

welovetimaru.nz



TIMARU

Official Visitor Guide



welovetimaru.nz

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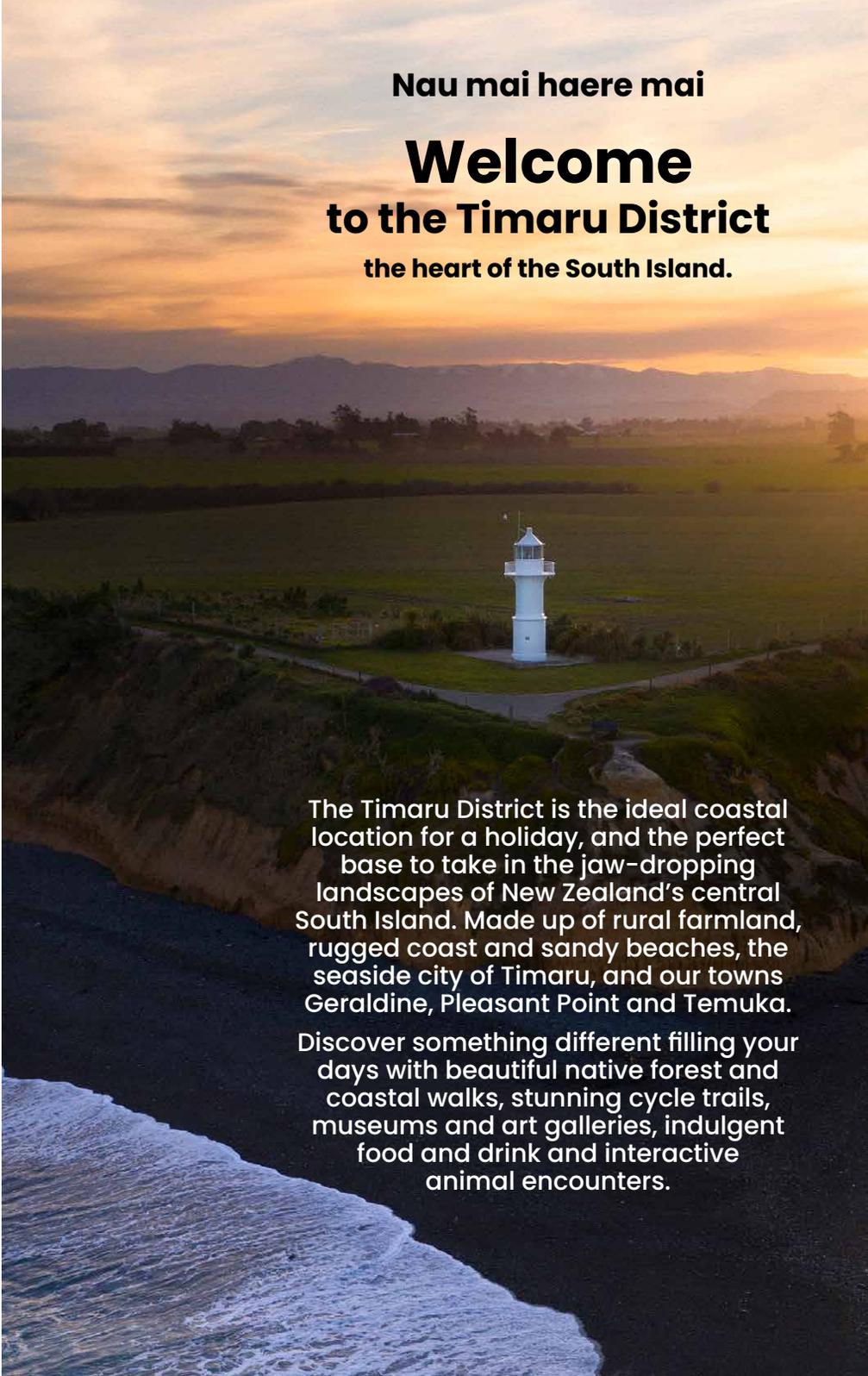
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At the date of printing this guide Venture Timaru has to the best of its knowledge been supplied with accurate and up-to-date information. This information should be used as a guide only. We recommend contacting the provider to confirm any details and to ensure they comply with all Health and Safety and regulatory requirements. Venture Timaru shall not be held responsible for any errors or omissions printed, changes or misinformation supplied. All rights reserved.

Nau mai haere mai

Welcome to the Timaru District

the heart of the South Island.



The Timaru District is the ideal coastal location for a holiday, and the perfect base to take in the jaw-dropping landscapes of New Zealand's central South Island. Made up of rural farmland, rugged coast and sandy beaches, the seaside city of Timaru, and our towns Geraldine, Pleasant Point and Temuka.

Discover something different filling your days with beautiful native forest and coastal walks, stunning cycle trails, museums and art galleries, indulgent food and drink and interactive animal encounters.

Location

The Timaru District is located in the Central South Island, 2 hours drive south of Christchurch, 2.5 hours north of Dunedin and 1.5 hours from Lake Tekapo/Takapō.

The region stretches from the coastal city of Timaru, through rural farmland to Pleasant Point and Temuka, to the picturesque boutique village of Geraldine, native forest at Peel Forest, and inland to the snowy peaks of Mesopotamia.

Air New Zealand offers daily domestic flights to Timaru from Wellington, with connecting flights from most other regional centres. The scheduled flight time for Wellington to Timaru flights is 80 minutes.

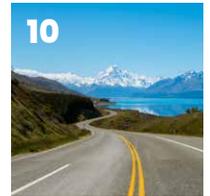
Drive times from airport:

TIMARU 10 minutes
TEMUKA 10 minutes
PLEASANT POINT 10 minutes
GERALDINE 20 minutes
PEEL FOREST 30 mins
MESOPOTAMIA 1 hour 30 minutes.

You can fly into Mesopotamia, all private planes and helicopters are welcome.



10 must-do's



The Timaru District is full of fun things for the whole family! Here are our Top 10 Must Do's...

1 Caroline Bay
Located alongside the Timaru CBD, Caroline Bay is an AA Traveller Top 10 Family Favourite Beach

2 Heritage & art
Explore Timaru's history through heritage buildings and our many museums or discover the local art scene.

3 Te Ana Māori Rock Art
Step back in time and discover the original art galleries of New Zealand.

4 The Raptor Experience
Get up close with New Zealand's raptor birds in this educational and awe-inspiring experience.

5 Walk & bike
There are over 30 walking and cycling trails across the Timaru District catering to all ages and fitness levels.

