

Oban, Stewart Island, New Zealand

New Zealand's third island sits just 30 km below the South Island, home to more kiwis than people. Oban is tiny, unhurried, and completely unlike any other cruise port — bring your rain jacket and your patience for wildlife.

Tender port (no pier)

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

NZD (cards widely accepted)

English / Te Reo Māori

Bird & nature paradise

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — anchor in Halfmoon Bay, tender to Oban main wharf

Best For: Birdwatching, Rakiura National Park, Ulva Island sanctuary

Walk to centre: Tenders land at the Oban wharf, in the heart of the village

Don't Miss: Water taxi to Ulva Island — predator-free forest with rare native birds

Getting around: **Taxi** NZ\$20–\$40 per trip (up to 4 pax) · **Rideshare** not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Ulva Island Open Sanctuary** — A predator-free island just a 10-minute water taxi from Golden Bay.
 - Rakiura National Park Short Walks** — The park covers 85% of the island.
 - Guided Kiwi Spotting** — Stewart Island has an estimated 20,000 Brown Kiwi — one of the few places where they're
- sometimes active during daylight.

 - Rakiura Museum** — A well-crafted small museum on Ayr Street covering the island's whaling, sealing, and tin-mining past plus rich Māori...
 - Electric Bike Island Exploration** — Stewart Island has only about 28 km of roads — perfect for an e-bike.

BEST WALKS

- Observation Rock Lookout** 3 km return · 45-60 min · easy-moderate — A short but rewarding walk up to Observation Rock for panoramic views over Paterson Inlet and Golden Bay.
- Fuchsia Walk & Braggs Bay Track** 2-3 km · 30-45 min · easy — A flat loop from the centre of Oban through native fuchsia forest and along the bay shore.
- Golden Bay to Lee Bay & Anchor Stone** 10 km return · 2.5-3 hrs · easy (flat road) — Walk (or e-bike) the road from Golden Bay to Lee Bay, the official entrance to Rakiura National Park.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	60°	46°	14d
Jun	53°	40°	15d
Aug	53°	39°	14d
Sep	55°	41°	14d
Oct	58°	43°	15d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 7:59AM–7:19PM · Jun 8:49AM–5:06PM · Aug 8:13AM–5:51PM · Sep 7:23AM–6:28PM · Oct 6:32AM–7:59PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Pack a waterproof layer — always. Stewart Island sits in the Roaring Forties and weather can flip from sunshine to sideways rain.

Oban, Stewart Island, New Zealand — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1

Rakiura Museum
Explore Stewart Island's history, culture, and natural heritage.
- 2

Tequila Fishing and Bird Watching Charters
Book fishing and bird watching boat trips.
- P

Cruise port / terminal