

Welcome to HURUNUI

Newcomers' guide





Welcome to the Hurunui District.

Hurunui is proud to be a Welcoming Community.

In this pack, you will find information to help you to quickly settle in to your new home.

We love our communities, and we know you will too!





Kia ora and welcome

As Mayor of the Hurunui District, it is my great pleasure to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to our district.

Welcoming communities is about including everybody to better appreciate the rich and varied experiences we gain from living with people from different cultures and walks of life. Coming together as community is about making certain we allow all newcomers to thrive and contribute to their new place of belonging.

It is through shared understanding and respect that we will create a collective sense of pride in being part of a culturally rich and vibrant community.

He aha te mea nui o te ao?

What is the most important thing in the world?

He tangata, he tangata, he tangata

It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

Marie Black, Mayor Hurunui District





All about Hurunui

More people are choosing to call the Hurunui home. With its outstanding natural landscapes, welcoming communities and location just 40 minutes from Christchurch, we're not surprised!

The Hurunui District lies just 30 minutes north of Christchurch, the largest city in the South Island of New Zealand.

It begins at Leithfield Beach and extends to the Conway River south of the Kaikoura Peninsula. It is bordered on the west by the snow-capped peaks of the Southern Alps and on the east by the rich oceanic waters of the Pacific.

As the Hurunui is predominantly rural, with a population of 12,558 (2018 Census night population), it has a strong agricultural focus with sheep, beef and dairy farming being important.

Hurunui offers a great lifestyle, adventure and a chance to experience



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the rich history and culture of rural New Zealand. Its small towns offer a window into the rural heartland.

Seasons vary dramatically, with hot summers and snowfalls in winter. Autumn temperatures are mild with stunning seasonal colours, while exotic flowers, green pastures and lambs dominate the spring landscape.

The towns of Amberley, Cheviot, Culverden and Hanmer Springs are the major urban areas. The district also has a number of villages and beach settlements.

In recent years, more and more people have chosen to move to the district to enjoy all the benefits of living in the country.

The iwi (Māori indigenous people) that hold mana whenua (customary authority) status in the Hurunui District are Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga, and Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura.

A local 'to do' list

Here are some small (but essential) tasks to help you get settled in.

- Introduce yourself.
- Visit a few of the main attractions:

A must do is the Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa. Hurunui ratepayers enjoy a 50% discount at the Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools! You can also visit some of our beautiful vineyards or pristine beaches. Check out <https://visithurunui.co.nz/> to see more of what the Hurunui has to offer.

- Take a walk around your new neighbourhood. Explore the parks, walks and reserves.
- Sign up for a Hurunui District Library card. Remember to take along one form of identity and evidence of your home address.
- Set up power and internet for your home.
- Buy some council rubbish bags. These are available at the council service centres, libraries and some local shops. A full list, collection criteria and transfer station hours and fees are available at: <https://www.hurunui.govt.nz/property-rates/rubbish-recycling>. Please note that you may not burn rubbish in Hurunui District.
- Explore volunteering, recreation or community groups you could join.
- Join the Hurunui District Council Facebook page and other community Facebook pages.
- Explore the New Zealand Now website: your guide to living and working in New Zealand <https://www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/>

Settling in...

Moving to a new place can be a challenging journey but, in the Hurunui, you will find friendly neighbours, colleagues and services ready to help you every step of the way.



Safety

The Hurunui District is considered a safe community in which to live, work and play. However, we still recommend that you take a few steps to keep yourself, your family and your belongings safe.

Don't give your full name, address, personal details, or bank account information to people you do not know or trust, especially over the phone or via email.

Consider getting insurance. Most people have car insurance, contents insurance and home insurance (if they have a property). Third party car insurance is essential if you have a car.

New Zealand is one of the least corrupt countries in the world, so you can safely trust our government and emergency services.



National Emergency Phone Number: 111. This is always a free call and will connect you to the Fire Service, Police and Ambulance.



