Invercargill

CITY GUIDE

Welcome to Invercargill

Take some time to explore and see why we are so proud to call this place home

NZAS



New Zealand's Aluminium Smelter (NZAS) is proud to call Southland home. Our team at Tiwai Point welcome you. Learn more about our team's passion for creating some of the highest purity, lowest carbon aluminium in the world at tiwaistories.co.nz.

We are excited to showcase some of our favourite places in Invercargill and Bluff and hope you enjoy exploring our beautiful region.



Getting about the south

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Southland roads are among New Zealand's most demanding and there are a few challenges that you may not be used to.

Here are a few tips for ensuring your travels are safe and enjoyable.

Travel times

Remember to allow plenty of time for your journeys. Although travel distances may seem short on paper, roads may be narrower than you are used to, cover hilly terrain and vary quickly from sealed to unsealed gravel roads.

Sightseeing

Take extra care when pulling out onto the road after stopping to rest or admire the scenery - this is when most tourist crashes happen.

Animals on the road

If you encounter livestock on the roads, slow down and let the animals go past you or move slowly behind them.

Unsealed gravel roads

In rural or remote areas, many roads are unsealed. When travelling on gravel roads, reduce speed and beware that dust thrown up from other vehicles can reduce visibility.

Visibility

Rain, fog and snow reduce your ability to see and be seen. Slow down and drive with your lights on dip.

Ensure that your windscreen, mirrors and other windows are clear and free of frost before driving. Use an ice scraper, water or your vehicle's heater to melt the ice.

Sun glare

Sun glare can be intense, particularly in winter when the sun is low. Always carry sunglasses and, if the sun is affecting your vision, slow down.

Icy roads

In winter, frosts can be severe and ice can stay on the road all day, especially if the road is shaded.

When driving in frosty conditions, slow down and increase your following distance. Avoid sudden movements – accelerate smoothly and brake gently.

Snow

Extra care is required in winter and early spring, when there may be snow on the roads.

Avoid driving when it is snowing if possible. If you are travelling when snow is forecast, ensure you carry snow chains and are familiar with how to fit them.

If you are travelling the Milford Road between May and November you are legally required to carry snow chains; these can be hired from service stations in Te Anau. The Milford road is also subject to closure due to the risk of avalanches during this period.

Road conditions reports

For up-to-date State Highway conditions, call **0800 44 44 49** or visit **www.highwayinfo.govt.nz**

If things go wrong

In an emergency phone 111.

Keep yourself and your vehicle visible.

If you are involved in an accident, report the matter to the police.



Getting around



Finding your way around Invercargill is quick and easy! Most places in the city are within walking distance and we have reliable and affordable public buses, taxis or rental car options.

Another fun way to have a look around is by bike! There are plenty of cycle lanes and tracks suitable for all abilities and ages. Some favourites for families include the Invercargill Estuary Walkway and Cycling Track around the Pleasure Bay lagoon, the Otepuni Garden pathways following the Otepuni Stream, the Waihopai Walkway and Queens Park - just steer clear of the children's playground when you are on your bike.

For the more advanced and adventurous, the Sandy Point and Bluff Hill cross country and mountain bike trails are a must! And why not try one of our favourite rides - the locals call it the 'beach loop'. Starting from the South beach entrance at the end of Christies Road, bike south along the beach and around the corner until you reach the 4wd track, bike along the Sandy Point roads, past Coopers Creek until you get back to your starting point at Christies road. Note: This can only be done at low tide and is suitable for medium-high fitness level.

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A city for the future

Rarely does a city get an opportunity to invest and redesign its central city offering for the future.

Invercargill is positioning itself to be the stand out regional city in New Zealand. A brand new inner-city precinct is being developed giving Invercargill the high end, thriving shopping, dining and community hub that will set the city apart. Built with community and vibrancy in mind, this retail, business and dining precinct will be world class and an experience in itself.

