

## GUIDING AND PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

These options offer flexible packages for individuals or groups. Not running to a set of fixed dates, you can select the dates to suit your travel.

### Alpine Touring

The vast glacial neves and endless snow of the Aoraki/Mount Cook area offer perfect terrain for extended ski touring. This package allows for easily tailored trips, for two or more people.

**Duration:** 5 or more days

**Guiding ratio:** maximum of 5 participants per guide

**Cost:** varies with length and participant numbers. Includes aircraft access.

**Season:** Jul - Oct

### Ascents Program

This is our climbing/touring package for individuals, tailored to the demands of the winter mountain environment. Let us know your ambitions and we can make it happen!

**Duration:** 6+ days

**Guiding ratio:** 1 to 1

**Cost:** varies with trip length

**Season:** Jul - Oct

### Private Instruction

This is our flexible package for groups of 2 or more; from beginner to advanced alpinists. Whether you have specific objectives, or want a more relaxed trip into the mountains, we can make this happen on a Private Instruction program.

**Duration:** 5 or more days

**Guiding ratio:** 2 - 4 participants per guide

**Cost:** Varies with length and number of participants. Includes aircraft access.

**Season:** Jul - Oct

For full detailed information on all our mountain trips, including scheduled course dates and availability, see our website at

[www.alpineguides.co.nz](http://www.alpineguides.co.nz),  
or contact us directly.

All prices are in NZ Dollars and include GST tax. Prices are correct at the time of printing, but are subject to change.

**“White, past belief, the high and snowy mountains, phantom-like, visionary; whiteness upon whiteness.”**

*Ursula Bethell, from CANDOUR*

*Murchison Hut, photo by Dave Sproule*



### Alpine Guides – Since 1966

Based year-round in Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park, Alpine Guides evolved from the long and reputable guiding tradition of the area. We have been at the forefront of guiding in New Zealand for more than 40 years. On the way we've introduced generations of alpinists to this fantastic mountain playground.

Our location, base, and ground staff in Mount Cook give our clients unparalleled access into the heart of the region, as well as unsurpassed logistical support and local knowledge. If your ambitions take you further afield, Alpine Guides has concessions to guide in Mount Aspiring National Park, Fiordland, and in the Remarkables near Queenstown.

During winter our Methven office is also open. This is the base for our famous Methven Heliskiing operation, and mountain guiding in the Arrowsmith Range.

It takes a special person to work as a mountain guide – even after a long day in the mountains there are still meals to be cooked, plans to be laid, and tales to be told... Our team of guides are professionals, with internationally recognised qualifications through the NZMGA/IFMGA\*. They're also a fantastic bunch of achievers in high places, with literally centuries of combined climbing and skiing experience in mountain places all over the world.

### Our Programs

Our trips and courses are designed to combine the best service, realistic objectives and reasonable pricing. They have been developed and tested over years to provide the best chance for success – when set against the scale of the terrain and range of conditions our dynamic climate can deliver.

\* New Zealand Mountain Guides Association and International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations

Cory on Mount Scissors (2339m), Barron Saddle  
Photo by Michael Madden

# ALPINE GUIDES

Mount Cook New Zealand

Ice Climbing, Ski Touring  
Guiding & Instruction

WINTER 2009

## CONTACT US

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# WINTER IN THE SOUTHERN ALPS

## WINTER IN NEW ZEALAND

Winter in New Zealand's Southern Alps extends from June to October. The hardy folk travelling into the mountains during these cooler months will commonly trade in their crampons for skis, snowshoes, or split snowboards. With fewer alpinists about than summer, the dividends are quieter huts – and an even more incredible wilderness experience.

Wild, remote, and beautiful hardly describe the Southern Alps. The Mount Cook area in particular is world-renowned as a great training and proving ground for mountaineers. No fewer than 28 of New Zealand's 29 peaks above 3000 metres are to be found on our doorstep

For those seeking the ephemeral delights of good water ice, mid-June to mid-August are the coldest times.

For skiers and boarders deep powder predominates earlier in the season, turning to excellent spring snow as the days get warmer, and touring gets better and better.

Winter climbing and touring can be a hazardous undertaking. Avalanche threat is ever present. Alpinists need more than the right equipment. They require sound judgement and an understanding of the risks and processes involved when exploring the backcountry. This is where our expert guides come in...

## SCHEDULED COURSES AND TOURS

These trips run to set dates. A limited number of spaces are available on each program. All run to a low maximum 1:4 ratio of guides to participants.

### Arrowsmith Range Ski Touring

Short ski touring adventures amongst the mighty Arrowsmith mountains. You need to be a strong intermediate skier with a good level of aerobic fitness. After the helicopter ride in, you can expect big glaciers and incredible terrain! Location: Methven/Arrowsmith region

Duration: 3 days  
Dates: Sept 12-15, Sept 19-22, Sept 26-29  
Cost: NZ\$1650 per person. Includes helicopter in and out. This tour is also available as a private group option for 3 or 4 days, dates to suit your travel plans.



“Incredible frozen waterfalls and seeps in the high valleys close to Mt Cook Village.”

### Backcountry Avalanche Course

This 4-day course is certified by the NZ Mountain Safety Council and utilises terrain at local ski areas, and Cameron Hut in the Arrowsmith Range. The Backcountry Avalanche Course teaches rescue techniques, profile analysis, route finding, and terrain assessment skills – all the essentials for safe travel in the big mountains. Location: Methven/Arrowsmith region  
Duration: 4 days  
Snowboarders: July 18-21, Aug 01-04, Aug/Sept 29-01  
Skiers: July 25-28, Aug 08-11, Sept 05-08  
Cost: NZ\$1550 per person. Includes helicopter in and out. Also available as a private group 4-day option.

Franz Josef Glacier Neve, near Centennial Hut.  
Photo by Trevor Street.

# IT'S BIG, IT'S COOL, IT'S WINTER

### Ski Mountaineering Course (SMC)

The SMC has been the stalwart of our winter courses for more than 20 years. Designed for skiers, and providing a perfect complement to summer mountaineering skills, the SMC will teach you the skills to travel, climb, and survive in a winter alpine environment. Previous backcountry skiing experience is not required, but you need to be a strong intermediate skier and have some rope skills. Location: Aoraki/Mount Cook region  
Duration: 7 days  
Courses run: July 19-25, Sept 06-12, Sept 20-26  
Cost: NZ\$2750 per person. Includes aircraft access.

### Ice Climbing Experience (ICE)

Our introductory course for climbing steep ice. The ICE takes advantage of incredible frozen waterfalls and seeps in the high valleys close to Aoraki/Mount Cook Village. No previous alpine experience is needed, but you must be fit and already have good rock climbing and rope handling skills. Location: Aoraki/Mount Cook region  
Duration: 5 days  
Courses run: July 13-17, July 27-31  
Cost: NZ\$2195 per person. Includes air access.

### Winter Mountain Skills

New in 2009, the Winter Mountain Skills course is for trampers/hikers who want to learn the skills to travel safely on foot above the snowline in winter. Instruction topics include snowshoeing, snow shelter building, and avalanche safety. Location: Aoraki/Mt Cook region  
Duration: 4 days  
Courses run: July 18-21, July 25-28, Sept 19-22, Sept 26-29, Oct 03-06  
Cost: NZ\$1295 per person.

“The SMC will teach you the skills to travel, climb, and survive in a winter alpine environment.”

Ice climbing in Bush Stream.  
Photo by Danny Baillie.



## ALPINE GUIDES WINTER 2009