Public Transport

There is no dedicated daily bus service from the district to Christchurch, but there are alternative options available that will require prior arrangement.



Community Cars, Buses or Driving Services:

St John Health Shuttle - Phone 0800 383 373. Transport to medical appointments in Christchurch.

Amberley Community Bus - Phone 0276 404 037 or email amberleybushire@gmail.com
28-seat bus (excluding the driver) and 12-seat van (including driver) available to hire at low cost.

Amberley Community Care - Phone 022 027 6209. Transport to medical appointments.

Amuri Community Vehicle - Phone/Text 027 299 3263 or email amurivehicletrust@gmail.com or a booking form is available at Culverden Library, Waiau Hardware and Amuri Health Centre.

Cheviot Community Vehicle Trust - Phone 03 319 8630.

Hawarden-Waikari Community Vehicle Trust - Phone Waikari Health Centre to book 03 314 4506

Deb's Private Driving Service - Phone 021 2899 256 or email dtooby.nz@gmail.com
Rangiora, Waikuku and surrounds.

Lifestyle Companions - Phone 0800 625 888.

Shuttle & Bus Services

The following shuttle and bus services are available through the Hurunui District.

Hanmer Connection - daily service from Christchurch to Hanmer Springs. Bookings essential. <https://www.hanmerconnection.co.nz/> or phone 0800 242 663.

Intercity (bus service) - travels from Christchurch to Picton daily. Bookings essential. <https://www.intercity.co.nz/south-island-buses>

Traveling Around New Zealand

Bus companies provide services from Christchurch. For further information on these services see <https://www.metroinfo.co.nz/timetables/>

Getting a driver's licence

Information on getting a New Zealand driver's licence can be found on the Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency website at <https://nzta.govt.nz/driver-licences/>

Driver Mentor programme in Culverden

The Hurunui District Council offers a driver mentor programme for newcomers and migrants wanting to get their full New Zealand driver's licence. To book your spot, contact Emma Feathery at the details below:

Emma Feathery

Driver Programme Coordinator

Phone: 03 314 8816 or 027 808 4563

Email: emma.feathery@hurunui.govt.nz

Getting around...



Before driving

You must have a driver's licence. You can use an international driver's licence or permit for up to 12 months, after which you will need to get a New Zealand driver's licence. The road rules are explained in the Road Code, which is available online at <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/roadcode> or you can buy one at most bookshops. Everyone in the car must wear a seatbelt and children under the age of seven must be in an approved child's car seat.



Education

Preschools (kindergartens, playcentres and childcare)

Children under the age of five years old can be enrolled at kindergartens, playcentres and childcare facilities.

Between the ages of three and five, your child may be eligible for 20 hours per week of free childhood education. Talk to staff at your early childhood education centre to find out more.

Primary School

There are 10 primary schools (Year 1 through to Year 8) in Hurunui District. Children are legally required to begin primary school by age six.

Amberley School

2 Lawcocks Road, Amberley

PH: 03 314 8309

E: office@amberley.school.nz

Broomfield School

115 Mount Brown Road, Broomfield.

PH: 03 314 9444

E: office@broomfield.school.nz

Greta Valley School

8 Motunau Beach Road, Greta Valley

PH: 03 314 3800

E: office@gretavalley.school.nz



Hanmer Springs School

8 Cheltenham Street, Hanmer Springs

PH: 03 315 7208

E: admin@hanmersprings.school.nz

Leithfield School

Old Main Road, Leithfield

PH: 03 314 8024

E: office@leithfield.school.nz

Omihi School

990 Omihi Road, Omihi

PH: 03 314 5857

E: office@omihi.school.nz**Hanmer**

Rotherham School

71 George Street, Rotherham.

PH: 03 315 6368

E: office@rotherham.school.nz

Waiau School

11 Montrose Street, Waiau.

PH: 03-315 6027

E: office@waiiau.school.nz

Waikari School

23 Princes Street, Waikari

PH: 03 314 4250

E: office@waikari.school.nz

Waipara School

2 Loffhagen Drive, Waipara.

PH: 03 314 6814

E: office@waipara.school.nz

Area Schools (education through to high school)

There are three area schools (Year 1 through to Year 13) in Hurunui District, located in Hawarden, Culverden and Cheviot.

