



Experience a different 9 to 5

with a summer job at the

Department of Conservation

Photo: Petrus Hedman

Ranger (Visitor Centre)

Location	Glenorchy, Whakatipu-wai-māori/Queenstown District
Dates of Employment	October 2026 to April 2027
Salary	Salary range based on skills and experience is \$61,189 - \$67,446

Mō te tūranga | About the role

As a Visitor Centre Ranger based in Glenorchy, you'll be part of the Visitor Centre Team supporting the delivery of frontline visitor services across the Whakatipu District, providing an excellent visitor experience. The role focuses on delivering high-quality customer service, connecting visitors with recreation opportunities, and encouraging positive conservation outcomes. You'll work in a busy, tourism-focused environment, helping visitors safely access and enjoy some of Aotearoa's most iconic landscapes. The role also includes mobile ranger days at key visitor sites. You'll play an important role in ensuring visitors have safe, enjoyable and meaningful experiences on public conservation land.

Key Tasks

- Provide visitors with up-to-date information on recreation opportunities, safety, weather, track conditions, regulations, and conservation
- Deliver engaging visitor experiences through clear storytelling and interpretation of natural and cultural values
- Promote conservation outcomes, recreation opportunities, and DOC campaigns
- Support day-to-day operation of the visitor centre
- Support safe visitor use by identifying and communicating risks and hazards
- Work with field teams and other staff to support visitor information and operations
- Promote tangata whenua connections, cultural stories, and place-based knowledge
- Facilitate bookings for huts, campgrounds, and other DOC facilities using booking systems
- Promote and sell conservation-related merchandise and maintain accurate cash handling processes

Ngā pūkenga me ngā wheako | Skills and experience

- Strong communication and customer service skills, including the ability to engage a wide range of visitors and respond to email enquiries clearly and professionally
- Ability to deliver clear, accurate, and engaging information, including storytelling and interpretation
- Ability to work under pressure while maintaining high standards and accuracy
- Experience in a visitor centre or customer-focused environment (including retail/sales)
- Interest in conservation and outdoor recreation, and enthusiasm for sharing knowledge with others
- Understanding of tourism and recreation opportunities in New Zealand (Otago knowledge desirable)
- Good computer skills and ability to learn systems, including booking platforms
- Ability to work effectively as part of a small, high-performing team
- Confidence engaging visitors in outdoor, on-site environments
- Knowledge of outdoor safety messaging (e.g. weather, terrain, track conditions)
- Ability to identify and communicate risks and hazards to support visitor safety
- Full New Zealand driver's licence (held for at least 2 years; ability to drive a trailer is an advantage)
- Current first aid certificate (required)

Mō te tīma | About the team/Location

The Whakatipu District is one of Aotearoa New Zealand's premier tourism destinations, featuring alpine landscapes, lakes, rivers, and extensive recreation opportunities. The Whakatipu-wai-Māori Visitor Centre is a key gateway to tracks such as the Routeburn Great Walk, Rees-Dart, and Greenstone-Caples. Across the district, there are more than 450km of walking tracks attracting both domestic and international visitors. Based in Glenorchy, this role operates in a small, close-knit team environment and a high level of visitor interaction throughout peak periods. Work is primarily based at the Visitor Centre in Glenorchy, with some time spent supporting visitor services at high-use sites.

Additional Information

Roster: This role operates on a roster that includes weekends and public holidays. Flexible working hours are required, with the ability to cover staff leave and support peak visitor periods.

Accommodation: Not provided. Please note that Glenorchy has limited housing availability and high demand.

Number of positions: 2

- One full-time (5 days per week)
- One part-time role (2 days per week)

Me he pātai anō, whakapā mai | For further enquiries

Please contact Seasonal Jobs seasonaljobs@doc.govt.nz