



WHY WE KEEP MOVING



CONTENTS

Waimakariri River Regional Park	4
Tūhaitara Coastal Park	5
Ashley/Rakahuri Regional Park	7
Urban Pathways and Connectors	8
Parks and Reserves	9
Mt Thomas Forest	10
Glentui	13
Ashley Gorge	15
Mt Oxford Forest	16
Your Safety and the Environment	20

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Each track can be cycled/walked independently or they can be linked to create longer experiences.

Use the map at the end of the guide to help locate and connect the trails.

LOCKY DOCKS

Lock, dock and recharge your bike or scooter at Artisan Bakery, Rangiora see page: 28.

To learn how to use the docks and find new locations go to: www.lockydock.co.nz

WALKING AND CYCLING TRAILS

With rivers, lakes, streams, beaches and mountains there is plenty of opportunity for walking and cycling in Waimakariri. For cycling options, being on the Canterbury Plains means our eastern cycle trails are mainly flat, making them perfect for individuals and families. Use the trails to take you in to our towns where you have plenty of choices to replenish after or during your journey. For maps and more info go to our website.

NOTE: All trails in the district are continually being added to and maintained. Please check our website for the most current information.

ICON KEY



SHORT WALK - EASY ACCESS UP TO AN HOUR.

Track is well formed with even surface. Few or no slopes.



WALKING TRACK - EASY TO MODERATE UP TO A DAY.

Track mostly well formed, some sections may be steep, rough or muddy. Low to moderate fitness required.



EASY TRAMPING - MODERATE OR MULTI DAY TRAMP.

Track mainly well formed, may be steep, rough or muddy. Suitable for moderate fitness and limited back country experience.



TRAMPING TRACK - CHALLENGING ONE OR MULTI DAY TRAMP.

Mostly unformed with steep, rough or muddy sections. Good fitness required. Moderate to high level backcountry skills and experience.



ROUTE - CHALLENGING OVERNIGHT TRAMPING.

Tracks unformed and natural, may be rough and very steep. High level of back country skills required.



MOUNTAIN BIKING | BEGINNER - GRADE 1:

Off-road trail surface is either firm gravel or sealed (e.g. concrete or asphalt) and is wide enough for 2 people to cycle side by side for most of the way.



MOUNTAIN BIKING | EASY - GRADE 2:

Off road trail surface mostly flat with some gentle climbs on all surface tracks with easily avoidable obstacles such as rocks, tree roots and potholes.



MOUNTAIN BIKING | INTERMEDIATE - GRADE 3:

Steep slopes and /or avoidable obstacles possibly on narrow track and/or poor traction.



MOUNTAIN BIKING | ADVANCED - GRADE 4:

A mixture of long, steep climbs, narrow track, poor traction and obstacles that are difficult to avoid or jump over.



ROAD BIKE | EASY - Flat hard sealed off road tracks.

Wide enough for two riders.



Hut



Picnicking



Camping



Dogs on a lead



Dogs under control



No dogs allowed



Toilets



Wheelchair Access



Mobility Scooter



Wasps – Be aware of wasps between January and March



WAIMAKARIRI RIVER REGIONAL PARK

Kaiapoi Island is a section of the Waimakariri River Regional Park offering 13.5km of tracks.

These two-way shared tracks are great for family rides and include a forest trail with twists and turns and great views. Gates are open from 4.30am – 10.00pm from September to May, and 4.30am – 7.00pm from April to September. As this area is subject to weather events, please check the Environment Canterbury regional parks Facebook page before going out that the tracks are open.



TŪHAITARA COASTAL PARK

The coastal park covers an area of 750 ha along 10.5 kms of coastline from the mouth of the Waimakariri River to the settlement of Waikuku Beach.

The park consists of numerous ecosystems including a freshwater network of wetlands, a lagoon and streams connecting the Waimakariri and Ashley Rakahuri braided rivers. This Park is a special environment that offers ecological, educational, cultural and recreational opportunities for all who visit.

1 KAIAPOI ISLAND TRAIL

TIME/DISTANCE: 13.5km in total.

