

Boyle Village (Lewis Pass) to Arthur's Pass

Outline :

Estimated time : 4 / 6 days

- > Boyle Village on SH7
- > Hope-Kiwi Lodge
- > Hurunui Hut
- > Hurunui No.3 Hut
- > Locke Stream Hut
- > Morrison Bridge

Day 1 : Total Delta 300m

From Boyle Village. Follow the Tui Track sign and markers to the highway and then on the landward side of the fence on the left to a driveway leading to the old Boyle Base Hut. Cross the road here and follow the markers down to a terrace, and then along to the Boyle River.

- If safe to cross, ford the Boyle River where markers indicate and continue down the true right bank on river flats to the confluence with the Doubtful River. After fording the Doubtful River where marked the track continues down the true right of the Boyle River and joins a farm track that leads onwards to a deer fence. Follow this fence around until markers show the track heading up hill through manuka and beech forest towards the main Hope Valley track.

- If the river can't be crossed safely then continue down on the road shoulder to the sign-post marking the entrance road to the Lake Sumner Forest Park at Windy Point.

Turn right and the track climbs to the forest's edge. Once inside the forest the track follows the Hope River to Hope Shelter. Beyond Hope Shelter the track comes to the Hope River and a swingbridge. Across the bridge there is a junction with the track to St Jacobs Hut. Go south on the track to Hope-Kiwi Hut, situated in a large clearing near the forest edge.

Hope-Kiwi Lodge - Serviced DoC Hut

Hope Shelter - Basic Hut

Day 2 : Total Delta 250m, Maximum Single 150m (Kiwi Saddle)

South of Hope-Kiwi Lodge climb towards Kiwi Saddle. Beyond the saddle descend toward the lake shore and to a swingbridge over Three Mile Stream. Cross the bridge, continue to the lake head and beyond up the Hurunui River's true left side. Keep to the marked track until it deviates across the valley to another swingbridge, this time over the Hurunui River. Once on the other side of the river climb for about 30 minutes to Hurunui Hut.

Hurunui Hut - Standard DoC Hut

Day 3 : Total Delta 150m

Go West descending towards the valley floor. After about 3km look out for a hot pool. Beyond the hot springs continue through the river flats towards Hurunui No.3 Hut.

Hurunui N°3 Hut - Standard DoC Hut

Day 4 : Total Delta 300m, Maximum Single 250m (Harper Pass)

Soon after leaving the No. 3 Hut cross Cameron Stream. An emergency 3 wire bridge is located upstream. Continue across the flat towards Cameron Hut. Beyond Cameron Flat ascend towards Harper Pass Bivvy. From the Biv cross the Hurunui headwaters and climb more steeply to Harper Pass. Kiwis are present in the area. On the West Coast side of the Pass descend steeply and cross the Upper Taramakau River to the true right side. Continue down to a swingbridge to the true left side. From here continue to Locke Stream Hut. It has a radio link to DOC's visitor centre in Arthurs Pass, which can be used to obtain weather information.

Camerons Hut - Basic DoC Hut

Harper Pass Bivvy - Shelter

Locke Stream Hut - Standard DoC Hut

Day 5 : Total Delta 150m - River crossings

Beyond the hut travel down the Taramakau River through bush and open river terraces. Multiple river crossings necessary impossible at high flow. Kiwi Hut is located approximately half way down the Taramakau. Look out for DoC markers that point the way on the true right side. If the river is up it is safer to cross again above the Otehake confluence and then cross this river separately. It is then possible to remain on the true left all the way down to the sign-posted turn off onto the Flood Track to the Morrison Footbridge. Continue on the Flood Track to join the Mingha-Deception Track at the Morrison Footbridge. Cross the footbridge to access SH 73. There is a carpark across the road.