

Media Release

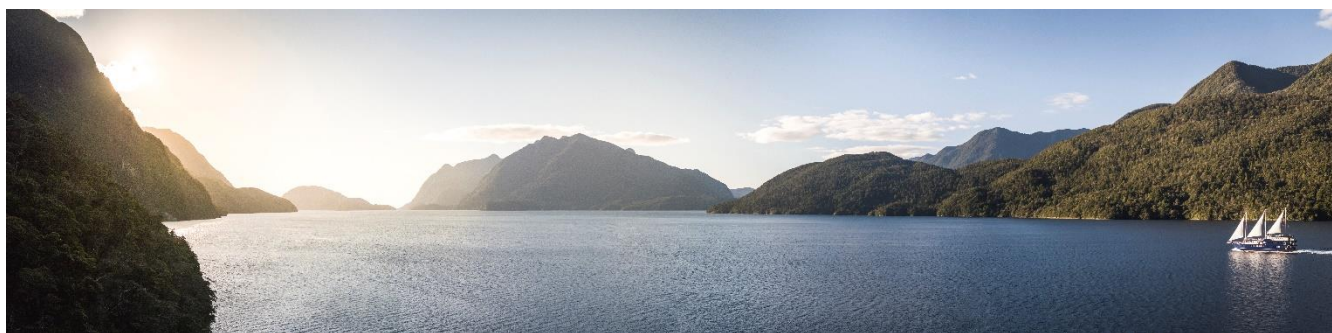
May 2019

Real Journeys double celebration at TRENZ

Real Journeys attends TRENZ following a double celebration this month; its 65th anniversary and winning the inaugural 100% Pure New Zealand Experience Award at the Qualmark awards for its Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise.

Accepting the award, Real Journeys General Manager Paul Norris paid tribute to his staff for their dedication and said the award was particularly poignant for the company. “Doubtful Sound is where it all started 65 years ago this month, with the vision of our founders - Les and Olive Hutchins.”

Just seven tourism companies received a 100% Pure New Zealand Experience Award. The awards recognise excellence in visitor experiences and tourism sustainability. Real Journeys Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ Lunch was also a finalist, there were 41 finalists and over 100 entrants. Only the country’s leading tourism companies with Qualmark’s highest assessment rating - the Gold Sustainable Tourism Business Award were eligible to enter the awards. Qualmark is New Zealand’s official tourism quality assurance.



[Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise](#) and [video](#)

The judges said the Real Journeys Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise: “Combined great story-telling, stunning scenery and outstanding staff to tell the story of Fiordland. The moments of silence on each cruise provide that total solitude, where guests feel totally at one with nature.”

Almost all Real Journeys experiences are Qualmark Gold rated, including its Milford Sound Cruises (day and overnight), Milford Track Guided Day Walk, TSS Earnslaw vintage steamship, Walter Peak High Country Farm, Te Anau Glowworm Caves, Stewart Island Experience, Discovery Expeditions and Doubtful Sound cruises (day and overnight).

Tourism Minister Hon. Kelvin Davies said being a finalist was a significant achievement, and that the awards recognised tourism operators who demonstrated “real dedication to manaakitanga and environmentally sustainable business practices”.



Kayaking on the Doubtful Sound Overnight Cruise ([high resolution images link](#))



Real Journeys General Manager Paul Norris with Tourism Minister Hon. Kelvin Davies



Founders Les and Olive Hutchins in Manapouri (For more: [Real Journeys history](#))

About the Wayfare group of companies

wayfare.nz

A period of sustained growth led Real Journeys to establish the 'Wayfare' group to represent its tourism companies in the international market and provide integrated services to its trade customers. With one point of contact, Wayfare makes it easier to do business with its family of five leading experience brands; Real Journeys, Cardrona Alpine Resort, Go Orange, International Antarctic Centre and Canyon Food & Brew Co. The name Wayfare, which means 'to travel or the act of journeying', was chosen because of the link back to Real Journeys and its association with New Zealand as a nation of wayfarers and travellers.

About Real Journeys

realjourneys.co.nz

Real Journeys is a privately-owned tourism business that was founded in 1954 by tourism and conservation pioneers Les and Olive Hutchins. Today the company remains true to its founders and their guiding principles of conservation and hospitality. Based in some of the most untouched areas of New Zealand, Real Journeys has operations from Stewart Island to Queenstown – including the Te Anau Glowworm Caves, world-renowned cruises through Milford and Doubtful Sounds, multi-day Discovery Expeditions, heritage steamship TSS Earnslaw and Walter Peak High Country Farm.

About Cardrona Alpine Resort

cardrona.com

Founded in 1980, Cardrona Alpine Resort is New Zealand's most popular ski area, where everyone's a VIP – from beginners and families, to Olympic and X Games athletes. Cardrona's three vast basins are home to New Zealand's first cabin-style lift – the McDougall's Express Chondola, and the southern hemisphere's most extensive terrain parks and pipes. Wide, open trails offer some of the country's best snow conditions, thanks to high altitude and an innovative snow management system. Take an easy drive from Queenstown or Wanaka and be welcomed with genuine Kiwi hospitality.

In the summer months Cardrona is open for mountain biking, carting, conferences and other alpine adventure activities. Cardrona recently purchased the rights to the Soho Ski Area and intends to expand into the Soho Basin. With over 900ha of skiable terrain, Cardrona-Soho will become the largest single ski area in the country.

About Go Orange

goorange.co.nz

Go Orange challenges visitors to 'Go Beyond' the average tourist and make a deeper connection to New Zealand. With its suite of must-do adventure experiences, strong company culture, and led by Luke Taylor, (who received this year's Tourism New Zealand Emerging Leader Award), Go Orange (GO) is fast becoming a leading adventure tourism brand in New Zealand.

The company originated as a subsidiary of Real Journeys offering a daily cruise in Fiordland in 2012. By 2017, Go Orange had merged with iconic Queenstown brands Queenstown Rafting, and KiwiDiscovery, to offer rafting, kayaking, cruising and coach connections. The following year, GO purchased well known Queenstown business Queenstown Water Taxis and added jetboating to its growing portfolio.

About International Antarctic Centre

iceberg.co.nz

Built in 1992, the International Antarctic Centre is a tourist attraction based in Christchurch, New Zealand, offering an interactive, immersive and fun Antarctic experience. Visitors can go through an Antarctic storm simulation with real snow and ice, an indoor/outdoor penguin viewing facility and a 4D cinema as well as travel on an all-terrain amphibious Hägglund vehicle from Antarctica. For animal lovers, rescued wildlife adds to the centre's appeal. Huskies visit the centre daily and the little blue penguins in residence at the International Antarctic Centre are rescue birds that would not otherwise survive in the wild.

About Canyon Food & Brew Co.

canyonfoodandbrew.co.nz

Canyon Food & Brew Co. opened in June 2018 and has already won four national awards (Brewer's Guild NZ) for its beer brewed on site by Head Brewer Jonathan Kauri. With spectacular views over Queenstown's iconic Shotover River, the restaurant has a large outdoor deck overlooking the canyon, warm fire inside and an open kitchen and brewery. Fresh flavoursome seasonal produce is served up with hand crafted beer in a relaxed, friendly vibe that's become popular with locals and visitors alike.

For high resolution photographs click [here](#). Visit our booth number 6041 and talk to Emilie Bean or email media@wayfare.nz



WAYFARE

LOVE THE JOURNEY



CARDRONA
ALPINE RESORT / NEW ZEALAND

Go Orange

**INTERNATIONAL
ANTARCTIC
CENTRE**

**Canyon
FOOD & BREW**