

South Coast Track

Bluecliffs Beach to Port Craig - 17 kms, 5 - 6 hrs (beach), 6 - 7 hrs (track)

From the Rarakau Farm carpark, travel 150 metres east to the start of the South Coast Track. The track follows along the top of the escarpment for approximately two kilometres before descending to the logging road along the foreshore.

A cluster of baches is situated at the Waikaou River. The river is crossed by a suspension bridge, and either the old road or beach followed for another three kilometres.

At the end of Bluecliffs Beach the main old logging road should be followed for a kilometre and the bridge over the Track Burn crossed.

A DOC sign marks the start of the track to Port Craig. A well graded, benched track continues for two and a half kilometres to Flat Creek, which is crossed by a suspension bridge.

Two kilometres after Flat Creek is Breakneck Creek. Here the all-tide inland track continues on the true right bank of the creek. At low to half tide (when more than 60m width of beach is showing past Breakneck Creek) an alternative beach option may be taken. Two kilometres before Port Craig the low tide beach option joins the inland track at Te Whata. Watch for large waves and if the sea is rough it is recommended that the inland track is used.

The Port Craig school is a significant historic building - please take care to ensure that it is kept in good order for future generations to visit and use.

Note: there is no access to the inland track from the beach option except at Breakneck Creek and Te Whata.

Port Craig to Wairaurahiri River - 16 kms, 4 - 6 hrs

From the Port Craig school the track follows an old logging tramway almost to the Wairaurahiri River.

Three kilometres along the track a sign marks the boundary between Waitutu Forest and Rowallan Maori land, which extends to the Wairaurahiri River. Through this section please remain on the track which generally follows a legal roadline.

The Sandhill viaduct and the huge Percy Burn viaduct are a further six kilometres (two hours approx.) on.

At the end of the tramline the track enters mature bush and goes down three river terraces to a clearing and the 20 bunk Wairaurahiri Hut.

Wairaurahiri River to Waitutu River - 13 kms, 4 - 6 hrs

Cross the Wairaurahiri River over the suspension bridge next to the hut. A sign marks the boundary between Rowallan Maori land and Waitutu Incorporation land. Please stay on the track and refrain from hunting on this land, which extends to the Waitutu River. There is a walkwire over the Crombie Stream and a suspension bridge over the Angus Burn. The Waitutu River is crossed by suspension bridge, and the 20 bunk Waitutu Hut is 200 metres upstream on the true right bank.

Waitutu River to Big River - 12 kms, 5 - 7 hrs

Much of the track to Big River follows the old telephone line which linked Puysegur Point to Orepuki. There are suspension bridges over the Grant Burn and Aan River. This section of track is through conservation land and hunting with a permit is welcomed.

It is possible to travel from Waitutu Hut to Prices Harbour along the coast. However, extreme care should be taken with the tides.

Big River was previously the boundary between Waitutu Forest and Fiordland National Park. There is no hut at Big River and no tracks or huts beyond this point.

Teal Bay Route

This route is wet underfoot and has been maintained to a marked route standard. It is recommended only for experienced trampers.

Bluecliffs Beach to Hump Ridge - 9 kms, 5 hrs

From the end of Bluecliffs Beach find the old logging road above the beach.

Public access across this private Maori land is available by courtesy of the owners. Take the first road that branches to the right. It is signposted beside an old hut. This road continues for approximately five kilometres and is joined by several side roads, but the main track is obvious to follow.

A sign marks the entry of the track into the bush. The first 200 metres is a rough track through cut over bush, before joining a **lightly marked route** in the mature forest.

Hump Ridge to Teal Bay Hut - 8 kms, 4 - 5 hrs

The track continues up the ridge onto the tops where orange snow poles mark the generally north-northwest route across the open tops. This section is difficult to follow in poor weather conditions.

Three kilometres along the ridge large markers indicate where the track enters the forest. The track descends a ridge for about three kilometres to the shores of Lake Hauroko. Care must be taken when encountering windfalls.

Teal Bay Hut to Hauroko Carpark - 18 kms, 9 hrs

The route heads up a steep spur behind Teal Bay Hut before joining the boundary ridge. **It is lightly marked** and follows the ridge for seven kilometres, then descends to Second Bay. The lake shore is followed for another kilometre, regaining the track at the eastern end of the bay. A bush-clad headland is crossed to reach First Bay and the shore of Lake Hauroko is followed to the carpark.

NB. No water is available on this route.

Hump Ridge Track

The Hump Ridge Track provides a wide variety of scenery during this three day/two night walking experience. The track is managed and operated by the Tuatapere Hump Ridge Track Trust Inc.

The 53 kilometre circuit track starts from Bluecliffs Beach at the Rarakau Farm carpark. The first night is spent at Okaka Hut on the Hump Ridge, with the second night at Port Craig Village, then returning via Bluecliffs Beach. Between six to nine hours walking is required each day to complete the track. The direction of travel may change from time to time, depending on track and tidal conditions and management requirements.

Forty walkers are permitted to stay in each hut per night. **Bookings are essential** to guarantee hut accommodation. Hut wardens are based at both huts during the October to April season.

For bookings and information contact:

Tuatapere Hump Ridge Track
P.O. Box 21
Tuatapere, Southland.
Phone/fax (03) 226 6739
Email: info@humpridgetrack.co.nz



Wairaurahiri hut and swingbridge



Port Craig school

SafetyWatch
0800 999 005
Report any safety hazards



- Protect plants and animals
- Remove rubbish
- Bury toilet waste
- Keep streams and lakes clean
- Take care with fires
- Camp carefully
- Keep to the track
- Consider others
- Respect our cultural heritage
- Enjoy your visit
- Toitu te whenua
(Leave the land undisturbed)

