**Christchurch**

Get a 6 mo. DOC Hut Pass (NZ$92/person) at the VC at the Botanic Gardens

Hotel night of 11/29: City Central Motel, 252 Barbadoes St, NZ$139

InterCity Bus station on Armagh St just W of Manchester St (book ahead NZ$26/person non-refundable to Picton)

**Getting there/away - Picton**

Ferry to/from Wellington, multiple departures daily, Interislander, Bluebridge

<http://www.bluebridge.co.nz/cook-strait-ferry-bookings-and-fares/ferry-timetable/>

Wellington-Picton: 2:30-6:00 (xSaSu), 8:00-11:30 (daily), 13:30-17:00 (xSa), 20:45-00:15 (daily), NZ$53-73

<https://www.interislander.co.nz/Timetable.aspx>, NZ$65-75

Wellington-Picton: 8:30-11:45, 10:30-13:40 (xM), 14:45-17:55, 18:30-21:40, 20:00-23:10 (xSa, 21:00 on Sa)

Flights – regular flights to and from Wellington - Sounds Air - P: 0800 505 005, see also Blenheim, Air NZ

Bus - numerous options e.g. Intercity Coachlines - P: 03 365 1113 (7:00-12:20, 16:00-21:15, NZ$26 non-ref advance purch.)

Atomic Shuttles -P: 03 349 0697

Nakedbus.com 7:00-12:40

**Transport to Ship Cove**

Cougar Line Water taxis - London Quay (by the town wharves) - P: 03 573 7925 <http://cougarline.co.nz/timetable-fares/>

8:00, 10:00, 13:30, 18:00 daily, NZ$105 with track pass? Book the 1:30 on 11/30

Endeavour Express - London Quay - P: 03 573 5456, NZ$67 one way to Ship Cove

http://www.nzonline.org.nz/nzo/business/endeavour-express-water-taxi-picton-marlborough

<http://www.pictonwatertaxis.co.nz/>

We used: Beachcomber Fun Cruises, which offered $50 to Ship’s Cove for TA hikers, morning & afternoon departures

**Queen Charlotte Track, Ship Cove to Anakiwa, 65.3km (easy), maps 076, 077, 078**

Access to Ship Cove by boat from Picton. Some operators will transport packs forward.

Must get 5-day ($18) pass from Queen Charlotte Track Land Cooperative (picton@i-SITE.org and Furneaux Lodge, etc., water taxis also have)

The entire track is to an easy tramping standard. It contains long forested sections with a mix of coastal and ridgeline walking and affords good views of both Queen Charlotte and Kenepuru Sounds. DOC brochure available for download (pdf).

Accommodation available ranges from up market lodges to campsites, 6 of these managed by DOC and one, at Mistletoe Bay, by a private trust. Restaurant food available en route.

Ship Cove – Walk begins with a 240m climb to a saddle and lookout before descending to Resolution Bay.

Resolution Bay - Side trail here to DOC’s Schoolhouse Bay Campsite. Resolution Bay Cabins are further along (03 579 9411). The well-graded trail undulates as it leads from Resolution Bay around into Endeavour Inlet passing numerous accommodation businesses along the way. Beyond the Camp Bay junction the track climbs towards Kenepuru Saddle.

DOC’s Bay of Many Coves Campsite – The track climbs from this campsite to a high point then undulates mainly on the ridge.

DOC’s Black Rock Campsite – Beyond this campsite the track remains mainly on the ridge before it descends to Torea Saddle.

Kenepuru Saddle – The track from the Saddle has some steeper and ridgeline sections. Pvt property from here (Q.C.T.L.C. pass).

Torea Saddle - R for 1km down Torea Rd to Portage Bay, then track climbs away from the saddle. Later descends towards Te Mahia Saddle.

Te Mahia Saddle - Left down to Mistletoe Bay Eco Village where there is accommodation, as listed in extra information. The track continues through the junction as sign-posted.

DOC’s Davies Bay Campsite – It is easy walking from the campsite through to the trailhead at Anakiwa (end QCT).

Te Araroa preferred hostels:

YHA Picton, 10 Dublin St, Picton, P: 03 5737797 E: picton@yha.co.nz

YHA Anakiwa, 9 Lady Cobham Drive, Anakiwa, P: 03 5742115 E: anakiwa@yha.co.nz

Picton Visitor Centre - Auckland St - P: 03 520 3113 - E: picton@i-SITE.org

DOC - Port Marlborough Building, 14 Auckland St, Picton - P: 03 520 3002.

Other accommodation in Picton: Full range of hostel, motel and other accommodation providers including

Hostels – The Villa (BBH - 34 Auckland St - P: 03 573 6598

Motels - Americano Motor Inn - 32 High St - P: 0800 104 104

Broadway Motel - 113 High St - P:0800 101 919

Fresh Choice Supermarket - Mariners Mall, Picton - P: 03 573 6463

Picton 4 Square - 49 High St, Picton - P: 03 573 6443

Accommodation en route:

Furneaux Lodge - P: 03 579 8300 - Historic lodge & hostel, restaurant, bar, booking office.

Miners Camp - A privately run campsite at the head of Endeavour Inlet - P: 03 579 8186.

Camp Bay Junction - P: 03 579 8561 - Right on a side trail leads to DOC’s Camp Bay Campsite and to Punga Cove Resort, which has hostel and more exclusive accommodation options, a restaurant, cafe and bar.

DOC CGs: Bay of Many Coves, Black Rock, Cowshed Bay, Davies Bay

Portage Resort Hotel - P: 03 573 4309 - which has hostel and more exclusive accommodation, a restaurant, cafe, and bar.

Mistletoe Bay Eco Village - P: 03 573 4080 - for camping, hostel, more exclusive accommodation, and a small store.

Accommodation in Anakiwa:

Anakiwa Backpackers (BBH) - 03 574 1338

YHA Anakiwa Lodge - 03 574 2115

Smiths Farm Holiday Park - 1419 Queen Charlotte Drive, Linkwater - P: 03 5742806/0800 727578.

www.smithsfarm.co.nz cbfaulls@xtra.co.nz (Pickup from Anakiwa available by request)

**Linkwater Track, Anakiwa to Havelock, 16.7km (easy), map 078**

From the end of the Queen Charlotte Track walk S along Anakiwa Rd for a short distance, a foot track then leads off on the L, below the road and above the high tide mark, mostly through bush and out of sight of the road apart from the Anakiwa and Tirimoana frontages. Trail on grassed areas between road and sea. This section ends on a metalled foot path which continues along a 1km straight towards the junction with Queen Charlotte Drive. Turn R and continue on the foot path to Linkwater School 1.25km distant, then continue on Queen Charlotte Drive past the Linkwater Service Station. At the end of the Linkwater straight follow the road around the Mahakipawa Arm to the next Link Pathway section – a 1km stretch of bush track leading off from the R side of the road. Beyond this bush track walkers have another 1km stretch along Queen Charlotte Drive to a large DOC sign on the L marking the Mahakipawa Hill Scenic Reserve. Take a L turn and follow the power line maintenance track for 3.5km up and over the hill. This track climbs steeply and the lower portions have a bare clay surface. Higher up the track has reasonable grass cover and affords good views. From the top of the hill the track descends directly below the power line then zigzags briefly and exits onto Mahakipawa Rd/Queen Charlotte Drive next to the refuse station entrance. For the final 1.5 km from the refuse station turn left onto Mahakipawa Rd/Queen Charlotte Drive then R onto the footpath beside SH6 and into the Havelock CBD.

Te Araroa preferred hostel: YHA Anakiwa, 9 Lady Cobham Grove, Anakiwa, P: 03 5742115 E: anakiwa@yha.co.nz

Smiths Farm Holiday Park - 1419 Queen Charlotte Drive, Linkwater - P: 03 5742806/0800 727578.

www.smithsfarm.co.nz cbfaulls@xtra.co.nz (Pickup from Anakiwa available by request)

Multiple hostel and motel options in Havelock:

Blue Moon Backpackers (BBH) - 48 Main Rd, Havelock - 03 574 2212

Havelock Garden Motel - 71 Main Rd, Havelock - P: 0800 082 222

Havelock Motel - 50 Main Rd, Havelock - P: 0800 111 171

Havelock Motor Camp for camping and cabins - 22 Inglis St, Havelock - P: 03 574 2339

Resupply

Havelock Four Square Supermarket - Main Rd - P: 03 574 2166 - open from 7.30am, 8am Sundays

Inlet Bakery and Café - 65 Main Rd - P: 03 574 2860 open 5.30am – 4pm daily

Shop at petrol station on the Linkwater straight.

**Road Connection to Daltons Track, Havelock to Daltons Bridge, 12.2km (road), maps 078, 079, 080**

Route marked on map looks more like 14km, does not pass thru Canvastown, does not cross Daltons Bridge. Camping?

Accommodation in Canvastown: Trout Hotel - P: 03 574 2888, pub and motel style accommodation, a bar and meals.

**Daltons Track, Daltons Bridge to Pelorus Bridge, 7.1km (tramp), map 080**

The track follows the L bank of the Pelorus River up and along the grazed pasture margin to the Pelorus Bridge Scenic Reserve, then emerges through forest at Pelorus Bridge a short distance from the CG/Shop/Cafe where there are public toilets.

The track passes through 2 working private farms, no camping.

Pelorus Bridge Cafe and Campground -P: 03 571 6019 - E: p.b.cafe@xtra.co.nz - Serviced campground, full meals available at cafe but not suitable as a resupply station, may be available for shuttles.

**Road Connection to Pelorus River Track, Pelorus Bridge to Maungatapu Road End, 13km (road), map 080**

Along Maungatapu Rd then Mt Richmond Rd to the Pelorus River Track TH.

B&B accommodation (hot showers and food): Pelorus River Views [www.pelorusriverviews.co.nz](http://www.pelorusriverviews.co.nz), 027 2887775 (NZ$120/person/night)

**Pelorus River Track, Maungatapu Rd End to Hacket Hut Junction, 27.0km (tramp), maps 080, 081, 082, 083**

This & next section form a single 126.4km route. The tramp involves many stream crossings that may be impassable after rain.

-to Captain Creek Hut, 8.5km, 4h: Follows the Pelorus River for about 1h to the Emerald Pool picnic area, then climbs. It leaves the river, sidles, and then returns to the river. The 6 bunk Captain Creek Hut is about 30min. further upstream.

-to Middy Hut, 5km, 2h: Crosses Captain Creek, Pelorus River and Fishtail Stream by swingbridges, then the track leaves the Pelorus River then returns to it for the final stretch to Middy Hut (6 bunks).

-to Rocks Hut, 5km, 3h: Cross a swingbridge and then climb for 20min. to a junction where the Pelorus Track branches to the L. The Rocks Track climbs steadily from the junction for about 600m up a broad ridge, then enters an area with many hummocks and rock outcrops, turning N and meeting the Bryant Range near the 16-bunk Rocks Hut.

-to Browning Hut, 11km, 4.5h: Wander through rock outcrops and hillocks, then climb over several high points before beginning descent towards Totara Saddle. Emerge onto an open patch of tussock land associated with the mineral belt, which it crosses for 15min. before reentering the forest and descending to Totara Saddle, then descend steeply to Browning Hut (8 bunks).

- to Hacket Junction, 3.4km, 1h: This is a straightforward section with all intersections well signposted. There is a high/low water track option at one point but you'll get wet boots in subsequent stream crossings which ever route you take.

Accommodation (with hot showers and food):

Pelorus River Views [www.pelorusriverviews.co.nz](http://www.pelorusriverviews.co.nz), 027 2887775 stay@pelorusriverviews.co.nz

Two bedroom cottage for rent to walkers at end of Maungatapu Rd (2km from Pelorus Bridge), Clare sc.mead@farmside.co.nz

From Hope it’s 29km to Nelson (full service town) via Richmond. For bus timetables from Hope to Nelson see Intercity and/or Atomic Travel.

