

OTAGO CENTRAL RAIL TRAIL

CAN TOO ADVENTURE CHALLENGE 2024



A RELAXING ADVENTURE

Unique Accommodation • Escape The Rush
Welcoming Hospitality • Fully Supported

RELAX AND UNWIND, WINE AND BE ACTIVE

New Zealand's first Rail Trail and Original Great Ride opened in 2000. The Otago Central Rail Trail is a 152-kilometre, recreational trail that follows the former Otago Central railway line between Clyde and Middlemarch.

The gravelled Trail has a gentle gradient of 1:50 making it ideal for recreational cyclists.

The Trail traverses the region's isolated unique heartland and takes people to places preserved by the dry climate and distinct seasons, not easily accessible by any other means.

You'll stay in homely and welcoming accommodation and enjoy fantastic food and drink throughout the journey.



ARRIVE AND DISCOVER HISTORIC CLYDE

On day one you'll arrive at the historic mining village of Clyde, by way of transfer from Queenstown or Queenstown airport. Accommodation tonight is the beautifully presented Dunstan House.

Rooms are elegantly and individually decorated while retaining that last-century style. Dunstan House is a boutique hotel in the township of Clyde, offering authentic guest rooms for that touch of history but with modern conveniences.

SINCE 1863 DUNSTAN HOUSE HAS HOSTED EXPLORERS

This grand historic Dunstan House building in the gold mining days was known as "Dunstan Hotel", or simply, "The Dunstan". This building dates from 1898, but the cellar beneath was built for the original wooden hotel in 1863, and before that, a canvas tent served as the hotel of choice from when miners first came into the area seeking gold. The building which has a grade 2 listing with the Historic Places Trust, has been maintained in its original form, with the sympathetic addition of modern conveniences.



TODAY THE RIDE BEGINS!

Today you will collect your bike and complete the first leg of the ride when you arrive in Omapere.

The first two days of riding is, on average, a climb. However, the incline is never more than one metre gained for every fifty metres travelled forward. So it's very achievable, especially with the assistance of your included ebike.

You might choose to stop in Alexandra for a morning coffee or to visit one of the local wineries that are right on the trail.

CLYDE TO OMAPERE - 37KM WINERIES AND A STEADY INCLINE

Chatto Creek Tavern is a fantastic place to break for lunch, and marks the halfway point for today's ride. You'll find great food, welcoming staff and the option of sitting outside in the garden courtyard or inside the character-filled tavern.

Tonight you'll stay at the art deco Black's Hotel in Ophir.

You'll have some time to explore Omapere and Ophir or just unwind in the Black's Hotel garden courtyard.



OMAKAU TO WEDDERBURN 42KM

DAY TWO AND THE CLIMB CONTINUES

After an included Continental breakfast at Black's Hotel, you'll head back to the Rail Trail for the journey on to Wedderburn.

Consider a stop at the Stationside Cafe in Lauder for a great coffee and raspberry brownie.

You'll hit the highest elevation of the whole ride today, which does mean there is a bit of steady climbing, but it also means that the rest of the ride is a downhill run.

In Wedderburn, you'll stay in private cabins which have a fantastic view. The cabins are right on the trail, so it couldn't be easier.

Dinner tonight is at the Wedderburn Tavern, with live music, if you're lucky!



WEDDERBURN TO WAIPIATA 22KM

TRY CURLING!

IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE!

Today you'll have the chance to try curling.

Did you know that all stones used in curling worldwide are made by Kay's Curling Workshop in Ayrshire, Scotland? And the granite used comes from only two quarries.

After today's shorter ride, you'll arrive at Waipiata and likely find yourself in the Waipiata Country Hotel for refreshment and to warm up by their open fire, if it's cold.

A beef and blue cheese pie is highly recommended for dinner, but make sure to bring your appetite, they're big!

It's a short ride on local roads to Peter's Farm and tonight's accommodation. Here you can unwind with beautiful views of mountain ranges, or feed the friendly sheep!



SAY GOODBYE TO PETER'S FARM LODGE

The final day of your ride is the longest. However, the distance ticks over easily with wide open areas and a gentle downhill trend.

You may wish to take a packed lunch today, as there are no options to purchase food until Middlemarch. This can be pre-ordered through the Waipiata Country Hotel.

WAIPIATA TO MIDDLEMARCH 53KM

On your arrival in Middlemarch, after your celebratory completion photo, head on to the bike depot where you can leave your bike and have a shower before the shuttle back to Clyde.

You might want to have lunch in Middlemarch at the pub or cafe before the shuttle leaves at 1pm.

The shuttle stops in Clyde, but can also go on to Queenstown to drop you at your hotel.

OPTIONAL ADDITION

LAKE DUNSTAN TRAIL



ADD THE LAKE DUNSTAN TRAIL

Incredibly Scenic • Well Supported
Intermediate Grade • Worth The Effort

FOLLOW THE SHORE OF LAKE DUNSTAN

The Lake Dunstan Trail is a little more technical than the rest of the Otago Central Rail Trail, this is why it is offered as an optional extra.

There are some switchbacks and narrow sections, but with a bit of riding ability and the assistance of an ebike, it is achievable for all riders.

Should you choose to include the Lake Dunstan Trail, you will be rewarded with the most scenic day of the trip and some unique trails and boardwalks.

At the 20km mark, you'll find Coffee Afloat. A cafe onboard two small boats where you can get award-winning burgers, refreshments and coffee. A highly recommended pause in today's proceedings.

This addition will be at the start of your trip, so arriving in NZ on 16 March is necessary.



PRICING AND INCLUSIONS

Travel dates

17 March to 21 March 2024

Maximum numbers

20

Grade

Introductory to Moderate

Price

Deposit \$300

Per person twin- share \$1,230

Single supplement \$420

Fundraising

\$1500pp

LAKE DUNSTAN TRAIL ADDITIONAL OPTION 16 MARCH 2024

Includes one additional night accommodation at Dunstan House, day of bike hire, and transfers from Queenstown and to Cromwell Heritage Precinct.

- \$385pp single
- \$270pp twin-share

Inclusions

- Four nights accommodation - 17 to 21 March 2024
- eBike hire
- Curling experience
- Daily luggage transfer
- Transfers at the start and end of the ride

Not included

- International flights
- Meals, unless otherwise stated
- Travel insurance, which is required