



**CENTRAL
OTAGO**

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

CENTRAL OTAGO

VISITOR GUIDE | NEW ZEALAND



ALEXANDRA | CROMWELL | RANFURLY | ROXBURGH

CENTRAL OTAGO

The people of Central Otago enjoy the most generous environmental footprint of all New Zealanders. A unique world like no other. This is a world of discovery, a world of vast landscapes that invite self-discovery. Renew your senses, rejuvenate your soul – take your time to experience our place for yourself.

We have created a unique brand mark to represent this land and people, and our values. The upper part of the circular form represents a solitary cloud whisked upward against a vast deep blue sky. The lower form represents both the landscape and the New Zealand native falcon, the Karearea. In symbolic language, the falcon is associated with noble natured people, strength, bravery, ingenuity and high spirits, evoking freedom and pride as it soars above the golden, contoured land. We too can soar here.

Having Integrity

Seek to be open and honest.

Learning from the Past

Learn from past experiences with future generations in mind.

Making a Sustainable Difference

Make decisions in business with the community in mind and in harmony with the natural environment.

Protecting our Rich Heritage

Protect and celebrate our rich heritage in landscapes, architecture, flora and fauna and different cultural origins.

Meeting Obligations

Meet legal obligations at both a local and national level.



OUR VALUES

Central Otago as a community has inherited a magnificent natural and historic wealth. We can build on its uniqueness and make it a better world for those that succeed us. Together we can enhance this region by aspiring to live by our values:

Making a Difference

Inspire and lead others with our special point of difference

Embracing Diversity

Recognise differences and embrace diversity.

Respecting Others

Respect our cultural and personal differences.

Adding Value

Always ask ourselves if there is a better way – one that achieves a premium status.



Businesses that are passionate about Central Otago and have signed up to stand by our regional values are identified by the Brand mark within their business listing.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

06	Welcome to Central Otago	17	Celebrate Key Visitor Events
07	Our Suggested Must Do's	20	Central Otago Map
08	Plan and Book Visit Our i-SITE	21	Cromwell Tarras
09	Cycling Take a Path Less Travelled	39	Alexandra Clyde
11	Wine and Food A Taste Sensation	49	Ranfurly Naseby
14	Camping Holidays	57	Roxburgh
15	Heritage and Arts Be Amazed	63	Getting to and Around
		65	Useful Information



Facebook
facebook.com/
CentralOtagoNZ



YouTube
youtube.com/
Centralotagonz



Website
centralotagonz.com



Twitter
twitter.com/
CentralOtago_NZ



Pinterest
Pinterest.com/
centralotago



Produced by: Tourism Central Otago
Address: 1 Dunorling Street, PO Box 353
Alexandra 9340, Central Otago, New Zealand
P: +64 3 440 0637 | F: +64 3 440 0606
E: tourism@codc.govt.nz
Published: July 2013





WELCOME TO CENTRAL OTAGO

Affectionately called 'Central' by those that know it well, Central Otago is New Zealand's most inland region, located in the southern half of the South Island. It's breathtakingly different with vast undulating landscapes, rugged snow-capped mountains, clear blue rivers, deep gorges and tussock-clad hills.

DISCOVER OUR PLACE AT YOUR PACE

Set your own tempo of activity; cycle a section of the Otago Central Rail Trail or one of the two newly opened Zealand cycle trails – Clutha Gold and Roxburgh Gorge; explore picturesque quaint gold mining towns, try the ancient sport of curling, play a round of golf at one of 11 uncrowded golf courses, participate in colourful festivals, meet vibrant people, taste sensational flavours in wine and food or just kick back and relax at one of the many boutique accommodation places.

Be tempted by orchard stalls full of succulent summer fruits, take a wine trail to vineyards of international repute. Fish for salmon on the Clutha Mata-au River and trout in the lakes, go mountain biking or take a leisurely cycle on any of the incredible trails. Try ice skating in winter on natural or man-made ponds, experience the crystallised wonderland of a hoar frost or sit awhile and meet the friendly locals who are proud to share their place.

There is no need to rush to get the most out of Central Otago. Take the time to enjoy everything that there is on offer in this spectacular region. It's a place where you relax, indulge and rejuvenate.

Our best kept secrets are waiting for you.

OUR SUGGESTED MUST DO'S

Otago Central Rail Trail

Ride or walk New Zealand's first ever rail trail. It will take you on a journey of discovery on this 150km gentle gradient trail from Clyde to Middlemarch.

