

IMAGES OF REEFTON, WEST COAST SOUTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND (AOTEAROA)



Conference Venue



Dawsons Hotel-Motel



Broadway Tearooms



School of Mines



Former Bank of New Zealand building



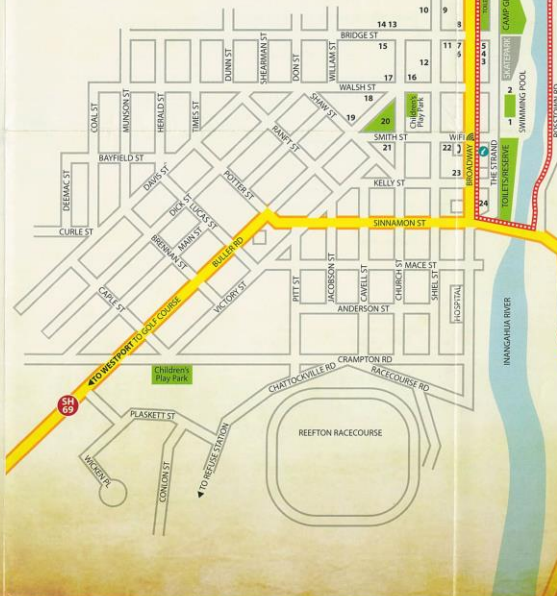
Lanterns Court Motel

HISTORIC WALK GUIDE

- Band Hall** - Like any true mining community, Reefton had a number of silver and brass bands in the early days. Today the band hall houses the Inangahua Silver Band. Built between 1903 and 1910, the hall seems to have been designed with acoustics in mind with solid timber walls and a high roof with lantern house.
- Fairlie Locomotive** - The single engine Fairlie Locomotive R28 saw service in the South Island and at local mine Burkes Creek Colliery before being retired. It is the sole original survivor of its type, built by the Apside Engineering Company.
- Forsyth & Masters Store** - Built in 1890 as the furniture store part of goldfield ironmongers Forsyth & Masters, it is now the Reefton Hardware store. This shop has been maintained in a way that preserves its essential features.
- ATL Greg Topp Beta Electrical** - Originally built in 1877, for Forsyth & Masters from Moger business, with an identical facade to the present Hardware store, this shop was once the premises of the Reefton Electrical Transmission of Power & Lighting Company Ltd (later to become the Reefton Electric Light Company). The company was set up in 1886 to build the first powerhouse which opened August 1888. The original building was replaced with the current one in the 1980s.
- Reefton Gallery (Early 1900s)** - The Reefton Gallery and two neighbouring shops are three of Reefton's early shops which for most of their lives housed a grocery store and the Auction House of Carroll & O'Brien (top shop), as well as a wine & spirit merchant and a greengrocer.
- Wilson's Miners Hotel** - James Wilson came from Caplestone where he was a Mine Manager and had a hotel. This Wilson's Miners Hotel was built in the mid 1880's and is one of the last of the West Coast's great old miners' pubs and a reminder of the days long ago when men would arrive from far flung mining settlements. Outside you will find a replica of the "First Light of Reefton".
- BNZ** - In spite of soaring gold production, Reefton at first had problems attracting banks. In September 1873 local mining companies resolved to sell all their gold for the next 12 months to the first bank to open a branch in Reefton. The Bank of New Zealand was one of two banks which opened on 7 November 1873. After relocating to the Reefton Visitor Centre in 2012, the bank closed its doors for the last time on 4 July 2021. The building, as it is now, is from 1924 and is likely to have been added to from an earlier building.
- National Bank** - Also attracted by the offer of Reefton gold, the National Bank was the second of the two banks to open in 1873 and operated through until July 1977. It was the first West Coast branch of the National Bank and turned out the first bar of gold produced in Reefton. This two storied building replaced the single storied original in 1906, which as part of the rebuilding, resulted in the moving of the Oddfellows Hall to its current site.
- Consolidated Goldfields Residence** - Built in 1911 for Lawry the lawyer, it was also once home to managers of Consolidated Gold Fields. This grand two storied house reflects the importance of the English based company, owner of such great gold mines as the Golden Fleece, Energetic, Wealth of Nations, Globe, Progress and the Blackwater at Waitua. The fountain out front was originally along the northern route out of town.
- School of Mines** - Built in three stages between 1886 and 1936, it is one of only three surviving original premises of the many School of Mines established around the country by the government in the 1880s to provide training for both coal and gold miners. Entry is by arrangement through the Reefton Visitor Centre.
- Oddfellows Hall** - One of the towns oldest buildings, the Oddfellows Hall originally stood around the corner in Broadway. There it served as both a meeting place and a public hall. In 1888 the electric power promoter Walter Prince used the hall for demonstrations of his "Bottled Lightning" to the people of Reefton, resulting in Reefton gaining New Zealand's first public supply of rectified electricity. Originally erected by the Reefton Public Hall Company (which wound up in 1876) it was purchased by the Oddfellow Society, then becoming known as the Oddfellows Hall. It was moved in 1906 for the extension/rebuild of the National Bank.
- Masonic Lodge** - Lodges were quickly established in most mining communities to help people through hard times, and Reefton had its share. Completed in 1892, this surviving example with its columned entrance way, is in keeping with the image of a true lodge building.

