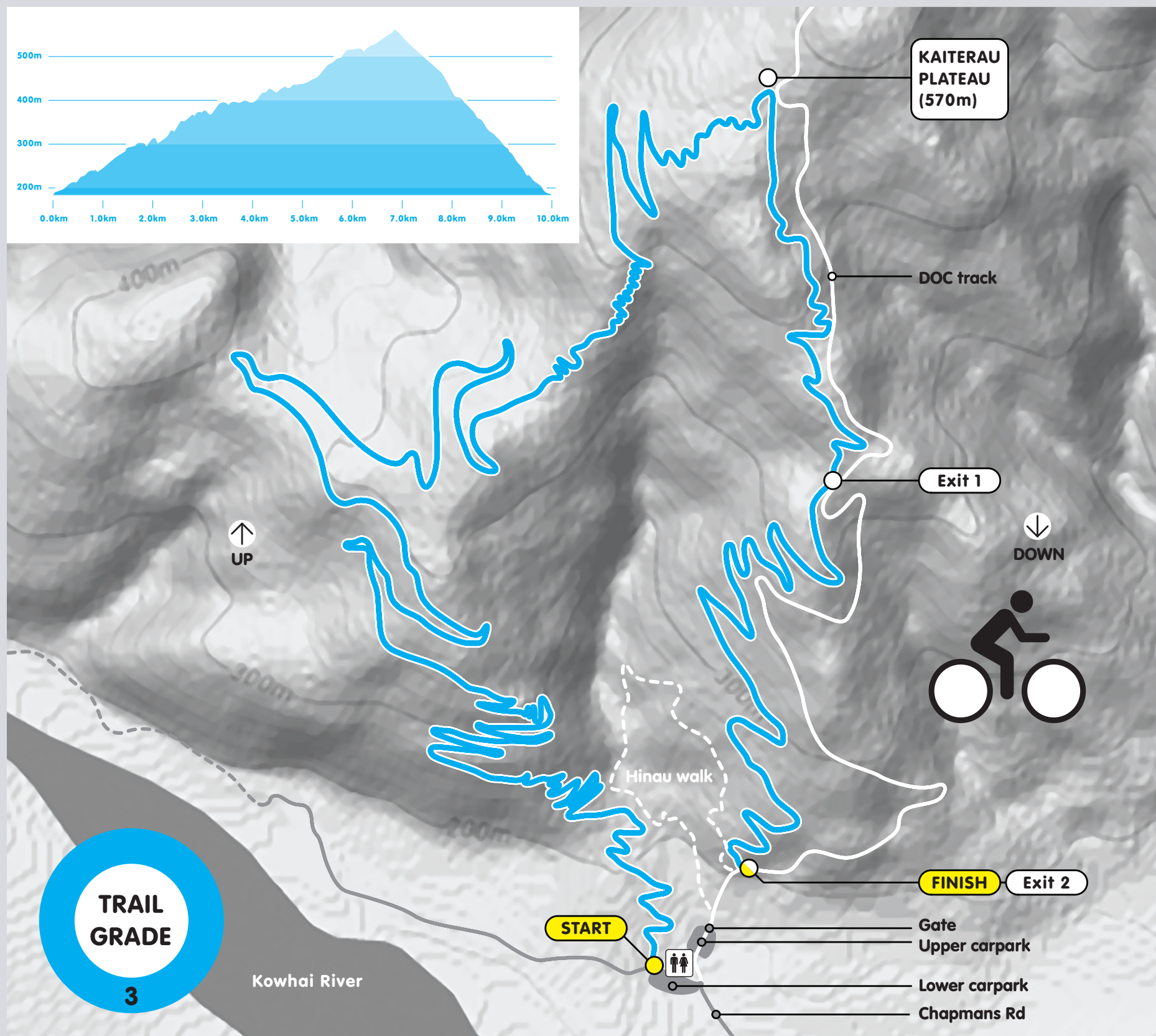


# The Kaiterau Trail - 10km



Trail information sheet sponsored by  
Sally Turnbull Architecture

## Trail Details

### UP

Starting from the lower Mt Fyffe carpark at 180m above sea level, the uphill single trail meanders steadily 7km uphill with a gradient of 3-5 degrees through regenerating bush. Hairpin bends are a feature of the uphill ride. The surface is well-packed dirt with occasional roots and stones. The uphill trail ends at a grassy Plateau 570 m above sea level.