Rich Heritage

Take a step back in time and explore our rich history, whether it's exploring the goldfields, museums or quaint townships – feel the sense of timelessness.

Wine

Indulge yourself in a premium Central Otago wine at one of the many wineries or cellar doors in the Cromwell and Alexandra basins – sensational!

Cycle Trails

Cycle our trails at your pace. Whether you're looking for an adrenalin-pumping mountain bike adventure or an easy pedal; the region is criss-crossed with options – you choose.

Art and Craft

Discover unexpected treasures created by local artisans at their studio or featured at local art galleries – a visual symphony.

Summerfruit

Our fruit is naturally clean and bursting with intense flavour. Be tempted by orchard stalls full of succulent summer fruits to eat now or take home!

Seasonal Flavours

Sensational summerfruit bursting with flavour, award winning olive oils, succulent merino lamb, quality saffron, preserves and honey all on offer at roadside stalls or farmers market – unforgettable.

Curling

Try the age-old Scottish sporting tradition of curling at the home of New Zealand's International Curling Rink at Naseby – a year-round experience not to be missed.

Events

Our events have that unique Central Otago difference and there's plenty of variety to choose from.

Lake and Rivers

Central Otago's finest lakes and rivers are waiting for you, whether you're into salmon or trout fishing, active water sports or picnicking by the shoreline.


Tee off for a Round of Golf

Central Otago's golf courses are as varied as they are challenging and best of all they're uncrowded.

PLAN AND BOOK VISIT OUR I-SITE

Central Otago Visitor Centres

E: visitorcentre@codc.govt.nz

 [Facebook.com/CentralOtagoInfo](https://www.facebook.com/CentralOtagoInfo)

Cromwell



47 The Mall, Cromwell

P: +64 3 445 0212

F: +64 3 445 1319

Alexandra



21 Centennial Avenue, Alexandra

P: +64 3 448 9515

F: +64 3 448 9511

Ranfurly



3 Charlemont Street East, Ranfurly

Phone: +64 3 444 1005

Fax: +64 3 444 1008

Roxburgh

120 Scotland Street, Roxburgh

Phone: +64 3 446 8920

Fax: +64 3 446 8922



CYCLING

TAKE A PATH LESS TRAVELLED

Central Otago is criss-crossed with cycling trails for the adventurous or the leisure cyclist and there are lengths to suit any time you might have available.

Central Otago has three trails that are part of Nga Haeranga, The New Zealand Cycle Trail. This is a network of world class cycle trails designed to showcase the very best of our country.

The Otago Central Rail Trail, New Zealand's original 'Great Ride' is one part of the incredible cycling options on offer. Open all year round, it is spectacular in any season. Following the former railway line from Clyde to Middelmarsh, this 150 km scenic trail takes you on a journey of discovery. It is suitable for walkers or cyclists and with no steep hills it's a great family experience! You can leisurely complete it in four to five days or a day trip will unearth its hidden treasures too!

Be taken across wooden bridges and viaducts, past spectacular arched hills, gorge scenery and mountains, through farmlands, tunnels and pioneer settlements. Each town you pass through has its own unique personality from historic Clyde, Ranfurly's art deco, classic country pubs, boutique and historic accommodation, but best of all, the people!



The 73km Clutha Gold trail is a journey of discovery at every turn. From Lake Roxburgh, it travels alongside the stunning Clutha Mata-au River, through the secluded Beaumont Gorge, then into lush green contoured farmlands and into the delightful historic gold mining town of Lawrence.

Enter 'another world' when you walk or cycle the Roxburgh Gorge Trail between Alexandra and Lake Roxburgh Village. Be surprised by the sudden transition from urban to remote and awe inspiring scenery on this 1 day 34 km trail, with the added experience of a relaxing boat ride in the middle section .

Leisurely pedal around the towns and along bike paths adjacent to waterways, explore unpaved roads through remote tussock grasses and wildflowers, or why not up the tempo and hit the rocky single-track bike trails?

For more information, make tracks to cyclecentralotago.com for a list of cycling trails. From beginner to expert, there are trails suitable for every ability.



WINE AND FOOD

A TASTE SENSATION

From this most inland region comes the finest of produce. Harsh climates, diverse seasonal contrasts and daily extremes, sun-drenched valleys and unique schist soils – combine these factors and it's almost like you can taste this place. Whether it's sampling an elegant Central Otago Pinot Noir or biting into a big dark red juicy cherry, the experience will be memorable.