Hope Store and Takeaways - 205 Main Rd - P: 03 544 9803 - Takeaway meals and light resupply available.

**Richmond Alpine Track, Hackett Creek Junction to SH63 11km E of St Arnaud, 77.3km (tramp), maps 082, 083, 084, 085, 086**

Rugged, well marked, unformed in places. The summits are consistently above 1500m. Amongst the finest along Te Araroa.

-to Hacket Hut, 1.3km, 0.25h: Hacket Hut is 15min. from the sign-posted junction at Hacket Creek.

-to Starveall Hut, 4h: Continue up Hacket Creek with numerous crossings, then depart the river and climb 900m towards Pyramid Rock and then on towards Starveall Hut (6 bunks). The hut is located just above the tree line.

-to Slaty Hut, 2.5h: Water can be scarce between Starveall and Mid Wairoa Huts, but available at huts. Follow poles up towards Mt Starveall then descends into the forest and follows the ridgeline towards Slaty Peak. Sidle across the peak’s N face to Slaty Hut (6 bunks).

-to Old Man Hut, 10km, 5h: Mainly above the tree line & marked with poles. Old Man Hut (5 bunks) is located in a clearing via a marked side trail.

-to Rintoul Hut, 4.5km, 5h: Rocky and exposed with some scrambling - the most difficult portion of the RAT. From the Old Man Hut access track the main track climbs through bush and then above the bushline to the summit of Little Rintoul (1643 m), then descends 250m following poles to a saddle before climbing steeply to the summit of Mt Rintoul (1731m). Next the poled route traverses the ridgeline then drops steeply down scree slopes to the bushline. A marked track leads to Rintoul Hut (6 bunks).

-to Tarn Hut, 8km, 4.5h: Follow a bushy ridge to Purple Top. Follow poles up and over rocks here to return to the bush. There is a sign-posted junction beyond Bishop’s Cap. The left-hand track leads to Tarn Hut (5 bunks).

-to Mid Wairoa Hut, 6.5km, 4h: Continue along the ridge to a sign-posted jct before Bushy Top. Take the right track from here steeply down towards the Left Branch Wairoa River and Mid Wairoa Hut. The hut is reached across the river via a swing bridge.

-to Top Wairoa Hut, 7km, 4.5h: Track follows the river, with a lot of sidling, at times on steep terrain, and numerous crossings. Some trampers will find this section challenging (Stephanie found this VERY scary!). 1.5km below Top Wairoa, there's a river crossing on a rock chute above a 4m waterfall, which can be tricky. You can go upstream 50m on an informal track and cross there.

-to Hunters Hut, 10.5km, 5h: Trail enters Red Hills country. The track is often indistinct on the ground and follows markers climbing to a saddle at 1374m, then veers northward and sidles, first on a high and exposed ridge and then W below Mt Ellis towards another ridge. The marker poles on this section are distant but visible in clear weather. Once over the ridge's shoulder the track descends and passes through a lightly forested section, then veers SW and down towards Motueka River Left Branch. Cross the river where marked and continue down the R bank. Ford the river again where marked and, from the L side, the track climbs up towards Hunters Hut (8 bunks).

-to Porters Creek Hut, 9km, 4h: Rolls S and crosses open boulder fields and streams on its way to Porters Creek Hut (6 bunks).

-to Red Hills Hut, 10.5km, 5h: Curve around to the Motueka River Right Branch and then sidle above the R bank to a crossing near the Maitland Creek confluence. Climb and sidle above Maitland Creek's R bank to Red Hills Hut (6 bunks).

-to SH63, 5.5km, 1.5h: Follow the 4WD track down to a marked foot track which departs on the right near a cluster of derelict buildings. This track goes out to a car park on SH63. From here it’s 10.6km walk on the road shoulder to St Arnaud (below).

**Road Connection to Waiau Pass Track, SH63 11km E of St Arnaud to St Arnaud, 10.3km (road), maps 086, 087**

Turn right on SH63 and walk to St Arnaud.

Alpine Lodge (www.alpinelodge.co.nz 03 5211869), $29pp dorm bed, $69/double for a private room, and hotel rooms also available. Internet, laundry facilities, spa pool for hire, a restaurant/bar/café (famous Sunday BBQ $31pp). They are happy to store food parcels free of charge.

Nelson Lakes Motels & Travers-Sabine Lodge - Main Rd - P: 03 521 1887 - motel and backpacker accommodation

DOC’s Kerr Bay Camping Ground, fully serviced, book at Visitor Centre.

St Arnaud Alpine Store –fuel, groceries, fresh produce and takeaways - P: 03 521 1854 - Adequate but relatively expensive.

**Waiau Pass Track, St Arnaud to Boyle Village on the Lewis Pass Rd, 113.6km (tramp), maps 087-092**

Waiau Pass (1870m) is high & may have snow. DOC at the Nelson Lakes VC in St Arnard (03 521 1806) for current conditions.

-Lakehead Hut, 9km, 2-3h: Starts opposite St Arnaud's alpine store. This is on the Black Valley Walk, which heads through beech forest to DOC's Kerr Bay CG on the shore of Lake Rotoiti, then joins with the Travers/Sabine Circuit at the E end of Kerr Bay, then follows the shore through Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project area to Lakehead Hut, about a 15min. beyond the jetty.

-to John Tait Hut, 12km, 5h: Well graded track from Lakehead Hut up the river flats through open and forest sections the hut.

-to Upper Travers Hut, 6km, 3h: Track continues up the Travers Valley and has some steeper sections. The track passes marked turns to Cupola Hut and Travers Falls. Upper Travers Hut is situated on the edge of a large flat immediately below Mt Travers.

-to West Sabine Hut, 8km, 6-8h: Defined ground trail that follows snow poles up to Travers Saddle (1787m), a steady 450m climb. Snow poles continue down the west face to the tree line. Then the track goes down to the East Branch Sabine River, a long and in places steep descent, then climbs, sidles and then descends to the West Branch Sabine River. West Sabine Hut is a short distance upstream.

-to Blue Lake Hut, 3h: Te Araroa leaves the Travers/Sabine Circuit from West Sabine Hut. Follow the Blue Lake Track up the West Branch Sabine River to its source. The route is mainly forested and climbs steeply in places, in particularly during the short final climb to the hut and lake.

-to Upper Waiau Forks, 7km, 6-8h: The track leaves Blue Lake Hut through forest and climbs onto Lake Constance's moraine dam, then a rough and rocky track, marked by snow poles, leads up above bluffs on the west side of the lake and then descends to the lakehead, then continues across the open upper valley floor and then climbs a steep scree slope in direct fashion to a high terrace. From here it is a 500m sidle and climb up to Waiau Pass. The route from the pass continues through rocky and exposed country. It drops steeply in places through bluffs to a terrace and then continues W before descending to the West Branch Waiau River is the valley floor. From the Valley floor the track follows the river through thick sub-alpine scrub to the Upper Waiau Forks. There is an attractive informal campsite here within a stand of beech trees.

-to Caroline Bivy 5km, 3h: Follows the Waiau River down, staying mostly on the R. The valley opens towards Caroline Bivy, a basic and cramped 2 bunk shelter.

-to Anne River Hut, 25km, 7-9h: Travel down the valley is easy, through grassy flats, and on the Waiau River’s R. Two bush-clad terminal moraines provide good camping. In time the private Ada homestead comes into view. Continuing, there is a straightforward (at normal flow) crossing of the Ada River, then link to the St James Walkway and continue down SW towards Anne River Hut (20 bunk) via a swingbridge across the Anne River.

-to Boyle Flat Hut, 15km, 6h: Track continues up the Anne River through a series of grassy clearings towards Anne Saddle and then descends into the Boyle River Valley. The old 2 bunk Rokeby Hut (similar to Caroline Bivy) is lower down the valley. Track continues downstream on the L to a swingbridge. Boyle Flat Hut is a short distance down the R side of the river.

-to Boyle Village, 14.5km, 4h: Re-cross the swingbridge and continue SW on the walkway. The track sidles through a gorge and descends to a junction. Cross the river on a swingbridge here and continue on the track within the forest margin. In time the track crosses the river on another swingbridge and continues down towards Boyle Village. The track emerges at a carpark next to Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre. Hamner Springs is 55.4km S & E via Hwy 7 & 7A, Reefton is 82.1km NW via Hwy 7.

Te Araroa preferred hostel (Hamner Springs): YHA Hamner Springs, 14 Amuri Ave, Hamner Springs, P: 03 3157472 E: hamnersprings@yha.co.nz

Backpacker accommodation is sometimes available at Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre and trampers should enquire well in advance as to availability. P; 03 315 7082 - E: info@boyle.org.nz.

By prior arrangement, the Centre will also accept food packages to be stored for your arrival. Contact the Centre before posting anything and *use NZ Post* only. Label with your name and expected arrival date. Allow plenty of time for the parcel to be delivered. Packages should be well sealed against mice. The Boyle is able to re-supply you for your trip with food and meals, gas, batteries etc. Contact the Boyle for a list of items & food for sale and prices. You can also wash your clothes by arrangement. All payments must be in cash or by cheque – no CC. There is no cell reception.

Hanmer Springs i-Site Visitor Centre - 40 Amuri Ave, Hanmer Springs - P: 0800 442 663 - opens daily 10am to 5.30pm.

Hanmer Backpackers - 41 Conical Hill Rd, Hanmer Springs - P: 03 315 7196

Jack in the Green (BBH) - 3 Devon St, Hanmer Springs - P: 03 315 5111

Hanmer Springs Four Square Supermarket - Conical Hill Rd - P: 03 315 7190

Hanmer Springs Foodway - 45 Amuri Ave - P: 03 315 777 - opens daily 8.30am to 10pm.

Reefton i-Site Visitor Centre - 67-69 Broadway, Reefton - P: 03 732 8391

Reefton Old Bread Shop Backpacker - 157 Buller Rd, Reefton - P: 03 732 8620 - E: breadshopbackpackers@gmail.com

The Old Nurses Home Accommodation - 101 Shiel St, Reefton - P: 03 732 8981 - E: reeftonretreat@hotmail.com.

SuperValue Supermarket - 65 Broadway, Reefton - P: 03 732 8313 opens daily 8am to 7pm

Reefton Four Square - 47 Broadway, Reefton - P: 03 732 8888.

**Harper Pass Track (+ Tui and Flood Tracks), Boyle Village to SH73 at Morrison footbridge, 86.5km (tramp), maps 092-097**

*Track has some significant treefall particularly on the northern side of Lake Sumner and around the No 3 Hut.*

On the West Coast side of Harper Pass the route requires numerous crossings of the Taramakau and Otehake Rivers, which may be impassable when river levels are high.

-to Hope-Kiwi Lodge, 6.5-8h: Someone said: “The Tui track was terrible. You are better off walking the road to Windy Point.” Follow the Tui Track sign and markers to the highway and then on the landward side of the fence on the L to a driveway leading to the old Boyle Base Hut. Cross the road here and follow the markers down to a terrace, and then along to the Boyle River. If safe to cross, ford the Boyle River where markers indicate and continue down the R bank on river flats to the confluence with the Doubtful River. *If the river can't be crossed safely then back-track and continue down on the road shoulder for about 2h to the sign-post marking the entrance road to the Lake Sumner Forest Park at Windy Point. You will pass the Engineers Camp along the way. There is a car park and shelter at Windy Point, a short distance down the entrance road. This marks the traditional, start point to the Harper Pass Track.* After fording the Doubtful River where marked the track continues down the R of the Boyle River and joins a farm track that leads onwards to a deer fence. Follow this fence around until markers show the track heading up hill through manuka and beech forest towards the main Hope Valley track. Te Araroa joins the Harper Pass Track proper here. Turn right, the track climbs through manuka scrub and farm land to the beech forest’s edge. Once inside the forest the track sidles above the Hope River to Hope Shelter (basic 6 bunk in reasonable condition). The track continues through the forest and then breaks out across grassy flats. The track then crosses the Hope River on a swingbridge. Across the bridge there is a junction with the track to St Jacobs Hut. From here Te Araroa heads south on the track to Hope-Kiwi Hut, situated in a large clearing near the forest edge.

