

RECREATION GUIDE

WALKING, BIKING AND CAMPING IN SELWYN



SELWYN.NZ

SELWYN
FROM THE LAND 

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CAMPING GROUNDS





SELWYN DISTRICT

Township locations and main arterial routes



EXPLORE SELWYN

Selwyn is a dynamic district of diverse landscapes.

The stunning Southern Alps rise up against the skyline, behind rugged ridges and rolling foothills. Stretching from the braided Rakaia River to the Waimakariri, Selwyn's patchwork plains are home to farms and small towns across the region.

The hills and mountains offer a wealth of activities, from walking and mountain biking, to skiing, jetboating and horse trekking.



The rivers and lakes offer beautiful spots to fish or walk through native bush and wetlands.

Nature lovers can visit award-winning gardens and historic homesteads. Appreciate the night sky full of stars or simply taste the delicious flavours Selwyn has on offer from farmer's markets or vineyards.

For more tracks and trails in Selwyn visit selwyn.nz

Follow:  Selwyn NZ  @selwyn.nz Visit: selwyn.nz

SAFETY INFORMATION

Weather

- The weather in Selwyn can be unpredictable and change suddenly. Please check local forecasts before setting out.

Skills and experience

- Refer to the track grades to choose a track that best suits your level of ability and fitness.

What you'll need

- For walking and mountain safety information go to mountainsafety.org.nz, even for day walks.
- Emergency locator beacons are highly recommended. Find out where you can hire them from at mountainsafety.org.nz.
- Take an appropriate means of communication. Mobile coverage is limited in remote areas.
- Make sure you have enough food, water, clothing, equipment (including shelter) and emergency rations for the worst-case scenario.

Plan ahead

- Be sure to tell family and friends of your plans before you head off and an estimated time of return.

Track status

- For Department of Conservation (DOC) tracks, please check doc.govt.nz or with the DOC Arthur's Pass Visitor Centre 03 318 9211.
- For other tracks, please contact the land owners.

Dogs

- Dogs are strictly prohibited in Arthur's Pass National Park, Kura Tāwhiti/Castle Hill and Lake Pearson Wildlife Reserve. Check the DOC website for the latest information.
- For tracks on private land, please contact the land owner directly as many of these tracks go through working farms and stations.

The times indicated to complete each walk and bike track are a guide only. The information in this guide is intended to provide general information only. All reasonable measures have been taken to ensure the information is true and accurate at the time of print.

TRACK GRADES

Short Walks EASY

- Easy walking for up to an hour
- Track is well-formed, with a mostly even surface
- Suitable for people of most abilities and fitness levels

Walking Tracks MODERATE

- Easy to moderate walking from a few minutes to a day
- Track is mostly well-formed, some sections may be steep, rough or muddy
- Suitable for people with low to moderate fitness
- Walking shoes or light tramping/hiking boots required

Tramping Tracks ADVANCED

- Challenging day or multi-day overnight track
- Track is mostly unformed with steep, rough or muddy sections
- Suitable for moderate to high fitness levels and those with navigational and survival skills
- Unbridged streams and river crossings
- Sturdy tramping/hiking boots required

Track grading key

Grading – walking



GRADE 1
BEGINNER



GRADE 2
INTERMEDIATE



GRADE 3
ADVANCED

Grading – cycling



Accessible tracks

Department of Conservation

DOC

SHORT WALKS

Easy walking,
suitable for people
of most abilities
and fitness levels.

DARFIELD TOWN WALK



EASY

60
MINUTES

Take a scenic and historic walk through the Darfield township. There are two walks to choose from. Both start from the Clock Tower on the main road. The town walk takes you on a circular route past the primary school, Baptist Church and Trinity Church grounds before returning to Clock Tower. The second walk takes you through the Railway Reserve subdivision where the original Homebush Railway Station has been relocated. Head along Kowhai Drive to the sports field and around the lake. Return to Clock Tower via North Terrace. Markers are provided.

► **Start:** The Darfield Clock Tower (*corner of Ross Street and South Terrace*).

🐕 Dogs on leash.

HARTS CREEK



EASY

40
MINUTES
1.46km

Enjoy a stroll through this restored wildlife management reserve full of native plantings and local birdlife. The track follows the flax-lined creek before a boarded walkway winds through the wooded swamp area. Glimpses of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere can be seen through the trees. The walkway comes to a bird hide, a camouflaged hut set out on the lake for easy viewing of birds and wildlife.

► **Start:** Corner of Lower Lake Road and Timber Yard Road, Leeston.

🚫 No dogs.



KIRWEE WALK



MODERATE

40
MINUTES
3km

The walk goes along Courtenay Road to Hoskyns Road, up to the walkway, through the reserve, and back on to Tramway Road then down to the kiosk. You can also opt for a shorter trip by cutting through the Kirwee Showgrounds and down High Street.

