

STATE HIGHWAY 67: WESTPORT to KARAMEA

S.H.67 first passes through a series of typical West Coast coal mining towns - **Waimangaroa** (stop and investigate the famous Denniston Incline historic place), **Granity**, **Ngakawau** and **Hector**. At Ngakawau an overhead bucket line brings export coal down from the Stockton Plateau to a large bin complex where it is loaded onto trains. Where S.H.67 leaves the coast at Mokihinui it is worthwhile detouring a short distance to the quaint old former coal town of **Seddonville**. S.H.67 now enter the forest and climbs over to Karamea.

KARAMEA (E-2) has an almost sub-tropical climate. It is the southern step-off point for the Heaphy Track. **Attractions** include a museum and walking tracks in Kahurangi National Park.



STATE HIGHWAY 6: FRANZ JOSEF to RENWICK via NELSON

see overleaf for S.H.6 between Invercargill and Franz Josef

FRANZ JOSEF/WAIAU to HOKITIKA: At **Whataroa** White Heron Colony tours are offered. **Hari Hari** is a small tourist stopover. **Ross** (F-7) originated as a goldrush town in 1864. Later sawmilling became the main industry. **Attractions** include the local museum and bush walking tracks to old gold workings.

HOKITIKA (F-7) began as a rip-roaring gold rush town in the 1860s. At its peak there was an estimated 15,000 people in the district and over 100 hotels in town. **Attractions** include the museum, cafes and restaurants, greenstone carving, walking tracks in local historic gold workings, Lake Kaniere.

GREYMOUTH (F-6) The West Coast’s largest town grew on the site of a big Maori settlement. Gold then coal and timber sustained the local economy for a century, but tourism is now very important. **Attractions** include Montearth’s Brewery, Shanty Town, a working replica of a West Coast goldtown (13km south on SH6), historic industrial site at Dobson. North of Greymouth SH6 follows a spectacular coastline.

PUNAKAIKI (F-5) Is an important tourist stop. Long famous for its Pancake Rocks the village is now also the gateway to Paparoa National Park. The Road continues to hug the coast after Punakaiki before crossing the flats to Westport.

WESTPORT (G-4) Grew as a service town for the goldfields around Charleston, however it was as a port and service centre for the nearby Buller coalfield that the town found permanence. Today the port is used to ship cement from the works at Cape Foulwind. The town’s business area has many good examples of colonial and art deco buildings. **Attractions:** Museum (Coal Town), Seal Colony (Tauranga Bay), Carters Beach.

WESTPORT to NELSON: The Buller River and its lower and upper gorges provide a spectacular scenic drive to **Murchison** (H-4), This strategically placed lunch stop was settled during the goldrush period. In 1929 the original town was destroyed by the Murchison Earthquake. Leaving Murchison the Buller River is followed to the junction with S.H.63. S.H.6 now turns north over Hope Saddle and down through the pine plantations of Golden Downs to Nelson.

NELSON (I-2) was first settled in 1842. Today it is a thriving city deriving much of its income from horticulture, forestry and fish processing. It has a vibrant art scene which is particularly strong in the ceramic arts. The inner city retains much of its Victorian character. **Attractions:** historic buildings, museum, Suter Art Gallery, art and craft studios, Tahunanui Beach. Beyond Nelson the S.H.6 travels through rugged hill country.

HAVELOCK (J-2) Originally a port serving a goldfield and sawmills. Today mussel farming is an important industry. **Attractions:** launch trips on Pelorus Sound.

STATE HIGHWAY 60: NORTH OF NELSON

North of Nelson places of interest include Mapua and Kina Beach near Tasman. **Motueka** services a rich horticultural and winery district. North of Motueka is a turn off to the excellent **Kaiteriteri Beach**. S.H.60 now ascends Takaka Hill (the Marble Mountain). Detour at the top of the hill to view marble outcrops, caves (guided tours) and the 370m deep Harwood’s Hole. The highway winds spectacularly down into the Takaka Valley.