-to Hurunui Hut, 19km, 5-6h: Below Hope-Kiwi Lodge the track crosses open cattle flats then climbs through bush towards Kiwi Saddle (677m), then descends towards the lake shore and to a swingbridge over Three Mile Stream. Cross the bridge, continue to the lake head and beyond up the Hurunui River’s L side. Keep to the marked track until it deviates across the valley to another swingbridge, this time over the Hurunui River. On the other side of the river the track climbs and sidles for about 30min. to Hurunui Hut, a modern hut with sleeping platforms and views over the valley.

-Hurunui No. 3 Hut, 10km, 4-5h: The track descends from the hut through manuka forest to the open flats of the valley floor. After about 1.5h look out for steam rising from a stream that crosses the track. A short distance beyond a sign indicates access to a hot pool. A sign at the pool warns that “Amoebic meningitis is fatal and caused by water entering nasal passages. Do not immerse head”, but you can still soak to neck level. The track continues through flats and forest on the Hurunui’s true right all the way to Hurunui No. 3 Hut, a comfortable 16 bunk hut.

-to Locke Stream Hut, 15km, 7h: Soon after leaving the No. 3 Hut the track crosses Cameron Stream. An emergency 3 wire bridge can be used here to avoid getting wet feet. Continue across the flat towards Cameron Hut (4 bunks), which affords basic accommodation for anyone in need. Beyond Cameron Flat the track leaves cattle country and ascends towards Harper Pass Bivy, a cramped 2 bunk box with one tiny window. From the Bivy the track crosses the Hurunui headwaters and climbs more steeply for 0.5h to Harper Pass. On the West Coast side of the Pass the track drops steeply and crosses the Upper Taramakau River to the R side. It continues down to a swingbridge, which takes trampers to the L side. From here it is about 1.5h downstream to Locke Stream Hut.

-to Morrison footbridge via Aitkens, 23km, 6-8h: Easy travel through bush and open river terrace down the Taramakau River. Numerous river crossings can be impassable after heavy rain. Kiwi Hut is located about half way down the Taramakau. Look out for DOC markers that point the way on the R side. If the river is up it is safer to cross again above the Otehake confluence and then cross this river separately. It is then possible to remain on the L all the way down to the sign-posted turn off onto the Flood Track to the Morrison Footbridge. For the Aitkens carpark on SH73 should continue down the Taramakau and then ford the Otira River. Meanwhile Te Araroa continues L on the Flood Track for 2h and joins with the Mingha-Deception Track at the Morrison Footbridge. The Flood Track is clearly defined and well marked. It is through bush and involves a series of sharp climbs and descents along a steep face above the Otira River. ~~Better to walk the river valley to the footbridge than the flood track.~~ Cross the footbridge to access SH73. There is a carpark across the road. From Aickens, turn L for 22km to Arthur's Pass or turn R for 73km to Greymouth.

Te Araroa preferred hostels (off-trail)

YHA Hamner Springs, 14 Amuri Ave, Hamner Springs, P: 03 3157472 E: hamnersprings@yha.co.nz

YHA Arthurs Pass, West Coast Rd, Arthurs Pass Village, P: 03 3189258 E: arthurspass@yha.co.nz

Accommodation en route:

Hope Kiwi Lodge (20 bunks); Hurunui Hut (15); Hurunui No. 3 Hut (16); Locke Stream Hut (18); Kiwi Hut (8)

Arthurs Pass (22km off route):

DOC's Arthurs Pass National Park VC - P: 03 318 9211 - E: arthurspassvc@doc.govt.nz - Open daily 8am to 4.30pm/ 5pm in peak

Accommodation, Arthur’s Pass:

Arthurs Chalet Motel - 131 Main Rd - P: 03 318 9236

Arthurs Pass Alpine Motel - Main Rd - P: 0800 900 401

Resupply

Arthurs Pass Alpine Store and Tearooms - P: 03 318 9235 - fuel also available

DOC's Arthurs Pass National Park Visitor Centre - P: 03 318 9211 - some dehydrated food are available

Alternatively we suggest you pre-post a food package to your accommodation provided after obtaining their approval.

Greymouth I-SITE Visitor Centre - 1 Mackay St - P: 03 768 51

Accommodation, Greymouth:

Kainga-Ra - 15 Alexander St - P: 03 768 4951 Global Village Travellers Lodge BBH - 42-54 Cowper St - P: 03 768 7272

Many other accommodation options are available in Greymouth.

New World Supermarket - 128 High St, Greymouth - P: 03 768 4441

Countdown Supermarket - 174 Mawhera Quay, Greymouth - P: 03 769 9210

**Deception-Mingha Track, Morrison Footbridge (SH73) to Greyney’s Shelter (SH73), 24.4km (tramp), maps 097 & 098**

On the Deception side the track is rough, not regularly marked, and involves many river crossing so vulnerable to bad weather.

-to Goat Pass Hut, 8-9h: Cross the Otira River on the Morrison footbridge and follow the Deception River up the R side across river flats. Cross to the L and follow rock cairns through the lower gorge, re-crossing the river where necessary. Continue up to Good Luck Creek. Upper Deception Hut, which is easy to miss, is located a short distance beyond on the R side. Beyond the hut trampers can pick their way upwards, mostly in the riverbed though there are some small tracked portions under bush cover. There is a final steep climb over rough terrain to get up to the Goat Pass Hut (20 bunks), located a short distance below the pass itself. This hut has a radio link to DOC’s visitor’s centre at Arthur’s Pass, which trampers can use to obtain weather forecasts and other information.

-to SH 73 Bealey River, 5h: From the hut the track improves significantly but still has many river crossings. The track crosses Goat Pass on boardwalk sections then descends towards the bushline into the Mingha Valley, then departs the river course towards Dudley’s Knob to avoid a gorge and continues down to the Lower Mingha flats. Look for a safe crossing of the Bealey River near its confluence with the Mingha River and continue down towards Greyney Shelter CG on SH73. The track line rises to the road along the way.

Te Araroa preferred hostel: YHA Arthurs Pass, West Coast Rd, Arthurs Pass Village, P: 03 3189258 E: arthurspass@yha.co.nz

Accommodation en route:

Goat Pass Hut - 20 bunks - This hut has a radio link to DOC’s VC at Arthur’s Pass, which trampers can use to obtain weather forecasts &c.

Greyney's Shelter Campsite - SH 73 - this roadside camping area has an open shelter, toilet and water supply.

Arthur's Pass is about 5km to the right from where you first meet the road. See above for accommodation & resupply.

**Klondke Track, Greyney Shelter Campsite (SH73) to Car park Cora Lynn Rd, 9km (tramp), maps 098 & 099**

The Klondyke Track is a Te Araroa link that currently reduces, but does not eliminate, the road connection between the Mingha-Deception and Harper River Tracks. From Greyneys Shelter Campsite on SH73 head south, initially on the road shoulder but soon divert to the Bealey River margin from the L side of the road. The track then heads towards Klondyke Corner Campsite, a basic campsite with a pavilion, carpark and toilets. The track beyond Klondyke Corner remains on the R bank of the Bealey River. There are occasional marker poles leading to the Waimakariri River confluence. Cross the river, as water levels allow, and climb up to the Bealey Spur settlement. If the Waimakariri is up, trampers are able to cross on the road bridge, about 1km to the W. The Bealey Hotel is a good point where trampers can organize transport with most operators passing on their way to Arthur’s Pass (12km W) or Christchurch (150km E). From Bealey Spur, continue east on SH73 and follow the road's shoulder to Cora Lynn Rd. Turn right here and walk past the Arthur’s Pass Wilderness Lodge and through the gate marked ‘Cass-Lagoon Track’. The track ends at the car park a short distance further. Bealey Hut (6-bunks) is a 5min. walk beyond the car park, up the track and on the R side.

Accommodation en route:

The Bealey Hotel - is 12km E of Arthur’s Pass and 150km W of Christchurch, offers backpacker and motel type accommodation, a restaurant and bar. There are transport options to Arthur’s Pass or Christchurch.

Arthurs Pass Eco Lodge - Located on the end of Bealey Spur - run by Helen Nugteren who is a keen tramper and often joins walkers out on Te Araroa. Offers bed and breakfast, delicious dinners and packed lunches on request. It pays to book ahead. E: Helen@arthurspassecolodge.co.nz - www.arthurspassecolodge.co.nz for further details including pricing or email.

Bealey Hut - 6 bunks - is a 5min. walk beyond the car park at Cora Lynn Rd, up the track and on the R side.

**Harper River Track, Cora Lynn Rd (SH73) to Harper Rd, 33.2km (tramp), maps 098-100**

-to Hamilton Hut, 7-8h: The track climbs a short distance from the carpark to Bealey Hut (basic 6 bunk) off on a short side trail to the R. Beyond the hut the track continues to climb through beech and exotic forest, then traverses the broad north face of Mt Bruce, initially through forest but then through open tussock country. This is up towards Lagoon Saddle. From the Saddle, follow board-walked sections down to the bushline. Lagoon Saddle A-Frame Shelter (2ppl) is a short distance lower down. The track then descends to the Harper River. The next section down to West Harper Hut has numerous river crossings which are straightforward in normal conditions. West Harper Hut, with its dirt floor and canvas bunks, provides welcome shelter in poor weather. Beyond, the route is an all weather one. The Harper River & Hamilton Creek are crossed on swing bridges.

-to Harper Rd, 5-6h: Return to the sign at the L side of Hamilton Creek and head down to the Harper River confluence, then follow the Harper River downstream. For much of the way an old 4WD track can be used but this leads to numerous river crossings. If the river is high it is possible to remain on the L all the way down to the Pinnacles without too much additional effort or time. The track remains within Craigieburn Forest Park until about 1/3 of the way down to the Pinnacles where it enters Glenthorne Station on a route based on a paper road. This is along the fringe of the Harper River on the L side. The Pinnacles become visible lower down across the river on the R side. Below the Pinnacles the track continues down the Harper River, which trampers need to ford. The best place to ford is above the Avoca River confluence. This river is in turn is crossed separately. Continue down the farm track to Harper Road and cross Harper River on the road bridge. Harper Road reaches a junction near Harper Village where the Harper River Track ends. There is a free campsite on Trust Power owned land about 300m distant. This is down the road marked with the “2km to Lake Coleridge” sign. The campsite is sign-posted on the L side of this road. Water should be carried from the river or may be available from canal near the campsite. The nearest toilet is further down towards the lake on the Oakden Canal.

Accommodation en route:

Hamilton Hut (20 bunks, modern, wood stove, radio link to the Arthur’s Pass Visitors Centre)

Full range of amenities 14 km away at Arthur's Pass

Accommodation at Bealey Hut a short distance up the track

**Lake Coleridge Connection, Harper Rd to Homestead Rd, 21.7km (road), map 101**

Travel along Harper Rd past Lake Selfe, Lake Evelyn and over the Ryton River Road Bridge to the Homestead Rd junction. Turn R here and the next section, the Lake Hill Track, starts at the stile 900m down on the R side of the road.

