

[00:00:00.280] - Tracy Collins

Hi and welcome to the Global Travel Planning Podcast. I'm your host, Tracy Collins, who, with my expert guests, takes you on a journey to destinations around the globe providing itinerary ideas, practical tips, and more to help you plan your next travel adventure.

[00:00:21.660] - Tracy Collins

Hi and welcome to Episode Three of the Global Travel Planning Podcast. In this podcast, it is actually part two of our New Zealand travel adventure. With part one was the previous episode to this one where we talked about our five-day road trip around North Island, New Zealand.

[00:00:38.670] - Tracy Collins

In this episode, we're going to be sharing our itinerary and our tips and experiences from our recent trip around South Island, New Zealand. We spent about nine days on a road trip through South Island. Though I will say I was actually in New Zealand altogether for nearly 30 days or over 30 days because I was actually house sitting in Christchurch. I'm not going to talk much about this in this episode because I will do another episode potentially in a few months about house sitting and actually talking about things that we did in and around Christchurch. I will say that after the first five days in North Ireland, I actually flew down to Christchurch and Doug flew back to Brisbane.

[00:01:20.040] - Tracy Collins

After I spent about two and a half weeks house sitting, which it was absolutely wonderful. It was a beautiful dog, wonderful house and absolutely amazing people. But after that, Doug joined me, flew over from Brisbane so that we could start our South Island road trip adventure.

[00:01:35.020] - Doug Collins

Yeah, I flew in to join you from the flight from Brisbane. A bit delayed, unfortunately, so I didn't actually get to you until the early hours of the.

[00:01:43.280] - Tracy Collins

Morning, did I? That's true. I think it was after one o'clock, I think, in the morning before you arrived. Now, our first day of our trip was actually it wasn't going on the road, it wasn't driving. We actually had took the Trans Alpine Express. So we took the Trans Alpine Express return from Price Church to Graymouth.

[00:02:01.170] - Doug Collins

The trans Alpine is known as one of the best rail journeys in the world, actually. Oh, yeah, it was stunning. It's a very popular one. Yeah. And one that I on for quite a while, to be fair.

[00:02:12.910] - Tracy Collins

Absolutely. So a few tips if you are considering taking the trans Alpine is you have to be there 30 minutes before anyway to exchange your voucher to get the tickets.

[00:02:23.370] - Doug Collins

The ticket and the.

[00:02:24.260] - Tracy Collins

Return journey. -yes, that's right. They gave us a return ticket as well. We took some cash with us because we had heard that sometimes the machine doesn't work to actually if you want to buy anything from the shop. They actually did that during the.

[00:02:36.490] - Doug Collins

Journey, didn't they? Yes. The train crew themselves are actually fantastic as well. They explain to everybody in the shop that sometimes you might have to come back later and get something because they can't connect.

[00:02:48.710] - Tracy Collins

Yeah. We did take some cash, so that's worth considering. But we also took some food and drink

anyway because obviously we were on the train for quite a long time. I guess actually we should probably say that this is quite a long train journey, as in it's five hours each way from Christchurch to Graymouth. It's 233 kilometres. We left at 8:15 in the morning and we arrived back at 7:00 PM that night. So I say it's a long day out.

[00:03:12.190] - Doug Collins

It is. There are seven train stops on the way. It's seven on the way back, including the first and the last stations. And it's just amazing.

[00:03:23.390] - Doug Collins

Beautiful. All the way there. My personal opinion was from Christchurch, you get slightly better views on the right-hand side of the train on the way to Graymouth. And then obviously on the left.

[00:03:35.420] - Tracy Collins

On.

[00:03:35.680] - Doug Collins

The way back. Obviously, there's nice views both sides.

[00:03:38.880] - Tracy Collins

And there is a view in car. So just wrap up warmly if you're there in the winter. Obviously we were there in the autumn and it was still cold. So you need to put your... It's open. So you need to have your jacket, hat and gloves or whatever on it.

[00:03:49.740] - Doug Collins

That's it. And it's not open the entire length of the service that the close that when they go through the long tunnels. And they do make so many announcements as well to keep you fully up to date with what's happening. Little tip is don't rush there as soon as they say it's open because it gets crowded.

