

EcoZip Adventures Unveils Star Flight - A World-First Ziplining and Stargazing Experience in the Kaikōura Dark Sky Sanctuary

In September 2024, Kaikōura became one of only 22 locations worldwide to receive the prestigious Dark Sky Sanctuary designation, awarded exclusively to areas with exceptionally pristine night skies. Free from light pollution, the sanctuary offers visitors a mesmerising view of the cosmos, with countless stars, celestial wonders, and a remarkably vivid Milky Way on display. In collaboration with renowned New Zealand astro- and adventure-photographer Rachel Gillespie, EcoZip Adventures is offering your guests an extraordinary evening adventure, soaring beneath a canopy of dazzling stars.

Your client's journey begins at twilight, departing from central Kaikōura. As they travel to our base

at Rakanui Station, crossing the braided Kahutara River, they'll leave behind all traces of artificial light. Arriving at the first zipline deck just as the light fades, they launch into the night, gliding through the air as the distant lights of Kaikōura begin to shimmer.

This **intimate small-group adventure**—limited to just **eight guests**—creates a uniquely personal and immersive experience. By the time your clients reach the second zipline's landing deck, celestial darkness will have fully set in, unveiling a spectacular night sky.



Here, under a cosmic masterpiece, Rachel will guide them through the stars, pointing out constellations, planets, and other celestial marvels. Depending on the time of year, they may witness distant galaxies, meteors streaking across the sky, the elusive glow of a passing comet or even the magical southern lights, or *Aurora Australis*.

Then, in **total darkness**, they experience the thrill of riding **three more ziplines**, soaring through the night in inky blackness—a mesmerizing and almost surreal sensation. Along the way, they pause for a warming drink, and thanks to Rachel's exceptional photography, they will take home a one-of-a-kind **astral souvenir**.

As they return to Kaikōura, they'll carry with them **unforgettable memories**, breathtaking photographs, and the distinction of being among the few to embark on this world-first, 'only in **New Zealand'**, adventure.

TOUR OVERVIEW & INCLUSIONS

- World-first small-group ziplining and stargazing adventure
- Pick-up and drop-off from West End, Kaikōura.
- Scenic coastal drive to Kaikōura airfield followed by a 4X4 river crossing and farm drive.
- Experience led by expert EcoZip guides
- Night flying on five giant, dual, flying-fox ziplines (250m to 620m long).
- Fully guided by acclaimed astro- and adventure photographer Rachel Gillespie.
- Basic photographic tuition allowing guests to capture a unique 'astral selfie'.

PRICING & INFORMATION	
Tour Duration	4-hours (approx)
Retail Prices: Valid 1/4/25 to 30/9/25	Adults \$399 Children \$399
2025 Departure Dates	2 nd and 31 st May, 20 th and 27 th June, 25 th July, 27 th August, 22 nd September
Departure Time	Changes daily with sunset times. Departure time will be confirmed at the time of booking.
Tour Departure Point	11 West End, Kaikōura 7300
Reservations & Booking	Bookings are essential – Freesale is not permitted No tours on Christmas Day and ANZAC Day morning Contact us for live access to our Rezdy reservation system
Age & Weight Limits	There are no age limits on EcoZip experiences. However, to participate in an EcoZip experience guests must weigh a minimum of 30kg (66lbs) and not more than 125kg (275lbs).
Clothing Advice	The hilltops can become quite chilly in winter. Consequently, we recommend clients dress accordingly, in warm clothing and specifically long pants or trousers, warm, thermal upper layers and coat, hiking boot or shoes, and with hats and gloves.
Cloud Cover Limitations	At the time of booking, a back-up date is provided in case the evening's visibility is affected by cloud cover. For those not staying in Kaikōura for multiple nights, and thus unable to take advantage of this offer, a full refund will be provided.

