



VENTURE SOUTHLAND TOURISM

The Venture Southland Tourism team can assist you with itinerary planning, familiarisation proposals, staff training, image provision, distribution of brochures and liaising with Southland tourism operators

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Venture Southland News and Info

Angela Halliday Departing for her OE

Angela Halliday is leaving the tourism team and heading to London for her big OE. Angela has been instrumental in managing the Sustainable South project in Southland. Around 30 businesses from the Southland and Fiordland regions have taken part in the initiative to date and have implemented many new sustainable business practices. Angela will also be missed for the many other projects she undertook during her time at Venture Southland. Karyn Owen from Venture Southland's Enterprise team will be continuing the Sustainable South project while the tourism team are currently recruiting a new marketing co-ordinator.

Southland Brand Refresh

Southland has recently undertaken a review and refresh of the Southland brand. Over the last few years it was felt the brand essence had become 'diluted' and there was a need for its visual representation to be made more contemporary. The brand values still exist but the new branding is bright and modern to better reflect key Southland attributes and the spirit of its people.



Southland Trade Manual

The latest Southland Trade Manual is at the printers and will be sent out to offices before the end of May. The manual covers 2008 - 2010 and features some new operators, updated information, products and pricing.

Southern Scenic Route Brochure

A new Southern Scenic Route brochure has been designed and printed recently. The brochure contains new updated information and travel tips. The new design is bright and vibrant - in line with the recent Southland brand refresh.

Sirocco on Ulva Island



Following a successful trial in 2006, the Department of Conservation will again be bringing Sirocco the Kakapo to Ulva Island in September/October 2008. Sirocco will be placed on Ulva Island from the 8th of September to the 22nd of October to allow bird lovers a rare opportunity to view the endangered bird. For more information on Sirocco and how to take up this unique opportunity, visit www.kakapoencounter.com.

Real Journeys purchases Stewart Island Lodge

South Island tourism company Real Journeys has purchased retreat-style accommodation on Stewart Island - Stewart Island Lodge. The purchase is an important step for the company (which operates on the island as Stewart Island Experience), marking its debut in the land-based accommodation sector. In addition to the lodge, the company has also purchased adjoining land for future accommodation development.

Real Journeys and Stewart Island Experience are well known for their strong conservation focus. The company was celebrated as the tourism industry's top achiever in conservation matters at the most recent national tourism awards.

The company will take possession of the lodge on 31 July 2008

Direct Flights from Wellington

Direct flights between Wellington and Invercargill are here! It is now possible to take a two hour direct flight from the capital to Invercargill city every day of the week. The Air New Zealand flights have opened up new travel opportunities in the domestic market and are a welcome addition to the other scheduled services at Invercargill airport.

Rugby World Cup 2011

A Southern Working Group has been attending the Rugby World Cup 2011 meetings to ensure Southland is well placed in the match and team allocation process for RWC 2011. Rugby World Cup 2011 officials were hosted by Rugby Southland and Venture Southland in April to view rugby facilities. Tourism opportunities for the region were also a focus as everyone enjoyed a trip over to Stewart Island.

Editorial

Venture Southland Tourism has recently updated our regional editorial. Short blurbs on Southland, the Catlins, Invercargill, Stewart Island and other areas are now available for your use.

We also have personality profiles on some key operators in Southland. More travellers are seeking interaction with 'real' New Zealanders and some trade are using personalities as a way to differentiate products and experiences.



The regional editorial and the personality profiles are available for your use; please let Venture Southland Tourism know if you are interested in receiving any of them.

Lindsay Hazley & Henry from the Southland Museum & Art Gallery

Product Update

Stewart Island Experience Evening Guided Walks

Stewart Island Experience's two-hour Evening Guided Walks provide an unforgettable insight into the lush bush, wild coastlines and flourishing native bird life of Stewart Island. Join a specialist nature guide for a gentle walk that showcases Stewart Island's unique culture, natural heritage and conservation efforts. Groups are kept small and lights are provided, if needed.

Departs: Daily departures (mid-Dec to Mar); others as locally advertised



Stewart Island Experience
Oban Visitor Centre, Elgin Terrace, PO Box 89, Stewart Island
Contact: Matt Sillars (retail) or Tony McQuilkin (wholesale)
Tel: +64 3 219 0056
Email: info@stewartislandexperience.co.nz
Web: www.stewartislandexperience.co.nz

Te Hikoi – Southern Journey

Southland's newest heritage attraction is just 25 minutes from Invercargill on the Southern Scenic Route. The journey begins with a big-screen movie experience aboard a sailing ship theatre. Relive memorable moments from the south's rich bicultural past, set amongst the rugged splendour of Foveaux Strait. Take an interactive journey through Te Hikoi, featuring stunning displays, adventurous characters and engaging stories. These will reveal how our Maori and European ancestors adapted to survive on nature's edge.



