




BIRDS FERRY LODGE

2012 GUEST INFORMATION GUIDE

Welcome to Birds Ferry Lodge and Ferry Mans Cottage on the magnificent West Coast of the Southern Alps New Zealand. There is nowhere in New Zealand like the fabulous West Coast of the Southern Alps!

From fascinating heritage and stunning landscapes to must do adventure activities and out of the way luxury retreats.

So much to do.....

Whether you're seeking relaxation in the peace and quiet of New Zealand's pure green landscapes, or nail biting, thrill seeking action, this part of the West Coast has it all. From jet boating, to adventure tours, from mountain biking to white or 'black' water rafting.

From historic Denniston, to New Zealand's longest swing bridge. If you are here for the action, you won't be disappointed. And if you are not an adventure seeker, then our selection of walks will give you lots to choose from.

Andre will guide you if you wish and if your stay is for 2 nights or more than a guided walk of our 33 acre (15HA) property is complimentary. Keen mountain bikers (all abilities) will discover some memorable rides and Andre can assist with this.....since he is a keen mountain biker!

Contact us if you'd like us to prebook any activities: info@birdsferrylodge.co.nz ! Enjoy your stay!

Andre and Alison Gyax

We have selected a range of fantastic activities for you near Birds Ferry Lodge...

Norwest Adventures, Charleston

10 Minutes South of Birds Ferry Lodge

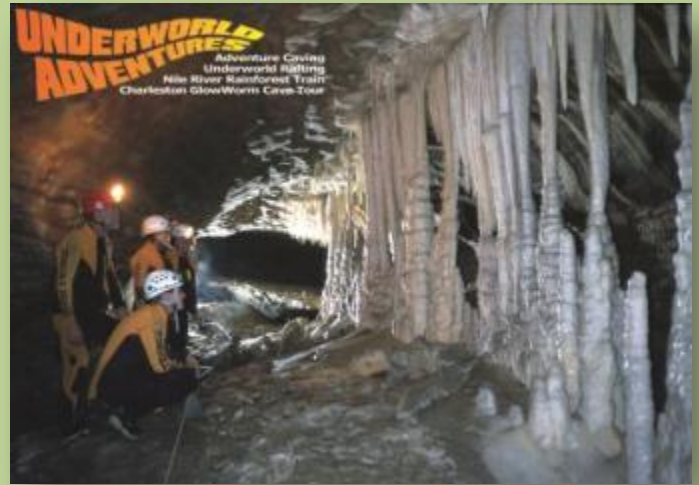
Underworld Rafting is a very special Cave Rafting Adventure in the Paparoa National Park. Take the rainforest train through primeval rain forest, explore an enormous calcitic cave paradise complete with an abundance of stalactites and stalagmites. Float through incredible Glow-worm lit grottoes and have fun bouncing down the Nile River rapids.

The Charleston Glow-worm Cave Tour is a superb eco-cave tour where you travel by the rainforest train through primeval rain forest and explore the enormous Nile River Caves. You walk amidst a pristine ancient “wonderland” of stalactites and stalagmites & “galaxies” of Glow-worms.

The Charleston Nile River Rainforest Train is a short interpretative train ride in open carriages through primeval rain forest in to the magnificent Nile River Canyon. You pass through the film sites for the “The Lost World” film production and have time for a short walk to the Nile River Suspension Bridge.

Web: www.caverafting.com

Tel: 0800 116686/ 03 788 8168



Alison's comment: "Guest feedback from this trip is 110% positive over the last 8 years—informative fun guides, small friendly groups, great cave formations and the best glow worm display in New Zealand Oh! and a train ride through rain forest too!" These trips are available daily throughout the Winter months

The Denniston Experience

Learn what life was like over 100 years ago as a miner at Denniston. See: <http://www.denniston.co.nz> Tours include: a train ride along the old coal transport rope road high above the Waimangaroa Gorge- an interactive mine experience in the historic 1880's Banbury Coal Mine. Limited seats so Booking required. Call 0800 881 880

