

CluthaNZ.com/cycle



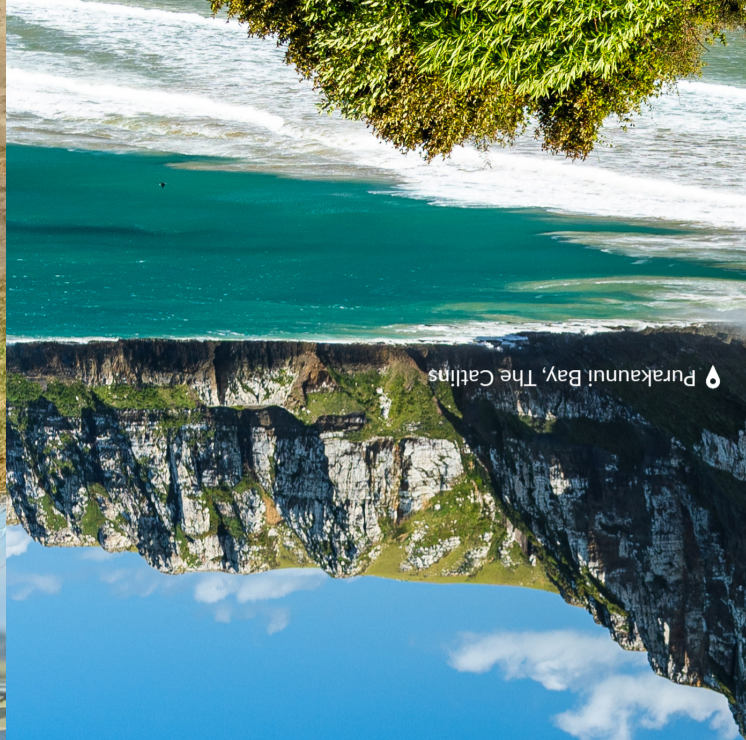
Cycling in The Catlins



Catlins Lake



This guide has been created by Clutha Development Inc. (CDI), the Regional Tourism Organisation responsible for marketing the Clutha District, New Zealand. To the best of its knowledge, CDI has been supplied with accurate information at the time of printing. Revised June 2023.



Purakauuni Bay, The Catlins

Clutha i-SITE Visitor Centre
6 Clyde Street, Balclutha
03 418 0388
clutha.vin@cluthadac.govt.nz

Website
CluthaNZ.com
@CluthaNZ
f/CluthaNewZealand
CluthaNZ
YouTube
CluthaNZ

Call into one of our Visitor Information Centres - they have a wealth of knowledge on local activities throughout the Clutha District, as well as accommodation bookings, dining options and more.

Visitor Information

Welcome to Clutha NZ!

Lying between Dunedin and Invercargill, the Clutha District is a true highlight along the world-class Southern Scenic Route.

For adventurous nature lovers, Clutha will reward you with wonders like the iconic Nugget Point, the famous Cathedral Caves and Purakauuni Falls, featuring an impressive triple tiered cascade.

Surf our pristine, untouched beaches, watch wildlife frolic in their natural habitat, or let us guide you to our local secret spots on an eco-tour.

For a dose of history, discover the story of Gabriel's Gully in the heritage town of Lawrence. Leave your laptop at home and step onto one of our many walking tracks through coastal rainforest and dense native bush. Tick the mighty and majestic McLean Falls off your bucket list! From family-friendly one-hour loop tracks to advanced overnight trails and backcountry huts, you can truly disconnect here.

The Clutha Gold Cycling and Walking Trail, one of the Nga Haerenga Great Rides of New Zealand, takes you on a scenic, historic journey alongside the country's largest and fastest river - the mighty Clutha Mata-au.

For a truly authentic taste of New Zealand's exceptional beauty and unique heritage, look no further than Clutha.



Your Cycle Journey Through The Catlins

The Catlins offers you a range of fantastic cycling routes across some of the most beautiful and remote landscapes in New Zealand.

Take a ride along the famous Catlins coastline is home to lush rainforest, golden beaches, and diverse wildlife. Meander through our rural heartland or immerse yourself in our wonderful rainforest. This is New Zealand at its finest.

From easy to intermediate grades, from short to long, there is a range of routes suitable for all ages and abilities. All routes will have inclines and declines and changeable surface conditions.

Each route is available all year round but the best seasons to ride are summer and autumn. Spring and winter can be pleasant but the weather can be affected by wind and rain.

The choice is yours!



