

HELICOPTERS NELSON
NEW ZEALAND

Your adventure starts here.



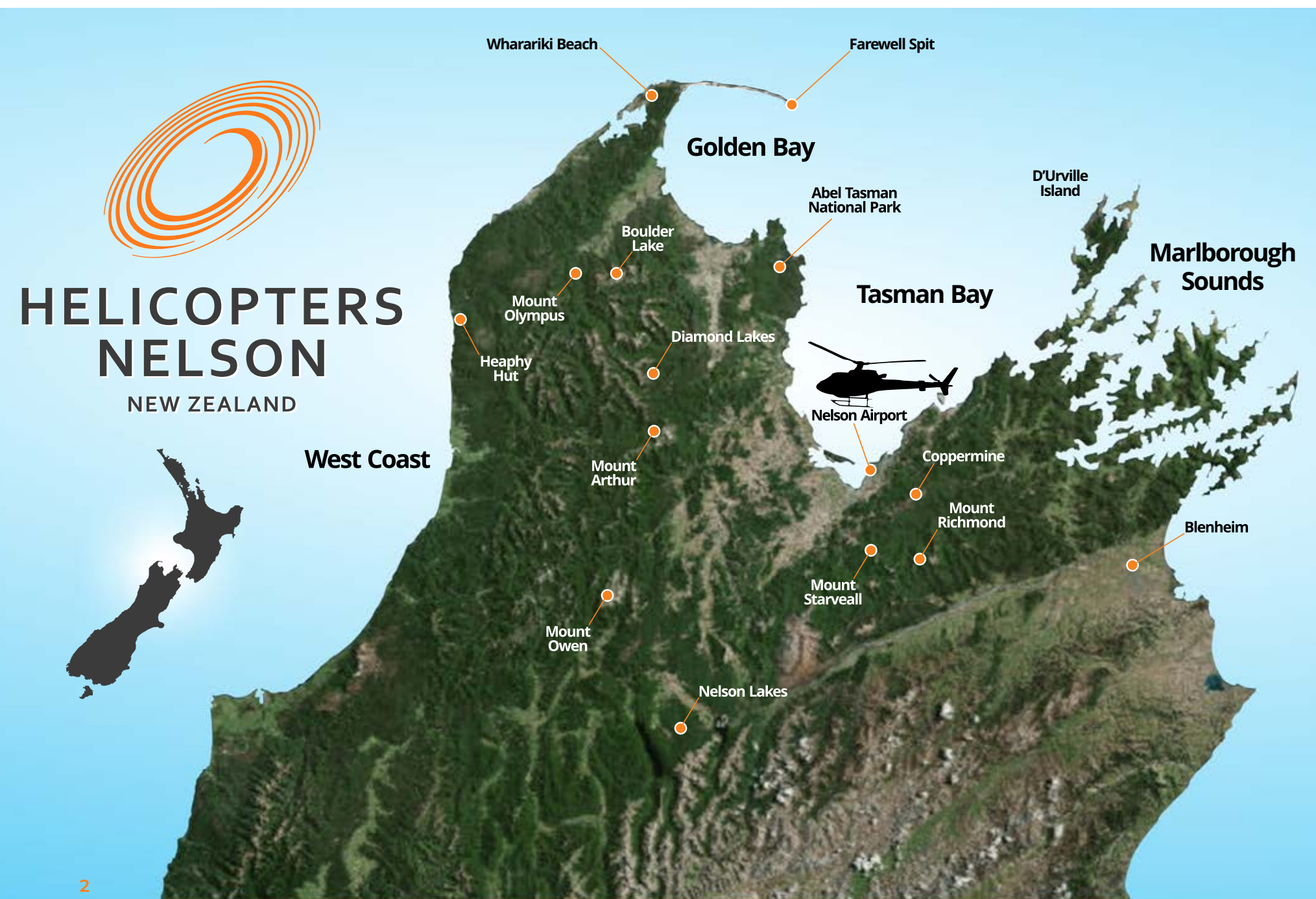


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Nelson Airport, Dakota Street
Nelson, New Zealand

Our Story

Established over 30 years ago, Helicopters Nelson has evolved into a well-known and respected aviation company.

Helicopters Nelson is now owned and operated by a large and very passionate aviation family, the Darling family. Our CEO and Flight Training Manager is Pete Darling, a pilot with over 25 years' experience, including 14 years working for two major international operators as multi-engine check and training captain. Alongside our tourism operations, we also operate commercial helicopter services, fire and emergency services and flight training.

We specialise in creating luxury, tailored and unique helicopter tours in and around the "Top of the South". We offer helicopter charter services and customised tours to some of the country's most stunning remote locations – there is no better view of New Zealand than from the skies. Whether you're looking for a corporate event, an active adventure or a romantic escape – anything is possible with Helicopters Nelson.

Your comfort and safety are paramount to us. Our professional pilots have a wealth of experience and local knowledge.

Like many of our guests, you'll want to tell your friends all about it! Every flight with Helicopters Nelson is an unforgettable one.

Our Fleet

Helicopters Nelson operate a versatile fleet of modern helicopters. We primarily use Airbus helicopters for tourism; they are lined with state of the art leather interior and soft carpet, along with a compact cabin to allow every passenger the opportunity to enjoy the views through the large windows.



Our Safety Record



Helicopters Nelson has a 100% safety record.



Helicopters Nelson pilots are highly experienced flying in mountain and coastal terrain.



Our fleet of aircraft are maintained to the highest standard.



Helicopters Nelson's owners have over 30 years aviation experience.



Helicopters Nelson complies with all Civil Aviation requirements.