ACCESS: By foot or cycle from the end of Raven Quay, or Wrights Road, off the Main North Road Bridge or via the cycle ramp from the Christchurch Northern Corridor Cycleway.

VIEWING: Waimakariri River, birdlife, willow forest, ponds.



2 PEGASUS BAY TRAIL

The Pegasus Bay Trail is 15km long and utilises both the Waimakariri Regional River Park and the Tūhaitara Coastal Park. It connects Kaiapoi, Pines/Kairaki, Woodend, Pegasus and Waikuku and offers diverse environments and views. You can walk all of the trail, however if you are biking you need to switch on to the Tūtaepatu Trail 3 on map, between Woodend and Waikuku. There are stiles between Kaiapoi and Pines Beach so you will need to be able to lift your bike. Alternative route to get to Pines/Kairaki is the Beach Road connector pathway 13 on map.

2a KAIAPOI TO WOODEND



TIME/DISTANCE: 10km one way

ACCESS: Charles Street, Kaiapoi, follow the stop bank. Alternatively start at Pines/Kairaki Beach, or Woodend Beach.

VIEWING: Mountains, Waimakariri River, forest, wetland.



ASHLEY RAKAHURI REGIONAL PARK

The Ashley Rakahuri Regional Park boasts the braided Ashley/Rakahuri River and covers the area from the Ashley/Rakahuri Estuary at Waikuku up to the Okuku River.

The main trail in the park is the Rakahuri and it also has a few smaller trails for walking and cycling.

2b WOODEND TO WAIKUKU



TIME/DISTANCE: 5km one way.

ACCESS: From Woodend beach through the Woodend Beach Holiday Park, or from Waikuku, Bridge Street.

VIEWING: Forest, beach settlement, beach.

3 TŪTAEPATU TRAIL



TIME/DISTANCE: 5km one way.

ACCESS: Woodend Beach, Waikuku Beach, Kiwi Avenue (see sign for Northern Pegasus Bay), or from Pegasus Town, Tiritirimoana Drive.

VIEWING: Beach, pine forest, lagoon, mountains, beach settlements.

4 TE KŌHANGA WETLANDS, PEGASUS TOWN



Te Kōhanga is the 97 hectare recreation and conservation area of Pegasus. Enjoy a range of natural habitats of native flora and fauna. This is a two way shared track.

TIME/DISTANCE: 4km.

ACCESS: Pegasus Main Street, Te Kōhanga Drive, Tiritirimoana Drive or come off the Tūtaepatu Trail.

VIEWING: Wetlands.

5 KAITIRITIRI RIDGE



TIME/DISTANCE: 1.8 km one way.

ACCESS: Pegasus Town, from corner of Pegasus Boulevard and Infinity Drive.

VIEWING: Mountains, golf course, information platforms about Runanga, links to Kaiapoi Pa.

6 RAKAHURI TRAIL



TIME/DISTANCE: From Waikuku to the Cones Road Carpark along the stop bank is 11.5 km one way or 14km if you choose to take the shared use tracks down from the stop banks. Add the loop upstream from Cones Road for an additional 6.5km of tracks.

ACCESS: Park Terrace, Stop Bank at Waikuku Beach. East Belt, Rangiora, or Cones Road before the bridge, or River Road opposite West Belt, Rangiora. This is a two-way shared track with areas where you can branch off for some single track one-way riding. **VIEWING:** Pine forest blocks, mixed stands of exotic trees including willows and poplar, and pockets of native vegetation that are gradually being restored and enhanced. Ashley River / Rakahuri and Estuary.

7 TARANAKI WALKWAY



TIME/DISTANCE: 2.5km return. **ACCESS:** Take the stop bank at the end of Park Terrace at Waikuku Beach and park in the beach estuary car park. Follow the stop bank around the lagoon. Signs for the walkway will appear after the floodgate bridge on the right down the slope. Follow the track until it crosses another trail at a small bridge. Keep to the left of the track to get to the stop bank. Turn left and take the stop bank back to start or retrace the track back. **VIEWING:** Ashley River / Rakahuri and mouth, and Estuary. This is a significant breeding area of migratory birds and is the spawning ground of whitebait (īnanga).

8 MIKE KEEN WALKWAY



TIME/DISTANCE: 1 km one way **ACCESS:** Cones Road, Ashley Picnic Ground, before the Ashley Bridge, or the car railway bridge car park at the end of East Belt. **VIEWING:** Ashley River / Rakahuri

9 TARAPIROE TRAIL



DISTANCE: 1.4km one way. Link up to the Ashley Village. **ACCESS:** Cones Road, North Side of the Ashley Bridge.



PARKS AND RESERVES

NOT MARKED ON MAPS

URBAN PATHWAYS AND CONNECTORS

These urban pathways are a great way to get between our towns, or for joining up cycling and walking trails.

10 PASSCHENDAELE MEMORIAL PATH (RANGIORA TO/FROM KAIAPOI)



DISTANCE: 8km One Way. **ACCESS:** Bridge Street, south carpark accessible from Smith Street, Kaiapoi. If coming from Kaiapoi township use Raven Quay west to access the Mafeking Bridge which leads to the path. From Rangiora, use the on road facilities on Lineside Road to join up with the path.

11 RANGIORA WOODEND PATH



DISTANCE: 6.5km one way. **ACCESS:** From Rangiora, use on road facilities on Kippenberger Avenue to reach path. From Woodend, the path starts from School Road.

12 JILL CREAMER TRAIL, WOODEND



DISTANCE: 3.8km one way
ACCESS: Woodend Beach Road off Main Road, Woodend. A two way trail connecting Woodend Township to beach settlement.

13 BEACH ROAD, KAIAPOI



DISTANCE: 3.8 km one way
ACCESS: Corner of Beach Road and Williams Street. Pines/Kairaki Beach

KAIAPOI LAKES RESERVE



Kaipoi Lakes is known as Nga Tapuwae o Mua (footsteps of the past). It is a perfect place for bird watching, catch and release fishing and walking. **TIME/DISTANCE:** 30 minutes around the lakes. **ACCESS:** Travel from Kaiapoi up William Street heading north. **VIEWING:** Birdlife, lakes, native trees.

MATAWAI NATURE PARK RANGIORA



A native park of plant communities established from Canterbury wild plants. Explore the many tracks weaving through the trees. **TIME/DISTANCE:** As short or as long as you choose. **ACCESS:** King Street, Rangiora. **VIEWING:** Pond, native plants and trees.

NORTHBROOK WETLANDS RANGIORA



What once was the site of early European industry is now a reserve for wildlife and recreation. **TIME/DISTANCE:** 30 minutes return. **ACCESS:** Cotter Lane, off Northbrook Road. **VIEWING:** Birdlife and wetlands.

MEARS TRACK OXFORD



TIME/DISTANCE: 30 minute looped walk
ACCESS: Main Street, turn right into Mill Road, left into Bush Road on bend and right into Crallans Drain Road (approx 3 kms). There is a sealed carpark 1 km from turnoff. **VIEWING:** Mountains, farmland and native bush

SILVER STREAM RESERVE CLARKVILLE



TIME/DISTANCE: East is 28 hectares, and West is 23 Hectres
GRADE: Short Walk. **ACCESS:** East is 85 & 155 South Eyre Road, Eyrewell; West – 431 Heywards Road, Clarkville. The Reserve is split into two similar-sized areas, east and west, There is an information board in the car park South Eyre Road. The western side is marked with a simple sign stating 'walkway' just after the bridge and is well worth the effort to find.

PEGASUS LAKE



DISTANCE: 4 Km looped
ACCESS: Pegasus Boulevard
VIEWING: Lakes, beaches, Pegasus Town,

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION FOOTHILL FORESTS

Located on the Canterbury Plains are the foothills of the Southern Alps located only 1 hour from Christchurch. Enjoy exploring the foothills in the beech and podocarp forests, alpine tussock and shrublands.

Note: The following information is intended only as a quick guide to help you choose a track or walk. For full track descriptions and the latest update on track conditions see the DOC website: www.doc.govt.nz



MOUNT THOMAS FOREST CONSERVATION AREA



All tracks (with the exception of Pinchgut Hut) start from the Wooded Gully camping and picnic area.

Wooded Gully is about 65km north-west of Christchurch and is reached either from Oxford or Rangiora. From Oxford continue on the road past Ashley Gorge to Hayland Road. From Rangiora head to Loburn, take the signposted road to Oxford for about 16km to the Hayland Road turn-off.

Wooded Gully picnic and camping site is 4km at the end of Hayland Road.

14 KERERŪ TRACK VIA WOODED GULLY/RED PINE TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 1 hour return, 2.2km.

ACCESS: Loop track starts and finishes at the Wooded Gully car park and picnic area. Wooded Gully and Red Pine tracks start off this loop track.

15 FOREST LOOP TRACK (VIA KERERŪ, WOODED GULLY AND SUMMIT TRACKS)



TIME/DISTANCE: 2 hours return, 2.8km.

ACCESS: From Wooded Gully picnic area walk up the Kererū Loop Track to the junction with Wooded Gully Track. Follow Wooded Gully Track to the junction with Forest Track (approx. 45 minutes from the car park). Turn right onto Forest Track and follow this to join up with the Summit Track, and back down to the picnic area.

16 WOODED GULLY TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 5.3km.

ACCESS: This track starts off Kererū Loop Track, approximately 15 minutes from the car park. **ADJOINING TRACKS:** From the Saddle, climb to summit of Mt Thomas and return via Summit Track, or follow the Ridge track back to Wooded Gully picnic area.

17 RED PINE TRACK (VIA KERERŪ LOOP TRACK)



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours return, 5km.

ACCESS: Track starts off the west side of the Kererū Loop Track approx. 25 minutes from the car park. Follow the Wooded Gully Track back down to the car park.

18 SUMMIT TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way to summit.

VIEWING: Panoramic views of the Canterbury Plains, Banks Peninsula and the Southern Alps.

ADJOINING TRACKS: Come back the same way or return via Wooded Gully or Ridge Tracks.

NOTE: This track is quite steep and slippery in places.

19 RIDGE TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 5km to the ridge, a further 2 hours following the ridge to the Mt Thomas Summit.

ACCESS: West end of the camping area, follow markings on the forestry road uphill for 1.8km until you enter beech forest. Follow the ridge up to Bobs Camp Biv Track junction. This is the highest point of the ridge before it heads in an easterly direction to Mt Thomas Summit.

ADJOINING TRACKS: Alternate routes back via Wooded Gully and Summit tracks.

20 PINCHGUT TRACK (NOT ON MAP)



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 1/2 hours one way.

ACCESS: From Loburn – head up Whiterock Road. Turn onto Taaffes Glen Road, follow until you reach Round Hill Stream and park your vehicle. Leave all gates as you find them.

Walk 300 m along gravel road then take the track that drops into Okuku River. Cross and follow the marked track to Pinchgut Hut (standard 7-bunk hut, purchase hut tickets beforehand from the Kaiapoi i-SITE or any DOC Visitor Centre or DOC Website).

NOTE: Weather dependant track as river crossing required (approx.600 mm deep).

GLENTUI (MOUNT THOMAS FOREST CONSERVATION AREA)



SEE MAP NEXT PAGE

GETTING THERE: From Oxford, turn onto Glentui Bush Road about 5km past Ashley Gorge. From Rangiora head to Loburn and take the signposted road to Oxford for about 22km to Glentui Bush Road turn-off. Travel 4km to the Glentui picnic area.

21 GLENTUI WATERFALL TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 15 minutes one way, 350m.

VIEWING: Waterfall on the Glentui River

22 GLENTUI NATURE WALK (LOOP TRACK)



TIME/DISTANCE: 1 hour return, 2km.

VIEWING: River, ridge, forest. **NOTE:** Recommend walking this in an anti-clockwise direction to avoid steepness.