Anticipation is building as the new shopping centre is beginning to open in stages throughout 2022. Keep an eye out to see which exciting retailers are opening next! A true shopping, dining and entertainment experience awaits.



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OFFICE
CAMBRIDGE BUILDINGS
OFFICE
INVERCARGILL CENTRAL
Specialty Store
Specialty Store



Feeling hungry

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Southland is a food lovers heaven. We are absolutely spoilt for choice with eateries, cafés and restaurants. Our new developing city has an exciting range of new restaurants opening. Whether you want something exotic, something local, an evening out or a quick bite we have something for every taste. We have selected a small few to showcase, but the list is exhaustive, so bring your appetite.

Check out all our great options at southlandnz.com



Black Shag NZ

Meccaspresso Café Invercargill – 25 Tay Street

Home to an urban dining experience boasting a truly unique ambience, Meccaspresso is loved by locals and visitors alike. Enjoy a delicious brunch and freshly brewed barista coffee that will put a spring in your step, a hearty lunch with your choice of enticing cabinet options or a la carte fare in our nostalgic and memorable surrounds.

Black Shag NZ – 136 Dee Street

Sustainability is at the core of Black Shag's business and they make as many of their items from scratch as they can including their alternative milks. They also grow a range of vegetables, herbs and edible flowers, as well as roasting all of their own coffee. Their food philosophy is to embrace local and seasonal produce with culinary creativity, with a menu that changes regularly to reflect this.

Tuatara Café and Bar – 30-32 Dee Street

Their philosophy is to serve fresh, whole foods which are sourced according to the season. Southland is the food basket of New Zealand – whether farmed like dairy, sheep and beef, grains, fruits and vegetables or harvested from the wild like whitebait, they all feature heavily in their menu.

Gluten free items are readily available, which you will find in their well stocked food cabinet. Most items on the main menu can be substituted for GF breads, as all batters and sauces are made gluten free.

The Batch Café – 173 Spey Street

The Batch Café extracts Humming Bird Coffee to bring you a cup of heaven! Take a bite of local cuisine masterminded by their talented team in the kitchen. Whipped up daily by the team, they use real ingredients in their food – no artificial flavourings in sight! Choose from their "all day" grill menu until 2pm or grab a bite to eat from the cabinet. Dine in or take away, all food is made fresh each day.

Indian at the Crescent – 11 The Crescent

Indian at The Crescent serves authentic Indian food cooked fresh in a traditional tandoor oven. Their menu has a range of meal options including vegan, dairy free, gluten free and keto friendly. Located close to the city centre and cinema with ample parking space around, they also do takeaways and deliveries in and around Invercargill, Otatara and Stewart Island.

Buster Crabb – 326 Dee Street

The Dee Street heritage building has been masterfully re-modelled, gaining several national awards along the way, featuring a subtle smokey décor which adds to the overall ambience.

Buster Crabb has impressive menus to choose from – lunch and dinner. Offering specialised dining including breakfasts by arrangement and a wonderful array of bar food.

The Grille Café Invercargill – 491 Tay Street

Set within a delightfully quirky automotive and retro-themed space, The Grille offers plenty of space and a great atmosphere. Enjoy a delicious brunch and freshly brewed barista coffee that will put a spring in your step. If you're seeking something later in the day, enjoy a hearty lunch with your choice of enticing cabinet options or a la carte fare in the nostalgic and memorable surrounds.

The Saucy Chef – Cnr St Andrew and Sydney Streets

The comprehensive a la carte menu provides an option for all tastes from the specialty fish dish, which is changed regularly, to Hereford beef and vegetarian delight. A small intimate well-appointed bar is adjacent to the restaurant and part of the bar offers an inside/outside drinking experience.

The Foundry Restaurant – Cnr Gimblett Street & North Road

An exceptional interior design signifies an authentic ambience, matched only by the modern menu featuring seasonally selected dishes. The a la carte menu features unique local game including a Southland delicacy, lamb sweetbreads.





