

For your peace of mind, our support vehicle is always available throughout each stage of the cycle tour. This gives us the opportunity to visit other points of interest around the areas on the tour. Or if we have any unfavourable weather conditions, bike hassles or flatties, or you just simply need to rest the legs for a little bit, then we can accommodate accordingly. Please refer to our [FAQs page](#) for more information.

## Day 1: Christchurch – Methven

- The Canterbury Cycle Trail tour gets underway as we head west across the plains towards the Torlesse Range and through the town of Hororata.
- After a stop for delicious morning tea we begin the first bike ride of the day along a glistening high country lake to Lake Coleridge Village.
- Relax with a picnic lunch before our second ride on a river terrace with stunning views over the Rakaia River. We then head across the Rakaia Gorge to the small Canterbury rural service town of Methven and settle into our lodge accommodation for the next two evenings.

**CYCLE DISTANCE: 40KM**    **MEALS: LUNCH / DINNER**

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## Day 2: Methven

- Today our first bike ride begins as we leave the highway and turn again towards the Southern Alps and cycle along the river terraces high above the Rakaia.
- Enjoy morning tea and a bus transfer along a hilly section, to where we can ride along the flat river terrace past where the Wilberforce and Mathias Valleys meet the Rakaia, deep in the Canterbury Backcountry. Here the valleys become wide and sparse, with amazing views of the surrounding mountain ranges.
- For those wanting to put some more km's on the pedals there is the option of riding the transfer section.

- At the conclusion of the ride we head to the Rakaia Gorge and enjoy an exhilarating jet boat ride on the Rakaia River before heading back to Methven.

**CYCLE DISTANCE: 28-45KM**    **MEALS: BREAKFAST / LUNCH / DINNER**

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## Day 3: Methven - Mt Somers

- Today we enjoy some riding around the farmland of the fertile and productive Canterbury Plains, taking in the rural vistas (44km).
- From here we drive to the foothills where there is the opportunity to do a short walk through native beech forest to a waterfall.
- Enjoy lunch at a local café before another short ride (12km) on the Plains. Once we're finished we travel a short distance to our accommodation for the next two evenings at the settlement of Mt Somers.

**CYCLE DISTANCE: 56KM**    **MEALS: BREAKFAST / LUNCH / DINNER**

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## Day 4: Mt Somers

- Today we drive up through the Ashburton Gorge to Lake Clearwater, and on towards Mt Sunday. From here you have the opportunity to do an [unguided] walk up Mt Sunday – the site of the set for Edoras, the fortress city of the Rohan people in The Lord of the Rings.
- We continue further up the valley to Erewhon Station 'home of the working horse' to visit the Clydesdale horses.
- Leaving the horses, we travel to an area of the Canterbury backcountry that is dotted with many picturesque lakes and remnants of ancient glaciers. The largest of these is Lake Heron, sitting at 700m above sea level and a key habitat for the endangered Crested Grebe.
- Weather permitting, there is the option of taking a scenic flight into the glaciated peaks of the Southern Alps.
- There is time to explore the area before our cycle ride, heading across some exclusive farm access, down the valley to yet another stunning alpine lake. Our second ride follows the Hakatere River back to Mt Somers.

**CYCLE DISTANCE: 42KM**    **MEALS: BREAKFAST / LUNCH / DINNER**

## Day 5: Mt Somers - Christchurch

- Today we drive through the Rangitata River Valley and on to the historic Mesopotamia Station, nestled in the center of the South Island's 'Middle Earth'.
- Take in the breathtaking scenery at the headwaters of the Rangitata, with sweeping views of the Two Thumbs Range and Southern Alps in all directions.
- We then enjoy a cycle ride adjacent to Mt Peel and through the Peel Forest Reserve. Take a short walk in the reserve to appreciate the magnificent old podocarps that once covered this landscape. Visit a lovely church, and ride on to the quaint hamlet of Arundel where our Canterbury cycle trail comes to an end.
- We triumphantly load up and transfer back to Christchurch, arriving at approximately 5pm.

**CYCLE DISTANCE: 21KM**    **MEALS: BREAKFAST / LUNCH**

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## What's Included:

- 4 nights twin share ensuite accommodation
  - 4 evening meals; 5 lunches; 4 continental breakfasts
  - Home baking, healthy snacks, fruit & morning teas on the trail
  - The services of a tour leader who provides vehicle support & information
  - Cycle repair support
  - All transport from/to Christchurch
  - Rakaia Gorge jet boat ride
  - GST
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## What's Not Included:

- Wine; beer; espresso coffees
- Single accommodation supplement (\$495)
- Bike hire (\$200) or e-bike hire (\$495)



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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