7 Stunning Mesopotamia
Take in the spectacle of the Southern Alps with a trip to Mesopotamia.

9 Shopping
Indulge in some retail therapy across the district. From boutique locally owned stores to larger chains and vintage shops, there's treasures to be discovered everywhere!

6 Sip & sample
The Timaru District is a food lovers paradise! Discover our best eateries and sample our boutique artisan food and drink producers.

8 Little Blue Penguins
Meet some of the cute locals at dusk at Caroline Bay.

10 Day trips on the ROAM loop
The gateway to the Mackenzie District, the Timaru District is a great place to base yourself for a day trip.

What's on



A seasonal guide to all the key events happening in the Timaru District. For a more comprehensive list of the local events, check out the events calendar on our website.

January



Caroline Bay Carnival

Starting on Boxing Day, the iconic Caroline Bay Carnival is held over two weeks, packed full of family entertainment Carnival rides, concerts, and competitions. It's one of the longest standing events of its kind in the country.

February



Seaside Festival

A celebration of all things summer, the Seaside Festival takes place at Caroline Bay showcasing sand sculpture, rides, inflatables, movies, and huge fabulous kites.

March



Caroline Bay Rock & Hop

A 50s & 60s themed car show, the Caroline Bay Rock & Hop is a Timaru institution. It's four days of shows, car cruises, music, food and more!

May



Illuminate Light & Sound Experience

Timaru's newest event, Illuminate showcases a range of spectacular light and sound displays. An out-of-this-world walk through light experience.

June



South Canterbury Rally

Part of the NZ Rally Championship, this event attracts some of the country's best drivers.

July



Timaru CBD Matariki Night Market

See Timaru's main street transformed into a celebration for this special time in the Māori calendar.

September



SCOFF

It's 10 days of celebrating South Canterbury's outstanding food; the growers, producers, and artisan creators, from the Pacific Ocean to Aoraki/Mount Cook.

October



The Coastal Marathon

New Zealand's newest running event, held from central Timaru, heading along the southern coast of Timaru.

November



Brews on the Bay

Caroline Bay comes alive with New Zealand's newest beer and cider festival. Sample a range from producers while enjoying tasty food and great music.



Geraldine Festival

Experience unique, boutique shopping in our wide range of independent local stores and market stalls, art, and photography exhibitions, along with an array of beautiful local gardens.

December



Festival of Roses

An annual festival held to celebrate the arrival of summer and Timaru's close affinity with the rose.



Itineraries

24 hours in seaside Timaru



Morning

- Grab a coffee from one of the many Timaru CBD cafes and head to Caroline Bay.
- Discover New Zealand's original art galleries on a tour with Te Ana Māori . Rock Art
- Grab a delicious lunch at one of our top restaurants or cafes.

Afternoon

- Uncover the CBD street art sites on the Timaru Trails app.
- Explore the Edwardian architecture of the main street and enjoy some retail therapy.

Evening

- Watch the Little Blue Penguins come in at dusk at Caroline Bay.

24 hours in Geraldine



Morning

- Explore the lush native bush in Talbot Forest.
- Grab a great coffee and lunch at a local cafe or restaurant.

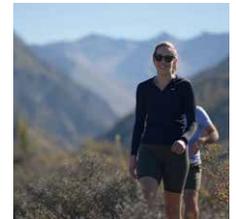
Afternoon

- Find a treasure at one of the boutique, independently owned stores.
- Take a step back in time at the Geraldine Vintage Museum.

Evening

- See a movie at the historic Geraldine Cinema.

48 hours in the Timaru District



Day 1

Morning

- Bike or walk the stunning coastal track to Tuhawaiki (Jack's) Point.

Afternoon

- Hold a raptor at The Raptor Experience.

Evening

- Grab a pre-dinner cocktail at the quirky Hector Black's Lounge Bar.

Day 2

Morning

- Head to Peel Forest and explore the ancient podocarp forest.
- Grab a relaxed lunch at the Green Man, at Peel Forest.

Afternoon

- Taste some your way around Geraldine at Humdinger Gin, Geraldine Cheese Co and Barker's Foodstore and Eatery.

Staying for a third day?

Why not head out to Mesopotamia or explore our beautiful scenery by horseback with Real Kiwi Horsetrekking.

48-hour couple's getaway



Day 1

Morning

- Take a hike in the Peel Forest Scenic Reserve.
- Grab lunch at the Green Man Pub.

Afternoon

- Sample some delicious artisan products in Geraldine.

Evening

- See a movie at the historic Geraldine Cinema.
- Spend the night under the stars at Ngā Whare Mānau.

Day 2

Morning

- Head to the Timaru seaside for a stroll on Caroline Bay
- Wander the main street for a spot of shopping in the fantastic range of independent stores.

Afternoon

- Indulge in a post lunch cupcake from Millie Rose Boutique.
- Meet some New Zealand raptors in a hands-on experience.

Evening

- Have a romantic dinner at The Oxford.
- End the night with a funky cocktail from Hector Black's, or Street Food Kitchen right next door.
- Enjoy a comfy night's sleep and wake to ocean views.

48-hour family holiday



Day 1

Morning

- Walk or bike the stunning Dashing Rocks trail, enjoying panoramic views over Caroline Bay, wandering over ancient lava flows.
- Explore one of our memorable museums

Afternoon

- Play a round of mini golf or frisbee golf in Timaru, Temuka or Orari.

Day 2

Morning

- Check the tide times and head to the Washdyke Lagoon in search of rock pool creatures.
- Check out the amazing CPlay Playground at Caroline Bay.

Afternoon

- Head to one of the local farmyards and meet some cute local fur friends.

Walk and Bike

Download the Timaru Trails app to get guided trails on these and many more



SCAN ME



With over 30 walking and cycling trails dotted across the Timaru District, you are sure to find a trail to suit your needs. Whether you are looking for a leisurely stroll with the family, a hike, bike ride or even somewhere to walk the dog, we have a trail for you! Discover the crystal coastlines of Timaru city, the lush native bush of Geraldine and Peel Forest or the river banks of Temuka and Pleasant Point.

1 Dashing Rocks, Timaru

A favourite walk for locals given its coastal views and proximity to the CBD, you can also start with brunch in the main street, or finish with drinks on the Bay Hill overlooking beautiful Caroline Bay. The track begins from the bay and heads along the Benvenue Cliffs, past Blackett's Lighthouse and the site of historic shipwrecks.

