

SELWYN

FROM THE LAND 

SELWYN.NZ

**VISITORS
GUIDE**

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WELCOME TO SELWYN



FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

Selwyn is a dynamic region of diverse landscapes. The stunning Southern Alps rise up against the skyline, behind rugged ridges and rolling foothills. Stretching between the two magnificent braided rivers, Waimakariri and Rakaia, Selwyn's patchwork like plains

are home to century old farms, new industry, artisans, growers and producers.

Only 20 minutes from Christchurch, Selwyn has plenty to offer our visitors, whether it's for an afternoon, a daytrip or a minibreak. See what awaits you in Selwyn, from the mountains, plains and the sea.



FROM THE PEOPLE

Selwyn district lies within the takiwā of Ngāi Tahu. Te Taumutu Rūnanga have fished the abundant waters of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere for hundreds of years and still do to this day. Traditionally Māori would hunt moa and weka along the Waikirikiri/Selwyn River, providing food for hunting parties, and travellers between the islands.

Often considered the breadbasket of New Zealand,

Selwyn is rich with its fertile soils and lush pastures. Selwyn is home to Lincoln University, the oldest agricultural teaching institution in the Southern Hemisphere.

The people of Selwyn bring their character and love of the district into their fresh products. Meet the locals and producers and get great insight into the region and its history at the township markets, shops or farm gate stores.

SELWYN DISTRICT

Township locations and main arterial routes

Grey district

Westland district

TO WEST COAST

Arthur's Pass ●

Waimakariri River

Great Alpine Highway 73

Kura Tāwhiti / Castle Hill ●

Springfield ●

Inland Scenic

Lake Coleridge

Whitecliffs ●

Lake Coleridge ●

77

Ashburton district

TO LAKE TEKAPO AND QUEENSTOWN

Follow us:

 Selwyn NZ

 @selwyn.nz

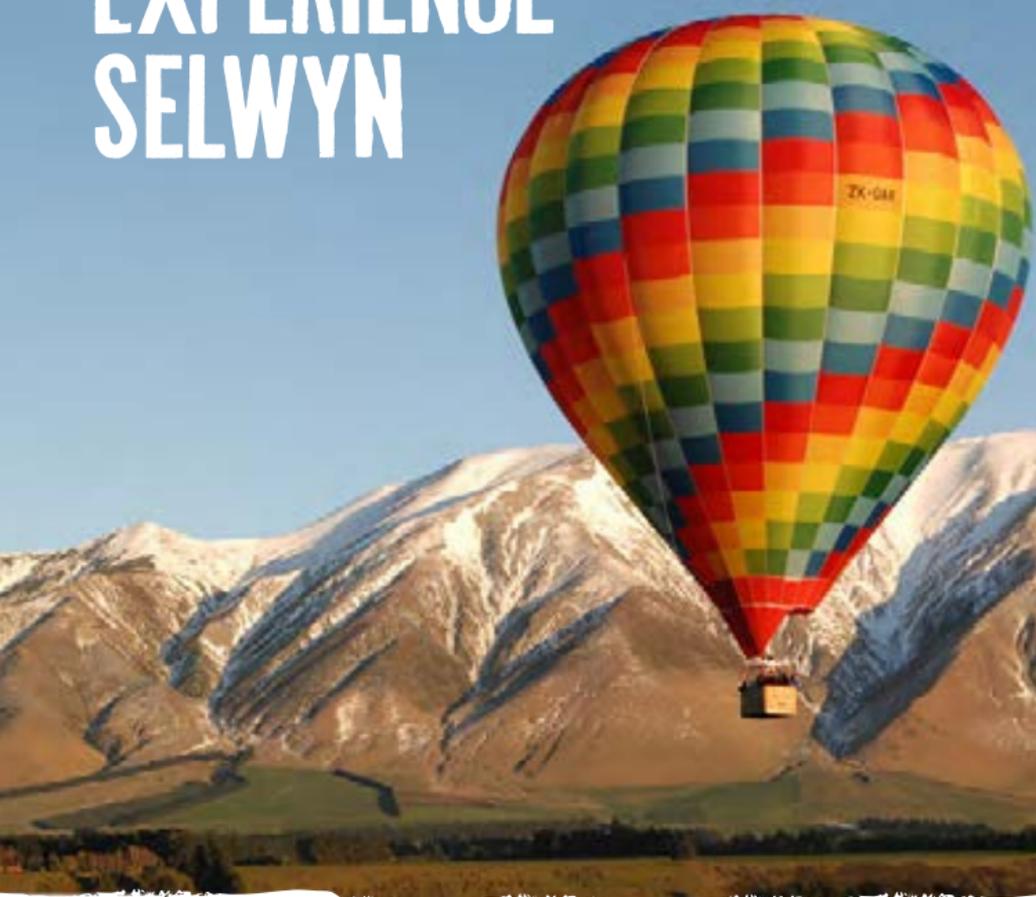
Visit:

