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# NEW ZEALAND ADVENTURES



### **SOUTH ISLAND**

#### **Southland Guided Adventures**

New Zealand offers the best wild trout fishing in the world, but at the same time can be highly challenging because it is often extremely technical. Close enough is not good enough on these southern rivers and a guide is the best way to fast track that learning, particularly if your time is limited in the area.

Even if you are a little new to fly fishing, it is the perfect adventure with either the kiwi NZPFGA guide or our own HFFA accredited guide to sharpen your skills in casting, stream-craft, line and water management, and generally fine tune you into the best fly fisher you can be.

Our base is in Lumsden, the 'real' fly fishing hub of the south, and minutes from so many rivers that have a very high brown trout population waiting to take a dun, a pheasant tail or a blowfly.

These all-inclusive 7 night, 6 fully guided days with sessions often leaving at 8.30am, returning around 6pm and fly fishing the world's best rivers like the famous Mataura, the Waikaia, and Oreti. The latter being just a short cast from Hurley's House, and all of Southland's beauties offer the most incredible sight fishing opportunities you could possibly imagine.

Add some smaller rivers like the Hamilton Burn, some secret spring creeks and lakes like Mavora and Thomas, whatever is fishing well at the time and all of the sudden there are almost too many choices!

The riverbanks are generally through farmland, so quite easy walking particularly if the legs can't do the hard miles any longer, especially as there are 6 glorious days in a row! However, there are plenty of rivers suited to energetic fly fishers, so regardless of your fitness and ability levels, we have the waterways to match perfectly. Southland Rivers have a very high trout population, making it a brilliant destination for first timers as there are plenty of opportunities to catch your best fish ever, every day!

It's also a brilliant opportunity for entire family groups or father/mother and son/daughter pairs as there are plenty of opportunities to catch your best or even first fish ever. Every day you can share the joys with the entire family, whilst not feeling guilty about putting your feet up at the end of it!

Luckily you just need to get to the airport and we will do the rest, it's your week to enjoy, the best fishing Southland can produce.

Contact us for the details and best times to suit you, as each trip offers a vastly different experience, with the time of year dictating the methods and techniques that we will teach you that are needed to be successful...

Trips can run from October to April, and now we have added our May trips to cater for the 'rainbow' waters and the spawn running browns, which are an awesome experience in themselves.

#### \$3999pp including airport transfers, meals, accommodation, and fishing licence for groups of 1-6 via Queenstown.

#### SOUTHLAND Willow Grubbers 5 Night Adventures

In January we also run Sunday to Friday adventures, so if you can't spare the full 7 days, we can cram in some amazing fishing based around the sensational willow grub season. 4 fully guided days, with all the inclusions, so you can just sit back and soak up the warm weather and constantly rising fish in Southland pristine waterways

#### \$2999 including airport transfers, meals, accommodation, and fishing licence for groups of 1-6 via Queenstown.









#### **3 Rivers in 3 Days Adventures**

The 3 day, 2-night adventure is a fantastic way to give you a great understanding of what you can achieve throughout Southland, and the rest of New Zealand. We go through several fishing techniques in differing waterways to expand your skills, starting on the world renowned Mataura River. Then the fish prolific Waikaia, before testing yourself on the last day tackling some much larger fish in the Oreti. Whilst we can't guarantee you catch fish after fish on any river, we can assure you that you will be casting your fly over countless fish, so chances are stacked in your favour for some really successful days.

\$1599pp which includes your meals, refreshments, 2 nights accommodation, guiding and guiding transport, and is based on twin share. Single angler rate is \$2599.

\*Fishing licence included only with 5 and 7 day adventures.

#### When is the best time to fly fish NZ?

The answer comes from within. What do you like specifically about fly fishing? Is it mayfly hatches, then be careful in December and come in April, is it a trophy fish, well don't expect March to deliver as easily as October and November did, and forget the willow grubbers dream unless you come in January and February. Sure there are crossovers, and unseasonal weather, but base your trip on what you want to achieve and you won't be far wrong.

#### **Southlands 4 Seasons**

**October /November/December** has great water flow, confident feeding fish to both dries and nymphs, plus evening rises and the genuine chance for big trophy fish that haven't been hammered throughout the season.

January/February offer terrestrial, cicada, and the most amazing willow grub feeding options with some of the best weather imaginable in Southland.

**March/April** is dominated by mayfly hatches and rising fish, generally throughout the day. Sounds terrible I know, with lower river levels and earlier sunsets, you fish gentlemen hours and easily fish into the evening rise.

