

Short Walks

in the Invercargill Area



Parks



Invercargill
CITY COUNCIL

Short walks in the Invercargill area

From the peace and tranquillity of the lush forest remnants, to the wild and windswept coastal margins, there is a walking track here for everyone. Calming to the soul and good for your health, an outing on a walking track is an excellent way to appreciate the beauty of the environment around you.

Step out for a leisurely walk on one of the twenty-nine walking tracks featured in this brochure. These tracks are yours to enjoy! Take your family and friends and experience a fun, safe and healthy outing together.

We invite you to explore and enjoy the great outdoors of the Invercargill area.

Choosing a walk

Choose between short easy strolls, long and winding bush trails or more demanding hill climbs.

Use the map of the Invercargill area to select where you want to go walking. The number on the map links to the description of the walking track.

Why go walking?

Walking:

Improves health and well being

Provides opportunities for social interaction with friends and family

Raises knowledge and awareness of the natural environment

Is the most sustainable mode of transport

Is free and fun

For your safety and comfort

Wear sensible, well cushioned, shoes that will make your walking experience more enjoyable

Always tell someone where you are going and what time you expect to return

Dress for the weather and be prepared for it to change

Wearing several layers is recommended on cooler days

Take sunscreen and a hat

Take a snack and a drink on longer walks

Stay on the track and keep your children in sight

Environmental Care Code

To help protect the natural environment, please follow these guidelines

Protect plants and animals

Remove rubbish

Keep streams and lakes clean

Keep to the track

Consider others

Respect our cultural heritage

Enjoy your visit

Toitu te whenua (leave the land undisturbed)



Conditions of use

The following conditions of use have been developed for your comfort and safety and relate to all tracks unless otherwise noted in the description or on signs at the track.



Pick up and remove any dog waste. Bags for this purpose should be carried at all times and are available free from the Queens Park Office and City Council Help Desk. Some Parks and Reserves now have dog doo bags and waste bins at main entrance points.



Dog waste bin.



Dogs must always be on a lead when on formed walking tracks. Pick up a copy of the brochure 'Walking Your Dog in Invercargill' for information on where you can exercise your dog off the lead.



No Horses on the walking tracks.



No Camping permitted on walking tracks or parks and reserves.



No Mountain Biking or cycling on those tracks that are walking only.



No Trail Bike Riding on parks and reserves unless signage indicates otherwise.



No Campervans.

Other Symbols used in this brochure



Toilets



Play equipment



Interpretation



Accessible toilets



Picnic facilities



Views



Parking



Walking track



Multi-use track

Litter bins are not generally provided on these walking tracks. Please act responsibly and take your rubbish home with you.





Invercargill District Map

Short Walks

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Kew Bush | 8. Anderson Park |
| 2. Southern Greenway | 9. Donovan Park |
| 3. Otepunui Walkway | 10. Talbot Street Reserve |
| 4. Bushy Point Walk | 11. Seaward Bush |
| 5. Waihopai Walkway | 12. Otatara Scenic Reserve |
| 6. Invercargill Estuary Walkway | 13. Bowmans Bush |
| 7. Thomsons Bush | 14. Taiepa Dune Reserve |

Sandy Point Domain

15. Kilmock Bush
16. Rover Track / Petrie's Track
17. Daffodil Bay Loop Track
18. Silver Lagoon (Including McShane's Track)
19. Dunns Road
20. Pit Road
21. Oreti Track
22. Omai Reserve
23. Greenpoint Reserve

Bluff Hill/ Motupöhue Walks

24. Foveaux Walkway
25. Tōpuni Track
26. Glory Track
27. Millennium Track
28. Ocean Beach Track
29. Pearce Street Track

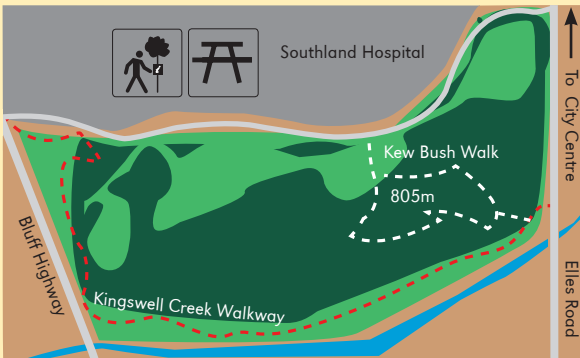
1 Kew Bush



Elles Road, Invercargill

Kew Bush is a 3.3 hectare podocarp dominant forest remnant that stands in the Southland District Health Board's Southland Hospital Bushy Point grounds. The remnant is protected by a QEII Open Space Covenant and the walking track (15 minutes return) and bush is maintained by Southland Hospital with assistance from members of the South Invercargill Lions Club. Access is off Elles Road and from the hospital grounds.

The Kingswell Creek Walkway (3086m one way) is managed by Environment Southland. It starts at the Bluff Road/Kew Road intersection and continues through Kew Bush and follows the Kingswell Creek parallel to Ball Street up to the Chesney Street intersection.



4 Bushy Point Walk



Bryson Road, Otatara

Take a self-guided walk (1 hr return) through the Bushy Point Restoration Site to a pond and wetland area, or take a shorter walk (20 minutes return) to a viewpoint. This community project aims to transform grazing land into native forest and wetland habitat, and is an ongoing restoration project. This is a marked grass trail on Department of Conservation land and is managed by the Otatara Landcare Group.



2 Southern Greenway



Bluff Road to Chesney Street

Take a stroll along the Southern Greenway Reserve, a long strip of land running in a northwest-southeast direction from Bluff Highway to Chesney Street. The reserve forms part of the former Seaward Bush Railway corridor and links with the Invercargill Estuary Walkway. This is an informal grass trail (2700 m one way) and care must be taken at the street crossings. *Elston Lea Reserve adjoins Southern Greenway to the north, providing a recreational linkage to McQuarrie Street, with a walk/cycleway running through the reserve.*

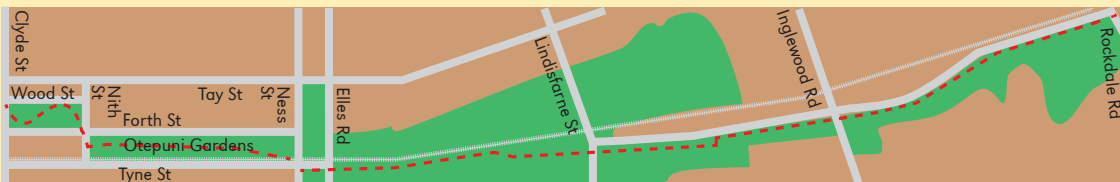


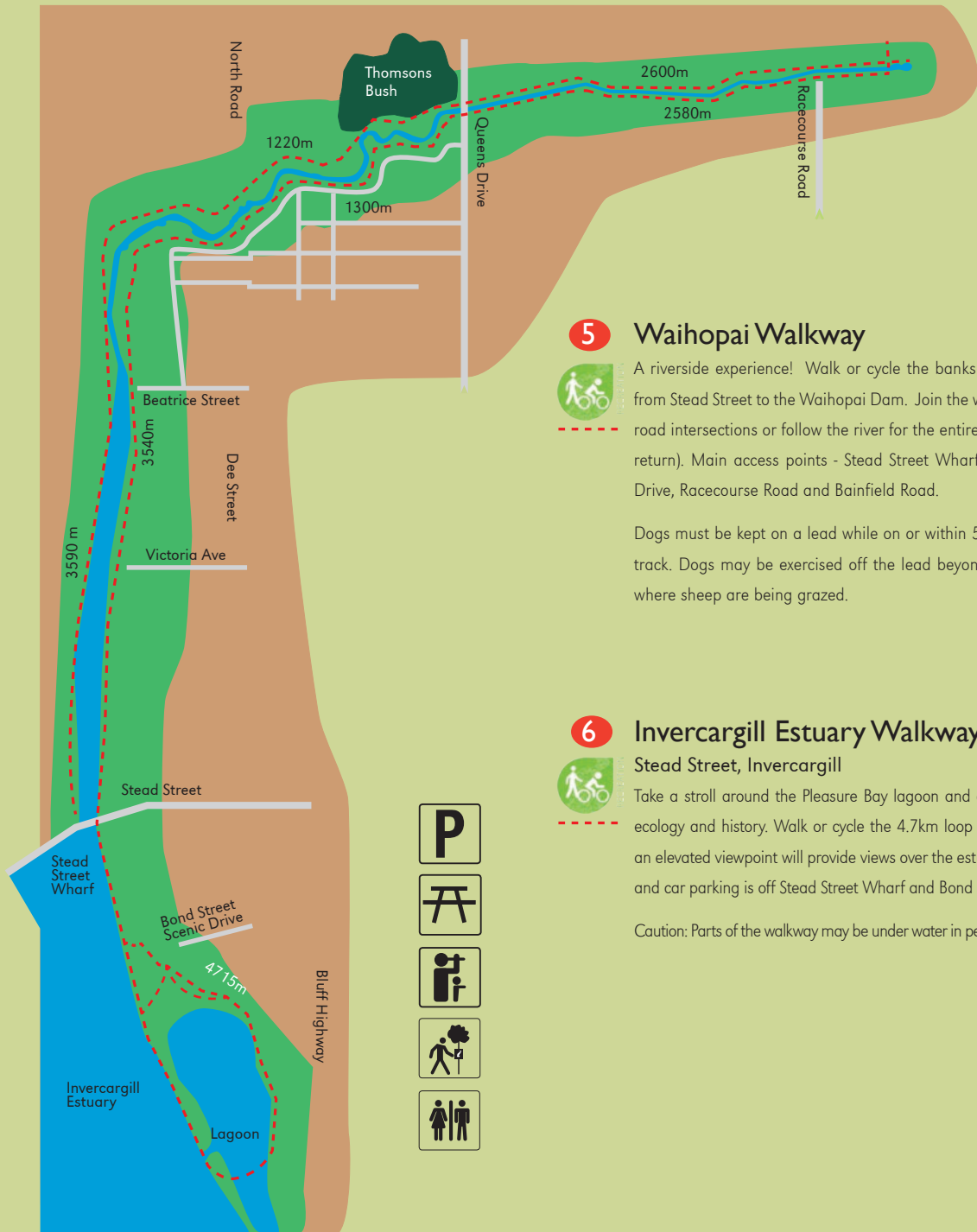
3 Otepunu Walkway



Rockdale Road to Clyde Street