Helicopters Nelson has been awarded Qualmark gold.

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline, likely in New Zealand, featuring steep, light-colored cliffs and a narrow, crescent-shaped beach. The water is a vibrant turquoise color. The view is framed by the dark interior of a vehicle, with a window frame visible on the left and right sides. The sky is filled with dramatic, grey clouds, and the overall scene conveys a sense of adventure and natural beauty.

PREMIUM TOURS

THE BEST OF THE BEST

PREMIUM TOUR

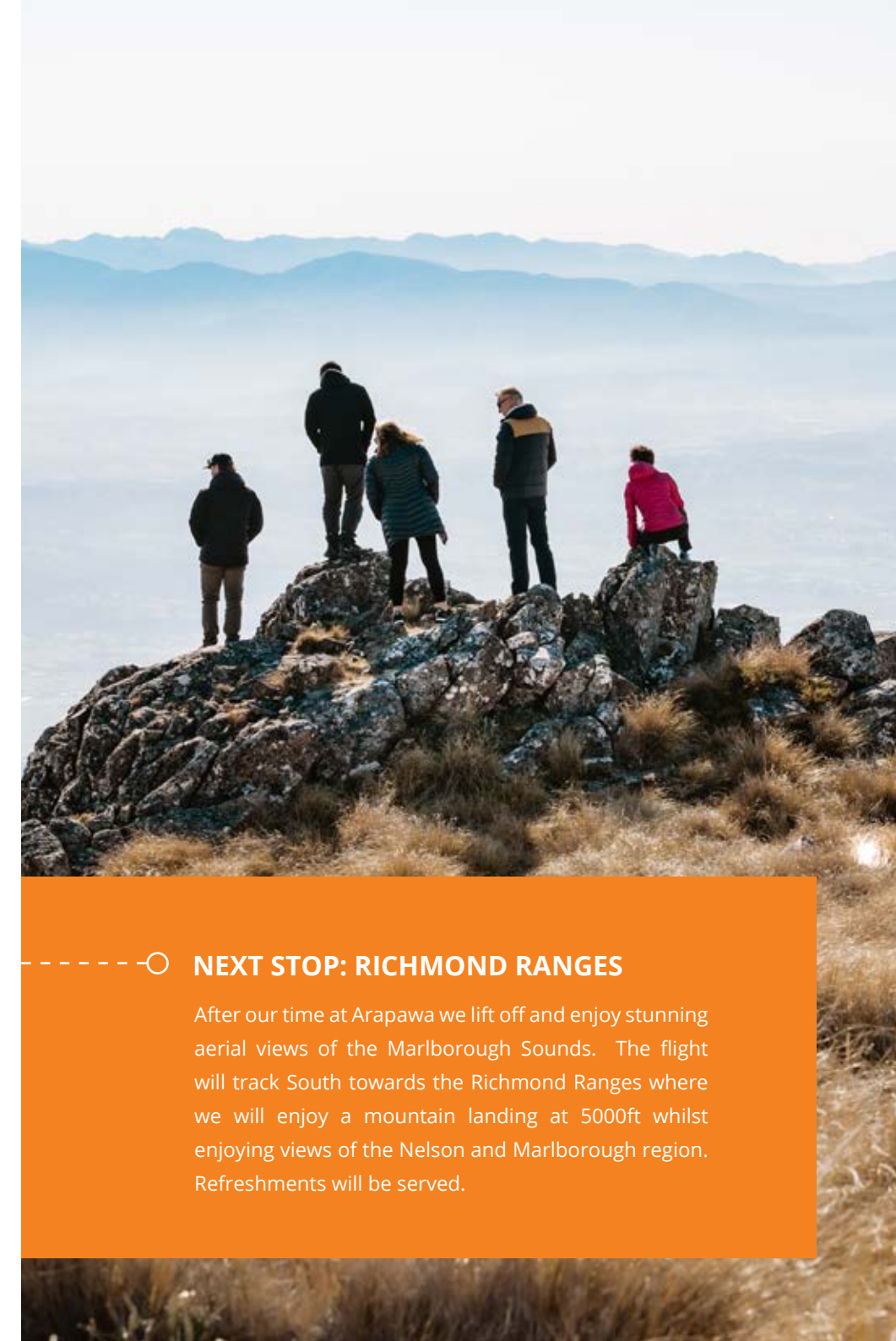
Heli-Highlights: Top of the South

From the Sounds to the Spit, this is an extraordinary full-day tour that will be remembered forever!

Leaving from our base at Nelson Airport, you'll visit every corner of our incredible region and truly experience the essence of the Top of the South.

