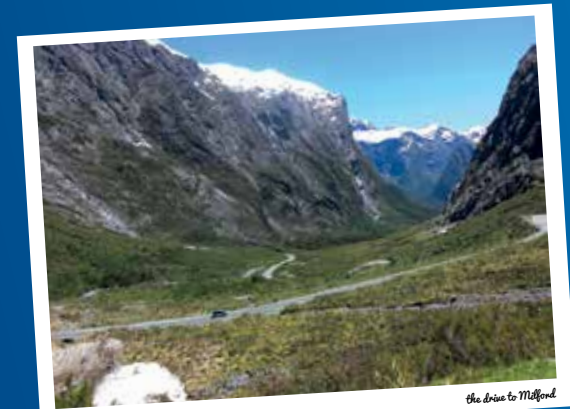
Depart Queenstown	Depart Te Anau	Cruise Depart Time
6.00 am	8.00 am	10.45 am
8.00 am	10.00 am	12.45 pm
10.00 am	12.00 pm	2.45 pm



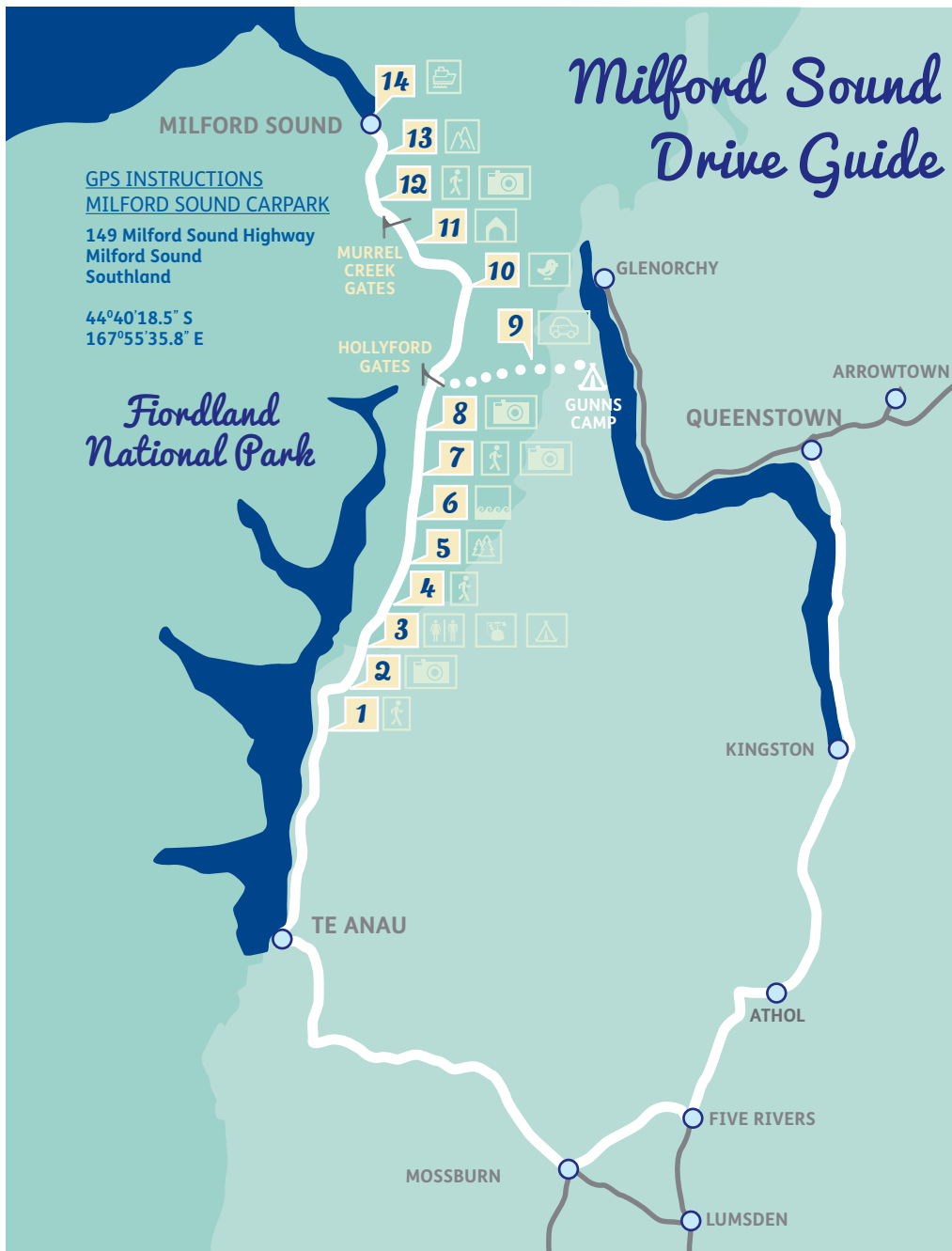
Homer Tunnel



Chubby Kiwi's



the drive to Milford



# Milford Sound Drive Guide

**GPS INSTRUCTIONS**  
**MILFORD SOUND CARPARK**  
 149 Milford Sound Highway  
 Milford Sound  
 Southland  
 44°40'18.5" S  
 167°55'35.8" E

*Fiordland National Park*

## 1. Te Anau Downs 30KM

In 1888 Quintin McKinnion discovered the first overland route to Milford Sound, now-a-days known as the Milford Track. This sheltered harbour is the starting point for the track-walkers.

## 2. Mirror Lakes 59KM

This is a MUST DO! We suggest doing this 5min board walk early in the day as the calm mornings offer the perfect photo opportunity of the reflecting Earl Mountains on the far side of the valley.

## 3. Knobs Flat 63KM

Knobs Flat was named for the kames and hummocks which have been left by retreating glaciers at the end of the last ice age. It's also a great convenience stop as you will find toilet facilities, a phone and campsites.

## 4. Lake Gunn 78KM

In the 1970's an Otago University student named several features near Lake Gunn after J.R.R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings, but the names were later rejected by authorities for being "unimaginative". Ironically Sir Peter Jackson chose this area to represent the Misty Mountains in the movie The Fellowship of the Ring. At the head of the Lake you'll find a gravel road that takes you down to the beach. This is a great spot for a picnic, a bit of swimming or stone skipping.

## 5. Lake Fergus 80KM

On a calm morning you'll get endless reflections of the mountains surrounding this Lake.

## 6. The Divide 84KM

This is the start/finish of the lowest east to west pass in the Southern Alps and famous walking tracks like the Routeburn, Greenstone and Caples Track. If you have time, a walk up to the Key Summit is worthwhile for the spectacular views of the Eglinton, Hollyford and Greenstone Valleys. The Key Summit view point is 918m above sea level and will take you approx. 3hrs return. (You should now have used approximately half of your allocated time to get from Te Anau to Milford Sound.)

## 7. Hollyford Valley Lookout 88KM

This Lookout provides an excellent view over the Hollyford Valley and the Darren Mountains. CAUTION: be careful with traffic pulling in and out of the lookout. For safety reasons we recommend you do this stop on your way out of Milford Sound.

## 8. Lower Hollyford Road 89KM

The Lower Hollyford Road is a 22km no exit gravel road that will bring you into the heart of the Hollyford Valley. 1km down the Road you will find the Lake Marian track. It is a 10min walk to the Marian Waterfalls and a 3 hour return journey to Lake Marian.

## 9. Gunn's Camp & Museum

At the end of the Lower Hollyford Road you will find Gunn's Camp. This has been described as "The home of legends, tall stories and laughter." This unique and quirky place is well worth the drive. You can spend hours exploring the camp & museum and finding out how tourism flourished in this remote area. Overnight stays at the old original huts are available for a small cost. For more information and bookings email [gunnscamp@ruralinzone.net](mailto:gunnscamp@ruralinzone.net). If you keep following the road to the end you will find a little track that will bring you to the 275m high Humbolt Falls.

## 10. Monkey Creek 96KM

Rumoured to be named after William H. Homer's most loyal companion, his dog "Monkey". From here you'll get breathtaking views over the Upper Hollyford Valley. William H. Homer discovered the Homer Saddle in 1889 and suggested the nearby road tunnel believing it to be a worthwhile project because of the route's potential tourism value. Little did he know that almost 60 years after his death the Homer Tunnel project was completed and how right he was about the huge impact it had on tourism in this area.

## 11. Homer Tunnel 102KM

At 945m (East Portal end) this is the highest point on the Milford Road. The Homer Tunnel is an amazing achievement of the early pioneers. With less than perfect conditions men and their families lived up here in camps all year round. Work on the tunnel started in 1935 and it was finally opened to the public in 1954. The story of the men working on this tunnel is nothing short of spectacular but too long to print here. We encourage you to ask our skipper or crew in Milford for more information. Before continuing through the tunnel it's worth stopping at the parking bays outside the tunnel. You are more than likely to see our cheeky mountain parrots, the Kea's, hanging around this area causing mischief. As beautiful as the Kea's are, be mindful of your possessions. The parrot's love sparkling car keys and don't mind leaving you stranded in the middle of nowhere. Please DO NOT feed the Kea's.

## 12. The Chasm 110KM

Another MUST DO! This is a 25min loop track. You will see the 22m deep ravine where the Cleddau River has cut through the rock, carving fascinating formations in this landscape.

## 13. Mt Tutuko 112KM

Directly in front of you, you'll see Mt Tutuko, with 2723m the highest peak in the Fiordland National Park.

## 14. Cruise Milford Visitor Center 122KM

You can park your vehicle free of charge in the signposted car park. From there it's an easy 5min scenic walk to the Visitor Terminal via the raised walkway. Check in at the Cruise Milford Counter (second on the left as you enter) and let us show you our Milford Sound.

*Now sit back relax and enjoy your cruise....*

**Cruise Milford**

Milford Sound NZ

[www.cruisemilfordnz.com](http://www.cruisemilfordnz.com)