Contact: Carol Power
172 Palmerston Street, Riverton
Tel: +64 3 234 8260
Email: info@tehikoi.co.nz
Web: www.tehikoi.co.nz

Safari Lodge

Recently opened in Invercargill is the Safari Lodge, a beautifully restored Edwardian Bed and Breakfast owned by Trish and Ray Winter. The African themed lodge offers 4 luxurious rooms, formal dining, in house café, billiard room, theatre room and a large collection of African art collected whilst the hosts were living in Mozambique.



Safari Lodge
51 Herbert Street, Invercargill
Contact: Trish & Ray Winter
Tel: +64 3 214 6329
Email: safarilodge@slingshot.co.nz
Web: www.safarilodge.co.nz

Waterside Studio Unit

June and Murray Stratford, known for their farmstay accommodation Catlins Farmstay, have recently opened Waterside Studio Unit in Waikawa in the South Catlins. The unit is fully equipped, sleeps two people and offers stunning views of the Waikawa harbour.



Waterside Cottage

Contact: June Stratford

Tel: +64 3 246 8843

Email: june@catlinsfarmstay.co.nz

Website: www.catlinsfarmstay.co.nz/waterside

Pure Adventure

Pure Adventure design privately guided active experiences to suit their client's requirements. They perfectly combine luxury, comfort, action and adventure for the informed and inquisitive traveller. Excursions take you to some of the most beautiful scenery in the world; treasured wilderness and National Parks that are home to a variety of wildlife and extraordinary geological features. Pure Adventure's access to them and to private wilderness is unsurpassed.

Activity selections include: Walking and Biking; 4x4 Exploration; Family and Group, Helicopter Heaven; Culture and Heritage; Fishing; Encounters and Meetings. Guides are all local New Zealanders who know where to find the hidden gems and unknown trails.



Pure Adventure

Guided Active Experiences in Southern NZ

Contact: Steve Robertson

Tel: +64 3 442 7378

Email: inspire@pureqt.com

Web: www.pureadventurequeenstown.com

Southland Fly Fishing Guides

Southland is southern New Zealand's home of fly-fishing. Southland's crystal clear waters allow you to sight fish for the abundant and large brown and rainbow trout for which New Zealand is renowned.

Alan Wilson, Daryl Paskell and Graeme Watson are a team of guides born in Southland with decades of experience and local knowledge of fishing and guiding in the Southland/Fiordland region. Southland Fly Fishing Guides team are all members of the New Zealand Professional Fishing Guides Association.



Southland Fly Fishing Guides

Roslyn Bush, RD2, Invercargill

Contact: Graeme Watson

Tel: +64 3 230 4843

Email: guides@southlandflyfishing.co.nz

Web: www.southlandflyfishing.co.nz

New Water Taxi – Aihe for Ruggedy Range

In December 2007, Ruggedy Range™ Wilderness Experience launched Stewart Island's newest water taxi, Aihe (meaning dolphin in Maori). Aihe is Qualmark endorsed and carries 14 passengers including a skipper. The Aihe provides small-group eco charters & cruises, sightseeing, sea bird watching, wildlife viewing and guided tours with natural and cultural history interpretation and is available on demand as a water taxi for walkers, trampers and hunters to various destinations. Ruggedy Range is also running a new Inlet & Bays Discovery tour, a 3.5 to 4 hour tour of Paterson Inlet, including short walks (\$125.00 per person, minimum 6 persons).



Ruggedy Range Wilderness Experience
170 Horseshoe Bay Road, PO Box 188, Stewart Island
Contact: Furhana Ahmed
Tel: +64 3 219 1066
Email: mail@ruggedyrange.com
Web: www.ruggedyrange.com

Kaka Cottages

After the recent liquidation of Stewart Island Adventures, Kaka Cottages is now operating with new owners and is under the management of Abby and Isaac Aronsen. Kaka Cottages Ltd offer a range of fully equipped cottages and studio units. The modern facility is three-star qualmark and transfers are also available.



Kaka Cottages Island Paradise,
Miro Street, P O Box 161, Stewart Island
Contact: Abby and Isaac Aronsen
Free-phone: 0800 500 252
Tel: +64 3 2191 252
Email: info@kakacottages.co.nz
Web: www.kakacottages.co.nz

Bay Motel

Bay Motel on Stewart Island has had a change of ownership. The motels were previously owned and run by Bev Cowie and the new owners are Brett and Jenny Twaddle. Bay Motel offers 12 motel style units with views of Oban and Halfmoon Bay. All units are fully equipped and two units offer spa facilities. Brett and Jenny also offer two nearby apartments that they previously owned before taking over the motel.



Bay Motel
P O Box 181, Stewart Island
Contact: Brett & Jenny Twaddle
Tel: + 64 3 219 1119
Email: bay.motel@xtra.co.nz
Web: www.baymotel.co.nz

www.southlandnz.com