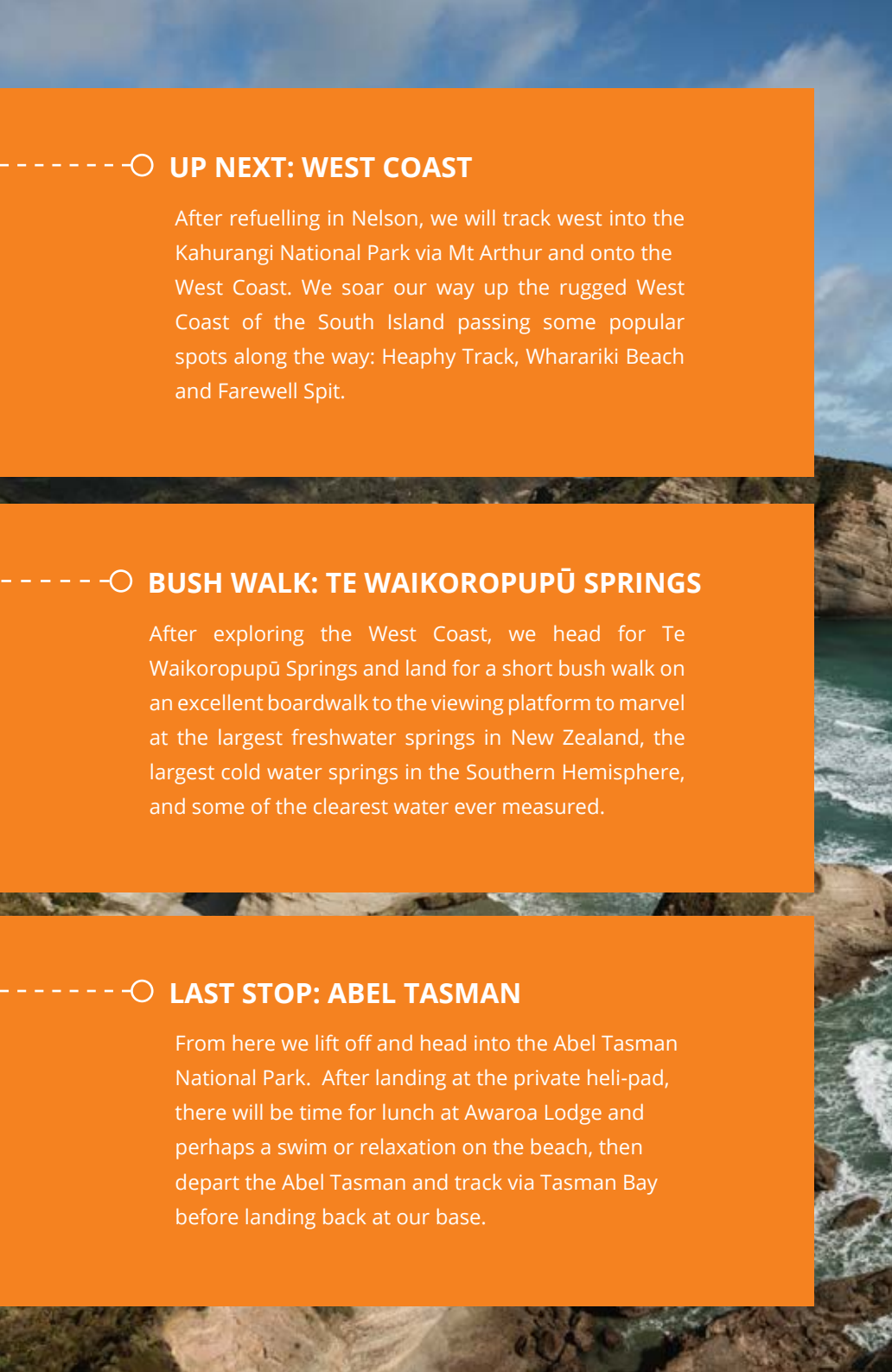
-----○ FIRST UP: ARAPAWA PEARL FARM

Track north east up the coastline towards French Pass, enjoying spectacular views of Tasman Bay before landing at the Arapawa Island Pearl Farm — New Zealand's only wild Paua Pearl Farm. Here we will meet the owners and enjoy morning tea while learning about the history of this amazing property.



-----○ NEXT STOP: RICHMOND RANGES

After our time at Arapawa we lift off and enjoy stunning aerial views of the Marlborough Sounds. The flight will track South towards the Richmond Ranges where we will enjoy a mountain landing at 5000ft whilst enjoying views of the Nelson and Marlborough region. Refreshments will be served.



UP NEXT: WEST COAST

After refuelling in Nelson, we will track west into the Kahurangi National Park via Mt Arthur and onto the West Coast. We soar our way up the rugged West Coast of the South Island passing some popular spots along the way: Heaphy Track, Wharariki Beach and Farewell Spit.

BUSH WALK: TE WAIKOROPUPŪ SPRINGS

After exploring the West Coast, we head for Te Waikoropupū Springs and land for a short bush walk on an excellent boardwalk to the viewing platform to marvel at the largest freshwater springs in New Zealand, the largest cold water springs in the Southern Hemisphere, and some of the clearest water ever measured.

LAST STOP: ABEL TASMAN

From here we lift off and head into the Abel Tasman National Park. After landing at the private heli-pad, there will be time for lunch at Awaroa Lodge and perhaps a swim or relaxation on the beach, then depart the Abel Tasman and track via Tasman Bay before landing back at our base.



