



Poulter valley mountain biking



Route guide 10a

ARTHUR'S PASS NATIONAL PARK

- 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)

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468
 Report any safety hazards or conservation emergencies
 For fire and search and rescue call 111

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Photo: Gareth Gilbert



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

General information

Grade: From Mt White Road to park boundary – 3 (intermediate)



Beyond park boundary – 2 (easy)



Distance: 27 km

Time: 3 hours 20 min

Experience: Suitable for fit, well-equipped people with low to moderate experience in the backcountry

Best season: Summer, autumn, winter

NZTopo50: Cass BV21 (NZMS260: Dampier L33)

Hazards: flooded rivers/sidestreams, wasps

There are two river crossings. Note: true left and true right refer to the side of the valley or river when looking downstream.

Safety: Safety is your responsibility. Before going on your trip take and read a free copy of the brochure *Tramping in Arthur's Pass National Park*, it is full of helpful information and safety advice.

The weather is regularly drier in this southeastern corner of the park than in Arthur's Pass Village and regions close to or west of the Main Divide. Accordingly, this trip can often be undertaken when conditions elsewhere in the park are unsuitable.

Getting there

Take State Highway 73 from Christchurch towards the West Coast. About 25 km east of Arthur's Pass village, turn onto Mt White Road. Travel for 20 km along this gravel road until just before it crosses the Poulter River. The track starts here.



Mountain-bike three-year trial

From December 2007, cyclists will be allowed to ride mountain bikes up the Poulter valley in Arthur's Pass National Park. This is a three-year, monitored trial, sanctioned by the New Zealand Conservation Authority. The trial was approved through the review of the Arthur's Pass National Park Management Plan.

The trip offers bikers great scenery, some challenges and two good huts for an overnight stay. Mountain bikers must keep to the specified route. Exploring the bush track beyond Casey Hut or areas beyond the Trust/Poulter Hut by bike could result in access being closed. Bikers are asked to follow the bikers' care code and be considerate of trampers and others they meet in the valley, as many have supported this trial.

Bikers

If you have mountain biked up the Poulter track please go to www.vorb.org.nz and take a moment to complete the feedback form that will help our monitoring programme.

Trampers

We are also keen to hear from walkers, trampers and hunters who encounter bikers on the Poulter Track. Go to the DOC website www.doc.govt.nz/poultertrial (getting involved>consultations) and fill out the feedback form.

Trip description

The 4WD track starts where the Mt White Road crosses the Poulter River as described previously. Follow this track for 13 km, across river terraces and fans to reach the park boundary fence. The ride is a grunt in places. This stretch follows a legal road that goes through Mt White Station, so respect stock and farm activities.

From the park boundary fence, it is easy riding along an old 4WD track over river flats and through bush to the Casey Stream and Casey Hut. This is a serviced 16-bunk hut (three hut tickets / night).

Beyond the hut, cross Casey Stream but DO NOT take the track through the beech forest. Instead, the route for bikers ventures out into the Poulter riverbed for 2 km, crossing the river twice—please take care. Follow another 4WD track across river flats for another four km to reach the Trust/Poulter Hut—the end point for mountain-bike access.

Return the same way.

Hut fees

Casey Hut	serviced	16 bunks
Trust/ Poulter Hut	standard	6 bunks

Serviced – 3 tickets per person/night

Standard – 1 ticket per person/night

Basic – Free

Further information

Arthur's Pass Visitor Centre

Main Road, Arthur's Pass

Phone: 03 318 9211

8.00 am to 5.00 pm (summer), 8.30 am to 4.30 pm (winter)

arthurspassvc@doc.govt.nz

Waimakariri Area Office

Rangiora

Phone 03 313 0820

Weekdays 8.00 am to 5.00 pm

waimakariri@doc.govt.nz

www.doc.govt.nz/poultertrial

www.vorb.org.nz

Poultertrial@doc.govt.nz

Suggestions for corrections or improvements should be emailed to:

recreation@doc.govt.nz