Spend time in the Cromwell Basin, where you can enjoy wineries at Bannockburn in the south, and Lowburn, Wanaka Road and Bendigo to the north. Going south, visit vines in the localities of Alexandra and Clyde, nestled among rugged schist rock and historic gold landmarks.

Sample our sensational summer fruit from the many roadside stalls near Roxburgh, Alexandra and Cromwell. Our fruit is naturally clean and bursting with intense flavour.

Central Otago's food producers might be small in scale, but they produce quality product with pride. Whether it's award-winning olive oils, the finest quality saffron, locally produced preserves, sauces and chutneys or thyme honey – you will find it right here. Try some or take some home for later or if the mood takes you, fill your backpack with a selection of local produce and take to the hills for a special picnic lunch.

You'll be spoilt for choice when it comes to enjoying local foods. We have a great selection of cafés, restaurants, cellar doors and country pubs – there's something for everyone.



MUST TASTE

Apricots

A taste of fresh raw sophistication.

Cherries

Big deep red glistening cherries where every mouthful is a moment of pure indulgence. They taste even sweeter when you've picked your own.

Central Otago Pinot Noir

The Rolls Royce of wines to be enjoyed in good company. Savour the full-bodied flavour of a Central Otago Pinot Noir – truly elegant.

Merino Lamb Oven Roasted with Wild Thyme

There's nothing to compare; sweet and oh so tender and a perfect complement would be a Central Otago Pinot Noir.

Thyme Honey

It's like tasting a delicious mouthful of spring time in Central Otago. The strong pungent flavour is unmistakable and is a perfect gourmet treat.





CAMPING HOLIDAYS

The traditional and quintessential Kiwi camping holiday experience is still a welcome feature in Central Otago. The climate and lifestyle mean that this region truly is one of the prime camping centres in New Zealand. In and around urban areas campers can enjoy a wide choice of fully serviced camping grounds and a selection of limited facility camp sites in some smaller locations. If you are in doubt about where to camp then do visit one of the local Visitor Information Centres for further information.

Follow the simple signs

So that your camping experience in Central Otago is a pleasurable one, please leave no trace of your visit. Put all your rubbish in the bins provided.

Recycle

To help protect our environment, please carefully recycle your rubbish in the bins provided.



Public Toilets

Use them! 'Camping Our Way' is not using the bush as a toilet – please use on board or public facilities.



Dump Stations

These are in places where you can empty your vehicle's toilet and wastewater.



Yes, you can camp here!

Visit centralotagonz.com or call into one of the Central Otago Visitor Information Centres and holiday parks to check out the local camping guidelines.



HERITAGE AND ARTS

BE AMAZED

They came in their thousands – Scottish, Welsh, Cornish, Chinese, Italians and others – endured searing summers and freezing winters, and lost lives and limbs amid the dangerous, back-breaking rush for Central Otago gold in the early 1860s.

Central Otago is rich in history. Take your time to discover the significant collections at the Alexandra and Cromwell museums, along the Goldfields Heritage Trail and a number of self-guided tours. Pick up a brochure at one of our Central Otago Visitor Information Centres and explore for yourself.

Marvel at the quaint townships like Clyde, Ophir or St Bathans and their distinctive architecture and use of local schist rock. View diggings, and impressive cliffs with old water races and dams, created by sluicing or discarded tailings. Sense the timelessness here as you follow in the footsteps of our early pioneers.



Not only will you be amazed at our wealth of rich history, you might also find unexpected treasures – works of inspiration created by local artisans whether at their studios or featured in local art galleries.

Central is a special place, where nature’s powerful elements combine to create a perfect natural canvas from which the many local artists and crafts people draw their inspirations.

Meet an artist or visit the art galleries and craft shops dotted around the region and take home special memories of Central Otago. Visit centralotagoarts.com for a comprehensive list of local artisans.

But keep exploring, you’ll find an endless supply of creativity, made in New Zealand... made with pride in Central Otago.



CELEBRATE KEY VISITOR EVENTS

Whether participating or watching, our events have that unique 'Central' difference where even an event can seem like a holiday! Here are just some of the events held in the region which attract national and international interest, check out centralotagonz.com/Central-Otago-Events for more events.

Cromwell Cherry Festival

January

Join in the fun and festivities celebrating the first delicious stone fruit of the season – the cherry.

