

Te Ara Experiences presents: Poetry, People and Pathways For Mind and Spirit

Queenstown, New Zealand

Sunday 28 October - Friday 2 November 2018



Join David Whyte, Te Ara Experiences, and 35 eclectic Fellow travelers For Five days of mountain walking, poetry and conversation in the heart of the Southern Alps of New Zealand, centred on the beautifully situated town of Queenstown. The essential goal is to bring together the very personal sense of dedication in our work into a proper relationship with what the world is asking of us at this very crucial threshold in our human history.

Te Ara translates from the Māori as 'pathway'; evoking the dynamic of pilgrimage in all cultures. Though none of our individual journeys are the same, we all walk visible and invisible, parallel human paths that help us to understand each other and help us to help each other along the way. Part of the present necessity on the planet is bringing together our individual personal and cultural paths into a common planetary way forward. This will not be achieved through a bland mixing but through a mutually beneficial conversation between the best qualities found in our many different streams of inheritance. In the Māori culture, in parallel to the old Celtic cultures of Ireland and the British Isles, the tradition is to acknowledge our ancestral origins taken from the mountains, the rivers and from our family genealogies, in order to create a firm foundation for the always surprising, right future path. Having a firm foundation of our origins puts us into a better relationship both with the present and with the horizon of a future we want for ourselves. Through the pathways of poetry and David's

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work; through the auspices of New Zealand's magnificence, we will walk our way into our own sense of belonging, grounding ourselves in the present while beginning to set ourselves a better compass heading for the future.

The area is renowned for having the second-largest gold rush after San Francisco. We will visit places known only to locals, where the pioneers forged their lives in the surrounding mountains. At nightfall, we will gather to continue the conversation over delicious food from local providers, and experience the wines of the area, particularly known for its Pinot Noir.

Each morning begins (after breakfast) with a session by David. Each afternoon, we will travel to the location of that day's hike. The local guides have an intimate knowledge of the walks and surrounding area.

Cost

US\$4,900 - includes 5 nights accommodation at the well-appointed Millbrook Resort, ground transportation in New Zealand, including transfers to and from Queenstown airport. Breakfast, lunch and dinner each day. We begin Sunday evening and conclude with a harvest lunch on Friday afternoon. Does not include airfare.

The Participants

An eclectic, international group of 35 people with a shared interest in David's work and the cultural experience of New Zealand.

Walking and Hiking

You need to be able to walk two to four hours over hilly terrain in warm to cool weather which can be changeable throughout the day. Expect temperatures in the range of 26 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 3 to 24 degrees Celsius).

The walks are through native bush and farmland with a mix of medium to rugged pathways. Several of the walks have steep uphill or downhill portions. As these walks are an important part of the tour experience, please be as realistic as possible in assessing your level of fitness.

Accommodation

Each participant will stay in a luxurious suite located close to the resort centre, with a large ensuite bathroom with alpine views. Millbrook guests receive complimentary use of the health and fitness centre, wi-fi, courtesy shuttle to/from Queenstown and Arrowtown.

Millbrook is located outside of the historic goldmining township of Arrowtown, 20 minutes east of Queenstown, 20 minutes from Queenstown Airport.

Meals

Breakfast is available each morning at the Millbrook Clubhouse for Te Ara guests. A packed lunch prior to or on the walk will be provided. An evening meal as part of a local dining experience.

Arrival

Queenstown is a domestic and international airport and is approximately 20 minutes drive to Millbrook Resort. If you are arriving by air on 28 October, please provide your flight details so we can arrange transfer with the Millbrook Resort shuttle.

Any taxi driver will know where Millbrook is and you should plan about 20 minutes for the trip from the airport or 20 minutes from Queenstown Centre.

Departure

We will determine departure logistics at the end of the trip based on everyone's itineraries. We will arrange transfers with the Millbrook Resort shuttle to Queenstown airport. Our final

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morning session with David will be followed by a harvest lunch concluding at 1pm. Please note that we have to be out of our accommodation by mid-morning. All bags should be packed and ready to go and can be left in your room. The concierge will arrange to collect your bags from the room at 11am and store them at the office until your departure from the Resort.

Passport

Each participant needs a valid passport.

Cost and Payments

Total cost for the tour is US\$4,900. We accept Visa and MasterCard.

Payment Schedule

1st payment due 1 May 2018 - US\$2,450

Final payment due 1 July 2018 - US\$2,450

Application

In order to create a balanced, diverse group, we do not accept participants on a first come, first serve basis. We accept applications through April, and will notify you by the 1 May, 2018 whether you are accepted on the trip or placed on a waiting list.

To apply, please download and complete the application and fitness assessment. Send them together with your letter of application to kevin@tearaexperiences.com

Cancellation Policy

Once accepted on the tour, should you need to withdraw your application prior to 1 July 2018 we will retain 10% of the trip cost, or \$490. If you withdraw after 1 July 2018 any refund will depend upon whether we are able to find someone else to fill your place, but in any case, will still be subject to the 10% retention fee.

We strongly advise you to cover yourself with trip cancellation insurance.

We do not have personal experience with any particular agency; however, one of our participants recently had a positive experience with Travel Guard – www.travelguard.com

What the trip price includes

David's services as seminar leader. Te Ara Experiences and Queenstown Hikes as local guides. All accommodation for the five nights of Sunday 28 October through Friday 2 November 2018 inclusive. All breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Ground transportation including airport transfers between Millbrook Resort and Queenstown Airport.

Not included

Airfare

What to bring

We suggest for walking you wear fabrics that are lightweight but warm and quick drying such as merino wool, polypropylene, thermal, micro fleece and polar fleece. Cotton is not recommended for physical activity as the fabric retains moisture when wet and feels cold against your skin. Sturdy walking boots or shoes with merino wool or thermal socks.

- Thermal base layer top (bottom is optional) that can be worn either as a base layer or as a single layer.
- Long-sleeved top. Lightweight, warm and quick-drying, this is an ideal layer to be worn on top of the thermal base layer.
- T-shirt ideal for fine weather.

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- Fleece or merino wool jacket is an ideal outer layer in cold weather.
- Waterproof jacket.
- Sunhat, warm hat (gloves optional)
- Shorts/walking trousers Fast drying (NOT JEANS)
- Mosquito repellent
- Day pack and water bottle
- Walking poles are recommended

Your main consideration is comfort and the ability to layer-up or layer-down depending on the temperature changes experienced on the walks. Spring is a changeable time with temperatures ranging from 26 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 3 to 24 degrees Celsius).

Dining will be varied experiences of the local culinary offerings. Something special to wear noting it can be cool in the evening, so a sweater or light jacket is advised.

Currency and spending money:

NZ dollars. ATM's are located in the main street of Arrowtown. Currency exchange is available at the airport or in Queenstown Centre.