Accommodation

 DOC has a range of accommodation in amazing locations, including huts, lodges, cabins, cottages and campsites.

Huts

In alpine environments, huts provide a unique place to stay, refuge from bad weather, and a place to rest and recover when you’re exploring the outdoors.

The huts provide basic accommodation and do not have showers, hot water, cooking facilities, eating areas or bed linen. Make sure you come with everything you need as there’s nothing to buy or exchange once you’re there.

Most huts operate on a first come, first served basis, and can be paid for on arrival with backcountry passes (available from DOC Visitor Centres and retailers around the country). Some need to be booked online or at DOC huts or through a DOC Visitor Centre.

For hut categories and more information visit doc.govt.nz/huts.

Activities

With a network of more than 14,000 km of public tracks, there’s a DOC activity to suit all budgets and tastes.

Walking

You can choose a track to match your skills, fitness and the experience you want. Ranging from easygoing walks of under an hour to challenging multi-day hikes, tracks on DOC land traverse some of New Zealand’s most stunning scenery. See highlighted walks in this brochure, and check out doc.govt.nz/walking for more info.

Easy access short walks: wheelchair accessible.

Short walk: easy walking for up to an hour.

Walking track: gentle walking from a few minutes to 1 hour.

Great Walks: long-distance tracks, well formed tracks for overnight or multi-day tramping for those of average fitness.

Tramping/hiking track: challenging day or multi-day tramping/hiking trail is mostly uniform but with some directional markers, poles or rope. Backcountry skills and experience required.

Route: challenging overnight tramping/hiking expedition and high level backcountry skills and experience required.

Great Walks

Take a walk, a Great Walk, through some of New Zealand’s most awe-inspiring landscapes.

New Zealand’s nine Great Walks are the country’s premier tracks that pass through dynamic and spectacular scenery. From native forests, lakes and rivers to rugged mountain peaks, deep gorges and over-water valleys, there’s a Great Walk for everyone.

The Great Walks are multi-day journeys, with huts and campsites to stay in along the way. You can make the Great Walks as easy or as challenging as you want. For more information see greatwalks.co.nz and check out doc.govt.nz/greatwalks for more information.

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Historic

New Zealand has a rich historical and cultural heritage. DOC protects over 12,000 archaeological and historical sites that tell the stories of our past.

To find out more about exploring New Zealand’s great outdoors, visit doc.govt.nz.

COASTAL GEMS

Cool off at the beach.

DOC also manages a range of accommodation facilities to suit all budgets and tastes, from basic campsites where you’ll need to be self-sufficient to serviced huts for those looking for a few more comforts.

DOC manages more than 2,000 campsites throughout New Zealand. Conservation Campsites are places where you can relax, enjoy and explore the great outdoors, set anywhere from lush forests and placid lakeshores to secluded islands and sandy beaches.

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16. Lake Waikaremoana (Great Walk)

Widely recognised as one of the most significant historic sites in New Zealand, the Te Tapuwae o Rongokako Marine Reserve is millions of years old. Connected by a causeway, these two pest-free islands are a haven for marine life. Accessible only on foot or by boat, Cathedral Cove is a marine reserve of reefs, headlands, reefs and small islands. The waters off the western side of the islands are also a popular spot for diving and snorkelling and have several well-maintained short and long walking tracks.

17. Te Waihou River (Great Walk)

This is one of the many scenic river valleys in the Taumarumaru Range that sheltered Maori settlements. The area is home to many native species of flora and fauna, including two rare alpine species of plants.

18. bulimba Island (Great Walk)

This rugged walk through the stunning South Island scenery is part of a larger Great Walk that allows you to see some of the most remote and dramatic landscapes in New Zealand. The track is a mix of boardwalks, small bridges, and rock-climbing sections. It’s a challenging walk, but the views are well worth it.

19. Ocean Falls

One of New Zealand’s rarest and most isolated alpine lakes, Ocean Falls is an experience that will not soon be forgotten. The lake is situated in the Southern Alps, and the surrounding area is home to many rare and unique species of flora and fauna. The lake is best explored by foot, and there are several short walks that offer stunning views.

20. Waitakere Ranges National Park

A great place to explore the Waitakere Ranges National Park, this track is a must-see for nature lovers. The track offers stunning views of the surrounding mountains and valley, and there are several opportunities to see local wildlife such as kiwis and possums.

21. Waikato River

The Waikato River is the longest river in New Zealand, and it flows through many of the country’s most stunning landscapes. The river is home to many rare and unique species of flora and fauna, and it’s a great place to see some of the country’s most beautiful landscapes.

22. Tongariro National Park

This is one of the most popular and scenic national parks in New Zealand. The park is home to many rare and unique species of flora and fauna, and it’s a great place to see some of the country’s most beautiful landscapes.

23. Three Sisters Track

This is one of the most popular and scenic tracks in the Tongariro National Park. The track offers stunning views of the surrounding mountains and valley, and there are several opportunities to see local wildlife such as kiwis and possums.

24. Cape Piscatich

This is one of the most scenic and remote landscapes in New Zealand. The area is home to many rare and unique species of flora and fauna, and it’s a great place to see some of the country’s most beautiful landscapes.

25. Dusky Track (Great Walk)

This is one of the most challenging and scenic tracks in New Zealand. The track is a mix of boardwalks, small bridges, and rock-climbing sections. It’s a challenging walk, but the views are well worth it.

26. Hollyford Track (Great Walk)

This is one of the most scenic and remote landscapes in New Zealand. The area is home to many rare and unique species of flora and fauna, and it’s a great place to see some of the country’s most beautiful landscapes.

27. Robson’s Track

This is one of the most scenic and remote landscapes in New Zealand. The track is a mix of boardwalks, small bridges, and rock-climbing sections. It’s a challenging walk, but the views are well worth it.

28. Karangahake Gorge

This is one of the most scenic and remote landscapes in New Zealand. The area is home to many rare and unique species of flora and fauna, and it’s a great place to see some of the country’s most beautiful landscapes.