Toilets are available at the corner of the reserve beside the playground.

► **Start:** Courtenay Road, Kirwee.

🐕 **Dogs on leash**



ALSO VISIT

LAKE COLERIDGE

- AROUND THE VILLAGE LOOP TRACK
- HART ARBORETUM TREE TRAIL LOOP TRACK

ARTHUR'S PASS

- ARTHUR'S PASS MILLENNIUM WALK

CRAIGIEBURN FOREST

- CRAIGIEBURN NATURE TRAIL
- CRAIGIEBURN BRIDGE HILL TRACK

FOR MORE VISIT SELWYN.NZ



LAKE COLERIDGE TAILRACE



EASY

5-30
 MINUTES
 1km

Check out the lightning-struck tree and the spot reputed to be a moa cooking site. The walk offers spectacular vistas stretching up the valley to the head of the Rakaia River and the Southern Alps. The track continues inland through stands of native trees, willows and other deciduous trees and follows the tailrace, finishing at the domain.

► **Start:** Lake Coleridge Domain and Powerstation.

🚫 No dogs.

LINCOLN HISTORIC WALK



EASY

45-90
 MINUTES

Explore what the Lincoln township was like back in the day on this trail. Pick up an information brochure highlighting historic landmarks and buildings from Lincoln Library or Lincoln Event Centre or download the Township Trails Selwyn app.

► **Start:** Liffey Cottage, James Street, Lincoln.

🐕 Dogs on leash.



MCHUGHS FOREST PARK



EASY

40–50
MINUTES
3km

Established in 1893 to provide shelter and timber in an area where no natural forests occurred, McHugh's Forest Park is a mixed exotic conifer plantation dominated by large mature Douglas-fir along with other large trees. There are a number of different flat tracks weaving through the forest.

► **Start:** Car park on Horndon Street, Darfield.

🐕 Dogs on leash.

OLD COACH ROAD



EASY

30–45
MINUTES
1.5km

A very pleasant and easily accessible forest walk loop from Greyneys Shelter. Approximately half the walk follows a gently graded section of the original coach road linking the east and west coasts. You have the option of a shorter loop track or an additional 15 minutes on the outer loop track, taking you to a great lookout point over the recent upgrade of SH73.

► **Start:** Car park at Greyneys Shelter on SH73, 6km south of Arthur's Pass Village.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**

WALKING TRACKS

Easy to moderate walking, suitable for people with a reasonable fitness level.

ARTHUR'S PASS WALKING TRACK



MODERATE

**2.5
HOURS**

This track provides the chance to walk from Arthur's Pass village to view the Dobson Memorial at Arthur's Pass summit. The track gradient is generally gentle, with some steep steps either side of Bridal Veil Creek.

- **Start:** At the Punchbowl Bealey Chasm or Temple Basin car parks
 🚫 No dogs.

COOPERS LAGOON



MODERATE

Coopers Lagoon, a wetland reserve, combines lagoon wetlands with a wild coastal walk. Expect to see abundant birdlife and classic wetland flora. As you walk, listen out for the sound of the sea. After 30 minutes, the track bordering the Lagoon ends and takes a turn to the sand dunes. Here you can walk back along the Lagoon track to the car park, or choose to walk back along the beach. The water has strong currents and swimming can be dangerous.

- **Start:** Follow McEvedys Road, Southbridge to the end.
 🐕 Dogs on leash allowed on beach.



DEVILS PUNCHBOWL



MODERATE

1
HOUR
2km

This walk through lush beech forest leads to a spectacular 131 metre waterfall, recognised as one of the Department of Conservation's (DOC) best short walks in the country. The well-formed track with a series of steps climbs 150 vertical metres to a viewing platform at the base of this waterfall.

► **Start:** Signed car park off SH73 in Arthur's Pass Village.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**

📍 ALSO VISIT

LAKE COLERIDGE

- FOREST LOOP TRACK
- LAKE HILL TRACK
- LAKE IDA

ARTHUR'S PASS

- VILLAGE HISTORIC AND INTERPRETIVE WALK
- ARTHUR'S PASS WALKING TRACK
- BEALEY VALLEY TRACK
- LAKE MISERY TRACK
- COCKAYNE NATURE WALK
- OTIRA VALLEY
- TEMPLE BASIN
- CAVE STREAM SCENIC RESERVE TRACK

CRAIGIEBURN FOREST

- HUT CREEK WALK
- DRACOPHYLLUM FLAT TRACK
- LYNDON SADDLE

FOR MORE VISIT SELWYN.NZ

DOBSON NATURE WALK



MODERATE

30
MINUTES

After approx 200m from the car park, cross the road and follow the track as it leads you in a semi-circle through a rich variety of subalpine and alpine plants. The alpine flowers are in bloom from November to February. There are a few seats along the way with good views of the surrounding mountains.

