



Mararoa River Track

(Map 130, 131, 132)

Northern Start	Mavora Camping Area, Mavora Lakes Rd
Southern End	Junction of SH94 and Princhester Rd
Distance	45km
Time	2 days
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

Trampers continuing on from the Mavora Walkway can walk south down and around the North Mavora Lake shore to the swingbridge across the Mararoa River at the lake's outlet.

From here the track is marked and sign-posted. It stays west of but proximate to the Mararoa River and then South Mavora Lake to this lake's outlet where another swingbridge provides an alternative access point from Mavora Lakes Rd.

Beyond this swingbridge the track continues down the true right side of the Mararoa River to a third and final swing bridge.

Along the way a careful assessment is required: if the Mararoa River can be forded safely then Te Araroa Trampers can continue down the track on the true right side to the Kiwi Burn then either divert 1.5km to the Kiwi Burn Hut, or ford the Mararoa River and continue south on the true left bank. If the Mararoa is not fordable then Te Araroa trampers must cross the final swingbridge.

Trampers can then continue down the true left bank on the river side of the fence and, after 3km, rejoin the Te Araroa opposite the Kiwi Burn confluence.

Below the Kiwi Burn confluence Te Araroa is marked with poles down the Mararoa's true left bank. This is on the river side of the fence all the way down to Wash Creek, some 16km distant. Travel is occasionally damp underfoot and a little slow through long grasses but the route improves and becomes easier as progress is made.

After fording Wash Creek the route climbs to Mavora Lakes Rd. Turn right onto the road and continue for 11km through to SH 94. Turn right and walk - carefully - along SH94 a further 2.5km to where Te Araroa turns into Princhester Rd. The Lower Princhester Hut is 6km up Princhester Rd.

DOC's Mavora Lakes Park pamphlet, available through the link on this page, includes additional information on some of this trail section and the surrounding area.

It is 22km left on SH94 to Mossburn and 33km right on SH94 to Te Anau, a pleasant lakeside town and gateway to Fiordland National Park.

Other Information

Te Araroa preferred hostel

[YHA Te Anau](#) - 29 Mokonui St, Te Anau P: 03 2497847 E: teanau@yha.co.nz

[YHA Te Anau](#) is a large, comfortable hostel designed for walkers. One block from the shores of Lake Te Anau and just off Te Anau's main road, walkers can purchase hiking gear, groceries and local Fiordland cuisine. [YHA Te Anau](#) lovely lounge has a

fireplace and plenty of couch space and there is a drying room and gear storage available. There are a range of accommodation options from dorm to private, all with a unique homely atmosphere. Staff can even arrange a shuttle to the start of the next track. [Free Wifi](#) available to [YHA Members](#). [YHA Low Carbon Travellers](#) are welcome.

Te Anau

General information

[Fiordland I-SITE Visitor Centre](#) - 85 Lakefront Dr, Te Anau - P: 03 249 8900 - E: info@fiordland.org.nz

[DOC Te Rua-o-te-moko / Fiordland National Park Visitor Centre](#) - Lakefront Dr, Te Anau - P: 03 249 7924 -

E: fiordlandvc@doc.govt.nz

Getting there/away

[InterCity](#) - P: 03 365 1113 - Daily buses to Queenstown, Dunedin and Christchurch

Accommodation

[YHA Te Anau](#) - 29 Mokonui Street, Te Anau P: 03 249 7847 E: teanau@yha.co.nz

[Te Anau Lakefront Backpackers BBH](#) - 48-50 Lakefront Dr, te Anau - P: 0800 200 074 - E: res@teanaubackpackers.co.nz

[Te Anau Kiwi Holiday Park](#) - 15 Luxmore Dr, Te Anau - P: 03 249 8538 - E: - W: info@teanau.kiwi.nz

[Te Anau \(Mountain View\) Top 10 Holiday Park](#) - 128 Te Anau Terrace, Te Anau - P: 0800 249 746 or 03 249 72 62 - E:

stay@teanautop10.co.nz

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

Resupply

[4 Four Square Supermarket](#) - 30 Town Centre, Te Anau - P: 03 249 7547

[Fresh Choice Supermarket](#) - 5 Milford Cres, Te Anau - P: 03 249 9600

[Fiordland Bakery](#) - 106 Town Centre, Te Anau - P: 03 249 8899

Mossburn

Accommodation

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

[Mossburn Country Park](#) - 333 Mossburn-Five Rivers Rd, 3 kms north of Mossburn - P: 03 248 6444 or 021 251 9246 -