PREMIUM TOUR

Heli-Fish: D'Urville Indulgence

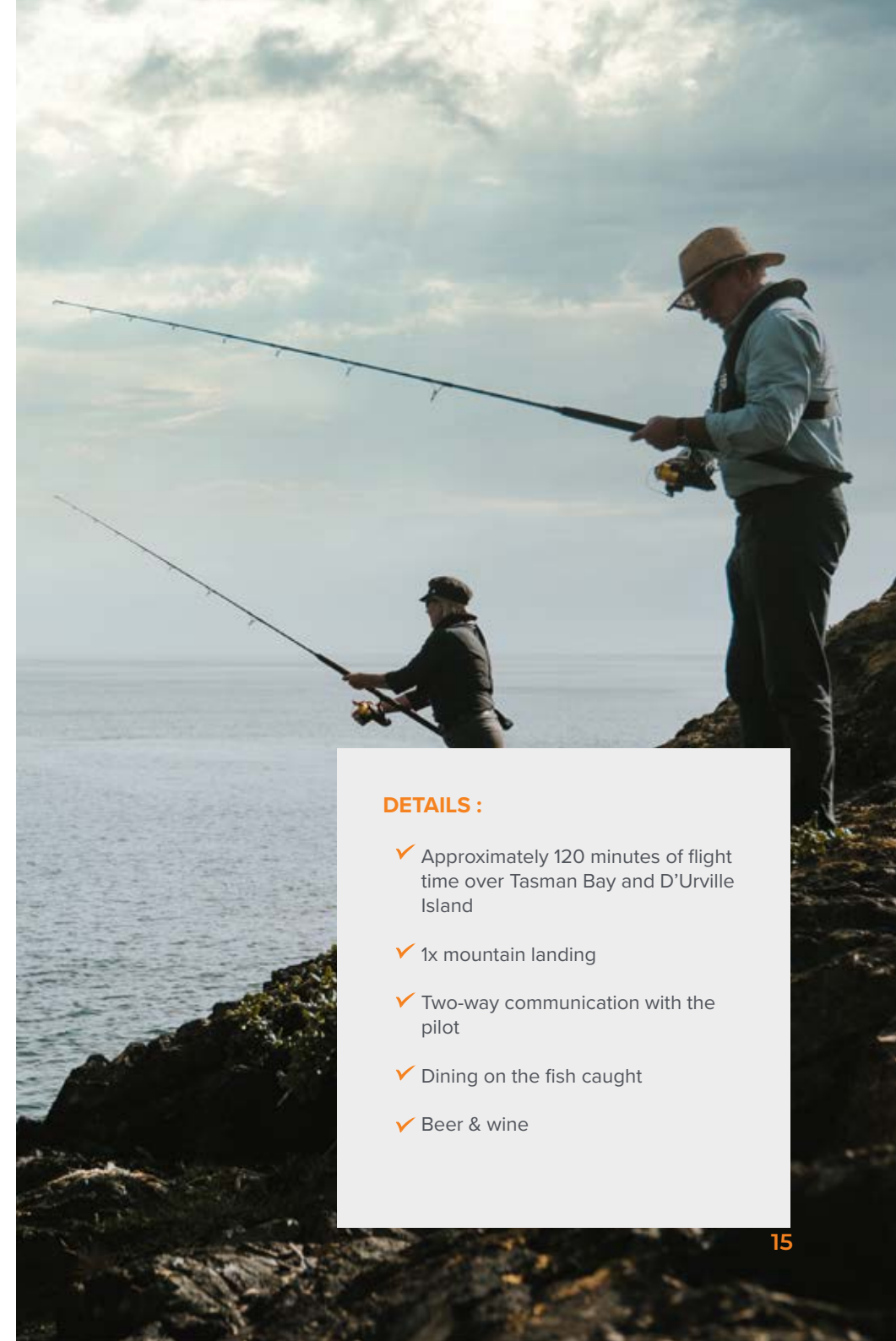
Flight time: 120 minutes

Tour duration: 5 hours

D'Urville Island is truly one of New Zealand's best kept secrets. Discovered by French explorer Jules Dumont D'Urville, the island is located off the northern coast of the South Island with an area of approximately 150 square km, making it the eighth-largest island of New Zealand. Departing Nelson or Blenheim, we follow Tasman Bay's eastern coast line before arriving on D'Urville Island for a spot of helicopter reef fishing.

If you love fresh food and fine wines, this is the exclusive tour for you. Once we have a decent catch, we hop across to a sheltered bay where your freshly caught fish will be prepared alongside fresh local produce. With a glass of fine local wine or a cold craft beer in hand, relax and enjoy the pristine beaches and native bush. You can even take a swim! Our flight home tracks via the Mt Richmond Forest Park.





DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 120 minutes of flight time over Tasman Bay and D'Urville Island
- ✓ 1x mountain landing
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Dining on the fish caught
- ✓ Beer & wine

