Photo: John Wekking

Raise your glass

Cromwell is at the heart of Central Otago's wine country. Thanks to our icy winters and long, hot summers, the Cromwell area is home to some of the best pinot noir wines in the world.

With over thirty cellar doors and wineries in the region, you can easily spend the best part of a week sampling the vintages and varietals. There are a wide variety of wine tours to choose from, including guided options that take you around in anything from a retro VW Kombi to a Jeep and even a helicopter! And if you want to combine your wine tasting with a little exercise, the Four Barrels Walking Wine Trail is just the ticket.

Historical sites

Cromwell had its beginning in the gold rush era, and many of the original buildings and sites are still standing and open to view. The Cromwell Heritage Precinct and other historical sites like Stewart Town offer a glimpse into Cromwell's yesteryear. Be sure to visit the Cromwell Museum or i-SITE to learn more about our rich heritage, and to find out about the other historic attractions in and around town.

Delightful and delectable

There is a reason we have that "cheeky" Big Fruit sculpture at the entrance to our town. Over the summer months, our orchards are bursting with fresh and juicy fruit – some orchards will even let you pick your own right off the tree! But that's not the only treat you can enjoy here. Dotted along the highways and byways you will find other delights that give you a taste of the land including locally produced honey, wild thyme-infused olive oil, walnuts, and almonds. Many of these are sold at roadside honesty stalls. We are very proud that our local producers are keeping this Kiwi tradition alive and even prouder that some of the honesty stalls now even offer Eftpos!

Take to the slopes!

Take your pick of ski fields to suit the day's conditions by basing yourself in Cromwell. Five world-class ski fields – Coronet Peak, Remarkables, Treble Cone, Ohau and Cardrona – as well as the Snow Farm are all within an easy hour's drive from town.

Photo: IMAGE Photography & Design

Get in gear

You will never be short of cycling options in Cromwell.
Our greenways provide an easy way to move in the residential areas, and our bike park lets you test your limits in a safe space. And then there are the trails. From gentle rides for the family to white-knuckle downhills, we have a trail for just about any ability and appetite for adventure. We also host three cycling events as part of the Cromwell Summer Series – the Bannockburn Classic, Nevis Valley Gutbuster, and Lake Dunstan Cycle Challenge. For more about these events, visit cromwell.org.nz and click on Summer Series.

Along with the many other tracks in and around Cromwell, there are also operators who offer memorable cycling experiences such as heli-biking. For more information on the many cycling opportunities in Cromwell, please visit the i-SITE.

Satisfy your need for speed

If you are a bit of a petrolhead, you are in for a treat.
Cromwell is home to the world-renowned Highlands and the Central Motor Speedway, dubbed The Fastest Family Show on Earth.

You can also get behind the wheel yourself on a hired motorcycle or take on the great 4WD tracks around the region. Just keep in mind that conditions here change very rapidly and that the tracks may be more tricky than they look. Pop into the i-SITE for maps and guidance.

Golf

Despite some Scottish heritage, you won't find a St Andrew's here. What you will find, though, is New Zealand's most inland links course offering a quality designed 18-hole golfing experience. The Cromwell Golf Course is interesting and challenging and, while not a resort course, it's absolutely "the best of the rest". With its gently undulating fairways and subtle use of mature trees, you will have to use every club in the bag before you reach the 19th hole.

Photo: John Wekking

Our water playground

Lake Dunstan is an ideal playground for water sport enthusiasts. It is also considered one of the safest in New Zealand.
From waterskiing and wakeboarding to kayaking, jet skiing, and paddleboarding, everyone is sure to have a great time under the bright Central sun.

The lake is also a great fishing spot. It's deep, narrow, and lightly fished, giving amateur and professional anglers alike a good chance of pulling out a trout, landlocked salmon, or even a perch.

Capture the beauty

Wide, open skies, crystal clear waters, and majestic mountains – all ingredients that make up a fabulous photo. Add to this our beautifully distinct seasons, and it is easy to see why Cromwell and its districts are a photographer's paradise. Amateurs and professionals alike can't let a day go past without snapping a pic or two – even if it's just to feed their Instagram.

It's not just the photographers who find inspiration here. Other artists, poets, writers, musicians and creatives have accepted the beautiful surroundings as their constant muse. Unleash your own creativity, or explore our world through the lens of others.

Walks and hikes

Cromwell and its region offers more than enough hikes to keep your walking shoes happy.

Discover some of the region's heritage at the Bannockburn Sluicings (and get some fantastic views to boot!). This walk will take you through the alien-like landscape left over after the gold rush and teach you some of our history along the way.