This well formed track follows the Otepunu Creek as it runs east to west through Invercargill. Most of this walkway follows the top of the flood bank giving an elevated view of the surrounding city and neighbouring reserves including the Otepunu Gardens, Invercargill's first City park. Join the track at one of the many street crossings, or walk the entire length (3843m approx). Take care crossing the busy roads.





5 Waihopai Walkway



A riverside experience! Walk or cycle the banks of the Waihopai River from Stead Street to the Waihopai Dam. Join the walkway at a number of road intersections or follow the river for the entire 15km loop (4.5 hours return). Main access points - Stead Street Wharf, North Road, Queens Drive, Racecourse Road and Bainfield Road.

Dogs must be kept on a lead while on or within 5 metres of the walking track. Dogs may be exercised off the lead beyond this, excluding areas where sheep are being grazed.

6 Invercargill Estuary Walkway



Stead Street, Invercargill
Take a stroll around the Pleasure Bay lagoon and discover an area rich in ecology and history. Walk or cycle the 4.7km loop track. A shorter walk to an elevated viewpoint will provide views over the estuary and lagoon. Access and car parking is off Stead Street Wharf and Bond Street.

Caution: Parts of the walkway may be under water in periods of extreme weather.

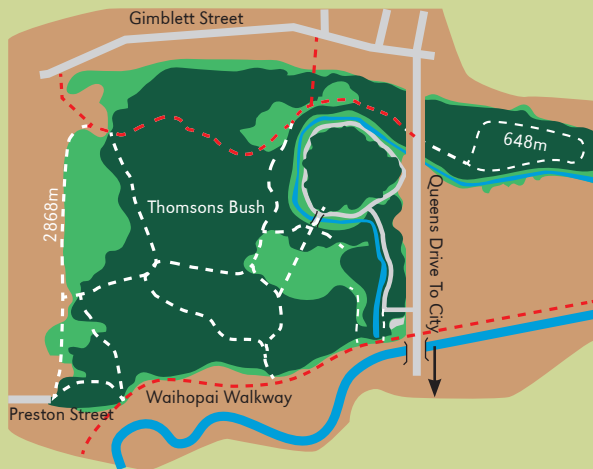
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7 Thomsons Bush

Queens Drive, Invercargill



A network of 3514m walking tracks wind through Thomsons Bush on both sides of Queens Drive. The 33 hectare forest is one of the few remnants of swamp forest dominated by kahikatea, matai and ribbonwood that once covered much of the Southland area. Also accessed from Preston Street, Gimblett Street and off the Waihopai Walkway.



