



Dingle Burn and Lake Hāwea tracks

Hāwea Conservation Park



Times and distances from car park

A car park is located on the Dingleburn Station Road, 14 km from Lake Hāwea township. The track provides access to the Turihuka Conservation Area and beyond to the Hāwea Conservation Park via either the Dingle Burn valley or the mouth of the Hunter River.

Silver Island Bay: 1 hour 30 min–2 hours, 6 km

Turihuka Conservation Area (camping site)
3–4 hours, 11 km

Hāwea Conservation Park—Dingle Burn valley
6–7 hours, 17 km

Hāwea Conservation Park—Hunter River valley
8–10 hours, 32 km

To Turihuka Conservation Area



Follow the road to Rocky Point and on around the bluffs. On clear days Mount Aspiring/Tititea can be seen to the north-west. The road then passes Silver Island to reach Silver Island Bay, where the public track leaves the road and crosses the Silver Burn. It then climbs and sidles around the west side of the peninsula, for spectacular views of the Hunter valley. Turihuka Conservation Area is at the Dingle Burn mouth, five kilometres beyond the Silver Burn. It is a basic camping site: picnic table and toilet.

Dingle Burn valley



From the Turihuka Conservation Area the track follows the Dingle Burn River's true left for six kilometres. It then climbs to a terrace 120 metres above the river where a cut track starts at the edge of the bush; part of this traverses a high narrow ridgeline before descending to a small side creek. In low to normal river flows you can follow the Dingle Burn all the way to Bush Hut (above sea level 480 m); a route that involves numerous river crossings.

Beyond Bush Hut, the track continues up the valley through beech forest before ascending a narrow ridge for 200 m to bypass a large unstable slip. After descending, the track crosses a series of gullies before reaching Cotters Hut (asl 710 m). From here, travel is much easier, along grassy flats and terraces for much of the way to the historic Ben Avon Hut (day use only) and then onto Top Dingle Hut (asl 880 m). A marked track from this hut rises 600 m to the ridge line before descending into the Ahuriri valley.

1:50 000 maps NZTopo50—sheets BZ13, CA13 and CA14 are recommended. *Note: the track south of Cotters Hut marked on these maps is incorrect—follow track markers.*

Overnight options

Car park to Bush Hut: (6 bunks) 7–8 hr, 20 km

Bush Hut to Cotters Hut: (2 bunks) 7–9 hr, 10 km

Cotters Hut to Top Dingle Hut: (6 bunks) 3–4 hr, 12 km

Top Dingle Hut to Ahuriri valley: 3–4 hr, 5 km

Note: Ben Avon Hut is an historic hut for day use only. High river flows may influence track times

Lake Hāwea Track



(formerly Hunter Valley Track)

Giving access to the mouth of the Hunter River, this undulating track provides excellent lake and mountain views. From Turihuka Conservation Area, it fords the Dingle Burn then leads on to the Hunter River mouth at the lake head. Along the river flats the track weaves in and out of pockets of kānuka and silver beech/tawhai and mountain beech/tawhairauriki forest. The Hunter valley's open grasslands and braided river system lie beneath the McKerrow, Young and Huxley ranges. After entering the Hunter valley follow the valley flats to access the head of the valley.

These access tracks cross private land. Please respect livestock and property and stay on the marked track.

Dogs are not permitted

Hunters may carry unloaded firearms on these tracks if they have a current hunting permit for lands administered by DOC. Under no circumstances should you discharge your firearm before entering permitted hunting areas. Fishing in this area requires a current fishing licence that describes the seasonal restrictions.

Further information:

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Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Hāwea

Conservation Park



Walking track— gentle walking from a few minutes to a day.

Tramping track— mostly unformed but with track directional markers, poles or cairns. Backcountry skills and experience required.

Mountain biking—biking on the formed track is permitted from the car park to Turihuka and beyond to the Hunter valley; a variety of terrain raises this track category to **Advanced**. Dingle Burn Track is walking access only.