If you're in for a challenge, head over to the 45th Parallel Walk. This is a steep walk with many steps – 501 to be exact – but the panoramic views over the Cromwell basin make each of them worth it. For a less intense experience, take a leisurely stroll along the lake to the Cromwell Heritage Precinct, and have a cup of coffee while gazing out over the tranquil waters. Check out cromwell.org.nz, or pick up a copy of the Walk Cromwell brochure to discover the other tracks dotted around the area.

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Visitor Guide and Map

cromwell.org.nz

Discover what lies beyond the Big Fruit

Rugged mountains, the meeting of two rivers, and the pristine waters of Lake Dunstan – the natural beauty of Cromwell is overwhelming.

The Cromwell basin is home to a host of award-winning wineries; enjoy the scenery while sipping some of the world's finest Pinot Noir. The area has a rich heritage with remnants of goldfields that will take you on a journey to the past. Wander down to the historic Cromwell Heritage Precinct for a selection of boutique shops, art galleries, and cosy cafés.

Lake Dunstan is an idyllic location for swimming, fishing, boating and water sports in summer. In winter, there are five fantastic ski-fields all within comfortable driving distances.

Cromwell's central location makes it an excellent base for exploring the wider area, allowing for easy day trips to nearby towns such as Queenstown, Arrowtown, Wanaka, Clyde, and Alexandra.

Discover Cromwell's World of Difference.

There is more than meets the eye

Cromwell's allure and charm lies ready to reveal itself to those who take the time to linger. Here, it is all about basking in the natural beauty of the land, sharing moments over a delightful meal, and soaking up the warm Central sun.

There is something special about enjoying a glass of wine while gazing over the vines where the grapes were grown. Discover the best of what Central has to offer with more than 30 cellar doors in the Cromwell area.

Lake Dunstan's ever-changing face is always inspiring. Enjoy a relaxing picnic on its shores, see if you can reel something in, or enjoy an adrenaline-filled day on the water.

Pedal your way through our diverse landscape. We are truly a cyclist's paradise with easy rides around our lakefront and tricky singletracks aplenty. In town, you will find a great bike park that includes a BMX-track and a mountain bike jump loop.

If it's action you're looking for, we've got the goods. Whether it's whizzing down the narrow Kawarau gorge in a jet boat, lapping it up at our world-class motorsport facility or jumping in a helicopter for sky-high fun – you will not be disappointed!

Step into the past and discover our rich and colourful history. Take a stroll through yesteryear at the Heritage Precinct with its selection of arts and crafts shops and cosy cafés. Visit the Cromwell Museum, or visit the historic sites and ruins in the region to learn more about our golden beginnings.

The serenity of Cromwell's landscape creates the perfect atmosphere to savour the delectable delights on offer in our restaurants and cafés.

Over the summer months, you can savour the taste of sunshine locked into the succulent cherries and delicious stone fruit that the region is famous for. Pick your own, visit the many fruit stalls in the area, or make use of any of the honesty boxes dotted along the roads.

Lace-up and take to the hills. Whether you are after a leisurely stroll or a tough trail run, you will be rewarded with a fantastic view and the unmistakably gorgeous scent of thyme.

We have a vibrant and thriving community of artists, many of them situated in the Cromwell Heritage Precinct. Discover exquisite pieces crafted from a variety of materials including glass, ceramics, pottery, and more.

No matter the season, there is always something to look forward to in Cromwell. Many events celebrate what is special here, so plan to check out some of our favourites like Light Up Winter, Cromwell Fireworks and Street Party, and the Cherry Festival where the National Cherry Spitting Championship is held. Cromwell also plays host to the Summer Series – five sporting events that are designed for everyone to participate in while attracting top athletes from all over New Zealand.

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Find out more

visit us at **cromwell.org.nz** and **centralotagonz.com**

@CromwellCentralOtago **@cromwell_nz**

Share your Cromwell experiences using **#cromwellnz** and **#centralotagonz**

i SITE Contact the Cromwell i-SITE for more information on the many attractions to do around town and the district. P: 03 445 1777
E: Information@forageinfo.nz

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cromwell.org.nz

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Approximate drive times to / from Cromwell:

Within Central Otago	Time	Distance
Clyde	17 mins	24 km
Alexandra	23 mins	32 km
Roxburgh	52 mins	70 km
Ophir	37 mins	52 km
Ranfurly	1 hr 17 mins	113 km
Naseby	1 hr 22 mins	113 km
Our Neighbours	**Time**	**Distance**
Wanaka	40 mins	54 km
Queenstown (airport)	50 mins	54 km
Dunedin (via Ranfurly)	2 hrs 50 mins	242 km
Dunedin (via Roxburgh)	2 hrs 45 mins	221 km
Christchurch (via Lindis Pass)	5 hrs	424 km
Haast / West Coast	2 hrs 15 mins	187 km
Invercargill	2 hrs 50 mins	230 km
Oamaru	2 hrs 40 mins	228 km
Te Anau	2 hrs 46 mins	219 km
Mt Cook / Aoraki	2 hrs 20 mins	204 km