TAKAKA: (H-2) As well as serving local farmers Takaka is now a thriving tourist centre. **Attractions** include artisan outlets and Pupu Springs. At Takaka a road branches off to Totaranui in the heart of **Able Tasman National Park**. The Park is famous for its beautiful beaches and coastal tracks. Information can be obtained at Takaka and Totaranui.

COLLINGWOOD (H-1) began as a goldrush town in 1857. A road from the town travels up the Aorere Valley gives access to the Heaphy Track. From Collingwood a good road continues up to Farewell Spit. **Attractions:** tours along Farewell Spit, gold mining centre.

STATE HIGHWAY 73: OVER THE ALPS

After crossing the Canterbury Plains S.H.73 climbs up to **Porters Pass** which is higher than Arthurs Pass. The road then winds down to the Castle Hill district with its distinctive limestone formations and attractive small lakes. At **Bealey** village the highway crosses the Waimakariri River to enters Arthurs Pass National Park.

ARTHURS PASS (G-7) The 924m Pass was named after Arthur Dudley Dobson the first European to sight and cross it. Because of the West Coast gold rush a rough road was quickly built across the Pass. The alpine village of Arthurs Pass developed during the building of the Otira railway tunnel (1908-1923). **Attractions:** National Park Visitor Centre, museum, walks and tramps. **Otira** originally developed as a railway service centre.

Beyond Otira the highway follows the Taramakau River down past **Jacksons** and **Kumara** to join S.H.6. Kumara was once a booming goldrush centre and hometown of Richard Seddon, a colourful early Prime Minister. An alternative scenic route to Greymouth, via **Moana/Lake Brunner**, branches off and crosses the river near Jacksons.

STATE HIGHWAY 63: BLENHEIM to NELSON LAKES

The lower Wairau Valley between Blenheim and Renwick and beyond is dominated by vineyards. Towards the upper end of the valley Red Hill mountain is a striking feature. Here ancient red volcanic rocks inhibits forest growth.

NELSON LAKES NATIONAL PARK (I-4) **St Arnaud**, on the shores of Lake Rotoiti, is the service town for the park and the location of the Park HQ. The village has a number of accommodation options. The Park and its two lakes, Rotoiti and Rotoroa, provide unlimited opportunities for walking, tramping and water sports.

STATE HIGHWAY 1: TIMARU - PICTON

TIMARU (H-11) Began as a landing place and service centre for agricultural development in 1859. Later the town became an important flour milling centre. Several impressive multi-storey former mills in the central city area are monuments to this era. Today dairying is becoming dominant in the Timaru district. **Attractions:** historic buildings, churches and Basilica, Caroline Bay beach, botanic garden, museum, Aigantighe Art Gallery.

ASHBURTON (H-10) In the late 19th Century the Canterbury Plain were transformed from vast uninterrupted tussock grasslands into a patchwork of farm paddocks. Ashburton soon became an important farm service town.

CHRISTCHURCH (J-8) See **Separate Christchurch Maps**. North of Christchurch the highway passes turnoffs to several beachside holiday villages before reaching Waipara. The **Waipara** district is well known for its wines and vineyards.

KAIKOURA (K-5) began as a Maori Settlement noted for its crayfish. The name means 'meal of crayfish'. **Attractions:** Whale Watch nature cruises, museum, walkways on Kaikoura Peninsula - take in the rugged coast and magnificent views of the Seaward Kaikoura Range, and off course a crayfish meal. Between Kaikoura and Blenheim is **Lake Grassmere**, the site of New Zealand’s only salt works.

BLENHEIM (K-3) Named after the Duke of Marlborough’s greatest victory, Blenheim began in 1850 as a depot serving pastoral runs. Today the town is the centre of New Zealand’s most extensive vineyard district. **Attractions:** Marlborough Wine Trail, cafes.

PICTON (K-2) Founded around 1850, Picton was briefly the capital of Marlborough Province, but Blenheim soon become dominant. In the early days the timber trade was important, but today Picton is very much a holiday and tourist town. **Attractions:** boat cruises on the Sounds, Historic buildings, Queen Charlotte Track.