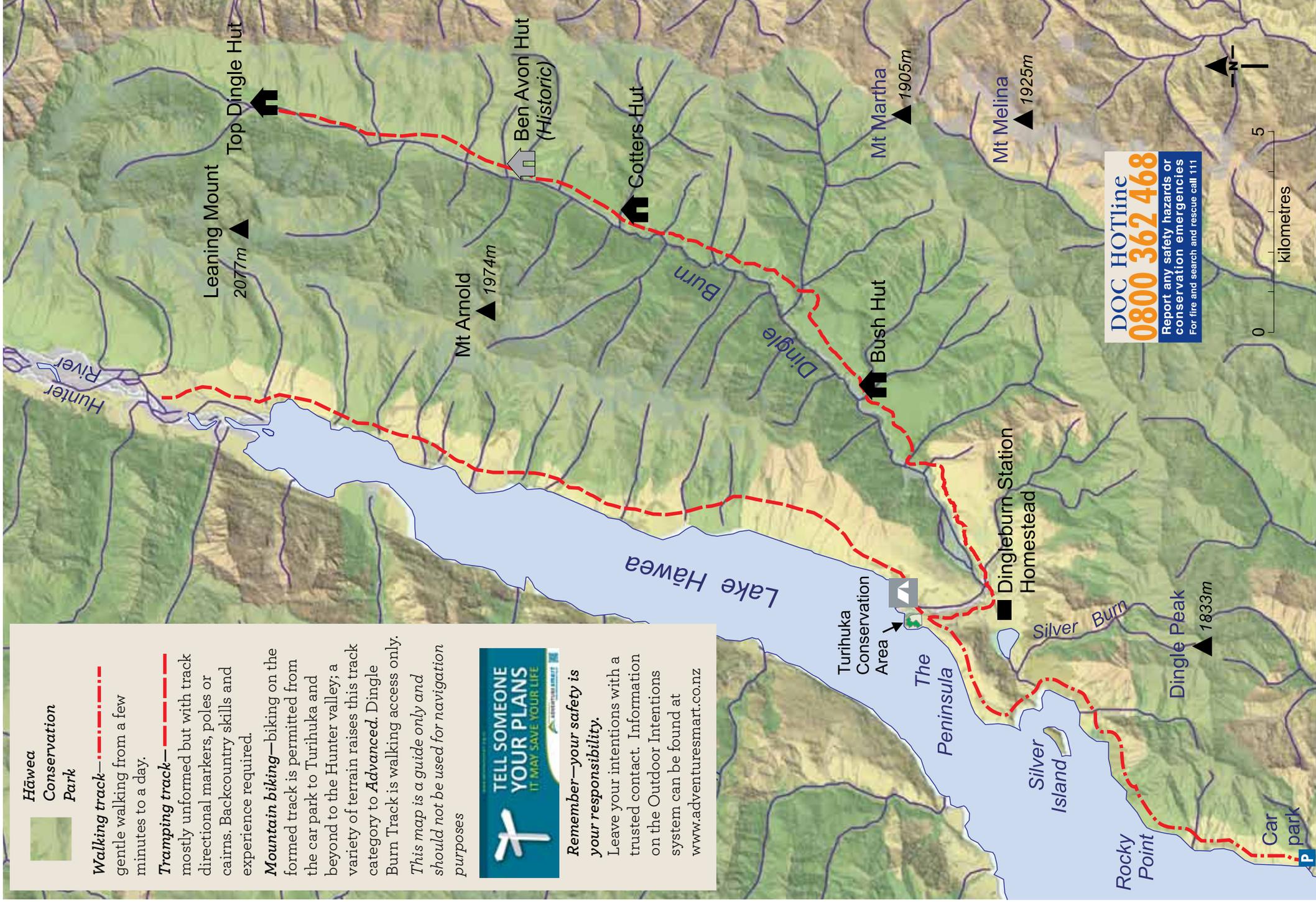
This map is a guide only and should not be used for navigation purposes



**TELL SOMEONE
YOUR PLANS**
IT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE

Remember—your safety is your responsibility.

Leave your intentions with a trusted contact. Information on the Outdoor Intentions system can be found at www.adventuresmart.co.nz



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