

Family Fun in the Waimakariri Countryside



Only 20 minutes north of Christchurch is an idyllic countryside destination that offers lots of recreation choices from sandy beaches to play on, to a lake with golden sand beaches, rivers to swim and make dams in, to the foothill tracks through native bush.

The Waimakariri district is a great place to bring family to play, explore and have fun! Take your pick with the following family day out suggestions or mix it up to suit the kids; fishing, biking, sailing, kayaking, beaches and bush walks.



Fishing and Biking

Explore the river town of Kaiapoi

Kaiapoi is easily accessed from the Northern Motorway, State Highway 1, just 20 minutes north of Christchurch.

The Kaiapoi River meanders through the town and the riverbanks offer a great spot to cast a line.

Fish for a herring or two, or in season, maybe a trout or salmon (license required for trout and salmon fishing).

Call into Kaiapoi i-SITE and talk with the friendly staff about hiring fishing rods, only \$5 per hour per person, or hire a mountain bike to ride the local tracks, from only \$19 per hour per person.



Sailing and Kayaking

Give it a go on Pegasus Lake or go mountain biking around Pegasus Town

With a beautifully landscaped feature lake for swimming and kayaking, bike and walking trails, as well as wetlands, Pegasus Town with its park-like surroundings is a mecca for all recreation and outdoor pursuits.

Try out sailing with optimist sailing yachts, piccolos, single and double kayaks and mountain bikes available for hire at the Pegasus Lake Hire Centre. Sailing lessons are available by arrangement, and group booking available outside of open hours

Pegasus Lake Hire Centre

Open 10am-6pm, seven days from 20 Dec 2010 to 23 Jan 2011.

Weekends only from 29 January to 1 May 2011.

Open all public holidays (closed Christmas Day)

P: 03 920 3305. E: <mailto:hirecentre@pegasustown.com>



Beaches

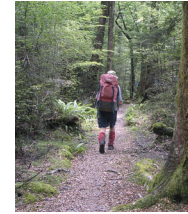
Visit the Waikuku or Woodend beaches or mountain bike along the new Tuhaitara Coastal Track

Access the beaches from State Highway One, with only a 5 minute drive through farms and lifestyle blocks, and Woodend and Waikuku Beach Holiday Parks both offer camping grounds with tent sites and cabins available and there is a bed & breakfast overlooking the Ashley Lagoon at Waikuku Beach. Playgrounds for the kids, and spacious sheltered reserves for picnicking and games of touch, soccer and cricket are available at both beaches, with a paddling pool, flying fox and tennis courts at Waikuku Beach.

The Tuhaitara Coastal Park stretches from the Waimakariri River to the Ashley River and a recently completed mountain bike track can be ridden between Woodend and Waikuku Beaches (5kms each way).



Bush Walks



Wander the tracks at Oxford Forest, Glentui, Mt Thomas, or go for a wander and splash in the Ashley Gorge – take a picnic and experience being in

the lush green bush with the sweet smells of mountain beech.

These areas offer an exceptional environment in close proximity to Christchurch, from only 45 to 60 minutes drive to be stepping out amongst beautiful native bush and woodland surroundings. Choose from walks of only half an hour, to an hour or two, and even full day hikes that will give you impressive views across the Canterbury plains to Banks Peninsula.

Mt Oxford, Glentui and Mt Richardson and Mt Thomas all have formed and marked tracks that are part of the North Canterbury Foothills Forests maintained by the Department of Conservation. A camping ground and picnic area is very popular summer destination with holiday makers and visitors at the Ashley Gorge.

Pick up a free Waimakariri Walking & Cycling Guide from the Kaiapoi i-SITE Visitor Centre or the Ashley Gorge Holiday Park or email for a copy of the guide to be posted to you. The Department of Conservation North Canterbury Foothills booklet is also available at Kaiapoi i-SITE for only \$2.



Kaipoi i-SITE

The Kaiapoi i-SITE is your ultimate source of itinerary advice and trusted local knowledge.

They offer a FREE booking service for accommodation, activities and transport throughout Waimakariri district, as well as Christchurch, Canterbury and New Zealand.

Open: Mon-Fri 9.30am - 5pm,
Sat-Sun 10am - 4pm
Public Holidays 11am - 4pm
(closed Christmas Day).

A: Raven Quay (temporary location), Kaiapoi.

P: 03 327 3134

E: info@kaiapoivisitorcentre.co.nz