Hurunui College

Tenterden Street, Hawarden

PH: 03 314 4430

E: office@hurunuicollege.school.nz

Amuri Area School

School Road, Culverden.

PH: 03 315 8233

E: office@amuri.school.nz

Cheviot Area School

Hall Street, Cheviot.

PH: 03 319 8787

E: office@cheviot.school.nz

Rangiora High School

125 East Belt, Rangiora

PH: 03 311 8888

E: admin@rangiorahigh.school.nz



Health services

Finding a General Practice (Doctor's Clinic)

For regular health and medical care, it's a good idea to register the whole family with a general practice. The doctor is also known as a general practitioner, or GP. Most general practices are part of a Primary Health Organisation (PHO), which allows patients to receive cheaper doctors' visits and reduced costs of prescription medicines.

You can ask your local general practice if they are part of a PHO.

Children under the age of 14 years can visit the doctor for free.

General Practices

Amberley Medical Centre
6 Hilton Drive, Amberley 7410
03 314 8504

Amuri Community Health Centre
40 Wilkin Street, Rotherham 7379
03 315 6328

Waikari Health Centre
100 Princes Street, Waikari
03 314 4506

Hanmer Springs Medical Centre
59 Jacks Pass Road, Hanmer Springs
03 315 7503

Cheviot Community Health Centre
6 Robinson Street, Cheviot
03 319 8630



Hospital

Hurunui doesn't have a hospital that provides outpatient and community health services. The nearest hospital is in Christchurch.



Paramedics

Amberley has a base for St John paramedics and also operates the North Canterbury Health Shuttle. Cheviot and Culverden have a volunteer St John Service as well.



ACC

The Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) provides personal injury cover for all New Zealand citizens, residents and temporary visitors to New Zealand.

This means that if you have an accident or injure yourself, the cost of visiting a doctor may be partially covered by the government.

See: www.acc.co.nz



Dental Health

Dental care is free for people under 18 years of age. If you are over 18 years of age, you will need to pay for dental care. The closest dentists are located in Rangiora or Kaiapoi.

Community Services Card

People or families on low or moderate incomes, and who are permanent legal residents of New Zealand, may qualify for a Community Services Card, which makes visits to a doctor cheaper.

www.workandincome.govt.nz

Emergencies

For life-threatening health emergencies, free phone 111 for an ambulance.

For non-life threatening or after-hours health situations, phone your local General Practice or you can phone Healthline on 0800 611 116 to speak to a registered nurse.

Working here

There are a number of different employment industries in the Hurunui District, from farming and manufacturing, to accommodation, food services and tourism.

Finding a Job

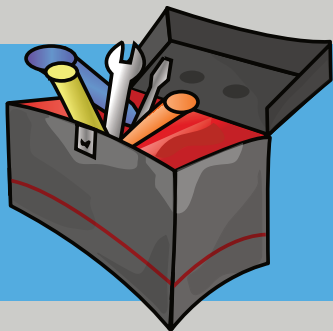
Most people looking for work start their search online using websites such as www.seek.co.nz and www.trademe.co.nz/jobs

There are several recruitment agencies that may be helpful for connecting you to available jobs.

Kiwisaver

Kiwisaver is a work-based savings scheme where you, your employer and the government contribute to a savings fund for your retirement.

You can join Kiwisaver if you are a permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen. www.kiwisaver.govt.nz



Employment Rights

When working in New Zealand you have certain rights, which are important to know so that you are treated fairly.

www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/work-in-nz/employment-rights

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

CAB provides free, confidential, independent information and advice.