**May** offers outstanding 'rainbow' designated waters that are full of sight fishing options for browns around Te Anau like the upper Whitestone, Upukeroa, Eglington, and Waiau, with literally no one around and fish lined up.



SO REGARDLESS OF THE TIME YOU WANT TO GO TO SOUTHLAND, WE HAVE THE WATERWAYS TO SUIT.

### **HURLEYS FLY FISHING ADVENTURES**



#### Who will be looking after us?

For 5 and 7 day Southland adventures, Trevor Martin from the Kiwi Fly Fishing shop will pick you up from the airport and drive you back to Lumsden, and from a base of Gavin Hurley, Colin Hurley, Edward Fraker, Stuart Heron, and Scott Slater will be guiding in conjunction with the kiwi guides Brendan, Lloyd, Mike and Dean in Southland, and Brent on the West Coast.

#### You need to make sure you have practiced before you get over there.

Ideally you need to cast 20/30/40 feet, and we don't want to waste too much time with our line in the air, so only 2 false casts, and land it on a rubbish bin lid area. Some fish will give you 20 goes at them and will still take, but most need that good cast in the first one, two or three, and the practice you do before the trip will be the difference. I would also ask that you practice in your backyard, at the shorter distances, casting low and fast, because that is 50% of our chances, in and under willows. So spend 10 minutes a day practicing higher backcast and low forward cast, in and under tree casts, and I promise that will pay off with some of the most rewarding fish of the trip.

The other thing that helps during your practice is the retrieval of slack line. Cast 40 feet, and imagine the water is putting 5 feet of slack in your line each second. So once your fly hits the water 5 feet ahead of the fish, you must pull in that slack line without affecting your fly drift, so when it takes, a lift of the rod instantly sets the hook, rather than lifting, stripping and running backwards to gather the slack while you trip over a slippery rock! Fish don't like the taste of feathers, so will spit it back out if given that extra half second to decide.

The other major benefit of line stripping/control is that once the fly has drifted past the fish by 5 or 10 feet, a quick flick and a single false cast and you're covering it again. 2 casts, within 10 seconds, 3 in 15, 4 in 20, then we can decide if it needs another fly or simply move on to the next fish.

There are plenty of fish in NZ, and only a week to catch them all!

#### What do we need to bring?

Don't over pack! The airlines are quite strict now with overweight baggage, and you really don't need it. There are washing facilities available for when you start to smell like a fish! My recommendation is breathable waders and rubber soled boots, a 6wt rod, maybe a 5wt, reel, line, tippet, (vest or chest pack but not really necessary), raincoat, fleece, hat, good Tonic Polaroids, sunscreen, fly spray, camera, and that's about it... So that's the easy bit! Two pairs of fishy pants, 3 fishing shirts, 2 t-shirts, casual or hiking shoes, maybe some thongs, a pair of denim pants, a polo shirt, 3 pairs of fishing socks and 4 or 5 jocks wouldn't go astray either, toiletries, but that's about all you need.

Travel insurance: is compulsory, so make sure you get it before you go. The unthinkable can happen when you're not prepared!

Make sure your boots and waders are dry, clean, no grass seeds or mud, and only take flies that are "commercially tied", but we generally have all the flies you will need.

#### You get a 20% ONE OFF purchase discount on all STALKER branded gear and 10% off other brands prior to your trip!

So give it some serious thought, this is the time to get that new rod, new boots and waders, new everything, to really make this a trip to remember.

**Hire gear** is available with quality boots and breathable waders at \$200 per week, rods and reels at \$100 per week, to avoid the customs quarantine lines.

**Storage** is also available. For \$150 per year, we will store your boots, waders, rods and reels, vests etc in your own locked storage locker in our secure Lumsden premises, to again avoid the customs queues.



## **HURLEYS FLY FISHING ADVENTURES**



#### ITINERARY

We will arrive at Queenstown on the Sunday at 11.30am on Jetstar or 3pm with Air New Zealand, and Christchurch on the Saturday around 2/3pm for the West coast trip. For Southland adventures, Hurley House is around 1 hour and the West's Lake Brunner is a stunning drive through Arthurs Pass and around 2.5 hrs to get to Moana.

So then it's unpacking, relaxing, a quick induction at the shop, but generally just getting ready for your week of fishing time.

Queenstown Airport: Please note, there is ONLY 1 drop off and only one pickup per day that happens at the same time, dependant on the timing of the group arriving and the first customer leaving, so liaise with Hurley's and other guests travel times so that we all understand how our day will pan out.

We can arrange an extra guided day, or you can have a look around Queenstown if you have the late Jetstar flight out.

