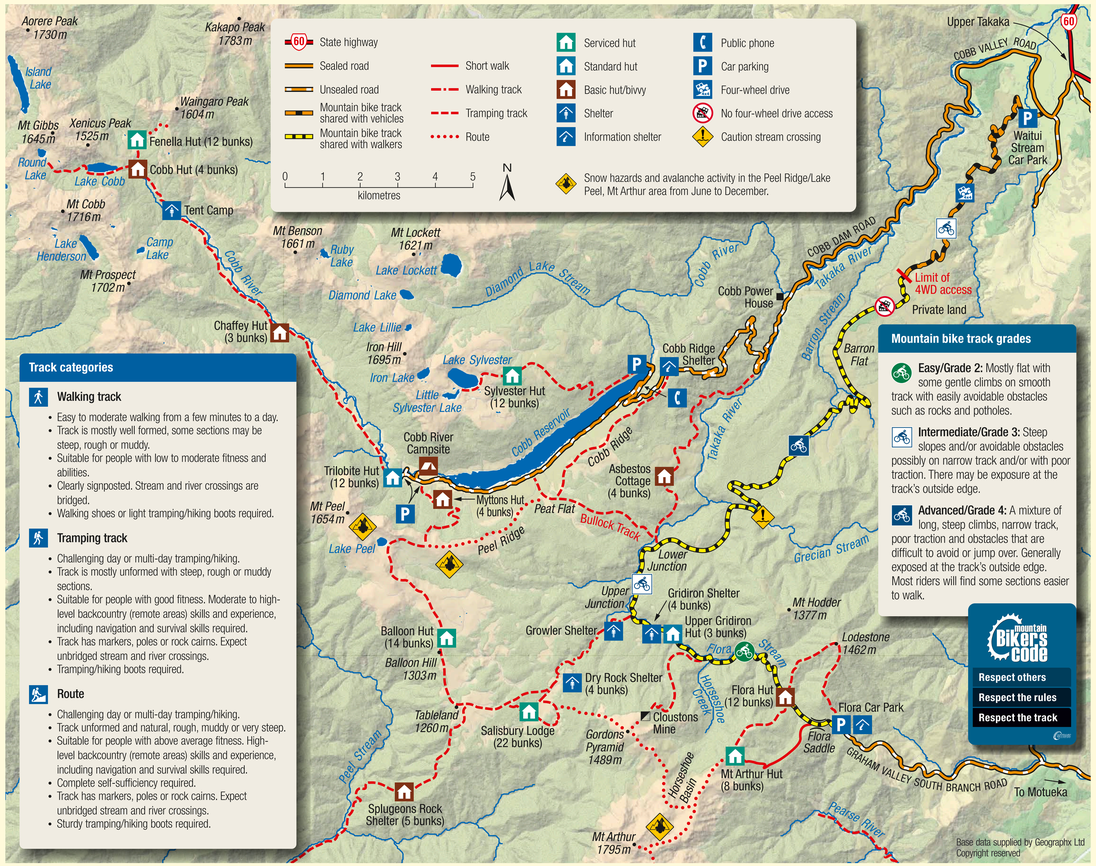
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Kahurangi National Park



Please remember

There is a phone available at the dam settlement for local calls only.

There are no rubbish facilities. All rubbish must be carried out of the park.

Fires should only be lit in fireplaces provided in huts and campsites. Use dead wood and make sure the fire is completely extinguished before you leave.

Dogs or any domestic animals are not permitted in the Kahurangi National Park.

Not all huts have gas. Visitors should carry portable stoves.

Back Country Hut Tickets or a Back Country Hut Pass are required to stay in most huts.

Always leave your trip details in the Intentions Book in huts and at park entrances.

New Zealand Government

Attention

The Cobb area is a sub-alpine environment. Sudden and adverse weather changes are possible. Snow falls are likely in winter and spring, and tree fall in strong winds can cause the access road and tracks to become impassable. Ensure you are well equipped with warm, waterproof clothing and extra food and check the weather forecast before going into the park.

It is recommended that you boil, filter or treat all drinking water.

Wasps can be a hazard from December to April. Consider carrying antihistamine or medication.

There are unbridged streams and rivers. Do not attempt to cross when in flood.

To prevent the spread of the aquatic pest didymo between waterways, check, clean and dry all equipment that has been in contact with water.

CHECK CLEAN DRY BETWEEN WATERWAYS

Welcome

Welcome to the Cobb Valley, gateway to the Kahurangi National Park. This is an area noted for its impressive mountain scenery and varied tramping and camping opportunities. The park has a remarkable geological history where varied and dramatic landscapes can be seen and visited, and it has an array of sub-alpine plants unsurpassed anywhere in New Zealand.

Trips from here (one way)

Cobb Reservoir — 1–2 hr — 7 km
via the Bullock Track

A track follows along Cobb Ridge to Peat Flat where it intersects the Bullock Track. The track drops steeply down to the reservoir.

Myttons Hut — 5–6 hr — 13 km
via Cobb Ridge and Lake Peel Track

A track follows the Cobb Ridge to Peat Flat, then a route climbs steadily up Peel Ridge to the Lake Peel Track. The track descends down to Myttons Hut and the car park a further 10 min.

