



Media Kit: Skyline Queenstown Development Project

Skyline is to undergo a significant \$60 million upgrade and expansion of its Queenstown leisure and entertainment complex.

Introduction

Skyline Queenstown is investing \$60 million into a significant upgrade and expansion of its facilities. As well as a complete redevelopment of both the Skyline upper complex and a new bottom terminal building, the project will see the current four-seat gondola replaced with a state-of-the-art 10-seat gondola system and replacement of the Luge chairlift.

The new-and-improved Skyline Queenstown complex will also feature a 650-seat restaurant with a flexible configuration for multiple dining options, conference facilities to accommodate more than 700 guests, a new Market Kitchen café, additional retail space and the viewing deck will increase from 68m² to 430m².

About Skyline

Skyline is a leisure and entertainment destination for all ages and nationalities. A New Zealand-owned company established in 1966, Skyline Enterprises is based in Queenstown but also operates in Rotorua and internationally in Canada and Singapore.

Skyline Queenstown's original gondola began operating in 1967, taking 56,133 people up to Bob's Peak in its first year. Twenty years later, the first major gondola and terminal expansion took place – resulting in 227,338 people boarding the gondola in 1987. The 1987 gondola system and base terminal is still in place today.

One of the pioneering tourist attractions of the Southern Lakes, Skyline Queenstown offers a range of world-class entertainment, adventure and leisure activities including the gondola, Luge, mountain biking, Maori culture performances and stargazing. It is also a renowned dining destination and the best place to experience Queenstown's iconic views.

In 2017, Skyline Queenstown celebrates 50 years of gondola operations. This development project is designed to future-proof Skyline Queenstown as a premium tourist attraction for many years to come, as well as cutting down wait times at the base terminal and improving the overall guest experience.

“Queenstown already offers visitors some of the most spectacular views and scenery in the world. The state-of-the-art Skyline Queenstown Development Project is about providing a built environment that does justice to its magnificent setting. This development represents the kind of vision and thinking we need to see more of to ensure our visitors continue to have an exceptional visitor experience in New Zealand” — Kevin Bowler, Tourism New Zealand Chief Executive

Skyline Queenstown is the busiest tourism experience in New Zealand. With 787,000 people using the gondola each year, the number of annual visitors to the facility is expected to almost double by 2030.

The Development

Terminals

Skyline Queenstown's bottom terminal on Brecon Street will be completely replaced to accommodate increased guest numbers and dramatically reduce waiting times. At present, up to 1,100 guests use the gondola per hour, which is nearing capacity. The new gondola is expected to take up to 3,000 guests per hour. Construction of the new terminal will be to the north of the current base building, therefore public car parking spaces will not be affected.

**For more information on the progress
visit: skylinedevelopment.co.nz**

The new and improved upper terminal and complex, situated 450 metres above Queenstown at the top of Bob's Peak, will double in size to house a new restaurant, conference facilities, café and retail operations.

Gondola

Skyline Queenstown's new gondola system will be one of the most technologically advanced in the world. The current four-seat gondola system will be replaced with a new, bigger cable and up to 34 new 10-seater gondola cabins, which is a 172% increase in capacity of the current system. The new gondola will be able to take up to five mountain bikes and five riders per cabin, compared to the three bikes, three rider capacity of the existing cabins. The new gondola is expected to be operational by winter 2018.

Chairlift

The two-seat Luge chairlift will be replaced with a modern four-seat chairlift system. The new chairs will also have the capacity to carry three Luge carts instead of the current two.

52% of visitors to Queenstown board the Skyline gondola – the second most-popular attraction after sightseeing. (Source: Destination Queenstown Quarterly Update: Autumn 2016).

By 2030, the number of guests at Stratosfare Restaurant & Bar is expected to increase by 70%.

Restaurant

Skyline Queenstown's Stratosfare Restaurant & Bar will undergo a revamp and expansion to accommodate up to 650 diners at once (presently it can accommodate 330 diners). Located on Level One of the new complex and showcasing panoramic views of Queenstown, Lake Wakatipu and surrounding mountains, the restaurant is expected to open in 2018.