Activities

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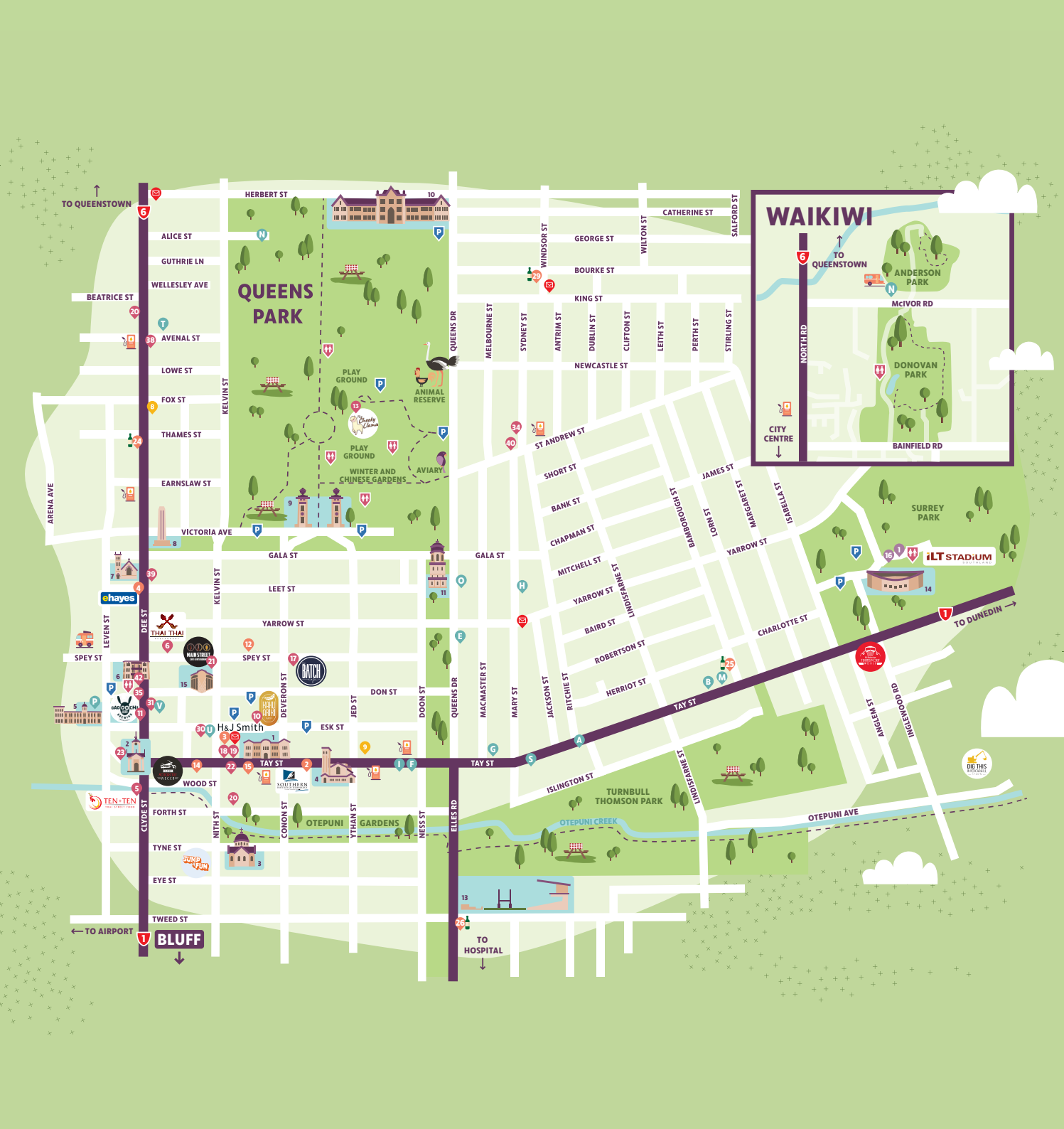
There is plenty to do and see in and around Invercargill. A mix of excellent public parks and high adrenaline attractions provide a wide variety of opportunities for extreme adventure and low-cost fun.

