



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 Orepuki 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: monkeysbackpackers@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

[Luna Sea Lodge](#) 641 Orepuke-Riverton Highway. Tel: +64 (0)27 601 5744 Email: lunasealodge@gmail.com, [facebook.com@lunasealodge](#) Only minutes from Tihaka Beach, we have individual rooms for rent with shared facilities in a warm homely environment.

[The Whimsical Studio](#) - 1 Union st, Riverton. Private studio accommodation directly on the trail situated just below Mores Reserve. A super comfy bed, awesome shower & free range eggs from our chickens. Check out Air B&B for reviews [emzdanger@gmail.com](#) or 021339446

Resupply

[Supervalue 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