**Lake Hill Track, Homestead Rd to Coleridge Intake Rd, 3.5km (tramp), map 101**

The Lake Hill Track follows a narrow strip of public land which adjoins private property – stay on the marked route, no camping. The track starts on Homestead Rd at a stile, 900m from the junction with Harper and Lyndon Roads. Travel is in the direction of Lake Coleridge and is initially easy and through farm land where stock are likely to be grazing. After about 700m the marked route passes through a possibly damp tussock section as it crosses a wetland fringe. Beyond the wetland, the route joins the edge of a farm track then veers to the L on a foot track as it approaches the lake shore. There is a short climb and descent to avoid a bluff and then about 500m of level lakeside walking before the track crosses another farm track. From the far side of the farm track the marked route ascends away from the lake. After a short climb the gradient eases and the track continues to follow poles towards Coleridge-Intake Rd. On its way to the road the track joins and then departs from a farm track. Trampers need to be vigilant to follow the markers to ensure they stay on the legal route. The track ends on Coleridge-Intake Rd at the stile next to the farm gate about 1.3km below the intersection with Algidus Rd.

**Connection to Arboretum Track along Coleridge Intake Rd, 2.9km (road), map 101**

Walk S up the Coleridge Intake Rd (away from the lake). Straight thru the Algidus Rd intersection. The Arboretum Track is on the R side of the road at the first hair pin to the L. Look for orange markers attached to a fence & a track thru broom.

**Arboretum Track, Coleridge Intake Rd to Hummocks Rd in Lake Coleridge Village, 0.9km (tramp), map 101**

The track quickly opens up and for a few m follows the penstock pipes down towards the power station before turning L to enter pine forest. Lower down the track leaves the forest, turns R, and descends directly through open country. It enters the Arboretum at a gate on the L and follows a well formed path passing a number of sign posted specimen trees along the way. The track end is through the memorial gate marking the exit from the Arboretum to Hummocks Rd. Lake Coleridge Lodge is a short distance down Hummocks Rd on the L. The Lodge offers good dinner, bed, and breakfast packages or alternatively tent sites and a guest kitchen. Free wifi internet and laundry are offered to Te Araroa guests, as well as transport options between the Lodge and the Clent Hills trailhead on the south side of the Rakaia River. The Lodge is happy to store a box of dry goods for all walkers for your onward journey whether you stay as a guest or just pass through. For more information visit their website - [www.lakecoleridgelodge.co.nz/activities/te-araroa-national-walkway](http://www.lakecoleridgelodge.co.nz/activities/te-araroa-national-walkway) To bypass the Rakaia River, turn L on Coleridge Rd, then R on ZigZag Rd to Rakaia Gorge (24km). Across the 2nd bridge is Rakaia Gorge CG (tent sites, a sheltered cooking area, showers, toilets, water). Continue on Coleridge Rd and turn R at SH72, then turn left at SH77 for the town of Methven. (40.5km).

Methven I-SITE Visitors Centre - 160 Main St - P: 03 302 8955 - E: methven@i-site.org

Methven Travel - 93 Main St - P: 0800 684 888 for shuttles to/from Christchurch

Accommodation (Methven): There is an array of other accommodation in Methven available.

YHA Methven - Mt Hutt Village Flashpackers - Cnr Bank & McMillan Sts - P: 03 302 8999

Alpenhorn Chalet, 44 Allen St, Methven, P: 03 3028779 info@alpenhorn.co.nz www.alpenhorn.co.nz

Mt Hutt Bunkhouse and Cottage BBH - 8 Lambard St - P: 03 302 9122

Topnotch Four Square Supermarket, Methven - P: 03 302 9063

Supervalue Supermarket, Methven - P: 03 302 8050

**Clent Hills Track, Glenrock Stream to Hakatere Heron Rd, 45.7km (tramp), maps 102-104**

-Glenrock Stream to Comyns Hut, 15.7km, 4-5h: From the DOC sign notifying “Access to North Branch Ashburton Stream” the track follows markers through farm land up the R side of Glenrock Stream. At 1.7km the track crosses the stream and then merges with a farm track that begins to climb towards the Conservation Park boundary. Along the way the track passes a stand of Kowhai trees. No camping until inside the Conservation Park. From the Park boundary the route zig-zags up an old farm track to Turtons Saddle (1120m), and then remains on the farm track and is initially E and upwards but soon turns S sidling then descending towards the Turtons Stream’s L bank. The A-Frame Hut toilet becomes visible in the lower portions of the descent. After 8.7km the track reaches Turtons Stream, which is the first water source en route that is both reliable and potable. The track remains on the L and crosses Ensor Stream 1.5km before A-Frame Hut, a tidy 3-bunk hut near the Comyns Stream’s confluence with Turtons Stream (1h from Turtons Saddle). The track continues down the L of Turtons Stream for about 2km to the first of 4 river crossings in close succession. The track then climbs and descends into Mutton Gully. Once out of this gully, Turtons Stream is forded a final time, then an easy 700m walk to Comyns Hut (8 bunks).

-to Double Hut junction, 16km, 6-8h: “Brutal” creek crossings & tussock bashing. This part of the track is rough and unformed, you must pick a route between markers which, in poor weather, may not be visible from one to the next. A marker behind the hut shows the route heading W up the North Branch Ashburton River towards Round Hill Creek. Travel quickly becomes confined to the stream bed and involves frequent crossings (straightforward in normal flows). Round Hill Creek joins North Branch Ashburton as the latter heads N towards Petticoat Lane. From this confluence Te Araroa continues up Round Hill Creek, past Logan Stream, and then departs to begin the ascent towards Clent Hills Saddle (1480m). Care is needed to ascertain the correct route beyond the saddle. Do not descend, but continue to the R along the saddle and link to the upper-most track crossing a large scree slope. On the far side of the scree the route continues to sidle through tussock to the next ridge. Marker poles become evident again along the way. From the ridge the poles lead down and to the R, diagonally away from the Swin. Eventually, after crossing 3 more scree slopes, the track reaches a dilapidated fence along another ridge line. Follow the fence line down the ridge to a rock cairn and arrow, which indicate the way down and to the R towards the next pole and ultimately to an unnamed tributary to the Swin River. Once across this stream the final climb begins towards the Mellish Saddle. The route down from the saddle becomes easier and remains above the L bank of Mellish Stream. It emerges into the wider Heron Basin and passes a sign-posted junction with a side trail out to the road end at Lake Heron. Continue on the main track for about 1km to another junction near the Swin River, which is crossed on foot but seldom an issue. From here Double Hut (6 bunks, reasonable condition) is 1km away on another side trail. The side trail to the R provides an exit to the Lake Heron Car Park and then to Hakatere Heron Rd. Once on the road it is a few 100m to the right around the lake shore to Lake Heron CG. Or turn L for 16.3km to Ashburton Gorge Rd and then L another 39.6km to Mt Somers Village where there is a tavern for meals, a general store and camping accommodation.

-to Hakatere Heron Rd (via Manuka Hut), 14km, 3-4h: The track continues S for 6.4km across grassy and gravel flats passing the Seagull and Manuka Lakes to a junction from where Manuka Hut (6 bunks) is hidden 300m upstream and to the L. Note: The next reliable water source beyond Manuka Hut is on the Clearwater Track and 17.3km distant. Beyond the Manuka Hut junction Te Araroa continues S for 2+km and then turns W to climb to the ridge on Emily Hill’s S flank. The poled track line then sidles down through matagouri and spear grass to the flats. From here it's easier going to a carpark at Lake Emily (5km from Manuka Hut) where the track leaves the Hakatere Conservation Park and joins with a marked paper road that bisects Castle Ridge Station. The Clent Hills Track ends at Hakatere Heron Rd, 3.2km from the carpark. There is a farm gate across the paper road about 600m before the finish point that should be left as it is found. Turn left onto Hakatere Heron Road and walk 4.4km to the Clearwater Track trail head on the R side of the road just beyond Buicks Bridge.

Accommodation en route: Comyns Hut (8 bunks); Double Junction Hut (6); Lake Heron CG ($5/night, toilets & water only);

Mt Somers Village (tavern for meals, a general store and camping); Manuka Hut (6 bunks)

**Hakatere Heron Rd Connection to Clearwater Track, from 4.4km N of Buicks Bridge to S side of Buicks Bridge, 4.4km, map 104**

**Clearwater Track, Buicks Bridge to Potts River Bridge on Hakatere Potts Rd, 21.4km (tramp) maps 104-106**

There are no huts en route but trampers can camp as it suits. From the S side of Buicks Bridge, which crosses the South Branch Ashburton River, marker poles lead W across easy open country. This is towards the gap between Mt Guy and Dogs Hill. At 5km the track crosses a fence line and later it joins an old farm track for another 5km. At this point the marked track turns L and heads towards a saddle at the W end of Mt Guy. It passes a tarn along the way. Follow the fence line down to the creek at the base of the hill. The track then heads SW towards the head of Lake Clearwater and joins with another old farm track, which continues towards the Potts River but stops at a gate. Te Araroa heads N here to avoid crossing private property then bends around towards the lip on the Potts River's L bank. Once on the lip the track stays high and follows the fence line. It then drops steeply into a gully, which opens to the Potts River bed. If the Potts River is running clear then the best travel is usually downstream direct to the carpark at the road bridge. If the Potts is discoloured this exit will be impassable - go up the other side of the gully remaining on the Potts side of the fence through to the road. From here it’s a short walk down hill to the carpark and TH. It’s 18.5km to the left on Hakatere Potts Rd to Ashburton Gorge Rd, then on to Mt Somers Village and Methven. It’s 3km to the R on Hakatere Potts Rd to Mt Potts Lodge.

Accommodation en route: Mt Potts Lodge - P: 03 303 9060 offers a range of accommodation and a restaurant open Wed-Sun.

**Rangitata River Hazard Zone, map 106**

Not recommended to cross but may be possible. Cross above the confluence with the Potts River. Wayne from Alps 2 Ocean can assist crossing using inflatables [info@alps2ocean.co.nz](mailto:info@alps2ocean.co.nz)

Geraldine offers a range of services. To get to the Bush Stream TH from the Potts River TH via Geraldine is 163km. Thumb E on Hakatere Potts Rd which eventually turns into Ashburton Gorge Rd. Continue thru Somers then R on Hwy 72 / Inland Scenic Rte. Just after crossing the Rangitata River continue thru the intersection with Pratt Rd on Hwy 72 then Hwy 79 (Rangitata-Orari Hwy) to Geraldine. After visiting Geraldine, return to the intersection of Hwy 72 and Pratt Rd and head N on Pratt Rd, which becomes Peel Forest Rd and then Rangitata Gorge Rd. Bush Stream is 2.5km beyond Mesopotamia Station.

Geraldine I-SITE Visitor Information Centre - corner Talbot & Cox St - P: 03 693 1006

DOC Raukapuka Area Office - North Terrace - P; 03 693 1010 - E; raukapukaao@doc.govt.nz

Accommodation in Geraldine (Several other accommodation options are also available):

Rawhiti House & Backpackers (BBH) - 27 Hewlings St - P: 03 693 8252

Geraldine Kiwi Holiday Park - 39 Hislop St - P: 03 693 8147

Accommodation en route: Peel Forest Camp - P: 03 696 3567 - E: stay@peelforest.co.nz - Cabins & Camping, café, general store selling groceries & takeaway food. Summer hours Mon-Fri 9am-6pm, Sat-Sun to 8pm

Mesopotamia Station - P: 03 696 3738 - provides good basic accommodation.

