

Fern Burn Hut, Motatapu Station, Otago

WILD FILE

Access Fern Burn car park on Motatapu Road, Glendhu Bay Grade Easy Time 2.5-3hr to the hut Distance 6.36km Total ascent 598m Accommodation Fern Burn Hut, 12 bunks Map CB12

Description

An overnight trip from Wanaka to the 12-bunk Fern Burn Hut offers a slice of this Otago high country station.

The walk in is easy going as the gradient isn't tough, although at times the track is cut into the mountainside high above Fern Burn. The surrounding terrain is mostly riparian shrubland and grassy flats.

Halfway up the track, you hit the 4144ha Stack Conservation Area, by way of an extremely pretty stream winding its way through the forest – a combination of mountain, silver and red beech. Fern Burn is the ideal spot to stop for lunch. Soon you'll hit tussock country, with views up and down the sharp valley, and before long there's just one tiny stream crossing before a final grunt up to the hut.

Note: Fern Burn Hut has no heating, due to the almost complete absence of firewood nearby, and there may be a family of possums to keep you company.

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.

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