

DUN MOUNTAIN Trail



BROOK ST ENTRANCE to MAITAI ENTRANCE

4-6 hours | 38km

IMAGES: Dun Mountain Trail © UBike
www.sterlingimages.com
OPPOSITE: Fresh fruit, Nelson © Nelson
Tasman Tourism

known to pinch things, especially if they're shiny!

The trail's emergence into rocky tussock country in the mountaintops near Windy Point and Coppermine Saddle offers stunning views of Tasman Bay, followed by one of New Zealand's longest mountain bike downhill.

Although the ride time may only be 4-6 hours, it is recommended you allow a full day to enjoy this unique environment. It requires a good fitness level and all riders should be competent mountain bikers. You'll be a long way from assistance, and mobile phone reception is patchy, so please ensure you have sufficient food, drink, spare tubes and wet-weather gear to handle any problems you might encounter.

Early sections give glimpses of the Waimea Plains to the south and west. More extensive views extend back across Nelson and beyond to Tasman Bay and Abel Tasman National Park.

Take a break at Third House to relax and listen to the bellbirds sing, but keep an eye on those ever-inquisitive weka – they've been

The Dun Mountain Trail follows the path of New Zealand's first railway, which was used to transport minerals. It climbs through the uniquely fascinating landscape of the Dun Mountain ophiolite belt to a height of 878m, before winding back down to Nelson where a cold drink and a world-class meal await.

TRAIL INFO



TRAIL GRADES:

BROOK ST ENTRANCE TO THIRD HOUSE GRADE 3 (INTERMEDIATE)

THIRD HOUSE TO COPPERMINE SADDLE GRADE 3 (INTERMEDIATE)

COPPERMINE SADDLE TO MAITAI DAM GRADE 4 (ADVANCED)

MAITAI DAM TO SMITHS FORD GRADE 3 (INTERMEDIATE)

SMITHS FORD TO MAITAI ENTRANCE GRADE 3 (INTERMEDIATE)

MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE: Mobile phone coverage is patchy along the trail.

DRINKING WATER: Ensure you take enough drinking water (and food) to last you the entire trail.

Note: Check the trail website for any damage or closures before you set off.

"When you mix spectacular scenery with a pristine mountain trail you get an unforgettable experience. Go see for yourself why more than 10,000 people per annum enjoy the trail, making it one of NZ's hottest spots for mountain biking."

Nelson City Council Mayor, Rachel Reese

► BROOK ST ENTRANCE TO THIRD HOUSE, 11.3KM

The trail follows the original railway alignment through the Codgers Trails to reach native forest in a couple of gullies before Bullock Spur. The alignment continues through regenerating forest to Cummins Spur Crossing (Four Corners).

From here the trail continues at a pleasant gradient through mature beech forest, eventually reaching the site of Third House at 660m.

► THIRD HOUSE TO COPPERMINE SADDLE, 6KM

This trail continues to Junction Saddle where the old railway alignment joins the main ridge. Beyond Junction Saddle the trail continues to climb steadily through stunning beech forest to the site of Fourth House.

Soon after Coats Creek is crossed a sudden change in vegetation from mature forest to the stunted manuka and shrubland of the 'mineral belt' occurs. This type of infertile, distinctly coloured landform belt is also found in Otago.

The single track takes you all the way from here to Coppermine Saddle (878m) for some great views of the Richmond Range down to the Maitai Valley.

► COPPERMINE SADDLE TO MAITAI DAM, 9.3KM

From here the descent to the Maitai Dam is the most technical part of the ride. There are great switchbacks and some sections are loose and rocky.

The landscape is amazing and the scenery breathtaking. The lower section is steep as you descend towards Sclanders Creek then over the Maitai River south branch bridge and on to the Maitai Dam.

► MAITAI DAM TO SMITHS FORD, 3.8KM

From the dam, the trail runs alongside the Nelson water pipeline and down a cruisy downhill to come out at Smith Ford Bridge further down the valley.

► SMITHS FORD TO MAITAI ENTRANCE, 3.1KM

From Smiths Ford the route continues on the road to the Maitai Motor Camp, then it is either a road ride back to Nelson via the Maitai Valley Rd or you can follow the Maitai Valley Walkway down to Nile St and Nelson City.

► COMPLETING THE CIRCUIT

If you want to complete the circuit back to Brook St, you can either head



riding the trail



back into town and up Brook St, or head over the Groom Creek trail behind Maitai Motor Camp. On the left, just past the camp entrance, go over the bridge, over the gate and follow the fire road climbing back to Tantagee Saddle, then down to Brook St.

