

Tracks and Walks

Follow one of the many tracks and trails to see more of the wonderful landscape surrounding the Otago Central Rail Trail.



Alexandra to Clyde Anniversary Walk and Bike Track

Start in Alexandra or Clyde and follow the Clutha River for 12m. This track is suitable for the whole family.

From Alexandra, start at the carpark sign 300m along Earnsclough Road from SH8.

From Clyde go over the Earnsclough Bridge and turn sharp right under the bridge to the start of the track.

Naseby Trails - some of the best biking terrain in New Zealand.

The Forest Recreation Area covers more than 500 ha. Free access for personal recreational use is permitted on approx. 50km of biking and walking tracks during daylight hours and subject to fire danger and logging operations.

Visit the Naseby Information Centre to see what else you can do in the historic town of Naseby.

Oteake Conservation Park

Explore and experience Oteake, a vast landscape of golden tussock and changing light. Oteake is 65,000 hectares of mountainous high country, tussock plateaus, scree slopes, shrubland and wetland. The distinctive flat-topped Hawkdun Range is the park's centrepiece and adjoining public conservation land covers large sections of the St Bathans, Ewe, Hawkdun, Ida and St Marys ranges and parts of the upper Manuherikia basin. Brochure and map available from the Department of Conservation website www.doc.govt.nz or the Alexandra Office



Alexandra Clock Lookout

Follow the Manuherikia River Track and cross the river over Shaky Bridge.

The Shaky Bridge, completed in 1879 was built to provide a link between the growing town and the hinterland to the east of the Manuherikia and Clutha Rivers.

Cross the Bridge and follow the uneven rocky path to the 11-metre-high Alexandra Clock built in 1968. A stunning view of Alexandra awaits.

20 min return

Sutton Salk Lake

Approx. 7km south of Middlemarch plus 2.5km down Kidds Road.

Nestled amongst the spectacular parallel rock tor ridges of Sutton, lies Sutton Salt Lake, New Zealand's only inland Salt Lake. Although often dry, salt tolerant herbs and grasses occupy the lake margins and a range of water birds and waders use the lake, feeding on the tiny salt-adapted aquatic animals, including copepods, rotifers and water beetles. Easy loop walking track around the Lake. 40 – 60 minutes



Flat Top Hill

Walk or mountain bike around Flat Top Hill, where native species grow in the driest of conditions. See the historical evidence of early European and Chinese settlements.

For walking and mountain biking, old 4WD access tracks exist and loop back on themselves providing numerous combinations for exploration.

Flat Top Hill access is over Butchers Dam located 6km south of Alexandra on SH8.

Lake Roxburgh Walkway

From Graveyard Gully this trail follows an old bridle path that transported coal to the gold mining dredges from 1890s – 1930s.

You can bike to Butchers Point, beyond that the track becomes rough to Doctors Point, less defined and exposed in places, only suitable for walking/tramping.

10km return via the same track. Be prepared for changeable weather.

Visit Alexandra DOC office for more information.

Thomsons Track

Taking you from Manuherikia Valley to Bendigo in the Upper Clutha Valley.

Starting at Glassford Road near the old gold mining town of Matakanui, this trail winds its way up through the gorge and over the 900m saddle into the Bendigo area - Magical views can be photographed as you look back to the east side.

The old gold road from Omakau will take you past several old gold town relics and historic remains. The 37km track is well formed with a good surface and winds up through hills that will give you impressive views of Omakau, Lake Dunstan and the Raggedy Range.

If you want to visit the historic town of Bendigo, the detour will add about ten kilometres to your trip but for those that have an interest in historic ruins, it will be well worth the detour.

Biking Fitness – Intermediate, steep climbs
30km trip (140km round trip back to Alexandra)