### DOWN

From the Kaiterau Plateau the bike-only downhill single trail swoops and winds 3km through bush to link up with the DOC walking track approximately 20m above the upper Mt Fyffe carpark. Steeply descending bermed bends and pumps are features of the downhill flow trail. The surface is well-packed dirt. There is an exit to the DOC track around the halfway point. Be ready to give way when exiting the trail.



Photo Andrew Spencer



NO MOTORBIKES



NO HORSES



ONE WAY



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# The Kaitearau Trail - 10km

## Trail Overview

The Kaitearau Trail is a one-way intermediate loop ride that takes you part way up Mt Fyffe to a plateau with spectacular views over the Kaikōura Peninsula.

The Trail starts and finishes at the Mt Fyffe carpark on Mt Fyffe. Access by road is from Chapman's Rd off Postman's Rd 14km from the Kaikōura I-Site.

The Kaitearau Trail is suitable for riders with good intermediate offroad biking skills. A basic mountain bike is required. Brakes must be in good condition. The trail is suitable for E-bikes. Tramping and running is permitted on the uphill trail only. Due to high riding speeds the downhill trail is not safe for walking.

Motorbikes and horses are not permitted on the Kaitearau Trail.

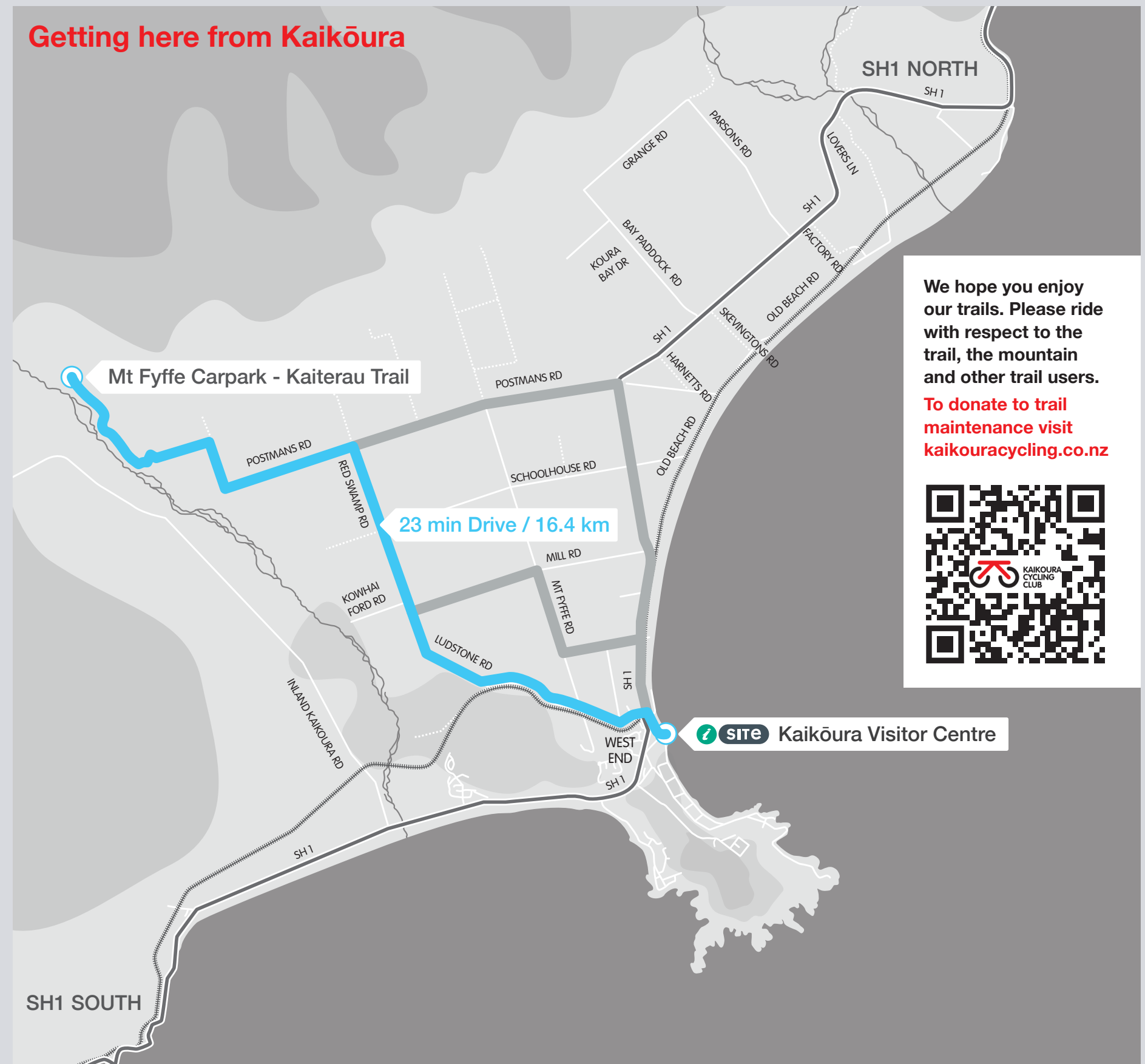
## Kaitearau Trail Makers



## Kaitearau Trail Partners



## Getting here from Kaikōura





# The Kaikōura Trail - 42km

## Trail Details

Explore some of the places you don't see from the highway. Mt Fyffe and the Seaward Kaikōura Range watch over you for the entire trail and you will get many glimpses of the ocean as you make your way around. Loosely following the perimeter of the Kaikōura plains and skirting the Kowhai and Hapuku Rivers, the Kaikōura Trail sections are as diverse as the scenery.