[00:04:07.340] - Tracy Collins

Absolutely. It was really full. Also, there are earphones provided, so you can listen to a commentary along the way about the history of the area and really interesting information. And that's available in English and in Chinese, Mandarin. So it was really, really good to listen to that. So you can come tip in and it shows you on the screen. I think it went green when there was commentary. So you could dip.

[00:04:33.020] - Doug Collins

In and listen to that. That's the bits we missed on the way out, we caught on the way back.

[00:04:36.830] - Tracy Collins

Yeah, that's true. So obviously some of the amazing scenery as you go through Arthur's Pass, you stop off and say some of the stations that you stay on along the way. A lot of people did get off at Arthur's Pass.

[00:04:50.730] - Doug Collins

Didn't they? Yes, they did. Yeah, you stayed there for quite a few minutes, I think over about seven minutes, something like that. And a lot of people, myself included, had the photo taken next to the train station sign.

[00:05:03.080] - Tracy Collins

That says Arthur's Pass. Yeah. So I do want to say a special shout out to some of the staff that were absolutely amazing.

[00:05:08.950] - Doug Collins

Oh, that's where the train crews, the cafe staff, two ladies and a gentleman, they couldn't do enough to help and all with a big smile on the faces.

[00:05:18.830] - Tracy Collins

Yeah. So Tina, Carolyn and Radjosh, thank you so much for making the trip absolutely so memorable for us. So that was our first day. Obviously, it was an early get up, because Doug hadn't arrived until after midnight or one o'clock in the morning. We had organised, we actually organised. We just picked up an Uber, got an Uber to the train station. Then when we arrived back, there's plenty of taxis or Ubers available in Christchurch. So took us back home. So that wrapped up our first day. On day two, we were driving from Christchurch down to Lararua, in Bangkok. Now, we had hired a car and we went out to the airport to pick it up, but we didn't pick it up until later morning, mainly because we'd had a very busy the day before. So we wanted to have a little bit more of a relaxed morning. And also it timed with when we're going to be dropping off the car in Queenstown on the following Tuesday when we actually were going to be flying back to Brisbane. We picked up the car, we had organised an SUV, which is usually the car that we choose.

[00:06:22.450] - Tracy Collins

We just find that more comfortable for driving really all around the world. I guess because that's what we have at home as well, so we're used with it. The drive that day, also it took us five hours to get from Crest Church to Mantcook, Orangi, to our accommodation for the evening. The weather was good. You can do it in less time, but we spent a lot of time looking at the scenery and enjoying.

[00:06:44.690] - Doug Collins

How many times did we stop?

[00:06:46.100] - Tracy Collins

-yeah, we stopped a lot. Really the first place you probably will stop off, we would recommend stopping off on it is in Fairlie. We went to the Fairlie Bakery, which is, I think, world famous for the pies. Then we didn't buy any pies, which is just ridiculous. I kicked myself now because I don't know why we didn't, but I think we ended up buying some sweet things in there. The next time we'd be in Fairlie, we were definitely buying some pies because they are highly recommended. But we stopped off there and then we drove past Lake Tekapo, where we stopped and took some photos there again, beautiful scenery. Before we went on to Lake Pukaki, where we stopped off at the information centre. There you've got there's a stone church where you can take beautiful photos and there was a lot of people taking photos, weren't there?

[00:07:35.430] - Doug Collins

Certainly was. You don't know where to stand. It's just beauty. It's just beauty. It's hard to do justice in photos and video. Go. Absolutely. The good advice is to step back and actually have a look.

[00:07:48.870] - Tracy Collins

Oh, yeah. And just just enjoy it. And that was a lovely car trip. Drive that day. It was really lovely. We enjoyed that, didn't we?

[00:08:01.820] - Doug Collins

We did, and we take it slowly. We let probably go a little bit too slow. We let people pass us. The drive took us over.

[00:08:10.000] - Tracy Collins

Five hours.

[00:08:11.220] - Doug Collins

If we hadn't stopped, I think it was about three hours thirty. But we stopped so many times.

[00:08:16.650] - Tracy Collins

We stayed in. We booked accommodation actually quite late and we were very lucky because we know that actually staying at Mount Cook Village gets booked up ahead of time. Once we checked in, which we checked in, we had a really nice room and I'll put a link to accommodation. We decided because we hadn't brought anything to eat with us, so we went up to the Heritage Hotel where we had a cheese platter and Doug had a salmon platter.

[00:08:45.040] - Doug Collins

Oh, salmon platter. It was just unbelievable. Just so many flavours.

[00:08:49.310] - Tracy Collins

I can't tell you how lovely it was because it was cold outside. There was snow. We could see snow on the mountain. There was a fire going just absolutely fantastic. -so atmospheric, wasn't it?

[00:09:03.210] - Doug Collins

-it was. All I could do was to stay awake.

[00:09:04.890] - Tracy Collins

Very relaxing. Very, very relaxing. And that was really a good job because in day three, we were going to be tackling... I wasn't sure if I was going to do this and obviously it depends on the weather, but we were going to do the Hooker Valley track. On day three, we got up quite nice and early and the sun was out.

[00:09:24.540] - Doug Collins

It was. It was a beautiful morning.

[00:09:25.930] - Tracy Collins

Beautiful day, blue sky. We did check to see if the Hooker Valley track was open because I think it had been closed the day before because if it gets windy because of the swing bridges, which I'll talk about in a second, they will close the track. I think we got there about 9:30, we went to the car park.

[00:09:44.260] - Doug Collins

Yeah, we're part of the car park, which was pretty empty when we got there.

[00:09:47.590] - Tracy Collins

It was, yeah.

[00:09:48.430] - Doug Collins

Then we set out. I remember the first few corners, we just kept stopping. I was amazed by the beauty initially, and I thought, Actually, we better get walking.

[00:09:59.340] - Tracy Collins

Yeah, actually just got more and more and more spectacular. Honestly, I've traveled so many amazing places throughout the world, but I'm never going to forget that. I'm never ever going to forget that walk. It was just so beautiful. I'll just say what I was wearing as well because it was quite chilly. I had boots on, black walking boots on, I had leagons on and layers, and then I had my excellent five-in-one coat, which is brilliant, which I bought recently, gloves, hat, and obviously we took water bottles with us, had a little backpack. You have to obviously dress for the conditions. I would check all that. There's an information centre at the... The car park? Yeah, the car park and information centre. So you can check what it is that you need. If you're not an experienced hiker, which I'm not generally, I will not hike anywhere in the world. It's not something I generally enjoy doing, but I have to say this was spectacular. So if you're not somebody who enjoys hiking and think, if the weather's good.

[00:11:05.010] - Doug Collins

Go and do it. Yeah. And it's probably about 50 % totally flat and about 50 % with some steps and inclines. But the quality of the path.

[00:11:13.390] - Tracy Collins

Is excellent. Oh, absolutely. Yeah, excellent. Make sure you don't take plenty of pictures. You take a battery pack if you need to charge it because believe me, you will be taking lots of photos and videos.

[00:11:22.950] - Doug Collins

You really will.

[00:11:23.760] - Tracy Collins

Yeah, I would just say it takes between three and four hours, I think, is what they say recommended to do that. And it took us about that time, didn't it?

[00:11:32.360] - Doug Collins

Yeah, it took us all. We left at 9:25 and we arrived at the place in the rest areas for about 11:30. And then we had probably 20 minutes half an hour there, didn't we?

[00:11:42.890] - Tracy Collins

Yeah. So on the way, I'm going to say that you have to walk over three swing bridges. Now, I'm not a fan of heights at all, so I was a little bit nervous about crossing these bridges. To be honest, I just waited until it was less busy. Now, because we went earlier on in the day, it was not as busy as when we walked back. Then there was a lot of people walking towards us going in the opposite direction because the car park was just about full, wasn't it? It was when we got back. Yeah. We went earlier on in the day and I'd recommend that there's not as many people crossing the bridges. Obviously, when we came back, there were more people crossing the bridges, but I just waited because there is a limit on the amount of people that can be on them. I just waited until there was less people and I just walked straight across. I actually got really gutsy on the way back and I did a little video from one of the bridges. But again, if you're not sure about heights. My daughter was a bit concerned I wouldn't manage it because she done it the week before because of the swing bridges.

[00:12:36.030] - Tracy Collins

But honestly, it was totally worth it.

[00:12:38.830] - Doug Collins

It was, yeah. When we got to the lake, it's a glacier lake and there's little mini icebergs there.

[00:12:45.210] - Tracy Collins

As well. It was stunning. Absolutely stunning.

[00:12:47.810] - Doug Collins

And some were shy.

[00:12:48.640] - Tracy Collins

Honestly, I will share lots of photos in the show notes, but believe me, it's definitely something you want to do.

[00:12:55.480] - Doug Collins

It is. And the other thing, if you take some snacks or drinks with you, there's a couple of picnic tables and things just outside of the lake. Do you want to rest when.

[00:13:04.690] - Tracy Collins

You get there? Absolutely, which a lot of people are doing. And there are toilets as well along the way. Just one set of toilets, I think was a two toilets together? One or two. There are toilets available on the route as you walk through. And we did get a lot of people asking us as we were walking and we did the same, actually. How far is it to the end? How far is it to the end? It's not particularly well signposted in terms of bigger and out where you are, how long you've got to get to the destination. But you have got three swing bridges. That's the thing.

[00:13:31.200] - Doug Collins

To say. It's probably about 15 minutes after the third swing bridge.

[00:13:35.350] - Tracy Collins

15, 20.

[00:13:36.020] - Doug Collins

Minutes, again, depending how often.

[00:13:37.910] - Tracy Collins

You stop. Yeah, exactly. But highly recommend it. We got back to the car 1:00 ish, which was perfect, which is when we... We'll talk about it now because we didn't stay in the area for that night as well. We travelled on. We left Mount Cooke-Wroccy and went back down to Lake Cooke-Wookaki just to take some more photos and also just ask them where we could get petrol because we were starting to need some by that point. We drove to Twysle, where we filled up the car with petrol, and then we did about two hour drive through the Lindus Pass to get down to Wannicca. We stayed in Wannicah that evening. We got booked into accommodation and then we actually went in to explore a little bit of Wannicca. We had dinner there that night and then planned what we were going to do the next day. The next morning, day four, we checked out of the Wannicca Springs Hotel where we were staying and headed down into Wannicca itself for breakfast. Now, there's lots and lots of places to choose from for breakfast. We thoroughly enjoyed. We had a really good breakfast in the Bay Bridge.

[00:14:45.580] - Tracy Collins

Very nice. Probably one of the best I've actually ever had. It was really good. I thought Australia was good at breakfast, but New Zealand, wow, you do amazing breakfast too. At that point, the weather was starting to turn. We decided we want to get some pictures of the Wannicca tree. That Wannicca tree, that wanaka tree, which is very famous throughout the world. We're headed down. There's a free car park and it's about a two-minute walk to actually go and take pictures of the tree. Unfortunately, the weather was starting to really become inclement. We had a lot of start to really heavily rain. The night before, we'd been recommended to a winery in Wannicca called Maude Winery. We decided to head up there. It was just before 12 o'clock, I think, by the time I got up there. I have to say excellent. Absolutely excellent. I could have stayed there all day. In fact, I think we're there for a good two and a half hours.

[00:15:30.400] - Doug Collins

Quite a few hours. We didn't bulk. We just turned up and then the guy was to himself.

[00:15:36.260] - Tracy Collins

Being helpful. Fantastic. Yeah, fantastic. I did the wine tasting. Doug doesn't drink, so I did the wine tasting. We did try some of the snacks, which was fantastic. The Brussels Sprouts were fantastic. And the cheeseboard. And we had the cheeseboard as well. The wine tasting was excellent. I did come away with a few bottles of wine, which I enjoyed over the next few nights. After that, obviously, I will just mention that I wasn't driving, Doug was doing the driving. That afternoon we're driving to Queenstown. So that drive took about.

[00:16:07.100] - Doug Collins

An hour. About an hour. Yeah. So you've got to go slowly because it's dropping down into Queenstown. There's lots of hairpin bends, so you've got to take your time. You've got to be patient.

[00:16:15.120] - Tracy Collins

And you go over the Crown Range Road from Wannicott to Queenstown. It was stunning. But those hairpin bends as you're going down at Queenstown or something else, I have to tell you. We didn't go back up the map after that. We actually stayed in Queenstown for the next few days. We stayed in Quest, Queenstown, which is actually outside of the main town, but we found it really easy. I will just say it really, really easy to get into.

[00:16:43.050] - Doug Collins

It was quite close to the airport as well. Right outside the hotel is a bus stop, which we use frequently to take into the town.

[00:16:53.140] - Tracy Collins

Yeah, absolutely. I guess the next few days we were based in Queenstown. We'll talk you through. There's so much to do in Queenstown. It really is the adventure capital of the world. You have just got so many choices. Now, I will talk through what we did day five, six, seven, and eight. We actually flew back to Brisbane on day nine. But I will say the weather did turn at the weekend, so we were very

lucky. I think this is a really valid point to make, and I know I was listening to somebody else saying this recently is that if the weather is good, take advantage of it because it can change very, very rapidly. Certainly can. I would just say actually the accommodation is in Frankton, which is a suburb of Queenstown, but say really close to the airport and really easy to get into Queenstown Centre itself. The next day we did hop to Pack and Save, which is very close to the hotel. We just stocked up on drinks and some snacks and some food because the hotel had like a little kitchen, so we could prepare breakfast and some meals, obviously to save money.

[00:17:53.070] - Tracy Collins

If that's what you need to do, that's a perfect option. That day we decided to, because again, it was a beautiful day, we're very lucky, we decided to drive to Glenorkey, which was an hour. Doug did the drive in there and back.

[00:18:05.030] - Doug Collins

Yeah, about an hour's drive each way again, really slowly to try and take in some of.

[00:18:09.620] - Tracy Collins

The water, the seaver. The views, honestly, were just beautiful. Obviously, we had to have our photos taken next to the famous Redshed in Glenorkey. Photos. Photos, millions of photos. There was lots of other people there as well doing.

[00:18:21.290] - Doug Collins

The same. There was and there's a little pier walk out there as well and behind the shed as well as you can get a good view of the lake, which is Lake Wackford, Coo-Poo.

[00:18:30.050] - Tracy Collins

Yeah.

[00:18:31.100] - Doug Collins

It was. It's just unbelievable. But actually, after visiting the shed, me being a hot chocolate fiend, we also went and had a drink because it was rather cold as well. The hot was literally, yeah. A hot chocolate in a little cafe called The Trading Post.

[00:18:45.960] - Tracy Collins

That's it. That was lovely. We relaxed and just enjoyed the atmosphere, the beauty around us. You had hot chocolate, had my chai. It got busier again as the morning went on, but it was lovely.

[00:18:59.120] - Doug Collins

That's it. Then on the way back, we stopped off some views at the Wilson Bay. It's called Bennett's Bluff Viewpoint. You have to put the car parking walk up and you're high up and you got views both ways of the lake.

[00:19:11.510] - Tracy Collins

Yeah. So again, stunning views. So we drove back actually to accommodation and we got the bus into Queenstown.

[00:19:19.220] - Doug Collins

We did. And the bus driver was incredibly helpful. We should have taken his name, but he gave us the best ways to save money for the both of us for return tickets. How many days did you want? And we got the.

[00:19:31.010] - Tracy Collins

Bus passed. Yeah, we did. So we bought that from him. You have to top that up with cash.

[00:19:35.450] - Doug Collins

And it was more towards the.

[00:19:36.270] - Tracy Collins

Five dollars. Yes, which we did a couple of times. But we thought because trying to park in Queenstown itself is not that easy. It was just so much easier. Drive back to the hotel, leave the car, jump on the bus into Queenstown. And we had a lovely walk around the shops. We went to the botanical gardens. Just really enjoyed the views because again, it was a beautiful... Lots of people were sitting, enjoying the views on there.

[00:19:56.950] - Doug Collins

The sitting one is about 20 minutes from the accommodation on the bus into the town.

[00:20:00.590] - Tracy Collins

Yeah. I think that was... We knew we were going to have a busy day the next day, so I will talk about that in a second. But I would recommend if it's a beautiful day, head out to Glenorkey because it's a lovely drive and it's not very far away. Day six, we had booked a coach to to Mulford Sound. Unfortunately, the weather was pretty appalling and it rained for most of the day, which unfortunately meant when we got to Mulford Sound, we didn't see a massive amount of the beauty of the area. However, at Walshley, we had a lot of fun.

[00:20:33.250] - Doug Collins

We did. I think everybody else did on the coach as well. There was no sad faces and the drivers.

[00:20:41.260] - Tracy Collins

We had the best drivers. Big shout out to Paul and Jayden, who were absolutely amazing. Really fantastic. Paul told us just such interesting stories along the way on the drive. And Jaden was fantastic as well. Because I'm going to say we were spent about nine hours on that coach that day, so it's a long trip. We had to get there 7:00 AM in the morning. I think we got dropped off around about 7:00 PM. We were lucky because they dropped us off at Frankford bus station, so we're able to catch a bus back to the hotel.

[00:21:12.650] - Doug Collins

That's right. Before we stopped off at 10:00 an hour, getting on the way back, they encouraged anybody who any specific stopping points they wanted and I had a word with the driver and this is what we're passing Frankton bus station. So we were the first drop off there. We were the first drop-off station.

[00:21:27.590] - Tracy Collins

Yeah, so that was perfect. That's a quick overview of the day. So where did we go? Well, we stopped off at TNR and we stopped off there for a cup of coffee and a bit of cake, toilet break, before then head into on the Milford Sound Road. There was a few stop offs on that road. My favourite, I have to say, was to see the KIA, which is a mountain parrot in New Zealand. They're big, they're very naughty, but they're amazing. They're really notorious for ripping off things off cars and stealing things. But and they were really pretty, they came right up to you. They were amazing. You could take some really fantastic photos. They say it was still poor on what were rain, but hey, it was fine. Basically, we got to Mulford town to actually catch the boat. We had to hang around for about half an hour. At the.

[00:22:14.480] - Doug Collins

Visitor.

[00:22:14.760] - Tracy Collins

Centre. Yeah. The boat ride itself was really nice up and down. Mulford, Sand. As I say, we didn't see a lot of the beauty that it's really famous for, but we did see some animals along the way, which is really cool.

[00:22:26.060] - Doug Collins

I saw some.

[00:22:26.800] - Tracy Collins



Tiny penguins. We saw the tiniest penguins. They were so cute, really, really tiny fingers. And also one of the things I guess I should say the advantage of when it does rain in Mulford Sand is you see so many thousands of waterfalls or waterfalls everywhere.

[00:22:40.160] - Tracy Collins

Absolutely everywhere. We did see a seal. It was nice. It was a really nice journey. It wasn't too rough because you get a.

[00:22:48.370] - Doug Collins

Bit seasick. It got a bit choppy at the end of the lake where the boat turns or crosses the lake in the mouth of the Tasman Sea there and went a bit bony then. I had to stay in my seat and keep watching the horizon.

[00:23:01.930] - Tracy Collins

As they say. Yeah, the top of the inlet, I guess it is.

[00:23:05.980] - Doug Collins

I should point out I'm not the best on coaches as well. I thought you'd be able to sit right at the front as well.

[00:23:12.710] - Tracy Collins

Yeah, we got there early in the morning. So at the front of the coach, which worked out really well for him. So if you're a little bit car sick or boat sick, I mean, Doug did really well that day and.

[00:23:24.230] - Doug Collins

You're fine. Don't let it stop. You're doing something else. Take some tablets and we're gone.

[00:23:28.640] - Tracy Collins

So the meal on the boat as well was excellent. It was a really good buffet.

[00:23:33.480] - Doug Collins

It was a hot buffet. Yes. And not for everyone.

[00:23:35.650] - Tracy Collins

Oh, there was loads. It was really good food. Actually, it was really tasty food. And there was access to teas and coffees.

[00:23:41.780] - Doug Collins

Yeah. How many cups of tea.

[00:23:42.670] - Tracy Collins

Do we have? About 25. And then obviously the cruise takes you back to where you get on the boat. What do you call it where the boat start? The harbour. The harbour. That's it. I couldn't think of the word. Yeah, the harbour boat you get off. And then we just got straight onto the coach and drove back. So that was and it was a big day, full day, but it was really good. We thought we.

[00:24:02.740] - Doug Collins

Enjoyed it. We really did. Yes. I mean, with the driver, Paul, telling the stories along the way and on the way back, he's so engaging as well. It didn't seem like an hour an hour.

[00:24:11.560] - Tracy Collins

It didn't. I would recommend that. I have to say next time I'm going to definitely try and do one of the scenic flights. That's on my list of would absolutely love to do. I know a lot of the locals have said that doubtful sound is a fabulous to go to, so hopefully we'll get there next time. Day seven, the weather really was turning very unpleasant. We didn't do a huge amount that day, but we decided that would get the bus into Queenstown because I was really desperate to try a food burger.

[00:24:39.820] - Doug Collins

Yeah, that's a food. I had the food pie the day before.

[00:24:42.380] - Tracy Collins

You did, and you really enjoyed it. There was a huge queue, which I think is always the case of the Ferg burger because it's so popular, very Instagram famous, but also very tasty. I highly recommend that you go. We actually just bought one and we shared it, didn't we? We did indeed, yeah. But it was lovely. Highly recommend it. Then we just had a little bit of a stall around Queenstown. There is lots of things to do. There are lots of things to do, actually, when it's raining because you've got this bowl and this cinema. There's lots of indoor activities that you can do. You can take the gondola up to the top, which it's a bit the weather wasn't good enough to do that the views weren't great. It was open, though. But it was open and it was going. Actually, if it does rain, there are things to do in Queenstown, so don't despair. That just left us with our last day, our last full day, which was going to day eight in Queenstown. That day the sun came back out again. It did. We decided to head to Arrow Town.

[00:25:36.580] - Doug Collins

Arrow Town, it really was. I'd walk around the Chinatown there and look at the history there. So much to read. It was all brand new to us, wasn't it? It was very much of an eye-opening experience.

[00:25:47.640] - Tracy Collins

So you built up around the Gold Rush. That's right. So it's a really interesting historic place to go and visit. Apparently, it's lovely in the autumn because there's an avenue of trees that are very famous there. So we spent a couple of hours walking around, had some breakfast there, had a walk around. Oh, yes. And then we wanted to take a visit. You've got to think about going to places with the name Arthur in it.

[00:26:11.290] - Doug Collins

I don't know why. I have no idea why. But to Arthur's Point near Queenstown, Arthur's seating Edinburgh, in Scotland, I walked to that one and obviously Arthur's Pass on the trans-Alpine railway. I don't know where's next, but it just seemed to happen.

[00:26:25.660] - Tracy Collins

So we had to go and have a photo taken of the sign for Arthur's Point. We did that. Basically, that was really as much as we got up to on day eight. We did take the car that day, obviously, but you actually can get the bus to Our Town, but we decided to drive to that.

[00:26:41.960] - Doug Collins

We took it and we stood all the points just to have a quick look.

[00:26:45.060] - Tracy Collins

Around, didn't we? Yeah, we did. Then that was it. The next day, which was day nine, we flew back to Brisbane. As I say, we were very close to the airport, so we went dropped the car off. No issues there. We did fill it up with petrol before we dropped it off. There's a few to choose from. We got to the airport and checked in and that was it. That was the end of our New Zealand adventure. We hope you've enjoyed these two episodes where we've talked a little bit about what itinerary involved. There are articles on the website with lots of information about our itineraries and our thoughts about our trip to New Zealand and lots more will be coming onto the website. You can find those linked in the to this episode, which is at [tracetravelsintime.com/episode-3](http://tracetravelsintime.com/episode-3). As I say, if you haven't listened to episode two, I would listen to that one first because that is our North Island five-day road trip itinerary. But I think that's it for this episode.

[00:27:46.050] - Doug Collins

I think so, yeah.

[00:27:47.230] - Tracy Collins

That just leaves me to say Happy Global Travel Planning.