2 Huatakerere/Little Mount Peel, Peel Forest

Regarded as one of the best day walks in Canterbury, Little Mount Peel is a bit of an uphill slog, but the views make it all worthwhile. The track is approximately 10kms and takes approximately 7-9 hours depending on the route you take and your fitness. It's compulsory to get a photo at the top. Make sure you tag @welovetimaru in your posts.

3 Tuhawaiki (Jack's) Point, Timaru

The walk follows the coast to the historic Tuhawaiki (Jack's) Point lighthouse, and offers spectacular views. You can walk, run or bike and the track is also dog friendly. Keep an eye out along the way as you may be lucky enough to see a seal or even a penguin on the rocky beach below.

4 Big Tree Walk, Peel Forest

A great option for families, the Big Tree Walk at Peel Forest takes around 30 minutes under the shelter of beautiful native forest. Enjoy the birdsong and impressive flora along the way, before reaching the Big Tree itself, a lowland Totara over 1000 years old, measuring 3 metres wide!

5 Centennial Park, Timaru

On the outskirts of the Timaru city area, you'll find Centennial Park, a 65 hectare reserve offering a variety of walking and biking trails for all levels. Within the park you'll also find playgrounds for the kids, sheltered BBQ areas, a large duck pond as well as a BMX freestyle park. From the south entrance you can carry on along the Otipua Creek to Saltwater Creek walkway and out to the coast.

Things to do

Whether you're looking for an adrenaline rush, a cultural experience, or an animal encounter, the Timaru District has something to keep the whole family entertained.



Things to do



South Canterbury Museum

Explore our region's heritage at the South Canterbury Museum. From fossils to fashions, there are hundreds of fascinating things to see. Great for all ages to explore, special programmes for children. On Perth Street, downtown Timaru.

 museum.timaru.govt.nz

 03 687 7212



Geraldine Vintage Museum

The finest of it's type in the Southern Hemisphere, The Geraldine Vintage Museum features exhibits to be found nowhere else in the world. On display are vintage show pieces from a bygone era sure to make you feel nostalgic.

 www.geraldinevintagecarandmachinerymuseum.com

 03 693 8756



Real Kiwi Horse Trekking

Take a ride through some of New Zealand's most pristine landscapes taking in breathtaking views of the mountains, lakes, glacier fed rivers and Canterbury plains on a bespoke trekking adventure.

 www.realkiwihorsetrekking.com

 0800 022 536



Mundell's Race Centre

A new and exciting attraction for the Timaru District, the Mundell's Race Centre at Geraldine features state-of-the-art, high tech car racing, flight and golf simulators. The perfect wet weather option, team building or corporate event option.

 www.mundells.nz

 03 693 1101



Point E-Bikes

Half day, full day or multi-day E-bike hire available from Pleasant Point or delivery to your accommodation can be provided with prior arrangement. All e-bikes come with a helmet, we also have pannier bags and a child carrier available or hire. Phone or email to book.

 info@pointebikes.co.nz

 022 333 2606



Te Ana Māori Rock Art Experiences

Explore the original art galleries of Aotearoa: the ancient Māori rock art sites of the Aoraki region. Begin your journey at Te Ana Māori Rock Art Centre, then follow in the footsteps of our ancestors on a guided tour to the iconic rock art sites at Ōpīhi.

 www.teana.co.nz

 03 684 9141

Things to do



Alps 2 Ocean 4 x 4 Tours

Alps 2 Ocean provides personalised high country 4wd tours into remote river valleys for independent travellers or groups. Day tours include "The Road to Mesopotamia" or our "High Country Explorer" into the Hakaterre lakes region. Multi day South Island tours available through the summer

www.alps2ocean.co.nz

0800 425 772



Pleasant Point Museum & Railway

Running from the historic Pleasant Point Railway Station, operating on 2km of the former Fairlie Branch Line running locomotives, carriages and a Ford Model T Rail Car. At the end of the line, explore the museum featuring a model railway and cinema. Check their website for steaming days.

www.pleasantpointrail.org.nz

03 686 2269



The Cyclery Bike Hire

We have our very own E-bike rental fleet available for 1/2 day, full day, weekly and monthly rental, plus we also have normal pedal bikes available as well. E-bike rental from \$125 per day. Non E-bike Rental from \$35

www.thecyclery.co.nz

03 688 8892



Central South Trail

An easy grade 1 multi-purpose trail for cycling, running, walking and wheel chair accessible. Two sections are complete - Washdyke - Pleasant Point & Fairlie - Kimbell, check our Facebook page and website for updates.

www.centralsouthtrail.co.nz

www.facebook.com/CentralSouthTrail



Route 79 Museum

Located on State Highway 79 on route to Mackenzie, featuring an eclectic collection of cars, tractors, artillery pieces, motorbikes and wall displays.

www.facebook.com/route79museum

03 693 8970



The Raptor Experience

Get up close with New Zealand's raptors in a unique, hands-on experience. Learn about New Zealand's meat-eating birds, and have the opportunity to handle them.

www.nzraptor.org

0274 533 484



Aigantighe Art Gallery

The home of art in South Canterbury. With frequently changing exhibitions, we offer visitors exciting and inspiring opportunities to view the gallery's rich collection along with works by local, national, and international artists. The surrounding gardens showcase a wide variety of permanent sculptures.

www.aigantighe.co.nz

03 688 4424



Big Rock Canyoning

An action-packed full day adventure tour navigating numerous jumps, slides, abseils and ziplines. If you love water sports and you are comfortable with heights, this is a must do!

www.bigrockadventures.co.nz

0800 244 762

Where to shop

Discover something special, and indulge in some retail therapy. The Timaru District features beautiful, independantly owned boutique stores as well as many favourite national chain stores. Also check out our vintage shopping.



