

Backcountry Hut Pass and Hut Ticket conditions

Terms

The Backcountry Hut Pass is referred to as the Hut Pass, and the Backcountry Hut Ticket as the Hut Ticket. The Pass Holder is the person to whom the Backcountry Hut Pass is issued.

Conditions

1. The Hut Pass is valid for twelve months from the date of issue for the holder in whose name the pass was issued only.
2. The Hut Pass is not transferable, and is not valid until signed by the holder.
3. The Hut Pass and Hut Ticket fees are not refundable.
4. The holder of the Hut Pass or Hut Ticket is not entitled to exclusive access to a hut or any associated facilities or services.
5. Hut Pass and Hut Ticket holders must comply with all laws, regulations and reasonable directions given by or on behalf of the Department of Conservation or any other lawful authority in respect of the use of huts and associated facilities or services.
6. Hut Pass and Hut Ticket holders should observe the Environmental Care Code.
7. The Hut Pass and Hut Ticket is not valid for use at any vehicle accessible "Conservation Campsite"
8. Members of approved recreation associate organisations must produce proof of membership to purchase a reduced price Hut Pass
9. The Backcountry Hut Pass is **not valid** for use at the following huts:
 - Northland Conservancy huts
 - Pinnacles Hut, Coromandel
 - Orongorongo Valley huts
 - Aoraki / Mt Cook National Park Serviced Alpine huts
 - Welcome Flat hut, West Coast
 - Westland National Park Serviced Alpine huts
 - NZAC huts in Mt Aspiring and Westland National Parks
 - Other private or club huts on DOC managed estate
 - Great Walk huts on:
 - Tongariro Northern Circuit huts (October to June)
 - Waikaremoana Track huts
 - Abel Tasman Coast Track huts
 - Heaphy Track huts
 - Routeburn Track huts (from October to April)
 - Milford Track huts (from October to April)
 - Kepler Track huts (from October to April)
 - Rakiura Track huts (Stewart Island)
10. The Backcountry Hut Pass is invalid if tampered with.

Hut users code

Help look after huts by following the hut users code:

- Keep huts clean, tidy – as you would like to find them
- Take care using wood burners. Only use dead wood, keep fire contained, never leave it unattended – it can burn the hut down. Make sure fire is extinguished before leaving; put water on ashes
- Share huts with others. Be considerate, make room for late comers and keep quiet if others are sleeping
- Carry it in, carry it out. Take all your rubbish with you. Pick up rubbish you come across
- Always pay hut fees
- Before leaving close doors and windows securely
- Tramping clubs and other groups do regular hut maintenance work. Think about volunteering some of your time and effort. It's a great way to meet people and you're sure to have fun!



Kime Hut (Standard), Tararua Forest Park. Photo: R. Hawke

Further information



To find out more about the types of activities available in conservation areas call into a DOC visitor centre or check out the DOC website today: www.doc.govt.nz

Your feedback on DOC brochures is welcomed:
recreation@doc.govt.nz

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468

Report any safety hazards or conservation emergencies
For fire and search and rescue call 111

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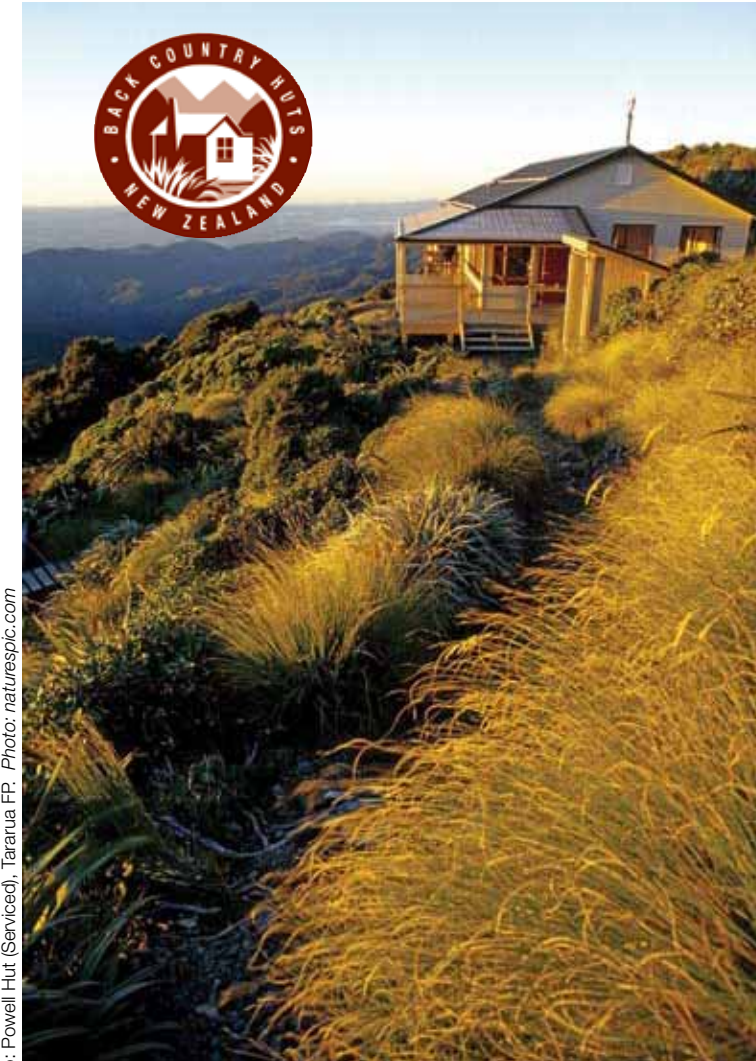
Protect plants and animals	Keep to the track
Remove rubbish	Consider others
Bury toilet waste	Respect our cultural heritage
Keep streams and lakes clean	Toitū te whenua (Leave the land undisturbed)
Only light fires where permitted	
Camp carefully	

Backcountry huts



NEW ZEALAND

FREE



Cover photo: Powell Hut (Serviced), Tararua FF. Photo: naturespic.com



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Te Papa Atawhai

Finding out more about hut facilities

For details about the exact facilities at a hut (sleeping capacity, cooking facilities, heating, lighting, fees and booking requirements) check the backcountry hut information on the DOC website or contact a DOC visitor centre.



Clinton Hut (Great Walk), Milford Track. Cooking facilities provided in peak season. Remember to take your own food and equipment. *Photo: DOC*



Mangahao Flats Hut (Standard), Tararua Forest Park. Huts provide simple shelter often with platform style bunks and lighting by candle. *Photo: R. Duindam*



Lake Angelus Hut (Serviced), Nelson Lakes NP. Find out if cooking facilities are provided before you leave. You may need to bring your own. *Photo: DOC*

Things change!



Some facilities and services operate on a seasonal basis. Huts can be moved or closed and extreme weather can damage tracks. Always check the Notices at the nearest DOC visitor centre or the website.



Relocation of West Arm Hut (Basic), Fiordland NP. *Photo: S. Hall*

Backcountry campsites

You can camp anywhere in the backcountry except where regulations prevent it such as close to some Great Walks. If you are camping beside a hut you can use hut facilities otherwise be completely self sufficient.



Self sufficient backcountry camping. Foley's Spur, Lewis Pass. *Photo: naturepic.com*



Great Walk campsites are usually well equipped, Anchorage Campsite, Abel Tasman Coast Track. *Photo: DOC*

Fees

There are no fees for park entry. Fees are charged per person, per night for the use of huts and campsites and vary depending on the facilities and services provided. Maintenance of backcountry huts requires a lot of resources. Your fees help keep huts available for public use. Pay your fees **before** your trip by purchasing a Great Walk Pass, Backcountry Hut Pass or Hut Tickets from a DOC visitor centre. Some fees such as some Great Walks can also be paid via the DOC website.

Backcountry Hut Pass

A Hut Pass is available for the use of most backcountry huts and campsites – refer to conditions. Order online via the *Backcountry Hut Pass order form* or from DOC visitor centres.



