



HUMP RIDGE TRACK

ITINERARY



Explore the untamed edge of Fiordland’s great wilderness on New Zealand’s newest Great Walk.

Set where the mountains meet the sea, the Hump Ridge Track weaves through sub-alpine forests, along remote beaches, and across a spectacular ridgeline with alpine tarns and limestone tors.

What sets the Hump Ridge Track apart is its blend of natural beauty and human history. Explore the relics of a once-thriving sawmill town, walk across hand-built viaducts from the early 20th century, and uncover the stories of the people who once called this region home. Along the way you’ll stay in warm and welcoming lodges with hot showers, hearty meals and beautiful coastal and sub-alpine backdrops.

With a helicopter flight to start the adventure, expert guides to bring the landscape to life, and all the logistics taken care of, this is an accessible and remarkable experience for anyone with a love of wild places.

LENGTH	4 days
GRADE	C (sub alpine hiking and uneven terrain)
START	5.30pm, 31 Orawia Street, Tuatapere. (transfers available)
FINISH	3:00pm, Tuatapere (transfers available)
DEPARTURES	2026 Nov: 5, 9, 16, 23, 30 Dec: 7, 14 2027 Jan: 4, 7, 14, 18, 25, 28 Feb: 4, 8, 15, 18, 22 Mar: 1, 4, 8, 15, 22, 29 Apr: 5
PRICE	Jul 2026 - 30 Jun 2027 Adult NZD \$2,395.00 Adult (compulsory single supplement - solo hiker) NZD \$2,425.00 Dinner at Last Light Lodge NZD \$65.00 Private room upgrade NZD \$300.00

“AWESOME HIKE

While this is a challenging track. The fact you don't need to pack cooking equipment and can buy dehydrated meals, snacks and beer wine etc at lodges makes it much more manageable. You get a comfy bed and porridge for breakfast. Hiking in style. First day includes a steep climb but views or enchanted forest make it worth while. At the end of day two you may be lucky enough to see or swim with hectors dolphins. Lodges and hosts are great with options to upgrade to own room. Thoroughly enjoyed all 3 days of hiking.

~ GriffinLeanne - March, **TripAdvisor**

“EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS”

I did the guided walk last weekend and highly recommend it. The walk itself is amazing and so diverse. Loved the bush, the spectacular views, the beaches. Even saw Hector Dolphins. Our guides Dallas and Ant were great! True southern hospitality and they really looked after us. They were very knowledgeable about the environment as well.

~ MarGrant - Queenstown, November, **Trip Advisor**

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ARRIVE AT TUATAPERERE

Pre-trip transfer and briefing

Tuatapere is located 100 km from both Invercargill and Te Anau along the Southern Scenic Route. If you require them, transfers can be arranged from Queenstown, Te Anau, and Invercargill. Meet your guide at the Tuatapere Hump Ridge Track Office for a pre-trip briefing, followed by a short walk to your accommodation for the evening, the Last Light Lodge (solo hikers have a compulsory single room on this night), where you can enjoy a delicious dinner prepared with fresh produce grown in their own gardens. The meal can be booked when you make your trip reservation.

DAY 2 TUATAPERERE - FLAT CREEK - OKAKA LODGE

12km / 5 - 6 hours hiking

We pick you up from your accommodation at 8am. Join the bus ride to the pick up point for your scenic helicopter flight at Rarakau. A helicopter ride over Te Waewae Bay delivers you to the start of your walk. You will climb up to the top of the Hump Ridge, experiencing the diversity of beautiful native bush as it changes dramatically with elevation gain. After a brief rest at Stag Point to take in the views over Stewart Island and the Southern Ocean, you will head to the top of the ridge and walk around the breathtaking Loop Track with 360 degree views of Fiordland. Arrive at Okaka, a lodge 'on top of the world' (890m), and unwind as you admire the views, settle into your room and, of course, take a hot shower. You will feel at home with our lodge manager's home cooking and hospitality. *Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.*

DAY 3 OKAKA LODGE TO PORT CRAIG

20km / 7 - 9 hours hiking

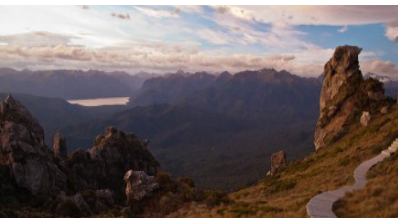
After breakfast you will wander down the Hump Ridge, enjoying stunning views of Te Wae Wae Bay, the South Coast, Waitutu terraces and mountains of Fiordland. While you are walking over the two mighty wooden viaducts (and around the Percy Burn viaduct) on the way to Port Craig Village, consider the men who built them almost a century ago. The guide will share many stories from the days when Port Craig was a bustling sawmill town.

During the 1920s Port Craig had the largest and most modern sawmill in New Zealand. The milling company employed over 150 men and produced up to 1800 cubic metres of timber a month. Logs were transported to the mill along a tramway from the terraced forests to the west, between Port Craig and the Wairaurahiri River. Large hardwood viaducts were constructed to carry the tram lines over ravines. The Percy Burn Viaduct is 125 metres long and 36 metres above the creek bed. It was fully repaired in 1994. The other viaducts were refurbished in 1999. Timber was shipped directly from Port Craig and the old wharf piles remain, along with old building materials and the Port Craig School. Milling ceased in 1932. If you are interested in the history that surrounds Port Craig, take the interpretive trail and explore relics from the sawmilling days. Alternatively just meander down to the beach and watch the resident Hector's Dolphins playing in the bay. At Port Craig lodge, the friendly lodge manager will welcome you to your room and you can once again enjoy their hospitality while taking in your new coastal backdrop. *Includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.*

DAY 4 PORT CRAIG TO TUATAPERERE

20km / 5 - 7 hours hiking

Mornings at Port Craig start (weather permitting) with a chorus of bellbirds and tuis. Fantails, brown creepers, rifleman, grey warblers, moreporks, silver eyes and tomtits are also abundant. To complete the track, your group will meander through native bush canopy, then along the beautiful golden beaches - one named Blowholes because of the waves that are blown up by the outcrop ring of rocks. To finish your day, walk along Bluecliffs Beach and out to Rarakau Car Park where you will be driven back to the office in Tuatapere arriving there 3pm (approximately) in time to meet the shuttle to Te Anau/Queenstown. The shuttle arrives in Te Anau just before 5pm. Those continuing on to Queenstown will arrive there 7.30pm. Transfer to Invercargill is also available. *Includes breakfast and lunch.*



LIFE ON THE TRAIL

GRADE C

- Up to 9 hrs of physical activity per day.
- At times carrying a backpack of 5-7kgs.
- Tracks generally in good condition.
- Altitude gains of up to 800m on harder days.
- No hiking experience necessary.
- Reasonable standard of fitness required

No previous hiking experience is required, but you need to be reasonably fit and enthusiastic.

You will be carrying a medium sized daypack for up to 9 hours. The first day on the trail you climb over 800m.

The second day you go down again. The track is a mixture of boardwalk and steps, natural tracks and remains of the old tramline. The descent from the Hump Ridge is steep and can be muddy at times.



GUIDES AND SAFETY

The guides are dedicated to your safety and satisfaction. They have been chosen for their special knowledge and receive additional training on the local flora, fauna and history. They are trained in first aid and are in radio contact with each other, the lodges and the Tuatapere base at all times.



FOOD

All food is included for you while on the track, including breakfast on the first morning in your Tuatapere accommodation. Gourmet dinners and wine with a distinctive New Zealand flavour, breakfasts and picnic lunches (which you carry) are provided. Additional NZ wines are available for sale at the lodges. Please advise the office if you have any dietary needs at the time of booking. This is essential: due to the remoteness it is unlikely to be able to provide other food options at short notice. If speciality foods are needed to meet your needs there will be an additional charge of \$50 per person (correct at the time of publishing).

TRANSPORT

Return and one-way transfers are available from Queenstown, Te Anau and Invercargill. Shuttle bookings are essential and can be made at the time of reservation.

Queenstown return NZD \$195.00

Te Anau return NZD \$110.00

Invercargill return NZD \$110.00

Queenstown one-way to/from NZD \$145.00

Te Anau one-way to/from NZD \$75.00

Invercargill one-way to/from NZD \$75.00

(Prices are per person and correct at the time of publishing)

Queenstown: transfer departs Queenstown airport at 2pm, for arrival in Tuatapere at 4.30pm (depending on availability). On some occasions, alternative transfers may be utilised, so please check with us before booking connecting flights.

Te Anau: the Hump Ridge Shuttle departs from Te Anau for Tuatapere at 4.30pm, arriving at 5.30pm.

Invercargill: the Hump Ridge Shuttle departs Invercargill at 12.30pm and 4.30pm. If returning to Invercargill, the shuttle departs Tuatapere at 3.30pm.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in Tuatapere (day 1) offers twin share and double rooms with ensuites. If you are a solo hiker, you'll need to pay a compulsory single supplement, giving you your own room on this night only. At times, alternative accommodation to the itinerary may be used for the pre tour.

On the track, stay in modern backcountry lodges featuring gas heating and cooking, solar lighting, flush toilets and drying rooms. All cutlery, utensils, bedding linen, towels and hot showers are provided. Rooms are shared bunkroom accommodation with pillows, fitted sheet, sleep sheet and covered duvet.

If you would like a private room while on the track, upgrades are available for NZ\$300 per room, with either double or twin king single beds. Private rooms accommodate up to two people.

LIFE ON THE TRAIL

ADDITIONAL COSTS

The Lodges have a licensed bar and shop where you can purchase a range of New Zealand wine and beer, as well as additional snacks and refreshments. Take some cash or a credit card (sorry, no EFTPOS available).

Non-walker helicopter transfers between lodges are charged per sector. Please contact us for price.

Please advise the office if you have any dietary needs at least 7 days prior to your arrival. This is essential: due to the remoteness it is unlikely to be able to provide other food options at short notice. If speciality foods are needed to meet your needs there will be an additional charge of \$50 per person.

Price includes

- Pre-walk accommodation in Tuatapere (solo hikers pay a compulsory single supplement for this night)
- Return transport from Tuatapere to the trailhead
- Helicopter flight from Rarakau across Te Waewae Bay
- Heli-pack of your pack up the hill to Okaka on the first day of hiking (max 12kg)
- Multi-share accommodation on the track, or upgrade to a private room at your cost
- All linen and towels supplied
- Hot showers
- All meals on the track and snacks
- Guide

BOOKING CONDITIONS

If the management/operator declares the walk unfit due to severe weather and track conditions, a full refund will apply. The management/operator reserves the right to alter prices, times, itineraries and, if necessary, arrange alternative transportation and walking arrangements.

Payment

For bookings 4 or months in advance of the departure a 25% deposit can be paid with the remainder due 95 days prior to your trip. For bookings within 4 months of the departure, full payment is required.

Cancellations

If you wish to cancel a booking for any reason, including medical, the cancellation must be forwarded in writing.

8 weeks or more prior to departure date: 25% of the tour price forfeited.

8 to 6 weeks: 50% of the tour price forfeited.

6 weeks or less: 100% of the tour price forfeited.

No refund on any portion of the trip can be given after departure.

Travel Insurance

We suggest clients take out comprehensive travel insurance.

Notes

This trip is run in conjunction with another operator.

Any person under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult. The track is not recommended for children younger than 11. If the track is closed due to bad weather or track conditions, a full refund will be given. Cancelled groups will be able to depart on the track only if there are vacancies available once the track reopens. This is a wilderness trip with an element of danger attached. The operators and its agents will not be liable for any injury, damage, loss or delay by reason of weather or defect.

PACKING LIST

Your personal belongings will be carried on the first day only, by helicopter, arriving at your destination before you, so that you will be able to walk carrying the minimum of weight. On Day 2 and 3 you will need to carry your pack so please keep the weight to a minimum. The maximum allowance of weight for the helicopter luggage is 15kg. In the rare event of weather conditions preventing prompt delivery of your luggage, emergency equipment and supplies are available at the huts. A variety of walking equipment, day packs, raincoats, gaiters and walking poles are available for hire. Please advise in advance.

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Pair of shorts/trousers (quick-dry highly recommended)
- Polar fleece jacket or top
- 2 sets of Woollen (merino) or polypropylene thermal underwear (top and bottom)
- Woollen or thermal socks (three pairs), underwear and handkerchief
- Small towel or flannel
- Warm hat (fleece or woollen) and light gloves
- Waterproof raincoat with hood
- Hiking boots or strong walking shoes, preferably with ankle support
- Pair of light shoes or sandals
- T shirt for fine weather
- Change of clothes for evenings
- Day pack (20 litres) with waterproof liner

- Small personal torch or headlamp
- Water bottle
- Personal medicine and toiletries
- Second skin or Footfleece for blisters
- Insect repellent, sunscreen
- Small personal torch

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Camera and film/memory cards
- Gaiters, walking poles
- Sun hat and swim wear
- Money as there is an opportunity to purchase wine and beers at the lodges.

You can leave any luggage you are travelling with, but do not need for the hike, at the Hump Ridge Track Office in Tuatapere.