



Camping

Gore is a motorhome friendly town and the park is well equipped with 22 powered sites and a dump station.


Nestle among the trees and make the most of the facilities which include toilets, shower, kitchen with three-pin power points, lights, sink and zip, and FREE barbecues. Cellphone reception at the park is limited. Free WIFI is available in Gore's main retail area.

Nightly fee:

| ADULT | CHILDREN | UNDERS 5 |
|---------|----------|----------|
| \$10.00 | \$2.00 | FREE |

Fees are payable at the park kitchen (cash only).

Park operating hours are dawn until dusk, when the gates will be closed. Late camper arrivals are by arrangement with the caretaker ph: 027 292 4400.





Education Centre

Schools and any other interested groups can take advantage of the Education Centre (open by arrangement with the caretaker). The interactive display assists with understanding what factors have impacted on the local native bush since its formation, including industry and pests.

Activities

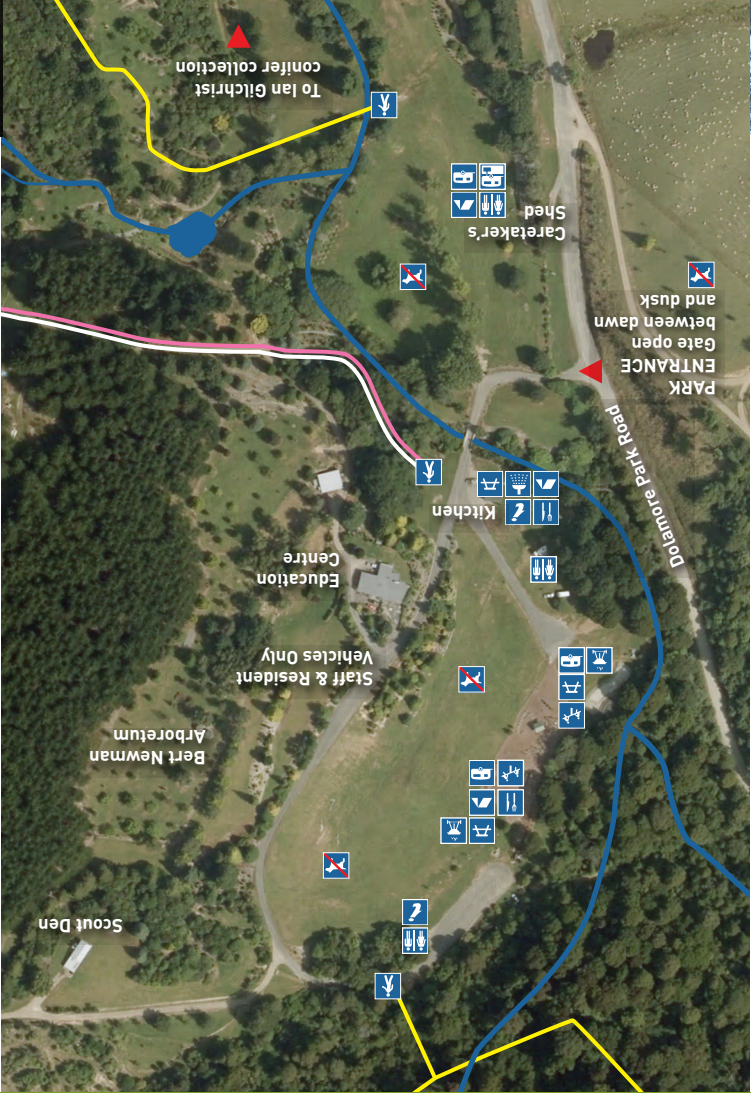
Camping, picnics, BBQ, playground, walking, mountain biking.

Only 10 minutes drive to the nearest cafes, supermarkets, movie theatre, ice skating rink, aquatic centre, museums, art gallery and other town attractions.



