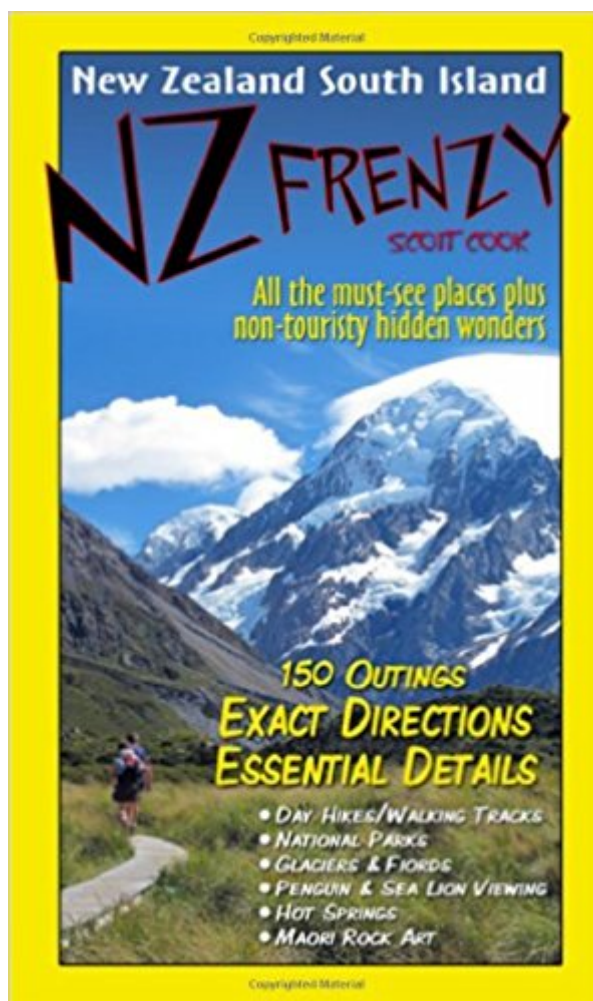


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NZ Frenzy: New Zealand South Island 2nd Edition



Synopsis

NZ Frenzy is a travel guidebook to free outdoor locations on New Zealand's South Island. This guidebook is not meant to replace a Lonely Planet/Frommers/Rough Guide, but rather to compliment them. In NZ Frenzy you'll find info about all the South's must-see spots, plus detailed info about the lesser-known and unheralded off-the-beaten-path wonder spots. This guidebook goes WAY beyond the vague outdoor info in the mainstream travel guidebooks. NZ Frenzy is about giving you the details you'll need to find the "real" NZ, the one without lines of tour buses, the one without brochures of pay-to-see commercialized natural "attractions". NZ Frenzy, unlike any of the other mainstream guidebooks, will deliver you to the New Zealand that you've been planning for and fantasizing about. I guarantee it. Please read the reviews of NZ Frenzy North Island to see what travelers think of my info. Are you going to NZ to be a tourist at touristy crowded places or do you want to find the "Real" New Zealand that you'll tell stories about?? When you have an NZ Frenzy in hand, you'll leave the other guidebooks in the glove box and you'll leave the tourists behind!! The South Island has natural wonders beyond compare, but the mainstream media only promotes the commercialized stuff. Don't waste your precious time while in NZ waiting in line at the tourist visitor centers...get NZ Frenzy and go experience the Real New Zealand, the Fabled New Zealand. You can have the trip of a lifetime, you will have the trip of a lifetime!!

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Scott Cook; 2nd edition (2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0979923263

ISBN-13: 978-0979923265

Package Dimensions: 7.9 x 4.8 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 230 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #568,021 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > New Zealand](#) #261 in [Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > General](#)

Customer Reviews

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My college age daughter and I just spent 2 weeks in the south island, at the end of their winter season. I had already gotten her the North Island book and was amazed by everything in it. So I bought the South Island book and spent weeks pouring over every page, the website, the pic's etc. I then mapped out his most recommended places and we set out on our journey. We hit the West Coast, including Pancake Rocks, Motekeiki Beach Walk, Franz Joseph Glacier and the unreal teal waters of Hokitaki Gorge. Then over Haast Pass and into Wanaka and Queenstown. Then the Routburne Track, Milford, Curio Bay, Mt. Cook, Lake Tekapo, Kaikora and up to the Queen Charlotte Track before catching the Ferry back to Wellington. Only Scott tells you how important the tides are at Pancake and Motekeiki (awesome seastacks), how you can see rare penguins (for free) at Curio, how cool the windswept South Coast is, how rainy it will be on the West Coast and how to prepare for sandflies, what the best trails are at Mt. Cook (wow), how you have to get to the Falls Hut if you do the Routburne, where you can catch a great alpine spa, and where the best marine life viewing spots are on the East Coast. Every spot we hit was incredible and so very different, and many were out-of-the-way, and nearly all were free of charge. In an expensive place like NZ, that was a welcome relief. Buy the book, you'll more than make your money back avoiding a catered tour that you can do yourself, only better.... Where else on this planet can you see a rainforest, glaciers, lakes with icebergs, mile high granite walls at fiordland, alpine vistas, super green rolling farmland, giant seastacks, waves bashing the coast, seals, dolphins, exotic birds, even a whale visible from the coast.

My wife and I just finished a 3 week trip around the South Island of New Zealand with Scott Cook's book close at hand the entire time. While we also had Lonely Planet and a handful of NZ tourism brochures near by, it was NZ Frenzy that we found ourselves continuously referencing. The books detailed walks, detailed driving directions and accurate description of what to expect along the way helped us get the most out of our trip. As an example, the Lonely Planet put a two-line plug in for a Seal Colony near Kaikoura on the East Coast of the island. Their description was that you could see seals there and snap some good photos before moving on to Kaikoura for some big ticket wildlife tours. NZ Frenzy eclipsed Lonely Planet's two-line description with a 3 page entry, not only telling the best way to get to the colony, but also highlighting a little-known hike only a kilometer away that allowed you access to a favorite playground for the seal colony's baby seals. When my wife and I arrived at the colony, there were tourists galore and full-sized busses parked in the small space. We chose to immediately go to the trail head and found that the 'secret' hike had been outted by the NZ Tourism Department and there were swarms of tourists there also. Even then, we took Scott's advice to ignore the cute seals likely playing in a pool near the trail head (along with all the happy-snapping tourist hordes) and hike to the end of the trail (at easy 10 minutes). Within two minutes my wife and I were alone, and just a minute after that we were face to face with a second pool of flipping, barking, dancing seal pups - an NO tourists. Our walk included at least two other pools, each with a handful of pups, and each insulated against the press of other tourists who had no idea/interest in making the small hike that Scott Cook's book highlighted and emphasized. This is only one example, but we had similar experiences all over the island where NZ Frenzy helped us prioritize and enjoy hikes, historical sights, wildlife areas, and even restaurants that other books/brochures paid little credence too. If you are looking to explore NZ's South Island, this is absolutely a book you want to have with you. It is appropriate for all ages and all fitness levels and is well organized for planning and reference needs. We can't say enough good things about this book and hope Scott finds time to write similar books about other wonderful places! Well done, Scott!

This helped us plan our NZ trip on the fly! We really went with very little in the way of an itinerary, but used this guide to explore the island pretty much everywhere we went. The writer is mostly on-point and his writing style is entertaining. Lots of little adventures to be had in this country! Note: The book describes the Yellow-eyed penguin colony in the southern tip of the southern island as a great stop-off. The night we wend (a Tuesday at the beginning of off-season) it was an absolute

spectacle. Don't waste your time. There's only a handful that can be seen, and every night throngs of people come to the ocean to petrified beach to witness their march back to the hills to tend their young. It's obvious the crowds stressed out these endangered creatures. There was even a nice ranger on the beach to monitor the crowd. My husband and I felt just awful being a part of it and ended up leaving. The petrified forest is pretty cool, though! Just don't go at dusk.

My husband and I just returned from a three week adventure on the South Island. Our copy of this book looks like it is 20 years old because of everything that it is been through. In every place that we visited, we checked Scott Cook's recommendations on what we should do. Our favorite recommendations were the Clifden Caves, observing the Yellow-Eyed penguins at Curio Bay, exploring Motukiekie beach at low-tide, and swimming with the seals in Kaikoura. However, we also enjoyed the Charming Creek hike, The Remarkables hike, and others. Unfortunately, as Cook cautions, the glaciers have melted so much that we wish we had skipped those hikes. During one particularly "obscure" hike at The Remarkables, we came across a couple who said, "You must be using NZ Frenzy." We confirmed this and they stated that they encountered only NZ Frenzy users at most places they visited because many of the recommendations are not in other tourist books. This book is not like other books because it does not include lodging or restaurant recommendations; it truly is a book that focuses on hikes or similar adventure type activities. We highly recommend this book for anyone who plans to do a lot of exploration on foot.

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