

Māwheranui/The Upper-Grey River Three Day Adventure

Raft with us through lush green native beech forest and stunning gorges with a backdrop of rugged mountains. This three day journey on the West Coast has a mixture of grade 2 and 3 rapids. It is backcountry New Zealand at its best.



Māwheranui

Upper Grey River

The Grey district is known as Māwhera in Te Reo Māori. Māwhera means widespread. Nui means many or big and iti means little hence the names Māwheranui for what is the larger Grey River and Māwheraiti for the Little Grey River.

Māwheranui/The Grey River begins in the Southern Alps as the Blue Grey River, at Lake Cristobel, which is a day's hike in from the Lewis Pass. The river runs through native beech forests, steep gorges and farmland for 120 kilometres before meeting the Tasman Sea at Greymouth.

The part of the river that is known as the Upper Grey begins where the Blue Grey and Brown Grey rivers meet and ends 25kms south of Reefton. Māwheranui/The Upper Grey River is renowned as trout fishing heaven and this is one of the activities you could include on your journey if you wish.

Much of the scenery on this trip is difficult or impossible to access from anywhere but the river making what you see truly unique.

The West Coast is an extremely special part of New Zealand. Come and experience its beauty with us!



Day One

We begin our adventure at 10.30am in Reefton and drive for around an hour to Māwheranui/The Upper Grey River. When you arrive at the river all you need to do is transfer your camp clothes into dry bags, and get changed into the river gear, both of which are provided. We will have some lunch so we are fuelled for our afternoon of rafting and listen to a comprehensive safety briefing. No previous rafting experience is needed as our guides will teach you everything you need to know before we start.

We get to practice and refine our paddle strokes straight away as the first part of the river has plenty of rocks for us to manoeuvre around. For the first four kms beech trees come right down to the river's edge. This really is a West Coast journey.

Before we camp for the night on the kanuka flats below the confluence with the Robinson we push through some entertaining rapids including the log jam. Your guides may stop here to see if any recent floods have caused log jam to live up to its name.

Once we make camp for the night we will have a meal cooked over the open fire and share some laughs before heading to bed.