selwyn.nz



TO DUNEDIN

EXPERIENCE SELWYN



The Selwyn region appeals to culture lovers, nature lovers, thrill seekers and connoisseurs of life's finest things.

Our activities are as diverse as the landscapes. The hills and mountains offer a wealth of activities, from skiing to mountain biking, hot air ballooning or horse trekking in the high country.

Lovers of nature can visit award winning gardens and historical homesteads or walk through native bush and wetlands.

Appreciate the night sky full of stars or simply taste what delicious produce the region has on offer from the farmer's markets or vineyards.

Flowing from the mountains to the mighty Pacific Ocean, the rivers, lakes and sea bring life to Selwyn.

Try jetboating in the beautiful surroundings of the foothills. Alpine Jet Canyon Safaris departs from near Springfield to view the Waimakariri canyon from the river. Tramp to the



viewing platform or take the Discovery Jet at Rakaia Gorge.

Fish at one of the many beautiful unspoilt spots along the coast and rivers. Try surf fishing at Birdlings Flat for blue moki and kahawai or fish for Chinook Salmon in the Rakaia River or Lake Coleridge. Brown and rainbow trout are also abundant in the smaller lakes nearby.

Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere opens to the ocean and is home to 166 species of birds and 43 species of fish.

Get away from the crowds and relax beside the waters of Selwyn.



HIGHLIGHTS

JET BOATING

HORSE TREKKING

FARM TOURS

HOT AIR BALLOONING

TROUT FISHING

LOCAL MARKETS

ART GALLERIES

**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA
FILM LOCATION**

SKIING

EXPLORE BY FOOT

Selwyn has a wide range of walks and trails that cater for all abilities, ages and fitness levels.

Discover abundant bird life at Ellesmere's Hart Creek reserve, walk through the University township of Lincoln and learn of its early settler history. For something a little more challenging try the Coalgate millennium walkway which takes you across a working farm. The leafy shade of McHugh's Forest in Darfield, established in 1893, provides a cooling stroll through giant pine trees.

The Willows in West Melton follows the beautiful Waimakariri River and is a great place for the family including the dog, for a bike ride, walk or picnic.

Walk to the Washpen Falls near Windwhistle, famous for the regeneration of Southern Rata and spectacular views across the Canterbury plains to the sea. Learn while you tread the Lake Coleridge Historical Walk or stretch your legs to reach the lookout on the Rakaia River Gorge Walk.

At Kura Tāwhiti/Castle Hill, get close to the limestone outcrops or explore the 362 metre long



cave at Cave Stream.

For a bit more of a challenge head into the mountains where some great walks can be found at Craigieburn Forest Park or Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Park. Selwyn's high country offers longer tramps. Head up Peak Hill or join up with Te Araroa, New Zealand's National Pathway.

Feel the pull of the mountains listen to the silence of the Alps and see the beauty that is Selwyn.



HIGHLIGHTS

HELICOPTER HILL

DEVILS PUNCHBOWL

KURA TĀWHITI/CASTLE HILL

BEALEY SPUR

RAKAIA GORGE WALKWAY

WASHPEN FALLS

CAVE STREAM

EXPLORE BY BIKE



Appreciate Selwyn's beautiful landscapes by bike with a trail for all abilities.

Explore the hidden sights of the rural valleys, wetlands and foothills of the region while getting your heart pumping.

