



WILDERNESS LODGE  
ARTHUR'S PASS



*Discover the Wilderness Lodge*  
**Sheep Farm**



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# The Wilderness Lodge Farm

Wilderness Lodge Arthur's Pass sits on a spectacular 4000 acre farm & nature reserve, midway between Christchurch & the South Island's West Coast. Visit and experience the rich cultural traditions of life on a real working sheep farm.



## A Real Working Sheep Farm

Named 'Cora Lynn' by Scottish shepherds in the 1860s, the Wilderness Lodge farm sits alongside the glacier fed Waimakariri River, surrounded by the high peaks of Arthur's Pass National Park.

Today, half the property is fenced as a nature reserve protecting the forests, wetlands and mountaintops. The remainder continues as a traditional sheep farm.

New Zealanders call a large mountainous property like this a 'high country station'. Here sheep graze widely at low density, often on steep terrain. Well trained sheep dogs are needed to bring them down.

This is no dude ranch. The farm produces fine merino wool, Angus calves, and prime lamb for the Wilderness Lodge restaurant.

## Experience Farming Life

A highlight of a Wilderness Lodge Arthur's Pass stay is the opportunity to explore & learn about farming life.

Every second afternoon guests can explore the farm with a guide, watch sheep-dogs in action, hand-feed lambs, see sheep shearing and learn how the world's finest merino wool is grown..

The Wilderness Lodge requires a two-night minimum stay. For guests this means there will always be farm trip, on either your first or second afternoon with us.

In addition, a 30km network of forest, farm and mountain trails radiate across the Wilderness Lodge property. Guests can explore at their leisure and soak up the history, atmosphere and stunning views.





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### Growing the World's Finest Wool

Most of our sheep are merinos, a breed originally from Spain. Today, New Zealand is recognised as producing the world's finest and softest merino wool.

Merinos prefer mountainous climate and terrain. They produce 4-5kgs of wool annually. Shearing on the Wilderness Lodge farm is still done with the old-fashioned blades (big scissors). This leaves behind more wool and warm sheep than modern methods.

We supply merino wool to fashion houses and outdoor clothing producers around the world. It is very white, strong, and long-lasting. It does not itch, burn or smell. Merino really is the perfect natural fibre!

### Farming Sustainably

The Wilderness Lodge property was developed as a model of sustainable land management. It combines careful farming with nature conservation and tourism to demonstrate an alternative to the trend of increasingly intensive farming practices.

Grazing has been excluded from half the property with high conservation values. We control pests, weeds and work at plant propagation and revegetation.

A careful programme of building soil fertility has increased farm productivity by fostering biological nitrogen fixers and improving pasture. The property is accredited under the [ZQ Programme](#) run by Merino NZ.



### Why the Wilderness Lodge?

We offer a personal authentic experience, very different to the auditorium-style sheep shows available elsewhere. The Wilderness Lodge is family owned. Your hosts are New Zealanders with a real connection to the land.

*Experiencing life on a working sheep farm is a quintessential New Zealand experience.*

*After all, this is a land where 30 million sheep outnumber people six to one.*



*for further information see:  
[wildernesslodge.co.nz](http://wildernesslodge.co.nz)*