<https://www.cab.org.nz/>

CAB North Canterbury:
209 High Street, Rangiora
PH: 03 313 8822.



Setting Up a Business

Establishing your own business in New Zealand is quite a simple process, and there are many resources available to support you.

Check out www.business.govt.nz for a range of tools and templates to help you get started.



Hurunui District Council





The role of the Hurunui District Council is to lead and represent its communities.

The Council engages with its communities and encourages community participation in decision-making, while considering the needs of people currently living in the district and those who will live here in the future.

The following lists the range of activities and services the Council oversees:

- Building and consents and information
- Cemeteries
- Civil Defence and emergency management
- Dog registrations and wandering livestock.
- Health, food, alcohol, and gambling
- Parking
- Planning guidance and resource consents
- Property information
- Rates
- Rubbish and recycling.
- Roading and footpaths
- Water services
- Library
- Parks, playgrounds, and open spaces
- Welcoming Communities
- Hurunui Youth Programme
- Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs
- Running the MainPower Amberley Swimming Pool
- Noise complaints

Find out more at:
<https://www.hurunui.govt.nz/>



Find a Justice of the Peace (JP)

Justices of the Peace can certify copies of documents, witness signatures on documents and, confirm identity.

JP services are free.

To find a JP close to you, go to:
[https://
justiceofthepeace.org.nz/
Page/Search](https://justiceofthepeace.org.nz/Page/Search)

Libraries

Things to do

Our Public Libraries – Free to Use

Libraries are an ideal space to meet, research, study, read and discover!

There are eight staffed libraries and volunteer libraries across the Hurunui District. As well as a physical collection, a library membership also provides access to an extensive range of online resources such as Borrow Box, Overdrive, PressReaser, StoryBox Library, LOTE4 Kides and Kanopy.

Public computers and printing are available at Amberley, Cheviot,

Hanmer Springs, Amuri (Culverden) and Hawarden libraries.

There is free 24/7 wifi at Amberley, Cheviot and Hanmer Springs libraries.

Membership is free.

To join, you will need one form of photo ID such as a driver's licence or passport and proof of your address.

For more information, go to [https://
www.hurunui.govt.nz/community/
library](https://www.hurunui.govt.nz/community/library)

<p>Hurunui Memorial Library 111 Carters Road (SH1) Amberley Phone: 03 314 8980 email: requests@hurunuilibrary.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 9am -5pm Late night Thursday until 6pm Saturday 9am-1pm</p>	<p>Hanmer Springs Community Library & Service Centre Cnr Amuri and Cheltenham Street Hanmer Springs Phone: 03 315 7912 email: hanmer@hurunui.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours: Monday -Friday 12pm-4pm Saturday and Sunday 10am-2pm</p>
<p>Amuri Community Library & Service Centre Amuri Area School School Road Culverden Phone: 03 315 3008 email: amuri@hurunui.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours during term time: Monday-Friday 10am-4pm School Holiday Hours: Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday 10am-2pm</p>	<p>Cheviot Community Library & Service Centre 39 Hall Street Cheviot Phone: 03 319 8134 email: cheviot@hurunui.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-12.30pm and 1.30-4pm</p>
<p>Hawarden Community Library Hurunui College 2 Tenterden Street Hawarden Phone: 03 314 4652 email: hawarden@hurunuilibrary.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours during term time: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm School Holiday Hours: Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday 10am-2pm</p>	<p>Greta Valley Community Library Greta Valley School 8 Motunau Beach Road Greta Valley Contact the District Library on 03 314 8980 or email: requests@hurunuilibrary.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours: Monday 3-4pm Wednesday 9-9.30 (during term time) and 2-4pm Saturday 9.30-11 am</p>
<p>Leithfield Community Library Old Main North Road Leithfield Contact the District Library on 03 314 8980 or email: requests@hurunuilibrary.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours: Monday 5-6pm Tuesday 3-4pm Wednesday 5-6pm Saturday 10-11am</p>	<p>Waiau Community Library Waiau Community Hall Waiau Contact the District Library on 03 314 8980 or email: info@hurunuilibrary.govt.nz</p> <p>Opening Hours: Tuesday 2.30-3.30pm Saturday 10am-11.30am</p>
<p>Conway Flat Community Library Available by appointment email: info@hurunuilibrary.govt.nz</p>	

Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa

Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools & Spa is an easy drive (just 90 minutes) north of Christchurch.