Where to shop



Humdinger Gin

Humdinger Small Batch Botanical Gin, crafted by nature in Geraldine. International award-winning gins, all of which use 100% natural botanicals to leave you humming.

 www.humdinger.nz

 024 463 4790



Timaru Booksellers

An independent community bookshop in the heart of Timaru. They love connecting readers with good books and specialise in unique and hard-to-find titles. They also have a fantastic selection of beautiful kid's books and games.

 www.bayhillbooks.co.nz

 03 683 1387



Kidstuff

Kidstuff is a family-owned children's & baby store which has been around for 22 years! Kidstuff truly is a treasure trove full of toys, books, shoes, clothing & more. It has a diverse range of affordable & unique quality products.

 www.kidstuff.net.nz

 03 688 5152



The Ringmakers

Specialists in custom jewellery design and manufacture, our jewellers work with you at every step of the process to create jewellery tailored to you. We also stock Pandora, Karen Walker Jewellery and a great range of other stylish jewellery and watch brands.

 www.instagram.com/theringmakers

 03 688 1362



The Page and Post Booksellers

Whether it's Adult Fiction, Non-Fiction, New Zealand, Religion, Classics, Poetry, Young Adult or Children's tales, we will have just what you want. We also specialise in magazines and greeting cards, plus stationery, jigsaws and professional artist supplies.

 www.thepageandpost.co.nz

 03 693 8647



Gallery 329

Gallery 329 offers a unique selection of arts lovingly created by South Canterbury artists. From original paintings, pottery, stunning wood sculpture, batik, jewellery, collectable posters, photographic art and more.

 329 Stafford Street

Where to shop



Fox and Thread

Fox and Thread is an exciting and unique boutique providing a place for individuals to align. An emporium of delight with clothes racks bursting with gorgeous clothing sourced from as far as Italy and America.

 www.facebook.com/foxandthread



Temuka Pottery Retail shop

Temuka Pottery is a household New Zealand brand. The Temuka Pottery Retail Shop showcase a large range of the Temuka designs and also hand-paint a number of their own ranges in store including: Children's Collection and Pohutakawa Collection. They also stock "pre-loved" Temuka Pottery designs and a display of historical pieces dating back to the 1930's.

 www.temukapotteryretailshop.com  03 615 5651



McAtamney Gallery and Design Store

Contemporary paintings, vibrant watercolours, historical landscapes, quirky ceramics, gorgeous jewellery, amazing photography and fabulous design wares.

 www.mcatamneygallery.co.nz  027 305 3000



Maree Hynes Interiors

Design, dine, shop, relax. Experience Harlau and visit the Maree Hynes Interiors showroom right next to Harlau House Cafe. Full of outstanding quality design wares, homewares and an exciting range of both traditional and luxury modern furniture.

 www.mareehynesinteriors.co.nz  03 683 1887



Tuesday and Black & Co

Venture to the south end of Stafford Street for a unique shopping experience in our locally owned and operated boutiques. A hand-selected range of quality fashion, homewares, giftwares, cards, books, antiques and vintage treasures awaits. A must visit.

 www.blackandco.nz



Jewelcraft

A locally owned and operated jeweller manufacturing one of a kind pieces using precious metals and stones.

 www.jewelcraft.co.nz  03 684 4882

Where to shop



The Golden Apple

A special and inspiring mix of vintage, modern, and uncovered items for you, your home, & your style. Exquisite boxed gifts, a stunning oilskin collection, and gifts that you'll be eager to give!

 www.thegoldenapple.co.nz



dead2b

dead2b is a collection of amazing pieces from designers, producers and artists from around Aotearoa New Zealand. Find inspiring, innovative & unique products from bespoke designer homeware, art & artisan foods.

 www.dead2b.com



Millie Rose Boutique

Millie Rose Boutique is a unique shopping experience in Timaru. Whether you are after a new outfit, a gift for a friend or even a delicious designer cupcake - you can get it all in one place!

 www.millierose.co.nz

 0210 865 5486



His and Hers Fashion

His and Hers Fashion is a thriving clothing boutique store in the heart of Temuka that can cater to all styles ages and styles. Stocked brands include Stella & Gemma, Betty Basics and PQ Collections.

 www.hisandhersfashion.co.nz

 105 King Street, Temuka



LOUK Clothing

Come and enjoy our range of clothing and accessories including well known brands for outdoors, lifestyle and fashion

 www.loukclothing.co.nz

 03 693 9070



Country Rumours

Country Rumours is the retail home for so much talent. A collection of crafts, art, jewellery, gifts, clothing and so much more, all made by New Zealand individuals and businesses.

 www.facebook.com/countryrumour

 03 693 7957



Kings Shoes Store

Located in Temuka, Kings Shoe Store is the home for all your favourite brands including Ziera, Djanjo & Juliette and Mollini. Make sure you also check out their extensive range of accessories.

 www.kingsshoes.co.nz

 03 615 7210

Where to eat

The Timaru District punches above its weight in the food department! Check out on our loved restaurants, bars, cafes, bakeries and ice cream shops.



Where to eat



Bennys Again

We are Timaru's longest serving restaurant, having just ticked over 20 years of operating. Come and check out our 1950's themed restaurant with a menu to suit everyone! Open 7 days 11:30am till late.

www.facebook.com/bennysagain 03 686 9000



Speights Ale House

Here at The Speight's Ale House we offer an extensive a la carte menu for both lunch and dinner with children's meals also available. Enjoy great food and good old fashioned southern hospitality. ** Booking highly recommended**

www.speightsalehousetimaru.co.nz 03 686 6030



Street Food Kitchen

Street Food Kitchen is a relaxed restaurant taking you around the world on plate with world class cocktails and crafty beer to keep you on your toes! **bookings highly recommended**

www.streetfoodkitchen.co.nz 03 686 6036



Harlau House Café

Design, Dine, Shop, relax. Experience Harlau House Café right next to Maree Hynes Interiors. Great food in a gorgeous historic building set in a stunning country environment only minutes from town. Finish your experience with a browse of Maree Hynes Interiors right next door.

www.harlauhousecafe.co.nz 03 683 1887



The Oxford

The Oxford is all about keeping it simple. It's the kind of food that's makes you want to wipe the plate with a chunk of crusty bread to savour every drop. A bistro style menu with a European influence, rustic bold flavours that marry perfectly together. With a great wine list and beer selection to compliment any occasion

www.theoxford.co.nz 03 688 3297



Hector Black's Lounge Bar

You'll struggle to find anything quite like it, one visit to Hector's will have you hooked. Comfortable, homely, great cocktails, and southern hospitality at its finest await in this uniquely eclectic gem.

www.facebook.com/hectorblacksbar 027 532 8674



Mundell's Cafe

Located in the heart of Geraldine, come and enjoy a carefully crafted and diverse menu. Savour food from the cabinet, sweet cakes and slices or beloved NZ dishes from the main menu.

www.mundells.nz

03 693 1101



Barker's Foodstore & Eatery

Barker's Foodstore & Eatery is situated in the heart of picturesque Geraldine on route to the Southern lakes. The perfect place to stop and experience hospitality the Barker's way and view our full product range along with tastings in store.

www.barkersfoodstore.nz

03 693 9727



House of Hop Restaurant & Brewery

Born with great food and beer in mind, House of Hop's menu is inspired from cuisines from around the world. Their food is fresh, flavoursome and sourced locally. Their skilled brew team puts a lot of time and love into their sensational range of craft beer.

www.houseofhop.co.nz

03 697 4959



The Jolly Potter

The Jolly Potter offers a warm and cosy atmosphere and a variety of delicious freshly made food. Grab a Scott's Craft Beer, a Guinness or Kilkenny - all on tap and sit on their sunny outdoor deck.

