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Visions of Nature, New Zealand's Wild in the West

Trevor Penfold

Perfect Planet Publishing, \$58

There are so many fine picture books about New Zealand these days that it's often difficult to find a point of difference that makes one stand out from the others.

In this case, however, it's Trevor Penfold's marvellous photographs of wildlife – birds, insects, spiders, moths, reptiles, whales, crabs and starfish – that make it so special.

I've always thought one of the great reasons for visiting anywhere is to see the wildlife.

This book is a real inspiration to explore the wild and wonderful West Coast that Penfold clearly loves.

The detail in his gorgeous pictures of goony spoonbills, bouncy pied stilts, glittering tui, nest-building goldfinches, a red damselfly resting on a green-and-gold bell frog, fighting white herons and streamlined godwits are an absolute joy to behold.

By Jim Eagles, Travel Editor.

