



ADVENTUREFUEL
BIKE GUIDING



7-DAY BACKCOUNTRY MOUNTAIN BIKE TOUR

SMALL GROUPS, BIG LANDSCAPES, UNFORGETTABLE
JOURNEYS

TRIP INFORMATION DOCUMENT

EVERYTHING YOU
NEED TO KNOW



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WHO WE ARE

We are your New Zealand based, biking obsessed, professional mountain bike guides.

After MTB guiding all around the world and cycling the length of New Zealand. We know what makes the dream MTB trip and where to find it.

If you want to read more check out the [ABOUT PAGE](#)



WHAT WE DO

We create bucket-list all inclusive, mtb tours that people can't stop talking about.

Showing riders the REAL New Zealand that big groups don't get to see.



HOW WE DO IT

We believe your dream trip isn't shared with a big group. It's personal; the guides know your name and get to know you.

We choose the trails to your preferences and the conditions so you only ride the best, everyday.

And, after an unbeatable day of riding you get to enjoy amazing food, incredible views, thermal hot pools and local delicacies.

That's what makes a dream MTB trip!

So read on and find out more about the dream MTB Tour!

TRIP OVERVIEW

THE PREMIUM BACKCOUNTRY MTB TOUR THROUGH THE SOUTHERN ALPS

Our backcountry mountain bike tour is all about unforgettable riding, wild landscapes and premium accommodation.

Extinct volcanoes, cloud covered ridges and deep rainforest, everyday is a new story.

Ride with local guides on their favourite trails as they show you the REAL New Zealand that big groups never see.

\$9800 NZD

\$5700USD | | \$8200 CAD

7 DAYS /6 NIGHTS

ALL-INCLUSIVE TOUR

2 GUIDES: 6 GUESTS

MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE

192 KM | 120 MILES

4370M ASCENT

6400M DESCENT

(APPROXIMATE TOTALS AS EACH TRIP IS TAILORED TO THE CONDITIONS AND RIDERS)

WE ONLY HAVE 6 SPOTS PER TRIP SO BOOK NOW



WHAT TO EXPECT

HIGHLIGHTS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Spend two days on the world famous Old Ghost Road, 85km of purpose built, backcountry singletrack (IMBA Epic)
- Ride highlights of the New Zealand Enduro circuit.
- Relax in award winning natural hot pools in the heart of the Southern Alps.
- Stay at bespoke accommodation with breathtaking scenery.
- Experience the full diversity of NZ; riding volcanic ridges by the ocean to alpine singletrack to deep rainforest.
- Drive a section the wild West Coast where the Tasman Sea crashes into a rainforest.
- Improve your riding with our expert guides who are also Professional Mountain Bike Instructors (3:1 Guide Ratio)
- Enjoy the local food from our guides painstaking research from their favourite bakery to Best Pie in New Zealand.



INCLUSIONS

- 5 nights in premium handpicked lodges & hotels, all 4-star and including 5-star properties.
- 1 night in a remote alpine hut overlooking the mountains.
- Thermal hot pool entry and yoga classes included.
- Small groups with 2 professional guides— (6 riders maximum)
- All inclusive meals in curated local restaurants, snacks/ hydration on rides and plenty of local treats.
- Private spacious minibus with secure MTB trailer for shuttles and transfers.
- First aid qualified guides with emergency supplies, radios and locator beacon. So you are always safe no matter how remote we are.
- Mechanic support from our guides including bike stand and (some) spare parts in the support vehicle.

Trail Karma – we build and maintain trails in the winter and also donate money to local trails for every rider we take on a tour. By riding with us you are actively improving the New Zealand trail network!





WHAT TO EXPECT

EXCLUSIONS

- International and Domestic flights.
- Insurance (We strongly recommend getting travel insurance that covers you for cancellations and potential loss of deposit if you have to cancel your trip at the last minute)
- Alcohol is not included unless we specifically mention it.
- Bike rental.
- Personal safety equipment and bike equipment (unless you are renting from us)
- Single supplement (only applicable if you are travelling solo and do not wish to share a room with another rider of the same sex. If you're happy to do that, you need not add the supplement)
- Additional spa treatments (yoga classes are included)
- Guide gratuity.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IS THERE A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS ON EACH TRIP?