Price (for 12 months):

Adult \$90. Youth: \$45.
Members of approved recreation associate groups: \$63.



Mid Caples Hut (Serviced). *Photo: DOC*

Backcountry hut and campsite fees

Hut Category	Adult 18+ yrs	Youth 11-17yrs	Child 5-10yrs
Great Walk Hut Great Walk Hut Pass required	\$15-\$45	Free	
Great Walk Campsite Great Walk Campsite Pass required	\$5-\$20		
Serviced Alpine Hut Hut Ticket required	\$20-\$35	\$10-\$17.50	Free
Serviced Hut Hut Ticket/Hut Pass required	\$15	\$5	Free
Campsite at Serviced hut Hut Pass or Ticket required	\$5	\$2.50	
Standard Hut Hut Pass/Hut Ticket required	\$5	\$2.50	Free
Campsite at Standard hut No ticket required	Free	Free	
Basic Hut or Campsite	Free		

Note: Infant (0-5yrs) — Free at all huts and campsites

Booking huts and campsites

Most backcountry huts and campsites do not require a booking and operate on a first come first served basis. Bookings for most Great Walk huts and campsites are required in peak season and can be made using the online booking service on the DOC website, via the Great Walks Help Desk greatwalksbooking@doc.govt.nz or at DOC visitor centres.

Seasons

Peak: 1 October to 30 April

Off-peak: 1 May to 30 September

Note: Dates may vary locally depending on conditions



During peak season some huts can be very busy, so be prepared to share your adventure with others. *Photo: Anchorage Hut (Great Walk). DOC*



Tramping is a great way to enjoy the outdoors with friends and family. *Photo: Totara Flats Hut (Serviced), Tararua Forest Park. R. Duindam*

Hut heritage

Huts come in all vintages, shapes and sizes. Some date from the late 1800s, many were built in the 1930's to 1950's and the majority were built during the 1960's and 1970's for deer culling. Since the late 1970's new huts have been purpose built for recreation and DOC runs an extensive maintenance programme to keep them in good order.



Red Hut (Standard/Historic). Built in 1916 for commercial guiding. Fully restored and open to the public. *Photo: K. McKinley*



Enjoy the social environment of huts and make new friends. Take a deck of cards or a good book to enjoy. *Photo: Totara Flats Hut (Serviced). R. Duindam*



After a hard days tramp a backcountry hut provides a place to rest and recover. *Photo: Angelus Hut. DOC*

Look after yourself

Your safety is your responsibility. Make sure you **plan, prepare** and **equip** yourself well before any trip into the backcountry. Read the DOC brochure *Planning a trip in the backcountry?* to find out how you can plan for a safe and enjoyable adventure.

Weather and safety

NZ weather service: ph **0900 999 + the**

Area Code (for the place you want to visit) or www.metservice.co.nz

Mountain Safety Council:

www.mountainsafety.org.nz

Avalanche warnings: www.avalanche.net.nz

In case of emergency: Fire, search and rescue: ph 111



Rees Dart Track. *Photo: R. Duindam*

Hut safety

- Ventilate huts well when using fuel stoves to allow poisonous gas to escape
- Fill in hut log books, even if your not staying in the hut. They can assist in search in rescue operations
- The water borne parasite giardia may be present in some areas. If you are unsure of water quality treat or boil water for 3 minutes before drinking



Filling out a hut log book, Totara Flats (Serviced), Tararua FP. *Photo: R. Duindam*

Introduction

Huts are an important part of the New Zealand backcountry (outdoor) experience. The Department of Conservation (DOC) manages a network of over 950 backcountry huts in conservation areas nationwide.

Huts provide unique places to stay, refuge from bad weather and a place to rest and recover when you are out exploring the many parks and reserves.