PREMIUM TOUR

Heli-Cruise: Best of Both Worlds

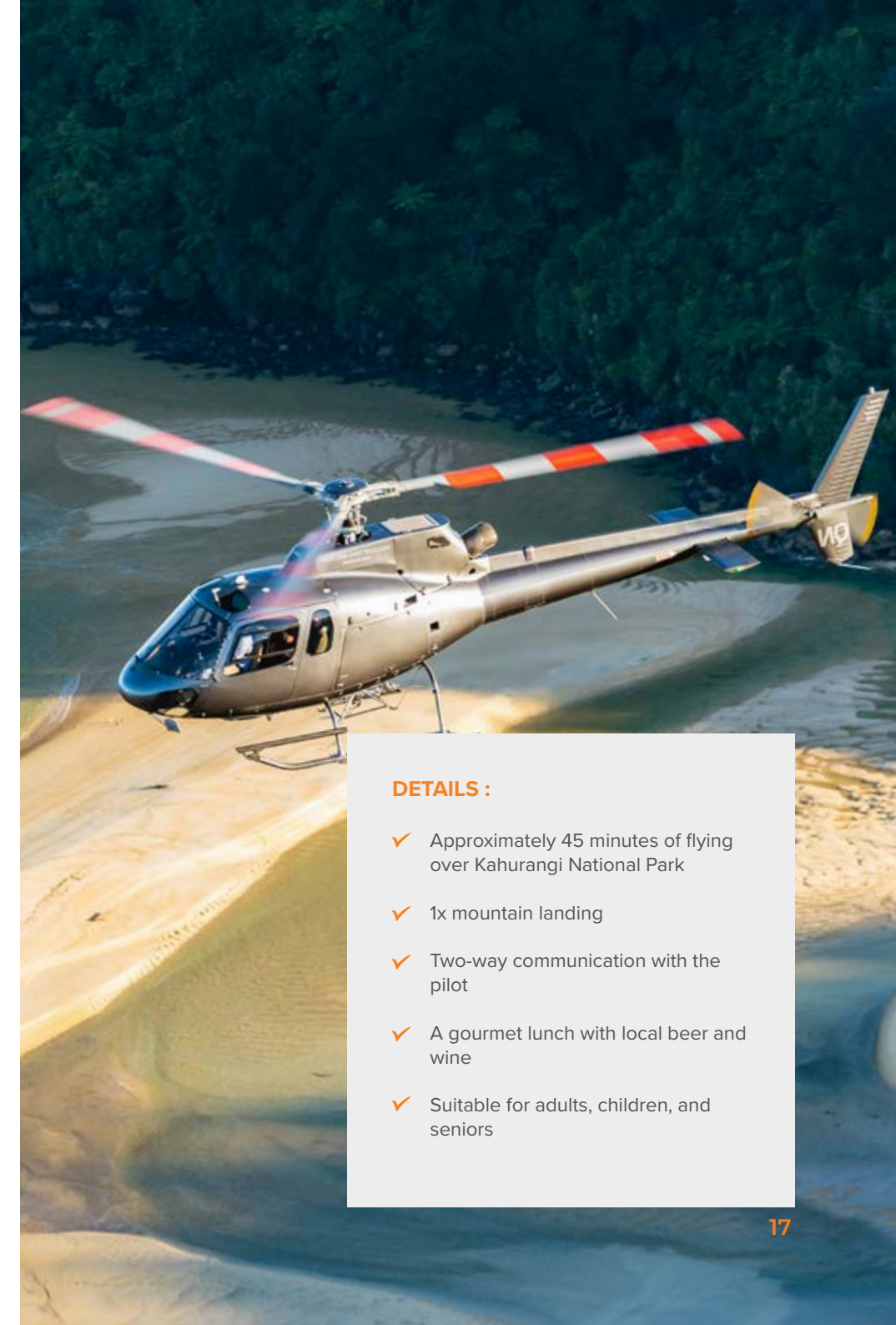
Flight time: 45 minutes

Tour duration: 6 hours

Combine sailing the seas and spectacular aerial views. Join Abel Tasman Charters and Helicopters Nelson for a private cruise into the Abel Tasman National Park to discover lush bush, golden sand, and heavenly blue waters. Relax on the beach with a gourmet lunch before meeting your private helicopter at Awaroa Bay. From Awaroa you will track into the rugged Kahurangi National Park for a landing high in the mountains where you can explore unique rock formations and alpine lakes. Enjoy truly spectacular views of Golden Bay on your journey back to your destination.

Optional Add On: Wharariki Beach

If you are looking to extend your day and see more stunning scenery, add a spectacular flight over Golden Bay and Farewell Spit before landing at the famous Wharariki Beach.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 45 minutes of flying over Kahurangi National Park
- ✓ 1x mountain landing
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ A gourmet lunch with local beer and wine
- ✓ Suitable for adults, children, and seniors