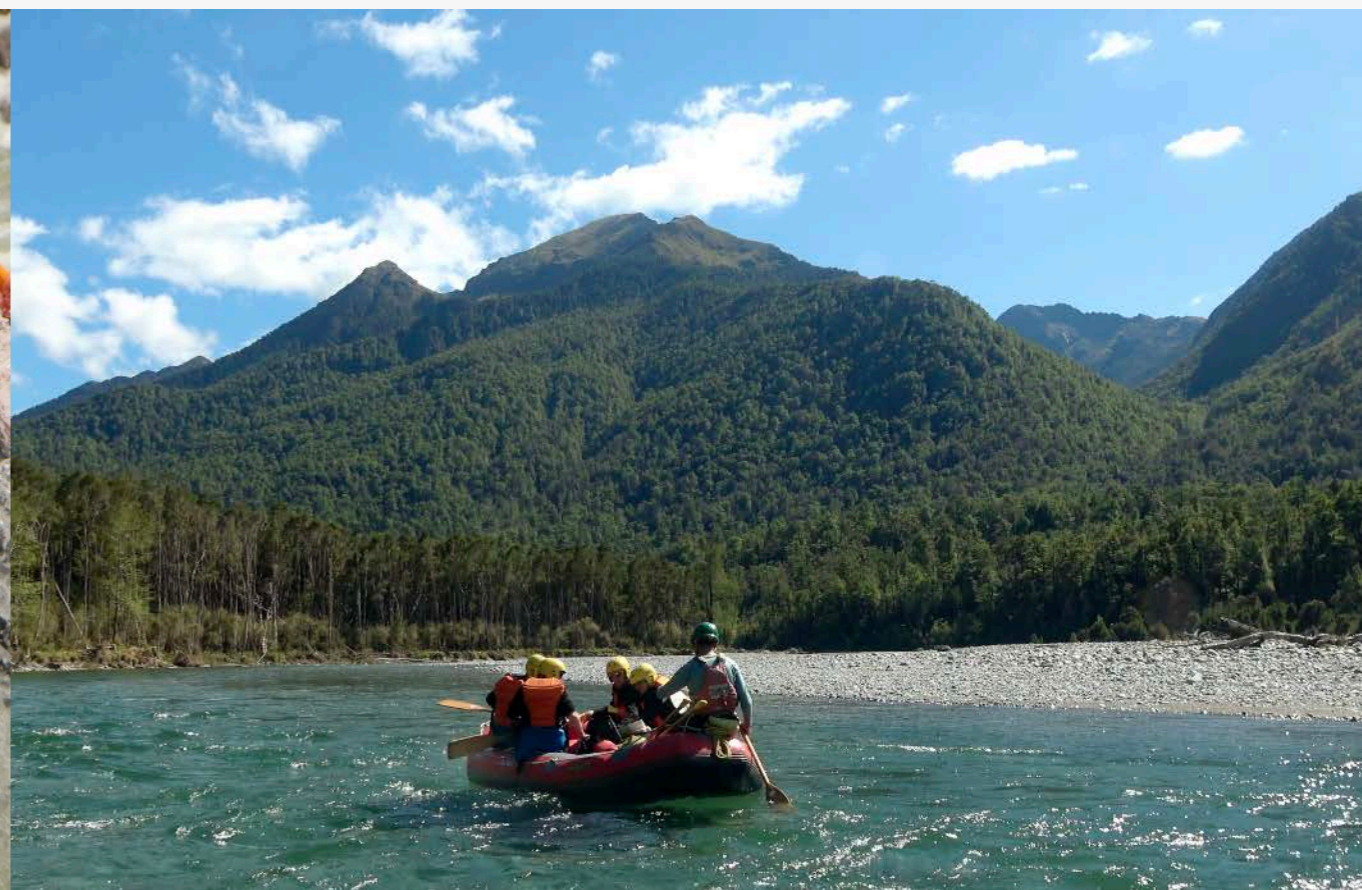
Day Two

A leisurely breakfast is followed by loading up the rafts for the second leg of the journey. We start the day off in a wide open valley with grade 2 rapids. Looking back up stream we get a great view of Mt Rameses, which at 1,453m towers over the river.

We float past a farm which was first owned by the McVicar family, who still have ties to Reefton and the West Coast. After lunch the river gets really fun. The hills tighten up and we tackle the rock garden section. The steep slopes surrounding the area are covered in rich and varied shades of green. Moss, beech and fern create a magical scene and we can not decide if it is more beautiful on a clear or misty day.

After floating past the tall waterfall that we have nicknamed 'the Lady of the Grey' we start to meet the biggest waves and rocks of Māwheranui/The Upper Grey. These include the rapids called Double Rock and Annie's Waves. Annie's Waves is a super fun wave chain that take us on a gentle roller coaster all the way to camp.

Island camp is a beautiful spot surrounded by beech forest; on a clear night the view of the sunset from the island can not be beaten.



Day Three

After another delicious breakfast in our bellies, we set out on the last part of our adventure. There is no better way to finish but to float through the Gentle Annie Gorge. This spectacular steep walled canyon will take your breath away. As the only way to access the gorge is via Māwheranui/ The Upper Grey River you will be one of the lucky few who have experienced its beauty. This river is a bit of a show off as shortly after leaving the first gorge we enter a second gorge, equally as stunning. On a hot day these gorges are great places to have a swim, float on your back in the deep pools and just marvel at the landscape around you.

Not long after lunch we reach the end of our journey. A short drive gets us back to Reefton by mid afternoon. This leaves you plenty of time for any onward travel you may have.



Camping and Food

Each night we choose a campsite with stunning views of the surrounding area. While we prepare the food, you can take time out to swim, try your luck with a fishing rod, chat to your guides or just sit back and take in the scenery.



All food is supplied for the trip: three lunches, two hearty dinners and breakfast both mornings. If you have any special dietary requirements or any strong food preferences please let us know in advance. Some on-river snacks will be supplied but feel free to bring some of your own favourites. You can also bring some wine/beer for the evening at camp. If you decide to bring beer please bring cans or plastic bottles rather than glass.



The Basics

Pick up times: 10.30am from Reefton

Duration: 3 Days

Age limit: 10 years and above

**Cost: Adult - \$1300 per Person / Child -
\$1100 (10-18 years)**

**Please don't hesitate to call us for more
information.**

You need to bring

For Camping

Sleeping bag (supplied on request, \$40 hire fee)

Warm clothes for camp

Warm hat

Raincoat

Small torch

Shoes and socks to wear around camp

Towel

Insect repellent

Toiletries

For the River

Swimwear/underwear for under the wetsuit

(two piece for ladies recommended, a one piece is hard to toilet in)

Thermal top (if you have one)

Old running shoes (separate pair from your camp shoes)

Sunscreen, sun hut, sun glasses

Personal medication i.e. asthma inhaler, epi pens

Don't forget to pack your sense of adventure!

Inland Adventures will supply

Helmets

Life jackets

Wetsuits

Splash jacket

Thermal top

Wetsuit socks

Small dry bags for sunscreen etc

Big dry bags for clothing etc

Tent

Camping mattress



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