

Things to See and Do in the Clutha District

www.cluthacountry.co.nz

Day Option	Visit Lawrence (SHW8 – 1hr from Dunedin / 2.5 hrs from Queenstown)
	<p>2011 marks the 150th Anniversary of the discovery of gold at Gabriel's Gully. Gabriel Read's discovery in the gully which now bears his name kickstarted the biggest gold rush in New Zealand's history.</p> <p>At the height of the gold fever, Lawrence's population was 11,500, double that of Dunedin, making it one of the largest communities in the country. The legacy of the gold rush years remains today, and this idyllic township is the perfect place to stretch the legs, grab some lunch and soak up local history.</p> <p>The Gabriel's Gully walk is a 1 hour 20 minute loop walk, which circumnavigates this historic area. A number of interpretation panels explain the history of the site and how the gold was extracted. There is also a longer 3 hour return walk in the reserve, following along a disused water race, giving great views to the waterfall and reaching the Otago Dam further along the track.</p> <p>The Tuapeka Lawrence Goldfields Museum is full of fascinating history and is well worth a visit.</p> <p>Nearby Weatherstons is the site of the ruins of Hart's Black Horse Brewery, established 1881. Famous for its brewing success, right through the days of prohibition, the brewery was closed down in 1923 but remained a popular visitor destination right through to the 1950s. Set amongst fields of thousands of daffodils (blooming marvelous in September) the site makes for a wonderful picnic stopover.</p> <p>Lawrence also offers some great cafes, accommodation and boutique shopping. Plenty to see and do for any visitor!</p> <p>The nearby Beaumont Jets can add an adrenaline hit between games. Experience the mighty Clutha by getting in amongst it! Bring some spare clothes.</p>
Day Option	Southern Scenic Route
	<p>New Zealand's first touring route, the Southern Scenic Route provides spectacular scenery and a truly wonderful way of seeing the southern coast.</p> <p>Where: Starting in Dunedin, travelling the coastal route to Balclutha (the Clutha district's hub) and the Catlins, round to Invercargill, detouring to Bluff, and concluding in Te Anau. An estimated driving time of 10hrs for the entire route, pick out parts which appeal, or stock up on fuel and complete the whole journey!</p> <p>For more information and suggested itineraries see www.southernscenicroute.co.nz and www.cluthacountry.co.nz</p>
	The Catlins (SSR Owaka Highway from Balclutha – 1 hr 20 ex Dunedin)
	<p>The South Island's best kept secret is now out of the bag! The Catlins is a section of coastline and native forest proudly shared by Southland and South Otago.</p> <p>Some of the country's best surfing spots also provide awesome photo opportunities. The Lighthouse at Nugget Point is frequently snapped, while Purakaunui Bay features the highest cliffs in the Catlins. The Catlins River Walk proceeds through nature silver beech forest in which rare forest birds such as the Yellowhead and Parakeet live. The walk takes five hours (one way) or shorter walks are possible. The Purakaunui Waterfall is perhaps the most photographed in New Zealand, and is a well known feature of the Catlins Forest. A 20-minute return walk on an excellent track</p>

	<p>views the Falls through beech and podocarp forest.</p> <p>Be sure to look out for sea lions and Hoiho (Yellow-Eyed Penguin), at home on the Catlins coast.</p> <p>If there is a need to burn off some energy, spend a day with Catlins Adventurers – paintball, hunting, trout fishing, claybird shooting, kayaking...the complete outdoor experience!</p> <p>Alternatively, experience rural New Zealand by turning your hand to shearing and woolhandling at Catlins High Rock Animal Park, or go horse trekking with Te Taunga Adventures.</p>
Day Option	Sinclair Wetlands & Visitor Centre (SHW1 – 45 mins ex Dunedin)
	The Sinclair Wetlands and Visitor Centre offers examples of a lost landscape and is rich in natural and cultural history. Home to rare, native bird, plant and fish species with over 315 hectares of lagoons, waterways and islands linked by a series of walkways, the Wetlands make for a great, back-to-nature stop-off.
	West Otago's Blue Mountains (SHW1-SHW8 – 2 hrs ex Dunedin)
	Be a real Southern Man and give hunting or fishing a go in West Otago's Blue Mountains . Popular with locals, the Pomahaka River is known to yield a good trout (permits required), while Clinton is famous for its fly-fishing. Rugby World Cup falls into whitebaiting season – so be sure to sample the local delicacy while in the area.
	<p>More information available on www.cluthacountry.co.nz</p> <p>Contact: Clutha i-SITE, 4 Clyde Street, Balclutha</p> <p>Tel: 03 418 0388</p> <p>Fax: 03 418 1877</p> <p>Email: clutha.vin@cluthadc.govt.nz</p>