Ranfurly Art Deco

February

A weekend celebration of Ranfurly's unique Art Deco heritage including themed cabaret, street festival, grand parade and more to entertain you.

Rail Trail Duathlon

February

Held over the last weekend of February, competitors mountain bike and run the 150km Otago Central Rail Trail from Clyde to Middlemarch over two days.

Goldrush Multisport Event

March

Three days of kayaking, mountain biking, running and road biking in the fabulous Central Otago back country – inspired from the historic footsteps of the pioneers who came searching for gold in the 1860s.

Northburn 100

March

A gutsy 100 miles (160km), 100km or 50km ultra-mountain run over the spectacular landscapes of Northburn Station near Cromwell. You don't race it, you survive it!

Goldfields Cavalcade

March

A golden adventure for horse-riders, wagoners and walkers to trek across the high country and hills of Central Otago, retracing the steps and trails of the early gold miners.

Clyde Wine and Food Harvest Festival

Easter

Held on Easter Sunday, the festival is Central Otago's biggest celebration of locally produced wines from the world's most southerly vineyards.

Brass Monkey Rally

June

New Zealand's best known motorcycle rally with around 2,000 hardy motorcyclists gathering to socialise and celebrate winter motorcycling in one of New Zealand's coldest locations.

Alexandra Blossom Festival

September

Come celebrate the arrival of spring in Central Otago with New Zealand's longest running festival of its kind.

WoolOn Creative Fashion

October

Held over two nights, New Zealand and international designers compete for the supreme award presented at a gala fashion event that celebrates wool as a fashion fabric.

Cromwell Summer Series

October – January

A series of sporting events including half marathon, mountain biking, road cycling and multisport held over the summer in and around the lake and mountain backdrop of the Cromwell area.

Alexandra Thyme Festival

November

This week-long event is a celebration of the arts and sustainability with workshops, working artists, walks, performances and exhibitions. Interaction between schools and the community is a feature.





CENTRAL OTAGO MAP











Driving Times

Wanaka	45 mins
Queenstown	50 mins
Dunedin	2.3 hrs
Invercargill	2.3 hrs
Haast West Coast	2.5 hrs
Oamaru	2.5 hrs
Christchurch	5.5 hrs

Flying Times

Melbourne to Queenstown	2.3 hrs
Sydney to Queenstown	3 hrs
Brisbane to Queenstown	3.3 hrs
Christchurch to Queenstown	1 hr
Wellington Queenstown	1.25 hrs
Auckland to Queenstown	1.45 hrs
Christchurch to Dunedin	45 mins
Wellington to Dunedin	1.15 hrs
Auckland to Dunedin	1.55 hrs

Key

Cromwell / Tarras	
Alexandra / Clyde	
Ranfurly / Naseby	
Roxburgh	
Main Highway	
Otago Central Rail Trail	
Clutha Gold Trail	
Roxburgh Gorge Trail	

CROMWELL TARRAS

Originally located at a junction of the Clutha Mata-au and Kawarau Rivers, Cromwell is now on the lakeshore of Lake Dunstan, formed in 1993 when the Clyde Dam was completed. The lake is an idyllic location for swimming, fishing, jet boating and water sports. Cycle trails and walkways take you to picnic spots, past orchards and vineyards, through once booming goldfields with relics still visible today. Wander through Cromwell Heritage Precinct with its reconstructed pioneer buildings alive with artists at work and Farmers' Markets over summer.

Try your hand (and luck) at panning for gold at the Goldfields Mining Centre or sit awhile at a vineyard set in stunning surroundings and sample a remarkable drop. The Big Fruit sculpture pays tribute to the 'fruit bowl of the south' where sun ripened apricots, nectarines, cherries, apples and peaches are cultivated under hot dry climes.

DON'T MISS

Visit one of many cellar doors in the Cromwell Basin – there is magic in sipping a wine where it is made.

Check out the Farmers Market at Cromwell Heritage Precinct every Sunday over the summer.

Pull in at one of the many colourful roadside stalls and buy fresh succulent summerfruit and while you're there have a real fruit ice cream.