Yes, we strictly limit all our mountain bike tour to 6 riders to give the best ratio of guides to riders. 3 riders to 1 guide is the smallest guide to rider ratio in the industry and we think it makes for a truly intimate trip.

IS THERE A MINIMUM NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS ON EACH TRIP?

We guarantee trips with just 3 riders so you can start getting excited for your trip not waiting for it to be confirmed. We can also do private trips of just two riders, send us a message for more details.

WHAT BIKE SHOULD I BRING?

A full suspension bike with 130-150mm travel front and back would be optimum but personal choice will be factored in. All bikes should have hydraulic modern brakes and be recently fully serviced before the trip. You don't want mechanicals to ruin your dream trip! We also highly recommend a dropper seat post.

CAN I BRING AN EBIKE?

Not on this itinerary but please [get in touch](#) as we are making new E-bike trips as we speak!

CAN I RENT A BIKE?

Yes we can rent you a bike. We are currently picking out our new fleet so [follow us](#) on socials to see what you will be riding or [get in touch](#) if you have any questions.

WHERE TO STAY PRE AND POST TRIP?

We recommend the [Rydges Latimer Square](#) for a convenient location to town and has a great restaurant. If you decide to stay elsewhere, on day 0 we will meet at the [Rydges Latimer Square](#) for bike building and introductions.

GOOD TO KNOW

LOGISTICS

CAN I BOOK FOR A GROUP?

Yes, if you have 3 or more riders the trip is instantly confirmed. If you have 4 riders the trip is instantly confirmed and then you can choose to meet 2 new friends or keep it as a private trip at no extra cost.

CAN I BOOK AS A SOLO RIDER?

Yes, we will open up your preferred date to other riders and when we hit 3 riders total the trip is confirmed. We will make sure all riders are of a similar riding level and have a maximum of 6 riders. Solo riders will be roomed in twin shares with a rider of the same sex (If you prefer to have a room to yourself, there will be an additional charge)

CANCELLATIONS

- If you cancel at least 90 days before the Start Date, you will be refunded 100% of any money paid by you for the relevant trip.
- If you cancel less than 90 days but at least 60 days before the Start Date, you will be refunded 50% of any money paid by you for the relevant trip.
- If you cancel 14 to 59 days before the Start Date, you will be refunded 25% of any money paid by you for the relevant trip.
- If you cancel less than 14 days before the Start Date, no refund is due.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly recommend getting travel insurance that covers you for cancellations and potential loss of deposit if you have to cancel your trip at the last minute.

The Accident Compensation (ACC) system extends to all visitors to New Zealand. ACC covers most (if not all) costs in the event of an accident, including evacuation and/or medical treatment, and rehabilitation (but not illnesses)

The ACC system is based on a "no-fault" principle. There is a complete bar to legal action for damages as a result of any accident.

There is information about the accident compensation "ACC" system in New Zealand, [here](#).

LUGGAGE

We will transfer luggage in our trailer (separate from the bikes). As space is limited, we kindly ask all riders to bring just 1 soft, reasonably sized, piece of luggage. Extra luggage can be stored at our base in Christchurch until the end of the trip.

Riders will also need to bring a riding day bag 15L-25L this is to carry water, snacks, spare clothes, personal items.

GOOD TO KNOW

FLYING INTO NEW ZEALAND + BIOSECURITY

WHERE DO I FLY INTO?

Our tours start and finish in Christchurch. We can arrange airport pick up with advanced notice.

WHAT ARE THE BIOSECURITY RULES?

To protect the delicate New Zealand ecosystem NZ has very strict Biosecurity measures. Please follow the rules below for a smooth transition into the country.

- **Mandatory Declaration:** You must declare all outdoor and sports equipment—including your bicycle, shoes, and gear—on your New Zealand Traveller Declaration.
- **The Golden Rule:** If your bike, tires, or riding shoes have even a speck of dirt or mud on them, tick "YES" on your declaration. Declaring dirty gear does not result in a fine; biosecurity officers will inspect and clean it.
- **The Penalty:** Failing to declare risk items like used outdoor gear or soil contamination can result in an instant NZ\$400 fine or prosecution.
- **Thorough Pre-Cleaning:** Scrub your frame, tires, tread recesses, suspension linkages, and pedals completely clean of all mud, dirt, and plant matter before packing your bike for travel.
- **Also clean your bike shoes, knee pads etc.** Anything that may contain mud.