Queens Park

A great place to start exploring is the jewel of Invercargill's centre, Queens Park; awarded the Kiwi's choice award celebrating New Zealand's favourite public spots. Several hours will need to be put aside to make the most of this 81ha (200 acre) wonderland.

The grand Feldwick Gates invite you into the vast playground within, including beautiful gardens, animal reserves, the band rotunda and a fantastic children's playground and waterpark.

The park has something to offer all year round, and for the more energetic, there is a popular 4km fitness trail complete with twenty exercise stations.


TO QUEENSTOWN
HERBERT ST
ALICE ST
GUTHRIE LN
WELLESLEY AVE
BEATRICE ST
AVENAL ST
LOWE ST
FOX ST
THAMES ST
EARNSLAW ST
VICTORIA AVE
ARENA AVE
KELVIN ST
QUEENS PARK
PLAY GROUND
ANIMAL RESERVE
PLAY GROUND
WINTER AND CHINESE GARDENS
AVIARY
QUEENS DR
GALA ST
LEET ST
YARROW ST
SPEY ST
DEE ST
LEVEN ST
THAI THAI
MAIN STREET
BATCH
DEVERON ST
DON ST
JED ST
DOON ST
ESK ST
H&J Smith
TAY ST
WOOD ST
FORTH ST
CLYDE ST
NITH ST
CONON ST
OTEPUNI GARDENS
YTHAN ST
NESS ST
ELLES RD
TYNE ST
EYE ST
TWEED ST
TO AIRPORT
BLUFF
TEN+TEN
SOUTHERN
TO HOSPITAL
CATHERINE ST
GEORGE ST
BOURKE ST
KING ST
NEWCASTLE ST
WINDSOR ST
WILTON ST
SALFORD ST
MELBOURNE ST
SYDNEY ST
ANTRIM ST
DUBLIN ST
CLIFTON ST
LEITH ST
PERTH ST
STIRLING ST
ST ANDREW ST
SHORT ST
BANK ST
CHAPMAN ST
MITCHELL ST
YARROW ST
BAIRD ST
ROBERTSON ST
HERRIOT ST
ISLINGTON ST
BAMBOROUGH ST
LORN ST
JAMES ST
MARGARET ST
ISABELLA ST
LINDISFARNE ST
JACKSON ST
RITCHIE ST
MACMASTER ST
MARY ST
CHARLOTTE ST
TAY ST
TO DUNEDIN
SURREY PARK
ILT STADIUM
ANGLEM ST
INGLEWOOD RD
TURNBULL THOMSON PARK
OTEPUNI CREEK
OTEPUNI AVE
DIG THIS
WAIKIWI
TO QUEENSTOWN
ANDERSON PARK
McIVOR RD
DONOVAN PARK
NORTH RD
CITY CENTRE
BAINFIELD RD



Pack a picnic

There's nothing better than heading outdoors with friends and family, so why not pack a basket of goodies and your frisbee and make a day of it.

Invercargill offers some of the best picnic areas you could hope for in a city, and with nearly 150 parks and 80 public playgrounds, there's space for everyone.

Here's some of our top locals' spots!

Where: Sandy Point Domain – 7km west of Invercargill

Why we love it: picnic tables, playgrounds, public toilets, 13.5km of walking tracks including Kilmock Bush (50min return) and Daffodil Bay Loop Track (1hr 30min return)

Where: Omaui Reserve – 20km southwest of Invercargill

Why we love it: Set amongst a regenerating podocarp/broadleaf coastal forest. Sheltered picnic area, toilets and a 30min return walking track to an elevated viewing platform.