The guides will generally pick you up daily between 8.30-9.00, and will provide for all your needs, lunch, drinks, flies, and will generally mother you, dropping you off at 6.00-7.00, dependant on the fishing and where you ventured to on the day.

The guides always aim to spot fish for you, which is a highlight and why we travel to NZ. However, there will be some light, weather or river conditions, fish holding or casting restrictions that may require some blind casting or searching. So just be aware, it's not always like the DVD's and were paying for their expertise for the area. It really is in your best interests to listen to these professionals, they just want you to succeed.

The size of the fish will be 2 to 5lb, with obviously fish up to 6, 8 and 10 and 12, but also keep in mind that while you may get 20 fish in a day if they are feeding perfectly, just 2 fish landed per day, is generally regarded as a successful day. So be realistic in your expectations and enjoy the place, not the size, quantity or competitiveness of the fish.

We endeavour to mix the fishing partners up from day to day, unless obviously if it is your partner or friend and we will keep you together. We will also take into consideration fitness levels and personal goals for the trip. On fully booked groups we aim for each guy to get 3 kiwi guided days and 3 days with the HFFA guide, usually working on a fish for fish basis, or until the guide says have a spell to get your mojo back and give the other fly fisher a go. If the group is only one or two, we may have just the single guide for the entire week.

Breakfast is usually a light cereal or toast, but can be bacon and eggs, that you cook yourself, just let us know what you require and we will try to accommodate. Lunch is provided and dinner will be a mixture of BBQ's and home cooked meals, so please make sure you advise us now if you have any personal needs/requirements or requests and we will do everything we can to ensure you Adventure is awesome.

Remember you just need spending money for alcohol, duty free purchases, any souvenirs, and tips for the host or guide, and the last nights external pub or restaurant meal.

After 6 full days fishing and some great experiences you will be dropped back at the appropriate airport in time for your flight, with a smile on your face. Particularly with Christchurch, please ensure that drop off times are correct, otherwise the smile may not be as large as first thought.

Again, there is only one pick up and drop off, which must coincide with the pickup of the next group, first flight out, and last flight in...

So just be aware of that, mainly with Queenstown, which may have a Jetstar flight in requiring the pickup of clients at 11.30am and an Air New Zealand drop off for a flight out at 4pm, and Jetstar is 8.45pm... In that

case we will need to drop off at say 12 noon to cater for everyone, which is actually a bonus to have a free day in Queenstown for Jetstar flyers...

Alternatively we can arrange another guided day, \$795, for 1 or 2 anglers for the day, and can drop you at the airport for your late flight home. Just let us know in advance and we can organise for you.

That's about all. Other than that really looking forward to seeing everyone have a ball over in NZ, and if there is anything you need, don't hesitate to ask.

Gavin Hurley

Hurleys Fly Fishing Bentleigh Australia and Lumsden New Zealand



## **HURLEYS FLY FISHING ADVENTURES**



#### **FISHING IN NEW ZEALAND**

The rivers, spring creeks, and lakes of the NZ offer some of the best opportunities for sighted fly fishing in the world. The diversity in and around the region is truly amazing and anglers should plan to combine both walk and wade fishing.

#### **DAILY LOGISTICS:**

Each fishing day and location will be discussed in advance with your guide, typically during the prior night, and will be based on current conditions and your personal preferences. It's best to try not to arrive with a set itinerary of the rivers that you would like to fish, or have heard of before. Conditions change rapidly, and taking advantage of the local knowledge of your guide is the best way to ensure that you'll be hitting the most productive water. Of course, your input in daily planning is always welcome, and your guide will do his best to get you on the waters that you want to fish, and probably show you a few secret spots of his own.

Although daily meeting times can change based on conditions and your energy level, in general plan on breakfast at about 7:30 AM, and meeting with your guide at about 8:30 AM.

Drive times will be from just 10 minutes to about 90 minutes, depending on the location. Plan on a long day on the water. The typical guide day is about of 8 hours fishing time.

Upon our return you will have time to shower and enjoy a drink or two before dinner.

#### **TAKLE & EQUIPMENT**

#### Fly Rods:

Multi-piece 6 or 5 wt. rods will cover most of the fishing situations you will encounter in New Zealand. Stalker Legend, Glide, Explorer, plus Sage, Orivs and Scott models.

#### Fly Reels:

Good quality, lightweight fly reels, with disk drags like Galvan's or Stalker are the best choice. Reels should be filled with at least 50 yards of 20 pound backing.

#### Fly Lines:

You will basically need fly lines with a dull forward section colour, preferably weight forward floating and something you are comfortable with casting both dries and nymphs, often together.

#### Leaders and Tippet:

For a week's fishing you will need a few tapered leaders 9 ft 3X, for your floating line. For tippet you can bring spools from 3X to 4X, but your guide will have plenty on hand.

#### Flies that we often use, and supply, but you can bring your own:

- Parachute Adams, 16-18
- Dads Favourite Parachute 16-18
- Elk Hair Caddis, 12, 14
- Humpies, 12-16
- Blow Fly 12-16
- Cicada patterns
- Stimulators
- Hubert's Red
- Willow Grub
- Pheasant tail, Brown, Black, Olive tungsten variants
- Earth worm patterns





### **HURLEYS FLY FISHING ADVENTURES**



#### **CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT**

#### **Clothing:**

The weather in NZ is constantly changing. One day it can be 25 degrees and sunny and the next day rainy, damp and in the low 10's or cooler with a stiff breeze, and all these can happen in a matter of hours. Therefore, clothing strategy should be based on the "layering system".

Start off with a polypropylene or merino type fabric (thermal underwear).

Your second layer could be a medium weight fishing shirt.

Your third layer, if needed, can be a fleece or merino wool jacket.

Your fourth layer will be your rain jacket. High quality breathable type products are the best choice, as being wet is no fun.

Now you are ready to whatever Mother Nature dishes out. You can easily adjust and adapt to the weather's changes as they arrive.

#### Waders:

Chest waders are the only way to go. Good quality breathable waders like the Stalker Dryzip or Backcountry, or Simms, Orvis and Riverworks are mandatory in all but the warmer days, when wet wading is a delight, so don't forget the neoprene wading booties.

#### Wading Boots

Rubber soled wading boots, with good ankle support and studs if you prefer give you a little bit more grip in slimy rivers, particularly later in the season.

Other important items

- Lycra or polypropylene gloves
- Fishing Vest/Back pack/Bum bag
- Fishing Hat
- Clippers, forceps when fishing alone
- Head torch
- Tonic Polaroid Sun Glasses
- Sun screen

#### **TRAVEL CHECKLIST**

- Airline Itinerary
- Wallet
- □ Cash, and Credit Cards
- Passport
- Copy of Passport
- Travel Insurance
- Telephone
- Fly Rods
- Flv Reels
- Leaders
- Tippet Material
- □ Flies
- □ Fishing Vest or Tackle Pack
- □ Line Nippers
- Forceps
- Knot Tool
- Indicator Material
- Neoprene Booties
- Breathable Waders
- Wading Belt
- Vading Belt
- Wading Boots and Gravel Guards
- Collapsible Wading Staff
- Polarized Sunglasses
- Rain Jacket

- Base Layer for Under Waders
- Tops
- Bottoms
- □ Fleece Jacket
- □ Fishing Shirts
- Sun Hat or Cap
- Beanie
- □ Gloves
- Casual Shirts
- Casual or Convertible Pants
- Underwear
- Casual Shoes or Hiking Boots
- Light Casual Socks
- □ Slippers
- □ Sandals or thongs
- Ziplock Bags
- Buff
- Head Lamp
- Camera
- Lens Cleaner
- Prescription Glasses
- Toiletries
- Prescription Medications
- □ Sun Screen







## **HURLEYS FLY FISHING ADVENTURES**



#### **CATCH AND RELEASE GUIDELINES**

Hurley's recognizes the precious resources that the rivers and trout of New Zealand are. For this reason we are dedicated to practicing low-impact, catch and release fishing.

Merely releasing a fish you have caught and landed does not ensure its survival. To reduce fish mortality anglers must handle fish carefully and quickly using approved techniques. Whenever possible, allow your guide to assist you in releasing fish and always follow these guidelines:

- Land fish as quickly and efficiently as possible. The longer the playing time, the greater the stress on the fish.
- Keep the fish in the water while playing. Do not haul the fish onto the beach, rocks, or into the boat.
- If you can, remove the hook without touching the fish. Forceps or the "Ketchum Release" can be used to facilitate this. However, it is sometimes necessary to hold a fish during the removal process.
- When holding a fish, be sure to wet your hands first, and cradle it gently and horizontally in both hands (size of fish permitting). Keep hands and fingers away from the gills to avoid injury.
- When photographing a fish, make sure the photographer and camera are ready first. Take the photograph quickly, and keep the fish in the water.
- Revive the fish by returning it carefully into quiet waters deep enough to support it, point its head into the current until it recovers enough to swim out of your hands. Generally, a few minutes of this will be enough to revive the fish so that it may swim away and be ready for someone else next time, for many, is the moment of maximum enjoyment in Catch and Release fly fishing.

#### **Hurleys Fly Fishing**

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