The Kaikōura Trail is suitable for riders in good health with basic off-road biking skills. A basic mountain bike is required. The Trail is also suitable for E-bikes. Motorbikes and horses are not permitted on our single trails.

No crossing or riding of State Highway 1 is required. Cycle the entire loop or cycle a section or two as time allows. The Trail can be ridden in either a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction. The single trails are two-way shared trails so be ready to give way to other riders and walkers at any time. Obey road rules when on-road. Keep left. Ride with respect to the Trail and the environment. Ride within your ability and to the mountain bikers' code of conduct.

There are 10 sections of the Kaikōura Trail which when linked together create an exciting, scenic and exhilarating ride. The descriptions over the page are for riding in a clockwise direction. Look out for orange markers and signs to guide you around the Trail.



Photo Dan Kerins



NO MOTORBIKES



NO HORSES



TWO WAY



Look out for these signs to guide you around the trail





# The Kaikōura Trail - 42km

## RIDING CLOCKWISE (RECOMMENDED)

### 1. TOWN 2.3km

From the I-Site carpark ride south along the Esplanade, turn right at Yarmouth St (just past Dolphin Encounter) and right again up Killarney St climbing to the hilltop. Take the shared path (not the road) adjacent to SH1 down to South Bay. Cross South Bay Parade into the Lion's reserve to begin the next stage.

**Grade - Easy**

### 2. SOUTH BAY 3.3km

The trail entry is between 2 wooden posts in the north-west corner of the reserve. Ride over a small bridge then veer right to follow the white limestone beach trail west along South Bay. Enjoy sea glimpses until you reach a pine plantation where a single trail winds amongst pine trees with some gentle short climbs. The surface includes some roots, pine cones and soft sand in parts. Exit the single trail left onto a gravel road for 250m then turn right to ride under the Kowhai River SH1 bridge.

