

REALNZ EVENTS
WHAKATIPU / QUEENSTOWN



INFORMATION PACK

2026 Christmas Parties

Three epic Christmas celebration options — the TSS Earnslaw Cruise & Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ, a private charter on Spirit of Queenstown, or whitewater rafting on the Kawarau or Shotover River.

Offer valid from 9 November 2026 to 23 December 2026, for groups of 10 or more. Terms and conditions apply.

Three epic Christmas celebration options.

At RealNZ, we create end-of-year celebrations that go beyond a dinner reservation or function room.

Set against the backdrop of Lake Whakatipu and the surrounding Southern Alps, our Christmas experiences combine iconic venues, memorable dining, and genuine New Zealand hospitality. Whether you're planning a relaxed team celebration, entertaining clients, or hosting a larger corporate event, our team can tailor an experience to suit your group, budget, and style.



OPTION ONE

TSS Earnslaw Cruise & Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ Dining

Step aboard the century-old TSS Earnslaw and cruise across Lake Whakatipu to Walter Peak High Country Farm for a Gourmet BBQ, stunning lakeside scenery, and the option of the popular Farm Show.



OPTION TWO

Private Charter on Spirit of Queenstown

Enjoy an exclusive private charter on Lake Whakatipu with uninterrupted mountain and waterfront views. Space for up to 60 guests, with catering and flexible beverage options.



OPTION THREE

Whitewater Rafting on the Kawarau or Shotover River

An adrenaline-filled team celebration on the river, with an optional feed at Canyon Taproom afterwards. Something different from a sit-down dinner.

HOW TO BOOK

Standard Christmas Party Packages can be booked online or through the RealNZ Reservations team. See [page 11](#) for how to book your event.

WHY REALNZ

Dedicated events team with extensive experience

Delicious food and beverage options

Iconic Queenstown venues and experiences

Trusted New Zealand tourism operator with over 70 years of experience

Flexible group sizes, from intimate gatherings to large celebrations

Strong commitment to conservation and sustainability

However you choose to celebrate, we'll help create a Christmas event your guests will remember long after the year is over.

TSS Earnslaw Lake Whakatipu Cruise & Walter Peak Gourmet BBQ Dining

Enjoy a memorable dining experience at Walter Peak High Country Farm, accessed via a return cruise aboard the iconic TSS Earnslaw. Set on the shores of Lake Whakatipu at Walter Peak, the Homestead Restaurant offers a unique lakeside setting for your Christmas celebration.

THE PACKAGE INCLUDES

Return TSS Earnslaw cruise across Lake Whakatipu, 45 minutes each way

One house beverage per guest, redeemable via a drinks token

Festively decorated Christmas table reserved for your group

Gourmet BBQ dining featuring local and homegrown produce

Lakeside dining with views across to Queenstown

Optional Farm Show in the amphitheatre following the Gourmet BBQ

Duration approximately 3.5 to 4 hours

2026 PACKAGE PRICING

NZ\$ **199** pp

11.00am, 1.00pm & 5.00pm departures – RRP NZ\$219

NZ\$ **169** pp

7.00pm departure, selected dates only – RRP NZ\$189

See [page 11](#) for how to book your event.

Christmas departure options & timings

TSS Earnslaw cruise departure times from Steamer Wharf, Queenstown.

JOURNEY STEP	11.00am	1.00pm	5.00pm	7.00pm*
Board TSS Earnslaw at Steamer Wharf, Queenstown	10.45am	12.45pm	4.45pm	6.45pm
TSS Earnslaw departs Queenstown, Lake Whakatipu cruise commences	11.00am	1.00pm	5.00pm	7.00pm
Arrive at Walter Peak for Gourmet BBQ, served in the Homestead Restaurant	11.45am	1.45pm	5.45pm	7.45pm
Farm Show commences in the amphitheatre (optional)	1.15pm	3.15pm	7.30pm	9.30pm
Depart Walter Peak on TSS Earnslaw	1.45pm	4.00pm	8.15pm	10.15pm
Arrive back at Steamer Wharf, Queenstown	2.45pm	4.45pm	9.00pm	11.00pm

*Please note: the 7.00pm TSS Earnslaw departure is not available on all dates throughout November and December. You can check online [availability here](#) for your preferred date, or our Events Team can assist.



Cruise, dine, and stay for the Farm Show



Lake Whakatipu Cruise

Cruise across Lake Whakatipu aboard the iconic TSS Earnslaw and enjoy spectacular alpine scenery en route to Walter Peak. Your package includes one house beverage per guest on the TSS Earnslaw. Bar tabs, beverage packages and pre-arranged canapés are also available.



The Homestead Restaurant, Walter Peak

Once you arrive at Walter Peak, enjoy dining at the historic Homestead Restaurant, set on the shores of Lake Whakatipu with stunning lake and mountain views. Beverage packages, bar tabs, and pre-ordered table wines are available.



Walter Peak Farm Show

After the Gourmet BBQ, guests have the option to attend our popular Farm Show. Lasting around 25 minutes, it's an entertaining way to round off the Walter Peak experience, featuring local farming stories, working dogs and, where possible, a sheep shearing demonstration. The amphitheatre is undercover and heated in winter. Sheep shearing demonstrations are subject to seasonal and weather conditions.

Locally sourced produce, cooked fresh by our own chefs

Our team of in-house chefs at Walter Peak are the great people behind the beautiful food that is locally sourced and cooked fresh for our guests.

In keeping with our core focus of sustainability, there is plenty of work that goes in to ensuring we can bring our guests locally sourced produce, and the distance between the farm and the table is kept to a minimum.

At the Homestead Restaurant, a Gourmet BBQ awaits, often called one of the best meals in New Zealand. Prior to dinner, we can serve your guests a variety of pre-dinner canapés or cheese and antipasti grazing platters, including on your cruise.

In terms of beverages, the Christmas Party Package includes one house beverage, redeemable via a drinks token on the vessel on the way to Walter Peak.

For groups, beverage packages featuring wines and beers are available for one to four hours. Or, easier still, pre-order some wine for the tables, or set up a bar tab.

BEVERAGE MENUS

TSS Earnslaw - Beverage Menu

Walter Peak | The Homestead Beverage Menu

Events beverage package menu, with one, two, three or four hour options





Capacities

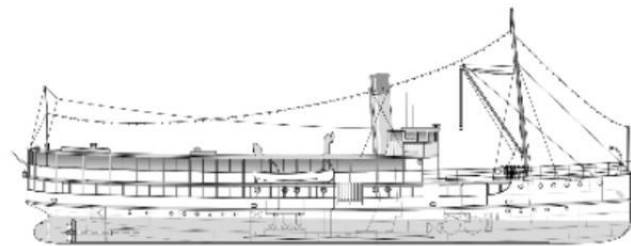
TSS Earnslaw

Total	250 guests
Private Saloon, lower deck	60 guests

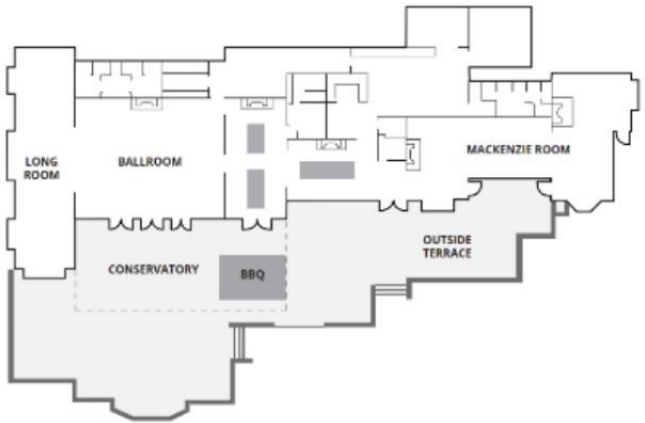
The Homestead Restaurant, Walter Peak

Total	300 guests seated
Ballroom	90 guests seated
Long Room	80 guests seated
Conservatory	60 guests seated
Mackenzie Room	60 guests seated

TSS EARNSLAW



HOMESTEAD FLOOR PLAN





Private Charter on Spirit of Queenstown

Step aboard our modern catamaran, Spirit of Queenstown, for a festive celebration on the water. Cruise across Lake Whakatipu while enjoying uninterrupted views of the Queenstown waterfront, surrounding mountains, and alpine scenery. The private charter setting creates a relaxed and memorable atmosphere, perfect for end-of-year celebrations with colleagues, clients, or friends.

PRIVATE CHARTER DETAILS

Exclusive

90-minute private boat charter on Lake Whakatipu, offering a unique scenic experience.

Timing

5.30pm to 7.00pm, any day, subject to availability.

Max capacity

60 guests

2026 PACKAGE PRICING

\$ 4,500

Flat fee, private and exclusive charter on Spirit of Queenstown.

The package includes exclusive vessel hire (NZ\$4,500) plus a grazing table for all guests at NZ\$30.00 per person (mandatory)

A beverage service can be tailored with either a bar tab or a selected beverage package. A Beverage Package can also be arranged. [Click here](#) for our Beverage Package Menu (we can tailor this to suit your cruise timing).

See [page 11](#) for how to book your event.

GRAZING TABLE MENU

CHARCUTERIE

Prosciutto / cured meats / salamis

Marinated olives

Homemade pickles

Breads and crackers

CHEESES

Whitestone cheeses

Homemade relishes and preserves

Breads and crackers

BITES

Chipotle chicken sliders

Vegan avocado artichoke sliders

Tortilla chips / crudités

Hummus

Guacamole

\$ 30.00 per person (mandatory for all guests)



Whitewater Rafting on the Kawarau or Shotover River

Trade the boardroom for the river. Raft the Kawarau or Shotover River for an adrenaline-filled team celebration — and if you'd like to keep the day going, add a feed at Canyon Taproom afterwards. An active, memorable way to end the year together — perfect for groups after something a little different from a sit-down dinner.

THE PACKAGE INCLUDES

- Half-day whitewater rafting adventure on the Kawarau or Shotover River
- Full safety briefing, professional guide and safety kayaker on every trip
- All rafting gear provided — wetsuit, helmet, booties and life jacket
- Return transfers from the RealNZ Visitor Centre
- Hot showers and change facilities at the Raft Base

Duration

Approximately 4.5 hours in total, including transfers.

Group size

Capped at a maximum of 50 guests.

Eligibility

Minimum age 13 (guardian conditions apply for guests 18 and under). Moderate fitness and swimming ability required. Full terms provided on booking confirmation.

2026 PACKAGE PRICING

NZ\$ 199 pp

Kawarau River — Grade 2–3, scenic and social rafting, first-timer friendly.

NZ\$ 260 pp

Shotover River — Grade 3–5, adrenaline-filled rafting through Shotover Canyon.

Optional add-on — NZ\$45.00 pp

Canyon Taproom Feed the Table afterwards: pizza, chips and fried chicken. Availability is limited and separate from the raft trip — please confirm at the time of enquiry so we can hold both.

Morning or afternoon departures available, subject to availability.

See [page 11](#) for how to book your event.

Sustainability, Conservation and Corporate Social Responsibility

"No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced."

David Attenborough

RealNZ is a conservation business powered by tourism. Every experience and event we deliver helps support the protection of the extraordinary places in which we operate.

For more than 70 years, we have shared some of New Zealand's most remarkable wilderness areas with visitors from around the world. Today, conservation remains at the heart of our business, guiding how we operate, invest and grow. We work alongside the Department of Conservation, mana whenua, community groups and environmental partners to support habitat restoration, predator control, species recovery and ecosystem protection across Southern New Zealand.

RealNZ measures and reports its emissions, actively works to reduce waste and resource use, and continues to invest in lower-emission technologies and renewable energy solutions across our operations. We are proud to hold Qualmark Enviro Silver status and to have received the Tourism Industry Aotearoa Conservation in Action Award.

When you choose RealNZ for your event, your programme becomes part of something bigger, helping to support the long-term protection of the landscapes, wildlife and communities that make New Zealand unique.



How to Book

Standard Christmas Party Packages can be booked online [here](#) or through the RealNZ Reservations team. Booking online is the easiest way to lock in your package.

Reservations: contact@realnz.com, 0800 656501 (NZ), 1800 656501 (Australia) or +64 3 249 6000.

For a bespoke Christmas party or any questions about your event, email our team at events@realnz.com.

General Terms & Conditions

Bookings made through Reservations are subject to the RealNZ Reservations terms and conditions. The same terms apply to bookings made online. Contact Reservations for more information.

CONFIRMING AN EVENT

To confirm your event with us, we will send you a document outlining all our terms and conditions. This needs to be signed and returned, as well as an initial deposit paid. The return of this document, and the deposit, secures your preferred date and allows us to begin detailed planning.

Our payment terms are: a 25% deposit due within 30 days of confirmation; a further 50% balance due 90 days prior to the event; final payment due 7 days prior to the event, unless agreed otherwise in advance.

We'll request your final guest numbers a week before the event so our team can plan accordingly. Charges are based on this confirmed number.

CANCELLATIONS

To cancel an event, written notice must be provided to RealNZ.

Once the signed agreement and deposit have been received, any subsequent date amendments, partial service cancellations or full-service cancellations will result in the deposit being retained by RealNZ and remaining non-refundable.

31 to 90 days prior to travel: date amendments, partial service cancellations or full-service cancellations will result in all payments made being non-refundable.

0 to 30 days prior to travel: date amendments, partial service cancellations or full-service cancellations will incur a 100% cancellation fee, with no refund of any payments made.

WALTER PEAK VENUE RESET

If your group chooses not to attend the Farm Show at Walter Peak, we may ask guests to depart the dining space shortly after the conclusion of the meal. This allows our team time to prepare the venue for upcoming services.

After leaving the dining area, guests are very welcome to continue enjoying the property, including approved areas such as the gift store, photo spots and farm grounds, subject to operational requirements.

Full terms and conditions are provided as part of the booking process, and we're always happy to walk you through anything in more detail.

PACKAGE ELIGIBILITY

A minimum of 10 guests is required to qualify for a Christmas Party package rate.

Real Rewards (locals) pricing cannot be applied to these packages.

NEXT STEP

Check availability and hold your date

Provide your preferred date and estimated guest numbers, and our Events Team will confirm availability and place a courtesy hold on your date. We'll then work with you to finalise the details and create an event that suits your group.



REALNZ EVENTS TEAM

events@realnz.com

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