► **Start:** The track starts at the Temple Basin car park.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**

HELICOPTER HILL



MODERATE

4
HOURS
6km

Follow Mistletoe Track to Lyndon Saddle (2.3km). From the saddle, take Helicopter Hill Track to the summit (500m) for spectacular views of the Craigieburn and Torlesse Ranges and the limestone landscape of Castle Hill Basin. Unlike most of the Craigieburn tracks, Mistletoe Track is not a dual use track for mountain bikes, so is a good family walking track.

► **Start:** Mistletoe Flat car park/camping site, Broken River Ski Area Road, Craigieburn Forest Park.

🐕 Dogs on leash. **DOC**

HOGS BACK TRACK



MODERATE

6
HOURS
14km

This dual mountain biking and walking track connects Castle Hill Village with Craigieburn Forest Park.

The track has an interesting combination of beech forest and open tussock interspersed with stunning views of the Craigieburn Ranges.

► **Start:** Castle Hill Village access road to Thomas Bush, or Texas Flat on the Cheeseman Skifield Road.

🐕 Dogs on leash. **DOC**



KOWAI BUSH



MODERATE

0.5-1
HOUR

The reserve is a set of meandering loop tracks set in dense beech forest. Kowai Bush Reserve is steeped in history as one of the earliest European settlements in the country. Today only a small remnant of the typical lowland beech forest remains, preserved by the efforts of Bevan Brown and the Harris Family.

► Start: Kowai Bush Reserve, Kowai Road, Springfield.

🐕 Dogs allowed.

KURA TĀWHITI/CASTLE HILL



MODERATE

40
MINUTES
1.5km

Wander through majestic limestone rock formations in an area of special significance to Ngāi Tahu. This walk is also recognised as one of the Department of Conservation's (DOC) best short walks and has Tōpuni status for Ngāi Tahu due to its cultural reverence. Please treat this area with respect.

► Start: Car park at 8557 West Coast Road, SH73.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**





LAKE COLERIDGE

FOREST LOOP TRACK



MODERATE

45
MINUTES

Views down onto the power station, Rakaia River and Lake Coleridge village. Track has steep up and down hill sections.

► Start: Hart Arboretum and follow the yellow markers.

🚫 No dogs.

LAKE COLERIDGE VILLAGE HISTORIC WALK



EASY

30
MINUTES**2**
HOURS

Walk the village paths and learn about the area's history. Lake Coleridge Village was built around New Zealand's first state-owned hydroelectric power station, which was constructed between 1911 and 1914.

► Start: Post office building in the village centre.

🚫 No dogs.

WALK TO LAKE COLERIDGE



MODERATE

2.5
HOURS

Views of the power station, Rakaia River, the village and the lake. This is part of Te Araroa National Walkway. Near the lake you can choose to follow Lake Hill Track or continue down Intake Road to the lake edge and Power Station Intake.

► Start: Hart Arboretum and follow the orange markers.

🚫 No dogs.



LITTLE RIVER RAIL TRAIL



MODERATE

GRADE 1



The Christchurch to Little River Rail Trail is a cycleway and walkway that mostly follows the route of an old nineteenth century railway line between Hornby and Little River via Prebbleton, Lincoln, Motukarara and Birdlings Flat. It passes through rural areas and settlements on the Canterbury plains, loops around hills and borders Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, and Te Roto o Wairewa/Lake Forsyth. The full trail is 45km one-way, but is split into six sections. For more details visit littlerivertrails.kiwi.nz.

SECTION 1: Hornby–Prebbleton

SECTION 2: Prebbleton–Lincoln

SECTION 3: Lincoln–Ahuriri Reserve

SECTION 4: Ahuriri Reserve–Motukarara

SECTION 5: Motukarara–Birdlings Flat

SECTION 6: Birdlings Flat–Little River

 Dogs are not permitted on the Motukarara to Little River sections.

 On other parts of the trail, dogs are permitted but must be on a leash.



RAKAIA GORGE WALKWAY



3-4
HOURS
10.4km

The walkway follows the rim of the gorge through spectacular geological areas, showing lava flows of rhyolite, pitchstone and andesite. It then descends into a gully under a canopy of forest and shrub, where you can see the entrances to several old Snowdon coal mines. The track then climbs out of the creek to a sign-posted junction. The walkway forms a loop from this point, with the right-hand track climbing across tussock-covered terraces directly to the lookout point. This walkway goes over private farmland, please be respectful of livestock.

► **Start:** Rakaia Gorge Road, SH77, park at car park Selwyn-side of river and cross road to access track.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**

WASHPEN FALLS



2
HOURS
3-4km

The track takes you through a canyon formed by an ancient volcano, thick in native bush and full of bird song. You will see waterfalls, caves and panoramic views of the Canterbury plains. The round trip takes at least two hours, but you can spend longer admiring the views or take a picnic. Admission charges apply via an honesty box to assist with track maintenance. A shelter situated at the end of the walking track is a great spot for picnics. For more information visit washpenfalls.co.nz.