Plan Your Trip

Beachside, lakeside, farm-side, or up a mountainside - there are a variety of accommodation options throughout The Catlins providing good old-fashioned southern hospitality. For accommodation options visit CluthaNZ.com

Food and beverage: There are food and beverage options available in Owaka and Kaka Point

Safety Information

- **Be prepared:** Plan a safe route and make sure your bike is in good working order. It is recommended you take a bike repair kit with you. Wear suitable clothing. The climate can be changeable at any time throughout the year.
- **Watch the weather:** Take the right gear. The weather in the south can be changeable.
- **Be safe and seen:** Wear a helmet. Wear bright colours. Use your lights at dusk and in low light conditions.
- **Be aware:** Watch and listen for vehicles around you, especially on remote roads. Road surfaces vary throughout the district, ride to the conditions. Scan for hazards on the road, including potholes and loose gravel.
- **Watch for livestock:** Sheep and cattle can sometimes be present on our roads.
- **Know your limits:** Ride to the conditions. Ride within your physical limits and ability.
- **First aid:** It is recommended that you take your own first aid kit.
- **Know the rules:** When cycling on New Zealand roads, please ride on the left. Follow the road rules.
- **Mobile phone coverage** can be limited on some routes. It is not recommended you rely on your cell phone for communication.

Take your time and enjoy the ride.



Sea Lions / Whakahaao (photo: Fergus Sutherland)



Red-billed Gull / Tarapunga (photo: Sandra van der Sommen)



New Zealand Scaup (photo: Fergus Sutherland)



Waipapa Bay Lighthouse (photo: New Zealand Tourism)



Small / Memeo (photo: Sandra van der Sommen)

The Catlins Care Code

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

WILDLIFE & NATURE

For more information visit www.doc.govt.nz

- Talk quietly and move slowly when near sea lions / whakahaao 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 respect signage regarding dogs.
- No drones at Nugget Point/Tokatā, Roaring Bay/Hakaparāoa, Curio Bay/Tumu Toka, Slope Point/Waipapa and Waipapa Point/Otara.

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.doc.govt.nz or www.airshare.co.nz

CAMPING

For more information visit CDC: or SDC:

- 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.
- Check it is all right to light fires - permits are required.

www.fireandemergency.nz
Fires can destroy the Forest

DRIVING

Visit www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/driving-safely/visiting-drivers/ and www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/driving-in-nz

- 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
- 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 Kaka Point / Rakitamau, Owaka, Papatowai and Tokanui. Recycling is also available at Owaka and Tokanui.
- Use public toilets provided, please do not pollute the environment
- Use Campervan waste disposals which are located in Owaka (Inn Street) and Tokanui.

The Catlins Care Code revised by Catlins Coast Inc for The Catlins Community 2022 www.catlins.org.nz

NO DOG AREAS

Please be aware there are areas in The Catlins which have dog restriction areas as seen in the information provided and also at the restricted sites.

BEST WILDLIFE VIEWING SITES

- Nugget Point/Tokatā
- Surat Bay
- Curio Bay/Tumu Toka
- Waipapa Point

Check out the TIAKI PROMISE -

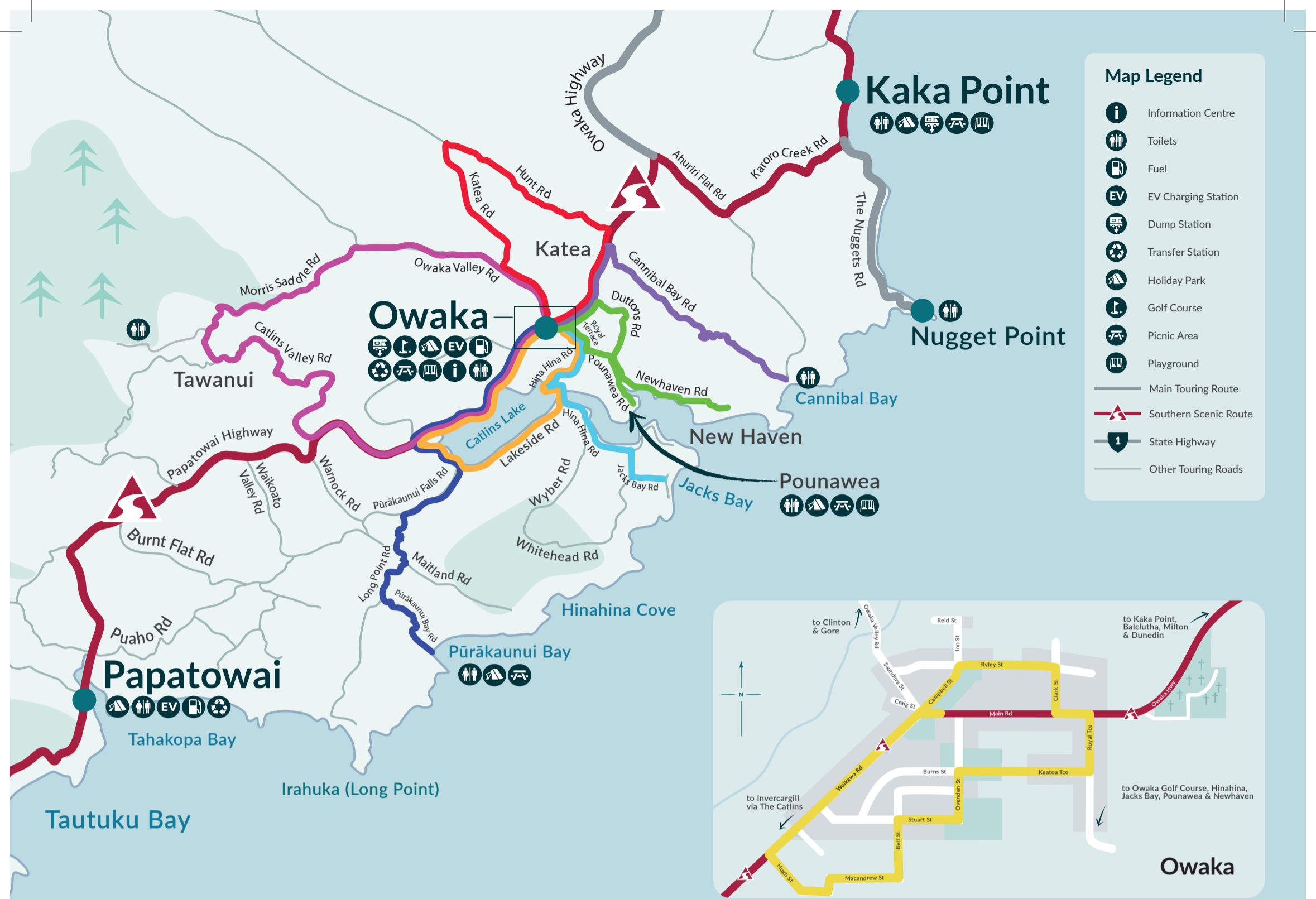
www.tiakinewzealand.com
Please help us to protect the nature and wild-life of The Catlins - Only leave your footprints - Only take photographs and memories...