Buller Adventure Tours,

Jet Boat the Buller River, Horse trekking and Quad Biking daily. www.adventuretours.co.nz Tel: 0800 697 286

Kayaking on the Porirari River

Punakaiki - 30 Minutes South Punakaiki Canoes offers rental kayak trips and guided trips into the heart of the Paparoa National Park, 1km north of the Pancake Rocks and blowholes at Punakaiki and 30 Minutes drive South of Birds Ferry Lodge. Web: www.riverkayaking.co.nz Tel: 03 73 11 870

Ultimate Descents *White water Rafting Specialists, various local rivers all grades*

www.rivers.co.nz Suitable for all ages from 5 years up trips to suit including a family rafting trip to Heli Rafting tailor made

Fly Fishing

Enjoy two days of local fly fishing guided by an expert on the most beautiful rivers of the angler's paradise that is the South Island of New Zealand. Serge will tailor the days for you according to your requirements. All equipment, transport and lunch provided. Bookings essential, via Birds Ferry Lodge info@birdsferrylodge.co.nz

Alison's comment: "Andre and I have both explored the mine at Denniston – this is an amazing trip that really brings alive the harsh way of life in the early pioneering days. A must if you have read "The Denniston Rose"



Coal Town Museum Westport

Historical Exhibitions. Open Daily except Christmas Day. Our displays include a true-to-life coalmine, one of the 20 ton brake drums used on the famous Denniston incline, also one of the wagons suspended at the amazing 450 angle on which the incline operated. Tel: 03 789 8204

Barrytown Knifemaking

Come and make a knife in our backyard - you'll amaze yourself! You get to forge your own blade from red hot steel, and complete your knife with native timber handle, brass bolsters and pins. Web:

www.barrytownknifemaking.com / Tel: 0800 256 433

NEW FOR 2012 Heli-Hike the Heaphy

Drive to the start of the Heaphy Track There, you will be picked up by helicopter, enjoy the spectacular scenery of Kahurangi National Park then dropped off on the Heaphy Track, one of the New Zealand Great Walks.



Walk back in your own time, to the start of the Track (Karamea end) through the most beautiful part of the track, including Scott's Beach and the stunning Nikau Palm grove. On the way, stop for lunch and enjoy your gourmet packed lunch which we supply.

Moderate fitness required.



Alison's comment: "We have seen the beautiful knives that our guests have spent a day making at Barrytown – they were works of art and something that will last a lifetime."

Top 6 walks in the area

1. Charming Creek

Time: 3 hours one way, Distance: 6.8 km

Accessible from Ngakawau or behind Seddonville, an old railway formation passes through an area packed with botanic and geological interest. Historic features include tunnels, sawmill and coal mine remains. A scenic highlight is a suspension bridge giving an unfolding view of the Mangatini Falls. There are shorter walking options from both ends.

2. **Heaphy Track**, located by Karamea at the north-west corner of the South Island, is the longest of the DOC Great Walks. For 82 kilometres the track crosses the Park's range of landscapes and finishes at Collingwood.

3. Charleston Bays

Stunning clifftop coastal scenery and BIG waves!

Allow 1 hour. There are 2 new tracks called The Argyll and The Bromielaw that are 2-3 hours each. They are open to the public but not advertised. Ask Andre for more information.

4. **The Charleston Nile River Rainforest Walk** takes you through ancient rain forest in to the magnificent Nile River limestone Canyon. Allow 1 hour

5. Brommilaw Track

This is a 'private' track maintained by and for the local community and Andre will be happy to show you this as part of a half day excursion. The track takes in coastal scenery, cliff tops, rain forest and some historic mining features. There is a lunch spot with ocean views and a summer swimming opportunity. Baby Fur Seals are seen on this track at certain times of the year.

6. Tauranga Bay & Seal Colony

The Cape Foulwind Walkway takes you along the cliff tops. The Seals are 5 minutes' walk from the Tauranga Bay car park and you can continue along the cliff tops to the lighthouse end, which takes 1 hour. Tauranga Bay has relative safe swimming and the surfing is usually good. On the south side of the bay is a small cafe/restaurant called The Bay House.



