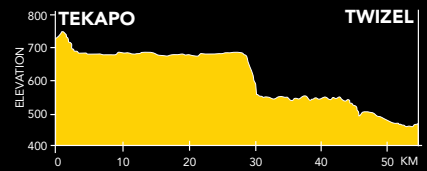


54km

# ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: Lake Tekapo to Twizel

Fitness: Easy • Skill: Easy • Traffic: Low • Grade: 2



KEY: Onroad — Off-road trail - - - - -

0 1 2 3 4 5km  
Scale

The alternative route begins in the Tekapo township near the police station. There is an off-road track just up the road. Follow this track until you reach Aorangi Crescent. Following the red arrows, turn left and continue along Aorangi Crescent until it turns into Andrew Don Drive. Eventually Andrew Don Drive becomes a gravel road. Passing Tekapo A Power Station **3km** continue along the Tekapo Canal Road to the gate where vehicles are excluded **9km**. Take care crossing SH8 **15km** then continue on past the Salmon farm and toilet **24km**, before dropping down to Lake Pukaki **30km**. Turn left onto Hayman Rd and ride **5km** to the start of the off-road trail on your right **35km** which follows the Lake Pukaki shoreline. With Aoraki/ Mt Cook as a backdrop, the trail passes over the Pukaki dam, taking you to the car park

at the Mt Cook Alpine Salmon shop **44km**. You then cross the highway and follow the trail across Pukaki Flats – an expansive area of dry grasslands that are characteristic of the Mackenzie landscape. This takes you to the town of Twizel **54km**. Take care crossing the State Highway.



## Highlights:

- Lake Tekapo
- Church of the Good Shepherd
- Tekapo Canal
- Pattersons Ponds
- Tekapo River
- Lake Pukaki
- Aoraki Mackenzie Dark Sky Reserve
- More Lake Pukaki to Twizel highlights on SECTION 2 map

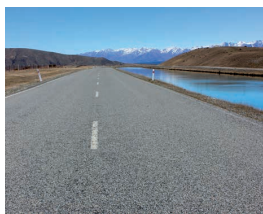
## Safety Notes:

There can sometimes be strong wind gusts along the Tekapo Canal Road. Although vehicle access is restricted along most of the Tekapo Canal Road, there may be service vehicles operating. The road may be closed for operational and public safety purposes. Please check TRAIL STATUS page on website.

## Trail Surfaces:



Gravel Road (19%)



Sealed Road (46%)



Smooth Shingle (35%)

**Trail route and weather conditions subject to change. Please check website before daily departure.**

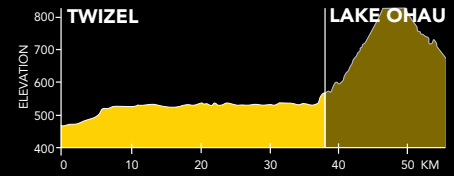


**\$10 TRAIL SUPPORTER WRISTBAND – BUY YOURS AT TEKAPO SPRINGS INFO CENTRE**

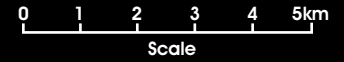
38km

# SECTION 3: Twizel to Lake Ohau Lodge

Fitness: Easy • Skill: Easy • Traffic: Low • Grade: 2



KEY: Onroad Off-road trail Ohau Weir Flood Route Picnic Area



From Twizel, you follow Mackenzie Drive, then Nuns Veil Road which takes you to Glen Lyon Road. Follow this until it crosses the canal bridge just past Loch Cameron **6km**. After crossing the bridge, stay on the two lane northern side of the canal road until reaching the edge of Lake Ohau **18km**. From there an off-road trail descends down to the lake foreshore, taking you to the Ohau Weir **20km**. After the weir the trail skirts around the lake foreshore where it eventually meets up with the sealed Lake Ohau Road **29km**. Follow the road for the final 10km to Lake Ohau Lodge (you go past Lake Ohau Village).

**Trail route and weather conditions subject to change. Please check website before daily departure.**



## Safety Notes:

When the Ohau Weir is in flood, there is no way across. **Do not attempt to cross weir if water is flowing over it.** The alternate flood route is to follow the highway from Twizel riding south 4km to Lake Ruataniwha. Just opposite the salmon farm, turn onto the 4WD track alongside the lake. Follow this for 15km to the weir. If the weir is closed it will be noted on the website. The flood route is rough and steep in places and mountain bikes are recommended.

## Highlights:

- Canal fishing
- Kaki/Black Stilt Visitor Hide
- Loch Cameron (swimming spot)
- Pukaki & Ohau Canals
- Lake Ohau Foreshore
- Ohau Weir
- Maori Swamp

## Trail Surfaces:



Sealed Road (72%)



Grass Track (less than 1%)



Smooth Shingle (28%)

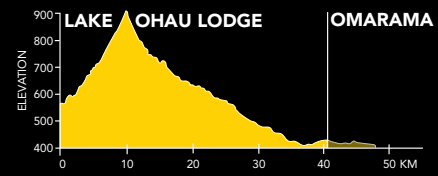


**\$10 TRAIL SUPPORTER WRISTBAND – BUY YOURS AT LAKE OHAU LODGE**

45km

# SECTION 4: Lake Ohau Lodge to Omarama

Fitness: Intermediate • Skill: Intermediate • Traffic: Low • Grade: 3



Starting from the Lake Ohau Lodge driveway, the trail traverses the lower slopes of the Ruataniwha Conservation Park, with stunning views back across the basin to the Ben Ohau Range. **6km** of easy cycling will take you to Freehold Creek, 600m above sea level. From here the track narrows and it's a steady climb to the high point on the trail at 900m **11km**. Please be aware that there are several 'false summits' where the trail appears to reach the high point, but instead keeps winding upwards. There is plenty of clean drinking water available from the various streams that flow down from the mountains. Once at the high point it is a rolling descent to the historic woolshed at the top of Quailburn Road **19km**. Toilets and parking are available here. On the way down Quailburn Road you can turn onto Henburn Rd **36km** and take a side trip to see the Clay Cliffs (14km return).

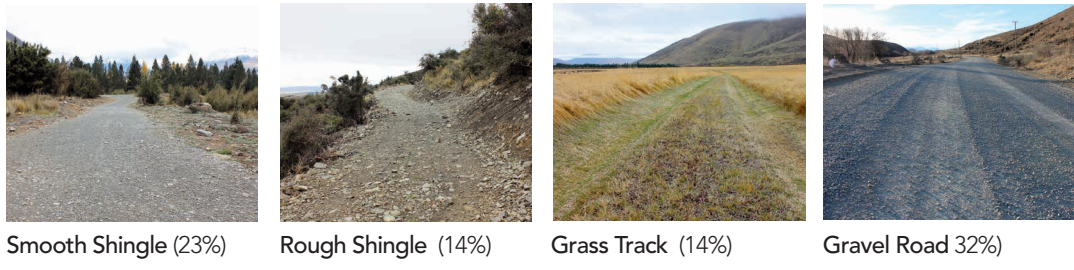
Where Quailburn Road meets the highway, take the off-road trail which leads through the Ahuriri Camp Ground **42km**. Exit the camp ground and cross over the Ahuriri river using the road bridge. A short off-road trail then takes you to Omarama.

**KEY:** Onroad — Off-road trail — Ohau Weir Flood Route — Picnic Area

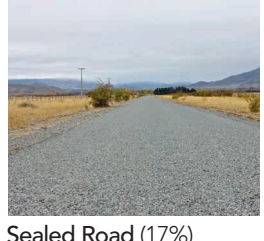
0 1 2 3 4 5km  
Scale

**Trail route and weather conditions subject to change. Please check website before daily departure.**

## Trail Surfaces:



Smooth Shingle (23%)    Rough Shingle (14%)    Grass Track (14%)    Gravel Road 32%



Sealed Road (17%)

## Safety Notes:

It is advised to bring some high energy food, as you may require a boost. Please allow plenty of time for this section, and take frequent breaks if you are feeling tired. Sections of Tarnbrae Track are subject to freezing in winter. Do not ride when ground is thawing, mud becomes sticky.

## Highlights:

- Ruataniwha Conservation Park
- Native Beech Forests
- Quailburn Historic Woolshed
- Clay Cliffs (side trip)
- Freehold Creek Track



**\$10 TRAIL SUPPORTER WRISTBAND – BUY YOURS AT HOT TUBS OMARAMA**