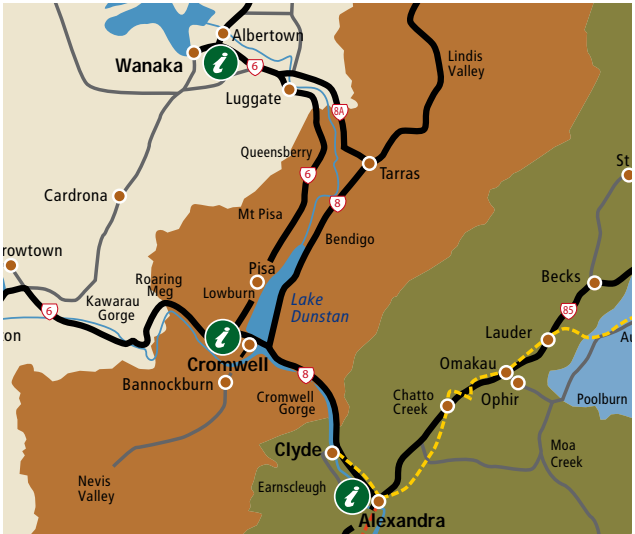
Take a cycle trail into Bannockburn or around the lake.

Have your picture taken in front of the Big Fruit Sculpture.

Visit Cromwell Heritage Precinct for the world-class finest of local arts.

Be amazed by Highland Motorsports Park a true mecca for any motorsports enthusiast.

SURROUNDED BY TREELESS MOUNTAIN RANGES AND THE POWERFUL CLUTHA AND KAWARAU RIVERS THAT CONVERGE TO FORM LAKE DUNSTAN, IS CROMWELL – THE PLACE TO EXPERIENCE ITS ABUNDANCE OF SUN-RIPENED FRUITS, AWARD-WINNING WINES AND A RICH MINING PAST.



Towns

Bannockburn
Bendigo
Cromwell
Lowburn
Pisa
Queensberry
Ripponvale
Tarras

Driving Times

Cromwell to Wanaka	40 mins
Cromwell to Queenstown	50 mins
Cromwell to Christchurch	5.5 hrs
Cromwell to Alexandra	30 mins

Cromwell i-SITE

Address: 47 The Mall, Cromwell
 P: +64 3 445 0212
 E: visitorcentre@codc.govt.nz



ALEXANDRA CLYDE

Alexandra is situated at the junction of two rivers, the Manuherikia and the mighty Clutha Mata-au, surrounded by a distinctive 'moonscape' of rocky tors and stark high country. Nearby is the historic gold mining township of Clyde, a quaint well-preserved town with the immense Clyde hydro dam.

Enjoy the modern facilities of Alexandra, but remember its gold mining past is never far from the surface. Amble across Shaky Bridge, an early suspension bridge, and walk up to the Clock on the Hill. Photograph the magnificent stone piers – all that are left of Alexandra's first bridge – or admire the area's aged stone buildings, some of which now house cafés.

The start (or finish) of the Otago Central Rail Trail is in Clyde and the Roxburgh Gorge Trail starts in Alexandra. Take a drive into the Earnsclough Valley and enjoy local fruit stalls laden with in season fruit or wine tasting at a picturesque vineyard. Nearby Fruitlands is one of Central Otago's most photographed places during winter frosts and snows.

DON'T MISS

A walk up to the Clock on the Hill – awesome photo opportunity of the expansive views over Alexandra towards the mountain ranges of the Old Woman, Old Man and Knobby's.

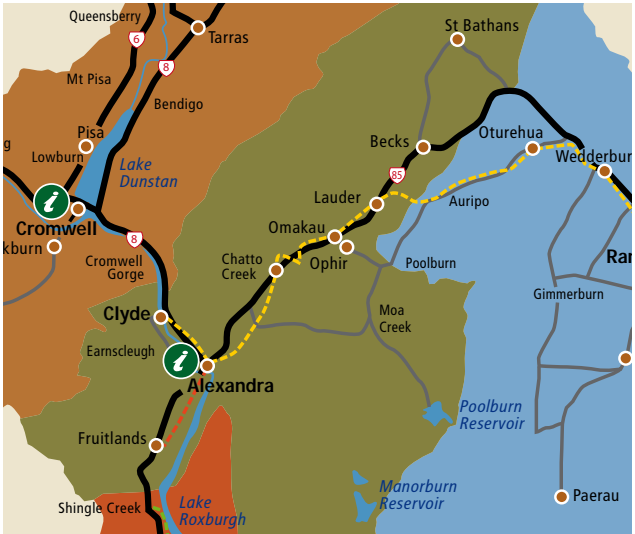
Cycle the popular Alexandra to Clyde 150th Anniversary Track that takes you along the willow-lined banks of the Clutha Mata-au River. Make a day of it and reward yourself with a lunch or good coffee at either end.

