



OFFICIAL  
VISITOR GUIDE  
2024

# THE Catlins

*Te Akau Tai Toka*  
NEW ZEALAND - AOTEAROA



SOUTHLAND / SOUTH OTAGO

# Welcome... *Nau mai Haere mai...*

*Only leave your footprints; only take photographs and memories...*

Tēnā Koutou katoa and welcome to The Catlins, a major highlight of the Southern Scenic Route. Situated off the beaten track, The Catlins encompasses the area between Fortrose / Kaik and Kākā Point / Rakitāmau and inland to Mokoreta. You will journey through rural heartland and podocarp and beech forest, past rugged coastlines, hidden lakes and stunning waterfalls. The natural landscapes are enthralling and the wildlife is extraordinary.

The Catlins southern location bestows upon us long summer days perfect for exploring. Vivid sunsets and long twilight evenings lead on to ideal star gazing opportunities. Rainy days

bring fresh growth to pastures and forest while strong winds shape the forests and raise impressive waves along the coast. Come prepared to enjoy dynamic weather conditions.

Remember The Catlins is another special part of New Zealand /Aotearoa that has steep topography and quite large distances from main cities; this means cell phone coverage is not always accessible. Plan your days, keep water on hand for long drives and always take note of fuel stops as they are sometimes few and far between.

The Catlins has many wonderful experiences to share. Accept our invitation and stay a few days. Meet the local people and relax on 'Catlins time'.

## *Toitū te whenua – leave the land undisturbed*



**Be sure to visit the local information centres at Ōwaka, Waikawa, Tokanui, Curio Bay Tumu Toka Curioscape and Fortrose / Kaik for helpful tips and local knowledge about The Catlins area.**



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*Waipapa Point - Southland, New Zealand*  
Credit: Great South

# Origins and our Past

Early Māori of Kai Tahu, Kati Mamoe, Waitaha descent were the first to inhabit these lands. Many stories and encounters are etched into the fabric of this once forgotten coastline. Descendants are still part of this special area keeping their ancestors' memories alive for the next generations.

Early Māori made use of the available stone and tool resources on this coast. With many birds including moa and an abundance of seafood/kai moana, this coastline was perfect for settlements and pa that were established along the coastline.

Māori legend reverberate with

colourful escapades of great chiefs and large hairy monsters of the forest known as Maeroero.

The region's namesake was a ship's captain who regularly carried exports to Australia. Edward Cattlin purchased a huge tract of land from local Māori in 1840. However, authorities later reduced his claim and did not formally transfer title until 1873. This was a bit late for Captain Cattlin who had died in Sydney, 17 years earlier. Still, his name has stayed with us, albeit with a slight modification to the spelling. The boundary of The Catlins today is not all of his holdings.

*The Wreck of the Manuka Watercolour: Fergus Sutherland*





The first European communities centred around short-lived whaling stations during the 1830s. Sawmilling then became the sustaining industry. The prosperity of these early settlements relied on shipping and good port access.

Dense forest meant an isolated existence and volatile seas caused many shipwrecks along The Catlins coast. Among them New Zealand's worst civilian maritime disaster – the SS *Tararua* at Waipapa Point in 1881 with 131 lives lost.

Nevertheless, the early towns thrived. Fortrose/Kaik exported wool, grain and timber. Waikawa was a bustling port town with a succession of industries including whaling, sawmilling, gold mining,

stone quarrying, flax milling, sheep and dairy farming. Ōwaka in the north was settled later during the 1860s and, again, sawmilling and timber exports became big business.

The southernmost railway tunnel in the world was built at Tunnel Hill just north of Ōwaka and by the 1920s railways from Invercargill and Balclutha were both busy carrying sawn timber out of The Catlins. Tunnel Hill was excavated by hand between 1891-92 for the Balclutha to Tahakopa Railway Line.

Also by the 1920s Waikawa harbour had silted up and coastal shipping reduced. The boom times were over. Today farming and tourism are the main industries.





Kingfisher / Kotarē

Photo: Tony Somerville

## Hector's Dolphins

Hector's Dolphins / Tutumairekurai / Tūpoupou are one of our shy local species. These little black and white dolphins can be seen in the summer surf at Porpoise Bay. They are one of the rarest and smallest dolphins in the world. Swimming with the dolphins is discouraged; it is best to watch them from the shore. If you are in the water, please do not approach the dolphins.

## Wildlife

*All of the indigenous species are a taonga species of special cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu whānau and were recognised in the Ngāi Tahu Settlement Act 1986.*

## Yellow-eyed Penguins

The Yellow-eyed Penguin / Hoiho is an endangered and unique species. Distinguished by its distinct yellow eyes and headband, the Yellow-eyed Penguin is native to New Zealand / Aotearoa. Hoiho, its Māori name, imitates its shrill call and translates to 'the noise shouter'. Penguins are best viewed at dawn or dusk and observed at a minimum of 50 metres. A special hide at Roaring Bay / Hakaparāoa provides discreet viewing. Never approach a penguin as they are shy and easily frightened. Please keep your distance and stay concealed if possible. Dogs are strictly prohibited from penguin colonies.