Resupply: Geraldine Supervalue Supermarket - Peel St - P: 03 693 8529 - open 7am-7pm

**Two Thumb Track, Bush Stream carpark to Boundary Stream carpark (Lilybank Rd), 55km (tramp), maps 106-110**

Start at the sign-posted trail at the Bush Stream carpark beyond Mesopotamia Station. Track is mostly unformed but marked with poles.

-to Crooked Spur Hut, 4h: Follow markers from the carpark up towards Bush Stream. Once at the stream, travel is up or adjacent to the river bed, crossing as required, which should be straightforward in normal flows. The Sawtooth Bluff can be particularly tricky, with a very careful climb up and over the safest option when the water is up. The track leaves the stream bed on the L to avoid a gorged section. In the process it climbs and then descends back towards Bush Stream. Ford Bush Stream a final time near a concrete slab, the last remains of an old swing bridge. From the L side a formed track climbs towards Crooked Spur Hut (5 bunks). The climb to the hut takes about 1h.

-to Stone Hut, 5h: Track goes W around Crooked Spur and climbs for 1.5h to a saddle at 1500m, then descends to cross Pack Horse and Sweeps Streams before returning to Bush Stream, then up the L bank to an old stock bridge. Cross it to reach Stone Hut (8 bunks, reasonable condition).

-to Royal Hut, 2h: Follow Bush Stream to Royal Hut (8 bunks).

-to Camp Stream Hut, 6h: The first part of the day involves a climb over the Two Thumb Range via Stag Saddle (1925m), the highest point on Te Araroa. From the hut cross Bush Stream and follow the poles upwards. The climb to the saddle is fairly steep in places but quite safe in reasonable weather. The contours ease towards the saddle, where cell phone coverage is available. From the saddle it is possible to scramble up to the ridge on the R side and then to descend the ridge line past the turn off to Rex Simpson Memorial Hut (private) and over Pt 1468 to a 4WD track. While unmarked this route is generally sound underfoot and affords excellent views across Lake Tekapo to Mt Cook. This should only be attempted by people confident in navigating and should not be attempted in poor weather, but is highly recommended. Turn L onto the 4WD track, which fords Camp Stream on its way to Camp Stream Hut (6-bunks, reasonable condition). The alternative marked (and poor weather) route down from Stag Saddle is lightly poled and runs down into the tussock covered Camp Stream Valley. Lower down this valley the 2 routes converge at the 4WD track, turn R here to access Camp Stream Hut, which is on the L side of the stream.

-to Boundary Stream car park, 5h: Follow the track down the L of Camp Stream before crossing just above the confluence with Coal River then continuing on the L before the steep climb to the road. Continue on conservation land parallel with Lake Tekapo and along the base of the Richmond Range. Cross Washdyke Stream on the way to Boundary Stream where it descends above the R bank to a carpark at Lilybank Road.

Transport to and from the trailheads is available:

To/from Geraldine - to either end of the trail, contact Wayne from Alps 2 Ocean on E: info@alps2ocean.co.nz for assistance.

To/from Tekapo, at the Tekapo end of the trail, contact The Cook Connection P: 0800 266 526 or E: travel@cookconnect.co.nz

Accommodation en route: Crooked Spur Hut (5, tired but adequate with good views); Stone Hut (8, reasonable condition);

Royal Hut (8); Camp Stream Hut (6, compact but in a reasonable condition)

**Road Connection to Tekapo-Twizel Track, Boundary Stream carpark to Lake Tekapo Village, 15km (road), map 110**

Follow the Lilybank Rd shoulder S towards SH8. The road ordeal ends at the Lake Tekapo Regional Park, which affords lakeside walking for the final section into Lake Tekapo Village.

Te Araroa preferred hostel: YHA Lake Tekapo, 3 Simpson Lane, Lake Tekapo, P: 03 6806857 E: laketekapo@yha.co.nz

Lake Tekapo Information Centre - Main St - P: 03 680 6686

Accommodation, Lake Tekapo (Many other accommodation options are also available):

Tailormade Backpackers BBH - 9-11 Aorangi Crescent - P: 03 680 6700

Lake Tekapo Motels and Holiday Park - Lakeside Drive - P: 0800 853 853

Lake Front Backpackers Lodge - P: 0800 840 740

Resupply, Lake Tekapo:

Tekapo Services Ltd (4 Square supermarket) - Main St - P: 03 680 6809

Doughboys Bakery - 65 Main Rd - P: 03 680 6655 - Snacks and bakery goods

**Tekapo-Twizel Track, Tekapo Power Station to Jct SH8 & Ruataniwha Rd in Twizel, 70km (tramp), maps 110-114**

“Easy but long.” Need to treat water along this section. From Lake Tekapo township, follow SH8 5km, and turn R into Braemar Rd (gravel & spectacular) and follow 22km up and over the hills dropping down to meet Lake Pukaki. Along Braemar Rd, the "Telephone Hut" is convenient accommodation (S43 58.619 E170 19.842). At the shore of Lake Pukaki, Te Araroa joins with the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail through Lake Pukaki village and on to Twizel. 29km to Pines CG [did not find, land along first part of Lake Pukaki is private]. Last 1km to Twizel is on the highway.

Twizel Information Centre - 61 Mackenzie Drive - P: 03 435 3124 - E: info@twizel.com

Accommodation, Twizel (Other accommodation options are also available):

High Country Lodge and backpackers - 23 Mackenzie Drive - P: 03 435 0671

Parklands Alpine Tourist Park - 122 Mackenzie Drive - P: 03 435 0507 - cabins, backpackers and campsites

Mountain Chalets - Wairepo Rd (Close to trail head) - P: 03 435 0785

Resupply, Twizel:

Twizel 4 Square Supermarket - 20 Market Place - 03 435 0875

Mackenzie 4 Square Supermarket - 27 Market Place - 03 435 3262

Bakery in Market Place Shopping Centre

**Lake Ohau Track, Twizel to Glen Mary Ski Club at Lake Ohau, 33km (easy), maps 114-116**

The track starts on SH8 outside Twizel opposite Ruataniwha Rd where Te Araroa’s next section to the N is sign-posted. Follow the gravelled walk/cycleway south for 2km past the Meridian Energy office, then continue on down the L side of the road across the spillway and then the bridge over the Ohau B canal. Once across the canal bridge immediately cross the road (before the salmon farm and Ohau Riverside Drive) and join a formed track that runs along the terrace above Lake Ruataniwha for about 3km, and then the trail joins Ohau Riverside Drive and descends around a cove with a large patch of rushes at its head. Beyond the cove travel is mainly on the road to the lake head and beyond along the Ohau River to the Weir at Lake Ohau. From the Weir a lakeside track is scheduled for development as part of the Alps 2 Ocean Cycleway but travel is straightforward on foot. This is mostly on an old grass farm track around the Lake Ohau margin. Four fence lines en route can be climbed with care. Pick up the track by walking west from the Weir around towards the lake shore. It takes about 1h to reach a private hut set back from shore within a small bay. In the next bay the track breaks through Maori Swamp but travel is OK proximate to the lakeshore on good stock tracks. In time the lake side track resumes. Continue on to a locked gate at the 4th fence line just before Lake Ohau Road. Turn R onto the road and follow the road shoulder to Lake Middleton, then follow the E shore to the lakehead. Return to road shoulder here and walk past the Alpine Village to a small stand of beech. From this point there is a good track between the road and Lake Ohau to Glen Mary Ski Club. Lake Ohau Lodge is 3km further north along Lake Ohau Rd. Omarama, a small tourist village, is 37km to the south, back down Lake Ohau Rd then right into SH8 / Twizel-Omarama Rd.

Lake Ohau Lodge - 2295 Lake Ohau Rd - P: 03 438 9885 - Cabins & hotel style rooms, restaurant and bar. There is some cell-phone coverage from high points along Lake Ohau Rd.

Accommodation, Omarama (37km south):

Omarama Top 10 Holiday Park - P: 0800 662 726

Omarama Hotel - P: 03 438 9713 - older pub style accommodation

Heritage Gateway Hotel - P: 0800 809 805

Resupply, Omarama (37km south): Taylors Omarama Food Centre (4 Square Supermarket) - P: 03 438 9895

**East Ahuriri Track, Glen Mary Ski Club to Birchwood Rd (7km from SH8), 24km (tramp), maps 116-117**

Start on the 4WD track next to the Glen Mary Ski Club and climb to join the marked Parsons MTB track, which traverses to Sawyers Creek and then Freehold Creek. Well marked and clearly formed track to tree line, then the track is unformed and lightly marked but finding the way will still be fairly obvious. Follow DOC markers up through the beech forest remnant to an informal camp site. A few minutes further, beyond treeline, the track initially follows the poles and light ground trail towards Dumb-bell Lake. This is on the R of Freehold Creek. The East Ahuriri Track peels off this track in a SW direction towards Pt 1374 but it is not obviously marked lower down. There is a marker pole at S44 16.669 E169 46.015 and from here there are regular poles (though they are not always visible from one to the next) along the E side of the swamp between Pts 1516 and 1489. The poles continue on this line until the beginning of the descent into the East Ahuriri. This is at the bluffs immediately E of Pt 1374. Descend with care to the East Ahuriri River. From here travel is downstream by the most practical route. There are infrequent markers, just enough for occasional reassurance. There are a few river crossings but these are normally straightforward. The track climbs and sidles above the R bank to avoid two gorged sections. Along the way a derelict hut becomes visible in the distance on the L side of the river. Going becomes easier as the river opens up. The track reaches the first line of pine trees as it emerges into the wider Ahuriri Valley. There are more pine trees further along as you continue straight ahead towards the Ahuriri River. Follow the fence down to the Ahuriri's bank and look across for the track markers on the other side. They continue about 50m downstream from the 4WD track that cuts down far bank. Once you’ve identified this spot look for a safe place to cross the river. *If the Ahuriri cannot be forded safely continue downstream for about 5km to the Ireland Road Bridge. It is then about the same distance back up Birchwood Rd to the trailhead.* From the far side of the river the track follows marker poles straight up the steep bank. The track then turns L and follows the top of the river bank to the next fence line, which marks a R turn and the final walk out to the trailhead on Birchwood Rd. There is a carpark across the road, where Te Araroa’s next section starts - the Breast Hill Track.

To exit to Omarama, go L 11.2 km to SH8, then L again for a further 17.4km.

**Breast Hill Track, Birchwood Rd to Gladstone Reserve (Timaru River Rd), 53.3km (tramp), maps 116-120**

-to Top Timaru Hut, 22.8km, 7-8h: Follow a marked route along a fence line towards the Avon Burn. Ford the burn then climb to the farm track above the R bank. Turn R and head upstream on the farm track as it climbs into the Avon Burn catchment towards Mt Martha Saddle (1680m). Beyond the saddle descend on an unmarked, occasionally washed out bulldozer track to Top Timaru Hut, staying on the L of the Timaru River.

-to Timaru River Junction, 12km, 5-6h: Continue down the bulldozed track on the river's L to tree line, about 20min. Once in the forest follow a marked track that climbs, descends, and sidles through this steep sided river valley to the Breast Hill Track/Timaru River Track junction. Along the way the track is on the L for about 2.5km then emerges from the forest at a grassy area. From here the track leads down to the first of about a dozen river crossings (straightforward in normal flow).

-to Stodys Hut, 2.2km, 1.5-2h: From the junction climb steeply to the tree line then sidle across an open section. The track then returns briefly to the forest before reaching Stodys Hut (6 bunks, dirt floor, reasonable condition), right on the tree line. Water from the nearby creek, the last reliable water source until Pakituhi Hut.

