

HTMC/ATC Medium trip Lewis Pass-Nelson Lakes Feb 2025

This trip is targeted for HTMC members, reserve 5 spaces for HTMC, with up to 3 ATC members, making around 8 people in total.

A Medium trip generally involves 6 to 8 hours tramping per day in hilly terrain, sometimes on and sometimes off marked tracks.

Meet in Christchurch on 17th Feb to get fuel, food, sort out bits and pieces, like buying hut tickets and checking / supplementing gear. Also that will allow us to leave early the next morning.

The following is a suggested itinerary. NZ weather can be unsettled at any time of the year, so in the event of bad weather or other issues, this is all subject to change.

Conversion of Kilometers to Miles: 1Km = 0.621371 Miles

Day 1 - Feb 18. shuttle bus to Lewis Pass early as possible. Aim for Ada Hut, but if we start too late, then Cannibal Gorge Hut will do. To Ada Hut 10km 5hours (DOC time)

Day 2 - Feb 19. From Ada Hut , Three Tarn Pass (6,100 feet), camp there, just before the pass. approx. 3 km 4 -5 hours. (approx elevation gain 2,790 ft)

Day 3 - Feb 20. Three Tarn Pass to Bob's Hut. Approx. 6-7 hours. 11km (approx elevation loss 3,300ft)

Day 4 - Feb 21. Bob's Hut to top north end of East Matakita, (16km) camp there. Approx 5hours. Partly on formed DOC track (11km).(elevation gain 1,500ft)

Day 5 - Feb 22. Matakita to Lake Thompson via D'Urville Pass (6,000ft), camp by the lake. Approx. 7 hours (approx elevation gain 1,908ft)

Day 6 - Feb 23. Thompson Pass to Morgan Hut (long walk, but mostly gentle downhill, lighter gear) 20km 7hours (approx elevation loss 4,100ft)

Day 7 - Feb 24 Morgan Hut To D'Urville Hut on the edge of Lake Rotoroa. This is our spare / rainy contingency day

Day 8 - Feb 25 Water taxi to the other end of the Lake, shuttle to Nelson Stay in a backpackers hostel there.

Day 9 – Feb 26 Onward / return travel can be organised from this date

If we don't lose any time to weather delays, then it is possible on Day 7 or 8 to walk to Mount Misery (steep climb, superb views). Or walk Tiraumea track and back, or just enjoy sand flies around the edge of Lake Rotoroa.

Weather can be changeable from freezing snow to summer heat, still, probably the best time of the year.

We going to stay at :

Ada Pass Hut 14 bunks, serviced category tickets \$25/night

Bob's Hut 8 bunks, standard, tickets \$10/night

Morgan Hut 10 bunks, standard, \$10/night

D'Urville Hut 10 bunks, standard, \$10/night - here we going to stay 2 nights

Camping minimum 3 nights.

Check the [ATC standard gear lists here](#), and discuss questions with Antal or the other ATC party members. Note that tents and other camping gear will be required, but there is the potential to arrange to borrow some items from ATC if planned in advance.

For more information on gear, food, etc, see the "Tramping Info" menu.

Map:

<https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap?v=2> HYPERLINK

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I am going to make bookings for the first night in Christchurch, backpackers style, also on Feb 25th in Nelson, and I am going to arrange the shuttles and watertaxi:

From Christchurch to Lewis Pass

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"<https://www.eastwestcoaches.co.nz/>"c HYPERLINK

"<https://www.eastwestcoaches.co.nz/>"oaches.co.nz/

Or

<https://www.whanmertoursconz.odoo.com/>

Water taxi at Lake Rotoroa

<https://www.lakerotoroawatertaxi.co.nz/>

to Nelson from lake Rotoroa

<https://www.nelsonlakesshuttles.co.nz/> HYPERLINK "https://www.nelsonlakesshuttles.co.nz/"h HYPERLINK
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