*Sea Lions / Whakahao Photo: Fergus Sutherland*

## Seals & Sea Lions

New Zealand Fur Seals / Kekenos, New Zealand Sea Lions / Whakahao and the odd formidable Elephant Seal can be found sunning themselves on various Catlins beaches (especially Waipapa Point / Ōtara and Surat Bay). The only place on mainland New Zealand / Aotearoa where all three co-exist is at Nugget Point / Tokatā. Please keep your distance (at least 20 metres) at all times as these animals can be aggressive and chase people when feeling threatened. Keep dogs well away.

## Birdlife

The Catlins boasts a variety of sea and forest birds. Shags roost in trees on the coast and river edges while Gulls and Terns are seen close to shore. Further out, the likes of Muttonbirds / Tītī, Gannets / Takapu and Mollymawks dive for fish. Herons / Kotuku, Pied Stilts, Bar Tailed Godwits / Kuaka and Oystercatchers / Toreapango wade in the estuaries. Fernbirds / Mātātā and Bitterns / Kaoriki hide amongst the rushes and Kingfishers / Kōtare survey the rivers. Forest songsters include Bellbirds / Makomako / Korimako and Mohua. Fantails / Pīwakawaka and Tomtits / Miromiro are often seen near walking tracks, while the Tui and the New Zealand Pigeon / Kererū are amongst those in the canopy overhead.





*Nugget Point Lighthouse Credit: Lennon Bright*



*Ferns Credit: Fergus Sutherland*



## *Walks and Natural Attractions*

Endless sightseeing choices await you inland and along the coast. Our native forests are home to mighty podocarp trees including Rimu, Totara, Matai, Kahikatea and Miro. Other trees to be found include Silver Beech/Tawhai and Flowering Kamahi and Rata. Perching plants, orchids, vines and 28 species of fern fill in the gaps, creating a perfect habitat for native birds and insects. Most tracks are maintained by our Department of Conservation; remember it is always safer to

keep to formed tracks and only leave footprints.

The cliffs at **Fortrose / Kaik** command spectacular views of the southern coastline and the Fortrose Estuary. At **Waipapa Point / Ōtara**, walk to the historic lighthouse and Tararua Acre, the cemetery of many of the victims of the 1881 shipping disaster.

**Slope Point/Waipapa** the southernmost point of the South Island, has windswept trees and a magnificent view over the southern ocean.

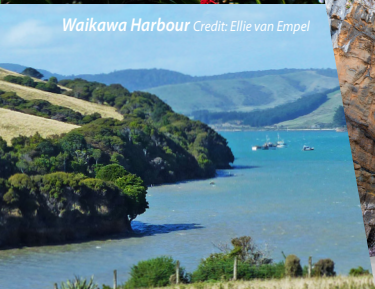


*Florence Hill Lookout Credit: Chris McLennan*





**Southern Rata**  
Credit: Topia Kraakman on Unsplash



**Waikawa Harbour** Credit: Ellie van Empel



**Cathedral Caves** Credit: Great South

**Waipōhatu** is a tranquil picnic area offering a short 20 minute wheelchair track and a longer 3 hour wilderness track through native bush.

At **Curio Bay/Tumu Toka** you will find an ancient geological phenomenon of international significance – the **Petrified Forest**. Fossilised trees similar to Kauri and Matai lie embedded on coastal bedrock, remnants of a 170 million year old Jurassic era forest. Please do not damage or remove any fossils. Also at Curio Bay/Tumu Toka is the **Living Forest** walk; this is a direct descendant of the Petrified Forest.

**Cathedral Caves** resonate with the sound of the sea. Rising more than 30 metres in places, they are all at once imposing, grand and truly cathedral-like. The caves' private access is opened only at low tide with a small road fee (eftpos). The caves' opening is subject to safe sea conditions and can be closed at short notice (1 hour return). Closed June to end of October.

**Lake Wilkie** is reflective and peaceful. There is a clear succession of naturally establishing forest here. During summer the red brilliance of flowering Rata is stunning (30 minutes return).



**McLean Falls** Credit: Gayle Hogue



*Ruggedness with amazing views Credit: Tonia Kraakman on Unsplash*

View the sweeping **Tautuku Beach and Bay** from **Florence Hill**. To the east is the rugged **Papatowai coastline** where surfers from New Zealand and elsewhere come to surf the big waves of the southern ocean. At Papatowai is the **Shanks Bush Nature Trail** with a 20 minute return walk to enjoy many different natural habitats with activities for young people, and the **Old Coach Road**.