KEY

- NO DOGS ALLOWED IN ANY AREA OF THE RESERVE
- WALKING TRACK START POINTS
- WALKING TRACKS (Track information on reverse)
- TOILETS
- INFORMATION
- CAMPING AREA
- PLAYGROUND
- POWERED SITE
- DUMP STATION
- SHOWER
- KITCHEN
- BBQ
- PICNIC TABLE
- WATERWAY





DOLAMORE PARK is nestled at the southern end of the Croydon Bush Scenic Reserve, in the Hokonui Hills, just 10 minutes' drive from Gore. It is a beautiful setting for camping and picnicking with heaps of room for children to run around, and a playground featuring a flying fox. The park is the start point for walking tracks, of various lengths and degree of difficulty, some rewarding walkers with tremendous views over the Southland plains. Visitors who stay overnight will hear the native bird chorus at dawn and dusk, and those who take a brief walk at night along the Dolamore Loop Track, will see glow worms lighting the way. The park is home to many rare varieties of rhododendron - Spring (September to November) is the best time to see them in flower. The Ian Gilchrist conifer collection and Bert Newman arboretum are also unique to the park. The park was named in honour of the Dolamore family, whose gift of £38,000 in 1947 made the development of the picnic area and facilities possible.



DOLAMORE PARK



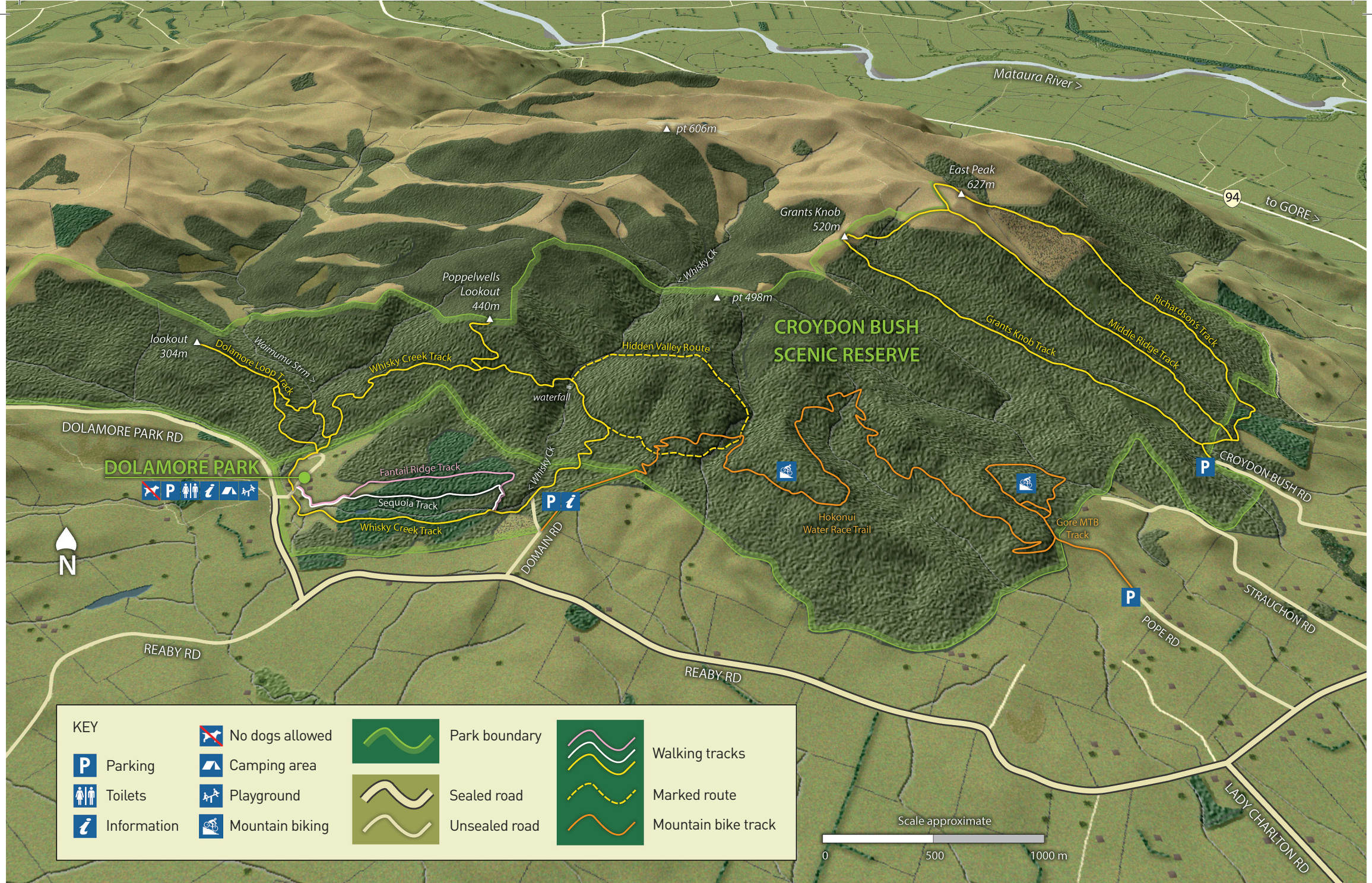
Camping | BBQ facilities
Playground | Walking tracks
Native flora and fauna
Education Centre | Mountain biking



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RURAL CITY LIVING



Dolamore Park Walks

All tracks starting from Dolamore Park are relatively easy going. However good footwear is essential as tracks can be slippery in places after wet weather. There are signposts to mark the way.