PREMIUM TOUR

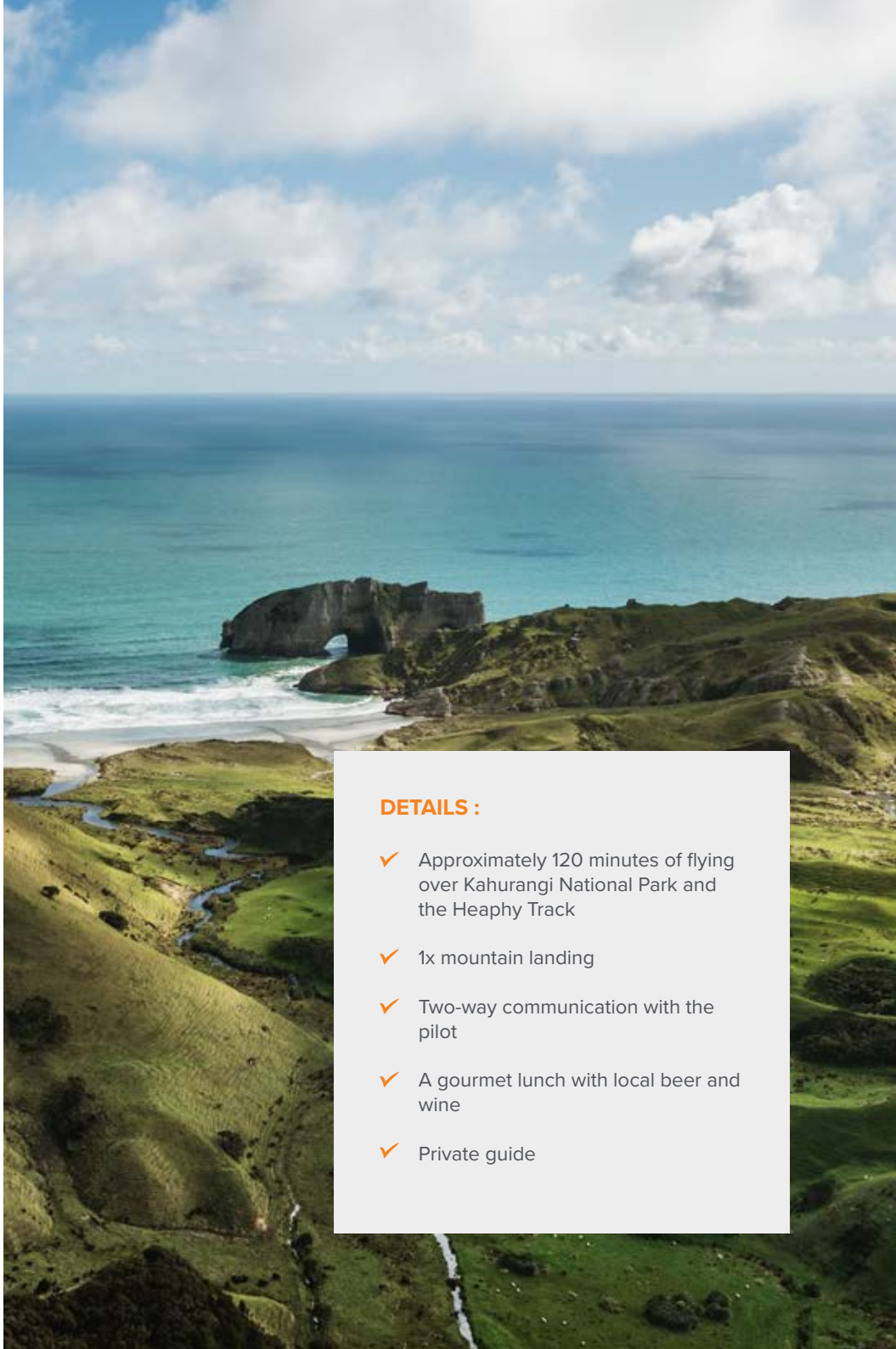
Heli-Hike: Heaphy Track

Flight time: 120 minutes
Tour duration: 6 hours

This trip combines fantastic aerial views and frequent opportunities to land and enjoy the wilderness surrounds. Depart Nelson in your private helicopter flying west into the Kahurangi National Park for a mountain landing. Here your experienced guide will point out geological features of the area.

Our next stop lands at a point along the world famous Heaphy Track where you will have the option of walking 1-4 hours towards the coast before enjoying a picnic on the beach.

After lunch, we fly the rugged North West coastline viewing seal colonies and eroded rock formations before landing at the archways of Wharariki Beach. Enjoy stunning aerial views of Farewell Spit and Golden Bay on your journey back to your destination.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 120 minutes of flying over Kahurangi National Park and the Heaphy Track
- ✓ 1x mountain landing
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ A gourmet lunch with local beer and wine
- ✓ Private guide

EXPLORE & PLAY

ALPINE, SOUNDS, & BEACH ADVENTURES





Heli-Scenic: Abel Tasman Experience

Flight time: 50 minutes
Tour duration: 2.5 hours

One of our most popular helicopter tours - and for very good reasons!

From our convenient base at Nelson Airport, board one of our modern helicopters and be whisked away to a subtropical paradise, consistently rated as one of New Zealand’s best beaches. Surrounded by dense green native bush and turquoise waters, this stretch of golden sand is so exquisite that a group of New Zealanders banded together to buy it for the country.

You'll have time for a walk, a swim, or lunch at the lodge. The only problem is you won't want to leave! Our clients return time and time again to experience this slice of paradise. We're positive you'll love it too.

Awaroa Lodge is open from 1st September to late May.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 50 minutes of flying over the Abel Tasman National Park
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Golden coastlines and beautiful beaches
- ✓ Native bush and bird life



Heli-Kayak: Awaroa Lagoon

Flight time: 50 minutes
Tour duration: 3.5 hours

From our base at Nelson Airport, fly up the coastline, taking in the stunning views of the Abel Tasman National Park.

Landing at Awaroa Bay you will be escorted through the short bush track and met by Awaroa Sea Kayaks. A sea kayak will be designed specific to your group with a choice of duration according to your fitness level and skill.

Awaroa is regarded by many local guides as the best place to sea kayak in the Abel Tasman National Park. Spectacular granite sea cliffs, golden sand beaches, crystal clear water and the majestic Awaroa Lagoon make for an unforgettable sea kayaking experience.

Light refreshments included.

Return helicopter flight back to Nelson Airport.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 50 minutes flight time up the coastline of the Abel Tasman National Park
- ✓ Two-way communication between you and your pilot
- ✓ 1 x landing at Awaroa Bay
- ✓ Private guide
- ✓ Light refreshments



Heli-Scenic: Golden Bay w/ Farewell Spit Eco Tour

Flight time: 80 minutes
Tour duration: 8 hours

Tracking west into the Kahurangi mountains, enjoy a flight over unspoilt country before your pilot lands at a remote alpine location, where you can enjoy the overwhelming surrounds of New Zealand's second largest National Park. Following your mountain landing, we descend further north west to Golden Bay, and track the beautiful coastline to land in the remote settlement of Puponga, situated at the base of Farewell Spit.

Here join Farewell Spit Eco Tours for a private guided tour of Farewell Spit, the natural sandspit that spans 26 km above the tide mark across the top of the South Island. Farewell Spit Eco Tours guides are passionate about the history, ecology and wildlife of the Spit and are committed to ensuring you get the most from your trip.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 80 minutes of flying over Kahurangi National Park and Golden Bay
- ✓ 2x landings
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Private guided tour of Farewell Spit with Farewell Spit Eco Tours
- ✓ A picnic lunch with local beer and wine



Heli-Scenic: Kahurangi & Golden Bay w/ Horse Trek

Flight time: 80 minutes

Tour duration: 5 hours

Tracking west into the Kahurangi mountains, enjoy a scenic flight over unspoilt country before your pilot lands at a remote alpine location, where you can enjoy the overwhelming surrounds of New Zealand's second largest National Park. Following your mountain landing, we descend further north west to Golden Bay, and track the beautiful coastline to land in the remote settlement of Puponga, situated at the base of Farewell Spit.