**Tautuku Estuary** – journey through time on this historic trail.

There is an easy track leading through podocarp forest and out onto a boardwalk above the estuary flats. Enjoy the raucous morning birdsong and look out for the rare Fernbird / Mātātā (30 minutes return). **Picnic Point** is reached via native bush and a sandy coastline with interesting rock pools (30 minutes return). The **LENZ Reserve Nature Trail** is a 15-20 minute informative history and forest walk.

**Pūrākaunui Falls** is a picture of beauty. Surrounded by bush,



*Curio Bay / Tumu Toka Photo: Tonia Kraakman on Unsplash*



# The Catlins Care Code

Southland District Council 0800 732 732  
Clutha District Council 0800 801 350



Please help us to protect the nature and wildlife of The Catlins –

Only leave your footprints;  
only take photographs and memories...

Check out the Tiaki Promise –  
[www.tiakinewzealand.com](http://www.tiakinewzealand.com)

## WILDLIFE & NATURE

For more information  
visit [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

- Talk quietly and move slowly when near sea lions / whakahao or fur seals / kekeno – do not disturb them, give them space, stay at least 20m away.
- Yellow-eyed Penguins / Hoiho are shy and easily stressed – do not disturb them, give them space, stay at least 50m away.
- Do not remove plants, animals or fossils from the environment – treat New Zealand / Aotearoa forest and birds with respect, they are unique and often rare.
- Respect our cultural heritage, treat these places with consideration and care.
- Dogs can disturb and even kill wildlife, please look out for and respect signage regarding dogs.  
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/know-before-you-go/dog-access/>
- No drones at Nugget Point / Tokatā, Roaring Bay / Hakaparāoa, Curio Bay / Tumu Toka, Slope Point / Waipapa and Waipapa Point / Ōtara.



Use of drones is restricted – for further information on use of drones in public places, private land, around livestock, wildlife and wildlife habitats visit  
[www.airshare.co.nz](http://www.airshare.co.nz)

## CAMPING

For more information visit



CDC  
(Clutha District Council)



SDC  
(Southland District Council)



- Please use official camping sites as they have toilets and waste disposals.
- No Roadside, Lookout or Beachside Camping.
- Permission must be obtained for camping, parking or walking on private land.
- Please leave areas clean and tidy.

## FIRES



Scan here for tips on  
how to reduce your  
own risk of wildfire and a  
three-step tool to let you know  
whether it's safe to light a fire,  
and if you'll need a fire permit.  
Or head to [checkitsalright.nz](http://checkitsalright.nz)



Fire and Emergency NZ



Fires can destroy  
the Forest

Nau mai Haere Mai...  
Welcome to The Catlins



THE Catlins  
Te Akau Tai Toka  
NEW ZEALAND - AOTEAROA

For fire or accident emergency –  
phone **111**

For conservation/wildlife emergency –  
phone **0800 362 468**

**NOTE:** There is minimal cell phone coverage in  
much of The Catlins. Public phones are located at  
Ōwaka, Papatowai, Kākā Point and Tokanui.

## DRIVING

Visit [www.nzta.govt.nz/  
safety/visiting-new-zealand](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/visiting-new-zealand)



- Keep left, observe all road signs. Pass school bus at less than 20km/hr.
- Reduce speed when driving on 'unsealed' roads.
- Limit vehicle use on beaches, respect other beach users, the road rules apply. For latest beach access information refer to CDC website.
- Indicate and pull over to the left-hand side of the road to take photographs, read road signs and to allow vehicles behind you to pass safely.
- If you see sheep and cattle on the roads, drive slowly and stay in your vehicle.



## WASTE DISPOSAL



- Please take all rubbish away with you, carry out what you carry in. Rubbish disposal points are at Kākā Point / Rakitāmau, Ōwaka, Papatowai and Tokanui. Recycling is also available at Ōwaka and Tokanui
- Use public toilets provided, please do not pollute the environment
- Use Campervan waste disposals which are located in Ōwaka (Inn Street) and Tokanui.



The Catlins Care Code  
revised by Catlins Coast Inc for  
The Catlins Community (2023)

[www.catlins.org.nz](http://www.catlins.org.nz)



Matai Falls - Credit: Lennon Bright

bush, this magnificent waterfall cascades 20 metres over three distinct tiers (20 minutes return). Other enjoyable waterfalls are **McLean Falls** (40 minutes return) and **Matai Falls** (30 minutes return). Also at Matai Falls, the **Matai Rail Trail** (1 hour return).

The **Catlins River Walk** and **Wisp Loop Track** provide one or two days walking through native beech and planted forest. The routes feature swing bridges, high altitude views and opportunities to see the rare bird the Mohua.

Walk to a spectacular blowhole with exploding waves and

roaring sound effects when at high tide. **Jacks Blowhole** is 100 metres inland from the sea. It has been known historically for its ability to dramatically spout water. Tunnel damage means that ideal sea conditions are required for this effect to occur (1 hour return).