CHRISTCHURCH to TIMARU via INLAND SCENIC ROUTE 72

This scenic route skirts the outer ranges of the Alps. Highlights along the way are the **Ashley Gorge** near Oxford, the **Raikaia Gorge**, **Mt Hutt Ski Area**, **Methven** (ski resort), **Mt Somers** (where there are walkways and an access road to the lakes and mountains of the Upper Rangitata area) and the country town of **Geraldine**.

STATE HIGHWAY 7: WAIPARA to GREYMOUTH

S.H.7 first travels up through Weka Pass with its impressive limestone formations before arriving at a broad inland basin and its settlement of **Waikari**, **Hurunui & Culverden**. Note the hotel at Hurunui which dates from the 1870s.

HANMER SPRINGS (I-6) Hanmer’s warm springs were developed into a fashionable health resort in the early 1900s. **Attractions:** thermal pools and spa, walks in the exotic Hanmer plantation, horse trails, fishing, bungy jumping and jet boating on Waiau River.

LEWIS PASS (H-6) At 864m A.S.L. the Pass was a well-worn Maori route to the West Coast, but the road was not constructed until the 1930s. Beyond the Pass is **Maruia Springs** spar resort and the service village of **Springs Junction**. The highway then crosses Rahu Saddle and follow the Inangahua River down past Blacks Point to Reefton.

REEFTON (G-5) began as a goldrush town. Later large quartz crushing batteries were built to exploit rich gold deposits and in 1888 Reefton become the first town in New Zealand to have an electric power supply. Coal and timber also sustained Reefton and recently large scale gold mining has resumed. **Attractions:** Precinct of historic buildings, School of Mines, Blacks Point Museum, Victoria Forest Park.

REEFTON to GREYMOUTH: S.H.7 now turns down the Grey River Valley. A side trip to **Blackball** (G-6), a quaint former coal mining town, is rewarding. Blackball is famous for an early 1900s miners strike (over a half hour lunch break), which gave birth to the modern union movement and the Labour Party. Near Dobson is the historic **Brunner Mine Industrial Site** (G-6). This is accessed via a bridge over the river from S.H.7. The site includes relics of coke ovens, brickworks and coal mines.

STATE HIGHWAY 70: CULVERDEN to KAIKOURA

This scenic inland route branches off S.H.7 just north of Culverden. Points of interest include **Waiau** and **Mt Lyford village** where a skifield operates in the winter. The road skirts the foothills of the Seaward Kaikoura Range before descending to Kaikoura.



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STATE HIGHWAY 6: INVERCARGILL to FRANZ JOSEF

See overleaf for continuation of S.H.6 route from Franz Josef to Nelson
SH6 first traverses the rich Southland Plains to reach the tourist crossroads of **Lumsden**. The road then climb over into the Matura River valley where the villages of **Athol** and **Garston** (C4) are handy to good fishing on the River. **Kingston** (D-15) is a peaceful lakeside holiday settlement. **Attractions:** walking, watersport, boating, fishing.

QUEENSTOWN DISTRICT See separate Queenstown and District Maps

CROMWELL (E-14) Born as a goldrush town in 1862, Cromwell is now a tourist and horticultural centre. In the early 1990s the Clyde Hydro Scheme gave the town a attractive lake-side setting, however most its historic main street and the dramatic meeting of the Clutha and Kawarau Rivers were lost. **Attractions:** museum, wineries, boating/watersport, walks, Old Cromwell, Kawarau Goldfields Mining Centre. Nearby **Bannockburn** has extensive vineyards, historic buildings & gold workings.

WANAKA & LAKE HAWEA See separate Queenstown and District Maps

MAKARORA (D-12), an alpine village in a forest setting, offers scenic flights, jet boating, walks, tramping (hiking), fishing. Along the highway over the **Haast Pass** between Makarora and Haast there are a number of beautiful camping/picnic areas and easy short walks.

