

Corner Peak, Hawea Conservation Park

Wild file

Access Park at Timaru River, 20min drive along Timaru Creek Rd from Hawea township

Grade Moderate

Time 6-10hr

Distance 7.75km to summit

Map CA13

Description

Corner Peak, 1683m, is accessed from the Timaru High River Track above the Timaru River. From the car park cross Peter Muir Bridge and, about 50m up the road, a DOC sign marks the beginning of this track.

After a short walk through a patch of manuka the track crosses a grassy area and leads onto a 4WD track. After around 10 minutes a sign marks the beginning of the poled route up to Corner Peak. The climb is unrelenting for 400-500m and eventually gains a prominent ridge which you follow up to point 1410m (it is possible to sidle here rather than gain and lose height).

The poles lead down off this point and swing slightly left to follow the ridge, before heading over a fence to the lake side of the ridge to avoid some rocky outcrops. Here the route takes a 'scrambly' sidle before heading back up to the ridge line.

The views down towards the lake are magic with jagged rocky spurs reaching down to the water.

Shortly, another small hop takes you back to the Dingle Peak side of the ridge where a handy fence gives a little extra security as you sidle above the slopes leading down into Deer Spur Creek between Dingle and Corner Peaks on a well-defined animal trail.

The ridge soon dips into a hollow where a stile and a DOC sign indicate the end of the poled route. At this point a light trail leads off, sidling to the right on the Dingle side and then angling up towards the broad saddle just short of the summit.

It is only 30 minutes or so from the sign to the summit. The trail from here is a little indistinct at times but it's just a case of aiming for the saddle. Keeping to a high sidle, avoiding the large tussock, is probably easier underfoot than erring low and then going straight up.

Very near the summit an obvious gully leads down towards the ridge between Corner and Dingle Peaks, so anyone with the time and energy can do both peaks in the one day. It would be a long trip!

There is no water after the Timaru Creek High Track and the presence of stock make even this of doubtful quality. Apart from the very short section of manuka scrub at the start, the route is very exposed.

Elevation Profile



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Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to map this route correctly, Wilderness Magazine does not take responsibility for any errors in the route. Users should use discretion when planning their routes and gather as much information as possible before departing.