Getting to the lighthouse at **Nugget Point / Tokatā** is an exhilarating experience. The roar of the sea rushes to fill your ears, and the visual drama of vast skies, endless ocean and sheer cliffs to the left and right is gripping. Its name is derived from the sea-worn rocks that resemble gold nuggets (20 minutes return).

## EMERGENCY DIAL 111

**Tokanui Medical Centre** can see ANY patients regardless of whom your GP is. • Walk in service 9-12 Monday to Friday.  
• Available by phone 9-5pm 03-246 8850.  
• All **medical emergencies** – ring **111** and we will be paged immediately alongside St John, providing **24 hour** emergency cover.

**Southland Hospital, Invercargill** Phone 03 218 1949

**Catlins Medical Centre – Ōwaka**  
Phone 03 415 8006 anytime

**Balclutha Hospital** Phone 03 419 0500  
(For Doctor on duty phone 03 419 0400)

**Healthline** 0800 611 116



TIAKI MEANS TO CARE FOR PEOPLE  
AND PLACE.

THE TIAKI PROMISE IS A COMMITMENT  
TO CARE FOR NEW ZEALAND, FOR  
NOW AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

HOW TO CARE FOR  
NEW ZEALAND

[TIAKINewZealand.com](http://TIAKINewZealand.com)

#TIAKIPROMISE



BE  
PREPARED



DRIVE  
CAREFULLY



KEEP NZ  
CLEAN



PROTECT  
NATURE



SHOW  
RESPECT



To Te Anau and  
Queenstown / Tāhuna

Published 2023 by:  
Catlins Coast Incorporated  
a non-profit community organisation  
'Our aim is to promote The Catlins as a place to live,  
work and visit, and to help retain The Catlins  
heritage and natural history'

A donation towards the development and printing of  
the map would be gratefully received –  
Bank account number: 03-1734-0072024-00

Enquiries and additional map orders to  
[info@catlins.org.nz](mailto:info@catlins.org.nz)

To Invercargill  
/ Waihōpai

To Invercargill  
/ Waihōpai

## Attractions

- A FORTROSE / KAIK**  
Boating, fishing, golf and campsite.  
Shipwreck only exposed at low tide.
- B WAIPAPA POINT / ŌTARA**  
Short walk to the historic lighthouse and  
1881 shipping disaster cemetery.
- C SLOPE POINT / WAIPAPA**  
The Southernmost point of the South  
Island. Magnificent views. Approx. 20min  
return.
- D WAIPŌHATU**  
A tranquil picnic area offering a 20min  
return wheelchair bush track and a longer  
3hr waterfalls wilderness loop track.

- E CURIO BAY / TUMU TOKA**  
The 170 million-year-old Petrified Forest is  
an ancient geological site of international  
importance. The wave-washed platform is  
accessible at low tide. Living Forest  
walkway, descendant of the petrified  
forest, 15min return.
- F NIAGARA FALLS / MĀNGAI PIRI**  
Short walk to the small Niagara Falls/  
Māngai Piri.


- G MCLEAN FALLS**  
The walk to the McLean Falls takes under  
40min return.
- H CATHEDRAL CAVES**  
The caves resonate with the sound  
of the sea, 1hr return through bush  
and along the beach. Access may be  
restricted. For opening times, check  
[www.cathedralcaves.co.nz](http://www.cathedralcaves.co.nz)

- I THE SIR TRUBY KING BRIDGE  
WALKING TRACK**  
The track travels across an unformed  
legal road and has wheelchair access.  
It is a pleasant 15minute walk (one way)  
along the Tahakopa River, through an  
established stand of native trees, to the  
historic Sir Truby King Bridge.
- J TAUTUKU BOARD WALK**  
1: Board walk to Estuary, 30min return.  
2: Historic walk, 20-60min return.  
LENZ Reserve nature walk 1hr return.
- K LAKE WILKIE**  
Reflective and peaceful. 30min return.

- L FLORENCE HILL LOOKOUT**  
Beautiful views over Tautuku Bay.
- M PAPATOWAI**  
DOC Campsite and picnic ground. Picnic  
Point Forest and beach walk, 40min  
return. Old Coach Road Forest Track to  
Moa Hunter Sites, 1hr return. Shanks's  
Bush. Nature trail 30min.
- N MATAI FALLS & RAIL TRAIL WALK**  
Matiai Falls 30min return. Rail Trail 1hr  
return.
- O THE WISP**  
DOC picnic ground. Catlins River to Wisp  
Loop Walking Track, North entrance  
(12km).

- S CATLINS LAKE / KURAMEA**  
There are a number of wahi taonga  
(sites of significance to Māori) within the  
wetland area, including middens and other  
evidence of occupation. Pull-off  
and lookout walk.
- T JACKS BLOWHOLE**  
100m from the sea and well worth the  
walk for the views. NB: A high tide and  
extremely rough sea conditions are  
required for spouting to occur. 1hr return.
- U SURAT BAY**  
A long sandy beach named after the  
sailing vessel Surat, wrecked in 1874.  
Sealions. Camping Ground.