- Court House** - Holding its first sitting in October 1872, it replaced a dark, noisy and crowded hotel room in Barkers Hotel. Comparatively spacious and airy, the new Courthouse was an excellent investment, serving for almost a century.
- Surveyors House** - This is the towns oldest surviving building, erected in 1871. It housed the governments district surveyor George Woolley who had the job of laying out the streets of the new town. Many of the streets are named after the regions gold reef prospectors and pioneers.
- Site of Former St Xaviers Convent** - The Sisters of Mercy founded their local convent in 1890 and completed their imposing 14 roomed building in 1897. Unfortunately it burnt to the ground in 2007.
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church** - Built in 1879 to a design by Charles O'Neill, the Catholic Church contains a beautiful altar and seating for 500 people.
- St Stephens Anglican Church** - Built in 1878 then enlarged in 1896, forming the crucifix shaped floor plan, the St Stephens parochial district stretched all the way to the Hope Saddle and included such (then) major towns as Caplestone, Lyell and Murchison.

- Inangahua Council Chambers** - Completed in 1890 for the Inangahua County Council, this 12 roomed timber building originally modelled to look like stone, contained a library and reading room, as well as council chambers and various offices. It is now a private residence.
- Knox Church** - Built in Upper Broadway in 1884 as a place of worship for the local Presbyterians. The building was moved by traction engine in 1904 to its present site. It is now privately owned Boutique Accommodation.
- War Memorial** - Erected 1922 after WWI, the roll of Honour commemorates Reefton's contribution to international conflicts throughout history.
- Harold Residence** - This was built between 1904 and 1910 for the Harold family in the days when they shared in the town's prosperity. Recently restored back to the Victorian period, with many of the original features remaining, it is now used as rental accommodation.
- Harold Bro's Store** - Like any town of substance, Reefton developed a shopping area which extended beyond the main street. Well preserved proof are these shops built in the 1880's for John & David Harold following their move from Charleston. It was run by John's daughter Minnie Harold from 1910 until the early 1960's. Harold Bro's had a range of import licences and you could buy anything from groceries to dynamite, bread (baked on site) and meat from their own butchery.
- Dawsons Hotel** - Originally a double storied hotel demolished in the early 1980s, the site remains one of the most significant in town. It was here on 6 December 1886 that the English electrical engineer and entrepreneur Walter Prince gave locals their first demonstration of electricity. The first hotel on site was Slatery's Hotel which burned down in December 1881 and Dawsons Hotel was built. This was further extended in 1886 and became Reefton's largest hotel.
- Conlon House** - Originally the home of Patrick Quirk Caples, a renowned Otago and West Coast gold prospector, it was later owned by Dr William Aloysius Conlon, long time local GP, medical superintendent of Reefton Hospital and investor in local mines and other business enterprises. The house is now part of a motel complex.



“for a Mountain Bike Hub you can't beat Reefton”
Kennett Bros

WALKS & TRACKS OF REEFTON

Reefton is the perfect base for walking and mountain biking

WALKS & TRACKS FROM REEFTON

- Bottled Lightning Powerhouse Walk** - 45min loop. Free APP available on phone or google play. From the Reefton Visitor Centre, turn left down Broadway over the town bridge and left again along Reefton Rd continuing to the powerhouse site. Then along the river to the swing bridge. Continue on up to the Reefton Walkway (add an additional 45 min - see below) or return back town.
- Water Race Walk** - 30 min return. Scenic bridge to tunnel.
- Flag Tag** - Reefton Lookout Track - 2hrs, 30min loop.
- Reefton Walkway** - 45min. Sign posted at the upper end of Broadway the track meanders around the blocks with great views of the town. Walking back to Reefton you pass the historic Quartz House and Davidson's Hall.
- Reefton Walkway - Train track** - 45min return.
- Reefton Walkway - Pipeline track** - Blocks Point - 45min one way.
- Reefton Walkway - Kaiti Track** - Transalder - 1.5hrs return.