-to Pakituhi Hut via Breast Hill, 11.2km, 3.5-4.5h: The route between the huts is high and exposed with great views & no water. Follow an old farm track up to the ridgeline then turn R and follow the farm track along the broad, undulating ridge towards the Breast Hill (1578m). The track is lightly marked but all junctions are signposted so navigation is not difficult. Beyond the summit the track is close to a fence line and mostly unformed. It descends to the 8-bunk Pakituhi Hut (1300m) which is 200m along a side trail to the L. The hut can also be accessed along a foul weather route, which departs Te Araroa on the left 1+km before it reaches the summit.

-to Gladstone Reserve, 5.1km, 3-4h: There are no streams en route - carry water from the hut. This challenging section descends 950m to the Timaru River Rd, initially along the ridgeline to a small saddle and then down a steep face on a zig-zagging track. Turn L at the road. The Gladstone Reserve is lakeside and about 1km distant.

Accommodation en route: Top Timaru Hut (6 bunks); Stodys Hut (6, dirt floor but reasonable condition), Pakituhi Hut (8 bunks)

**Gladstone Track, Gladstone Reserve to Lake Hawea Township, 6.8km (easy), map 120**

Mainly on the terrace above the lakeshore. From the Gladstone Reserve the track starts on compacted gravel and heads W around the lakeshore. The track soon crosses Johns Creek (usually dry) and then rises towards Denniston Rd. It runs alongside the road briefly and then continues straight ahead onto the terrace above the lake. After 30min. the track veers inland and descends gently to cross a creek bed. It and then returns to the terrace along the lake fringe. A second creek bed is crossed about 1.5km further along. The track continues along the terrace and crosses a cattle stop at the town boundary. The track enters the Lake Hawea Reserve here where it remains for the final 30min.The formed track ends on Capell Rd about 100m from the Domain Rd intersection, which is adjacent to the Hawea River control gates.

Accommodation, Lake Hawea Village:

Lake Hawea Motel - 56 Capell Ave - P: 03 441 1188

Lake Hawea Motor Lodge - Capell Ave - P: 0800 429 324 - Motel and hostel accommodation, restaurant and bar

Lake Hawea Holiday Park - 1208 Makarora Rd - P: 03 443 1767 - cabins and camping

Resupply, Lake Hawea Village:

Sailz Lake Hawea Restaurant & Bar - P: 03 443 1696 - General store, post office, café and restaurant. Open daily from 7.30am.

Transport: Alpine Coachlines - P: 03 443 9120 - Wanaka based.

**Hawea River Track, Lake Hawea Township (Domain Rd) to Clutha River Bridge, 12km (easy), map 120**

In Lake Hawea walk up Domain Rd 800m to the carpark where the off-road track begins thru a ped gate. Follow the track down, across a small bridge, and then turn L onto the main track. The track crosses Camp Hill Rd and continues downstream to the Alberttown Conservation Area, then to the Hawea River Swingbridge. The Albert Town Reserve CG is located immediately over Hawea River Bridge ($7.00 per night – toilet, water and parking only). Beyond the bridge to Albert Town is unmarked but straightforward and initially on vehicle tracks to SH6 Lake Hawea-Albert Town Rd. Turn L onto the road. The path on the R side crosses the Clutha River Bridge. Albert Town shops are straight ahead a short distance away.

Accommodation & Resupply, Albert Town:

Albert Town Lodge - 3 Wexford St - P: 03 443 9487 - Backpacker accommodation

Albert Town shops - 20 Alison Ave - dairy and tavern

**Outlet Track, Clutha River Bridge (Albert Town) to Lakefront Wanaka CBD, 12km (easy), maps 120 & 121**

From the Albert Town side of the Clutha River Bridge head upstream on the riverside trail. There is a toilet 1+km along. Continue riverside towards the Lake Wanaka's outlet. The track ends at the Visitors’ Centre on the lakeshore. At the outlet the trail continues around the Lake Wanaka shore. There is a water fountain at the S end of Bremner Bay, a short distance from where the track enters the Eely Point Recreational Reserve, and toilets within the Reserve. On the far side of the reserve the track continues lakeside into Roys Bay, past the boat ramp, and towards the Wanaka CBD.

Te Araroa preferred hostel: YHA Wanaka, 94 Brownston St, Wanaka, P: 03 443 1880 E: wanaka@yha.co.nz

Lake Wanaka Visitors Centre - 100 Ardmore St - P: 03 443 1233 - open daily from 8.30am-5pm.

DOC Mt Aspiring National Park Visitor Centre - Ardmore St, Wanaka - P: 03 443 7660 - Open daily from Nov-April 8am-5pm.

Accommodation, Wanaka (There are also many other options available at all levels in Wanaka):

Mountain View backpackers BBH - 7 Russell St - P: 0800 112 201

Wanaka Lakeview Holiday Park - 212 Brownston St - P: 03 443 7883 - cabins, campsites and backpacker accommodation.

Resupply, Wanaka:

New World supermarket - 20 Dunmore St - P: 03 443 7966

Mediterraean Food Market - 20 Ardmore St - P: 03 443 4181

**Glendhu Bay Track, Wanaka (Ardmore St) to Glendhu Bay, 15km (easy), maps 121 & 122**

The formed track starts beyond the parking area at the Wanaka Visitor’s Centre on Ardmore St. The track crosses the fringe of the Edgewater Resort’s manicured lawns on its way to the Waterfall Creek Access Rd. There is a parking area here and the track continues beyond, crossing Waterfall Creek on a footbridge. The track undulates into Damper Bay and passes a private boat shed at the bay's head. Beyond Damper Bay the track continues through to Glendhu Bay Lakeside Holiday Park. Continue through the CG to where the section ends, at the Wanaka Mount Aspiring Rd/Motatapu Rd junction.

Accommodation en route: Glendhu Bay Lakeside Holiday Park - P: 03 443 7743 - Cabins, CG and a small shop open in Summer.

**Motatapu Rd Connection to Motatapu Alpine Track, Glendhu Bay to Fern Burn carpark on Motatapu Rd, 3km, map 122**

Walk up Motatapu Rd from the Wanaka Mount Aspiring Rd jct to the Fern Burn Carpark & Motatapu Alpine Track TH.

**Motatapu Alpine Track, Fern Burn carpark to Macetown, 34km (tramp), map 122 & 123**

-to Fern Burn Hut, 7km, 3h: The track begins through deer paddocks on the Fern Burn’s R and enters remnant beech forest at the Stack Conservation Area boundary. The track then traverses the length of the burn-side beech forest strip. When the track breaks out of the forest section it enters tussock country. The gradient steepens but the track remains benched to the Fern Burn Hut (12 bunks).

-to Highland Creek Hut, 6km, 4h: The track follows marker poles further up the Fern Burn and on to Jack Halls Saddle (1275m) then descends a ridge to a creek crossing. The remainder of the section involves sidles and ridge walking towards the Highland Creek catchment and Highland Creek Hut, located within an impressive high country basin.

-to Roses Hut, 11km, 5-6h: This is the most demanding section of the track with 2 major climbs and descents. First climb up a steep spur then sidle to vantage points that provide good views of the Motatapu Valley. A long descent to a creek within a strip of remnant beech forest. A long climb immediately follows up towards a major ridge off Knuckle Peak. From here travel is down the ridgeline to the Motatapu River. Ford the river then cross valley floor to Roses Hut (12 bunks).

-to Macetown, 10km, 4-5h: The track from the hut continues to follow marker poles. It crosses a small creek and climbs 470m up the ridge to a point at 1270m, above and E of Roses Saddle. From this high point the track descends to the Arrow River.

If the Arrow River is at normal to low flows then travel is quicker within the river bed all the way down to Macetown. An alternative route to Macetown follows the directional sign and markers on a high water track, which sidles above the river’s L bank. Note: trampers on the high water track still need to ford the Arrow River to reach Macetown so come prepared to wait out a flooded river as need be. At Macetown (pop. 0) there are toilets and camping is permitted.

Accommodation en route: Fern Burn Hut (12 bunks); Highland Creek Hut (12 bunks); Roses Hut (12 bunks)

**Big Hill Track, Macetown to Arrowtown, 13.5km (tramp), map 123 & 124**

Follow the 4WD Arrow Gorge Rd downstream to the Eight Mile/Coronet Creek confluence. Head up this creek about 500m then follow poles and a light ground trail leading off on the R up to Big Hill Saddle (1060m). The formed track down from the saddle passes through open tussock country and beech forest to the Sawpit Gully Trail junction. Continue down on the R track and exit to Ramshaw Lane, Arrowtown on the Bush Creek Trail. NOTE: In poor weather you can continue down the Arrow Gorge Road to Arrowtown, river levels permitting.

www.arrowtown.com There is also many other options for accommodation in Arrowtown

Poplar Lodge BBH - 4 Merioneth St, Arrowtown - P: 03 442 1466

Arrowtown Holiday Park - 12 Centennial Ave, Arrowtown - P: 03 442 1876 - units, lodge and camping

Arrowtown Night n Day - 39 Buckingham St - P: 03 442 1886 - Basic resupply

Arrowtown Bakery & Café - 1 Buckingham St - P: 03 442 1587

**Wakatipu & Millbrook Tracks & Frankton Walkway, Arrowtown to Queenstown, 21km (easy), maps 124 & 125**

All this should be marked. Start near the Ramshaw Lane/ Berkshire St intersection in Arrowtown. Walk up Birkshire St. Turn R into Wiltshire St and then R again into Caernarvon St. This street continues into Manse Rd. Follow the roadside track past Butal Park to the Malaghans Rd intersection. Cross Malaghans Rd onto the Millbrook Track, this starts just before The Avenue, the main road entry into the Millbrook Resort. The Millbrook Track is 3.1km long and marked. It runs alongside The Avenue to the resort centre then veers to the R. It follows Mill Stream and passes through Coronet Nine golf course. The Millbrook Track exits onto Speargrass Flat Road. Turn R here, L into Slope Hill Rd, and then L again onto Rutherford Rd, which leads down to a carpark at Lake Hayes. From the carpark veer a little to the R on the track down the W side of the lake, then exit towards the highway at the S lakehead. There is a direction sign to a carpark here. Turn L and cross the highway prior to the carpark and descend on the formed track to Lake Hayes Estate, suburbia. Follow the Queenstown Cycle Trail signs along the track that skirts the estate and exits from the lower end of Widgeon Place. Turn R and continue upstream along the track on the Kawarau River’s L bank. This track bends around at the Shotover River confluence and leads up towards the historic Shotover footbridge. Once across the footbridge take the track to the L that passes a covered picnic table before leading down towards the river. This track continues downstream and passes under the highway bridge. Beyond this point the track becomes a veritable trip through Queenstown’s dirty laundry basket. First the track crosses to the R side of the road and passes the dog pound and the gun club. It then begins to climb the hill beside the gate to the oxidation ponds. It exits through an alley way alongside a port-o-loo depot. This is onto Glenda Drive. Cross Glenda Drive, turn L and then follow the sign through the transfer station to a gravel road. Turn R here and then L onto Glenda Drive, which is followed around to the highway. Turn L again onto the highway margin and after a short distance you will come out at the Five Mile development site. There is an obvious track from here through to the events centre site. Continue past the pool entrance and carpark on the sealed path which leaves the site on the R through the golf course. Cross the highway, turn R, then L into Ross St. At the bottom of Ross St turn R into Birse St, which exits onto Lake Ave. The Frankton Domain is across Lake Ave. Walk down to the lakeshore and the Frankton Walkway starts at the W end of the Domain. From here the walkway provides an easy 1-1.5h lakeside walking to Park St. Continue on Park St and then the track through the Queenstown Gardens to Marine Pde, on the lake front, in central Queenstown.