WHAT ARE THE RULES ABOUT E-BIKES

You cannot fly with an e-bike on passenger airlines in New Zealand. Commercial domestic and international carriers (including [Air New Zealand](#)) strictly prohibit personal battery-powered vehicles like e-bikes and their high-capacity lithium-ion batteries in both carry-on and checked luggage.

We can provide E-Bikes to rent at \$210 per day but only on our specific E-Bike Itineraries.

WHAT TO PACK FOR A MTB TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND

RIDING GEAR

- Insect repellent and bite relief cream (purchase in New Zealand we recommend Bushman Plus)
- Sunscreen (SPF 30+ purchase in New Zealand)
- Biking glasses/ Sunglasses with adjustable lenses for bright sun and dark forest)
- Mountain biking back pack – 15-25 litre
- Hydration system (2.5l minimum)
- Long-sleeved mountain bike shirts
- Short-sleeved mountain bike shirts
- Merino wool base layer x2 (for sleeping in alpine hut)
- Waterproof jacket-to be carried everyday
- Light, long-sleeved mid layer
- Overshorts ('baggies')
- Padded cycling shorts/ trousers
- Bike gloves (full-fingered)
- Neck gaiter or 'Buff'
- Knee pads- Must be comfortable to ride all day in.
- MTB-specific shoes (flats recommended)
- Mountain bike-specific helmet (current and fit for purpose)
- Multi-tool
- Headtorch (for sleeping in alpine hut)
- Sleeping bag liner (for sleeping in alpine hut)

PERSONALS

- Chamois cream
- Personal medications
- Power pack (for sleeping in alpine hut)
- Earplugs (for sleeping in alpine hut)
- International travel adapter and/ converter
- Small bottle of laundry detergent
- Personal toiletries (shampoo, soap, moisturiser, etc)

BIKE SPECIFIC (IF BRINGING OWN BIKE)

- Bike specific brake pads
- Bike specific Derailleur Hanger
- Quicklink for your specific chain (11spd, 12spd, sram or shimano etc)
- Inner tubes x2

THE ITINERARY

DAY 0

Christchurch

Enjoy the city at your own leisure or sleep in to get over the long flight. Your Adventurefuel Bike Guides will meet you in the afternoon to help build bikes or introduce you to your bike rentals. This is a meet and greet and a great time to settle any nerves and get excited for the upcoming trip. We will go for a drink to get to know each other once all the bikes are ready.

Riding: na | **Meals:** na

DAY 1

Christchurch – Port Hills

Now we are into it! Welcome to our local trails in the Christchurch's Port Hills. Flowing singletrack along the crater rim gives incredible views of the Pacific Ocean and the Southern Alps. Ride some volcanic rock and hand built trails. At the end of the day we take our private bus into the mountains for our first night in the foothills of the Southern Alps.

Riding: Up to 40km 500m Climb / 1400m Descent | **Meals:** B,L,D





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DAY 2

Mt Hutt

After we say hello to the local farm sheep your guides will make you breakfast and get ready for some shuttles in the Mt Hutt Bike park. But don't be expecting lift queues and gondolas, this is a small local park but it packs a big punch. We have over 30km of trail to choose from, all with amazing views over the Canterbury Plains. We then drive to our Eco Lodge for the evening right in the Southern Alps.

Riding: Up to 25km, 950m climb / 1000m descent | **Meals:** B, L, D



Craigieburns

Wake up in the hills and it's a very short drive to start riding. This is where we get the true feel for our backcountry mountain bike tour. The Craigieburns is a local favourite. Including two sections of the NZ Enduro, so picture tight, rooty trails in native beech forest. We will tailor the rides to the group and conditions but can guarantee world class riding.

Riding: Up to 27km 950m Climb / 980m Descent | **Meals:** B, L, D



DAY 4

OLD GHOST ROAD I

This is the biggest climbing day of the tour but we take our time and enjoy the forest, filled with native birds and waterfalls.