**Grade - Easy / Intermediate**

### 3. LOWER KOWHAI 3.7km

Ride under the SH1 bridge onto a gravel road and turn right after about 50m onto single trail through the trees. The surface includes roots and stones. The trail pops out of the trees to cross under the railway bridge then back into bush and onto a gravel stopbank. There's a short steep climb up "Mt Kowhai" OR a cruise in the riverbed then back to a mainly flat meandering trail through trees, then right onto another stopbank to Kowhai Ford Rd.

**Grade - Easy / Intermediate**

### 4. UPPER KOWHAI 3.1km

From the Kowhai Ford Rd junction follow the single trail upstream through regenerating bush. The surface includes roots and some stones and has some small gentle climbs and stopbank crossings - expect traffic. The trail meanders through bush following the Kowhai River and pops out at the Postman's Rd junction.

**Grade - Easy / Intermediate**

### POSTMANS ROAD JUNCTION

This trail junction gives riders the option to turn left and ride the Korimako Trail (3 km) climbing to 193m at the Mt Fyffe carpark and the start of the 10km Kaitearau Trail with a climb to 562m altitude or turn right towards Hapuku staying on the Kaikōura Trail.

### 5. POSTMANS RD 4.4km

Ride 3.7km along Postman's Rd. Turn left into McInnes Rd and turn right into Pooles Rd (a paper road on the right with a water tank near the road.) This section is on gravel and sealed quiet country roads with gentle climbs and stunning mountain views.

**Grade - Easy**

### 6. LUKE CREEK 2.5km

Ride up Pooles Rd gravel lane approximately 450m to a small bridge on your left which is the start of single trail. Follow the single trail climbing gently through bush, across Luke Creek and onto a farm track which brings you out at the Mt Fyffe Rd - Topline Rd corner. This section includes single trail with roots and rocks and a stony (usually dry) riverbed crossing as well as grass and dirt farm tracks. Stock may be present on the farm section. Leave all gates and fences as you find them.

**Grade - Intermediate**

### 7. KOURA BAY 7.7km

Ride east along the gravel Topline Rd crossing the usually dry Waimagara creek bed to a gravel road junction where the Trail drops down into single trail through trees popping out just above Koura Bay Golf resort. Roots and rocks are present on this section. Ride along the grass trail behind the lodge and houses till the trail arrives at Koura Bay Drive where you turn left and follow the road to the entrance to Koura Bay Drive. Turn left into Bay Paddock Rd. Expect traffic. Climb gently to a right turn into Grange Rd and follow this till the seal ends at a gravelled descent towards the Hapuku River.

**Grade - Easy / Intermediate**

### 8. UPPER HAPUKU 2.7km

The single trail begins at the first parking area on the right. This single trail section follows the Hapuku river downstream on the south bank towards the SH1 bridge. This section is winding single trail with roots and rocks and some short sharp climbs. There is a stand of impressive mixed size totara trees. Beautiful native birds will keep you company on your journey. The single trail ends at a river access track - expect traffic and turn left towards the river to ride under the SH1 bridge.

**Grade - Intermediate**

### 9. LOWER HAPUKU 4.3km

The single trail resumes as you ride under the SH1 bridge meandering through regenerating bush. This section is winding with roots and rocks and some short sharp climbs. The single trail exits onto the gravelled Lovers Lane - expect traffic. Turn left and follow the road towards the sea and Hapuku village. There are two rail level crossings here. Expect trains. Turn right then right again. Turn left after your second railway crossing into Old Beach Rd.

**Grade - Intermediate / Easy**

### 10. NORTH BEACH 7.8km

Follow Old Beach Rd towards Kaikōura enjoying stunning sea and mountain views. Ride over Middle creek Bridge and turn hard right following the trail under the railway bridge onto the North Beach single trail. The surface is sandy gravel and grass. Follow the trail behind the heliport and onto the boardwalk in front of the Whaleway Station. Ride to the end of the carpark where you go straight ahead along the beach edge for 180m then turn right to cross the pedestrian bridge and use the ramp to the left to return to the I-Site carpark.

**Grade - Easy**



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