HAAST (D-11) is a small tourist service village in a magnificent setting. **Attractions:** World Heritage Visitor Centre, fishing, jetboating, scenic flights, tramping (hiking), forest walks. Highlights on the drive between Haast and Fox Glacier include **Knights Point**, **Lakes Moeraki** and **Paringa** and **Bruce Bay**.

FOX GLACIER & FRANZ JOSEF/WAIAU (E-9) Contrary to world trends, during the last two decades both the Franz Josef (11km long) and the Fox Glacier (13km long) have been mostly advancing. **Attractions:** glacier viewing; bush walks; scenic flights; Lake Matherson (reflections of the alps) near Fox Glacier; National Park Centre at Franz Josef. A side trip to the former gold rush village of **Okarito** is worthwhile. Take the Trig Walk to view the Alps or relax and build a drift wood sculpture on the beach.

STATE HIGHWAY 83: UP THE WAITAKI VALLEY

DUNTRON (G-13) **Attractions:** 'Vanished World' Centre, Maori rock drawing sites, rock formations, fishing. **KUROW** (G-12) vineyards, fishing, jetboating.

OTEMATATA (F-12) This former hydro construction village is now a holiday resort. **Attractions:** Tours of Benmore Power Station. Lakes **Aviemore** & **Benmore** provide unlimited opportunities for watersport, walking, fishing and camping.

STATE HIGHWAY 8: INLAND ROUTE from MILTON to TIMARU

LAWRENCE (F16) burst into life in 1861 after Gabriel Read discovered gold at nearby Gabriel's Gully. A loop road from the town takes in **Gabriel's Gully** Reserve and **Blue Spur** ghost town.

ROXBURGH (E-15) Goldrush town now servicing an important orcharding district.

ALEXANDRA (E-14) and **CLYDE** (D-5) Both founded during the 1862 Dunstan Goldrush. **Clyde** retains a fine array of 19th century stone and cob buildings. **Alexandra** is now a modern rural service town. **Attractions** include: vineyards, walks, fishing, historic buildings and goldfields sites, museums, winter sports, mountain biking, canoeing, boating, fishing.

CROMWELL: (E-14) See State Highway 6 Section

BENDIGO (E-13) This old gold mining area is noted for its vineyards and historic reserve enclosing three ghost towns. **TARRAS** is the last 'Pit Stop' before the Lindis Pass.

OMARAMA (F-12) began as a stage coach stop in the 1880s. In recent years it has become a world renowned gliding centre. **Attractions:** fishing, Clay Cliffs, glider rides.

MACKENZIE BASIN was named after James McKenzie, a shepherd accused of sheep stealing, who is said to have been the first European to sight the district in the 1850s.

TWIZEL (F-11) A former power scheme construction village, Twizel is now a great base for exploring the Mackenzie Basin. **Attractions:** water sports, boating (Lake Ruataniwha), camping, fishing, Black Stilt Aviary. Attractions at beautiful **Lake Ohau** (E-11) include camping, boating, fishing, skiing, walking & tramping. **Lake Pukaki** (F-11) often provides perfect reflections of Aoraki/Mt Cook. A dam built in 1979 raised the Lake 46m for hydro storage. The **Upper Waitaki Power Scheme** combines the outflows of Lakes Tekapo, Pukaki and Ohau. Most of the water that formerly went down each outlet river is now directed through a series of canals and power stations.

AORAKI/MT COOK (F-10) is a region of great ice encrusted peaks and long valley glaciers. Aoraki/Mt Cook (New Zealand's highest) and Mt Sefton are among the world's great mountains, while the Tasman Glacier, at 29km, is one of the longest outside the polar areas. **Attractions:** skiplane & helicopter flights, climbing & glacier skiing (freedom or guided), glacier terminal lake boat trips, walking, hunting.

LAKE TEKAPO (F-11) has been a tourist resort since the 1880s. The Lake's turquoise water is caused by glacier-ground rock flour. In 1954 the Lake was raised 8m for hydro storage. **Attractions:** Ice skating, windsurfing, scenic fights, walking, skiing, fishing.

From Lake Tekapo S.H.8 heads over the scenic Burke Pass and down into Timaru.



