

# Explore Aotearoa the Wrexham Way

Wrexham AFC touched down in Aotearoa with more than football on the agenda. From heli-rides over alpine peaks to claybird shooting on rugged coastal cliffs, their journey was an epic blend of adventure, luxury, culture, and a few perfectly thrown axes.

Ready to follow in the footsteps?

## Day 1-2: Queenstown and Wānaka

Fly into Queenstown over the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps. From there, it's a scenic one-hour drive to Wānaka - a lakeside gem known for its alpine beauty and playground for adventure.

### ***Experience the adrenaline:***

Hold tight. The iconic jet board ride in Queenstown is the ultimate way to shake off jet lag. Hurtling through narrow canyons, you'll whip around corners at 85kph and spin 360 degrees - prepare to get wet!

### ***Stay - Lake Hāwea Station***

Check in to the remote Packhorse Cottage at Lake Hāwea Station - a luxury off-grid escape surrounded by native bush and panoramic mountain views. Meet the team and hear how they've transformed the property into New Zealand's first carbon-positive certified farm - rewilding native bush, restoring wetlands, and sequestering more carbon than they emit.

### ***Take to the skies:***

Swap river rapids for high-altitude serenity on a private helicopter ride about the Southern Alps. You'll fly over Wānaka's legendary Coromandel Peak, known more commonly as Roy's Peak, traverse the ridgeline of Breast Hill, and circle the dramatic limestone rock formations known as The Castles.

### ***Forage and feast:***

Join Lake Hāwea Station's in-house chef, Dane, for an immersive food experience that begins with gumboots and ends with gourmet. You'll forage wild herbs, in-season produce and greens from the land before watching it be turned into a delicious lunch, with agricultural storytelling that connects the food to the source.

## Day 3-4: Welsh roots in Wellington

From Wānaka, drive back to Queenstown to hop on a direct flight to Wellington - New Zealand's compact and culture-rich capital. Then hit the road to nearby Greytown in the Wairapa, where tree-lined streets, heritage buildings and boutique shops offer a charming change of pace.

### ***Stay - The White Swan Hotel***

Base yourself in the heart of the Wairapa with a stay at the White Swan Hotel. This characterful hotel offers the best of small-town New Zealand. Enjoy a hearty meal and a cold

drink on the sunny front deck, before exploring vineyards, galleries and antique stores in the surrounding area.

***Toast to Wales:***

A visit to The Welsh Dragon is a must-visit on the Wrexham Aotearoa tour. Tucked inside a converted 1920s toilet block, this is the only Welsh bar in the southern hemisphere. Inside you'll find a roaring fire, a walk of Welsh memorability, live sport on the screen, and plenty of local characters.

***Go behind the scenes of movie magic:***

Back in the city, get up close with cinematic legends on a tour through Wellington's world-famous film effects studio. At Wētā Workshop, the team behind The Lord of the Rings, Avatar and District 9, you will see how orcs, armour, prosthetics and props that have graced the big screens are made. It's a hands-on, insider look into the world of movie magic.

***Soak up the culture:***

End your Wellington stay with a deep dive into Māori history with a guided experience on the city's vibrant waterfront. Learn the stories of Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Wellington Harbour), paddle a traditional waka (canoe), and understand the spiritual and cultural significance of the land you're exploring.

**Day 5-6: Action and indulgence at Boomrock**

Travel 35 minutes outside of Wellington for heart-pounding action and a five-star seclusion experience at Boomrock.

***Stay - Pipinui Point Lodge***

This exclusive lodge feels a world away from the city. With expansive ocean views, open fireplaces and chef-prepared meals, it's the perfect destination to slow down and unwind at the end of your stay.

***Embrace play at The Bunkers***

The Bunkers is Boomrock's bespoke outdoor playground. Test your aim with clay shooting and archery, and a round of axe throwing. Finish with a heart-pounding 4WD rally over tracks and ridgelines.

***Tee off with Clifftop Golf:***

There's golf, and then there's golf at Boomrock. Test your swing and attempt a hole-in-one on the clifftop driving range.