E: info@mossburncountrypark.co.nz - Backpackers, cabins, campsites - NB: Closed over winter

[Kowhai Lodge self contained and B & B](#) - 5665 Te Anau/Mossburn Highway, - P: 03 248 6137

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Take extreme care on Mavora Lakes Rd and SH94
- Farming operations
- River crossings - Never cross flooded rivers
- Small stream crossings
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- Leave gates as you find them
- No litter
- No dogs
- No horses
- No firearms
- No bikes
- Wear hi-viz clothing/pack cover and don't use headphones

Amenities (Start)

- Car park
- Picnic area
- Toilets
- Standard Campsite

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities



Takitimu Track

(Map 132, 133, 134)

Northern Start	Junction of SH94 and Princhester Rd
Southern End	Struan Flat Road, Birchwood
Distance	68km
Time	3 to 4 days
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

Takitimu Track

Introductory Notes:

Access - The final 25km of this track is across Mt Linton Station, which is a large and intensive farmed private property. Access across Mt Linton Station has been generously provided by the Station owners. A number of conditions apply to enable walking access to co-exist with farm operations. These conditions including **a track closure for lambing from 25 September to 5 November inclusive**. The remaining conditions are set out below and it's imperative that they all be strictly adhered to, both out of respect for the Station owners and to ensure Te Araroa is able to continue to use this critical link. A good portion of the Takitimu Track can still be used during the lambing closure. This is by using the exit/entry track from Aparima Hut to Dunrobin Road.

Navigation - Te Araroa's Takitimu route is to a Back Country Adventurer tramping track standard. While marked throughout, many sections are over uneven terrain where there is no real ground trail evident. This creates navigational challenges that are not present on most other Te Araroa sections. Trampers are advised to carry a GPS, maps, compass, usual survival equipment, and to have the skills needed to use everything properly.

Shelter - While there are several huts enroute, there is no shelter at the Telford Campsite. Trampers will need to carry and use a tent here.

Track notes

SH94 to Lower Princhester Hut - 6km / 1.5hr

From the highway the route follows Princhester Rd to DOC's Lower Princhester Hut (6 bunks). Princhester Rd is a gravelled public road but, also, a working farm access way. Please give way to stock and farm operations and leave gates as you find them. No dogs are permitted by order arising from an OVIS management program.

Lower Princhester Hut to Aparima Hut - 17km / 5-6hr

The track from Lower Princhester Hut is through beech forest and climbs to a saddle between the Bog Burn and Waterloo Burn catchments. It then descends to the northern boundary of Waterloo Station, a Crown Pastoral Lease comprising 3500ha. It is about 4.5km to this point.

Waterloo Station is private property but the lessees allow trampers access down their western boundary to Aparima Hut (12

bunks). The route is poled through tussock land on the bush fringe and marked through the bush clad headlands. Care is required to stay on the permitted track line.

Aparima Hut to Lower Wairaki Hut - 13.1km / 6hr

Note: The next section to Lower Wairaki Hut is predominantly within the forest. The ground trail is light, or non-existent, so care and concentration is required to travel from marker to marker. This makes the going quite slow.

Cross the Aparima River on the swingbridge near the hut. The track forks here. To the left there is access out to Dunrobin Rd (2hr). Meanwhile Te Araroa follows poles westward (to the right) through marshland on the terrace above the Aparima River's true right bank. The track reaches the forest edge after 2.5km. Once within the forest the marked track rolls over foot hills to a sign-posted junction with the Wairaki River Track. Turn left here and it's a about a 45min walk downstream to the Wairaki River ford. Cross the river here, as river levels allow, and climb to the nearby Lower Wairaki Hut (4 bunks).

Lower Wairaki Hut to Telford Campsite – 8km / 4hr

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 right hand turn and the beginning of the climb towards the Telford Tops. Carry water from here as it's 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 left and follows the ridge. After 440m the track emerges on the tops, which afford good views south towards the coast. Marker poles continue down on the main ridge for another 2km. The track then leaves the ridge to the right and descends through grasslands to the Telford Campsite, which has a toilet and water available from the stream. **Trampers should camp here if arriving after midday** (see Mt Linton Station conditions of access below). There is no shelter at Telford Campsite.

