



# CASTLE TO CRUISE TOUR



## Tour Times

### Summer (Oct-Mar):

10:30am to 3:30pm

### Winter (Apr-Sep):

11:30am to 5:00pm

Take a wonderful journey back in time, on a guided tour of New Zealand's castle.

Built in 1871, it took two hundred workers roughly three years to build the exterior shell and a further twelve years for master European craftsmen to finish the interior. Over the years the castle and grounds fell in to ruin and disrepair. In 1967 the property was bought by the Barker family who have spent many years restoring it to its former grandeur. The rooms are once again filled with original artworks, clothing and furniture.

During the tour you'll see the magnificent carved ceilings, antiques and painstakingly restored original features. Hear the scandalous and tragic history of the original owner, William Larnach who took his own life with a single shot to the head. Climb the spiral staircase to the rooftop tower for stunning 360° views of the Otago Peninsula. We highly recommend a short walk around the beautiful gardens, recognized to be of international significance.

Time is allowed to explore the grounds or take tea in the Ballroom Cafe. You'll then meet your guide back at the bus and continue the tour along the Peninsula.

Join an invigorating Wildlife Cruise around Taiaroa Head, home to the world's only mainland nesting place of royal albatross. Watch as these huge birds glide in from the ocean and soar high above their hillside nests. You'll cruise beneath a historic lighthouse, perched high above volcanic cliffs. Watch as NZ fur seals play and swim around the rocky outcrops below. Then it's a short way out to sea to spot other species of albatross, cormorants, petrels and other rarely seen ocean birds. Occasionally we might spot blue penguins, dusky or hectors dolphins or sea lions.



## Tour check-in & departure point:

Guests can check-in 20 mins before departure at 20 Fryatt St, Dunedin (Monarch Wildlife Office). Free all-day carparks are available around this location.

## Accommodation pickups & dropoffs:

Transfers available on request from Dunedin hotels, motels, backpacker hostels, holiday parks & iSite Visitor Centre. We do not pickup from accommodation on the Otago Peninsula, Airbnb, Bookabach or private residences.

# CASTLE TO CRUISE TOUR

Operated by:  
**MONARCH**  
WILDLIFE CRUISES & TOURS

-  This tour departs from our office at 20 Fryatt Street, Dunedin. Please check-in fifteen minutes before your scheduled start time. All-day free carparks can be found around this location.
-  Complimentary pickups & dropoffs are available upon request. We pickup from central Dunedin hotels, motels, backpacker hostels and the iSite Visitor Centre (no private residences or AirBnB's).
-  Dress warm for the days forecast and bring a waterproof layer. The weather can be unpredictable at times and we highly recommend being ready for all conditions. Extra jackets are available.
-  We suggest wearing sturdy and comfortable footwear. If you decide to stand whilst on the boat always have a hand free to stabilise yourself on a rail. Take extra care when moving around the vessel.
-  This tour is not suitable for people with limited mobility or wheelchair users. Larnach Castle has multiple levels with several flights of stairs to climb and no handicap facilities.
-  Meals are not provided but time can be allowed to purchase something from the Ballroom Cafe at Larnach Castle. You are welcome to bring your own pre-packed food and drink on tour with you.
-  The area we cruise around is fairly sheltered from swell, however some wind and tide combinations can cause a little rock and roll. Don't worry if the forecast is for a cold, wet or windy day, the albatross love it. They won't stop for rain and neither do we. The best viewing often comes from the wilder days.
-  High quality binoculars and multi-language information sheets will be provided.
-  Wildlife viewing is never guaranteed, but we'll always aim to give the best possible experience.
-  Toilet and bathroom facilities are available during the Wildlife Cruise and Castle tour.
-  If you are concerned about potential sea sickness, a variety of preventative medications can be purchased at local pharmacies. Our crew can also provide pressure pressure point wristbands and peppermint oil pads if you begin to feel queasy or uneasy (they really do help).
-  We love feedback and really appreciate it when our visitors leave a review at [tripadvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com) Share your photos with us at [facebook.com/monarchwildlife](https://www.facebook.com/monarchwildlife) and on instagram @monarchwildlife
-  Questions? Contact us via email [monarch@wildlife.co.nz](mailto:monarch@wildlife.co.nz) or phone +64 3 477 4276 or 0800 666 272.

**Cancellation Policy:**

Monarch Wildlife Ltd will provide a refund (less our transaction fee) or credit for cancellations made more the 24 hours prior to your tour. We reserve the right to charge up to 100% for no-shows or bookings cancelled within 24 hours. We reserve the right to cancel or alter any cruise, service or price. If your trip is cancelled for any reason, such as extreme weather, We will attempt to reschedule your tour or provide a full refund.