23 MT RICHARDSON TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 3.2km.

VIEWING: Mountain beech/tawhai forest, tussock grassland, views of mountain ranges and Lees Valley. **ADJOINING TRACKS:** From the summit follow the ridge along Blowhard Track for 3km to Bypass Track and back down to Glentui picnic area, or continue further down Blowhard Track to Maori Reserve Road.

24 BLOWHARD TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: Walking 4 hours one way, biking 3 hours (uphill), 10km. **ACCESS:** Maori Reserve Road. **VIEWING:** Tall open forest, tussock, skeleton tree trunk remnants from lightning strike fire. **ADJOINING TRACKS:** Mount Richardson (3 hrs one way) and Bypass Track (1-2 hrs one way downhill). **NOTE:** Mountain bikers must return on the Blowhard Track as cycling on the other tracks is not permitted. This is also a popular track for horse riding. Bikers give way to horses.

25 BYPASS TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 1-2 hours downhill, 2.8km.

ACCESS POINTS: Links the Mt Richardson and Blowhard Tracks, starting mid-point of the Blowhard Track. Recommended to walk in clockwise direction due to steepness of track.

NOTE: Mountain bikes and horses are not permitted on this track.

GLENTUI (MOUNT THOMAS FOREST CONSERVATION AREA)



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

BACKGROUND MODEL: GEOGRAPHX

ASHLEY GORGE (MOUNT THOMAS FOREST CONSERVATION AREA)



NOT MARKED ON MAPS

Ashley Gorge tracks are part of Mount Thomas Forest Conservation Area. This is a very popular recreational area with Waimakariri District Council camping and picnic area with easy road access to the start of the tracks.

ACCESS TO BOTH WALKS: From Oxford, follow Ashley Gorge Road for approximately 10 km. From Rangiora head to Loburn and take the signposted road to Oxford for about 28km to Ashley Gorge Recreation Reserve. This is a great camping, picnicking, swimming spot. To get to the trails cross the bridge.

These tracks are developed and maintained by the Ashley Gorge Track and Trapping Group in partnership with DOC. If you want to find out more how you can help with working bees for track developing or trapping, please check out the DOC website.

26

ASHLEY GORGE LOOP TRACK (NOT ON MAP)



TIME/DISTANCE: 45 min return/1.5 km loop

ACCESS: Park up at the Ashley Gorge reserve. Cross the bridge and look for the start of the track on the left.

27

ASHLEY GORGE WATERFALL TRACK (NOT ON MAP)



TIME/DISTANCE: 2 hrs return/2km one way

ACCESS: The junction with the Waterfall Track is approx 20 minutes along the Loop Track. From here it is another 45 minutes to a beautiful waterfall. Return the same way.

OXFORD FOREST CONSERVATION AREA



SEE MAP NEXT PAGE

GETTING THERE: Via the northern motorway (SH1) turn left on Tram Rd and left at the end of this road onto State Highway 72 to Oxford. From Oxford you can access Mt Oxford Forest from Coopers Creek or View Hill.

28 RYDE FALLS TRACK FROM COOPERS CREEK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 7km.

ACCESS: Coopers Creek car park. Head west from Oxford and turn into Woodside Rd. Travel 8km and then right into Mountain Rd to the car park.

VIEWING: Canterbury Plains and hills, five-tier waterfall, beech forest.

29 MT OXFORD TRACK FROM COOPERS CREEK



TIME/DISTANCE: 4 hours one way, 5km.

ACCESS: Coopers Creek car park to the summit of Mt Oxford. An alternative descent returns to Coopers Creek car park via Ryde Falls Track (7-8 hours round trip).

VIEWING: Beech forests, snow tussock and views of the Canterbury Plains into Lees Valley.

30 KORIMAKO TRACK TO RYDE FALLS



TIME/DISTANCE: 2 hours one way, 3km.

ACCESS: View Hill car park. From Oxford, drive west on SH72 for about 2km, turn right into Woodstock Rd. Travel 10km, turn right up Ingrams Rd which turns into Perhams Rd. Take the sign posted road to the Wharfedale Track at the View Hill car park. (Heavy rain may stop access on fords). Leave gates as you find them. From the car park, follow the Wharfedale Track to the Korimako Track turn-off to Ryde Falls.