STATE HIGHWAY 1: TIMARU to BLUFF

(see overleaf for Timaru to Picton)

WAIMATE (H-12) began as a sawmilling town, but now serves a rich farming district. The town centre has several important historic buildings dating from the 1870s.

OAMARU (H-13) The legacy of a late 1800s boom period is an almost perfectly preserved Victorian mercantile area and beautiful classical style public buildings and banks built from local white Oamaru limestone. **Attractions** include: historic stone buildings, penguin colonies, art gallery, museum, public gardens, Totara Estate (south of Oamaru).

OAMARU to DUNEDIN: **Moeraki** (H-14) is famous for its spherical beach boulders. **Waikouaiti & Karitane** (H-15) are Otago's oldest European settlements. Sydneysider, Johnny Jones, set up a whaling station at Karitane in the 1830s, but by the 1840s he was establishing an agricultural settlement across the district. **Attractions:** 1840s buildings on Jones' Matanaka farm, Waikouaiti Museum, beaches, coastal scenic drive to Warrington).

DUNEDIN (H-15) See Separate Dunedin Maps for coverage

DUNEDIN to GORE: **Lake Waiholo** (G-16) Popular resort for boating, wind surfing, and picnicking. Important wetlands adjoin the lake. **Milton** (G-16) began as a flour mill in 1857. Woollen and saw milling have perpetuated Milton's 'mill town' image, although some believe it was named after the English poet, John Milton. **Balclutha** (F-16) (Gaelic for the 'Town of the Clyde'), has grown on the richness of its surrounding farmland.

GORE (E-16) Gore's heritage is immersed in 'Hokonui' Whisky which was illegally distilled for decades in the nearby Hokonui Hills. **Attractions:** Hokonui Moonshine Museum, art gallery, Pioneer Park, fishing (brown trout), Croydon Bush Scenic Reserve.

EDENDALE (E-17) Birth place of New Zealand's export dairy industry in 1881. Today's vast new plant is the result of a recent dramatic growth in dairy farming across Southland.

INVERCARGILL (D-18) Scottish astuteness and a fertile hinterland has given Invercargill a solid base. In 1856 Surveyor, John Turnbull Thomson, selected the site for the City, which was named after the Superintendent of Otago, William Cargill. Thomson naming its downtown streets after British rivers. **Attractions:** Museum/Art Gallery (including the Tuatara House), Anderson Park Gallery, Queens Park, native bush reserves, heritage buildings (*First Church* most impressive), Sandy Point Domain.

BLUFF (D-18) Established as a fishing/farming hamlet in 1824, Bluff is said to be New Zealand's oldest European settlement. **Attractions** include: seafood (including the Bluff Oyster); last sign post; Bluff Hill lookout; walks.

STEWART IS / RAKIURA (D-19) (access by ferry from Bluff or aircraft from Invercargill) Most of this beautiful bush clad island is now a National Park. **Attractions** include: fishing, hiking, walking, boat cruises, beaches, Ulva Island sanctuary, native wildlife.

BALCLUTHA - TE ANAU ON THE SOUTHERN SCENIC ROUTE:

THE CATLINS DISTRICT Named after Captain Edward Cattlin, the Catlins is noted for rugged forested hill country, wildlife, waterfalls, dramatic coastal scenery & a variety of short bush & coastal walks. **Kaka Point** (G-17) is a beachside holiday village. At nearby dramatic **Nugget Point** walking tracks lead to a lighthouse and vantage points to view wildlife. **Owaka** (F-17), the Catlins main service town, boasts a great museum/visitor centre. The holiday village of **Pounawea** has safe swimming & bush walks. Surrounded by native bush, **Papatowai** (F-18) offers surf beaches, bush and coastal walks. At **Tautuku Bay**, where the bush comes right down to the beach, there are many short walks.

WAKAWA DISTRICT (E-18) Waikawa was once a whaling station and port. Dolphins can be seen at nearby Porpoise Bay. **Curio Bay** is famous for a 160 million year old fossilised forest (best viewed at low tide). **Slope Point** is the southern most point of the South Island. **Tokanui** (D-1) is a rural service centre. The Route continues to **Invercargill** and then heads towards Riverton and Western Southland...