Where: Otepuni Gardens – just a few minutes walk from the city centre!

Why we love it: A great sense of seclusion across four city blocks. Full of charm with pathways along the banks of the Otepuni Stream.

Where: Russell Square – corner of Elles Road and Balmoral Drive, South City

Why we love it: One of the city's largest playgrounds providing non-stop entertainment. Picnic tables, basketball half court, flying fox and junior swing set for the toddlers.

Where: Thomson's Bush – off Queens Drive on the northern side of the Waihopai River

Why we love it: Native forest dominated by kahikatea, matai and ribbonwood. Playground, picnic tables, toilet and 3km of walking tracks, including access to the Waihopai Walking Track.

Where: Bushy Point – at the no-exit end of Bryson Road, Otatara

Why we love it: An easy-walking one hour return grass track with estuary views, picnic tables, native plants, birds, insects, ponds and a self-guided walk leaflet.

Fishing

Invercargill has superb brown trout fishing on its doorstep. Much of our best fishing is easily reached by vehicle, but to increase your range, a good four wheel drive is recommended.

Hot spots can be found on the Oreti River which flows just to the west of the city, the Aparima River 20km further west and about 30km east there is the renowned Mataura River. Said to be the ultimate in dry fly angling for brown trout, the Mataura River boasts 150km of easily accessed waters.

It's important to note that you need a fishing licence to fish for trout. Licences are available from the Fish and Game NZ website or from local sports stores where helpful staff can offer you great local advice. Here are a couple of pointers to get you started.

In the spring, (October to December) fishing is good at any time of the day, especially if a south westerly wind is blowing, but as the summer heats up, evening fly fishing becomes the most productive method in our rivers.

Fish and Game has an office at 159 North Road, Invercargill where they can provide licences and advice so anglers can get the best out of their time in the south. For more information call them on **03 215 9117** or visit **www.fishandgame.org.nz**



You'll need hiking boots

Invercargill is surrounded by some of the world's best walking tracks. Southland is home to five Great Walks! One of these Great Walks is the Rakiura Track, suited for anyone with moderate fitness. It takes you through native forest, and across sandy beaches all while listening to birdsong.

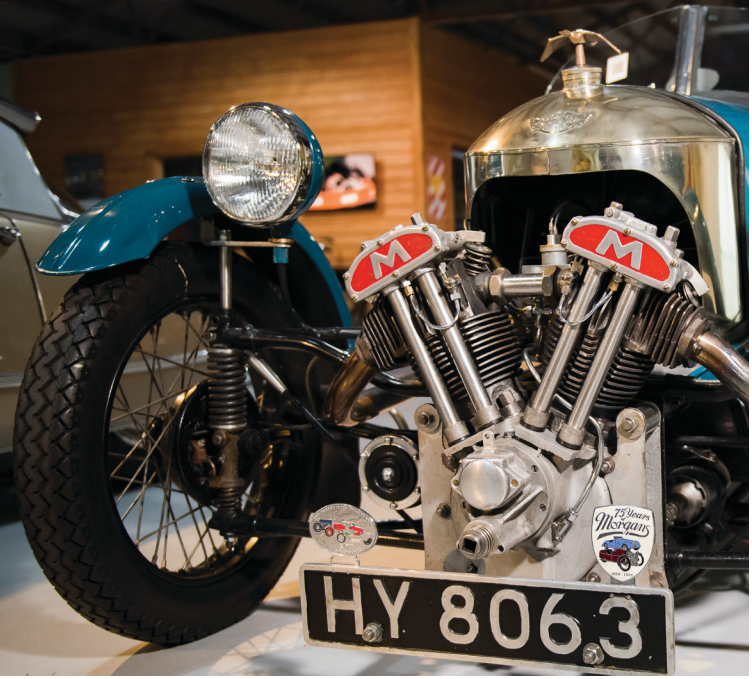
The Kepler Track is a wilderness adventure with its vast tussock-covered ridgelines and spectacular alpine vistas contrasting with peaceful lakeside and valley forest views. Or experience "the finest walk in the world" as you retrace the steps of early explorers on the world-renowned Milford Track. Capture the stunning panoramas from Mackinnon Pass, across ancient valleys carved by glaciers and wander through lush rainforests.

