Central Otago Visor Guide & Map

Our Values
There are few places in the world that will leave you with a lasting sense of difference. Central Otago is one of them.

From its landscapes, seasons, people, heritage, produce and experiences, moment to moment it will reveal its many differences to you.

The people of Central Otago share a set of values that are designed to protect all of these things that make our region so distinctive.

Values like respecting others, learning from the past, doing the right thing, being a good neighbour. Some might think that these values are a bit old fashioned, but we believe that living by them will shape a better future in the same way that they have shaped our past.

These values underpin the plans that Central Otago has for the development of the region’s visitor economy and are embodied in the region’s A World of Difference brand mark.

Accommodation - be our guest
Central Otago offers a broad choice of accommodation from five star luxury lodges, to traditional guest houses, cottage style accommodation, to b&bs and farm stays, country pubs, hotels and motels, baches and cabins and the variety is as diverse as the landscape. Some of the larger towns offer a wide choice of accommodation you will find.

Some properties have a tasting room so you can enjoy a glass of wine as you settle in. For further details about the region’s accommodation options see our website.

Central Otago Accommodation website is a great resource to help you find the right property to suit your needs.

Central Otago is a region of unique and varied accommodation options.

Campign - be responsible
Generations of farm boys and farm girls come every year to enjoy their traditional coming holidays in Central Otago’s holiday parks and camping grounds.

For the most up-to-date information and responsible camping guidelines see centralotago.nz/camping or call in to a visitor information centre.

Tahau Whanau
Dr Tompkins

Tahau Whanau programme forms a network of Astrotourism New Zealand’s most stunning heritage places that all ope can enjoy.

Haast Pass Off Road Trail, the Dogle Central Rail Trail and the Miners Creek Trail are also shown on places that offer some of New Zealand’s best heritage experiences.

Flying in or out
We are proud of choice in Central Otago with those agents all in close proximity. The nearest airport is Queenstown which is 2 hours drive and Christchurch is 2.5 hour drive and Christchurch 5 hours.

Or arrive, rent a vehicle to give yourself the freedom to explore or catch a bus or shuttles. Queenstown is established itself as an excellent place where accommodation providers and tour operators offer transport and shuttle services to take you from the airport to your accommodation.

Driving to or from
We’re not called Central Otago for nothing. We are so central that you can arrive by road from any direction, north, south, east or west. Of course it is a long journey, but it is dramatically different and personally beautiful landscapes whichever route you take.

In rural areas many roads are unsealed gravel, so if your journey takes you down one – slow down and take extra care.

Driving conditions are great for most of the year, but winter weather can be extreme on some of our roads. Please stay aware, be safe for others and drive to the conditions. Being on snow road can be the perfect excuse in roving back on a reverse and stay cozy while you wait for conditions to improve.

Services and conveniences
In Cromwell and Alexandra you will find a full range of services that you’d expect to find in a big city. These include arts, restaurants, supermarkets, fuel stations, public toilets, shops, banks, service stations, laundries, sports centres, police, pharmacies, post offices, banks and a range of retail shops.

Our visitor centres are generally open all year, general shops, grocery stores, fuel, public toilets and some smaller retail options.

Wi-Fi internet access is available and offered free in some town and locations.

In an emergency dial 111 for police, fire or ambulance. Should you need medical treatment contact the nearest medical centre as the first instance.

Central Otago is an area that ensures that you’ll have the best access to all services no matter where you are.

A solitary cloud is whitened upwards against a deep blue sky. A spectacular mountain range shears high above the golden grassed landscape of Central Otago.

In symbolic form, the Southern Alps are associated with noble and untamed energies, strength, ferocity, ingenuity and high spirits — looking freedom and pride.

There are many spots which attract the gaze of visitors from far and wide, high above the golden grassed landscape of Central Otago.

Be inspired at centralotago.nz/ori-stories

Within Central Otago Time Distance
Clyde 17 mins 24 km
Alexandra 23 mins 32 km
Roxburgh 52 mins 70 km
Ophir 37 mins 52 km
Ranfurly 1 hr 17 mins 113 km
Naseby 1 hr 22 mins 113 km
Our Neighbours Time Distance
Wanaka 40 mins 54 km
Queenstown (Airport) 50 mins 54 km
Dunedin (via Ranfurly) 2 hrs 50 mins 242 km
Dunedin (via Roxburgh) 2 hrs 45 mins 221 km
Christchurch (via Lindis Pass) 5 hrs 424 km
Haast / West Coast 2 hrs 15 mins 187 km
Invercargill 2 hrs 50 mins 230 km
Oamaru 2 hrs 40 mins 228 km
Te Anau 2 hrs 46 mins 219 km
Mt Cook / Aoraki 2 hrs 20 mins 204 km

Find Yourself (but not too many others)