Te Araroa preferred hostels, Queenstown:

YHA Queenstown Central, 48 Shotover St, Queenstown, P: 03 4427400 E: queenstowncentral@yha.co.nz

YHA Queenstown Lakefront, 88-90 Lake Esplanade, Queenstown, P: 03 4428413 E: queenstownlakefront@yha.co.nz

Queenstown Visitors Centre - Cnr Shotover & Camp Sts - P: 03 442 4100 - www.queenstownnz.co.nz

DOC Queenstown Regional Visitor Centre - 38 Shotover St - P: 03 442 7935

Air - Regular flights from Queenstown to many destinations.

Air New Zealand - P: 0800 737 000

Jetstar - P: 0800 800 995

Intercity Coachlines - P: 03 365 1113

Atomic Shuttles - P: 03 349 0697

There are many options for accommodation at all levels within Queenstown. Some include:

Bungi Backpackers BBH - 15 Sydney St - P: 0800 728 286

Creeksyde Top 10 Holiday Park - 54 Robins Rd - P: 0800 786 222

Resupply, Queenstown:

New World Supermarket - Frankton, Queenstown - www.newworld.co.nz

Fresh Choice Supermarket - 64 George St - P: 03 441 1252

Mediterranean Food Market - 53 Robins Rd - P: 03 442 4161

Alpine Supermarket - Cnr Shotover & Stanley Sts - P: 03 442 8961

**Lake Wakatipu Hazard Zone, Queenstown to Greenstone Carpark, maps 125-128**

Recommended method is to thumb to Glenorchy (46km, Glenorchy-Queenstown Rd) and then take a water taxi or thumb to Greenstone carpark. To thumb from Glenorchy (35km) take Glenorchy-Paradise Rd north for about 8km. Just after crossing the Rees River turn left onto Priory Rd for 2.6km which then continues as Glenorchy-Routeburn Rd for another 5.8km. After crossing the Dart River continue straight on Kinloch Rd for 9km into Kinloch, then straight 9.3km on Greenstone Station Rd.

Te Araroa preferred hostel: YHA Kinloch (Glenorchy), 862 Kinloch Rd, Kinloch, P: 03 4424900 E: glenorchy@yha.co.nz

Glenorchy Information Centre - Includes Holiday park, general store - Oban St - P: 03 441 0303. Includes transport to trailheads, basic resupply, and a range of accommodation including camping.

Glenorchy Hotel & Backpackers Retreat - Mull St - P: 03 409 2049

Mt Earnslaw Motel - 87 Oban St - P: 03 442 6883

**Mavora Walkway, Greenstone carpark to Mavora Lakes CG, 47km (tramp), maps 128-131**

Well marked and initially formed, becomes less defined in mid sections where it follows marker poles. Relatively easy gradient.

-to Greenstone Hut, 11km, 3-5h: From the carpark the track climbs above the Greenstone River and then descends to a swingbridge near the Caples River confluence. Cross and continue on the track up Greenstone River's L side, through a gorge, towards Slip Flat. Beyond the open flats the track returns to the forest and continues up the Greenstone River to a sign-posted junction. Turn L and cross the river bridge towards the Greenstone Hut, which is in a clearing a little further along at the Greenstone Track/Mavora Walkway junction, is spacious but gets busy at times. Beyond the hut the track is less travelled.

-to Taipo Hut, 10km, 4-5h: Te Araroa onwards is towards Taipo Hut and sign-posted. The track climbs up and around to the Passburn Valley. Near the valley head the track drops to a creek and then climbs back up to the saddle. Descend following marker poles to Taipo Hut (8 bunks), which is near the banks of the Mararoa River.

-to Boundary Hut, 12km, 3-4h: From the hut cross the Mararoa River swingbridge. From here the track is proximate to the river and follows marker poles through open country. Recross the river on another swingbridge to reach Boundary Hut (8 bunks).

-to Careys Hut, 6km, 2h: Follow the 4WD track to the junction with the track to Forks Hut. Take the L track down towards N Mavora Lake. Careys Hut (7 bunks) has a wood fired hot water shower and is near the base of a hill at the N end of the lake.

-to Mavora Camping Area, 10km, 2h: The 4WD track follows the lake edge around to the Mavora Camping Area at the lake’s S end. There is parking and toilets here. Camping is for a small fee paid via a self registration system.

Accommodation en route: Greenstone Hut (20 bunks); Taipo Hut (8); Boundary Hut (8); Careys Hut (7); Mavora Camping Area

**Maraoa River Track, CG at North Mavora Lake to Princhester Rd, 47km (tramp), maps 131 & 132**

Walk S along the North Mavora Lake shore to the swingbridge across the outlet. From here the track is marked and sign-posted. It stays on the W side Mararoa River and then South Mavora Lake to the outlet where another swingbridge provides an access point from Mavora Lakes Rd. The track continues down the R side of the Mararoa River to a third and final swing bridge. Maybe just walk the road from here. *Note: If the Mararoa River can be forded safely then continue down the track on the R side to the Kiwi Burn then ford the Mararoa River and continue S on the L bank. If not then cross the final swingbridge & rejoin the Te Araroa 3km down*. Below the Kiwi Burn confluence Te Araroa is marked with poles down the Mararoa’s L bank. This is on the river side of the fence for 16km to Wash Creek. May be damp underfoot with long grasses but the route improves as you go. After fording Wash Creek climb to Mavora Lakes Rd to avoid bluffs, and walk along the road for 3km following marker poles to a stile and sign on the R hand side. The track returns to the river here for 3.5km to Mararoa Road. The track resumes across the road and remains on the river’s L for this final section through to SH94. This is through land owned by Burwood Station: day light hours only, no camping. The track continues to a carpark at the end of a Fish & Game access leading up to SH94 and the end of the Mararoa River Track. Te Araroa continues across the highway up Princhester Rd. It is 25km L on SH94 to Mossburn and 31km R on SH94 to Te Anau, gateway to Fiordland National Park.

Te Araroa preferred hostel: YHA Te Anau, 29 Mokonui St, Te Anau, P: 03 2497847 E: teanau@yha.co.nz

Tarahau Lodge BBH - 1 Cumberland St, Mossburn - P: 03 248 6122

Mossburn Hotel - Cnr York and Bath St, Mossburn - P: 03 248 6399 - accommodation, bar and restaurant (closed Mondays)

Mossburn Country Park - 333 Mossburn Five Rivers Rd, 3km north of Mossburn - P: 03 248 6444 or 021 251 9246 – cabins & CG

Kowhai Lodge self contained and B & B, Mossburn - 5665 SH 94 - P: 03 248 6137

Mossburn 4 Square General Store - 37 Devon St - P: 03 248 6011

Fiordland I-SITE Visitor Centre - Lakefront Dr, Te Anau - P: 03 249 8900

DOC Fiordland National Park Visitor Centre - Lakefront Dr, Te Anau - P: 03 249 7924

Te Anau Lakefront Backpackers BBH - 48-50 Lakefront Dr - P: 0800 200 074

Te Anau Kiwi Holiday Park - 15 Luxmore Dr - P: 03 249 8538

Te Anau Mountain View Top 10 Holiday Park - Manapouri - Te Anau Rd - P: 0800 249 746

Many other options at all levels are also available in Te Anau.

Te Anau 4 Square - 30 Town Centre - P: 03 249 7547

Te Anau Fresh Choice Supermarket - 5 Milford Cres - P: 03 249 9600 - open daily 7am-9pm

Fiordland Bakery - 106 Town Centre, Te Anau - P: 03 249 8899 - open daily from 7am

**Takitimu Track, Princhester Rd to Struan Flat Rd, 63km (tramp), map 132-134**

-to Lower Princhester Hut, 6km, 1.5h: Follow Princhester Rd to DOC’s Lower Princhester Hut (6 bunks).

-to Aparima Hut, 17km, 5-6h: Through beech forest and climbs to a saddle between Bog Burn and Waterloo Burn catchments. Then descend to the N boundary of Waterloo Station at about 4.5km. The route along the W boundary of Waterloo Station is poled through tussock land on the bush fringe and marked through the bush clad headlands to Aparima Hut (12 bunks).

-to Lower Wairaki Hut, 13.1km, 6h: To Lower Wairaki Hut is predominantly within the forest and the ground trail is light, or non-existent. Cross the Aparima River on the swingbridge near the hut. The track forks here, follow poles to the R (W) through marshland on the terrace above the Aparima River’s R bank, reaching the forest edge after 2.5km. Within the forest the marked track rolls over foot hills to a signed junction with the Wairaki River Track. Turn left here and it’s about 45min. downstream to the Wairaki River ford. Cross the river here, as levels allow, and climb to the Lower Wairaki Hut (4 bunks).

-to Telford Campsite, 8km, 4h: The sign-posted track departs to the side of the hut and traverses the bush fringe. After about 600m the track crosses a stream then a marker indicates a R turn and the beginning of the climb towards the Telford Tops, the last reliable stream until the campsite. The climb to the ridge is steady and steepens towards the end. Once on the ridge the track turns L and follows the ridge. After 440m the track emerges on the tops, which afford good views S towards the coast. Marker poles continue down the main ridge for another 2km. The track then leaves the ridge to the R and descends through grasslands to the Telford Campsite, which has a toilet and water available from the stream. No camping for the next 19km.

-to Struan Flat Rd, 18.9km, 5h: *Note: this section is entirely over privately owned Mt Linton Station, no camping, give way to livestock & farm vehicles.* There is no drinking water available en route. From the Telford Campsite the route follows poles down the L side of Telford Burn to a sign-posted crossing. Ford the river here, as river levels allow, and continue on the farm track down and beyond the confluence with the Wairaki River to a swing bridge. Beyond the swing bridge the marked track follows fence lines to avoid the Rock Hut area (private) and soon joins with one of Mt Linton Station's main farm access roads. The road climbs steadily for about 2km and then undulates for a further 10km to a junction marked by the Douglas Charles Nunn memorial. Turn L here and about 400m down the road the track depart at a stile on the R side and follows poles up hill and along fence lines towards Struan Flat Rd. Cross Morley Stream on the foot bridge a short distance from the roadside TH. There is parking and cell phone reception here, call Taylor’s Lodge in Ohai, (03) 225 4244, (03) 225 4041, or 021 307 505 for transport or accommodation. To ensure availability it’s best to have made arrangements in advance. It is 7km L on Struan Flat Rd to Ohai, a small rural town. A further 9km along the Ohai-Clifden highway to Nightcaps where you can resupply at Nightcaps 4 Square.

Accommodation on route: Lower Princhester Hut (6 bunks); Aparima Hut (12); Lower Wairaki Hut (4)

Taylor’s Lodge - Ohai - P: 03 225 4244 or 03 225 4041 or 021 307 505 - shuttle transport or accommodation. To ensure availability it’s best to have made arrangements in advance.

**Woodlaw Track, Struan Flat Rd to Scotts Gap-Feldwick Rd, 18.2km (tramp), maps 134 & 135**

Don’t rely on drinking water being available en route. Track is on private property, no camping (except maybe in the Woodlaw Forest Conservation Area?). The track starts on the S side of Struan Flat Rd, just before the Morley Stream bridge, about 150m beyond the Ohai Clifden Hwy junction. Climb the fence at the stile onto Birchwood Station. Conditions may be rough underfoot but soon improve. Follow markers along the Morley Stream margin towards the Orauea Stream confluence. The track rises to the road at the Ohai Clifden Hwy. Turn R here and cross the bridge. The track then leaves the road soon after on the L and follows Orauea Stream up its L bank. Cross the fenced farm access way at the stiles and continue on up L bank to a marked crossing. Ford the stream here and continue up the R bank to a 2nd crossing. (fording the stream in this way to avoids neighboring private property). Follow markers up the fence line towards Birchwood Wairio Rd. Turn R onto the road and walk about 300m to the edge of the eucalyptus forest fringe. The track leaves the road on the L here and travels up the forest fringe beside a fenceline. Beyond the eucalyptus section the track crosses a stock lane and continues up a fenceline to the base of the Twinlaw Range. The track line turns L here and sidles E to join with a grassed farm track. This track climbs steeply up the hill face to the right. As the track nears the main ridge it veers S and becomes less distinct on the ground. Marker poles continue to show the way. Once on the main ridge travel is along the ridgeline to the L (SE). This is on a light but distinct farm track that leads up to the Birchwood Station/Twinlaw Forest boundary gate. Beyond the gate Te Araroa enters exotic forest on a 4WD track then traverses the Twinlaw tops on privately owned forest roads, which make for pleasant and easy walking. You’re unlikely to encounter vehicles, unless a forestry operation is underway. There are a number of forestry road junctions but marker poles are in place to show the way through. For the sake of completeness, turn L onto Trig Rd then R onto Twinlaw Rd. Keep L at the Feldwick Rd junction and continue along Twinlaw Rd. This is towards and through the junction with Chandler Rd. Te Araroa leaves Twinlaw Rd on a 4WD track on the right hand side of the road. There is a turning bay at the end of this track, right on the Twinlaw/Woodlaw Forest boundary. Te Araroa enters the beech forest from the turning bay. This is on a tramping track, within the Woodlaw Forest Conservation Area. The track traverses uneven ground towards Woodlaw Peak then descends towards a narrow strip of exotic forest. Here it joins with a 4WD track that leads to a junction. Turn R at this junction onto the forestry road and soon the road emerges from the forest. It then continues down a long fenced straight, which leads out through farm land towards Scotts-Gap Feldwick Rd. It is 13km to the R via Lower Scotts Gap Rd and Otautau-Tuatapere Rd to Otautau.

Otautau Hotel - 167 Main St - P: 03 225 8166 - rooms, bars & restaurant

Otautau Railway Hotel - 76-78 King St - P: 03 225 8577 - backpackers, bar & restaurant

Supervalue Supermarket - 157 Main St, Otautau - P: 03 225 8029 - open daily 8am-7pm.

**Road Connection to Island Bush Track, Scotts Gap-Feldwick Rd to Hewitt Rd, 4km (road), map 135**

Turn L onto Scotts Gap-Feldwick Rd and walk the shoulder through Scotts Gap junction and onto Upper Scotts Gap Rd. Continue down Upper Scotts Gap Rd then turn R and walk up Hewitt Rd. The Island Bush Track starts up the road at the gate on the exotic forest fringe. Note: walking the Island Bush Track requires prior notification of intentions to a private land owner. See the Island Bush Track description for details.

**Island Bush Track, Hewitt Rd to Otautau-Tautapere Rd, 4km (tramp), map 135 & 136**

*You need to give prior notification of intentions to a private land owner to cross this section. Phone the farm manager between the hours of 9 am and 9 pm on 03 225 5458 or 021 488 290 and take directions as necessary. If no one answers it is permissible to leave a message stating name, phone number, and likely day/time of arrival. There is no cell phone reception at the TH so make calls well in advance. No camping.*

Continue up Hewitt Rd beyond the gate and through the forest to the first of 4 junctions. Turn L onto Loop Rd. L at the 2nd junction, R at the 3rd, and L at the 4th. From the forestry road end a foot track leads down between the pine tree rows to the farm boundary. Once across the boundary fence, turn L onto the farm track and descend. Markers show the way down the track and across a paddock to a pine shelter-belt. The track then turns R and follows this line of trees to a gate. Through the gate the track crosses a bridge and then heads diagonally to the R towards a gap in another shelter-belt. Once through the gap the roadside stile is visible ahead to the R. There is parking opposite the TH. It is L for 13km to Otautau (see above). Tuatapere is 28km to the R.

Accommodation, Tuatapere:

Tuatapere Motels, Backpackers & Holiday Park - 73 Main Rd - P: 0800 009 993

Hump Track Backpackers - 6 Clifden Rd - P: 03 226 6418

Waiau Hotel - 47 Main St - P: 03 226 6409 - rooms, bar & restaurant

Resupply: Dowlings 4 Square supermarket, Tuatapere - 73 Main St - P: 03 226 6250 - open daily 7am-9pm

**Road Connection to Longwood Forest Track, Otautau-Tuatapere Rd to Merrivale Rd end, 11.1km (road), map 135**

Turn R (W) onto Otautau-Tuatapere road and continue past Gill Rd to Merrivale Rd and turn L. Merrivale Rd is initially flat and gravel but progressively tapers into a basic forestry road and climbs the hill. A 4WD track departs on the L side of the road just beyond the final farm paddock. *Note: the only reliable water source on for 13+km is Merry Creek, a short distance down this track.* Continuing, at the 1st junction Merrivale Rd goes to the L. At the 2nd it goes R. There is a washout about 6km up Merrivale Rd. The Longwood Forest Track starts at the Merrivale Rd end. [We found water just past the end of the road. There is also adequate camping near the end of the Merrivale Rd.]

**Longwood Forest Track, Merrivale Rd to Round Hill Rd, 44.9km (tramp), map 136 & 137**

-to Bald Hill, 4.3km, 2h: From the road end a short 4WD track leads off to the start of the Longwood Forest Track. The first orange track markers are encountered a little further along. The track climbs gradually for 2.5km to a clearing but soon re-enters the forest. From here it’s 500m to the tree line from where the transmission tower is visible on clear days. The track is marked by poles across the open tops to the transmission tower at a road end on Bald Hill.

-to Martin's Hut, 7h: Descend the road from the transmission tower. Water may be available from small streams draining from the L. This is in the vicinity of the gates which cross the road. Fill up here as there is no other easily available water source for some distance. Continue down the road to the old quarry from where the track departs on the R near a square steel plate sign. The track within the forest is well marked and easy to follow through increasingly stunted forest. In open sections, however, the route is lightly marked with poles. Continue through forest and shrub lands to the main Longwood ridge. The track from here is often indistinct but follows markers to and beyond the Longwood trig. The descent on the marked track is fairly steep and through forest to Martin’s Hut (compact, 3 bunks). It would provide welcome shelter in poor weather. A small stream off on an unmarked side track between the toilet and the hut (off to the L as you face downhill) provides water. Water also becomes more readily available on the main track lower down.

-to Round Hill Carpark, 9h: Below Martin’s Hut the track continues down to a forestry road. Turn R here and 10min. later turn L onto Cascade Rd. Follow Cascade Rd for about 1km to the Ports Water Race Track, which starts at a small but obvious (but unmarked) foot bridge on the R (S) side of the road. The track then follows the Port’s water race, which was constructed to supply water for gold mining at Round Hill. It hugs a steady contour line beside the water race as it winds its way through gullies and across the hill side. At the end of the Port’s Water Race the track joins the Long Hilly Track. Turn L here and follow the track down past a number of sign-posted historic gold mining sites to the car park on Round Hill Rd. [Frequent drinkable water along Ports Water Race, but it’s very peaty & brown. Camping hard to find along Ports Water Race.]

**Road Connection to Tihaka Beach Track, Round Hill Rd to Colac Foreshore Rd, 6km (road), map 137**

Turn L out of the Long Hilly Walking Track car park and walk down Round Hill Rd to Orepuki Riverton Highway (SH99). Turn L here and then, after 4km, R onto Colac Bay Rd, then 15min. beach. You pass the Colac Bay Tavern & CG where meals, accommodation, and camping facilities are available: 15 Colac Bay Rd - P: 03 234 8399

**Tihaka Beach Track, Colac Bay to Riverton, 9km (easy), map 137 & 138**

From the Colac Bay Rd/Colac Bay Foreshore Rd junction, if the tide is right head east along the beach. At high tide, walk the initial section on Foreshore Rd then descend to the beach when the road turns inland. Continue along the beach then ascend the sand track to Tihaka Beach Rd. When the road veers inland stay on the coast following marker poles along the beach and across the headlands. From the final deer fence leave the coast and heads up towards and through Mores Reserve to a car park at the end of Richard St. There are public toilets here. Go down Richard St toward Riverton. At the bottom of Richard St turn left onto Bay Rd to the Palmerston Rd Bridge. The Tihaka Beach Track ends at the far end of the bridge on the CBD fringe.

Riverton Visitor Information Centre - 172 Palmerston St - P: 03 234 9991

Longwood Holiday Park - 43 Richard St, Riverton - P: 0800 234 813 - studio units & campsites

Globe Backpackers & Bar, & Globe Beach Retreat - 144 Palmerston St, Riverton - P: 0800 843 456 – 2BR self contained units

Riverton Rock guesthouse - 136 Palmerston St, Riverton - P: 03 234 8886 - E: stay@rivertonrock.co.nz

Riverton Supervalue Supermarket - 163 Palmerston St - P; 03 234 8541 - Open daily 7.30am-7pm

**Oreti Beach Track, Riverton to Invercargill, 31.6km (easy), maps 138-140**

From the NE side of the Palmerston Road Bridge walk down towards the river mouth past Jetty St to the sports field toilets. There is a riverside track here beside a line of pine trees that takes walkers to the beach, then 22km along the beach to the Dunns Rd exit, which becomes visible at a gap in the dunes. At about 12km you ford Waimatuku Stream, which can be difficult at high tide but is straightforward at mid to low tide. At Dunns Rd there is a power pole with a streetlight attached. Follow Dunns Rd for 7.15km into Invercargill and continue 1.5km along Stead St, which crosses the estuary towards Tweed St. The section ends over the road bridge where the Rotary Club’s Stead St Wharf Walkway begins on the R side.

Invercargill I-SITE Visitors Centre - Victoria Ave - Queens Park - P: 03 214 6243 - Open daily

Getting there/away (Invercargill):

Air - flights to all main centres from Invercargill Airport.

Bus - options to Dunedin, Te Anau and Queenstown:

Intercity Coachlines - P: 03 365 1113

Atomic Shuttles - P: 03 349 0697

Accommodation, Invercargill:

Oreti Beach House, Foveaux St (sth end of Oreti Beach)

Jane Maxwell, E: mountaineerchalet@gmail.com P: 0272117170

2br cottage with kitchen, bathroom, laundry - from $50pp using own bedding + self-cleaning.

There are also many other options in all levels of accommodation available within Invercargill, including:

Tuatara Lodge - 30-32 Dee St - P: 0800 488 282 - has on site café

Southern Comfort Backpackers - 30 Thompson St - P: 03 218 3838

Resupply, Invercargill:

Pak N Save - 95 Tay St - P: 03 214 4864

New World Supermarket - 244 Elles Rd - P: 03 218 6811

Countdown - 172 Tay St - P: 03 218 6716

**Estuary Walkway, Invercargill to Stirling Point Bluff, 32.5km (easy), maps 140 & 141**

It’s a 21km walk from Lake Street along the Bluff Highway to Ocean Beach where the Foveaux Walkway starts. Traffic can be heavy. The final 7.2km track follows the S coast around the base of Bluff Hill to Stirling Point.

Getting there/away (Bluff):

Invercargill - Campbelltown passenger service - 1 Lee St - P: 03 212 7404

Stewart Island - Stewart Island Experience Ferry Service - Foreshore Rd - P: 0800 000 511

Accommodation (Bluff):

Lands End B & B - 10 Ward Parade - P: 03 212 7575 - restaurant on site

Bluff Lodge - 120 Gore St - P: 03 212 7106 or 027 294 5306 - a range of affordable accommodation

Bluff Camping Ground - Gregory St - P: 027 626 2018 - cabins and tent sites

Resupply: Bluff 4 Square supermarket - 54 Gore St - P: 03 212 8179