03 971 0731



The Wetlands Cafe

We are a family-owned cafe, proudly serving you delicious and authentic Vietnamese foods. We are excited in bringing to you our exciting Vietnamese dishes to satisfy your taste buds.

www.wetlandscave.com

027 688 9424



100% Homemade Cafe - Temuka

100% homemade - Temuka. A friendly cafe owned by Ange & Jared. Open daily for breakfast & lunch. Relax with friends & enjoy a coffee with a slice or something more substantial.

www.facebook.com/100homemadecafe

03 615 5500



Replenish Cafe

Replenish Café on Timaru's main street specialise in green and good whole foods. They are passionate about serving real, fresh food with seasonally tailored dishes made from locally sourced and whole ingredients.

www.replenishcafe.co.nz

027 688 9424



Mrs M Cafe

Mrs M's Café is passionate about providing delicious, high-quality food and coffee for their visitors. Grab some fresh favourites from their all-day breakfast and lunch menu or something delicious from the cabinet. Known for their delicious coffee, you will not be disappointed.

www.mrsmscafe.nz

027 677 3667

Where to eat



Sopheze Coffee Lounge

Locally owned and operated for 19 years, Sopheze Coffee Lounge is a Timaru institute and a local favourite. Grab something from their extensive lunch and breakfast menu, a delicious, sweet treat from the cabinet or a barista made coffee.

 www.sopheze.co.nz

 03 684 9999



Saikou Restaurant & Bar

Saikou is a vibrant Japanese fusion restaurant and bar specialising in both delicious fusion cuisine and a diverse beverage menu with craft cocktails, sake, and whisky on offer. Located in Timaru's CBD overlooking beautiful Caroline Bay.

 www.saikoutwb.co.nz

 03 686 6830



ice ice Baby

The only gelato bar in Timaru will satisfy your sweet tooth. ice ice baby offers an extensive selection of delicious, authentic New Zealand made gelato flavours. With over 20 flavours of creamy ice cream and smooth sorbet you're sure to find something to suit your taste.

 www.bit.ly/iceice_Baby_Timaru

 021 202 2329



The Running Duck

The Running Duck is a uniquely Kiwi batch style cafe set in the heart of Geraldine. They serve old school NZ faves, brekky, burgers, fried chicken, tasty salads, shakes and coffee.

 www.facebook.com/therunningduckNZ

 03 693 8320



Strawberry Divine

People drive for miles for these ice creams and to hang out in their funky courtyard and garden. Pick one or two fruits and see them mixed before your eyes with vanilla or frozen yoghurt. Dairy and gluten free options available. Open Sundays 12noon – 5pm

 facebook.com/www.strawberrydivine.co.nz

 027 287 8555

Where to stay

From stunning boutique options surrounded by native bush and birdlife, to top motel lodges overlooking Caroline Bay and holiday parks perfect for the whole family, you will find something to make you feel right at home.



Where to stay



Bay Viaduct Motor Lodge

Bay Viaduct Motor Lodge offer's exceptional service to all of our motel guests. You will experience the ultimate in Timaru's accommodation with spectacular views, superior luxury and great location. All units are double-glazed with air-conditioning/heatpumps.

www.bayviaduct.co.nz

03 686 6338



Timaru Top 10 Holiday Park

TOP 10 Timaru Holiday Park is a city central holiday park with the seclusion, spaciousness and quiet of a country setting. Caroline Bay and the town centre are within walking distance and a supermarket is only two minutes away. View our range of accommodation options on-line.

www.timaruholidaypark.co.nz

0800 242 121



Bay Watch Motor Lodge

Make unforgettable memories at Baywatch Motor Lodge in Timaru. Ray & Debbie warmly welcome families to our spacious motel complex. With a convenient location near the beach, city center, restaurants, and attractions, our units are perfect for your family. Enjoy stunning views and explore nearby attractions.

www.baywatchtimaru.co.nz

03 688 1886



Harbour View Motel

A modern complex situated near the iconic Caroline Bay for a stroll along the beach. We are within close proximity to good quality restaurants and the main street offering samples of beautiful architecture.

www.hvmotel.co.nz

033 686 6811



Fitzgerald on King

A spacious renovated motel situated near the hospital and the Botanical Gardens. The size of the apartments is ideal for families and groups.

www.fitzgeraldonking.co.nz

03 688 4455



Panorama Motor Lodge

Situated on The Bay Hill overlooking beautiful Caroline Bay. A large, modern motel complex with a great choice of accommodation. Enjoy a superb location close to the beach, with coastal and mountain views, yet next door to all city facilities

www.panorama.net.nz

03 688 0097

Where to stay



Bay City Motor Lodge

Modern and comfortable with a great selection of accommodation options. Luxury studios and suites (some with spa baths) and balconies to enjoy the coastal views. Located just minutes from the main street and Caroline Bay.

 www.baycitymotorlodge.co.nz

 03 688 8800



Coastal Ridge Apartments

Coastal Ridge offers modern, apartment style accommodation for all travelers. Set in a quiet, relaxed part of town close to the Timaru Botanic Gardens, Coastal Ridge offers modern, well-appointed apartments with everything to be comfortable and connected.

 www.coastalridgetimaru.nz

 03 684 4084



Asure Scenic Route Motor

Centrally located in boutique Geraldine, ASURE Scenic Route Motor Lodge is a 4 star plus motel. We offer modern, spacious and comfortable units including spa studios, 2-bedroom units and two suites with wheelchair access facilities.

 www.motelscenicroute.co.nz

 0800 723 643



Cedar Lodge Motel

Cedar Lodge Motel in Timaru offers clean, comfortable and quiet accommodation that's great value for money. Their range of rooms offers something for everyone from the business traveler, families, sports groups and holiday makers.