Trips from the Cobb Dam Road (one way)

Asbestos Cottage — 2 hr — 6 km

The track follows the disused asbestos mine access road. A 30 min steady climb above the old mine site reaches Asbestos Cottage, home of Annie and Henry Chaffey for 40 years.

Cobb Reservoir — 4–5 hr — 13 km
via the Bullock Track

From Asbestos Cottage the track drops for 30 min to Lower Junction. A steady climb up the Bullock Track will take you up onto the Cobb Ridge at Peat Flat, where the track descends steeply to the Cobb Reservoir.

Flora Saddle — 6–7 hr — 18 km
via Asbestos Cottage and Upper Junction

From Upper Junction the track follows the Flora Stream, passing the Gridiron Shelters, built under large overhanging rocks, and the historic Flora Hut.

Other activities

Mountain Biking

Mountain biking is permitted on the Barron Flat–Gridiron–Flora Saddle track. Please be aware that this is a multiple use track.

There are camping and picnic areas at the head of the Cobb Reservoir.

Brown and rainbow trout are found in the Cobb River and Reservoir. All anglers must have a fishing licence.

The Cobb Reservoir is ideal for canoeing. Powerboats are not permitted in the reservoir.

Hunting permits are required in this area. Dogs are not permitted. Please sign your intentions in the Hunting Intentions Folder, located in the Cobb Ridge Shelter.

Day trips from the Cobb Valley (one way)

Sylvester Hut — 2 hr — 5 km

Drive over the dam to a small car park. A tramping track sidles along the reservoir before zigzagging up to Sylvester Hut. A further 30 min on is Lake Sylvester with wide vistas of the surrounding mountains and other glacial lakes.

Lake Peel — 2 hr 30 min — 5 km
via Myttons Hut

From the Lake Peel Car Park at the top end of the reservoir, a 15 min walk leads up to Myttons Hut. Beyond the hut the track winds steadily up onto the open Peel Ridge, before sidling around to the lake.

Chaffey Hut — 1 hr 30 min — 6 km

From Trilobite Hut at the road end, a well-defined tramping track leads up the valley, alongside the Cobb River. There are plenty of opportunities for picnicking, swimming and fishing.

Longer trips

Fenella Hut — 4–5 hr — 13 km

A marked track leads up the valley to Chaffey Hut (1 hr 30 min) and on to Cobb Hut. A steady climb for a further 30 min will take you to Fenella Hut.

From Cobb Hut a 30 min side track will take you up to Cobb Lake and a further hour to Round Lake.

Tableland Circuit (Cobb Valley–Balloon Hut–Salisbury Lodge–Flora Car Park)

This two day trip crosses the tablelands, passing through open tussock, forested slopes, sinkholes and unique rock shelters.

Lake Peel Car Park to Balloon Hut	4 hr	9 km
Balloon Hut to Salisbury Lodge	1 hr 30 min	4 km
Salisbury Lodge to Flora Saddle	4 hr	14 km

For more experienced trampers, a strenuous route from Salisbury Lodge via Gordon's Pyramid leads to the Mt Arthur summit.

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468
Report any safety hazards or conservation emergencies
For Fire and Search and Rescue Call 111

NEW ZEALAND environmental CARE CODE

10 POINT CHECKLIST

Protect plants and animals
Treat New Zealand's forests and birds with care and respect. They are unique and often rare.

Remove rubbish
Litter is unattractive, harmful to wildlife and can increase vermin and disease. Plan your visits to reduce rubbish, and carry out what you carry in.

Bury toilet waste
In areas without toilet facilities, bury your toilet waste in a shallow hole well away from waterways, tracks, campsites and huts.

Keep streams and lakes clean
When cleaning and washing, take the water and wash well away from the water source. Because soaps and detergents are harmful to water-life, drain used water into the soil to allow it to be filtered. If you suspect the water may be contaminated, either boil it for at least 3 minutes, or filter it, or chemically treat it.

Take care with fires
Portable fuel stoves are less harmful to the environment and are more efficient than fires. If you do use a fire, keep it small, use only dead wood and make sure it is out by dousing it with water and checking the ashes before leaving.

Camp carefully
When camping, leave no trace of your visit.

Keep to the track
By keeping to the track, where one exists, you lessen the chance of damaging fragile plants.

Consider others
People visit the back country and rural areas for many reasons. Be considerate of other visitors who also have a right to enjoy the natural environment.

Respect our cultural heritage
Many places in New Zealand have a spiritual and historical significance. Treat these places with consideration and respect.

Enjoy your visit
Enjoy your outdoor experience. Take a last look before leaving an area; will the next visitor know that you have been there?

Protect the environment for your own sake, for the sake of those who come after you, and for the environment itself.

Toitū te whenua
(Leave the land undisturbed)

For more information contact the Department of Conservation, Golden Bay Area Office, 62 Commercial Street, Takaka (03) 525 8026 or Department of Conservation, Motueka Area Office, cnr of King Edward and High Street, Motueka (03) 528 1810 | www.doc.govt.nz