Take the family out on one of Selwyn's easier bike trails. The Little River Rail Trail follows the old rail corridor from Hornby through Prebbleton, Lincoln, Motukarara and Birdlings Flat. It passes through rural areas and settlements on the Canterbury plains, loops around hills and borders the native

wetland reserve of Te Waihora/ Lake Ellesmere and Te Roto o Wairewa/Lake Forsyth.

Poulter Valley duel mountain biking and walking track offers great scenery with challenging parts of the trail. A hut is available to stay with tickets purchased from Department of Conservation.

For more challenging tracks near Kura Tāwhiti/Castle Hill, attempt one of the Craigieburn trails with views over Lake Lyndon.

KARARA

TELEPHONE



HIGHLIGHTS

LITTLE RIVER RAIL TRAIL

CRAIGEBURN TRAILS

MCHUGHS FOREST

THE WILLOWS

POULTER VALLEY

KOROWAI TORLESSE
TUSSOCKLANDS

FROM PASTURE TO PLATE

Selwyn's plains are a patchwork of vineyards, fields and farms stretching to the mountains.



AN ABUNDANCE OF LOCALLY PRODUCED FOOD

Our producers are hard-working and creative, bringing their vibrant attitudes and sustainable practises to their products.

Selwyn produces foods as varied as saffron, honey, olive oil and sheep milk gelato to Italian-style buffalo cheeses like mozzarella, halloumi and ricotta.

Visit our cafes and shops which stock our local products. Here you'll find organic and gourmet goodies for the health-conscious foodie.

Along with preserves and sauces produced from Selwyn fruit and nut trees. Make sure you try those delicious hand crafted artisan chocolates too.

Support local producers and try the products grown and lovingly made, from the land.

DISCOVER OUR TASTY BEVERAGES

Stop by one of our boutique wineries with delicious food, wine tastings or cellar door specials.

If beer is more to your taste, take a brewery tour in Lincoln and find out what makes our local craft beers special.



Try some sparkling and still juices using the natural flavours of berries and fruits sourced locally.

MARKETS AND FRUIT PICKING

For the berry lovers, head to one of the local blueberry or gooseberry orchards and pick your own.

Taste some local produce and chat with the cheesemakers, truffle, saffron or nut growers, brewers and winemakers at one of the many farmer's markets.

Get the story behind the flavours. Taste the Selwyn difference.

FARMERS MARKETS

LINCOLN

TAI TAPU

ROLLESTON

PREBBLETON

DARFIELD

WEST MELTON

LEESTON

FROM THE SLOPES

You'll be spoilt for choice, with six ski fields to choose from.



SKI SELWYN

Skiers and snowboarders have a wealth of opportunities with the six ski fields Selwyn has to offer.

Just over 90 minutes' drive from Christchurch, Selwyn's snow fields offer uncrowded slopes, kiwi hospitality and easy access to some of the best off-piste skiing in the world.

Porters, Mt Cheeseman, Temple Basin, Mt Olympus, Craigieburn and Broken River offer a variety of family friendly experiences and all skill levels.

Accommodation lodges are available at most of the ski fields so make a weekend of it. Check out each of the ski field websites for what's on this season.

For something a bit different, Mt Cheeseman has Selwyn's only outdoor skating rink next to Forest Lodge; or try out Mt Olympus has a great hot tub to relax in after your day skiing.

Ski gear can be hired from Gnomes Alpine Sports in Darfield for custom boot fitting and gear hire.



Stay the night

Accommodation close to or even on mountain is plentiful from the foothills through to Arthurs Pass.

All six ski fields have on the mountain accommodation and unique experiences for the whole family to try.

Motels, B&Bs and hostels can be found in Springfield or if a bit of luxury is what you are after there are a number of five star lodges that are located along the Great Alpine Highway (State Highway 73).



SKI FIELDS

BROKEN RIVER

MT CHEESEMAN

PORTER HEIGHTS

CRAIGIEBURN

TEMPLE BASIN

MT OLYMPUS

GOLF WITH A DIFFERENCE



Practise your swing while enjoying the views of Selwyn's rolling foothills.

Our eight golf courses are as challenging and varied as Selwyn's landscapes. They cater to players of all levels, from beginners to advanced.

Play the lush green fairways of Tai Tapu at the foot of the Otahuna Valley or walk the peaceful fields of Greendale. The picturesque Hororata course is spread across the terraces of the Selwyn River, while Terrace Downs provides the region with a championship grade, 18-hole

golf course nestled beneath the Southern Alps.