The Routeburn Track could be the ultimate alpine adventure; weaving through meadows and reflective tarns, with amazing views over mountain ranges and valleys. The Hump Ridge Track in Tuatapere is set to be New Zealand's next Great Walk. It's currently a three day loop walk taking you along the coast of Western Southland and up to the sub-alpine zone of the Hump Ridge.

From hiking along the beach on Stewart Island, to hiking towards the majestic Milford Sound, the choice is yours.



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Motorcycle Mecca

We love wheels

Invercargill celebrates wheels. The streets are wide, we drive on our beach, we have a velodrome, racetrack, speedway and a fanatic cycling culture. We love wheels!

A bit about Burt Munro

Burt Munro was a local motorcycle fanatic. With a huge passion for speed, Burt employed kiwi ingenuity to modify his Indian Scout motorbike to break land speed records. He goes down in history as one of Invercargill's most iconic sporting legends and is celebrated at E Hayes and Sons with his original bike on display.

In 1967 at the age of 68, Burt claimed the World Record Class S-A 1000cc with an average speed of 183.586mph, one way 190.07mph. That's 305.89km/h – this record still stands today!

Motorcycle Mecca

The 300-motorcycle collection, formally known as NZ Classic Motorcycles, was bought in 2007 by Transport World and moved from Nelson to its new home at Classic Motorcycle Mecca in Tay Street.

Housed in a restored two storeyed art-deco building, the range includes motorbikes from 60 manufacturers built between 1902 and 2007.

Bill Richardson Transport World

Transport World's impressive art-deco style frame dominates the entry from state highway 1, yet its contents is the greater treasure, housing a unique collection of rare trucks, cars, campervans and petrol bowsers.

For even the least mechanically minded, there is much to explore from the growing wearable arts collection, to children's play zones and themed bathrooms, meaning people of all ages will find something to captivate them.

Teretonga Park

The 1.57-kilometre race track is located just 8km from Invercargill in the Sandy Point Reserve.

Built in 1957, it regularly features local and national motorsport events and series including the NZ V8's, Porsche GT3 Cup, Toyota Racing Series, Formula Ford and more.

The track runs counter clockwise and features smooth flowing turns with an 800-metre main straight, and is recognised as one of the fastest tracks in Australasia.



Cycling

You may have gathered by now that Invercargill is crazy for anything that has wheels! One such wheely pastime is cycling. The Velodrome is New Zealand's first 250m international indoor cycling velodrome and home to some of New Zealand's top cyclists. If you fancy catching some live cycling action, the track hosts competitions throughout the year and you can even test it out for yourself! To find out more contact Cycling Southland on **03 217 3215**.

In November the city comes alive as the Tour of Southland takes place. Cyclists from all over New Zealand compete in this prestigious event. The tour is a six day National Tour, comprising seven stages. It commences with a 4.2km Team's Time Trial prologue around Invercargill's Queens Park and in the six days of racing that follow, riders tackle many parts of the region while covering almost 900kms.

Feeling arty?

Part of the soul of Invercargill is our thriving art scene.

The He Waka Tuia Art + Museum space is a joint initiative between the Invercargill Public Art Gallery and the Southland Museum and Art Gallery. It is a central city must stop. Experience our history, stories and our art and cultural endeavours, delivered in innovative and experimental ways.





Staying a While

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Southland is a remarkable place. Home to pristine rainforests, fertile farmlands, sweeping coastlines and endless opportunities with welcoming, generous and unapologetically proud people who are focused on an exciting future. In Southland, you'll find a strong sense of manaakitanga and a united, inclusive and increasingly diverse community.