 www.cedarlodgetimaru.nz

 03 684 4084



Pleasant View B&B

Modern 2 bedroombed and breakfast with views amazing views of the ocean and town. Along side sea view walking tracks

 www.pleasantview.co.nz

 03 686 6651



The Vicarage

Six luxury ensuite super king rooms in the centre of pretty Geraldine, in a beautifully renovated, historic building. Boutique accommodation presented with every attention to detail and timeless elegance.

 www.thevicaragegeraldine.co.nz

 027 693 9027



Geraldine Top 10 Holiday Park

The only holiday park accommodation situated in the heart of Geraldine. We are a tranquil park, set among protected trees. We have accommodation options for all budgets.

 www.geraldinetop10.co.nz

 0800 393 693



Northpark Motel

Located on the northern edge of Timaru, Northpark Motel offer a 28 room complex with a range of standard and superior studios as well as family rooms, family studios and 2 bedroom apartments

 www.northparkmotel.co.nz

 0800 688 2072

Where to stay



Ngā Whare Mānatu

Nestled amongst native plants, views to the east coast sunrise and the amazing night sky, our vision is to provide you with a relaxing getaway to showcase everything that connects us to our whenua.

 www.ngawharemanatu.nz

 027 201 1920



Andorra Motel Geraldine

Situated on a spacious relaxed site in Geraldine, Andorra Motel offers spacious, comfortable ground-floor units offering off street and a quiet stay with no traffic noise. They also have a fully fenced swimming pool to splash in during the warmer months.

 www.andorramotelgeraldine.co.nz

 03 693 8622



Temuka Holiday Park

In the heart of Temuka set among a 75 hectare recreation reserve featuring a playground, heated pool and walking track, Temuka Holiday Park offers options from sites to lodge rooms and studio units.

 www.temukaholidaypark.co.nz

 027 615 8095

S.O.F.F

SOUTH CANTERBURY
OUTSTANDING
FOOD FESTIVAL



10 days of celebrating South Canterbury's outstanding food; the growers, producers and artisan creators, from the Pacific Ocean to Aoraki/Mount Cook.

Held in September each year.

Explore the wider region

Exploring the wider Timaru District is a great way to experience the best of what the Central South Island has to offer. Find treasures at independently owned boutique stores, sample some of the region's best food and drink, explore ancient native forest and discover the local history.



Timaru

The South Island's best little seaside city (in our humble opinion). In Timaru city, you can enjoy easy scenic walks, through picturesque Caroline Bay and along nearby coastal tracks, or wander through our CBD to take in the Edwardian architecture and discover the locally owned speciality boutiques. We're home to the most significant collection of ancient Māori rock art in New Zealand, and at dusk can catch a glimpse of the world's smallest penguin.



Top 5 things to do in Timaru city

1 Te Ana Māori Rock Art

A must do when visiting the Timaru District, Te Ana Māori Rock Art is the only guided tour to see Māori rock art in New Zealand! The guided tour takes you to a protected rock art site where you will learn the history of those specific drawings and movement of ancient Māori through the region. Pair a visit to the site with a walk through their state of the art, interactive centre in the Timaru CBD where you will learn more the history of the region for early Māori settlers as well as the rock art and the work that Ngai Tahu does in the protection and preservation of these sites.

2 The Raptor Experience

Get up close with New Zealand's raptors in a unique, hands-on experience. Learn about the lives of our native raptor birds, their ways of hunting, what they feed on, dangers to their safety and their cultural significance. For 60 minutes you will enter their world and handle the birds under the guidance of an experienced handler.

3 Caroline Bay

Just minutes from the CBD, Caroline Bay is a NZ Top 10 family favourite beach. Safe for swimming and watersports, you can also see Little Blue Penguins/Kororā in the evenings from October to March. Within the Caroline Bay reserve you'll find the world-famous Trevor Griffith's Rose Garden, a state of the art playground focussing on local history, as well as a bike agility and skate park. During late December and early January, the Caroline Bay Carnival operates attracting visitors from all over the country.

4 Shop the main street

Stroll along Stafford Street, in the heart of Timaru's CBD and you'll be treated to a fantastic range of shopping options from locally owned speciality boutiques, to some of the nation's most famous chain-stores. Look for department stores Ballantynes and Farmers, fashion retailers Preen, Millie Rose Boutique, Soul Surf and Skate and Mac Shaw Menswear, outdoor gear by MacPac and Kathmandu, antique and gift stores and so much more! If vintage is your style, you'll find a collection of stores featuring treasures of vintage clothing, furniture and brick n brack.

5 Do a coastal walk

Two of the regions most popular walks start from the Timaru CBD. Head to Caroline Bay to start the popular Dashing Rocks Coastal Walk or head south past the port to join the Hector's Coastal Walk heading out to Tuhawaiki (Jack's) Point.



Geraldine

Foodie favourite, Geraldine is popular with visitors. The village of Geraldine is located on the inland scenic route from Christchurch through to Lake Tekapo/ Takapō, Mt Cook/ Aoraki and Queenstown.

Located just 40 minutes from Timaru City, Geraldine's boutique village charm will delight you. The artisan food producing hub of the district, you will find Barker's Foodstore and Eatery, Humdinger Gin and Geraldine Cheese Company to name a few, located in the town centre. Up behind town, Talbot Forest is a stunning native forest reserve with a range of popular easy walking tracks. If you're into vintage machinery and vehicles, you are in the right place! Spend an afternoon exploring one of the fabulous vintage machinery museums.

Top 5 things to do in Geraldine

1 Cheese and chutney + plenty more

Visit the Geraldine Cheese Company and Barker's Foodstore and Eatery to sample and purchase a delicious array of locally produced fare. During the summer season, the Farmers Market is also a great place to stock up for a picnic. If gin is your thing, a visit to Humdinger Gin Distillery is a must to try their latest handcrafted botanical infused tippie!

2 Art for art's sake

Geraldine has long been a haven for artists and craftspeople. Stroll through the village streets to visit galleries displaying works from local and nationally acclaimed artists or take a drive to visit the artists in their studios.

3 Vintage adventures

Geraldine boasts 3 vintage car and machinery museums, a new military museum containing some very rare war-time exhibits, and a fabulous historical museum, telling the history of New Zealand and the area. Even if you're not a motorhead, the yesteryear displays will keep you interested for an hour or two.