GOLF CLUBS

BURNHAM

ELLESMERE

GREENDALE

HORORATA

LINCOLN

TAI TAPU

TERRACE DOWNS

WEEDONS COUNTRY CLUB

INSPIRED BY THE LAND

HIGHLIGHTS

TAI TAPU SCULPTURE
GARDEN

TERRACE STATION
HERITAGE GARDEN

BROADFIELD GARDENS

CASA ROSSA GARDENS

CEDAR PARK GARDENS

Visit some of our award-winning gardens and historical homesteads with their own character and distinct identity

Exhibiting quality design and large native plant collections these gardens are maintained to a high standard.

Modern examples of land use show a range in our country lifestyle gardens from native indigenous-inspired wilderness to sculpture gardens. You will feel inspired to get creative in your own garden.

Selwyn's high country stations

give an appreciation of our wild, dynamic and extreme scenery. Living in this environment can be difficult and private gardens are seen and enjoyed as a safe haven and paradise.

When planning a journey, please contact the garden owners in advance to check opening hours and make an appointment.

EXPLORE OUR TOWNS



Interesting villages and character townships.

There are plenty of places to stop, whether it's for a bite to eat at one of the local cafes or an overnight stay.

Most of the region's population live on the plains. Rolleston is now the largest town in Selwyn closely followed by Lincoln which draws people to the region with its university.

Selwyn has a variety of accommodation options from staying close to nature in one of the boutique lodges or camping

grounds, to self-catering and motel options close to townships, they all have their own unique charm.

If you're heading to Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere or the Little River Rail Trail, take a scenic route and make Tai Tapu your halfway stop. Visit one of the local cafes or country gardens, have a picnic in the domain or explore the historic library.

Whether you're looking to head out for a day trip or taking a few days to explore, check out some of our top recommended itineraries at selwyn.nz.

PREPARE FOR THE ELEMENTS



Selwyn has a vast geographical landscape and the weather can vary across the district.

Make sure you're prepared and travel safely, especially if out enjoying the many walks and biking tracks in the district or travelling on some of the windy country roads.

Starting in the Alps, Arthurs Pass and Lake Coleridge weather can vary greatly with hot dry summers ranging from 20-30 degrees Celsius down to 10 degrees in one day, and to below freezing in the winter.

The far east of the Selwyn District on the coast line, near Rakaia Huts and Te Waihora/ Lake Ellesmere, you can often expect to see coastal climate conditions. For much of the year, the temperature is moderated by a cool north-easterly sea breeze.

Inland, near the more central areas in Selwyn, such as the West Melton and Darfield townships, the climate is very dependent on the lie of the Southern Alps. Summer temperatures are warm, however over winter it's often cold, with overnight frosts a frequent occurrence.

TOUR ITINERARIES

Experience
jaw-dropping
scenery as you travel
through our region

THE GREAT ALPINE HIGHWAY

The Great Alpine Highway (SH73) from Christchurch to the West Coast is a 3.5 hour drive, taking you through stunning alpine vistas, across the Canterbury Plains, past lakes and rivers into Arthur's Pass National Park.

The journey can be completed by road or train with uninterrupted scenic views across the plains and into the foothills and mountains.

As you leave Christchurch, be sure to stop at one of the wineries in West Melton or

Burnham and grab a bottle of locally produced wine.

State Highway 73 is the gateway to six of our districts ski fields. To fuel yourself up along the way stop off at one of the eateries in Darfield, Sheffield or Springfield.

If you are travelling early in the morning, you might be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of a hot air balloon drifting across the sky. Plan ahead to experience an incredible balloon flight. Further up the road stop off and go horse trekking in the high country.



Some of the Selwyn Districts' most stunning scenery exists through Kura Tāwhiti/Castle Hill and Arthur's Pass National Park. As you travel through the mountains, just off the highway are walking and biking tracks and camping areas for all to enjoy.

THE INLAND SCENIC ROUTE

Take a relaxing journey through the heartland of New Zealand. Whether travelling from south to north, or north to south, the Inland Scenic Route (SH72) is one of New Zealand's great drives and a must do for all visitors to the district.

