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# Porter Lodge

## New Zealand Alpine Club Hut Information Sheet

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### Where is this place?

The lodge is located on a few hundred meters down from Fox Village township on the intersection of Cook Flat Rd and Kers Rd. It is a corner section with many native plants and high pitch roofed building with red doors.



It is a short walk from the centre of town, and there is plenty of off street parking at the lodge.

### What is there to do?

Porter is a great base from which to explore the surrounding west coast area with opportunities and attractions for everyone.

Many climbers and ski tourers use it as a first and last stop when flying in and out of the high neve huts such as Pioneer and Centennial. If the weather is bad there is no better place to hang out with like minded outdoor people.

Ice climbing is very popular on the Fox Glacier which is of course the main tourist attraction of the region.

For just a relaxed weekend away, or families with kids, or members taking overseas guests around the country, you can check out the local walks in the area. These include a look at the wild west coast Glesbies Beach at the end of

Cook Flat Road, and the famous Lake Matterson viewpoint of the southern alps. The entrance to this walk is about half way between the lodge and the beach.

There are a number of longer tramps on the west coast that start both north and south of Fox Glacier. Fox Peak and Castle Rocks Hut are two examples. Check with the Department of Conservation information office in town for more details.

### What are the facilities like?

The lodge has two bunkrooms, with 8 bunks and mattresses in one and 12 in the other. The floors are carpeted but there is no heating in these rooms.

There is one toilet and one shower, and also a large drying room, all accessed from the entrance foyer area by the main door.

The main living room has great windows looking out to the mountains, a log burner, and a fully equipped kitchen including stove, fridge, cups, plates and cutlery.

There are a range of shops, cafes and pubs down the road at Fox Glacier to buy supplies and spend an evening out on the town.



## How do I get access?

The main door of the lodge is provided with a push button combination lock, and the code changes regularly. Either ring the National Office for the current code before you leave home, or drop by the Alpine Guides Westland office in Fox Township with your membership card. Please plan ahead as there is no way of getting the code after office hours.



The keys for the bunkrooms are hanging up in the main entrance foyer and should not be removed from site.

## What does it cost?

Currently the fees for the hut are set at NZAC members \$15 and non members \$25.

Remember that for kids up to ten years old there is no charge at all, and 11-17 year olds are \$5 members', or \$15 non members' children .

Hut fees can either be dropped into the fee collection box at the lodge just inside the door, or posted in using one the payment sheets and freepost envelopes provided, or even just call the National Office and take care of it over the phone.

## How do I clean up afterwards?

Please leave the lodge as you would like to find it. Always try to do a little extra if possible. The main items are to wash and put away all dishes, sweep the floor of the main room and vacuum the bunkrooms.

Reporting any maintenance items needed on the lodge to the National Office is a huge help to us, as if we don't know what's broken there is no way for us to organise to have it fixed.

The lawns and grounds outside are looked after by a local gardener and so should be in ok condition.

## How can I make my stay better?

Don't forget to bring your own toilet paper.

Firewood is often difficult to obtain and so if visiting in the colder months then take a bag of firewood and some kindling from home to keep warm.

Another option to warm up the bunkrooms or do away with the hassle of the fire is bring an electric heater with you to plug in.

Help keep lodge fees down by not wasting electricity and using the drying room only if really necessary. There are clothes lines set up under the deck roof outside which are preferable.

## Who built the lodge?

Porter Lodge was built in 1985 after a bequeath from the widow of a life member of NZAC. It proudly carries his name, H.E.L.Porter (1886-1973), and provides a base for climbers on the west coast.



## Got another Question?

For further information contact us at:

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