8 Anderson Park

Mclvor Road, Invercargill



A well defined walking track takes you through a remnant of native bush, typical of what once covered much of the Southland plains. Kahikatea, rimu, thin-barked totara, matai, miro and the principal canopy tree, pokaka can be found here. Enjoy the manicured grounds and playground in front of the stately.



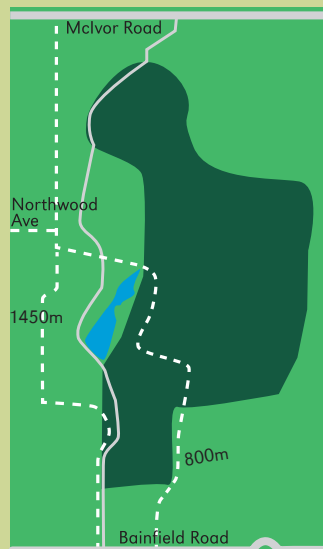
9 Donovan Park

Bainfield Road and Mclvor Road, Invercargill



Take a stroll through the semi-rural environment of Donovan Park on the northern fringe of Invercargill. Follow the informal grass trails through a combination of parkland and farmland and see a variety of animals grazing

in the paddocks. Pedestrian access is also off Northwood Avenue. Access may be closed to some trails during lambing or fawning. Please keep your dogs under control at all times. Special exemption allows dogs to be off lead along these informal trails.



10 Talbot Street Reserve

Talbot Street, Invercargill



The reserve provides an open green space and from many parts of the reserve, a pleasant rural outlook is gained.

The multiuse walk/cycle ways are well formed and undulating as you pass by pockets of native vegetation and a natural wetland and riparian environment.

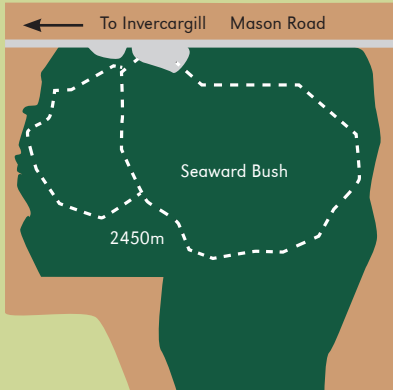


11 Seaward Bush

Mason Road, Invercargill



From the sheltered picnic area walking tracks form a figure eight through the bush. The forest remnant is home to a range of native trees and shrubs with graceful tree ferns scattered through thickets of kamahi. Although logged before 1920 it is a good example of the bush cover that would have cloaked much of the area prior to human occupation.

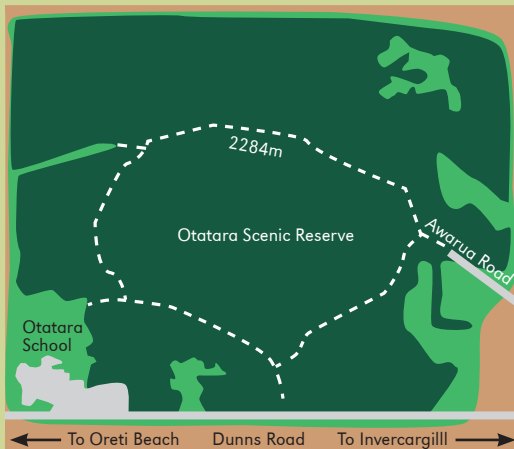


12 Otatarā Scenic Reserve

Dunns Road, Otatarā



A loop track through podocarp forest starts and finishes at the picnic shelter and car park off Dunns Road. The reserve contains a mosaic of forest communities, from manuka shrubland to mature mixed podocarp forest. Listen for the song of tui and piwakawaka (fantail) amongst the canopy of totara, matai, lemonwood, pokaka and occasional rimu. Access is also available from Awarua Road.

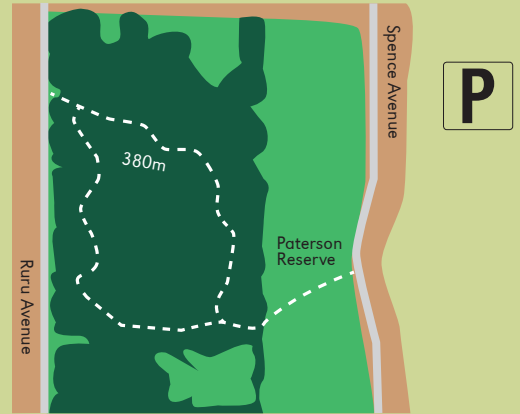


13 Bowmans Bush

Ruru Avenue and Spence Avenue, Otatarā



A loop track (10 minutes return) takes you past a mix of matai, kahikatea, totara, rimu and pokaka. This is a good example of podocarp forest in Otatarā. This bush remnant, maintained by Council, is the only QEII Trust owned property in Southland.



14 Taiapa Dune Reserve

Raeburn Avenue, Grant Road and Taiapa Road, Otatarā



The undulating track takes you through a remnant of coastal sand dune forest and grassy clearings in the sand dune landforms.



Sandy Point Domain

Dunns Road

Sandy Point Domain is an outstanding natural playground with over 2000 hectares of land available for recreational pursuits. Sandy Point's ancient sand dune forest of wind sculptured totara and matai is rare and nationally important. Other native podocarp include rimu, miro and kahikatea. The native and plantation forests, estuarine mudflats and salt marshes, which fringe the Oreti River, are home to prolific plant and animal life. A 20km network of well-formed walking tracks makes it easy to explore Sandy Point on foot.

Sandy Point

15 Kilmock Bush



This gently undulating loop track starts from Fosbender Park and passes through a carpet of bush lily/astelia and hounds tongue fern/kowaowao, beneath gnarled totara trees. Access Fosbender Park to the north off Dunns Road after the Oreti River Bridge.

16 Rover Track / Petrie's Track



Take the coastal Rover Track to Daffodil Bay and return via the open pine forest of Petrie's Track. The Rover Track passes a lookout point and hugs the shoreline through regenerating native vegetation. Tracks start from the car park at the eastern end of McLennans Flat and Daffodil Bay.

17 Daffodil Bay Loop Track



This track combines a totara/matai forest with good estuary views. From the Daffodil Bay picnic area take the coastal route to Hatch's Hill Lookout with a side trip to Noki Kaik beach. Return to Daffodil Bay via the inland route.

18 Silver Lagoon (Including McShane's Track)



RECREATION

The Silver Lagoon is the hidden gem of Sandy Point providing an important wildlife habitat for birds and other fauna. The track starts opposite the settlement at Cooper's Creek and passes through an attractive remnant of native forest opening out to a forestry fire break. The track to Silver Lagoon follows McShane's Track a short way and returns the same way.

No dogs allowed at Silver Lagoon.

19 Dunns Road Walkway/Cycleway



RECREATION

From Dunns Road Bridge to beach entrance, Sandy Point 2.2km one way

This well formed walkway/cycleway begins at the Dunns Road Bridge and heads west to the beach entrance on Dunns Road. Watch for traffic at vehicle crossings.

20 Pit Road Walkway/Cycleway



RECREATION

From the corner of Pit Road/Dunns Road to the Mountain Bike car park, Sandy Point. 3.1 km one way

This well formed walkway/cycleway begins at the corner of Dunns Road and Pit Road and follows Pit Road south, then crosses Links Road and carries on to the Mountain Bike car park. From here you can use the mountain bike tracks available and return along this same track or alternatively you can cross Sandy Point Road and return to Dunns Road via the Oreti walkway/cycleway with views of the Oreti River.

21 Oreti Walkway/Cycleway



RECREATION

From Dunns Road to the Mountain Bike car park, Sandy Point 3.6km one way

This well formed walkway/cycleway begins at the Dunns Road Bridge and heads south via McLauchlans Road to reach the Mountain Bike car park. From here you can make use of the mountain bike tracks and return along this same track or alternatively you could go back to Dunns Road via the Pit Road walkway/cycleway.

Views of the Oreti River and other interesting landscapes make this a great walk or ride. Watch for traffic at sports club entrances and at Sandy Point Road.



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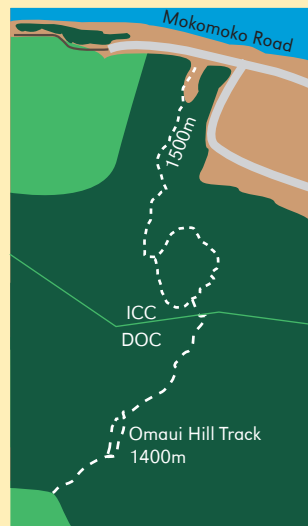
Omaui Reserve



221 Mokomoko Road, Omaui



A loop track through regenerating coastal bush takes you past an elevated lookout platform. Enjoy the panoramic views over the Invercargill Estuary and Sandy Point towards the Takitimu Range on the horizon. The Omaui Hill Track is on Department of Conservation land and owned by the Omaui Tracks Trust. The track takes you through beautiful, ferny bush to a viewpoint at the top of the hill. Look for giant rata and manuka trees, parakeets and Kidney ferns. No Bikes allowed. Please close gates and please respect private property.



23

Greenpoint Reserve



2392 Bluff Highway, Greenpoint



A well graded walking track and boardwalk follows the shoreline of Greenpoint, providing panoramic views across Bluff Harbour and highlighting features of natural and historic interest. A viewing platform overlooks the ship graveyard and identifies some of Bluff Harbour's historic landmarks. *Note: The railway track is in regular use. Stop, look and listen before crossing.*



Bluff Hill / Motupōhue Walks

Original native forest, a rocky wind battered coastline and shrub covered hillsides are some of the delights of Bluff Hill/Motupōhue. Spectacular views over Foveaux Strait and the Southland Plains are the reward from the top of Bluff Hill. Tracks are well marked and range from easy gradients to steep climbs and are jointly managed by the Invercargill City Council Parks Division and the Department of Conservation. Car parking and access from Stirling Point, Gunpit Road and the top of Bluff Hill (signposted off SH1). Toilets are available at Stirling Point.

24 Foveaux Walkway



Stirling Point to Lookout Point
(60 minutes one way)

The coastal track from Stirling Point to Lookout Point has an easy grade and well-compacted surface providing good views across Foveaux Strait.

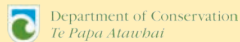
25 Tōpuni Track



Stirling Point to Bluff Hilltop

A short track from Stirling Point climbs steeply past the WWII gun emplacement to meet the Tōpuni Track, Gunpit Road access and Glory Track. The Tōpuni Track continues up an undulating path (steep in parts) through regenerating forest and coastal shrub lands to the summit of Bluff Hill.

26 Glory Track



Tōpuni Track to Foveaux Walkway
(60 minutes one way)

The Glory Track offers an alternative return track through the quiet shelter of native forest.

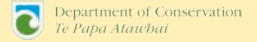
27 Millennium Track



Lookout Point to Bluff Hilltop

A steep track from Lookout Point to the summit of Bluff Hill through wind-shorn shrubland is rewarded by superb views across Foveaux Strait to Stewart Island/Rakiura.

28 Ocean Beach Track



Lookout Point to Ocean Beach
(90 minutes one way)

The coastal track becomes a marked route across private farmland. No dogs allowed. Fur Seals and Southern Right Whales may visit the coast in winter.

29 Pearce Street Track



Pearce Street to McDougall Street

This short, undulating easy grade walk/cycle track winds along open scrubland, with views over Bluff and out to the ocean in places.



For more information

This brochure has been produced by the Invercargill City Council Parks Division with input and support from the Department of Conservation, Environment Southland, QEII National Trust, Southland District Health Board and the Otatara Landcare Group. The logo against each track description identifies the authority responsible for its management. In many cases more detailed information on these walking tracks is available from these agencies or owners.

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Disclaimer

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