

# DISCOVER OXFORD'S NIGHT SKIES



**SOME OF THE BEST VIEWS OF THE MILKY WAY IN AOTEAROA.**

Just minutes from the town, Oxford offers stunning, crystal-clear views of the night sky. Whether you're stargazing from your car or heading into the nearby Oxford Forest Conservation Area, a certified Dark Sky Park, you will be treated to a star show you will remember. See the glow of the Galactic Core, an abundance of stars, planets and the Milky Way.

**TAKE A BLANKET, THERMOS AND YOUR SENSE OF WONDER. THE UNIVERSE IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.**

## STARGAZING SPOTS IN OXFORD TO GET YOU STARTED

### WITHIN MINUTES OF THE TOWN

- WEST OXFORD RESERVE**   
1162 Deport Road | 2.2km from town  
CAR: 4 mins | WALK: 30 mins | Toilet
- NEXT TO OXFORD CEMETERY**  
3117 Oxford Road | 600m from town  
CAR: 1 min | WALK: 8 mins
- VIEW HILL DOMAIN**   
Cnr Woodstock & Harmans Gorge Road  
11.4km from town | CAR: 11 mins | Toilet

### SPECIAL BOOKING

- OXFORD OBSERVATORY**  
52-60 Bay Road, Oxford 7430  
**BOOK A VIEWING:**  
<https://oxford.ngawhetu.nz/index.php/open-nights-and-sessions>

## TIPS FOR STARGAZING

- 1 Enjoy a warming meal in Oxford whilst the skies darken
- 2 Head out after sunset, the later the better
- 3 Choose a clear, moonless night
- 4 Take a blanket, warm clothes, thermos and a torch
- 5 Give your eyes time to adjust to the dark
- 6 Plan for where you are going

**THE FURTHER YOU GO IN TO THE SURROUNDING HILLS, THE DARKER & MORE MAGICAL THE SKIES BECOME.**

### MOUNT OXFORD AREA

- VIEW HILL CAR PARK**   
352/104 Wharfedale Track  
20.1km from town | 4WD | Toilet  
You will need a 4WD for the View Hill Car Park as there are a couple of fords to cross. Check the Department of Conservation website prior to going. Torch needed.
- COOPERS CREEK CAR PARK**   
105 Mountain View Road, View Hill  
9.7km from town | CAR: 12 mins | Toilet  
Walk up from the car park, over the bridge, past the unpowered lodge. There you will find yourself at the entrance to Mount Oxford Conservation Area. Check the Department of Conservation website prior to going. Torch needed. Note the last 800 m is a shingle road.

## RESOURCES FOR STARGAZERS

Learn to make a star wheel or track moon phase [doc.govt.nz/get-involved/conservation-activities/explore-the-night-sky/](https://doc.govt.nz/get-involved/conservation-activities/explore-the-night-sky/)

**APPS:** SkyView, Stellarium, Star Walk



**Waimakariri**  
North Canterbury

# OXFORD'S NIGHT SKIES MAP