Be sure to visit Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery - the cultural hub that also houses a movie theatre and i-SITE.

Visit the historic gold mining towns of Clyde, Ophir and St Bathans – with their aged stone buildings tempting you with cafes, locally made treasures or photo opportunities.

There could be nothing better than a refreshing splash at Molyneux Aquatic Centre or Lake Dunstan on a hot summer's day.

Have your picture taken in front of the Blue Lake or (reputedly haunted) Vulcan Hotel in St Bathans.



Towns

Alexandra
Becks
Chatto Creek
Clyde
Earnsclough
Fruitlands
Lauder
Omakau
Ophir
St Bathans

Driving Times

Alexandra to Clyde	10 mins
Alexandra to Cromwell	30 mins
Alexandra to Ranfurly	1 hr
Alexandra to Roxburgh	30 mins

Alexandra i-SITE

Address: 21 Centennial Avenue, Alexandra
P: +64 3 448 9515
E: visitorcentre@codc.govt.nz



EXPERIENCE THE DRAMA OF CONTRASTING SEASONS – BLOSSOMS IN SPRING, THE FRAGRANCE OF WILD THYME IN SUMMER. THE GOLDEN GLOWS OF AUTUMN AND THE MYSTICAL BEAUTY OF WINTER.

RANFURLY NASEBY

Immerse yourself in the rich history of this land and its people, known as the Maniototo. A prosperous gold mining past lies in the scarred hillsides, occasional mud-brick buildings, old stone fences and lonely cemeteries.

Discover the picturesque old gold mining townships of Naseby, St Bathans and Patearoa. In Oturehua, visit Hayes Engineering Works the home of impressive farming inventions (1895-1933), and the delightful Gilchrist's General Store, trading since 1902, still crammed with memorabilia of its life as a general store.

Have a go at the ancient game of curling year round in Naseby – it's great fun for all ages! In winter there is the downhill ice luge and outdoor ice skating nearby. Find a secluded spot to fish on the Taieri River or spend a day or longer cycling a section of the Otago Central Rail Trail as it winds its way through the heart of the Maniototo, you'll be surrounded by a sense of grandeur and space.

DON'T MISS

Spend a day cycling on the Otago Central Rail Trail or explore nearby trails in Naseby.

Take a trip down memory lane and explore Hayes Engineering Works or Gilchrist's General Store at Oturehua.

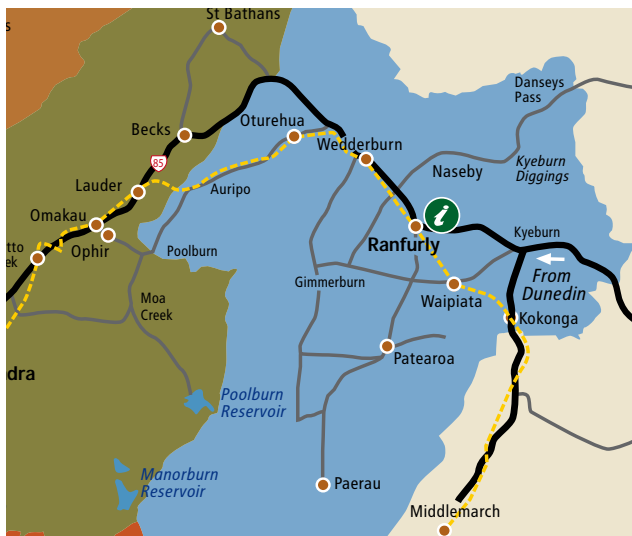
Have a go at the ancient Scottish ice sport of curling in Naseby – remember it's year round!

Explore picturesque Oteake Conservation Park – an amazing backcountry experience.

Take a photo of the distinctive flat-topped Hawkdun Mountain Range, a spectacular feature of the Maniototo especially when snow-capped.

Visit the Art Deco Gallery in Ranfurly and the Glenshee Fashion Museum in Naseby.

THIS LAND OF VAST OPEN SPACE WITH TOR-STUDED MOUNTAIN RANGES IS TIMELESS. DISCOVER REMNANTS OF ITS GOLD MINING PAST, THE HEARTLAND OF THE HIGH COUNTRY DROVER, EMPTY ROADS, SLEEPY LITTLE TOWNSHIPS AND RANFURLY – NEW ZEALAND'S RURAL ART DECO OASIS.