Huts have different facilities and services

Each hut is unique but the facilities and services provided in or near huts are divided into four categories:

- **Great Walk huts** are the most comfortable. They have mattresses, water supply, toilets, hand washing facilities and heating with fuel available. They may have solar lighting, cooking facilities with fuel and a hut warden.
- **Serviced huts** have mattresses, water supply, toilets, hand washing facilities and heating with fuel available. They may have cooking facilities with fuel and a warden.
- **Standard huts** have mattresses, water supply and toilets. Wood heaters are provided at huts below the bush line.
- **Basic huts** provide very basic shelter with limited facilities.

Huts are more basic than backpacker hostels. They do not have showers, hot water, cooking and eating utensils or bed linen and you cannot buy food or equipment. Make sure you have everything you need *before* you set out. The Mountain Safety Council brochure *Going Bush?* has a gear list.



Breakfast at Top Waitaha Hut (Basic Hut), Waitaha Valley, West Coast.
Photo: Rob Suisted / www.naturespic.com

Examples of different hut categories



Great Walk Hut: MacKenzie Hut, Routeburn Track. Photo: DOC



Serviced Hut: Sabine Hut, Nelson Lakes National Park. Photo: DOC



Standard Hut: Iron Gates Hut, Ruahine Forest Park. Photo: R. Hawke



Basic Hut: Mid King Bivouac, Taraua Forest Park. Photo: R. Hawke



Downes Hut (Serviced). Photo: DOC

Mackenzie Bivouac (Basic) Photo: DOC

Other huts in the backcountry

There are a variety of other huts in backcountry conservation areas including biodiversity management huts, private bush cabins and recreation club huts. Some club huts such as the New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) huts are open to the public and listed on the DOC website: www.doc.govt.nz.



Serviced Alpine Hut: Plateau Hut, Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park. Photo: DOC

Backcountry Hut Pass/Hut Ticket order form



To order a Backcountry Hut Pass or Hut Tickets complete this form and post, fax or deliver it to the nearest Department of Conservation (DOC) visitor centre. Orders can also be made over the phone (payment via credit card only). For a list of DOC visitor centres visit the DOC website www.doc.govt.nz

Alternatively send to: Department of Conservation, Wellington Visitor Centre, PO Box 10-420, Wellington 6143, Ph +64 4 384 7770.

Note: The Backcountry Hut Pass is valid from the date of issue. It cannot be post dated.

This form is not valid for Great Walk bookings. Bookings for Great Walks can be made on the DOC website or at DOC visitor centres.



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

1. Address and contact details

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	

The information provided in this form will be used for the purposes of issuing a Backcountry Hut Pass or Hut Ticket. The information may be stored in a database held by the Department of Conservation and non-identifying information used for planning purposes.

2. Backcountry Hut Pass/Hut Tickets orders (NZ only)				
	Price \$NZ Adult	Qty	Price \$NZ Youth	Total \$NZ
Backcountry Hut Pass (for 12 months)	\$90.00		\$45.00	
FMC/ NZDA/ NZAC/MSC member price* (for 12 months)	\$63.00		\$31.50	
Backcountry Hut Tickets	\$5.00		\$2.50	
Postage and handling (within New Zealand - \$2.00)				
Total				\$2.00

*Members of approved recreation associates are entitled to a discount with proof of membership. Please include your current membership card.

3. Backcountry Hut Pass applicant details. Fill in details for each hut pass required

Name to appear on Backcountry Hut Pass:	Youth school name	Youth date of birth	FMC/ NZAC/ NZDA membership no:	Membership expiry date:

4. Postal/fax payment details

Tick	Cheque or money order made payable to the Department of Conservation										
	Visa	Mastercard									
Card Number											Expiry Date ____ / ____
Name on card											Signature

5. Backcountry Hut Pass Applicant's signature required

Please read the Backcountry Hut Pass Conditions in the DOC *Backcountry Huts* brochure. By signing this application, the Applicant agrees that they have read and understood the Hut Pass and Hut Ticket conditions. Please provide a copy of these conditions to other Hut Pass applicants named on this form.

Signature:

Office use

Hut Pass serial no.	Valid until	Hut Pass Issued by
	/ /	Office
	/ /	NZ resident (s): Yes / No
	/ /	Order received by: Post / fax / counter / other