► **Start:** 560 Washpen Road, drive up to the hut to park.

🚫 No dogs.



WEST MELTON HORSE FOREST



West Melton Forest is a section of the Waimakariri River Regional Park, covering approximately 350 hectares of pine forest between Chattertons Road and Weedons Ross Road. Used mainly for recreational horse riding and horse-carriage driving, walkers and runners are also welcome – although horses have the right of way. Picnic areas are provided, with hitching posts for horses.

► **Start:** Car park of Chattertons Road.

🐕 **Dogs must be kept under effective control at all times.**



TRAMPING TRACKS

Challenging steep and unformed tracks, suitable for people of a high fitness level and ability.

BEALEY SPUR



4–6
HOURS
12km

This is a more gradual track than most of the alpine tracks and climbs gently up Bealey Spur through mountain-beech forest to expansive views of the Waimakariri River valley and surrounding mountains. It's well marked and is suitable for reasonably fit people who are well-equipped. The track ends at the historic Bealey Spur Hut. Note this is an alpine environment so be prepared for weather changes.

► **Start:** Car park on SH73, near the Bealey Hotel and at the entrance to the Bealey Spur village. From here follow markers up Cloudesley Road.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**

COACH STREAM ROUTE–TRIG M



4–6
HOURS
11km

A challenging day tramp in open tussocklands marked with posts, rather than a formed track. The first part of the route is on an easement over private farmland. Keep to the marked route and close all gates. Coach Stream Route links with Trig M Route where you have the option to follow this route back down to Starvation Gully on SH73 or continue along the ridge to reach Trig M.

► **Start:** Car park at the bottom of Porters Pass, SH73.

🚫 No dogs permitted from Coach Stream Route access.

🐕 Dogs permitted from Trig M access from SH73. **DOC**



PEAK HILL



3
HOURS
3km

The route begins on a 500m easement across private farmland before entering Peak Hill Conservation Area. Please keep to the marked route. The route then climbs steadily to the summit of Peak Hill (1240m) where you will be rewarded with sweeping views of Lake Coleridge and surrounds. Please note this is very exposed to the weather – ensure you are prepared for all extremes.

► Start: Signposted off Algidus Road, approx. 9km from the start of Algidus Road, Lake Coleridge.

 No dogs permitted on easement over private land. **DOC**

ALSO VISIT

ARTHUR'S PASS

- EDWARDS HUT
- CARRINGTON HUT ROUTE
- CASEY SADDLE-BINSER SADDLE ROUTE
- AVALANCHE PEAK TO CROW HUT
- AVALANCHE PEAK
- HARPER PASS
- MINGHA – DECEPTION ROUTE
- MT AITKEN TRACK
- EDWARDS – HAWDON VALLEY
- HARMAN PASS ROUTE
- MINCHIN PASS ROUTE
- THREE PASSES ROUTE

KOROWAI/TORLESSE

- STARVATION GULLY TO TRIG M
- THIRTEEN MILE BUSH
- FOGGY PEAK/CASTLE HILL PEAK
- MT TORLESSE VIA KOWAI RIVER
- TRIG M TO RABBIT HILL

CRAIGIEBURN SKI BASINS

- BROKEN RIVER SKI FIELD
- CRAIGIEBURN VALLEY SKI FIELD

FOR MORE VISIT [SELWYN.NZ](https://www.selwyn.govt.nz)



TE ARAROA – THE LONG PATHWAY NEW ZEALAND'S NATIONAL WALKWAY

Arboretum Track

Road Connection to Lake Hill Track

Lake Hill to Homestead Road



ADVANCED

3
HOURS
2.4km

Te Araroa Trail is a national trail covering the length of New Zealand that comes around Lake Coleridge to the Lake Coleridge Village. There are track notes for those heading south on this part of the walkway on teararoa.org.nz and orange markers for some of the track. If you are planning a day trip on these sections we recommend heading north from the village to the lake and returning the same way.

The terrain is a combination of tramping track and gravel road. For a gentler climb head up Intake Road or drive from Lake Coleridge Village up Intake Road towards the lake and walk the Lake Hill Track section of the track. We advise walkers to print the track notes on teararoa.org.nz/canterbury. Ensure you have adequate supplies before heading into the Lake Coleridge area as there are no shops, fuel or other services.

► **Start:** Hart Arboretum gate, Intake Road, Lake Coleridge Village.

🚫 No dogs.



TEMPLE BASIN TRACK



ADVANCED

3
HOURS
1.2km

This is a steadily steep track climbing 500 vertical metres to the Temple Basin Lockwood day-shelter. Best walked in summer, this is a nature photographer's dream with magnificent views of Mt Rolleston/ Kaimatau on a clear day.

► Start: 5km northwest of Arthur's Pass Village, Temple Basin Track.

🚫 No dogs. **DOC**



DOG-FRIENDLY WALKS AND PARKS

Dog owners can exercise their dogs off-leash in a safe and secure environment.

SELWYN DOG PARKS

Selwyn has three fenced dog parks to exercise dogs off leash.

To ensure that our dog parks are a fun and safe environment for all of us and our furry friends, please follow our guidelines below.

- Dogs must be on a leash when entering and exiting the dog park.
- Dogs must wear a collar with a current Local Authority registration tag at all times.
- Owners must carry a leash at all times.
- Dogs and children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times. Please do not bring small children into the dog park.
- Equipment in the dog park is for dogs only. Please do not let your children climb on the equipment or use the grounds as a play area.
- Dogs and puppies must be fully vaccinated.
- Owners are required to pick up and dispose of their dog's poo.
- No bicycles, skateboards or motorised vehicles allowed.
- Dogs that show signs of aggression must either be muzzled or removed from the park.
- Dogs that are sick or in-season are prohibited.

For further information please visit selwyn.govt.nz



MCHUGHS DOG PARK

Horndon Street, Darfield

Located at the southern end of McHughs Forest Park, the dog park is a 275 metre-long, fully enclosed area with established trees. Offering a great mix of both shaded and non-shaded areas. Drinking fountains, toilets and plenty of parking is available.

FOSTER DOG PARK

Corner of Springston Rolleston Road and Goulds Road

The park is two hectares and fully fenced. Three dog agility equipment areas with water play and a secure area for small, young or nervous dogs is also on-site. There are dog washing facilities as well as seating and picnic facilities. Car parking available.

Closed Tues/Weds/Thurs 6.30–9pm, Sunday 10am–12pm for Selwyn Dog Training Club, and occasionally at other times. Refer to Selwyn Dog Training Club website for further information.

LEESTON DOG PARK

Leeston Road, between the entrance to the A&P Showgrounds and the Ellesmere Heritage Park.

The park is 1.8 hectares and fully fenced. The dog park features exercise equipment such as hurdles, jumps, balance beams, pole weave, ramps, a tunnel and more. It also has a grooming table. Car parking available next to the A&P Showgrounds entry, off Leeston Road.



DOG-FRIENDLY WALKS

Selwyn has a number of walking tracks that you can bring your dogs along with you. Please keep your dogs under control and pick up after them.

Remember to take extra water and something for your dog to drink out of when going on longer walks.

McHughs Forest Park, Darfield

See page 9 of the guide for further details.

Kirwee Walk, Kirwee

See page 7 of the guide for further details.

Craigieburn Forest Park, Great Alpine Highway

See page 26 of the guide for further details.

Helicopter Hill, Great Alpine Highway

See page 12 of the guide for further details.



Hogs Back Track, Great Alpine Highway

See page 12 of the guide for further details.

Kowai Bush Walk, Springfield

See page 13 of the guide for further details.

The Willows, West Melton

See page 28 of the guide for further details.

West Melton Forest Horse Park, West Melton

See page 17 of the guide for further details.

Little River Trail, Shands Road to Motukarara

See pages 15 and 27 of the guide for further details.

BIKING TRACKS

From family-friendly trails to challenging off-road tracks, all levels and abilities are catered for.



CRAIGIEBURN TRAILS



The Castle Hill Community Association, with support from local mountain bike businesses have developed a network of dual-use mountain biking and tramping tracks in the Castle Hill Basin area known as the Craigieburn Trails. These trails add to the existing trail network within the Craigieburn Forest and Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Parks, and are mostly graded as intermediate mountain bike standard.

Tracks include:

- Hogs Back
- Sidle 73 tracks
- Dracophyllum Flat track
- Coal Pit Spur track
- Craigieburn Edge
- Lyndon Saddle
- The Luge

Note: Many tracks close for mountain bike use over the winter period.

For details on individual tracks and track closures go to craigieburntrails.org.nz.

MOTUKARARA



LITTLE RIVER RAIL TRAIL



The Christchurch to Little River Rail Trail is a cycleway and walkway that mostly follows the route of an old 19th century railway line between Hornby and Little River via Prebbleton, Lincoln, Motukarara and Birdlings Flat. It passes through rural areas and settlements on the Canterbury plains, loops around hills and borders Te Waihora/ Lake Ellesmere, and Te Roto o Wairewa/Lake Forsyth. The full trail is 45km one-way, but is split into six sections. For more details visit littlerivertrail.kiwi.nz.

20
MINUTES
4km

SECTION 1: Hornby–Prebbleton

35
MINUTES
7km

SECTION 2: Prebbleton–Lincoln

50
MINUTES
10km

SECTION 3: Lincoln–Ahuriri Reserve

25
MINUTES
4km

SECTION 4: Ahuriri reserve–Motukarara

70
MINUTES
13km

SECTION 5: Motukarara–Birdlings Flat

40
MINUTES
7km

SECTION 6: Birdlings Flat–Little River

- Dogs are not permitted on the Motukarara to Little River sections.
- On other parts of the trail dogs are permitted but must be on leash.



MCHUGHS FOREST PARK

GRADE 1
BEGINNER

30
MINUTES
4km

Established in 1893 to provide shelter and timber in an area where no natural forests occurred, McHugh's Forest Park is a mixed exotic conifer plantation dominated by large mature Douglas-fir along with other large trees. There are a number of different flat tracks weaving through the forest.

► Start: Car park on Horndon Street, Darfield.

🐕 Dogs on leash.

THE WILLOWS

GRADE 1
BEGINNER

30
MINUTES
4km

The Willows is a recreational area near West Melton on the banks of the Waimakariri River hosting a shared walking and biking track, picnic and parking areas, fishing points, a motorhome camping area and native planting. The flat, gravelled track is a good one for children and has plenty of side off-shoots if you wish to go off-track to explore the riverside area.

► Start: Follow Thompsons Road to a car parking area.

🐕 Dogs on leash.





KOROWAI/TORLESSE TUSSOCKLANDS PARK

STARVATION GULLY/LAKE LYNDON TO TRIG M

GRADE **3** 
ADVANCED 1.5
HOURS
3.2km

From the signpost on SH73, climb the marked track amongst diverse shrublands, traversing open ridges to reach Trig M. About half way up, the track from Coach Stream joins this track from the southeast.

 Dogs on leash.

TRIG M TO COACH STREAM

GRADE **3** 
ADVANCED 1.5
HOURS
5.5km

Seasonal restrictions: Part of this route is an easement passing through Benmore Station. It's closed from 1 October to 20 November each year for the lambing season.

The Coach Stream Route branches off approximately 1.5km down from Trig M. The route sidles alongside a ridge before passing through a gate to follow a farm track through part of Ben More Station. A gate at the end of the 4WD track leads back into public conservation land. Follow SH73 over Porters Pass back to Starvation Gully (*an additional 4.5km*).

 No dogs.

AVOCA HOMESTEAD

GRADE **2** 
INTERMEDIATE 2-4
HOURS
25km

Access to Avoca Homestead is via Craigieburn Road which turns off SH73 near Cass. This is a gravel road which provides car access to within 30 minutes walk of the homestead. There are at least six railway crossings along this road with no warnings of oncoming trains. There are also numerous gates across the road. Leave all gates as you find them.

 Dogs on leash.



POULTER VALLEY

POULTER VALLEY

GRADE 3  3.5
ADVANCED HOURS
20km

Grade 3 (*Advanced*) to park boundary

Grade 2 (*Easy*) beyond park boundary

The Poulter valley is one of a few mountain bike trails in the country permitted in a national park. The trip offers bikers great scenery, some challenges and a couple of good huts for an overnight stay. Mountain bikers must keep to the specified route.

From Mt White Road, follow the 4WD track for 13km, across river terraces and fans to reach the park boundary fence. This stretch follows a legal road that goes through Mt White Station, so respect stock and farm activities.

From the park boundary fence, it is easy riding along an old 4WD track over river flats to the new Casey Hut on a terrace overlooking the Poulter River. The last 1.5km of the track has been diverted to follow the river to the hut, rather than entering the beech forest. The original Casey Hut burnt down in 2015 and a 12 bunk replacement hut was opened in August 2020 on a new site. Casey Hut is a serviced hut: Adult \$15 and youth \$7.50 per night. Purchase hut tickets before your trip from a DOC visitor centre.

Beyond the Casey Hut, cross the Casey Stream and follow another 4WD track across river flats for another 4km to reach the Trust/Poulter Hut this is the end point for mountain bike access.

 No dogs.

CAMPGROUNDS

From designated freedom camping areas to commercial campgrounds with full facilities, you'll find the perfect camping spot in Selwyn.



CAMPING IN SELWYN

Take a breath of fresh air and appreciate Selwyn's diverse landscapes while relaxing at one of our great camping spots.

To make the most of your time here, be prepared, travel safely and leave no trace, only footprints.

Useful sites

selwyn.govt.nz – for a list of camping grounds and dump station locations in Selwyn

doc.govt.nz – for bookings, and information on camping codes and laws

campermate.co.nz – visit Campermate or download the free app to find campsites, toilets and dump station information nationwide

tiakinewzealand.com – Tiaki promise

newzealand.com – information for responsible campers



RESPONSIBLE CAMPING

Dispose of rubbish responsibly – use the rubbish bins provided or carry out everything you carry in.

Keep New Zealand clean – always use a public toilet or toilet in your vehicle. *See our map overleaf for toilet locations.*

Protect our environment – use recycling facilities whenever they are available to help protect our environment.

Waste disposal station – dispose of all toilet and sink water at a Council approved public dump station. *See opposite for locations.*

Gas cookers/barbecues – are permitted in Selwyn District Council and DOC reserves. Fires are prohibited all year round, anyone in breach of this may be prosecuted.

Dogs are welcome at all Selwyn District Council camping areas and must be kept under control at all times. Dogs are not permitted at DOC campsites in the Selwyn district except for the Mistletoe Campground.

CAMPGROUNDS

Public dump stations and toilets.



- 1 Andrews Shelter Campsite
- 2 Avalanche Creek Shelter Campsite
- 3 Hawdon Shelter Campsite
- 4 Klondyke Corner Campsite
- 5 Lake Pearson (Moana Rua) Campsite
- 6 Mistletoe Flats
- 7 Glentunnel Holiday Park
- 8 Whitecliffs Domain
- 9 Harper River Campsite
- 10 Lakeside Domain Recreation Centre
- 11 Waihora Park Reserve Camping Ground
- 12 Chamberlains Ford Recreation Reserve
- 13 Coes Ford Recreation Reserve
- 14 Rakaia Huts Campground
- 15 Kowai Pass Domain Camping Ground

 Toilets	 Showers
 Accessible	 Cabins
 Powered sites	 Laundry facilities
 Cooking facilities	PDS Public dump station
 Dogs on leash	 No dogs



Public dump station locations

Darfield	68 North Terrace
Glentunnel	2652 Homebush Road
Lake Coleridge Village	3 Kowhai Drive
Leeston	12 Station Street
Rakaia Gorge	Evans Reserve, Windwhistle
Springfield	12 Domain Road
Southbridge	42 James Street



ARTHUR'S PASS NATIONAL PARK

FREE

1. Andrews Shelter Campsite **DOC**

Mount White Road, Arthur's Pass National Park

A basic campsite. You will need to be fully self-sufficient. River water only available. Shelter for cooking available. Camp only in the designated area. Do not camp further up the road on private land. Please use the toilet facilities provided at the campsite. Booking not required.

doc.govt.nz

2. Avalanche Creek Shelter Campsite **DOC**

Arthur's Pass Village, SH73

DOC/NZMCA campsite pass able to be used here. Wheelchair accessible toilets available. Shelter for cooking available. Bookings required.

Fees per night: \$8 adult, \$4 child 5–17 years, Infant 0–4 Free.

Book online: doc.govt.nz

3. Hawdon Shelter Campsite **DOC**

Mount White Road, Arthur's Pass National park

DOC/NZMCA campsite pass able to be used here. Located 24km south of Arthur's Pass Village in the Lower Hawdon Valley, camp on the grassy flats and enjoy the many walks along Hawdon River. Shelter available for cooking. Bookings required.

Fees per night: \$8 adult, \$4 child 5–17 years, Infant 0–4 Free.

Book online: doc.govt.nz

4. Klondyke Corner Campsite **DOC**

SH73, 8km south of Arthur's Pass Village

DOC/NZMCA campsite pass able to be used here. At the junction of the Bealey and Waimakariri rivers, this is a popular summer campsite. The large grassy space is sheltered by trees. Shelter for cooking available. Bookings required.

Fees per night: \$8 adult, \$4 child 5–17 years, Infant 0–4 Free.

Book online: doc.govt.nz



CRAIGIEBURN FOREST PARK

5. Lake Pearson (Moana Rua) Campsite **DOC** SH73, 35km south of Arthur's Pass Village

DOC/NZMCA Campsite Pass able to be used here. Conservation campsite and wildlife refuge, set on the edge of Lake Pearson. Power boats not permitted. Camp beside a high-country lake in the Waimakariri Basin; a good base for bird watching. Bookings required. Fees per night: \$8 adult, \$4 child 5–17 years, Infant 0–4 Free. Book online: doc.govt.nz

6. Mistletoe Flats **DOC** Craigieburn Forest Park

Located off SH73 between Castle Hill Village and Lake Pearson. DOC/NZMCA Campsite Pass able to be used here. Set in a landscape of beech forest, tussock and rugged mountains with mountain biking nearby. Shelter for cooking available. Bookings required. Fees per night: \$8 adult, \$4 child 5–17 years, Infant 0–4 Free. Book online: doc.govt.nz

DOC CAMPING GROUNDS

- To book a camping site go to doc.govt.nz
- No dogs (*except at Mistletoe Flats where on-leash allowed*)
- All tap water must be boiled before use
- All sites are unpowered
- Do not light fires at any time of the year
- Wasp populations can reach high numbers from January–March.
- Do not feed kea – help protect our native flora and fauna.
- During winter, alpine areas may be covered in snow, access may be difficult
- For weather information metservice.com
- Cash is still acceptable at these campsites using the self-registration kiosks and iron rangers