Along the journey are several well researched and beautifully presented interpretive panels that capture the human and natural history.

PLEASE NOTE: You have the option of starting the trail at the Maitai Entrance instead of Brook St in order to get all of the climbing done first.

look out for...

Mountain bike parks

The Codgers Trails has enticing single-track trails for intermediates and black-diamond downhill for the experts. The 17km of trails start from Brook St. The Sharlands trail network, also known as Hira Forest,

has 13 trails geared to all riders with the highest climb being 523m. Permits (required) can be purchased from local bike shops for \$10. Silvan Forest is set in 170ha of private forest and is suitable for beginners and intermediates.



Gourmet delights

Nelson is known for its locally grown ingredients, fine wines and craft beers, and is famous for its seafood. Sample the local delights and be sure to try the catch of the day, fresh off the boat.

The Nelson region is an outdoor playground with thrill-seeking activities for the whole family. When it comes to getting the adrenalin pumping, you're spoiled for choice here.

Take to the skies in a helicopter or a hang-glider, jump out of a plane on a skydiving adventure, take an amphibious ride through rivers, or go canyoning, kite-surfing or quad-biking – to name just a few!

Cable Bay Adventure Park is a thrilling destination just 15 minutes drive from the Nelson city centre. It has a range of activities set in magnificent native forest with views over the stunning Delaware Bay, including quad biking, horse trekking, paintball and Argo (amphibious all-terrain vehicle) rides, but its star attraction is the Skywire – the world's longest flying fox; 300m high and up to 100km/h fast!

They are currently building a network of mountain bike trails, which when opened will be suitable for everyone from beginner to expert riders. Mountain bike and e-bike rentals will be available.



Skywire © Cable Bay Adventures

ADVENTURE ABOUNDS

Cable Bay

22km NE of Nelson

Nelson

after Admiral Lord Nelson • 134km W of Picton

Cable Bay
ADVENTURE PARK
NELSON – NEW ZEALAND




MTB TRAILS
E-BIKE HIRE

THE SKYWIRE • QUAD BIKE TOURS • AND MORE
HORSE TREKS • LICENSED CAFE

The Cable Bay Adventure Park is Nelson's adventure playground. Located just 15 minutes drive from the centre of Nelson, it is home to a wide range of adventure activities with something to cater for everyone, set in magnificent native forest with views over the stunning Delaware Bay.

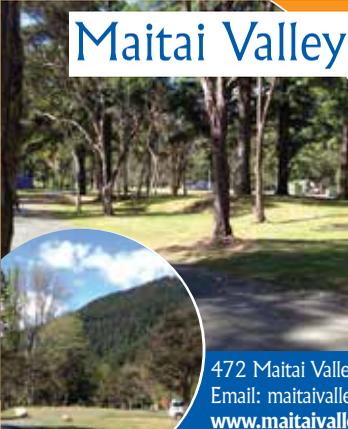
- 2 cafés • Functions • Family fun
- Open 8.30-5.30pm Nov-March, 9am-5pm April-Oct.



NELSON'S ADVENTURE
DESTINATION

CABLE BAY ADVENTURE PARK
194 Cable Bay Road, RD 1, Nelson 7071
+64 (0)3 545 0304 or FREEPHONE 0800 157 300
www.cablebayadventurepark.com

Maitai Valley Motor Camp



- Spacious, affordable camping
- Mountain biking/walks
- Dun Mountain Trail
- Maitai Caves • Centre of NZ
- Walk in the Maitai Valley
- Swim in the Maitai
- 6min by vehicle to banks, cafés
- Pet-friendly

Tariff: Power \$ 16pp
Non-powered \$ 10pp
Cabins/Caravans from \$50pp

472 Maitai Valley Rd, Nelson • P: +64 3 548 7729
Email: maitaivalleymc@xtra.co.nz
www.maitaivalleymotorcamp.co.nz

Trail Top Chalet



Gateway
to Dun
Mountain and
Sharlands

Luxury homestay welcoming muddy bikers and their bikes.

- Bike wash and garage storage
- Workshop stand and basic tools
- Airport pick-up for you and bikes
- Trail information
- Spa pool, WiFi, packed lunches

Cycle to Nelson city centre in under 20 minutes
Lifts and meals on request

315 Maitai Valley Road, Nelson
Ph: 03 539 0466
trailtopchalet@gmail.com

www.trailtopchalet.co.nz