WALKS & TRACKS FROM THE MURRAY CREEK PARK

- Murray Creek Track Return** - 2hrs 20 min. - Carpark to Energetic Jct. 30min.
- Energetic Jct. to Consent mine** 2.20hrs (additional 10min return).
- Consent mine to Murray Creek** 30min. Chaffers open cut mine 15min from the Consent mine 302.
- Murray Creek - Machine Track loop** - 4hrs 30 min. This is the recommended direction to walk the loop due to the steep incline of the machine track. This track loops through the gullied valleys of the Energetic, Chaffers open cut mine, as well as the legume and Kaps Mines.
- Train Track** - 30min from carpark to Energetic Jct. 10 additional minutes to Energetic mine shaft.
- Energetic Jct - Lankey Creek Car Park** - The Stables. The track passes the Energetic and Buttolts Mines. The first section of this walk follows an old tramline.
- Golden Fleece Walk** - 15min loop. The track starts along the Murray Creek Track for 10min before branching off to the right, crossing Murray Creek and ending at the Black Point Museum.

For general Reefton information visit: www.reefton.co.nz
For other useful information visit: www.kennett.co.nz
For more Mountain Biking information visit: www.reeftonbikes.com

Reefton was originally called Oteahoua, and nicknamed 'Gumboot' due to being the only place on the West Coast where quartz reef were successfully mined open land.

Reefton

The town of light

TOHU WHENUA

REEFTON VISITOR CENTRE
67 Broadway, Reefton
Phone 03 752 8391 Fax 03 752 8616 Email reefton@reefton.co.nz

supervalue
Mobil
Fuel & Moore Ltd
CHALLENGE!

LANTERN COURT MOTEL
A BED TO SUIT MOST BUDGETS
PHONE 03 752 8377

THE HERALDWAY
CAFÉ BREAKFAST & LUNCH MENU
Open daily 8am - 4pm. Closed on Wednesdays. 03 752 8377

DO-TRACKS
MOUNTAIN BIKE & TRAMPER
GUIDED SERVICES
RENTALS & REPAIRS
CHAFFERS SERVICE AVAILABLE
PHONE 03 752 8377

WILSON'S HISTORIC HOTEL
ESTD 1872
QUALITY CUISINE, BEER
SUPER SERVICE, FREE WiFi
WALKING TOURS, TRAMPING
AFFORDABLE AVAILABLE
PHONE 03 752 8377

THE OLD KNOX CHURCH
Large Group Accommodation in Reefton
PHONE 03 752 8377

Inland ADVENTURES
Wilderness River Rafting
Open every day
Great for all ages
Day Trips & Corporate Entertainment
Free Physics Rafting 03 752 8377
03 752 8377
www.inlandadventures.co.nz

Bellbird
Self-contained Units
For family accommodation
Valid Price @ Historic Reefton available
Phone 03 752 8377 or 03 752 8377
03 752 8377

REEFTON MOTOR CAMP
POWER STATION
TENT SITES
CAMPING
REASONABLE RATES
CLEAN FACILITIES
CAMPUS STAY
03 752 8377

DAWSON'S HOTEL
A WARM WELCOME, A GOLDEN OCCASION WHERE DISCOVERY MEETS HISTORY
1882 CONVENT BUILDING
100% WINE FREE LUNCHES ON WEDNESDAYS
PHONE 03 752 8377
www.dawsonshotel.co.nz

ALFRESCOS
Sustainable
Local produce
Casual dining
Kitchens offering healthy & legendary New Zealand food
PHONE 03 752 8377
www.alfrescos.co.nz

Hale Gallery
206 Broadway Reefton
Alison Hale BFA 027 288 7498
OPEN 7 DAYS
Our town Courthouse Studio and Gallery units can be arranged for an available
PHONE 03 752 8377
www.alisonhale.co.nz