

## Trail Journeys.

### Clyde, Dunedin, Queenstown

### Luxury Independent Cycle Tour



This independent cycle adventure is a 4 day/3 night tour on the Otago Central Rail Trail. You will cycle 3.5 to 4.5 hours per day on a vehicle free trail with an easy gradient. Reward yourself after a days cycling each night in lovely double/twin share luxury accommodation where you can sit back, relax and reflect on the days ride. Pass through some amazing scenery, ride over viaducts, through tunnels and experience wonderful cuisine and colourful local people. Finish off this wonderful tour with a train ride to Dunedin through the spectacular and scenic Taieri Gorge.



Your adventure starts in Queenstown where you will be picked up by bus from your accommodation at 7.45am to travel to Trail Journeys Clyde Depot. Upon arrival you will be fitted with your bikes, briefed on your tour then start your cycling adventure. From Clyde you can cycle past vineyards and over an old wooden trestle bridge on the ride to Alexandra. For the more adventurous, there is the option of riding on the Clutha River Centennial Track to Alexandra which adds another 8km to your cycle ride. From Alexandra you bike to Chatto Creek where this is a good option to stop for lunch at the Chatto Creek Tavern (winner of the best country pub 2015). After lunch you cycle up Tiger Hill, an easy gradient of 1 in 50. From the top of Tiger Hill it is all downhill to Omakau. You will then head over to Ophir to your luxury accommodation. There are many historic buildings in the delightful village of Ophir. 39-47km.

From Ophir make your way back to Omakau where you will then cycle onto Lauder to begin one of the most spectacular sections of the trail, the Poolburn Gorge. This is home to the rare New Zealand Falcon. You will travel through two tunnels and cross the 37m high impressive Poolburn Viaduct. We suggest stopping at Lauder for lunch or grabbing something from the cafe? there and taking it with you. There are plenty of places in this section to stop and enjoy the scenery while you eat. After the Poolburn Gorge you will travel through the Ida Valley and onto your accommodation this night in Oturehua. You will be picked up from your accommodation for your guided tour of the historic gold mining town of Naseby and go curling later in the afternoon. 31km.

After a slight uphill to the highest point on the trail, it is downhill to Wedderburn then onto Ranfurly, the Art Deco Capital of Otago. We suggest you stop here for either a coffee or lunch. From here you cross the Maniototo Plains on to Waipiata where you could have your lunch at the local Tavern. From Waipiata it is just another 11kms before you arrive at your accommodation this night at Kokonga. 42km.

Today's highlight must be the lovely trail section between Daisybank and Hyde alongside the Taieri River which crosses the Capburn Bridge, Price's Creek Viaduct and the last tunnel which is 152m long Travel. From there you will pass 3 former train stations and also the site of the Hyde Rail disaster where 21 lives were lost in 1943. Continue along to the end of the trail at Middlemarch. As the Rail Trail finishes at Middlemarch you need to drop your bikes off at our depot. You will be able to access showers here (charges applies). From here Trail Journeys will transfer you to Pukerangi to connect directly to the Taieri Gorge Tourist Train for a 2 hour rail experience through the rugged and unforgiving Taieri Gorge onto Dunedin. Transport back to Queenstown by bus can also be arranged if required instead of taking the train to Dunedin. 43km.

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### Additional Information

Note: this trip can also be done in reverse so ex Dunedin and finishing in Queenstown.

- Cycle equipment which includes bicycle, helmet, repair kit, panniers, odometer and trail documentation
- Luggage transfers (1 bag per person – limit 15kgs per bag)
- Transport: ex Queenstown - includes hotel pick-up.
- All en suite luxury accommodation based on twin/double share with breakfast included
- Guided Tour of Naseby and Curling
- Transport: Middlemarch to Pukerangi for Taieri River train trip
- Luggage storage for excess luggage may be available on request
- Taieri Gorge Tourist Train from Pukerangi to Dunedin (arriving Dunedin Railway Station at 6.30pm) \*\*Clients are required to make their own way after arriving at the Dunedin Train Station\*\*
- Option of transport if you do not wish to cycle one of the days – pick up and drop off from your accommodation on the trail.
- Straight through bags from one end of the trail to the other
- Discounted rate of just \$45.00 extra per person per day if wanting to upgrade to Electric Bikes (subject to availability)
- Total Distance 150km
- Single Supplement \$405



### Directions

The Otago Central Rail Trail runs between Clyde and Middlemarch. The township of Clyde is located 1 hour's drive from Queenstown and Middlemarch is located 1 hour's drive from Dunedin.

The Taieri Gorge Train operates most days from Dunedin to Middlemarch or Pukerangi (just outside of Middlemarch) and return and is a great way to relax and reflect on your trip once you have finished cycling in Middlemarch.

### Terms

**CHILD POLICY** Family Friendly.

**CANCELLATION** see website for full conditions | cancellation by Trail Journeys due to weather or other reasons Full Refund

**SEASON** Open year round

**CHRISTMAS** Closed Christmas Day

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### Activities in this area

- [Arrowtown House](#)
- [Fletcher Lodge](#)
- [Olivers](#)
- [Mt Rosa Lodge](#)
- [Pitches Store](#)