GLENTUNNEL

7. Glentunnel Holiday Park

Glentunnel Domain Road, Glentunnel



Situated in the township of Glentunnel with shops, a café, and golf course within walking distance of the Glentunnel Holiday Park. The terraced park is set amongst trees and adjacent to the Selwyn River, with river access. With five cabins (from \$85), 88 powered sites (from \$44) and 77 non-powered sites (from \$40), there is a camping style for everyone. A member of NZMCA Campsaver Scheme.

glentunnelholidaypark@xtra.co.nz or glentunnel.co.nz

8. Whitecliffs Domain

Hartleys Road, Glentunnel

FREE

Lovely reserve on the banks of the Selwyn River offering fishing, swimming, picnic areas, casual recreation and bird watching. Dogs can be off leash but must be under control. Closed to vehicles for winter, visitors welcome all year. Maximum stay is 28 days. This site may be closed at any time due to heavy rainfall or flooding. Bookings not required but recommended. Fee: koha/donations gratefully accepted. selwyn.govt.nz



LAKE COLERIDGE

9. Harper River Campsite Harper Village, Lake Coleridge

FREE 

Close to the shore of Lake Coleridge this campsite is ideal for fishing, walking, and enjoying the outdoors. Located at the head of Lake Coleridge, access to the campsite is by unsealed road. Untreated well water is available, however users need to be self-sufficient. Registration is not required for single night stays. To use the campground for more than one night you must register with TrustPower at least two weeks in advance.

harpercamping@trustpower.co.nz or lakecoleridge.nz/info

TE WAIHORA/LAKE ELLESMERE

10. Lakeside Domain Recreation Reserve Timber Yard Road, Lakeside

FREE 

This location offers fishing, boat ramps, picnic areas, casual recreation and is a great spot for bird watching on the lake. Camping permitted for three nights, after which permission is required. Campground may close over winter if the grounds get too wet. Bookings not required.

selwyn.govt.nz



MOTUKARARA

11. Waihora Park Reserve Campground 136 Park Road, Motukarara



Situated alongside the rail trail and Motukarara Raceway, this large grassy campground offers a relaxing space to stay. Short-term casual camping only. Two gas barbecues playground, tennis courts available. Fees per night: \$10, payment is made at self-serve kiosk at entrance, please bring correct change.

waihorapark@gmail.com

LOWER SELWYN RIVER

12. Chamberlains Ford Reserve Old Bridge Road, Leeston

FREE

Set next to the Selwyn River, the location offers fishing, swimming, picnic areas, casual recreation and bird watching. Dogs can be off leash but must be under control. Open all year round, maximum stay 28 days. This site may be closed at any time due to heavy rainfall or flooding. Donations/koha appreciated, bookings not required. Not suitable for large vehicles. Check river quality before swimming lawa.org.nz.

selwyn.govt.nz

13. Goes Ford Reserve The Lake Road, Springston

FREE

The reserve is set either side of the Selwyn River, making this an ideal place for swimming, fishing, and picnics. Dogs can be off leash but must be under control. Open all year round, maximum stay 28 days. This site may be closed at any time due to heavy rainfall or flooding. Donations/koha appreciated, bookings not required. Check river quality before swimming lawa.org.nz.

selwyn.govt.nz



RAKAIA HUTS

14. Rakaia Huts Campground 107 Pacific Drive, Southbridge



Rakaia huts “the fisherman’s paradise”. Located at the mouth of the Rakaia River. Fees per night (two people): Powered site from \$15, non-powered site from \$10. Dogs are permitted at the discretion of the campground manager.

rakaiahutscampground@selwyn.govt.nz

SPRINGFIELD

15. Kowai Pass Domain Campground 117 Domain Road, Springfield



Bordered by mature trees in a grassy domain with access to good facilities. Washing machine and dryer, kitchenette and common room. There are also tennis courts and a playground.

Fees per night (up to two people): Powered site \$25, non-powered site \$10. \$5 for extra adults. Infant 0–5 free.

timeistight91@hotmail.com

EXPLORE SELWYN

Discover the hidden sights of Selwyn on foot or bike. Wander Harts Creek and Coopers Lagoon and spot the native bird species. Explore McHugh's Forest in Darfield or the native ferns of Kowai Bush.

Trek up to Washpen Falls or along the Rakaia Gorge Track. Walk amongst limestone formations at Kura Tāwhiti/Castle Hill or venture underground at Cave Stream.

Cycle The Little River Rail Trail along the old rail corridor beside Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere to Birdlings Flat, challenge yourself with bike trails that zigzag the tussocky slopes of the Craigieburn Forest Park.

Follow:  **Selwyn NZ**
 **@selwyn.nz**

Visit: selwyn.nz

Department of Conservation Arthur's Pass Visitor Centre

106 West Coast Road,
Arthur's Pass, 7875

Open 7 days

October to April: 8am–5pm

May to September: 8.30am–4.30pm

Phone: 03 318 9211

Visit: doc.govt.nz

SELWYN

FROM THE LAND 

