

# Dunedin & surrounds



Located on the South Island's east coast, Dunedin was founded around 1848 when Scottish immigrants began settling in Dunedin. To this day, the Scottish influence pervades, and Dunedin, Gaelic for Edinburgh, is known as the 'Edinburgh of the South'.

Along with the discovery of gold in Otago in 1861, and the rapid expansion of sheep farming, Dunedin soon became New Zealand's largest and most prosperous city of its time, establishing New Zealand's first university and stock exchange. The legacies of this prosperity include the many wonderful homes and buildings that were built in Dunedin between 1865 and 1900.

Otago University provides a diverse cultural life, giving Dunedin a special atmosphere unique to New Zealand. Dunedin has also become the Ecotourism capital of New Zealand, with such attractions as the Royal Albatross Centre, the world's only mainland-breeding albatross colony, where you will also find sea lions, fur seals and rare penguins.

The Orokonui Ecosanctuary, an ecological island wildlife reserve, as well as its natural attractions such as the Otago Peninsula and many beautiful beaches, are only a short drive away, or you can use the harbourside cycle-walkway around the picturesque Otago Harbour. When completed, you'll be able to cycle from Port Chalmers to Portobello and catch a ferry back across the harbour.

The beautiful harbour and hinterland can be explored using many dedicated walking tracks, cycle-walkways and sightseeing tours. Dunedin boasts an abundance of challenging coastal and country golf courses, thanks to the Scottish immigrants, all within a 30-minute drive from Saint Leonard's Lodge.

With Southern Scenic Day Flights from Dunedin Airport you can experience the spectacular Central Otago landscapes, Fiordland National Park, Catlins Coast, Stewart Island, Southern Alps, circle Mount Cook and cruise the magnificent Milford Sound.