Andre's comment: "You won't need to ask me twice about doing the Brommilaw Track – I am up for it any time it is such a special day out. Be sure to book this!"

Top 5 Guided Activities by Andre and Alison!

1. Full day local sights with Andre in our passenger vehicle, Punakaiki and Charleston with ocean view lunch included.
2. Half Day Denniston introduction. Accompany Andre in our passenger vehicle to Denniston where he will help you get the lie of the land and point out the many and varies historical and natural features there. It is possible to combine this trip with the Mine experience too and make a day of it. Take out Lunches available.
3. Brommilaw Track guided with Andre – this track is unmarked – you will not find this one on your own. Spectacular Coastal scenery, rain forest flora and fauna interpretation and seals. Swimming in Summer. Lunch with a view included.
4. Half acre vegetable Garden and 'menagerie' tour with Alison.(Chicken, pheasants, guinea fowl, native Kakariki and Quail) Learn about the huge variety of produce that we grow for the Lodge kitchen. Collect your own eggs from the nest for breakfast.
5. Holistic Massage at Birds Ferry Lodge. Enjoy a wind down with a Holistic Massage treatment from Andre. 60 or 90 minutes. Holistic means 'whole' this form of massage deals with you as a 'whole'. The aim is to rebalance the body so it achieves homeostasis or balance. The training for the therapist is quite extensive, as it not only covers massage, but also anatomy and physiology and general health.



Alison's comment: "Park up the car for the day and enjoy the surroundings here or allow Andre to do the driving for you – you will gain a vast knowledge of our area and lifestyle."

Dinner options

Dinner is available at Birds Ferry Lodge or you may have a Cottage Dinner delivered to Ferry Man's Cottage – both options mean you can kick back and relax and no one needs to worry about driving! Bookings Essential to avoid disappointment.

Local Restaurants' menus available in your room compendium

Birds Ferry Lodge 'Summer 2012 Dinner Menu'

Homegrown Asparagus Tempura

Arroz Con Pollo

A Spanish style chicken and rice dish
with green olives, saffron & smoky Paprika

Manuka Honey Scented Crème Brulee

Sesame Toffee Shards



Alison's comment:

"How lucky I am to be able to grow prepare cook and serve all of this fabulous produce that grown so well here on the Coast. The spring vegetables are coming along nicely we are picking fresh asparagus and will do now till Christmas. Also ready is purple sprouting broccoli, snow peas and we even had some Globe Artichokes this week – what a treat. This week I am cooking a "grain free" meal specially requested by arriving guests.

Ferry Man's Cottage Dinners

'Cottage Dinners' – a two course home cooked meal prepared from fresh local ingredients on a "trust the chef" basis– we supply this to the cottage, ready for your reheat at your leisure. So if you fancy a night in with no cooking just let us know. 24 hours' notice essential, subject to availability of ingredients, \$45 per person, \$35 when more than 2 are eating. Wine \$39 per bottle.

Cottage Dinner suggestions:

Mains

Braised Lamb Shanks cooked with red wine, fresh rosemary and creamy mash.

Baked Moroccan Chicken with Pumpkin and Rice

Navarin of Lamb Chops with fresh vegetables and herbs

Homemade fish pie with puff pastry or potato top
Contains sardines, turbot, mussels, tuna. (You decide!)

Lamb Rogan Josh

Wine Braised Beef with Herby Dumplings

Lancashire hotpot

Thai Chicken Pie

Scandinavian Pork Meatballs with Sour Cream and Herbs

Dessert

Apple & Tamarillo Crumble with Coconut Macadamia and Oat Topping

Banana and Chocolate Bread and Butter Pudding

Dutch Apple Tart and Homemade Icecream

Pumpkin Streusel Cheesecake

Sticky Lime and Passion fruit Delicious

Lemon Delicious Pudding



Alison's comment: "When breakfast is booked we include a loaf of homemade bread.....along with homemade jams."