Here enjoy a spectacular horse trekking experience, that takes you climbing above the beach, and crossing over the lush green hills, of the Puponga Farm Park. This is a great opportunity, to explore one of our most beautiful coastal landscapes, on horseback.

Recommended for anyone over the age of 10 years.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 80 minutes of flying over Kahurangi National Park and Golden Bay
- ✓ 2x landings
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Private guided horse trek
- ✓ A picnic lunch with local beer and wine



Heli-Scenic: Nelson Mountain Adventure

Flight time: 30 minutes

Tour duration: 1 hour

Fly over farmland and forested valleys into Nelson's remote mountain ranges. Enjoy elevated views of the spectacular Tasman Bay and surrounding National Parks. This flight offers one alpine landing and excellent photo opportunities.

There may also be snow in winter!

Sturdy footwear and a warm jacket are essential.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 30 minutes of flight time over Nelson's remote mountain ranges
- ✓ 1x mountain landing
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Sights: Tasman Bay, surrounding national parks, snow (in winter!)
- ✓ Suitable for adults, children, and seniors.

A wide-angle photograph of a mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a black helicopter with a red stripe is parked on a rocky, sparsely vegetated plateau. A small group of people is gathered near the helicopter. The background features rolling mountains with varying shades of green, brown, and grey, partially shrouded in white clouds. The sky is filled with large, dramatic clouds.

WINE & DINE

HELI-PICNICS AND WINERY TOURS



Heli-Picnic: Hidden Alpine Lake

Flight time: 75 minutes
Tour duration: 3 hours

Enjoy a gourmet picnic at a hidden alpine lake.

Fly North to the Abel Tasman National Park, over pristine waters and golden sand beaches. You will then head into the Kahurangi National Park, New Zealand’s second largest national park, and land at a hidden alpine lake. Take a short walk, admire the nearby waterfall, and relax by the picturesque lake.

Options for a picnic basket of local produce and wines are available.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 75 minutes of flight time over Abel Tasman National Park & Kahurangi National Park
- ✓ 1x mountain landing with breathtaking mountain landscapes
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Stunning golden sand beaches & picturesque lake
- ✓ Short walk to a nearby waterfall



Heli-Picnic: The Wild North West

Flight time: 120 minutes

Tour duration: 5 hours

Tracking west into the heart of the Kahurangi, our first stop lands at a remote alpine location where we can enjoy the overwhelming surrounds of New Zealand's second largest National Park. From the mountains, we descend further west to Westhaven Inlet and track the rugged and remotely beautiful wild North West coastline for a landing on the beach, where we can explore sand dunes and eroded rock formations. Here we will sit back, relax and enjoy a gourmet picnic lunch and glass of local wine.

After lunch we lift off to explore Farewell Spit and Golden Bay before our final landing at Awaroa Bay in the Abel Tasman National Park. A short bush walk through aged Manuka forest takes us up close to the pristine waters and golden sand beaches that make the Abel Tasman world famous.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 120 minutes of flight time over Kahurangi National Park, the wild West Coast, Abel Tasman National Park, and Farewell Spit
- ✓ 1x mountain landing and 1x beach landing
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot
- ✓ Breathtaking mountain landscapes and stunning beaches and rock formations



Heli-Wine Hop Nelson & Marlborough Vineyards

Flight time varies
Tour duration varies

Let us customise your day with a vineyard visit or two or three!

Tastings, tours and platters – there’s no better way to travel between vineyards.

During your private helicopter flight, you will gain a bird’s eye view before landing at your choice of vineyard. Or let us Heli-Surprise you with our favourites!





Heli-Kiwi Spirits Distillery

Flight time: 75 minutes
Tour duration: 2.5 hours

Visit New Zealand's only tequila farm!

Kiwi Spirit Distillery specialise in unique spirits handcrafted from the purest homegrown ingredients, including the only 100% Blue Agave Tequilana spirit made in New Zealand. Their family owned and operated distillery redefines what quality means. With a family history of decades of distilling they're staunchly dedicated to quality over quantity.

Golden Bay is one of the most beautiful places in the world! This small town has long been a haunt for creative free thinkers, artists and aging hippies. Nestled between two spectacular national parks with miles of stunning golden sand beach surroundings, it's a very special corner of New Zealand.





HELI-FISH

THE SECRET LOCAL SPOTS



Heli-Fish: The Best Brown Trout

Flight time varies
Tour duration varies

The Nelson Marlborough region offers some of the best brown trout fishing in the world. For over 20 years Helicopters Nelson has been transporting locals and visitors to some of our best known fishing spots. Guides are available for day trips or, if you are already familiar with the area, you have the option of overnight hut stays.

Helicopters Nelson offer a wide variety of fishing adventures from trout fishing in our spectacular remote back-country to salt water fishing charters in the Marlborough Sounds. With three generations of helicopter flying experience in the region we know where to take you for that ultimate catch and enjoyable day out.



A full-page background image of a mountain biker riding down a rocky trail in a forest. The rider is wearing a yellow and orange jersey, orange shorts, a black helmet with red goggles, and a chainmail body protector. The bike has 'MAXXIS' and 'ROCK' visible on the frame. The scene is filled with green trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy.

HELI-BIKE

SHUTTLES & CYCLE TRIPS



Mountain Bike Trips

Nelson has quickly become one of the country’s top mountain biking destinations with tracks that cater for all skill levels. If you are up for an adventure and have some biking experience, then let us take you heli-biking — you’ll be able to access stunning scenery and explore the backcountry while ticking off a Nelson must-do activity.

Wairoa Gorge Shuttles

ADVANCED Flight time: 3 shuttles

Mt Starveall

MODERATE Flight time: 15 minutes

Killdevil

MODERATE Flight time: 25 minutes

Ben Nevis

ADVANCED Flight time: 25 minutes

Gordon’s Knob

MODERATE Flight time: 15 minutes



Wakamarina

MODERATE Flight time: 20 minutes

Beeby’s Knob

MODERATE Flight time: 20 minutes

Old Ghost Road

MODERATE Flight time: 30 minutes

Coppermine

MODERATE Flight time: 15 minutes



Heli-Cycle: Combo Tours with Wheelie Fantastic

Helicopters Nelson and Wheelie Fantastic have teamed up to bring you three fantastic Heli-Cycle Tours across the Top of the South Island.

Wheelie Fantastic is a boutique company focusing on customer service with attention to detail. Like us, they are always available to answer any questions you may have about a tour, listening to your requests and developing or modifying any itinerary to suit you. The owners and staff are all keen cyclists, with extensive knowledge of the areas they organise tours in. Their local knowledge helps customers enjoy the best of the area and discover places that other operators don't use.

Please enquire for detailed information and itineraries.



3 COMBO TOURS TO CHOOSE FROM :

- ✓ Heli-Cycle Tasman Bay
- ✓ Heli-Cycle Marlborough Sounds
- ✓ Heli-Cycle Hidden Gems

LORD OF THE RINGS

FILM LOCATION TOURS

Mt Olympus, South of Rivendell

Flight time: 60 minutes
Tour duration: 1.5 hours

Fly northwest over the Kahurangi National Park and into Golden Bay for a landing on Mt Olympus to view the strange pinnacle rock formations that were used to portray the rugged country “South of Rivendell.” It was here, as the nine rested and cooked a meal, that the crebain crows of Saruman, searching for news of the One Ring, spied the travellers below. Hurriedly extinguishing their fire, they hid behind the pinnacles in an attempt to escape discovery. Mt Olympus sprouts rocky outcrops which over time have been eroded by weather to form incredible columnar shapes. It is an extremely remote location and can only be reached by helicopter.



Mt Owen, Exit from the Mines of Moria

Flight time: 50 minutes
Tour duration: 1.5 hours

Explore Mt Owen’s truly spectacular surroundings. Fly southwest before entering the Kahurangi National Park for a landing on Mt Owen. Filming was undertaken here for 10 days with the result being one of the most moving moments in the film.

Mt Owen showcases some of the oldest rock in New Zealand and has priceless geological properties. As you ascend, a landscape of glaciated marble karst is exposed and you appreciate the challenges for film crew working within the harsh alpine environment.



Ultimate Lord of the Rings: Combo Tour

Flight time: 90 minutes
Tour duration: 2.5 hours

First track northwest into Golden Bay for a landing on Mt Olympus to explore the site of “South of Rivendell.” Reboard the helicopter again to fly south towards Mt Owen, above the vast and untouched terrain that is the very heart of the Kahurangi National Park. Land once more to view the rocky landscape that became the “Exit from the Mines of Moria.” From here it is a short flight back to Nelson Airport with views of Tasman Bay.

Optional Add-on: Salisbury Falls

Salisbury Falls in the Aorere River of Golden Bay is at the very start of Kahurangi National Park’s Heaphy Track. This was the film site where Tauriel & Legolas met before heading into Lake-town, as seen in The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug.



DETAILS :

- ✓ Approximately 90 minutes flight time exploring the Kahurangi National Park
- ✓ 2x mountain landings, visiting 2x LOTR film locations
- ✓ Two-way communication with the pilot



HELI-ROMANCE

WEDDINGS, PROPOSALS & ELOPEMENTS



Love at First Flight

Experience the wedding of a lifetime. Enjoy an intimate ceremony in a unique alpine location, escape by helicopter to a wild and remote beach for photographs, or surprise your guests and land at your reception venue in style.

Wedding Day Transfers

Surprise your guests and arrive to your wedding ceremony/reception in style, or escape in your private helicopter for photos at a special location. Whether you want to be whisked away alone as husband and wife, or invite the entire bridal party for photos and champagne on the mountain, we can cater for groups large or small.

Eclectic Beach Wedding

Fly to the rugged and spectacular Wild West Coast for a beautifully styled wedding ceremony and your wedding photos. Enjoy a glass of champagne before a scenic flight over the Abel Tasman National Park on your way home. An optional mountain landing is available for further photographs if you desire.



Romantic Alpine Proposal

Depart on a breathtaking scenic flight to a remote alpine location. We'll have a bottle of bubbles and a gourmet picnic for two on hand for the celebrations. Relax and soak up the spectacular surrounds before your flight home.

Intimate Mountain Elopement

Imagine a beautiful, relaxed day slowly unfolding, filled with charming yet simple details: a secluded mountain top and an adventure with the one you love. Fly to a stunning mountain location for a beautifully-styled wedding ceremony and wedding photos. Enjoy a glass of champagne before a short flight to an alpine lake.

A helicopter with red and white striped rotor blades is flying over a body of water. The water is a deep blue-green color. In the background, there is a rocky shoreline with some vegetation. The helicopter is positioned on the left side of the frame, facing right.

HELI-BESPOKE

PRIVATE CHARTERS

From our central New Zealand location, we have a prime position to cater for special interest groups and individuals. Depending on your timetable, we will customize a bespoke itinerary to best suit your vacation needs, further enhancing your stay in our beautiful region.

STAY

LODGE TRANSFERS

We partner with the premium lodge providers across the Top of the South Island and can provide seamless heli-transfers from the airport or lodge to lodge. We can cater for couples and groups with our fleet of modern Eurocopter Squirrel Helicopters.



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