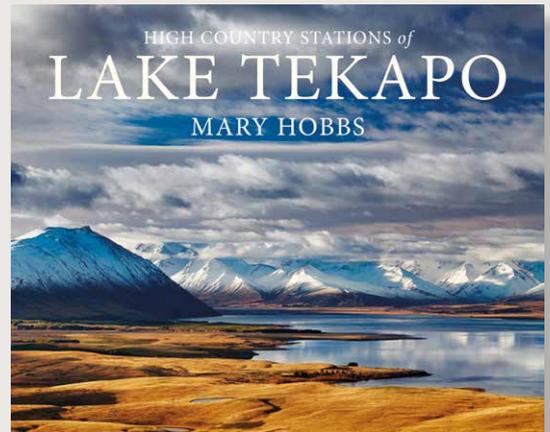


AFTER READING THIS BOOK, NO JOURNEY TO LAKE TEKAPO IN THE LEGENDARY MACKENZIE COUNTRY WILL EVER BE THE SAME



Lake Tekapo, with its dazzling blue glacial water and backdrop of the Southern Alps, is one of the major drawcards of the South Island's Mackenzie Country. While most people's experience of Tekapo is the bustling tourist village, there is also another whole community beyond this settlement of iconic high-country stations that occupy the sweeping tussock land surrounding the Lake. This book tells the stories of these courageous and tough farming families, who choose to live and work in this spectacular, but unforgiving country with its extremes of cold and heat, devastating snowfalls and huge winds.

Author Mary Hobbs, a long-time resident of the Mackenzie Country, has unravelled the history of eight stations from around Lake Tekapo – Godley Peaks, Lilybank, Mt Gerald, Richmond, Mt Hay, Tekapo, Balmoral and Glenmore. Using both old accounts and interviews with current station holders and many others with connections to these stations, she has assembled a set of stories that capture the flavour and character of a unique part of rural New Zealand.

Heavily illustrated with both contemporary images and many old, previously unpublished photographs, this is a fascinating and beautiful book. It is a sister volume to Mary Hobbs's bestselling *The High Country Stations of the Mackenzie*, which focused on the stations around Lake Pukaki, and will be another much-loved addition to the legacy of New Zealand writing about the high country.

Author Information

MARY HOBBS published the award-winning *New Zealand Outside* magazine for 10 years. She is the author of six books including: *Kiwi Tucker for the Soul*, a best-selling collection of inspirational stories about New Zealanders; *Letters to New York and America – from New Zealand with Love*, a non-political book of letters gifted to the American people following 9/11; *The Spirit of Mountaineering, Volume 1*, about the early history of the first New Zealand-born mountain guide at Aoraki/Mount Cook; *Matagouri and other Pricks – The Journey to Aoraki/Mount Cook*, part-autobiography, that covers nursing, publishing, mountain guiding and includes the larger tale of a battle for the right to do business in the National Park; *Christchurch Dreaming* – a poignant, inspirational book for Christchurch people; and *High Country Stations of the Mackenzie* – a best-selling history of the high-country stations surrounding Lake Pukaki.



Mary has lived with her husband, mountain guide Charlie Hobbs at Aoraki/Mount Cook, near Lake Pukaki, for around 22 years. They own a mountain and ski guiding company and The Old Mountaineers, a historical mountaineering-themed restaurant and photographic gallery at Aoraki/Mount Cook. They have two daughters.

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