Whisky Creek Track Moderate

Time: 1-2 hr loop track
Start Point: Dolamore Park car park

After crossing the Waimumu Stream, turn right along the boardwalk. This is wheelchair accessible. At the junction with the Dolamore loop track, turn right again, cross the bridge, and climb steadily to a ridge, passing through podocarp hardwood forest.

A sign marks a turnoff to Poppelwells Lookout where you will be rewarded with seats and a chance to take in commanding views of the Southland Plains. After returning to the main track, follow it to Whisky Creek, where a short side trip can be made to Whisky Creek Falls.

There is the option of returning to the car park via the Ian Gilchrist arboretum. In places you may see pinky/red coloured rocks, which are the result of an underground coalmine fire that burnt for several years, heating the ground above.

The names Whisky Creek and Whisky Falls originate from the days when illicit whisky stills flourished in the Hokonui Hills.

Dolamore Loop Track

Time: 45 minutes return to lookout
Start point: Dolamore Park car park

Turn left after the bridge over the Waimumu Stream onto a well formed track, which climbs gradually through mixed podocarp hardwood forest towards a ridge. After about 15 minutes, a sign marks a turn off towards a lookout point, which on a clear day provides panoramic views of the Southland Plains and even Bluff Hill and Stewart Island.

Hidden Valley Route Moderate / hard

Time: 1 hr 30 minutes return
Footwear: tramping boots recommended
Start point: Whisky Creek car park (Domain Road)
Follow the Whisky Creek track north until it joins the line of an old water race. Here the Hidden Valley Route heads off to the right along the old water race, crossing two streams.

The track follows the second stream for a short distance before climbing steeply through bush to an open grass and scrub glade. It then continues down through the glade, meeting a track alongside Whisky Creek.

Fantail Ridge / Sequoia Loop Track

Time: 30 min - 1 hour
Start point: Dolamore Park car park

This walk offers magnificent views of the Matura Valley. An alternative is to take either the Fantail or Sequoia track and return via the Whisky Creek track to the car park.

Croydon Bush Road Walks

Moderate / hard (5 minutes drive from Dolamore Park)

Time: 1-2 hour return
Footwear: tramping boots recommended
Start point: Croydon Bush Road car park

There are three tracks, maintained by the Hokonui Tramping Club, which eventually lead to East Peak (620m), with great views, including over Gore.

Grants Knob Track

Head left up a well-defined track, which climbs steadily through bush to Grants Knob. From here there are views to Hedgehope Hill, Ships Cone, High Peak and East Peak. For a longer tramp, follow the sign that takes you down through bush and up to Middle Ridge.

Middle Track

Turn right from the DOC sign, cross the creek and walk up into the clearing. Turn sharply left into the bush, and follow the track, climbing steadily up a ridge and onto a rocky spine. Take your choice of Grant's or Richardson's tracks to return.

Richardson's Track

Instead of turning sharp left at the clearing (Middle Track), climb over the fence into a paddock. Turn left and proceed to the fence line, climb over a stile and head towards the pine plantation. A steady climb through bush leads into tussocks, eventually ending at East Peak where there is a trig station.

Cross the above mentioned paddock and enter a pine plantation on the northern side. The route goes through the plantation, crosses a stream and goes upstream into the native bush.

Dolamore Park and the Croydon Bush Scenic Reserve are owned and managed by the Gore District Council and Department of Conservation respectively.

Mountain Biking

The new 6km Hokonui Water Race Trail can be ridden in either direction starting at Pope Road or Domain Road car park. This track is suitable for competent riders (grade 2-3). There are plans for this track to extend to Dolamore Park in the future. About two kilometres of single track riding exists for the more experienced rider (grade 4) from the Pope Road car park. Mountain biking is not allowed on any other tracks in the area.