4 Paradise on your doorstep

Explore the many walks in Geraldine, from the riverside Sculpture Trail to the meanderings of Talbot Forest. You'll be surprised how peaceful and secluded these walks feel, even when you are metres from the centre of town.

5 The vinyl era

Take a short 5-minute drive south of the village centre on Talbot Street and head to the Record Keeper. An independent vinyl record store where you can enjoy good coffee while listening to your favourite music. Sustainability is at the forefront of what they do. View the beautiful restoration of one of Geraldine's oldest shops which first opened in 1890.



Temuka

Vintage haven, Temuka is located just 15 minutes from Timaru City. Our town of Temuka was once known by local Māori as “The Place of the Hot Ovens”, or Te-umu-kaha, as they used huge earthen ovens to bake the roots of the native cabbage tree/ Tī Kōuka.

Temuka is also known world-wide for our iconic Temuka Pottery, as well as Richard Pearse who raced the Wright Brothers to be the first to fly. Shopping, eating and recreation, this small, friendly township has plenty to offer.

Top 5 things to do in Temuka

1 Fossick for a treasure

Whether you are after the latest fashion item, a new pair of shoes or if vintage is more your style, you will find something in Temuka. Head to Kings Shoe Store for the latest style from top brands, or His & Hers Fashion for a new outfit. Green Hayes Emporium and Temuka Treasures will have you exploring rooms full of vintage items waiting for a new home.

2 Hit the golf, mini golf or frisbee golf courses

Located at the domain, are golf, mini golf and frisbee golf courses. Feed your competitive side with a game with the family or friends.

3 Taumatakahu Stream Reserve

The Taumatakahu Stream Reserve winds its way through central Temuka. Follow the stream from the corner of Wilkin Street and Princes Street. Feed the ducks and play on the playgrounds along the way.

4 Discover the history of Temuka

Explore Temuka's rich heritage at the Temuka Museum in the historic courthouse. Make sure you also check out the memorial to local aviation legend, Richard Pearse who arguably bet the Wright Brother's to the first airplane flight. The monument is located at Waitohi, approximately 10 minutes from Temuka.

5 Visit the Temuka Pottery retail store

A favourite in New Zealand households since 1931, Temuka Pottery is a reliable hardworking national icon that has stood the test of time. The retail shop is located in Mendelson Barn - which was built in 1882 - and also houses 100% Homemade Cafe.



Pleasant Point

Enroute from Timaru City to the Mackenzie Region, from the 1800s through to today, Pleasant Point has always been a favourite place to stop and refresh for travellers.

Locals head to Pleasant Point for riverside walks, swimming, bike rides and delicious real fruit ice creams. The Pleasant Point Museum and Railway has attractions that draw visitors from all over the world.



Top 5 things to do in Pleasant Point

1 Pleasant Point Museum and Railway

This is a must visit if you're in Timaru District. It's been rated as one of New Zealand's best preservation railways, but there's loads more to this attraction than that. They run fully operational steam locomotives – including the 1922 locomotive Ab699 – and a rare replica of a Model T Ford Railcar. There are museum exhibits at each end of the 2.4km long railway line that was part of the original Timaru to Fairlie railway line which was decommissioned in 1968. Rides on the steam train or the railcar are a favourite with kids and adults alike, as are the classic cartoon movies and museum exhibits.

2 Grab lunch at the historic Pleasant Point Hotel

Originally opened in 1864 as an accommodation house for waggoners travelling from Timaru to Fairlie, The Pleasant Point Hotel is the hub of the small rural community. Today the hotel runs as a restaurant and bar providing your favourite pub classics. A great place for a chat and a beer with the locals.

3 Real fruit icecreams at Strawberry Divine

People drive for miles for these ice creams, and to hang out in the funky courtyard and garden. Hosts Giles and Crissie grow their own berries and stone fruit, or source fruit locally. Pick one or two fruits and see them mixed before your eyes with vanilla ice cream or frozen yogurt. Depending on the season they are open from September to April.

4 Play a round of golf

Pleasant Point has a fabulous country golf course, and visitors of all ages are welcome. If you don't have clubs with you, there is a small range of clubs for hire, as well as golf carts.

5 Look for bats

Pleasant Point is home to colonies of native Long-Tailed Bats. They are tiny and elusive, but keep an eye out for bat roost trees. You'll recognise these by the aluminium bands tied around them to stop predators scaling the trees. If you stare hard enough up into the branches of these trees you might get lucky and catch a glimpse of these little locals.



Peel Forest

Peel Forest is an historic bush-clad settlement located 15 minutes from Geraldine. Made up of native podocarp forest, the reserve is a popular location for locals and visitors to explore. With eight walking and tramping tracks throughout the 780 hectare reserve, there is something for every level. Make sure you head to the Green Man at Peel Forest for a scrumptious pizza or a beer after your efforts.

Top 5 things to do in Peel Forest

1 Explore the Forest

Peel Forest is the perfect place for a walk. Splendour under the canopy of the large native trees and enjoy the beautiful bird song. Take the kids to see the Big Tree with its huge 3 metre diameter! Discover Emily or Acland Falls or challenge yourself to a half-day hike up Little Mount Peel/Huatekerekere.



2 Grab some lunch at The Green Man

Stop in at The Green Man for lunch after enjoying one of the reserves walks. Inside you'll find a delicious menu to tempt your tastebuds and grand entertainment. They also regularly host musicians and events.



3 Visit the Church of the Holy Innocents

Opened on 12 December 1869, the Church of the Holy Innocents was gifted to the community by John Barton Acland on his property of Peel Forest Station. The church is named after four infant children that are buried in cemetery, two of which are Acland's. Explore this beautiful church and cemetery.



4 Fishing the mighty Rangitata River

The Rangitata River is world-renowned for salmon fishing. Bring the fishing rod and try your luck.

5 Pack the tent and camp at the campground

This family-friendly campground is open from mid-October till the end of April each year. Wake up to beautiful birdsong coming from the forest above the camp and then tackle a day of fun outdoor activities.

Mesopotamia

Mesopotamia means 'the land between the two rivers'. It's an area of outstanding natural beauty, fascinating pioneering history and outdoor adventures.



Getting there

If you have a vehicle, Mesopotamia is the perfect place for a day trip. Mesopotamia Station (the end of the road) is located a 2 hour and 45 minute drive from Timaru city, or 2 hours, 15 minutes from Geraldine.