DRIVE TIME IN MINUTES – distances are selected direct routes and times are indicative only															
105	10	30	45	90	30	50	70	40	80	55	25	30	35	Waikawa	
130	30	90	25	140	70	80	120	90	130	85	20	20	Waipapa Point		
135	40	60	15	100	45	45	80	50	90	80	25	Tokanui			
130	20	60	40	115	50	75	95	75	120	80	Slope Point				
55	65	35	80	50	35	75	20	20	40	Pūrākaunui Falls					
45	90	50	105	30	60	100	10	40	Pounaweia						
65	60	20	70	50	20	60	30	Papatowai							
35	80	40	95	20	50	90	Ōwaka								
125	50	70	70	105	80	Mokoreta									
71	40	15	55	70	McLean Falls										
20	100	60	115	Kākā Point											
140	50	60	Fortrose												
75	40	Cathedral Caves													
115	Curio Bay														
Balclutha															



McLean Falls, credit: Lemon Dughi

# THE Catlins

## Te Akau Tai Toka

NEW ZEALAND - AOTEAROA

- KEY**
- Accommodation & Services
  - Key Township
  - Localities
  - Main Highway
  - Southern Scenic Route
  - Alternative Route/Heritage Trail
  - Major / sealed roads
  - Minor / gravel roads
  - Information Centre
  - i-Site
  - Information Kiosks
  - Museum
  - Library/Free WiFi
  - WiFi
  - Public Telephone
  - Public Toilet
  - Historical shipwreck site
  - Surfing
  - Seals
  - Dolphins
  - Penguins
  - ATM
  - Campsite
  - Campsite (self contained only)
  - DOC Camping Ground
  - Camping Ground
  - Playground
  - Food
  - Electric Vehicle Charging Station
  - 24hr Fuel – card only (dedicated pin number)
  - Dump Station
  - Recycling Centre
  - Post Shop
  - Medical Centre
  - Wheelchair Access
  - Golf Course
  - No Dogs (check DOC website for current info)
  - No Drones

- V POUNAWEA**  
Camping Grounds, bush and estuary walks.
- W TUNNEL HILL**  
Southernmost railway tunnel in the world. Short track to tunnel excavated by hand between 1891-92 for Balclutha to Tahakopa Railway Line.
- X NUGGET POINT / TOKATĀ & ROARING BAY / HAKAPARĀOA**  
Lighthouse built in 1869. Viewing point for Fur Seals and Penguins. 40min return.
- Y KĀKĀ POINT / RAKITĀMAU**  
Forest and beach walk, fishing, diving and boating. Camping ground.



# Heritage Trail

Follow the Catlins Coastal Heritage Trail for inspiring history along our beautiful coastal route in South Catlins. Travel in either direction from Fortrose through to Niagara – there are 13 sites to visit along the approximately 70km road.



**ENQUIRIES** Pick up a brochure from Owaka Museum, Waikawa Museum or Fortrose Cafe. Also available online: [catlins.org.nz](http://catlins.org.nz) under visitor information



[www.catlins.org.nz](http://www.catlins.org.nz)

## Catlins Horse Riding

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Experience the coastal Catlins on horseback or by bike – view spectacular scenery, native bush, farmland, farm animals and wildlife. Located 2.5km from Owaka, Pounaweia and Surat Bay.

- Now offering new activity – tours on UBCO electric bikes
- Personalised horse riding to suit your level of experience
- Rides from 30 mins/\$45 flexible timetable; advance bookings strongly recommended

[www.catlinshorseriding.co.nz](http://www.catlinshorseriding.co.nz)



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Cara and Neil Meyer  
41 Newhaven Road, RD1 Owaka  
Phone 027 629 2904 / 027 786 4534  
Email [catlinshorses@outlook.com](mailto:catlinshorses@outlook.com)

## Catlins Info Centre & Owaka Museum

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### Catlins Information Centre

The place to go for travel advice and bookings for activities and accommodation in The Catlins. Local information on attractions, restaurants and more!

[www.cluthanz.com](http://www.cluthanz.com)

### Owaka Museum *Wahi Kahuika*,

The Meeting Place – ‘a rest on your journey’ captures the essence of The Catlins. Visit this popular visitor hub with its informative exhibitions to discover the exciting history that made this region what it is today.

[www.owakamuseum.org.nz](http://www.owakamuseum.org.nz)



### CONTACT & ENQUIRIES

10 Campbell Street, Owaka, The Catlins

Phone Catlins Information Centre 03 415 8371

Email [catlinsinfo@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:catlinsinfo@cluthadc.govt.nz)

Phone Owaka Museum 03 415 8323

Email [owakamuseum@outlook.com](mailto:owakamuseum@outlook.com)

Hours: 8.30am–5.00pm, 7 days a week

## Thickthorne Llamas

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- Visit our Fibre Producers: Llamas, Guanacos and Gotland sheep
- Specialising in fine fibres for spinning, knitting and felting; plus Llama, Guanaco and Gotland knitting yarn
- Spinning/weaving tuition
- Exclusive clothing label ‘The Valley Beyond’; plus accessories, handwoven and crocheted throws, and other novelties
- Small cover charge, unless purchasing from Gallery.

