Aotearoa
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SOUTH ISLAND TOURING MAP

THEMED HIGHWAYS - SOUTH ISLAND

Alpine Pacific Touring Route: *Recommend 4 Days*
The Alpine Pacific Touring Route takes you to the wine and food experiences of Waipara, the spa delights of Hanmer Springs and the marine mammal encounters of Kaikoura. Between destinations, you'll enjoy beautiful country scenery.

The Inland Scenic 72 Route: *Recommend 4 Days*
The perfect road journey for travellers who like to get off the main highways and find real rural life. The route starts at Amberley, in the north of the Canterbury region, and runs to Winchester, where it links to State Highway 1. There are fabulous views of the Southern Alps on one side of the road, complemented by the green serenity of the Canterbury Plains on the other.

The Great Alpine Highway: *Recommend 2 Days*
This coast-to-coast route traverses the Southern Alps. From Christchurch, the 255-kilometre route follows State Highway 73 west across river plains before rising to traverse through Porters Pass and Arthur's Pass National Park. Highlights include the impressive Waimakariri and Otira River gorges, driving along the Otira Viaduct and exploring natural wonders like the Castle Hill Rocks and Cave Stream Reserve.

Great Coast Road: *Recommend 3 Days*
The Great Coast Road stretches from Westport down to Kumara. It meanders alongside the ancient limestone cliffs of Paparoa National Park, where the world's smallest penguin resides, through Charleston and down to Punakaiki, home to the famous Pancake Rocks and Blowholes. Driving it in one go only takes about 90 minutes, but it's best to slow down, enjoy the ride and explore some of New Zealand's small towns.

Glacier Highway: *Recommend 4 Days*
The Glacier Highway hugs the coastline from Kumara, through Hokitika and all the way down to Glacier Country. This 300-kilometre journey is surrounded with dense coastal scrub and West Coast rainforest, making it one of New Zealand's most scenic routes. It passes through a national park, seal colonies, beaches, lakes, and as its namesake states, mighty glaciers.

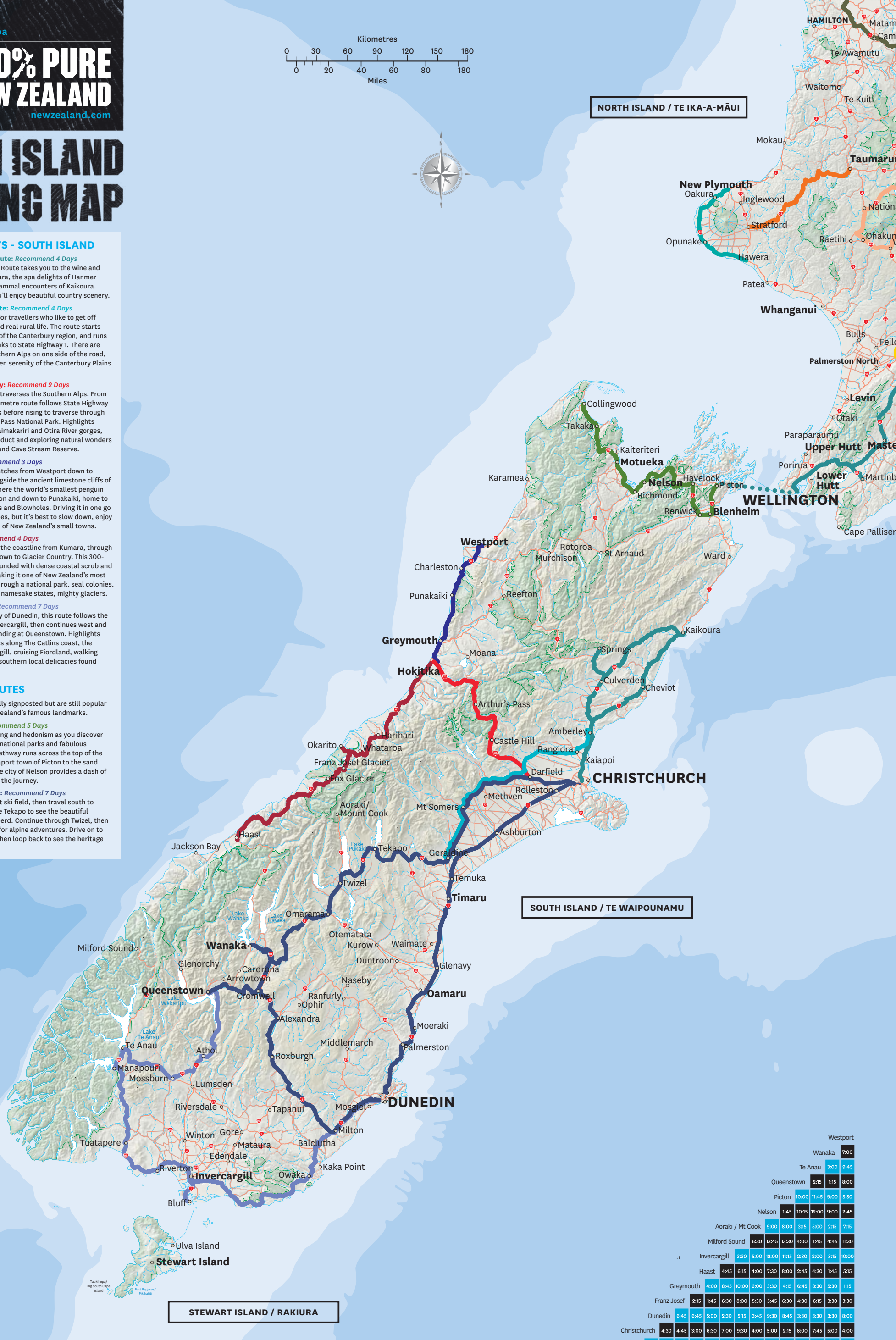
Southern Scenic Route: *Recommend 7 Days*
Starting in the historic city of Dunedin, this route follows the wild southern coast to Invercargill, then continues west and north to Te Anau before ending at Queenstown. Highlights include wildlife encounters along The Catlins coast, the classic motors of Invercargill, cruising Fiordland, walking the Milford Track and the southern local delicacies found throughout.

OTHER SCENIC ROUTES

These routes are not specifically signposted but are still popular routes to reach some of New Zealand's famous landmarks.

Treasured Pathway: *Recommend 5 Days*
Enjoy a mix of history, hiking and hedonism as you discover heritage sites, vineyards, national parks and fabulous beaches. The Treasured Pathway runs across the top of the South Island, from the seaport town of Picton to the sand dunes of Farewell Spit. The city of Nelson provides a dash of urban fun in the middle of the journey.

Southern Heritage Route: *Recommend 7 Days*
Head inland to Mount Hutt ski field, then travel south to Geraldine, pausing at Lake Tekapo to see the beautiful Church of the Good Shepherd. Continue through Twizel, then on to Mount Cook Village for alpine adventures. Drive on to Wanaka or Queenstown, then loop back to see the heritage architecture of Dunedin.



	Westport	Wanaka	Te Anau	Queenstown	Picton	Nelson	Aoraki / Mt Cook	Milford Sound	Invercargill	Haast	Greymouth	Franz Josef	Dunedin	Christchurch	Blenheim
Wanaka	7:00														
Te Anau	3:00	9:45													
Queenstown	2:15	1:15	8:00												
Picton	10:00	11:45	9:00	3:30											
Nelson	1:45	10:15	12:00	9:00	2:45										
Aoraki / Mt Cook	9:00	8:00	3:15	5:00	2:15	7:15									
Milford Sound	6:30	13:45	13:30	4:00	1:45	4:45	11:30								
Invercargill	3:30	5:00	12:00	11:15	2:30	2:00	3:15	10:00							
Haast	4:45	6:15	4:00	7:30	8:00	2:45	4:30	1:45	5:15						
Greymouth	4:00	8:45	10:00	6:00	3:30	4:15	6:45	8:30	5:30	1:15					
Franz Josef	2:15	1:45	6:30	8:00	5:30	5:45	6:30	4:30	6:15	3:30	3:30				
Dunedin	6:45	6:45	5:00	2:30	5:15	3:45	9:30	8:45	3:30	3:30	3:30	8:00			
Christchurch	4:30	4:45	3:00	6:30	7:00	9:30	4:00	5:00	2:15	6:00	7:45	5:00	4:00		
Blenheim	4:00	8:15	6:00	4:00	7:45	11:00	13:00	7:45	1:30	0:30	9:30	11:30	8:45	3:00	

DRIVE TIMES (hours)

State Highway
Main Road
Railway
Ferry Route