Legend

- State Highway
- Road
- Lake Dunstan Trail
- Cycle and Walking Trail
- Golf Course
- Art Galleries
- Museum & Heritage Site
- Jetboats
- Scenic Photo Spot
- Heritage Precinct
- Motorsport
- Food & Wine Experiences
- Scenic Flights
- Tohu Whenua Site
- Conservation Area
- Chafer Beetle Reserve
- Vineyards & Wineries
- Orchards
- i-SITE Visitor Centre

Photo: Carol Gardener

South Rise Vineyard

Photo: Goldfields Jet

Arriving by plane

The closest international airport is Queenstown – a scenic 50-minute drive from Cromwell. As public transport is limited in Cromwell, rent a vehicle to give yourself the freedom to explore. Uber and other ride-share apps haven't established themselves in our region yet, but there are companies that offer taxi, bus, and shuttle services.

Explore from here

Cromwell is right in the heart of Central and offers a great base from which to explore. To the north lies beautiful Wanaka with its fun and unique attractions, adventure activities, snow sport, and of course #thatwanakatree. Head south-east to explore historical Clyde, Alexandra, and Roxburgh, or veer left to follow the road all the way to Naseby.

Back through the gorge lies the bustling town of Queenstown, and beyond that Glenorchy where parts of Lord of the Rings were filmed. Whichever direction you choose, you will find jaw-droppingly beautiful landscapes.

Driving conditions are great for most of the year, but winter weather can be extreme on some of our roads. Please stay aware, ask for advice, and drive to the conditions. Being ice- or snowbound can be the perfect excuse to relax beside a roaring wood fire and stay cosy while waiting for the conditions to improve.

Our warmest welcome

Cromwell offers a broad choice of accommodation – everything from 5 star luxury accommodation to hotels and motels, vineyard and farm cottages, B&Bs, and campgrounds.
Summer is our busiest time of year, so we recommend booking your accommodation well in advance. You can find more information on cromwell.org.nz, centralotagonz.com or from any i-SITE.

Keep the good times rolling

Camping is a popular option for families and visitors alike – especially in the warmer months of summer.

We encourage responsible camping in our region to preserve our environment and to allow everyone to enjoy our beautiful landscape. For more information and guidelines, go to centralotagonz.com/camping or pop into the i-SITE.

Services and conveniences

Cromwell offers a full range of retail and essential services, including supermarkets, fuel stations, public toilets, waste and transfer stations, medical centres, police, pharmacies, postal service, banks, and a range of retail shops.

Free Wi-Fi is available in the Mall as well as in the Public Library.

Should you need medical treatment, visitors should first contact the nearest medical centre. In an emergency, dial 111 for police, fire, or ambulance. There is no public hospital and emergency department.

Communities within our borders

Just as Cromwell has its own personality and vibrancy, so do the smaller communities within the Cromwell region. Each settlement has something that makes it unique, whether it's Bannockburn's desert-like climate, the lakeside lifestyle of Pisa Moorings, or the tranquillity of Queensberry.

Take the time to explore the smaller places and you will be richly rewarded.

Tohu Whenau

The Tohu Whenau programme promotes New Zealand's unique culture and connects visitors to our stories and places.

The Bannockburn Sluicings has been named as one of these landmark sites that has shaped the nation we are today. Explore the spectacular landscape that remains from large-scale water blasting during the 19th-century search for gold.

Our Values

The people of Central Otago share a set of values that are designed to protect all of those things that make our region so distinctive.

Values like respecting others, learning from the past, protecting our heritage and preserving the environment. Some people might think that these values are a bit old fashioned, but we believe that living by them will shape a better future in the same way that they have shaped our past.

The region's 'A World of Difference' brand mark is a reminder of these values.

CENTRAL OTAGO
A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Be inspired at
aworldofdifference.co.nz/our-stories

Our Promise

tiaki
CARE FOR NEW ZEALAND

We are proud to embrace New Zealand's 'Tiaki Promise' in welcoming you to our world.

Tiaki means to care for people and place.

The Tiaki Promise is a commitment to care for New Zealand, for now and for future generations.

By following the Tiaki Promise, you are making a commitment to New Zealand. To act as a guardian, protecting and preserving our home.

WHILE TRAVELLING IN
NEW ZEALAND I WILL

CARE FOR LAND, SEA AND NATURE,
TREADING LIGHTLY AND LEAVING NO TRACE

TRAVEL SAFELY, SHOWING CARE
AND CONSIDERATION FOR ALL

RESPECT CULTURE, TRAVELLING
WITH AN OPEN HEART AND MIND.

HOW TO CARE FOR NEW ZEALAND

SHOW RESPECT · PROTECT NATURE · KEEP NZ CLEAN · DRIVE CAREFULLY · BE PREPARED

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