Towns

- Gimmerburn
- Kyeburn
- Kokonga
- Naseby
- Oturehua
- Patearoa
- Paerau
- Ranfurly
- Waipiata
- Wedderburn

Driving Times

Ranfurly to Naseby	10 mins
Ranfurly to Alexandra	1 hr
Ranfurly to Palmerston	1 hr
Ranfurly to Dunedin	1.45 hrs

Ranfurly i-SITE

Address: 3 Charlemont Street East, Ranfurly
 P: +64 3 444 1005
 E: visitorcentre@codc.govt.nz



ROXBURGH

Roxburgh lies alongside the Clutha Mata-au River in the beautiful Teviot Valley, its lake created by the Roxburgh Dam, commissioned in 1956. Pre-European Maori hunted the now extinct, giant flightless moa here.

Settlers began farming in the late 1850s and gold miners quickly followed. They left behind historic relics and streets named after Scottish borders. Learn the story of the miners' at Lonely Graves. Visit historic locations including the Old Bakehouse, Horseshoe Bend suspension bridge and stone ruins of the Teviot Woolshed.

Taste exquisite summer fruits or real fruit ice creams at roadside orchard stalls, also laden with preserves, juices, and fresh vegetables. Go fishing for salmon on the Clutha and trout in the high country lakes, indulge in water sports on Lake Roxburgh or walk the Town River Walkways or Old Bullock Trail.

Take time to experience the two new cycling and walking trails; Clutha Gold and Roxburgh Gorge, you won't be disappointed. Each trail takes you on a journey of discovery.

DON'T MISS

Buy fresh succulent fruit at one of the many roadside stalls over summer and early autumn – it's where the locals go!

A pie from Jimmy's Pie Café in Roxburgh – world famous in New Zealand for over 40 years!

The Clutha Gold and Roxburgh Gorges Cycling and Walking Trails are a must – stunning vistas at every turn.

Indulge in a hokey pokey ice cream from the Ettrick Store (famous for its starring role in the Toyota Hi-Lux advertisement with the monkey).

Pinders Pond is a favourite local swimming and picnic spot in summer.

Every Friday lunchtime listen to the lone bagpiper outside the Highland Pharmacy in Roxburgh.

SET IN TEVIOT VALLEY AMONGST FARMLAND, A PATCHWORK OF ORCHARDS AND ROADSIDE STALLS LADEN WITH THE BEST OF SUMMER FRUITS IS ROXBURGH – HOME TO THE FAMOUS JIMMY'S PIE AND THE MIGHTY CLUTHA RIVER AT ITS BEST.



Towns

- Coal Creek**
- Ettrick**
- Millers Flat**
- Lake Roxburgh – Village**
- Roxburgh**
- Shingle Creek**

Driving Times

Roxburgh to Alexandra	30 mins
Roxburgh to Dunedin	2 hrs
Roxburgh to Invercargill	2 hrs
Roxburgh to Queenstown	2 hrs
Roxburgh to Lawrence	45 mins

Roxburgh Visitor Information Centre

Address: 120 Scotland Street, Roxburgh
 P: +64 3 446 8920
 E: visitorcentre@codc.govt.nz



GETTING TO AND AROUND

Travelling to Central Otago is easy – it's readily accessible by main highways from Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, Queenstown and the West Coast via Wanaka. We're away from it all, but within easy distance of the main southern cities.

Major rental car companies and campervan providers are represented in Christchurch, Dunedin and Queenstown. In New Zealand there are some restrictions on use of rental vehicles on gravel roads so be sure to check limitations with your chosen rental company.

Cars are right-hand drive and travel on the left hand side of the road in New Zealand. The open road speed limit is 100kph, reducing in built up areas. Remember to be a courteous driver.

By Road

Central Otago is an easy drive through stunning landscapes of mountain, river, rock, tussock and picturesque small towns.

Whether travelling by bus, rental car or tour, the true Central Otago experience is about taking the smaller roads and getting off the beaten track. It's a different pace, so take your time – the roads aren't crowded and it's easy to stop for a photo or to explore.

Some small towns in the region don't have petrol stations, so make sure to fill your vehicle before visiting more remote areas. Road conditions are excellent with good quality, uncongested roads.



Winter weather is rarely extreme but road conditions can change with frosts, so extra care is advised. Gravel roads exist in rural areas. For approximate travel times between Central Otago towns refer to the local area sections within this guide or refer to centralotagonz.com for approximate travel times between Central Otago towns and other South Island main population centres.

