

West Coast Waterways

Hokitika, West Coast

Cruise, Kayak & Bike

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Family-run eco-tourism business to the south of Hokitika on South Island's West Coast.

Take a scenic cruise aboard the Eco Adventurer or kayak on the mirror-like lake. Capture the picturesque beauty of the Mahinapua waterways. The Mahinapua Waterways used to be the main route south to Ross. Early pioneers, gold diggers, and explorers regularly traveled the route by boat.

Soak up the majestic views of Mount Cook and the Southern Alps and discover the West Coast flora, fauna, and native rainforest.

West Coast Waterways are also partners with the West Coast Wilderness Trail and the New Zealand Cycle Trail. Mountain bike and e-bike rentals and shuttle bus transport for the Cycle the spectacular Mahinapua section of the trail from Scenic Waterways to Westcoast Treetops Walkway and Café. Either as a return trip, or with a shuttle bus service.



Eco Adventure Boat Cruise

Enjoy a tranquil evening cruising up the West Coasts Mahinapua Creek, taking in the soft light and birdsong. Cruises aboard the Eco Adventurer are suitable for all ages.

This 90-minute cruise up the Mahinapua Creek and onto Lake Mahinapua to view the magnificent Southern Alps and Aoraki Mount Cook.

Why not grab your pizza or take-out in town and enjoy it on the cruise.

Specialised photography tours with a professional photographer Juergen Schacke, special business packages or group functions are available on request.

One of New Zealand's most significant natural character areas; This is an opportunity to experience the beauty of this unique place. The Mahinapua wetlands were formed by the forces of the Hokitika Glacier meeting the Tasman Sea. As the glacier retreated, it left behind swampy margins, creating the perfect habitat for distinguished Kahikatea native rainforest. Mahinapua Creek is a protected whitebait breeding sanctuary encouraging a rich and diverse bird population.

Enjoy the birdsong tranquility as you take in the scenery; the mirror-finish lake amid ancient Rimu and Kamahi trees with the snow-capped mountains in the distance. Capture the picturesque beauty of the Mahinapua waterways along the original route used by pioneers, gold diggers, and early explorers. Experience majestic views of Mt. Cook and the Southern Alps and outstanding West Coast flora, fauna, and native rain forests.

Departs approx 7 pm | Duration 90 minutes* *Charter trips available

Start times move during the year to align with sunset times. Please ask us if you need to know in advance, otherwise we will contact you with a time close to the day.

Freedom Kayak Adventure

Hire a kayak for a self-guided adventure, or, local historian and comic character Gavin Hopper can accompany you to add to your experience.

Single-person ride-on kayaks as well as tandem two-person kayaks available. Hiring options range from 4 hours to 8 hours.

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Not suitable for unaccompanied children or for single adults without sufficient experience.

Advance booking essential as the departure point is unmanned. Gavin & Cindy live just across the creek and will meet and brief you.

Departs by arrangement | Duration 4-8 hours

West Coast Wilderness Trail

West Coast Scenic Waterways has mountain bikes and e-bikes available for hire. Cycle the spectacular Mahinapua section of the trail from Scenic Waterways to Westcoast Treetops Walkway and Café. Either as a return trip or use our shuttle service.

West Coast Scenic Waterways are partners with the West Coast Wilderness Trail and the New Zealand Cycle Trail.

Departs by arrangement | Duration approx 4-8 hours*

*Enjoy a complimentary coffee or hot drink with our partners at West Coast Treetop Walk and Café.



Directions

Located just 4 kilometers south of Hokitika on State Highway 6, heading towards the glaciers, where the Mahinapua Creek joins the West Coast Wilderness Cycle Trail

Terms

CHILD POLICY Kayak tours: Children ages 2-17 welcome

Boat tours: Under 3 years are FREE, Child fare from 3-17 years

CANCELLATION 24 hours 100%

SEASON Open all year except from Christmas Day

Recommendations

On-site B&B cottage with its own and kitchen facilities

Accommodation in this area

- [Breakers Boutique Accommodation](#)
- [Archer House](#)
- [Rimu Lodge](#)