



“Experience the Flight of a Lifetime”



Franz Josef Airport

Our scenic flights operate from our Lake Tekapo and Franz Josef bases, with pick-up and drop-off options also available at Pukaki, Glentanner and Aoraki/Mt Cook airports. Availability varies depending on the flight and route. .

📍 West Coast, South
Island



Te Tai Poutini. Famous for its dense and widespread rainforests, the West Coast has an average yearly rainfall of 5m. The Grand Traverse “Flight of a Lifetime” crosses over to the West Coast, capturing a glimpse of this magnificent landscape.



AIR SAFARIS

Feeding into Lake Tekapo, the Godley Valley sets the scene for the Grand Traverse “Flight of a Lifetime”. Transitioning from the Godley river into the high mountains of the Southern Alps, its contrast in colours and patterns provides a distinctive photo opportunity.



Godley River Braids



 Lake Tekapo Airport, Mackenzie Basin

The Mackenzie Basin, the largest in New Zealand, covers an area 100 km from N-S, and 40 km E-W. The distinctive flat plains were carved out by large glaciers 10-15,000 years ago as they receded. Lake Tekapo Airport is located amongst the basin, just South of Lake Tekapo Township.



AIR SAFARIS

Rock ground by the glaciers at the headwaters of the Godley Valley forms a silt known as “glacial flour”. The silt is suspended in the water to give it the blue/turquoise appearance.



Head of Lake Tekapo



A beautiful winters day departing at Lake Tekapo Airport. Fresh snow gives a unique perspective on the landscapes and mountain ranges in the Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park and surrounding terrain.

The steep eastern “Caroline” face, overlooking a West Coast sunset on a winter’s evening.

According to Māori legend, Aoraki, the son of Raki (Sky Father), and his brothers set on a sea voyage in a celestial canoe, which struck a reef and became stranded. When the brothers climbed onto the canoe’s upturned hull, they were transformed into stone by the cold south wind. Aoraki, the tallest of the brothers, became the highest peak known today.

Malte Brun



New Zealand's third highest mountain, rising to 3199m. Covering 200 km in just 50 minutes, the Grand Traverse "Flight of a Lifetime" allows clients to be immersed in the remarkable landscapes of the Southern Alps; an exclusive opportunity like no other.

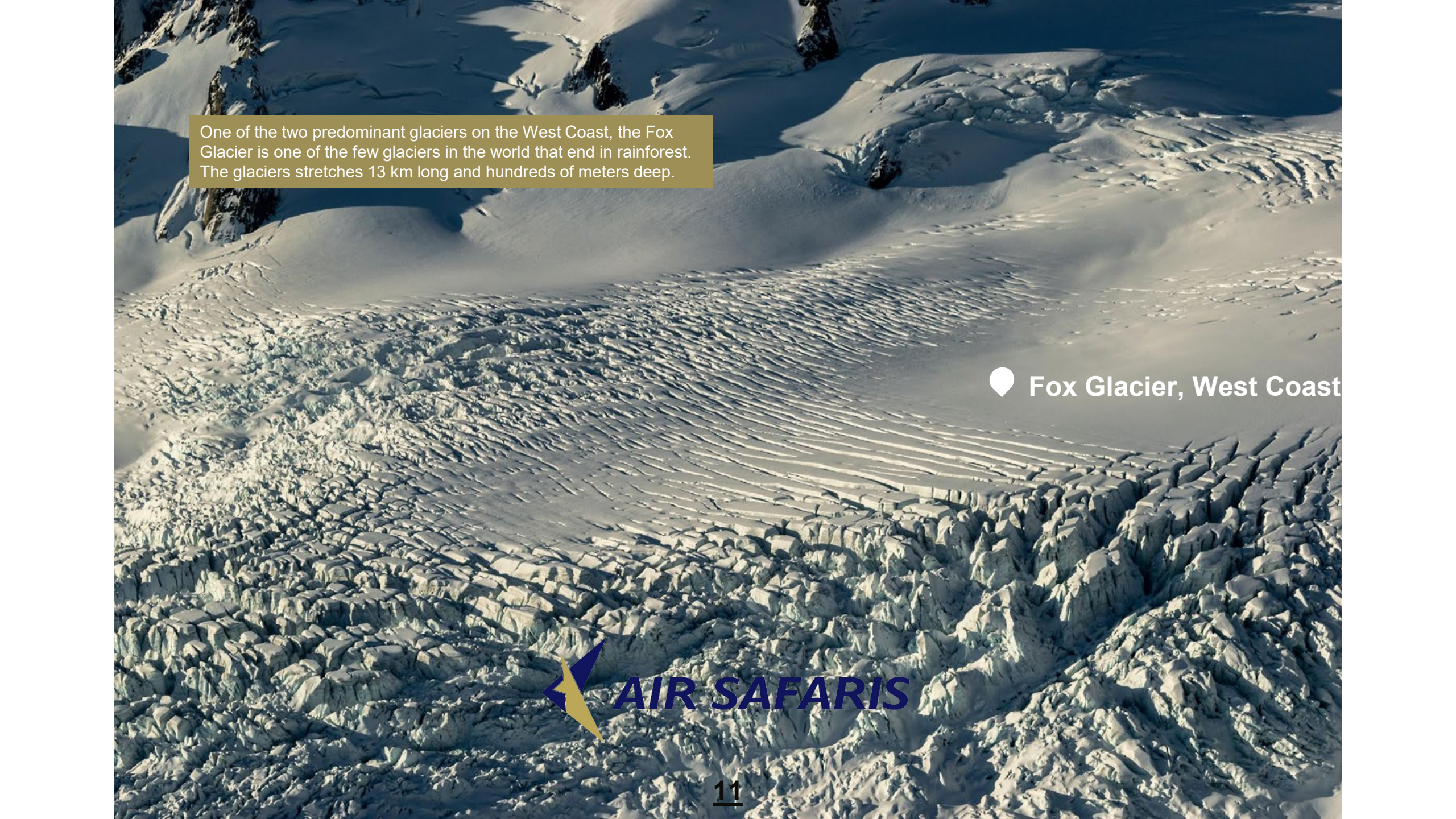




AIR SAFARIS

📍 Liebig Dome

Two of the Helicopter flight options, the Alpine Grandeur and Franz and Fox Magic, land at Liebig Dome. Overlooking Mt Cook and the wider Southern Alps, it provides a unique perspective and photo opportunity; an unforgettable experience.



One of the two predominant glaciers on the West Coast, the Fox Glacier is one of the few glaciers in the world that end in rainforest. The glacier stretches 13 km long and hundreds of meters deep.

📍 Fox Glacier, West Coast



📍 Snow Landing

Providing a variety of snow landing options, the helicopter scenic flight allows clients to get up close and personal to the mountains and ranges in the Mackenzie and the Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park.



📍 Main Divide, Southern Alps



The “spine” of New Zealand, the main divide, separates the West Coast from mainland New Zealand. Formed as a result of the collision of the Pacific and Indo-Australian tectonic plates, it formed New Zealand's highest mountains.



● Mount Cook, Southern
Face



First climbed in 1894 on Christmas day, Aoraki Mt Cook is New Zealand's highest mountain, standing 3724 m tall. With the combination of rocky outcrop and dramatic icefalls, the mountain makes for a challenging and popular climb for mountaineers.

At its deepest, Lake Tekapo plunges 120m, with a yearly average temperature of just 7 degrees Celsius. In the background, the high country merino station, Mt Hay station.



Home to a mere 530 residents, Franz Josef township sits at the base of the Franz Josef glacier. The Grand Traverse “Flight of a Lifetime” also departs from Franz Josef Airport, giving clients a one-of-a-kind opportunity to contrast the West Coast rainforests with the mighty Southern Alps, landing back at the West Coast airport.

📍 Franz Josef Township, West Coast