Pack a picnic and the family, and head up into the valley watching the landscape change from seaside, to native bush and farmland to tussock covered sub-alpine beauty.

Sit back and relax with Alps 2 Ocean

If you are after a guided experience, look no further than Alps 2 Ocean 4x4 Tours. Explore the history of the high-country stations that farm this land. Learn about the pioneering ways of the early settlers to this region, visit the historic Mesopotamia school and graveyard as well as the peaceful Peel Forest church.



Mesopotamia Station

Located at the head of the valley, Mesopotamia Station is a fascinating place to visit.

Named in 1860 by Samuel Butler who was an explorer, pastoralist, writer, artist and musician, arriving from England in early 1860. Butler settled in this area running his sheep and building a hut up Forest Creek. The original site is marked today by a plaque. Over the coming years, Butler would expand his operations, acquiring neighbouring runs and establishing the station in its current location.

This area became a community to those living in this remote valley, offering a school which the school building is open to the public and a great place to stop for a picnic.

Another important historic site is the cemetery which features a number of resting places from people associated with the station over the years. This includes the grave of Dr Sinclair who drowned in the Rangitata River on March 1861 when his horse bolted crossing the river. Dr Sinclair was surveying the area at the time of his death.

New Zealand's longest walking trail, the Te Araroa makes its way through the Mesopotamia area before continuing through to Lake Tekapo

Mackenzie Region

Only 1.5hrs inland from Timaru City, and 1hr from Geraldine you'll find the glorious Mackenzie Region.

Discover New Zealand's highest mountains, longest glaciers, vivid turquoise lakes, golden grasslands and the country's largest dark sky reserve – you'll find these all in the Legendary Mackenzie!

The Mackenzie Region is an inter-montane basin – an elevated plateau ringed by mountains in every direction with a tri-colour palette: turquoise lakes, white snow-capped mountains and golden grasslands. With such dramatic landscapes below and the pristine dark sky reserve above, the Mackenzie is a paradise for connecting with nature.



Top 5 things to do in Mackenzie

1 Highest mountain

Visit Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park, home to NZ's highest mountain! Choose from plenty of walking trails to suit all abilities or enjoy a scenic flight amongst the mountains.

2 Largest glacier

Explore NZ's largest glacier, the Haupapa/Tasman Glacier. Heli-hike, boat tours amongst icebergs, skiing on the glacier – there are so many ways to experience it!

3 Largest Dark Sky Reserve

Stargaze in a protected 4,367sq km dark sky reserve. There are many options for a stargazing experience in the Mackenzie, including a working observatory, soaking in hot pools, wine cellar, farm tours, and many more!

4 Ski the Mackenzie Three

Take in the stunning surroundings and skip the lift queues. The Mackenzie boasts three quintessentially Kiwi ski fields all within driving distance of each other. Spectacular scenery, spacious runs and laid back, family-friendly vibes create the ultimate snow holiday.

5 Longest cycle trail

Cycle some of NZ's longest cycle trail, the epic 315km Alps 2 Ocean. Suitable for all ages, the nine-section bike trail is an easy to intermediate grade and takes around 4 – 6 days for the entire ride. Sections can easily be ridden as a day trip as well.





Go for a ROAM around the beautiful Central South Island lakes

The Central South Island is an area of stunning landscapes from the Pacific Ocean to the mountainous high country. The ROAM Driving Loop takes approximately six hours to complete from Timaru, however, we're sure you're going to want to stop, stay and play along the way.

Visit fabulous locations like Aoraki/Mt Cook, Caroline Bay and the Ōmarama Clay Cliffs. Wine, dine and coastal walk in little seaside city Timaru. Check out the fascinating geology and wineries of the Waitaki Valley. Explore superb shared-use tracks, and spectacular silo art in Waimate.

**FREE
DRIVING
LOOP APP**



Learn more at roamloop.nz



TIMARU TRAILS

EXPLORE TIMARU DISTRICT

Explore Timaru District's fascinating history, art scene, food, walking tracks and more with the free Timaru Trails App. You'll find all kinds of trails and self-guided tours in Timaru, Geraldine, Peel Forest, Pleasant Point and Temuka.

DOWNLOAD
Timaru Trails App from Google Play or the App Store

CHOOSE
Your choice of a number of different trails

TAKE
A tour of Timaru District's best spots in one app

Trails

Little Mt Peel

Wata Falls

Food Settings

Download the Timaru Trails app here



Useful Info

Information Centres

Timaru Information Centre

2 George Street, Timaru
+64 3 688 4452
Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 4pm

Temuka Library, Service and Information Centre

72–74 King Street, Temuka
+64 3 687 7591
Hours: Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 1pm

Geraldine Information Centre

38 Waihi Terrace, Geraldine
+64 3 693 1101
Hours: Open 7 days, 9am – 4.30pm

Getting around

Public transport

My Way by Metro

My Way is an on demand service that comes when you need it. There are various pick-up and drop-off points around Timaru and smart technology matches your ride with other passengers going the same way for efficient shared travel.



Download the **MyWay** app from the Google Play or Apple Store, or call their friendly team on +64 3 688 5544 to make a booking.



Metro Link – Timaru to Temuka

Buses travel between Temuka and Timaru during weekdays. Find the stops at timaru.metroinfo.co.nz/our-services/temuka/

Taxis Services

Timaru Taxis

+64 3 688 8899

Aoraki Taxi

+64 3 687 7719

Temuka Taxis

+64 3 615 6226

Rental Vehicles

AVIS

Avis.co.nz
+64 3 688 6240

Smith's Auto Rentals

+64 3 684 3100

Aoraki Rentals

aorakirentals.co.nz
+64 3 683 9069

Public holidays

For the full list of New Zealand public holidays, visit govt.nz. Please note that many restaurants and retail stores are closed on Christmas Day, Good Friday and the morning of ANZAC Day.

CBD Free Wifi

Free Wifi is available in locations in Timaru, Temuka and Caroline Bay with a daily limit of 500MB per device. Look for the signs around the district on how to connect. Wifi is also available at the Timaru District Libraries: Timaru City, Temuka and Geraldine.

Emergencies

For fire, police and ambulance dial 111 in emergencies. Call 105 to report incidents that don't require urgent police assistance.

Hospital and medical services

Timaru Hospital

Queen Street, Timaru
+64 3 687 2100

Timaru After Hours Medical Service

45 Heaton Street, Timaru
+64 3 684 8209

For General Practice treatment Monday to Friday, please call 03 684 8209 between 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM