



HAAST RIVER SAFARI

Coach Groups – Trip Description

This option gives visitors on Coach Tours the opportunity to discover the unique geological characteristics of the Haast River Valley. The area is also rich in cultural history – learn how hardy pioneers carved out an existence in this remote area and eventually achieved access by road.

Fully enclosed jet boats, designed specifically for the Haast River, allow great visibility enabling a close encounter with Nature at its very best – yet passengers remain warm, dry and comfortable. In sharp contrast to other jet boating activities and their association with a more adrenalin-pumping high adventure experience, Haast River Safari provides a more leisurely scenic cruise - making use of the jet boat as NZ inventor Bill Hamilton originally intended and that is - “to explore the back country.”



The journey into the valley passes over the major Alpine fault line separating the Pacific and Indo-Australian tectonic plates; this natural feature is how these two colliding earth crusts formed the Southern Alps.

On average this region can experience around 5 metres (200 inches)

of rain annually and therefore provides enough moisture to retain the beautiful lush temperate rain forest that surrounds the area.



This significant part of South West New Zealand contains the best remaining fragments of the primeval landscapes, the evolution of which went “on ice” two million years ago, with one of NZ’s longest glacier formations, extending 107 km up the valley and as much as 20 km into the Ocean. The glacier carved out the Haast valley contours, leaving behind some of the most outstanding examples of unbroken wilderness within the Southern Hemisphere.

Visitors are treated to a real kiwi experience, as all Safari Guides have a genuine love of the area and this is reflected in their individual personalized and informative commentary they share.

At the conclusion of the Safari trip passengers are able to reflect back on the history of this awe inspiring valley. Lying within the South West World Heritage Area – Te Wahipounamu, its UNESCO classification protects the area and ensures future generations will experience it exactly as it is today.

discover the haast

experience real New Zealand

Departures: To suit tour itinerary. Reservations advised

Drop off / Pick up Points at Haast Bridge or Imp Grotto depending on tour direction

Trip duration: 1 hour

Key Contacts: Myreen Kain (Owner/Operator), Chantelle Hewer (Operations Manager)

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