It's a perfect place to indulge yourself, with relaxing rock pools, soothing sulphur pools, water jets and bubbles — at a range of temperatures. There's also a luxurious day spa with a variety of treatments, private pools, sauna and steam rooms.

For those wanting to be more active, there's an activity pool, lap pool, lazy river and water slides, plus garden picnic areas and the Tea Kiosk Café & Grill. To learn more: <https://hanmersprings.co.nz/>



Destinations

Things to do





Gore Bay

In the Hurunui District lies a little-known gem: The Gore Bay Tourist Drive, which directs our visitors to the coastal settlement of Gore Bay.

It's 21 kilometres in length, with your starting point at either Domett if heading north (turn to your right and take Hurunui Mouth Road), or Cheviot if heading south (turn to your left, just after Hammer Hardware). Look for the brown tourist road signs.

Gore Bay is considered one of New Zealand's safest surfing beaches and offers a large range of summer houses (also known as cribs or baches) for hire.

To learn more: <https://visithurunui.co.nz/explore-our-places/touring-routes/gore-bay-tourist-drive/>

Wineries

The North Canterbury wine region is a food and wine lover's paradise. The region is home to over 90 vineyards, most independently owned by a close-knit community of families and which are contained in four distinct sub-regions. The first Sunday in March is traditionally known for the North Canterbury Wine and Food Festival, which is definitely something you don't want to miss out on.

To learn more: www.northcanterburywines.co.nz

Visit Hurunui has created a list of 150 reasons to visit our incredible region.

To check these out see: <https://visithurunui.co.nz/explore-our-places/150-reasons-to-visit/>

Support for newcomers

Social Services

Together Hurunui is a non-statutory network of social services operating in the Hurunui District and includes community groups, schools, health centres, non-government organisations, agencies, local council and central government.

Together Hurunui endeavours to identify gaps in service provision and advocates for the right services to fill these through regular network events and communication.

Resources:

Next Steps Website: North Canterbury-based support directory helping you take your next steps. This website is a one-stop shop, listing support services covering a range of areas, including Physical, Mental & Emotional, Economic & Business, Family & Social, Spiritual, Youth and Migrant community.

www.nextsteps.org.nz

Seeking Help Shows

Strength: this brochure is an easy-to-read guide with important information about social services and support agencies operating in the Hurunui.

Welcoming Communities

Welcoming Communities is a programme led by Immigration New Zealand (INZ) in partnership with the Ministry of Ethnic Communities and the Human Rights Commission.

Welcoming Communities works towards healthier, happier and more productive communities by welcoming newcomers into local communities.

The Welcoming Communities initiative brings together local government councils and communities to make the places we love more welcoming for everyone.

The Hurunui District Council is excited to have adopted the Welcoming Communities programme and looks forward to developing a welcoming plan that ensures that all newcomers feel welcomed in our community.





Acknowledgements

Welcoming Communities

This guide is an initiative of Welcoming Communities Hurunui District. Welcoming Communities is a programme led by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment in partnership with councils in New Zealand to foster welcoming and inclusive practices for newcomers in their local districts, regions, or cities.

For more information:
Hurunui District Council
66 Carters Road, Amberley
7410
Phone 03 314 8816
Email info@hurunui.govt.nz
Website [https://](https://www.hurunui.govt.nz/)
www.hurunui.govt.nz/