This route encapsulates the quintessential Kiwi country drive taking in four very distinct districts including Selwyn. The rolling farmland in Hororata gives way to the foothills and the majestic peaks of the Southern Alps, straight roads and big skies make for a spectacular trip.

Visit some of our quaint country townships on route such as Glentunnel, see golf courses, historic buildings and unique landmarks. Discover great picnic and camping spots in the Rakaia Gorge surrounded by the views Selwyn prides itself on.

Discover Hororata and Beyond.



The **Hororata Highland Games**, a Scottish festival with a kiwi twist, attracting 10,000 people each year. Celebrate the Games 10th birthday with our community Saturday 7th November 2020.



Home to some of Selwyn's biggest events and much more.

The **Hororata Night Glow** sees hot air balloons light up the night sky surrounded by an autumn 'glow' festival. Returning May 2021.

Plus, many other events throughout the year.

Situated just off the Inland Scenic Route 72 only 45 minutes from Christchurch, Hororata and surrounding communities offer the perfect rural setting for a day trip or to stay awhile.

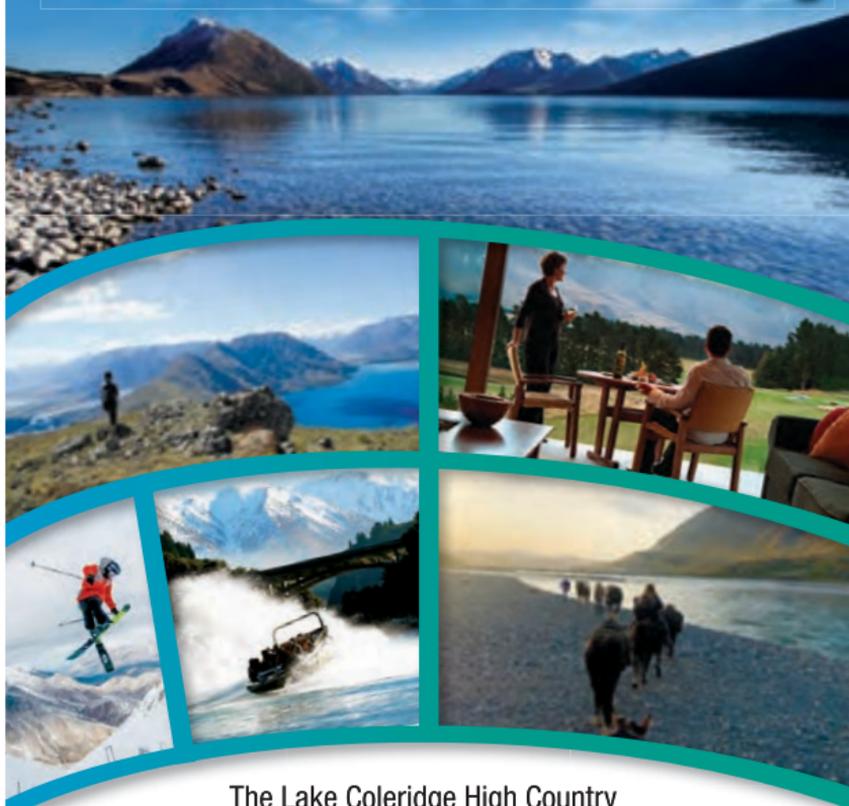
Visit our website for all our community has to offer.

www.hororata.org.nz



Lake Coleridge High Country

So close but a world away



The Lake Coleridge High Country offers a range of activities and hospitality set amongst magnificent scenery. Situated just off the Inland Scenic Route 72, only one hour inland from Christchurch or Ashburton.

Explore the high country with easy walks or a mountain hike. Have an adventure, book a jet boat ride, 4WD tour, horse trek, guided hunting/fishing or garden/farm tour. A winter playground including a number of ski fields. Experience one of the most breathtaking 18-hole golf courses in New Zealand set on the banks of the Rakaia River.