For fire or accident emergency - PHONE 111
For conservation or wildlife emergency - PHONE 0800 362 468

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

This Map Pad has been produced by Clutha Coast Inc.

CDI/05 03/05



Car parking is available on the main street of Owaka, alternatively there is a public carpark beside the playground in Owaka. Bike hire: Unfortunately there are no options to hire a bike in The Catlins

Around the Lake (16.5km loop) ●

A trip around the Catlins Lake (Estuary) is well worth the ride with constantly changing views as the tide moves in and out each day. This is a looped track that you can ride from either direction.

Surface Conditions – Hina Hina and Lakeside Roads are loose gravel. The rest of the ride along the initial section of Pounaweia Road, Purakaunui Falls Road, the Southern Scenic Route is fully sealed.

Gradient – This is mostly a flat, gentle ride however there is a climb over Settlement Hill when you turn onto Hina Hina Road.



Owaka - The local ride (3km loop) ●

This is a short journey, ideal for younger riders, families or simply if you want a quick look around. Traversing the back streets of Owaka, this ride provides you a flavour of the town and might even allow you an opportunity to bump into a local for a chat.

Surface conditions – Fully sealed but includes a small gravel lane way of approximately 300 metres.

Gradient – This is predominantly a flat ride with a few minor rises along the way.

Surat Bay - Pounaweia (16km Surat Bay loop / 9km Pounaweia loop via Duttons Rd) ●

The trip to Pounaweia and Surat Bay is a very popular destination for visitors to The Catlins. The ride is not too far and well worth the effort once you get there.

Surface Conditions – The road to Pounaweia is sealed. New Haven and Duttons Roads are loose gravel.

Gradient – There is a decline heading down to Pounaweia however the rest of the ride is flat.



Morris Saddle - Tawanui (32km loop) ●

This is a scenic ride and it provides you a chance to experience a bit of everything The Catlins has to offer.

Surface conditions – The road is sealed for the first 7km to Morris Saddle Road and a further 10km for the final leg along the Papatowai Highway. The balance of the road is loose gravel.

Gradient – This is a ride of mixed gradient. The steepest section being up and over the Morris Saddle.

Jacks Bay (19km return) ●

There are some great views along the way, with prolific bird life along the edge of the estuary, especially early in the morning. Sea Lions are regular visitors to the beach at Jacks Bay – be sure to keep your distance!

Surface conditions – The first 2km is sealed, however the majority of this road is loose gravel.

Gradient – This is mostly a flat, gentle ride however there is a climb over Settlement Hill when you turn onto Hina Hina Road.



Katea Loop (16.5km loop) ●

This is a great ride through some of the back rural roads of The Catlins.

Surface conditions – The road is sealed for 2.5km to Katea Road and a further 4km along the highway. The balance of the ride is loose gravel.

Gradient – This is a relatively flat ride with the odd incline along Hunt Road.

Purakaunui Bay (36km return) ●

Purakaunui Bay is one of the best kept secrets in the Catlins. With this ride you get the best the district can offer you; beach, bush, wildlife and rural vistas.

Surface conditions – The road is sealed for 9km from Owaka. The balance of the trip is on loose gravel.

Gradient – The sealed section of this ride, from Owaka to the turn off at Long Point Road, is flat. There is a climb up Long Point Road with a decline into Purakaunui Bay.