[www.catlins.org.nz/activities](http://www.catlins.org.nz/activities)



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Janette Buckingham  
63 Waikawa Valley Road, 1RD Tokanui 9884  
Phone 03 246 8499  
Email [thickthorne@extra.co.nz](mailto:thickthorne@extra.co.nz)

- Come and share the love of Jesus at a church with an ocean view
- Services each Sunday 10.30am
- Lunch to follow
- Warm welcome to all
- Pastor Paul & Celia Watson



## CONTACT

Curio Bay Christian Community Centre  
41 Mair Road, Curio Bay, South Catlins  
Ph/Fax 03 246 8431 Email paulwat1942@hotmail.com  
Curio Bay Christian Fellowship Facebook

[www.curio bay.info](http://www.curio bay.info)



Tautuku Bay Credit: Chris McLennan



CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT:

Tomtit / Miromiro Photo: Sandra Van der Sommen

Tui Photo: Fergus Sutherland

Royal Spoonbill / Kōtuku Ngutupapa Photo: Tony Somerville

White Faced Heron / Matuku Moana Photo: Lisa Biginato

Southern Black Backed Gull / Karoro Photo: Tony Somerville

New Zealand Pigeon / Kererū Photo: Fergus Sutherland

*Birdlife*

# The Point Café & Bar

1

- Open 7 days a week
- Lunch
- Dinner
- Best Seafood Chowder and Blue Cod in South Otago
- Panoramic views
- Find us on Facebook



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Lisa Lee, Ph 03 412 8800  
58 Esplanade, Kaka Point  
Email [lisa@thepointcafe.co.nz](mailto:lisa@thepointcafe.co.nz)



[www.thepointcafe.co.nz](http://www.thepointcafe.co.nz)

# Catlins Café & BakeHouse Takeaways

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**Bakehouse Takeaways** is located in the heart of The Catlins. This retro food caravan is a must visit. Outdoor seating or takeaway available with Sushi, Burgers, Pizza, Fish 'n' Chips, Milk Shakes, Ice Creams, Coffee etc.

**Catlins Café** for a friendly, cosy environment offering all day dining plus home-made cakes, biscuits, Waipiata pies, paninis, croissants, great coffee - open 8 to 4 (later by booking) - 365 days of the year.



## ENQUIRIES

3 Main Road, Owaka, The Catlins (365 days of the year)

**Bakehouse Phone 027 267 9839** Open 11am to 7pm

Email [bakehouseowaka@gmail.com](mailto:bakehouseowaka@gmail.com)

**Catlins Café Phone 03 435 8040** Open 8am to 4pm

Email [peter.barron@xtra.co.nz](mailto:peter.barron@xtra.co.nz)

**Find us on Facebook**

[www.bakehousetakeaways.com](http://www.bakehousetakeaways.com)

# Catlins Inn & Caravan Park

4

The Catlins Inn offers a friendly community sports bar with outside decks and a relaxing café

- T.A.B. ● Pool table
- 4 gaming machines
- Ryley's Café, country style menu
- Function room, groups up to 45, own bar, kitchen, 50" TV

Accommodation available:

- 3 modern serviced guest rooms with bathrooms and TVs and a 3 bedroom apartment
- Caravan Park with powered and non-powered sites



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Yvonne Evans

21 Ryley Street, Owaka, South Otago

Phone 03 415 8350

Email [catlinsinn@clt-trust.co.nz](mailto:catlinsinn@clt-trust.co.nz)

# Peake's Kitchen & Country Store

7

- Papatowai, Central Catlins
- Gourmet Seasonal Menu
- Ice Cream & Desserts
- Beer, Wine and Snacks
- Boutique Groceries and Gifts
- Dine-in and Takeaway Service, order within the Papatowai Country Store



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Peake's Kitchen & Country Store  
2501 Papatowai Highway, Papatowai,  
Catlins, Phone 022 409 0798

Email [hello@peakeskitchen.com](mailto:hello@peakeskitchen.com)

[www.peakeskitchen.com](http://www.peakeskitchen.com)





# Niagara Falls Café/Restaurant

13

Our refurbished old school has a casual, warm atmosphere.

- Best stop in The Catlins by Cuisine Restaurant Guide
- Voted best coffee between Invercargill and Dunedin
- All day homemade menu
- Slices, cakes, desserts, made here
- Gallery with local art and crafts

[www.niagarafallscafe.co.nz](http://www.niagarafallscafe.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

200m from Niagara Falls  
256 Niagara Waikawa Road, Niagara, South Catlins  
Phone 03 246 8577  
Email [niagarafallscafe@extra.co.nz](mailto:niagarafallscafe@extra.co.nz)

# Tokanui Recycle Centre

17

- Save your glass, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles for our hungry recycling bins located at 23 McEwan Street in Tokanui
- Open to the travelling public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Help us keep The Catlins tidy!



