



Serving young people in New Brighton since 1989

QUEENSTOWN CAMP REPORT 2013



Thank you so much Southern Trust for supporting us with a grant towards some of the costs of this camp. Without your financial assistance this camp would not have happened!!



For over 2 years we have been running teenage holiday programmes and we had always talked about doing a camp with the same teenagers. This year we made it happen and chose one of NZ's most celebrated places – Queenstown!

With 37 teenagers, 4 vans and 8 leaders, we left Christchurch Monday morning and had a fun filled week. We went to Skyline Gondola & Luge, Wanaka Puzzling World, mountain biking, swimming, shopping, cooking meals, eating them & 1000 k's of travelling!!!



Queenstown Camp Report 2013

Monday

Everyone arrived very early and eager to begin our Road trip. After going through introductions and the weeks rules we set off in four different vans. Along the journey a few vehicles stopped off at places like the Cookie Time factory, Tekapo, and many towns most of us had never been too before. By evening time we had arrived at Queenstown and everyone was pretty tired. We were welcomed at our accommodation Pinewood Lodge, which had separate dorms for the boys and girls and a communal meeting and kitchen area in the centre. The first evening was mellow and we had 'make your own pizzas' which was popular! From the very first day all the young people were getting on well with each other, and all friendship groups were mixing well together.

Tuesday

Today was largely anticipated by most of our youth, especially because a majority of them haven't been to Queenstown or on the Luge. After having a wholesome breakfast and a bit of time to relax we made our way to the Skyline Centre. The Gondola ride was a thrill in itself, but the Luge was yet to come! At the top of the hill the view was fantastic and then the races began! We all started on the beginner track, before advancing to the more difficult tracks. We even lined up perfectly at the starting line, there were a few cheats, a couple of crashes but everyone absolutely loved it! Later in the afternoon we went to the Queenstown pools, which was very relaxing for leaders and youth alike. They had a giant spa pool, 2 hydro slides and a large play area pool where most the youth played a version of water polo. In the evening back at Pinewood Lodge after the second group cooked up a storm, we snacked on the baking the young people brought to camp and played cards. People were so relaxed and were opening up to the youth leaders.

Wednesday

The road to Wanaka was extremely windy – but obviously well driven as nobody was sick. Once we arrived we had free time, some of the van groups went into the town centre while others went to the wharf to look at and feed the gigantic eels. At midday we picked up our lunch which was Subway and visited one of the local community centres called 'Kahu Youth'. Richard runs the centre and made us feel at home. It had a pool table, internet access for the youth, basketball outside and a lounge area where most of our youth chilled out in. In the afternoon we made our way to Puzzling World and after doing a few group photos and spending a good amount of time looking at the illusions and getting lost in the maze we made our way back to Queenstown. The highlight of the day for most of the youth was the maze, which was 1.5km if fully measured out!

Thursday

To make the most out of the day we split into two groups, the first group we called the beginner riders they went mountain biking in the morning around an easy trail that goes along the lakeside. While they were biking the second group we called the intermediate riders went into the city centre and had a look around. The intermediate riders went biking in the afternoon while the morning group went into city centre. Both groups enjoyed the day, especially the beginners because the trail was more scenic instead of technical. The intermediate groups trail was called '7 mile' and was a pine forest with lots of jumps and drops. Even though the young people were absolutely exhausted afterwards they all said that they had an amazing time. I had one father tell me the following week that the mountain biking was the highlight of the camp for his son. In the evening the 4th team cooked up a feed of Nacho's – always a tasty a feed, before relaxing at the lodge, playing games and talking about how nobody wanted to go back home!

Friday

Once we had packed and cleaned up we were on the road and sadly on our way back. As a group we stopped in Tekapo and took some photos, ate some lunch and one van group even went for a swim in the icy waters – brave!!! They weren't in there for long, we all felt cold even looking at them swimming. We arrived back to Christchurch in the early evening and all said our goodbyes. It was so encouraging to hear the feedback from the young people both verbally, online, through parents and in the feedback we received from our survey. All the time and energy we put into the camp was worthwhile!

Watch the Highlights Video on You Tube.

Search "Queenstown Camp Youth Alive Trust"



Thrills for teens on holiday

Forty teenagers plus their leaders took a road trip to Queenstown over the school holidays. The Youth Alive Trust's five day trip involved over 1000km in a van, activities such as luging, the gondola, mountain biking, a trip to Wānaka and a visit to another youth centre.

Camp leader and local youthworker Matt Tait said it was such a privilege to watch the faces of the teenagers seeing some of New Zealand's most awe-inspiring sights for the first time.

"We live in such an amazing country, and to get out of our damaged city and see our country in all its beauty made us all feel so proud to be Kiwis."

All the young people are from the east of Christchurch and are part of the regular weekly activities offered in New Brighton by Youth Alive Trust. The camp was made possible with a one-off grant from Southern Trust, which supported the cost of accommodation, hiring vans and some of the activities. Young people contributed some of their own funds and also took part in sausage sizzles and Entertainment Book fundraising.



SLICK: Josh Hall (front) and Jasmine Buller (second) in the lead on the luge at Queenstown.



ROAD TRIP: A stop at Lake Tekapo reminds Youth Alive Trust teens of the country's beauty.

Survey Results

Here are the results from the survey carried out post camp...

1. How did you find the activities?

Rubbish:	0%
Alright:	0%
Good:	14.29%
Totally Epic	85.71%

2. How were the leaders?

Rubbish:	0%
Alright:	0%
Good:	4.55%
Totally Epic:	95.45%

3. What did you think of our Accommodation at Pinewood Lodge?

Rubbish:	0%
Alright:	0%
Good:	59.13%
Totally Epic:	40.91%

4. What did you think of the food?

Rubbish:	0%
Alright:	4.55%
Good:	40.91%
Totally Epic:	54.55%

5. Van Journey

Rubbish:	0%
Alright:	4.76%
Good:	28.57%
Totally Epic:	66.67%



July 26

Had so much fun in Queenstown thanks for a great week guys 😊 — with Nathan and 10 others. (7 photos)



July 26

Queenstown was awesome had a great week miss it already thankyou everyone who organised it and my friends who I love and made it heaps of fun!!!!- with Nathan and 10 others.

Unlike · Comment · Share



July 26

Had an amazing time in Queenstown(: best holiday yet. Thanks to everyone who made it possible and my amazing friends that made it awesome. Love you guys xx — with Nathan and 11 others.

Like · Comment · Share

others like this.



July 26

Back home after an amazing week with these wonderful people, thanks again for what I'm sure will be great memories one day 😊 — with Nathan and 10 others.



July 26

Had an amazing time in Queenstown, had heaps of fun experiences and the people made it so much better! — 😊 feeling privileged with Nathan and 9 others.

Like · Comment



July 26

omg had so much fun in Queenstown! Dem ferg burgers!:) Best week ever!!! — with Nathan and 14 others.

Like · Comment

others like this.