Discover all the Lake Coleridge High Country has to offer and stay awhile with a range of luxury lodges, home-hosted B&B or self-catered farm stay accommodation available. Be amazed at the endless clear night sky from your accommodation. Visit our website to discover all the accommodation and activities at your fingertips.

www.lakecoleridge.nz/info



ALPINE JET THRILLS



Experience the world famous Hamilton jet spins, as our jet boats take you deep into the mighty Waimakariri canyon through the foothills of the Southern Alps. This jet boating experience offers a great combination of scenery and excitement. Enjoy the breath-taking alpine scenery surrounding the Waimakariri River, and HOLD ON as the jet boat takes off on an exciting journey – through low waters and rapids, past cliff faces and shingle banks.

Otarama Road, Springfield
 0800 26 36 26 or +64 3 385 1478
 info@alpinejetthrills.co.nz
 www.alpinejetthrills.co.nz



BROADFIELD GARDENS



NZ Gardens Trust 6 star garden. Multi award winner. 3 hectares 20 sections established 27 years 120m NZ border 140m canal, gardens for beech trees, camellia, daffodils, 100 kauri trees + 100 species of other kauri forest plants, lillies, perenials, rhododendron, roses, water lillies and more. Huge number of design and planting ideas. Plants that do well in Canterbury maintenance minimising methods. Year round interest. Open Wednesday & Saturday 8am to 4.30pm other times by arrangement. Adults \$15 children free. Picnics welcome.

250 Selwyn Road, Broadfield (near Rolleston)
 +64 27 4334 099
 david@bel.nz
 www.gardenstovisit.co.nz (broadfield-estates)

BALLOONING CANTERBURY



Enjoy panoramic view across the Canterbury Plains to the Southern Alps. An ever changing landscape with fantastic photo opportunities.

2136 Bealey Road, Hororata
+64 27 9154 972
info@ballooningcanterbury.co.nz
www.ballooningcanterbury.co.nz

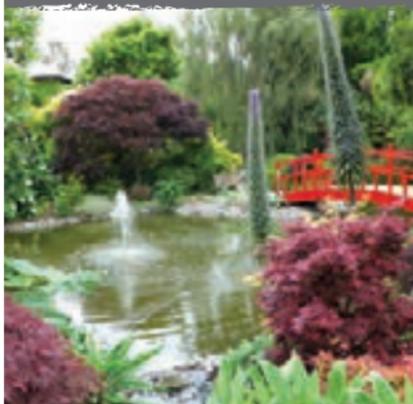
BROKEN RIVER SKI AREA



Unique, authentic kiwi ski experience. Uncrowded, friendly and laid-back. Groomed and off-piste terrain. On-mountain accommodation in a stunning alpine setting.

Craigieburn Conservation Park
+64 3 318 7270
ski@brokenriver.co.nz
www.brokenriver.co.nz

CASA ROSSA GARDEN & BOUTIQUE ACCOMMODATION



5 star show garden of national significance, boutique accommodation, weddings & elopements, photography location. Open by appointment.

203 Jowers Road, West Melton
+64 22 0787 260
casarossagarden@gmail.com
www.casarossa.co.nz

DOWN BY THE LIFFEY GALLERY



Lincoln's community art gallery, providing a showcase for local artists. Exhibitions change every four weeks. Gifts and cards can be purchased at our gallery shop.

1 James Street, Lincoln
+64 3 325 2877
liffeygallery1@gmail.com
www.downbytheliffeygallery.com

HIGH COUNTRY HORSE ADVENTURES



Experience the high country on horseback! Part day, full day and multi day trail rides. Departing from Lake Coleridge Village.

1 Hart Place, Lake Coleridge
+64 3 318 5049 or 0274 507 280
jamescagneynz@gmail.com
www.horsetreklakecoleridge.co.nz

MELTON ESTATE



A favourite Canterbury wine destination offering award-winning hospitality and beautiful boutique wine from our West Melton winery restaurant and event venue. Established in 2002, Melton Estate is known to many for hosting weddings, Christmas events, shows and for our popular winery restaurant. Just 15mins from Christchurch airport. We produce 8 different wines, all hand crafted using traditional viticulture with a focus on sustainability. Melton Estate is the home of Summer Love® Sparkling.

Weedons Ross Road, West Melton
+64 3 347 4968
info@meltonestate.co.nz
www.meltonestate.co.nz



CHOCOLATE TRADERS



Visit our chocolate boutique and watch our chocolatier busy at work making our handcrafted confections through our viewing window.