## CONTACT & ENQUIRIES

For further information contact the Southland District Council



[www.southlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz)



Pūrākaunui Falls Credit: Clutha NZ Visual Library



Sea Lions at Pūrākaunui Bay Credit: Great South

# Kaka Point Camping Ground

1

- Peaceful settings
- Native bush and birds
- Adjacent to bush walk
- 400 metre walk to beach, café and bar
- Sheltered tent and powered sites
- Comfortable cabins
- Great showers and laundry
- Well appointed kitchen and barbecue
- Closest camping site to Nugget Point

[www.kakapointcamping.co.nz](http://www.kakapointcamping.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Denise Anderson  
34 Tarata Street, Kaka Point  
Phone 03 412 8801 Mobile 027 408 2774  
Email [info@kakapointcamping.co.nz](mailto:info@kakapointcamping.co.nz)

# Surat Bay Lodge

2

Comfortable holiday accommodation right beside the beach and sea lions

- TV in lounges with fully equipped kitchens
- Centrally heated, double, twin, and shared rooms, all with lovely sea views
- Free WiFi and phone
- Beach walks to False Island and Cannibal Bay
- Family and group bookings welcome by arrangement

[www.suratbay.co.nz](http://www.suratbay.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Esther & Jack Johnson  
19 Surat Bay Road, RD1 Newhaven, Owaka 9585  
Phone 03 412 8696 Mobile 027 202 9456  
Email [suratbaylodge@gmx.com](mailto:suratbaylodge@gmx.com)

# Catlins River Station House

5

Four bedroom, spacious, self contained home with a beautiful, private and tranquil setting with access to our farm for walking, cycling and trout fishing; a lovely safe spot for families.

- Fully self-contained
- 4 bedrooms
- 3 Queen, 2 single beds available
- Wifi
- Woodburner
- Outdoor BBQ area & deck space
- Privacy and tranquillity

[www.airbnb.co.nz](http://www.airbnb.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Tracey Hancox  
16 Hanning Road, Owaka 9586  
Phone 027 212 0033  
Email [tracey\\_rangi@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tracey_rangi@xtra.co.nz)

# Tiromoana

5

Nestled on top of farmland with native plantings and simply stunning coastal views, Tiromoana is fully self-contained accommodation, just five minutes south of Owaka, close to all The Catlins' magnificent attractions.

- Exclusive use of Tiromoana
- 4 bedrooms and bathrooms
- Wifi
- BBQ facilities
- Hot tub
- Continental breakfast supplies

[www.airbnb.co.nz](http://www.airbnb.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Tracey Hancox  
16 Hanning Road, Owaka 9586  
Phone 027 212 0033  
Email [tracey\\_rangi@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tracey_rangi@xtra.co.nz)

## Mohua Park – Catlins Eco Accommodation 6

A luxurious Eco-Friendly stay, we offer four spacious king studio eco cottages with incredible views, all secluded and providing warmth and comfort in a natural bush setting.

- Own private balcony
- Heat pump
- Ensuite
- Free wi-fi
- Kitchenette & barbecue
- Continental breakfast, BBQ pack and antipasto platter available
- 4km private walking tracks

[www.catlinsmohuapark.co.nz](http://www.catlinsmohuapark.co.nz)



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Tracy & Mike Bell – Owner/Operators  
744 Catlins Valley Road, RD2 Owaka 9586  
Phone 03 415 8613  
Email [mohuapark@outlook.com](mailto:mohuapark@outlook.com)

## Catlins Hilltop Accommodation 8

- Relax in the heart of The Catlins, in a peaceful native bush setting.
- Stunning valley and ocean views overlooking Papatowai Beach and the Southern Scenic Route.
- 2 cosy restored character homes both have internet, full kitchen, heating, laundry, 2 bathrooms.
- “The Lodge” (Top House)  
4 bedrooms, BBQ, pool table.
- “The Cottage” (Bottom House)  
ensuite queen and twin room.

[www.hilltopcatlins.co.nz](http://www.hilltopcatlins.co.nz)



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

77 Tahakopa Valley Road, Papatowai  
Phone 03 415 8028  
Mobile/Text 021 415 802  
Email [book@hilltopcatlins.co.nz](mailto:book@hilltopcatlins.co.nz)



## Tautuku Forest Cabins 9

Secluded, comfortable accommodation in a forest setting 35km south of Owaka. Five minutes drive to the beach.