Conference and events facilities

The development will also include new conference and events facilities designed to cater for up to 770 delegates or 50 exhibition booths. Space for conferences and events will increase from the present 390m² to 780m². The space will include a business centre and 200m² plenary room as well as four smaller meeting rooms, and is expected to be operational late 2019.

Market Kitchen

Skyline's casual daytime café, Market Kitchen, is proposed to double in size from 260m² to 540m² to provide further dining options. The Market Kitchen will continue to offer various food stations of both New Zealand and international cuisine.

Retail

Four separate retail spaces are included in the development. At present there are two retail spaces.

Viewing platforms

The existing 68m² viewing platform will be extended to a total of 430m² deck space, for guests to enjoy phenomenal views of Queenstown and surrounds from different angles.

The new Skyline Queenstown complex will house more than 780m² of dedicated space for conferences and events.

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Objectives

Offer the best-possible experience

The development will ensure Skyline Queenstown continues to cater to the growing number of locals and visitors seeking a world-class and contemporary “one-stop-shop” adventure, entertainment and dining experience, enhanced by the remarkable natural landscape of Queenstown.

Keep up with demand

The number of annual visitors to Skyline Queenstown is projected to rise by nearly 200% by 2030.

Reduce queue times for guests

As the gondola capacity will be increased from four to 10 people per cabin, wait times will be significantly reduced for every gondola user – whether they’re coming up to Bob’s Peak for Skyline Queenstown, mountain biking, or other tourism businesses. The new cabins will also provide more room and comfort for guests, as the gondola ride is an important part of the overall experience. The new Luge chairlift system will carry four people per chair, which will shorten queues for Luge riders.

Provide superior conference facilities

Skyline Queenstown’s new international-standard conference and incentive facilities will cater to both small and large-scale events, from private business meetings to exhibitions and banquets.

Inspire economic growth

With an increased ability to host more domestic and international visitors, the development will have a positive flow-on effect on the local economy and the New Zealand tourism industry as a whole.

“Skyline Queenstown endeavours to provide a world-class leisure and entertainment facility that offers top-quality food, beverage, retail, scenic and adventure experiences. We want to exceed our guests’ expectations and ensure that when they leave, they have smiles on their faces and the intent to return.” — Mark Quickfall, Chairman, Skyline Enterprises.

Temporary closure

To facilitate construction, Skyline Queenstown is proposing to close for approximately 8-12 weeks during autumn 2018. Although much of the work will occur while the complex remains open either side of this temporary closure, this will not affect the day-to-day running of the tourism businesses and offerings on Bob’s Peak. All neighbouring businesses and affected parties are currently – and will continue to be – consulted throughout the project in an effort to mitigate any potential issues.

Skyline Queenstown has also engaged an acoustic engineer to address any sound issues and minimise disruption to residents and the public.

Where possible, Skyline Queenstown is aiming to redeploy staff within the group during the temporary closure and will offer opportunities to retrain and upskill prior to the re-opening.

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For more information

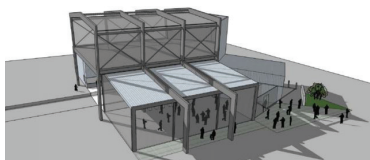
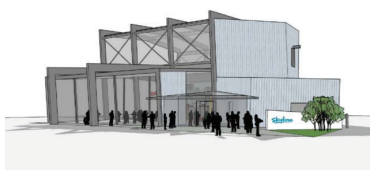
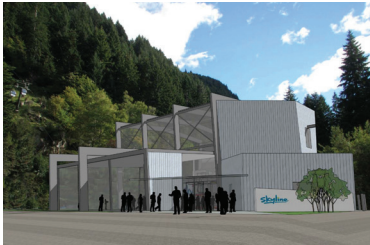
For regular updates and information about the project, visit www.skylinedevelopment.co.nz

Skyline Queenstown website: www.skyline.co.nz/queenstown

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