205 Robinsons Road, Ladbrooks
0800 384 798
sales@chocolatetraders.co.nz
www.chocolatetraders.co.nz

NZ LOOK SHUTTLES



Airport transfers 24/7 and private charters. You deserve a quality service that's good value. We genuinely enjoy making that happen – every time!

+64 27 887 7701
hello@nzlookshuttles.co.nz
www.nzlookshuttles.co.nz

LINCOLN MOTEL



Lincoln Motel is situated in the heart of the beautiful rural township of Lincoln in a quiet position, offering modern comfort. Just 15 minutes drive south of Christchurch. Conveniently located to Lincoln University, Crown Research Centres, Lincoln Events Centre, restaurants, bars, shops, golf course, walkways and Little River Rail Trail. Close proximity to local wedding venues in Tai Tapu, Prebbleton and Lincoln. Within 1 hour drive of Akaroa. 21 units consisting of studios and one and two bedroom units.

6 Maurice Street, Lincoln
+64 3 974 1620 or 0800 001 689
info@lincolnmotel.co.nz
www.lincolnmotel.co.nz



ARTHUR'S PASS ALPINE MOTEL



Our gem in the Southern Alps. Fully self contained cabins nestled among the mountains of Arthur's Pass National Park.

13969 West Coast Road,
State Highway 73, Arthur's Pass
+64 3 318 9233
info@apam.co.nz
www.apam.co.nz

CEDAR PARK GARDENS B&B



Enjoy our peaceful, well-established fully assessed B&B, set in 1.5 acres of stunning award-winning gardens – only 1.5km off SH1 at Rolleston.

101B Lowes Road, Rolleston
+64 3 347 7605
anne@cedarparkgardens.co.nz
www.cedarparkgardens.co.nz

CHELSEA LODGE MOTEL AND B&B



A cosy self-contained cottage in the beautiful countryside of Glentunnel, perfect for visitors looking to relax and switch off.

3 Charles Street, Glentunnel
+64 3 318 2700
(Please telephone for bookings)

FOREST LODGE



Serene off-grid mountain lodge nestled in the Craigieburn Range. Unique backpacker accommodation with self-catering kitchen for \$35 a night.

Mt Cheeseman Skifield Road,
Castle Hill, ph +64 3 318 8601
stay@forestlodge.info
www.forestlodge.info

GARDEN VIEW BED & BREAKFAST



Wander around these exceptional surroundings, enjoy the hospitality at Garden View Bed & Breakfast; an oasis of peace and quiet.

133 Lowes Road, Rolleston
0800 722 262 or +64 27 6014344
enquiries@gardenviewbandbnz.com
www.gardenviewbandbnz.com

ROLLESTON HIGHWAY MOTEL



We are a modern 28-unit motel complex with ample parking in the heart of Rolleston. Close to shops, restaurants, bars and cafés, the new aquatic centre, TranzAlpine stop, Christchurch airport, top class golf courses and wedding venues. Just minutes away from Izone & Iport business hubs in Rolleston. We are well located for a stop over if you are traveling further north or south, or a great place to stay when visiting family and friends.

10D Chaucer Street, Rolleston
+64 3 347 2326
reservations@rollestonhighwaymotel.co.nz
www.rollestonhighwaymotel.co.nz



WAIPUNA ESTATE



Set in a tranquil location in the hills above the Canterbury Plains, we offer a unique, luxurious space to unwind.

131 Gerkins Road, Tai Tapu
+64 3 329 6130
contact@waipunaestate.nz
www.waipunaestate.nz



INFORMATION CENTRES

Visit an information centre for information, brochures and guidance on what Selwyn has to offer.

Arthurs Pass National Park Visitor Centre

106 Main West Coast Road
Arthur's Pass
+64 3 318 9211

Christchurch Airport i-SITE Visitor Information Centre

International Arrivals Hall
+64 3 741 3980

Darfield Library and Service Centre

1 South Terrace, Darfield
+64 3 318 7780

Leeston Library and Service Centre

19 Messines Street, Leeston
+64 3 347 2871

Lincoln Library and Service Centre

22 Gerald Street, Lincoln
+64 3 347 2876

Rolleston Library

94 Rolleston Drive, Rolleston
+64 3 347 2880

SELWYN
FROM THE LAND 