Our people, employment opportunities, and enviable lifestyle on offer will make for an inviting new home, so, what are you waiting for?

It's time to go south!

Housing

Southland is an affordable place to live compared to other areas in New Zealand, with opportunities to buy and rent property across the entire region. Like other parts of New Zealand, there is a growing demand for quality housing and as a result, house prices and rental costs in Southland have increased. Despite this, Southland still offers affordable living with housing, and general expenses sitting below the national average.

Education

From pre-school through to tertiary study, Southland offers some of the best educational opportunities in New Zealand with high-quality education facilities encouraging excellent learning environments for students.

Early childhood options in Southland include kindergartens, daycare centres, home-based care, and play centres and playgroups. Primary and secondary schools start from year 1-8 (primary) and Year 9-13 (secondary). In Southland there are a range of co-ed, single-sex and faith-based schooling options available.

Most schools will have zoning in place – which means you must live within the school's zoning area in order to gain automatic entry for your child. You can apply to a school outside your zone area, but there will be no guarantees of acceptance. Zoning does not always apply to faith-based schools, but it is best to check with the respective school for more information.



Photo by Great South

Once students have completed their secondary level education, there are a number of tertiary education providers in Southland for them to choose from if they would like to continue studying. These include:

- Te Pūkenga
- University of Otago, Invercargill
- Te Wānanga o Aotearoa

There are a number of New Zealand institutions that offer courses and qualifications by distance-learning also known as extramural study, including Te Pūkenga and Massey University.

Get a job

Invercargill is surrounded by industry, New Zealand's Aluminium Smelter, dairy, aquaculture, data storage and solutions, significant manufacturing and engineering organisations and an exceptional selection of food producers, start-ups and some pretty extraordinary leaders in the innovation space.

Invercargill is home to a thriving port and airport that services our significant export industry and keeps our businesses connected.

Businesses including our start up and innovation industries are supported and nurtured by the Southland Business Chamber who keep businesses connected and work to constantly upskill and advocate for business in the region.

Invercargill won't just provide you with the time to have the lifestyle you dream of, it also has career opportunities usually afforded to bigger centres.

Invercargill truly offers a unique lifestyle and unmatched quality of life. To find out more information about what it's like to live here, visit www.southlandnz.com/live.

Photo by Great South



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Helpful Information

Emergency Services
Police, Fire, Ambulance **111**

Police Station
117 Don Street **03 211 0400**

Healthline
Free health advise **0800 611 116**

Southland Hospital
Kew Road **03 218 1949**

After Hours Doctor
40 Clyde Street **03 218 8821**

Post Office
51 Don Street **03 214 7700**

Taxi
158 Tay Street **03 217 7777**

Public Bus Service
Text your bus stop number to **022 4 MY STOP (022 4 69 7867)** to receive an instant text letting you know an estimated time for the next bus.

Flight information
Air New Zealand: **0800 737 000** or Stewart Island Flights: **03 218 9129**

Calling overseas

To call or text overseas from New Zealand just remember to dial '+' or '00', followed by the country code and the city code minus the first zero, then the local number.

Weather

Summer daytime temperatures typically range between 16-23°C, occasionally rising above 30°C. Winter daytime temperatures typically range from 8-12°C. Snow falls infrequently in the winter but frosts are common. Invercargill weather can be unpredictable and variable, so ensure you are prepared with clothing and footwear for all seasons.

Daylight

Summer daylight hours are 6am-10pm.
Winter daylight hours are 8am-5pm.

Liquor

In Invercargill, liquor is only available from liquor specific outlets. Off licence liquor and possession of alcohol is banned in the CBD, with certain exemptions. The ban also includes some parks and reserves including Gala Street Reserve and Wachner Place.



Photo by The Civic Theatre

NZAS

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Southland express
Our Community Newspaper

NAKED

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BUSINESS CHAMBER
Open for business.