We ride through the moss covered cloud forest until we reach the alpine ridge and breath-taking views. The singletrack weaves along the ridgeline passing through the legendary 'Heaven's Door' before descending to Ghost Lake Hut. Watch the cloud rolling through the valley and enjoy the serene night in a remote alpine hut.

Riding: Up to 30km 1306m Climb / 427m Descent | **Meals:** B, L, D



DAY 5

OLD GHOST ROAD II

Wake up to more incredible views over coffee and breakfast, then ride straight out onto the trail. We wind down to Skyline Ridge before an 800m (2,600ft) descent, purpose-built for mountain bikes. Snacks at Stern Valley Hut before climbing up to Solemn Saddle and another ripping descent. One last push takes us along the gorge, past hanging bridges and waterfalls, to our lodge for a well-deserved rest.

Riding: Up to 55km 790m Climb / 1960m Descent | **Meals:** B, L, D





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DAY 6

SECRET TRAILS AND SAUNAS

Slowing things down a little today, we drive along the beautiful West Coast and stop for walks before exploring another old gold mining town. Here we take in some little-known backcountry riding through more stunning beech forest, then head to the night's accommodation for saunas, hot springs and excellent dining.

Riding: Up to 11km 720m Climb / 720m Descent | **Meals:** B, L, D



DAY 7

Leaving the Southern Alps we weave back through the foothills to another local favourite. We head into pine forest for our final riding day, having the option to run a few laps on trails we like as well as tick off one of the best trails in the area. We finish up the day with our farewell dinner before returning to Christchurch. New friends and countless new stories.

Riding: Up to 26km 700m Climb / 960m Descent | **Meals:** B, L, D

Our Guides can help you repack your bikes at the hotel as well as return any luggage we have stored for you at our Christchurch Base.



WHAT RIDERS SAY

"We had a fantastic time and greatly appreciate all of your work, care and effort that you put into making such a fun time for us. We have loved every moment."

Donna
New York State

"You have been a wonderful guide and kind presence for us. We appreciate your patience and laid back style."

Joanne + Jeff
Washington State

"Thank you for making NZ a trip that I will never forget. "

Fil
Cayman Islands



FITNESS LEVEL ASSESSMENT

Our trips are physically demanding and it is important to be honest with yourself (and us) about your level of fitness. No one wants to be struggling when they are having their dream MTB trip. We can tailor our tours to the group but most of them will be around Level 2.

If you are unsure about your fitness levels get in touch at team.adventurefuel@gmail.com

LEVEL 1

- You are at an average fitness level for your age, and occasionally do other activities that qualify as exercise, like soccer or running.
- You exercise at least once a week for more than 1 hour a week all throughout the year.
- You usually find yourself riding for 1.5 hours on the road, or on the trails.
- You can ride a mountain bike at a relaxed pace for up to 2 hours a day, with snack and photo stops, for three consecutive days.
- You are capable of tackling one or two moderate mountain bike climbs per day, of up to 200 metres each. 400m total elevation gain

LEVEL 2

- You are at an above-average fitness level for your age, and regularly do other activities that qualify as exercise.
- You usually find yourself riding for 2-3 hours on the trails, and you'll ride on consecutive days.
- You can ride a mountain bike for up to 4 hours per day, with snack and photo stops, for three consecutive days.
- You are capable of tackling one or two moderate mountain bike climbs per day, of up to 400 metres each. 800m total elevation gain.

LEVEL 3

- You are at an advanced fitness level for your age, and most of your extra-curricular activities qualify as exercise.
- You have an excellent level of fitness, exercising four or five times every week throughout the year, for at least an hour at a time.
- You can spend 5-6 hours in the saddle on the trails on consecutive days.
- You can tackle several serious climbs a day, up to 600 metres each. 1400m total elevation gain.

LEVEL 4

- You are at an advanced fitness level for your age, and most of your extra-curricular activities qualify as exercise.
- You have an excellent level of fitness, exercising four or five times every week throughout the year, for at least an hour at a time.
- You can spend 5-6 hours in the saddle on the trails on consecutive days.
- You can tackle several serious climbs a day, up to 600 metres each. 1400m total elevation gain.



RIDING SKILL ASSESSMENT

We will give you a call once you have made your booking to more thoroughly understand your skill level and fitness levels but this guide is just so we are all on the same page. We tailor each day riding for the conditions and the skill level of the riders. We also group riders into similar skill levels so everyone has the best experience.