- Cottage sleeps 10
- Cabin sleeps 4
- A-frame sleeps 2
- Bush walks
- Tranquil setting
- Supply own bedding
- No domestic animals without permission
- \$32/night adults, \$7/night school-age children



### INFORMATION & BOOKINGS

[www.forestandbird.org.nz/our-community/lodges/tautuku-forest-cabins](http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/our-community/lodges/tautuku-forest-cabins)  
Email [tautukucabins@gmail.com](mailto:tautukucabins@gmail.com)



## Whistling Frog Resort Accommodation 10

- Central Catlins location
- Next to Cathedral Caves and McLean Falls
- Free guest Wifi and self-catering
- Advance bookings recommended
- Powered sites, Amenities, Cabins, Luxury Chalets, Lodge
- Groups, gatherings and events

[www.whistlingfrogresort.com](http://www.whistlingfrogresort.com)



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Whistling Frog Resort Accommodation  
9 Rewcastle Road, Chaslands, Catlins  
Phone 03 415 8668  
Email [stay@catlinsnz.com](mailto:stay@catlinsnz.com)





# Chaslands Farm Cottages

11

Come and stay on our centrally located farm tucked away in the heart of The Catlins rainforest

- Affordable, comfortable, fully self-contained accommodation
- Linen supplied
- Fully equipped kitchen
- Washing machine
- Cottages sleep either 5 or 7
- Port a Cot available
- No Credit Card / Eftpos
- No cellphone coverage
- Free unlimited WiFi

[www.chaslandscottages.co.nz](http://www.chaslandscottages.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Dianne & Tony Miller  
219 Waipati Road, Chaslands, The Catlins  
Phone 0210 248 6631  
Email [chaslandscottages@gmail.com](mailto:chaslandscottages@gmail.com)

# Anchorage

14

Anchorage, set above the Waikawa Harbour, is a substantial 3 bedroom homestead and has 2 studio units downstairs. Enjoy the scenic views from the balcony.

- Units 1, 2 and 4 all fully self-contained
- Unit 3 has tea/coffee, microwave and fridge facilities
- Log burner upstairs, electric heaters studios
- TV all units
- 5 minute drive to Curio Bay

[www.anchorage.co.nz](http://www.anchorage.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

52 Antrim Street, Waikawa, The Catlins  
Cellphone 021 128 0174  
Email: [theanchoragewaikawa@gmail.com](mailto:theanchoragewaikawa@gmail.com)

# Curio Bay Salthouse

15

A great choice for accommodation on the Curio Bay beachfront with stunning uninterrupted seaviews.

- 2 queen self-catering studio units
- 1 self-catering studio unit with additional bedroom (1 queen, 1 single)
- One 2-bedroom well-appointed apartment
- Central heating, WiFi, all linens
- Breakfasts available on request

[www.curiobaysalthouse.co.nz](http://www.curiobaysalthouse.co.nz)



## BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

For bookings please visit our website  
517 Waikawa-Curio Bay Road, Curio Bay  
Phone 021 044 8378  
Email [stay@curiobaysalthouse.co.nz](mailto:stay@curiobaysalthouse.co.nz)



Waipohatu Fall Credit: Tony Somerville

## Tumu Toka Curioscape Campground 15

The campground offers a unique coastal environment to take a break on your Catlins journey. Nestled along the swimming beach of Porpoise Bay, alleys of flax provide the campground with scenic sheltered sites.

- Campervan and caravan sites – powered and unpowered
- Shower, kitchen, laundry
- Shop for essentials
- Chance to spot Hector dolphins which often frequent the area

[www.curioscape.co.nz](http://www.curioscape.co.nz)



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

590 Waikawa-Curio Bay Rd,  
Curio Bay 9884  
Phone 03 246 8897  
Email [campground@curioscape.co.nz](mailto:campground@curioscape.co.nz)

## Slope Point Accommodation 16

- 2 self-contained units
- 1 basic double
- 1 twin single
- 4 dorm beds
- Group bookings available
- Laundry, BBQ and Wi-Fi available
- Sheltered, quiet and relaxed surroundings on our farm
- Hand feed the farm animals



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Justine & Andrew  
164 Slope Point Road, RD1 Tokanui  
Phone 03 246 8420  
Email [info@slopepoint.co.nz](mailto:info@slopepoint.co.nz)

[www.slopepoint.co.nz](http://www.slopepoint.co.nz)

## Slope Point Getaway 16

- Affordable, peaceful, self-contained 3 bedroom house
- Sleeps up to 6
- Fully equipped kitchen, BBQ, Freeview TV, washing machine, fireplace, free WiFi, linen provided
- Totally surrounded by farmland with estuary views
- Close to many southern attractions and activities
- Southernmost accommodation in the South Island
- Minimum 2 nights stay



### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Justine and Andrew  
164 Slope Point Road, RD1 Tokanui  
Phone 03 246 8420  
Email [info@slopepoint.co.nz](mailto:info@slopepoint.co.nz)

[www.slopepoint.co.nz](http://www.slopepoint.co.nz)



*Pūrakaunui Bay Credit: Lennon Bright*









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