RIVERTON/APARIMA (D-18) Site of an early Maori village and one of New Zealand's earliest European settlements. Capt. John Howell established a whaling station here in 1834 and by 1840 had transformed it into a thriving fishing and farming village. **Attractions** include: seafood, Riverton Rocks (safe beaches), bush walks, Settlers Museum.

TUATAPERE (C-17) Grew as a sawmilling centre in the early 1900s. **Attractions** include: Bushmans' Museum; Hump Ridge Track and other tramps (hikes) and walks; fishing, Clifton historic bridge; **Lake Hauroko** (B-17) a pristine lake surround by bush clad mountains. The Route now follows the Waiau Valley to **Manapouri** and **TeAnau** - See State Highway 93 Section below for details of these towns.

STATE HIGHWAY 93: GORE to MILFORD

MANDEVILLE (E-16) Vintage aircraft restoration works tours, flights & cafe.

FIORDLAND Travelling into the Te Anau Basin visitors are confronted by a great line of bush clad mountains stretching north and south as far as the eye can see. This is the pristine wilderness of Fiordland. Successive ice ages have carved out dramatic steep sided U shaped valleys from Fiordland's hard rock.

TE ANAU (C-15) came into being in 1890 when a hotel and wharf were built to serve the recently opened Milford Track. **Attractions:** Glow worm caves tours, tramping (hiking) - Kepler, Routeburn, Hollyford, and Milford Tracks, walks, Wildlife Park, fishing, boating, lake cruises, DOC Visitor Centre and Museum.

MANAPOURI (B-16) A 1960s proposal to raise the level of Lake Manapouri, as part of a giant hydro power scheme, led to the famous 'Save Manapouri Campaign', which ultimately saved the Lake from becoming an ugly eyesore. **Attractions** include: tours to West Arm Power Station & Doubtful Sound, fishing, kayaking, walking, tramping (hiking), hunting.

MILFORD SOUND (B-13) Opened in 1954, the Te Anau - Milford road traverses some of the most magnificent mountain scenery in New Zealand. **Milford** was settled in 1878 by Donald Sutherland. Although a hermit, Sutherland hosted an ever increasing number of visitors and by 1890, with the Milford Track due to open, Donald took a break and came back married to thrice widowed Elizabeth Samuel. Elizabeth (who outlived Donald) established a guest house and presided over it until her death in 1923. **Attractions:** Day and overnight cruises, sea kayaking.

CENTRAL OTAGO HIGHLIGHTS on and off S.H.85 & 87

OPHUR (E-14) retains its historic gold town character. Southern access is over the beautiful Daniel O'Connell suspension bridge. **ST BATHANS** (F-13) Attractions include the Vulcan Hotel and the surreal Blue Lake. Historic attractions at **OTUREHUA** (F-13) include the town's store, the Golden Progress Mine and Hayes Engineering Works.

NASEBY (F13) began as a goldrush town in 1863. Today it is a holiday centre, but retains a unique historic atmosphere. **Attractions:** museum, walks, ice skating, indoor curling, mountain biking. **KYEBURN DIGGINGS** (F-13) on the scenic **Danseys Pass** route, centres around an historic hotel. Exploring the area will reveal much evidence of the goldrush days. **RANFURLY** (F14) Beginning as a railway station in 1898, Ranfurly was soon growing at the expense of old established Naseby. Redevelopment in the 1930s has left a legacy of attractive Art Deco style buildings.

MIDDLEMARCH (G14) is the terminal of the Taieri Gorge Railway (see Dunedin Guide) and the southern terminal of the **Otago Central Rail Trail**. Developed for walkers and cyclists, the Trail follows the scenic route of the former railway line from Middlemarch to Clyde (bike hire available). At **MACRAES** (G-14) a vast modern gold mine (tours available) can be contrasted with the historic workings and mining equipment at Golden Point Reserve. The old Macraes village centres around Stanleys Hotel (1882).