If you are unsure about your skill levels get in touch at team.adventurefuel@gmail.com

LEVEL 1: (BEGINNER)



- You have experience (minimum one year) of riding a mountain bike/ e-mountain bike off-road.
- You can change gears, brake and pedal efficiently.
- You are comfortable on trails approximately 1 metre (36 inches) wide that are generally firm and stable.
- You are comfortable traversing unavoidable obstacles such as roots and rocks that are up to 10cm (3 inches) tall.
- Typically you ride GREEN rated trails.

LEVEL 2: (INTERMEDIATE)



- You have been riding a mountain bike off-road for a few seasons.
- You can brake, use gears and corner with confidence.
- You are comfortable on trails approximately 45cm (18 inches) wide that are mostly stable with some variability and loose dirt.
- You are comfortable traversing unavoidable obstacles such as roots, rocks and logs that are 40cm (8-10 inches) tall.
- You'll have a go on moderate technical features, such as small rock gardens, small drops and steeper sections, but may get off and walk certain technical features.
- Typically you ride BLUE rated trails and some Black.

LEVEL 3: ADVANCED



- You are a confident mountain biker and have been riding highly technical single track for a few years.
- You have excellent bike handling skills and can lift front and rear wheels, do small jumps, corner, climb and descend steep trails.
- You are comfortable riding on steep trails approximately 30cm (12 inches) wide that vary greatly in their stability and may be unpredictable including loose rock.
- You are comfortable regularly traversing unavoidable obstacles such as roots, rocks, logs, step ups and drop offs up to 45cm (18 inches tall), and some obstacles you encounter may exceed that.
- Typically you ride Black rated trails and some Double Blacks.

LEVEL 4: EXPERT



- You are an expert mountain biker and have been riding expert level trails for at least 3 years.
- You are comfortable riding on extremely steep trails of any width that are highly unstable and are completely unpredictable, including loose rock.
- The trails you ride have a high level of consequence.
- You are comfortable regularly traversing unavoidable obstacles such as roots, rocks, logs and drop offs well over 60cm (24 inches) tall, and many obstacles encountered will exceed that.
- Typically you can ride every trail you come across including some Pro Lines.

TRAIL GRADES

We specialize in taking riders on Grade 3 to easier Grade 5 rides (Blue to easier Double Black Trails) but we will always tailor the trail choice to the riders. We will give you a call before the trip to help determine your riding level. We will use the grades below just as a guide but will assess your riding thoroughly throughout the trip so you always feel comfortable.

If you are unsure about your riding skill levels get in touch at team.adventurefuel@gmail.com

GREEN TRAILS OR GRADE 1 + 2



- **Green Trails:** Easy trails with minimal technical challenges. They are usually smooth, wide, and free of obstacles, making them ideal for novice riders.
- **Grade 1 (Easiest):** Very flat, wide, and smooth tracks or gravel roads. Perfect for young children and absolute beginners.
- **Grade 2 (Easy):** Mostly flat with gentle climbs on smooth tracks. May include minor, easily avoidable obstacles like small rocks or shallow potholes.

BLUE TRAILS OR GRADE 3



- **Blue Trails:** Trails that offer a moderate level of difficulty, with some technical features and varied terrain. These trails are suitable for riders who have gained some experience and are comfortable handling more challenging conditions.
- **Grade 3 (Intermediate / Blue):** Narrower paths, steeper sections, roots, rocks, and small rollable obstacles.

BLACK TRAILS OR GRADE 4 + 5



- **Black Trails:** Difficult trails featuring technical obstacles, steep sections, and challenging terrain. These trails are designed for experienced riders who are comfortable with complex features and demanding conditions.
- **Grade 4 / Dark Blue or Black:** Advanced tracks with long, steep climbs and narrow paths may also contain sections with high exposure (drop offs to the side of the trail)

DOUBLE BLACK TRAILS OR GRADE 5+ 6



- **Double Black Trails-** Extremely challenging trails with significant technical difficulties and potentially hazardous conditions. These trails are intended for highly skilled riders with advanced technical abilities.
- **Grade 5 (Black / Double Black):** Expert technical trails with extreme features like unavoidable vertical drops, roots, and tight cambers.