There are regular coach services to and from Central Otago with daily services from Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, Queenstown and West Coast. For bookings and timetables contact one of our Central Otago Visitor Information Centres, P: +64 3 448 9515.

By Air

Christchurch is the nearest major international airport in the South Island, with Queenstown and Dunedin also taking international flights direct from Australia. Queenstown and Wanaka airports are approximately 45 minutes from Cromwell and 1 hour 15 minutes from Alexandra. Dunedin Airport is approximately 2 hours 30 minutes drive from Alexandra.

Rent a vehicle or a bicycle, catch a bus from one town to another, or book a tour and be guided through the area. The choice is yours for getting around, just be sure to allow time to fit in the wine tasting, great food, heritage sites and the many walking and cycling trails around. Don't forget to talk to a local!



USEFUL INFORMATION

Population

Central Otago, affectionately called 'Central' by those that know it well, covers an area of 10,000km and has fewer than 18,000 permanent residents. The main areas in the region are Alexandra, Cromwell, Ranfurly and Roxburgh.

Seasons and Climate

Central Otago's climate is the closest we have in New Zealand to a continental climate. Low rainfall, hot summers and cold winters make for clearly defined seasons. Each season brings with it change: in the pace of life and landscape colours; and a change in what you'll choose to do for leisure, pleasure and enjoyment.

Summer (December – February) is hot, dry and shimmering. The long days (daylight lasts until 10pm) mean you can enjoy the outdoor living.

Warm, dry and mellow, (fall) autumn (March – May) is the time when Central Otago shows off its brilliant fiery colours and wonderful light capturing the natural landscape.

Winter (June – August) is crisp, dry and icy. Hoar frosts and snow on the ranges, combined with the clear light, are especially spectacular. Wrap up warm and enjoy!

Warm, vibrant and fresh spring (September – November) is the season of reawakening. Fruit trees blossom, the hills and valleys come alive with vibrant greens and the subtle hues of moss, lichen and purple flowering thyme.

Temperature Range

Summer

December to February
10 to 30+ Degrees Celsius

Winter

June to August
-8 to 15 Degrees Celsius

Autumn

March to May
-3 to 24 Degrees Celsius

Spring

September to November
-3 to 20 Degrees Celsius

Public Holidays

New Year
1-2 January

Queen's Birthday
First Monday in June

Waitangi Day
6 February

Labour Day
Fourth Monday in October

Good Friday & Easter Monday
Variable dates in March or April

Christmas Day
25 December

ANZAC Day
25 April

Boxing Day
26 December

Retail and Services

The region offers a full range of retail and services, with some quirky shops to discover! Generally shopping hours are Monday to Friday 9am–5pm, with Saturday and Sunday trading shorter hours. National retailers opening hours are often extended. Branches of major national banks are located in Alexandra, Cromwell and Ranfurly with automatic teller machines (ATMs) available 24 hours in the main towns.

Medical Care and Hospital

Central Otago has a range of medical centres throughout the region. Dunstan Hospital, based at Clyde close to Alexandra, provides acute medical care on referral from local doctors, rehabilitation, palliative care and a full range of community services. Please note: it does not have a walk in emergency room. For all emergency services (Fire, Police, Ambulance) dial 111.

Telephone and Internet

Communications in New Zealand are highly efficient and reliable, with international direct-dialing and internet available nationwide. In Central Otago most accommodation properties offer internet, with internet cafés available in the main centres for those with no access at their accommodation. There are some areas in the region where cell phone coverage is limited, this needs to be a consideration for those travelling independently.



For More Information

Central Otago Visitor Centres
P: +64 3 448 9515
E: visitorcentre@codc.govt.nz



Facebook
[facebook.com/
CentralOtagoNZ](https://facebook.com/CentralOtagoNZ)



Website
centralotagonz.com



YouTube
[youtube.com/
Centralotagonz](https://youtube.com/Centralotagonz)



Twitter
[twitter.com/
CentralOtago_NZ](https://twitter.com/CentralOtago_NZ)



Pinterest
[Pinterest.com/
centralotago](https://Pinterest.com/centralotago)

Disclaimer: Every attempt has been made to ensure that the information contained within this Guide is correct at the time of printing. The products and services set out in this publication are subject to change or withdrawal without notice at any time. Tourism Central Otago expressly disclaims liability to any entity for any loss, cost or damage whatsoever arising out of, or connected with its reliance on the contents of this brochure.