

The world's most popular travel guide, *Lonely Planet*, has released its latest edition and has plenty to say about the Queenstown and Wanaka region.

Mountain biking in Queenstown is singled out as one of the top 12 favourite new recommendations.

We, at the *Mirror*, are also pleased to see that after two editions with the wrong phone number

for Queenstown backpackers, that the authors have finally got it right.

June Howden, 88, who featured in the *Mirror* in March this year as the recipient of up to six phone calls a day since 2008 for the backpackers, is no doubt thrilled also.

The edition also pays tribute to the people in New Zealand saying they had suffered a tough few years having endured the Pike River coal mine explosion, the Rena oil spill, two Christchurch earthquakes and the vagaries of



All about us: The newest edition of the *Lonely Planet* travel guide.



Adventure: Mountain biking in Queenstown – highly recommended by *Lonely Planet*

the global economy.

Here is a little of what the guide has to say:

Queenstown: is a show-off ... wears its "Global Adventure Capital" badge proudly ... But a new Queenstown is also emerging, with a cosmopolitan restaurant and arts scene, and

excellent vineyards.

Mountain biking Mecca: With the opening of the Queenstown Bike Park, the region is now firmly established as an international focus for the sport.

Arrowtown: The only gold being flaunted these days is on credit cards.

Photo: TIM CLAY

Glenorchy: Set in achingly beautiful surroundings, postcard-sized Glenorchy is perfect low-key antidote to Queenstown.

Wanaka: The lakefront retains a laid-back, small-town feel but it's definitely not a small hamlet any more.