VIEWING: Canterbury Plains and hills, waterfalls, beech forest.

31 VIEW HILL TO COOPERS CREEK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 7km. **ACCESS:** View Hill car park as above. Take the Wharfedale Track about 10 minutes into the forest from the car park and take the Link Track which connects further with Ryde Falls Track to Coopers Creek car park.

VIEWING: Canterbury Plains and hills, beech forest.

32 MT OXFORD TRACK FROM VIEW HILL



TIME/DISTANCE: 4 hours one way, 6km.

ACCESS: View Hill car park - refer to Korimako Track for details. Branch off Wharfedale Track about 20 minutes from View Hill car park.

VIEWING: Ridge line, forest, tussock grassland, Canterbury Plains.

33 WHARFEDALE TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: Walk 5 hours, Mountain-biking 3 hours one way, 15km.

ACCESS: View Hill car park as above.

VIEWING: Beech Forest, Dobson Stream.

ACCOMMODATION: Standard 8-bunk hut, purchase hut tickets from Kaiapoi i-SITE or any DOC office beforehand.

34 TOWNSHEND TRACK FROM WHARFEDALE HUT TO LEES VALLEY



TIME/DISTANCE: Walk 2+ hours one way, 8.5km.

NOTE: This is a 4WD track from the end of Wharfedale Track to Lees Valley across private farmland. Access may be restricted during lambing. Townshend River is crossed twice; this might not be possible if river levels are high.

35 BLACK HILL TRACK FROM END OF TOWNSHEND TRACK TO BLACK HILL HUT



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 5km.

ACCESS: Begin confluence of Wharfedale and Townshend tracks and climb steadily to the hut.

ACCOMMODATION: Standard 6-bunk hut, purchase hut tickets from Kaiapoi i-SITE or any DOC office beforehand.

36 FOSTERS RIDGE TRACK WHARFEDALE TRACK TO BLACK HILL HUT



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 4.5km. from the junction with Wharfedale Track below

ACCESS: Turn off Wharfedale Track approx 3-4 hours from View Hill car park and climb steeply along the ridge to the hut.

ACCOMMODATION: Standard 6-bunk hut, purchase hut tickets from the Kaiapoi i-SITE or DOC office beforehand.

37 MT OXFORD ROUTE WHARFEDALE HUT TO VIEW HILL TO MT OXFORD TRACK



TIME/DISTANCE: 3 hours one way, 3.5km.

ACCESS: From Wharfedale Hut.

ADJOINING TRACKS: Descend either View Hill Car park or carry on to the summit and then descend to Coopers Creek car park.

NOTE: This is a very steep rough track suitable only for experienced back country trampers with suitable equipment.



YOUR SAFETY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Make sure you have the latest track details and information from the DOC website doc.govt.nz

This map is not intended for navigational purposes. If heading into the back country ensure you have the latest topographical map: NZTopo50: BW22



FOR YOUR SAFETY

- Your safety is your responsibility
- Plan and prepare, and have the latest information
- Choose a track in line with your experience, fitness and ability
- Allow enough time to walk at your own pace
- Keep young children in sight
- Wear comfortable footwear
- Dress for the weather (be prepared for the weather to change)
- Stay on the tracks
- On longer walks, carry warm clothing, adequate food and water
- Tell someone where you are going
- Take care in the foothill forests for wasps from January to March each year. It is recommended that forest users carry wasp kits as precaution. Generally available at chemists.
- Check latest information for the Conservation areas in the Foothills and take appropriate topographical maps for more challenging country.

 doc.govt.nz  mountainsafety.org.nz  ecan.govt.nz

- Protect plants and animals
- Remove rubbish
- Keep streams and lakes clean
- Keep to the track
- Consider others
- Respect our cultural heritage
- Toitu te whenua (leave the land undisturbed)
- Enjoy your visit



SUPPORTED BY:

Kiwi Gaming Foundation