

Okarito Boat Eco Tours

Okarito, near Franz Josef, West Coast

Boat based eco tour

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Okarito is a revered and truly special place renowned for its diverse birdlife and stunning natural landscapes that stretch from the shores of the Tasman Sea to the tops of the Southern Alps.

Paula & Swade of Okarito Boat Tours warmly welcomes their guests into this haven of wetlands and waterways aboard their custom-built open-air boat, the Explorer Douglas. Home to unique birdlife, plants, and aquatic species, the Okarito wetlands are NZ's largest, unmodified and intact ecosystem, renowned for its mountains to sea intact ecosystems and biodiversity.

Passionate and enthusiastic hosts, they will soon have you engaged in learning the fascinating stories of life and living in Okarito. Established in 2008, they will share their vast knowledge of the area's heritage, diverse and abundant birdlife, wetland and rainforest plants as well as their own efforts living sustainably - from balancing tourism to conservation and predator control and living in a small, remote village in the midst of the South Island's wild west coast. Choose from the comprehensive 2-hour Ecotours or treat yourself to a private early morning charter.



Okarito EcoTour

A morning two-hour trip out on the expansive Okarito lagoon and waterways - interactive and engaging guides will point out the wading and forest birds and explain a bit of the geology of this mountain to sea landscape. Okarito is a standout special place in NZ - the country's largest unmodified and intact wetland system. Learn of our iconic species brought back from near extinction and ongoing predator control programs and conservation efforts while being immersed in the natural beauty of the landscape. Includes hot drink & snack.

Departs: 9:00 am & 11:30 am | **Duration:** 2 hours

Okarito Early Morning Charter

Private two to 2.5-hour morning charters are available for that early light of day and your own special time on the water. Capture that special photograph and experience the peaceful, untouched atmosphere of this unique and inspiring landscape with just you and nature. Includes hot drink & snack

Departs: 7:30-8:30 | **Duration:** 2 - 2.5 hours



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Directions

130 kms south of Hokitika and 27 kms north and west of Franz Josef, Okarito is just off the beaten track, but easily accessible.

Terms

Cancellation: 20% cancellation fee within 48 hours of booking start time/date.

Cancellation due to covid/covid health measures 100% refund

Cancellation by operator: May occur due to weather/conditions/covid restrictions. 100% refund

Ages: all welcome, children under 8 no charge, 9-16 youth rate

Season: Open late October to late May

Accommodation in this area

- [Holly Homestead](#)
- [Ribbonwood Retreat](#)