Telford Campsite to Struan Flat Rd – 25km / 8-9hr

Note: this section is entirely over Mt Linton Station, which is privately owned, and is **closed for lambing from 25 September to 5 November inclusive each year**.

Access is otherwise on an interim and trial basis and upon these additional conditions, which have been set to enable walking access to co-exist with farming operations:

- Access is only for tramping parties of 8 or fewer members and during daylight hours;
- Stick to the marked track and use stiles where provided;
- Give way to stock and farm operations;
- No camping, fires, vehicles (including bicycles), horses, dogs or firearms;
- Carry all rubbish out;
- There is no vehicle access into Mt Linton Station, beyond the main station office;
- No commercial activity, including guiding or organized events.

In order to comply with the daylight hours condition trampers should start no later than 10am while daylight saving is in operation (earlier when it is not) and make steady progress towards their destination.

Much of the route is over a working farm so trampers may encounter vehicles and the movement of stock in large numbers. In these situations **farm operations have right of way**. Trampers need to step aside and wait quietly until all live stock have passed. Please take direction from farm staff as necessary.

There is no drinking water available en route so trampers should carry sufficient water to last the day.

From the Telford Campsite the route follows poles down the true left side of Telford Burn to a sign-posted crossing. Ford the river here, as river levels allow, and continue on the farm track down the side of the Wairaki River to a marked sharp turn away from the river.

From here you follow well-marked farm track through the hills before dropping back down and sidling above the Wairaki River. The farm track descends onto a large fan down to river level - follow the marked route to the optimum crossing point. In general, the river runs barely above ankle height and will be easily crossed. Do not attempt to cross if it is high, dirty or fast-flowing.

Coming up from the river you will again join a farm track - this is one of the Station's main access-ways so keep a close eye out for stock or farm traffic. Following that track 2.75km and not far around a 90deg bend, a well-marked turn will take you off the major farm track onto a lesser one. continue on that track through paddocks, around forestry plantation and take in the sights and smells of New Zealand's largest farm station.

On occasion the route will leave farm tracks but it is well marked - just look for the capped waratah posts and/or stiles across each fence.

Towards the end of the route cross Orauea Stream on the footbridge a short distance from the roadside trailhead, and follow the marked route out to Struan Flat Rd.

There is parking and cell phone reception here and trampers can phone if they need shuttle transport or accommodation. To ensure availability it's best to have made arrangements in advance.

Otherwise, it is 7km left on the Ohai-Clifden Highway to Ohai, a small rural town. A further 9km along the Ohai-Clifden highway will take you to Nightcaps where you can resupply at Nightcaps 4 Square.

Other Information

Takitimu Track

Accommodation en route

[Lower Princhester Hut](#) - 6 bunks

[Aparima Hut](#) - 12 bunks

[Lower Wairaki Hut](#) - 4 bunks

[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 book in advance.

Accommodation just beyond the end of this route

Birchwood Station have a cabin available to Te Araroa walkers near the beginning of this route.

For safety reasons, you'll need to call ahead - same day ok but at least a few hours notice - and be met and taken into the hut.

\$20pp for the night and \$15pp more for a home-cooked meal. Gas cooking facilities, microwave, hot shower, fire, toilet.

Call or text Sarah 027 6995234 or Dean 021 655852.

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Be aware of farm vehicles and/or stock on Mt Linton Station
- Farming operations
- River crossings - Never cross flooded rivers
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Few water sources on Mt Linton Station

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- Open daylight hours only on Mt Linton Station - DO NOT enter (from either end) after midday
- Leave gates as you find them
- No dogs
- No horses
- No firearms
- No vehicles
- No bikes
- No camping on Mt Linton Station
- No fires on Mt Linton Station

Amenities (Start)

- Full range of amenities in Te Anau (33km away)
- Accommodation Lower Princhester Hut - 6km up Princhester Rd

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities
- Basic camp site at Telford
- Accommodation huts



Birchwood to Merrivale

(Map 134, 135)

Northern Start	Struan Flat Rd, Birchwood
Southern End	Junction of Otautau-Tuatapere and Merrivale Rds, Merrivale
Distance	27.5km
Time	1 day
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

The track starts on Struan Flat Rd. Walk 250m to the Ohai Clifden Highway. Turn right here and walk 650m to the intersection with Birchwood Wairio Rd. Turn left onto this road and walk 2.4km to the edge of the eucalyptus forest fringe.

Woodlaw Track - 14.2km / 7-8hr

This track crosses private property and ongoing access is dependent upon the goodwill of land owners: Matariki Forests, DT King & Co Limited, Birchwood Station and Stephen Blair-Edie. The track is across farmland and through exotic forest, save for a small indigenous forest section within the Woodlaw Forest Conservation Area.

Access - A number of conditions apply to enable walking access to co-exist with farm and forestry operations. These conditions including an **annual track closure for lambing from 9 September to 9 November inclusive**. The remaining conditions are set out below and compliance is important, both out of respect for the land owners and to help ensure Te Araroa walkers continue to be able to use this critical link:

- Access is only for tramping parties of 8 or fewer members and during daylight hours.
- Give way to stock and farm/forestry operations;
- No camping, fires, vehicles (including bicycles), horses, dogs, or firearms;
- Carry all rubbish out;
- No commercial activity, including guiding or organized events.

In order to comply with the daylight hours condition trampers should start out early in the morning and make steady progress towards their final destination.

If you encounter farm staff moving stock en route please step well aside and wait quietly until all animals have passed by. Take direction from farm staff as necessary.

Don't rely on drinking water being available en route.

The track leaves the road on the right 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 left here and sidles east 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 south 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 left (southeast). 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 there is some forestry operation 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 left onto Trig Rd then right onto Twinlaw Rd. Keep left 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 right 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 right via Lower Scotts Gap Rd and Otautau-Tuatapere Rd to Otautau.)

From the Woodlaw Track trailhead turn left onto Scotts Gap-Feldwick Rd and walk the road shoulder through Scotts Gap junction and onto Upper Scotts Gap Rd. Continue down Upper Scotts Gap Rd then turn right and walk up Hewitt Rd. The Island Bush Track starts up the road at the gate on the exotic forest fringe. This is a 3.5km connection.

Island Bush Track - 4km / 1.5hr

This track is through exotic forest and then across farm land. It is entirely on private property with access being provided by 2 land owners - Matariki Forests and Mike Whale.

Access - A number of conditions apply to enable walking access to co-exist with farm and forestry operations.

The conditions are set out below and it's important to comply, both out of respect for the land owners and to help ensure Te Araroa walkers are able to continue to use this critical link:

- Access is only for tramping parties of 8 or fewer members and during daylight hours.
- Stick to the marked track and use stiles where provided.
- Give way to stock and farm/forestry operations.
- No camping, fires, vehicles (including bicycles), horses, dogs, or firearms.
- Carry all rubbish out.
- No commercial activity, including guiding or organized events.

If you encounter staff moving stock en route then step well aside and wait quietly until all animals have passed by. Please take direction from farm staff as necessary.

The track starts at the forest entry gate near the top of Hewitt Rd. If arriving by car it's best to park near the bottom of the road and walk up. Continue up Hewitt Rd beyond the gate and through the forest. This to a junction with Loop Rd. Turn left onto Loop Rd, the first of 4 junctions. Stay left again at the second junction, right at the third, and left at the fourth junction.

From the forestry road end a foot track leads down between the pine tree rows to the farm boundary. It's from here that you need prior permission to continue.

Once across the boundary fence, turn left 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 right and follows this line of trees to a gate. Through the gate the track crosses a bridge and then heads diagonally to the right towards a gap in another shelter-belt. Once through the gap the roadside stile is visible ahead to the right. (It is left for 13km to Otautau and Tuatapere is 28km to the right.)

There is parking opposite the trailhead.

From the Island Bush Track trailhead turn right (west) onto Otautau-Tuatapere Rd and walk 2.5km, past Gill Rd to the Merrivale Rd junction.

Other Information

Accommodation at start of route (near start of route)

Birchwood Station have a cabin available to Te Araroa walkers near the beginning of this route.

For safety reasons, you'll need to call ahead - same day ok but at least a few hours notice - and be met and taken into the hut. \$20pp for the night and \$15pp more for a home-cooked meal. Gas cooking facilities, microwave, hot shower, fire, toilet. Call or text Sarah 027 6995234 or Dean 021 655852.

Accommodation en route (between Woodlaw Forest and Island Bush)

Warm, cosy, family hut, 5 beds. Drinking water, gas cooking facility, long drop toilet, no electric.

640 Scotts Gap-Feldwick Rd (4km from Scotts Gap end of Woodlaw) - P: 027 7394924 (Justine) -

E: just.broughtons@gmail.com

\$20pp/night - a hot shower and home-cooked meal available for extra \$15pp.

Pickup from track can be arranged, prior booking/communication essential.

Accommodation at end of route (Merrivale)

[Merrivale Hut](#) - 2 Merrivale Rd, Otautau - P: 021 567105

Hut (\$10pp) or camping (\$8pp) available, fresh eggs (\$1 each) and rubbish disposal.

Great little spot right on the Te Araroa route.

Otautau

Accommodation

Otautau Hotel - 167 Main St, Otautau - P: 03 225 8166 - E: otatauhotel@vodafone.co.nz - W: www.otatauhotelpub.co.nz/contact - rooms, bars & restaurant

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

Resupply

Supervalu Supermarket - 157 Main St, Otautau - P: 03 225 8029 - W: www.supervalu.co.nz/ Open daily 8am-7pm.

Island Bush - Tuatapere

General / Visitor Information

Tuatapere Hump Ridge track Trust & Tuatapere Visitor Information Centre - PH 0800 486 774 or P: 03 226 6739 - 31 Orawia Rd, Tuatapere - E: info@visitorcentre.co.nz - Open hours 7:30am - 6:30pm

Accommodation

[Tuatapere Motel, Shooters Backpackers & Holiday Park Complex](#) - 4 McFeely Street, Tuatapere - P: 0800 009 993 or M: 027 2222 612 E: info@tuatapereaccommodation.co.nz

[Waiiau Hotel](#) - 47 Main St, Tuatapere - P: 03 226 6409 - E: info@waiiauhotel.co.nz - rooms, bar & restaurant

[Last Light Lodge](#) - 2 Clifden Highway, Tuatapere - P: 03 2266667 - camping sites, campervan sites, backpacker type facilities and a restaurant/café.

Resupply

Four 4 Square supermarket - 73 Main St, Tuatapere - P: 03 226 6898 - W: www.foursquare.co.nz/ - Open daily 7:30am-9pm

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Take care on roads
- Farming operations
- Forestry operations
- Few water sources

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- Open daylight hours only where noted
- Leave gates as you find them
- No litter
- No dogs
- No horses
- No firearms
- No vehicles
- No bikes
- No camping where noted
- No fires
- Wear hi-viz clothing/pack cover and don't use headphones

Amenities (Start)

- No amenities
- Roadside parking only

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities



Longwood Forest Track

(Map 135, 136, 137)

Northern Start	Junction of Otautau-Tuatapere and Merrivale Rds, Merrivale
Southern End	End of Ports Water Race Track
Distance	52km
Time	2-3 days
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

Walk 7.5km up Merrivale Rd into the forest, all the way to the road-end. A washout about 6km up Merrivale Rd prevents 2WD vehicles progressing further but there is roadside parking there.

Note: the only reliable water source on Te Araroa for over 13km is Merry Creek, accessed a short distance down a 4WD track that departs Merrivale Rd on the left hand side, just beyond the final farm paddock.

Merrivale Rd end to Bald Hill - 4.3km / 2hr

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. A GPS may come in handy here (and across the tops) as the ground trail is not always obvious. The track climbs gradually for 2.5 km to a clearing but soon re-enters the forest. From here it's only 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 upon Bald Hill.

Bald Hill to Martins Hut - 15.5km / 7hr

Descend the road from the transmission tower. Water may be available from small streams draining from the left. 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 right 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 shrublands across "Little Baldy" and the saddle 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 historic Martins Hut, built 1905 and the last (or first if northbound!) hut on Te Araroa.

Martins Hut is compact with 4 timber bunks with mattresses. It would provide welcome shelter in poor weather. There is a small water tank behind the hut - though do treat the water.

Another water source at Martins Hut is small stream off on an unmarked side track between the toilet and the hut. This is off to the left as you are facing downhill. Water also becomes more readily available on the main track lower down.

Martins Hut to Long Hilly Track - 23.5km / 9hr

100m past Martins Hut the route leaves Martins water race and continues down to a forestry road. Turn right here and 10min later turn left onto Cascade Rd.

Follow Cascade Rd for about a kilometre to the Ports Water Race Track, which starts at a small foot bridge on the right (south) side of the road. This may not be obvious if overgrown so pay close attention and navigate carefully.

The track then follows the Ports water race, which was constructed to supply water for gold mining at Round Hill. While the race was abandoned in the 1950s it remains largely intact. This track has had recent maintenance work and is well marked. It hugs a

steady contour line beside the water race as it winds its way through gullies and across the hill side. The area comprises regenerating podocarp forest. The water race margins, however, were exempt from milling and retain a number of mature rimu, kamahi, and totara trees.

At the end of the Ports water race, the track joins the Long Hilly Track, and its a further 6km (1-1.5hrs) to Colac Bay.

Other Information

Accommodation en route

[Martins Hut](#) - Basic 4 bunk hut - The water source at Martins Hut is a small tank behind the hut. There is also a small stream off on an unmarked side track between the toilet and the hut. This is off to the left as you are facing downhill. Water also becomes more readily available on the main track lower down.

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track on Merrivale rd
- Poisons & traps
- Farming operations
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Weather extremes
- Few water sources between Merrivale Rd and Martins Hut

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- No litter
- No dogs
- No horses
- No firearms
- No vehicles
- Camp with care
- Wear hi-viz clothing/pack cover and don't use headphones

Amenities (Start)

- No amenities
- Roadside parking only

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities
- Accommodation Martins Hut



Long Hilly Track

(Map 137)

Northern Start	End of Ports Water Race Track
Southern End	Junction of Colac Bay Rd and SH99, Colac Bay
Distance	6km
Time	2hr
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

At the end of the Port's Water Race the track joins the Long Hilly Track. Turn left here and follow the track down past a number of sign-posted historic gold mining sites to the car park on Round Hill Rd.

The Long Hilly Track is an extremely popular daywalk, taking in a number of historic mine workings from what was once the largest Chinese mining settlement in New Zealand, dating back to 1874.

There is a loop track available for day-walkers which takes 2hr15min.

Turn left out of the Long Hilly Walking Track car park and walk 850m down Round Hill Rd to the SH99 junction. Turn left here and then, after 4km, right onto Colac Bay Rd. Adjacent to this intersection is the Colac Bay Tavern where meals and camping facilities are available.

Other Information

Accommodation

[Colac Bay Tavern & Camping Ground](#) - 15 Colac Bay Rd, Colac Bay - P: 03 234 8399 or M: 027 435 5872 - Meals, backpacker and camping facilities available.

Mahuru Cottage (B&B, Cabin - self contained or Camping) - 93 Roundhill Road - P: 03 2348922 or M: 021 0338883
Situating opposite the Long Hilly Track Carpark. It has breath taking sea and mountain views with a variety of wild life. Cash only or negotiate with the owners to do light jobs around the farm like weeding, mulching, gardens etc (nothing hard) for a couple of hours instead.

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Take extreme care on roadwalk to Colac Bay
- Weather extremes
- Few water sources on roadwalk

Requirements

- Keep to the track

- No litter
- No dogs
- No horses
- No firearms

Amenities (Start)

- No amenities

Amenities (On Route)

- Carpark at Long Hilly carpark
- Toilets at Long Hilly carpark
- Accommodation Mahuru Cottage - see Trail Notes



Tihaka Beach Track

(Map 137, 138)

Northern Start	Junction of Colac Bay Rd and SH99, Colac Bay
Southern End	Junction of SH99 and Bay Rd, Riverton
Distance	13km
Time	4hr
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

This coastal track connects Colac Bay with Riverton and is mostly near the coast.

*Before the climb up to Mores Reserve the track crosses sections of private farm land. Keep to the marked track here and be aware that this section is **closed during September and October for lambing**. It is also foot access only and dogs are prohibited.*

To reach Riverton during the lambing closure, continue on Tihaka Beach Rd to Orepuke Riverton Highway (SH99). Turn right here and walk the road shoulder into Riverton.

The track formally begins at the Colac Bay Rd/SH99 junction (with the Colac Bay Tavern and campground adjacent). If the tide is right, head east along the beach. Alternatively, at high tide, walk the initial section on the Foreshore Rd frontage then descend to the beach when the road turns inland. Continue along the beach then ascend the formed sand track to Tihaka Beach Rd. When this road veers inland Te Araroa remains on the coast (unless you're here during the lambing closure). Keep to the track, which follows marker poles along the beaches and across the headlands.

From the final deer fence the track leaves the coast and heads up towards, then through, Mores Reserve to emerge at a car park at the end of Richard St. There are public toilets here. Walk down Richard St towards Riverton.

At the bottom of Richard St turn left onto Bay Rd and walk around to the Palmerston Rd Bridge. The Tihaka Beach Track ends at the junction with SH99 just before the bridge.

Other Information

Riverton

General information

[Te Hiko and Riverton Visitor Information Centre](#) - 172 Palmerston St, Riverton - P: 03 234 8260 or 0800 834 4564

E: tehiko@xtra.co.nz

Getting there/away

[Travel Head First - Bottom Bus Tours](#) - P: 03 477 9083 - Daily shuttle to/from Invercargill and Te Anau

Accommodation

[Riverton Holiday Park](#) - 43 Richard St, Riverton - P: 0800 234 813 or 03 234 8132 - E: wylie@xtra.co.nz - studio units & campsites

[Monkey's Backpackers](#) - 144 Palmerston St, Riverton 9822 - P: 020 41205732 - E: monkeybackpackers@gmail.com - backpackers and tent sites with free WiFi (ask for the Te Araroa discount!)

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

[Riverton Lodge Hotel](#) - 57 Princess Street, Riverton - P: 03 234 9945 - E: rivertonlodge@gmail.com - 28 beds available (14 bunkroom and 3 double rooms), communal kitchen, coin operated laundry facility. Onsite Pub and Restaurant

Hill 106/Taiheke - Basic but clean and comfortable self-contained hut sleeping 1-2 people. Set on property with 10 ha of protected native forest, bush walks and amazing views over Foveaux Strait and the Longwood Range. Located near the Tihaka end of Colac Bay Beach (off Longwood Road) and just a 1.8km detour inland off Te Araroa. Sleeping arrangement is one double bed and one camp stretcher. Own linen only. No power (solar lights only), no hot running water, laundry facilities or heating. Long drop toilet, fresh rain water tank. Pick-up and/or drop-off from Long Hilly, Riverton or Colac Bay may be available on request. \$35 per person per night. Price for pick-up/drop-off negotiable. Payment: cash or bank deposit.
Contact: Kiri or Chris 03 234 9343, Kiri 021 1660112, Chris 021 1286486

Resupply

[Supervalu Supermarket](#) - 163 Palmerston St, Riverton - P: 03 234 8541

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Take care when walking along roads
- Farming operations
- Tides, waves & rivers - safer at low tide
- Small stream crossings
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Weather extremes
- Few water sources

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- Open daylight hours only
- No dogs
- No horses
- No firearms
- No bikes
- No camping
- No fires

Amenities (Start)

- Car park at Colac Bay Tavern
- Toilets at Colac Bay Tavern
- Standard Campsite at Colac Bay Campground, adjacent to Tavern
- Accommodation and meals at Colac Bay Tavern

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities
- Carpark
- Toilets at Mores Reserve
- Accommodation just past Mores Reserve



Oreti Beach Track

(Map 138, 139, 140)

Northern Start	Junction of SH99 and Bay Rd, Riverton
Southern End	Stead St, Invercargill
Distance	32km
Time	1 day
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

At the eastern end of the bridge on SH99, turn into Jetty St and onto Leader St. There is a riverside track here beside a line of pine trees that takes walkers around to the beach. Drop down onto the sand and head south around the estuary mouth and onto Oreti Beach. Take care when the tide is high.

About 4hr (12km) into the journey walkers need to ford the mouth of Waimatuku Stream. This crossing can be difficult at high tide but is straightforward at mid to low tide. Plan your approach accordingly.

It is then a further 10km walk along the beach to the Dunns Rd exit, which becomes visible at a gap in the dunes. There is a power pole here with a streetlight attached. Follow Dunns Rd for 7km towards Invercargill and another 2km once Dunns Rd becomes Stead St, which crosses the estuary towards Tweed St, and the start of Invercargill's CBD where you'll find accommodation, shops etc.

The section ends over the road bridge where the Rotary Club's Stead St Wharf Walkway begins on the right hand side.

Other Information

Invercargill

General information

[Invercargill I-SITE Visitors Centre](#) - Gala St, Invercargill - P: 03 214 6243 - E: visit@southlandnz.com

Getting there/away

[Invercargill Airport](#) - Flights to all main centres

Bus options to Dunedin, Te Anau and Queenstown:

[InterCity](#) - P: 03 365 1113

[Atomic Shuttles](#) - P: 03 349 0697

Accommodation

[Oreti Beach House](#), Foveaux St, Invercargill (sth end of Oreti Beach) - M: 027 211 7170 - E: beachouse@woosh.co.nz

Mountaineer Chalet - P: 0272 117 170 - E: mountaineerchalet@gmail.com - Includes: 2br cottage with kitchen, bathroom, laundry

[Tuatara Lodge](#) - 30-32 Dee St, Invercargill - P: 0800 488 282 or M: 03 214 0954 - Café onsite

[Southern Comfort Backpackers \(BBH\)](#) - 30 Thomson St, Invercargill - P: 03 218 3838

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

Resupply

[Pak N' Save Supermarket](#) - 95 Tay St, Invercargill - P: 03 214 4864

[New World Supermarket](#) - 244 Elles Rd, Invercargill - P: 03 218 6811
[Countdown Supermarket](#) - 172 Tay St, Invercargill - P: 03 218 6716

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track
- Tides, waves & rivers - safer at low tide
- River crossings - Never cross flooded rivers
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Weather extremes
- Few water sources

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- No litter

Amenities (Start)

- Full range of amenities in Riverton
- Car park
- Picnic area
- Toilets
- Shop
- Accommodation

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities
- Accommodation near Oreti Beach



Invercargill to Bluff

(Map 140, 141)

Northern Start	Stead St, Invercargill
Southern End	Stirling Point, Bluff
Distance	34km
Time	1 day
Tramping Standard	Easy tramping track

Route

The start point in Invercargill is on Stead Street at the sign to Stead Street Wharf.

The shared walking and cycle track was opened in 2015 and Te Araroa Trust was a major funder of the initial section. The track runs 10.5km along stopbanks adjacent to the New River Estuary and along the way you'll be treated to an area teeming with bird life.

The track exits onto Kekeno Place, which is a busy industrial area so take enormous care when coming off the end of the track then crossing the railway line back out to SH1. Take care as trains run regularly along this line.

There is a programme in place to make further progress towards Bluff, however for now it's a 16km walk from Kekeno PI along the Bluff Highway to Ocean Beach where the Foveaux Walkway starts.

It is essential to wear high visibility gear or pack cover when walking on the verge of the highway along this stretch as there is a lot of heavy traffic and often unfavourable visibility due to weather conditions. Your safety is paramount.

This final 7.2km track follows the south coast around the base of Bluff Hill to Te Araroa's southern terminus at Stirling Point.

So here you are - where to next?

The Invercargill City Council (with the New Zealand Aluminium Smelter at Tiwai Point) have a plaque available to all who travel the length of New Zealand by foot or cycle. Contact Lloyd Esler (esler@southnet.co.nz) or 03 2130404/021 1766580 to arrange collection.

Please note this is an ICC initiative done independently of Te Araroa Trust so TAT cannot guarantee availability or collection.

Other Information

Bluff

Getting there/away

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

[Stewart Island Experience Ferry Service](#) - P: 0800 000 511 or 03 212 7660 - E: info@sie.co.nz

Accommodation

[Lands End B & B](#) - 10 Ward Parade, Stirling Point Bluff - P: 03 212 7575 - Restaurant on site

[Bluff Lodge](#) - 120 Gore St, Bluff - P: 03 212 7106 or 027 294 5306 - A range of affordable accommodation

[Bluff Camping Ground](#) - Gregory St, Bluff - P: 027 626 2018 - cabins and tent sites

Resupply

[4 Four Square Supermarket](#) - 54 Gore St, Bluff - P: 03 212 8179

Stewart Island

Stewart Island does not form part of Te Araroa, however click [HERE](#) for more information around transport to/from the island, accommodation and walking.

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Take extreme care walking on SH1 roadside - wear hi-viz vest and/or pack cover
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Weather extremes
- Few water sources
- Take care crossing the railway line at Kekenno PI

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- Dogs on leash only
- No horses
- No firearms
- Wear hi-viz clothing/pack cover and don't use headphones

Amenities (Start)

- Full range of amenities in Invercargill
- Toilets
- Shop
- Accommodation

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities