# **RIVERVIEW LODGE** NEW ZEALAND, SOUTH ISLAND





# 2023 TRAVEL & TACKLE PLANNER

GPS Coordinates: 42°34'48.28"S | 172°47'07.30"E

WWW.THEFLYSHOP.COM



**Trip Questionnaire:** Please click on the link below. This will take you an electronic questionnaire form that we ask you to complete and submit to The Fly Shop®. Please be sure to click the **"Submit"** button at the end of the form. The information provided will help us -- and the outfitter best coordinate your trip.

## THANK YOU! <u>CLICK HERE</u>

Riverview Lodge is one of the best kiwi fly fishing lodges/experiences you will ever experience, with John and Robin Gemmell being the owner/operators for the past 30 years. They are a small operation, running 3-4 professional guides for an occupancy of 6-8 anglers, a chef who prepares gourmet meals, four lovely bedrooms with mountain/garden views, and large lounge and deck areas to relax in. John Gemmell is a "book of knowledge and experience" when it comes to fly fishing in his waters, and loves to guide, as well. Robin is a great hostess and loves to look after guests in the lodge and the non-angler in the Alpine Spa Village of Hanmer Springs. Approximately 40% of their clients each season are repeaters, which speaks for itself.

Riverview Lodge offers some of the finest sighted dry and weighted nymph fishing in mountains streams, for resident brown trout. The region has a variety of rivers from which to choose, from small and intimate, to rollicking mountain streams. Riverview Lodge is renowned worldwide for putting anglers onto some of New Zealand's largest trophy brown trout.

There are approximately 20 different beats on the rivers the guides escort you to daily (by vehicle), or you can choose to add on a helicopter flight to your package, to fish some more remote areas.

Riverview Lodge is located 80 miles northwest of Christchurch on the eastern side of the mountains, and 5 miles from the spa village of Hanmer Springs. It is situated on a plateau overlooking the Hanmer Springs Basin, the Spenser Mountain range, and the confluence of Waiau, Hanmer, and Percival rivers. It's a stunning location for a lodge, with panoramic, breathtaking, and relaxing views. The lodge has four beautiful guest suites, accommodating a maximum of eight guests.

The following suggestions for tackle and clothing will help make your trip more comfortable, and enjoyable.

# Getting to New Zealand & Riverview Lodge

#### Depart the States for New Zealand:

Direct flights from the California, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) or San Francisco International Airport (SFO) via Air New Zealand depart in the evening, arriving "two days" later into Auckland on the North Island of New Zealand. Though the flight time from LAX or SFO to Auckland is only 12 to 13 hours, you will cross several time zones and the International Dateline, arriving two days later on the calendar.

Air New Zealand flights will arrive at the Auckland Airport, a super modern international facility, early in the morning. Here you will clear immigrations (passport control) and customs. This is all very easy, simple and you will immediately know you are in a different land, by the courteous and polite nature of the airport officials.

From Auckland you will take one of several daily domestic flights via Air New Zealand to Christchurch, South Island (an approximate 1 hour and 15-minute flight).

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In Christchurch you can choose to rent a car and drive yourself to the lodge or arrange for a driving transfer. If the latter, you can contact Graham Moore of Holiday Transfers and Tours in Christchurch, at <u>holidaytours@xtra.co.nz</u>, or 011 64 3 327 3238. If you reserve this driving transfer in advance with Graham, he will meet you as you depart the luggage carousel at the Christchurch Airport, and help you load your luggage into his sedan. He will leisurely make his way upcountry the approximate 80 miles to the lodge, a 1.5-hour drive in an air-conditioned vehicle, showing you some of the highlights along the way.

# Driving Instructions to Riverview Lodge after leaving Christchurch Airport for those wishing to rent a car:

Once you have left Christchurch Airport, turn left onto Russley Road. Drive to the end, which by now has changed name to John's Road. Here you will be at a "T" intersection with traffic lights. Turn left. You are now on No.1 and going north. After about 1 hour driving you will come to Amberley township, and if you need a coffee, the Nor' West Cafe is a great choice.

Approximately 10 minutes further you will enter the vineyards of the Waipara area. If you wish to have lunch, the Waipara Springs Winery, which you cannot help but see, has very good food and wine. Pegasus Winery is even better but you would probably need a reservation.

At Waipara Junction turn off No. 1 and onto Highway 7, called Lewis Pass/Hanmer Springs. Continue on No. 7 driving thru Waikari, past the Historic Hurunui Hotel, through to Culverden. Approximately 20 minutes further driving you will come to the Hanmer Springs turn-off (Highway No.7a). Take it.

Riverview Lodge is only 5 minutes from this turn-off. You will drive over a high, suspended one way bridge, the Waiau Ferry, where they do bungy- jumping. Drive about 2 minutes more, through "the cutting" and you will see on your right a sign stating "Riverview", a big stone entrance way and the NZ flag flying. There is a viewing area opposite our gateway where cars stop to look at the river.

If you get to a second bridge, called the Hanmer River Bridge, you have gone too far. Turn around and come back the way you came. The lodge is on a plateau overlooking the Hanmer Springs Valley, about 7 kms outside of Hanmer Springs Village.

#### Fishing Days:

These are full fishing days, and the exact schedule will depend on the guest's wishes, water conditions, and prevailing weather conditions. Normally decisions about where you go and on which river is made over breakfast, as often it is determined by amount of sunshine, wind, and angler ability.

#### Walking & 4WD Access:

All the guides at Riverview Lodge operate modern off-road vehicles and can drive you to much of the best water. The easily accessible waters offer an opportunity for the classic fly-fishing experience of stalking and sight-casting to trophy browns in shallow, clear water. Anglers can expect to fish in seclusion and cast to wild fish that typically average 3-6 pounds.



#### Helicopter Fly-Outs:

The helicopters based near Riverview Lodge provide easy flights to many of New Zealand's most famous mountain streams. Daily helicopter flights are not part of the fishing package, and can be added for an additional cost on-site, if desired. There are many remote streams which go unnoticed, and relatively unfished, only a short flight away. While it is not at all necessary to fly by helicopter to experience great fly fishing at Riverview Lodge, a flight into the surrounding mountains is the ultimate exhilarating experience for the dedicated angler.

#### **Typical Daily Schedule:**

- 7:00 10:00 A.M. Breakfast is available
- 8:30 9:00 A.m. You and your guide head out for the day
- 5:00 6:00 P.M. Return to the lodge for a hot shower and cocktails hors d' oeuvres follow
- 7:30 P.M. A gourmet dinner is served

#### Depart New Zealand for the States:

After breakfast and saying your goodbyes to the folks at Riverview Lodge you will be transported via auto as you've pre-arranged (or drive yourself if you have a rental car) back to Christchurch in plenty of time to catch a flight up to Auckland to begin your journey home, or the continuation of your New Zealand angling or travel holiday. Direct flights from Auckland to LAX or SFO depart in the evening between 7 and 11 p.m., arriving back in the States the same day, mid-morning.

### **CONTACT NUMBERS**

Riverview Lodge From the US dial (please check time difference before calling): 011-64-3-315-7254 Riverview Lodge Email: <u>gemmell.riverview@xtra.co.nz</u>

The Fly Shop® 4140 Churn Creek Road Redding, CA 96002 (800) 669-3474 | (530) 222-3555 | <u>travel@theflyshop.com</u>

Holdy Tours Alicia Regueiro (800) 446-1111 | (925) 927-6617 | FAX: (925) 927-6640 <u>alicia@holdytours.com</u>

U.S. Embassy Auckland, New Zealand Consulate General of US/Citigroup Building 23 Customs Street East Auckland, New Zealand Phone from inside New Zealand: 09-303-2724, ext. 2800 Phone from outside New Zealand: +64-9-303-2724, ext. 2800 Email: publicaffairsusnz@state.gov



After Hours Emergency Assistance for U.S. Citizens For emergencies outside the hours listed below, please phone either: + [64] (4) 462 6000 and leave a message for the duty officer; or + [64] (9) 303 2724 ext. 2900.

# **Recommended Equipment**

Although selling fly fishing tackle and flies is part of what The Fly Shop® does, it is not our main concern. Our main concern is that people have a great trip. We know from personal experience, and from the experiences of thousands of our traveling customers, that properly outfitted and prepared anglers have the best chance of having a trip of a lifetime. This tackle and equipment planner is a guideline to help anglers assemble a reasonable collection of flies and necessary equipment so that you stand the best chance of finding success on the water. It's not necessary you have *all* of these flies and assorted equipment, just a good cross-section.

• Please note that Riverview Lodge has loaner waders and fly rods at no extra charge – if you would like to take advantage of this, let us know, and we'll arrange it for you.

If you have any questions concerning tackle and equipment recommendations, please feel free to call us toll-free at (800) 669-3474. Thank you.

#### Fly Rods:

A 6-weight fly rod is the perfect tool to effectively fish the waters accessed by Riverview Lodge, with the larger attractor dry flies and/or smaller nymphs and indicators used most often. If you are an experienced angler and can deal with the sometimes-breezy conditions, a 5-weight outfit could be a better choice for you. They key here is **not** having to make consistent 80-foot casts, but rather being able to deliver your fly accurately and consistently at 30-50 feet. The ability to throw longer casts is always helpful, but rarely necessary. We strongly recommend a 4 or 5-piece travel rod. Rods you might consider are Sage, Scott, R.L. Winston, and The Fly Shop's Signature series of rods.

#### Fly Reels:

Good quality, lightweight fly reels, with simple disk drags are the best choice. Reels should be filled with fresh 20-pound backing. Reel models to consider might include Ross, The Fly Shop's L2A, Galvan, Abel, Hatch, and Hardy reels. 75 - 125 yards of backing is more than adequate.

#### Fly Lines:

For the dry fly rod, you will want a weight-forward floating fly line. Color of the line is very important to the guides in New Zealand – it must be drab; an olive or gray color is preferred. We like the Rio InTouch Gold floating line, or the Scientific Anglers Amplitude Smooth Infinity taper.

#### Leaders & Tippet:

Long leaders are the standard in New Zealand fly fishing, with most guides preferring tapered leader lengths of 9 feet tapering down to 3X, to which they will add the appropriate amount of the correct sized tippet. It is worth noting that New Zealand guides tend to prefer using Maxima Ultragreen or Maxima Clear tippet, most commonly in 4#, 5#, and 6#...they will provide this if you don't have it yourself.



#### Flies:

In New Zealand there are a handful of favorite local patterns but realize that most streams don't have prolific insect hatches, so you rarely are matching a hatch. In most cases the fly pattern is less important than a great presentation. We suggest you have a few of the following patterns in your box, and then let the guide fill in with his own patterns, as he suggests.

#### **Dries:**

- Mercer's Missing Links #14 16
- Parachute Adams #14 16
- Clark's Cicada #10
- Royal Wulff #12 16
- Black Foam Beetles #12 16

#### Nymphs:

Many guides prefer nymphs have a black bead, not the flashier gold, copper, or silver colors, and they like tungsten, as they don't use split shot. With this in mind, we suggest the following:

- Tungsten PT Prince #12 16
- Mercer's Tungsten Bead Micro Stone #14 16; black
- Czech Catnip #8; olive
- Tungsten Swing Nymph #16
- Mercer's Jigged Golden Stone #10

#### Line Clippers, Pliers, Hemostats, & Hook File:

Essential to any fisherman and should not be left behind (though the guides are happy to do all the leader chores and tying on of flies for you.

#### **Polarized Sunglasses:**

Fly fishing in New Zealand is a very visual experience. Spotting the fish is part of the excitement, and part of the challenge and good quality polarized sunglasses are a must. Polarized sunglasses not only let you spot fish more effectively but protect your eyes from the intense sunlight experienced in New Zealand, as well as hooks. Smith Optics, Costa del Mar and Oakley make some of the best. It is advised to bring two pair, as sunglasses tend to break, get lost, or fall into the river more often than other items of gear. Brown or copper-colored lenses are preferred.

#### Camera:

Waterproof digital cameras are handy. SLR cameras with a good zoom lens (28 - 80) are the best. If you are going to take your expensive camera equipment, make sure you have a waterproof case for it. The best waterproof cases we have found are made by Pelican Products, <u>www.pelican.com</u>. Don't forget your flash unit and extra batteries.

#### Headlamp:

Our favorite is one that has LED bulbs and is rechargeable.

#### Sun Protection:

The summer weather in New Zealand is generally pleasant. Average temperatures range between the low 60's and mid 80's. Though usually not hot, the ultra-violet rays of the sun in this part of the



world are very intense and will burn even the most sun-seasoned anglers. Brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts, and frequent use of a strong sun block (SPF 30+ UVA/UVB) are highly recommended.

#### Wading Staff:

If you use a wading staff on your home waters, then bring it to New Zealand. It will come in handy. Bring one with a rubber tip, as the metal spiked ones make too much noise and spook fish.

### **Recommended Clothing**

The weather in New Zealand is constantly changing. One afternoon it may be 80°+, sunny and hot, then only a few hours later clouds can move in, and the conditions will turn windy with temperatures in the 60°s. The key clothing question you'll want to decide is if you want to wear waders, or wet wade each day. If the former, then the following layering information will be useful for you, keeping in mind it is rarely cold there, so many people will find no need to have a thermal layer, preferring to simply have the base layer beneath the waders. Should you decide to wet wade, they have a rather unique but highly functional system in New Zealand, where you wear the base layer described below, over the top of which you slip either a pair of lightweight shorts, or nylon shell pants such as those used in hot weather saltwater climates. This allows you to wade all day in the cool water without getting cold, while also not getting hot on warm days (remember, a lot of hiking is the norm in New Zealand). This will necessitate wearing a pair of neoprene and/or heavy wool wading socks, to compensate size-wise for the lack of neoprene booties built into your stocking-foot waders. Many people will simply use quick dry pants, instead, which also work very well for wet wading.

Clothing strategies should be based on the "layering system," the idea being to trap heated air generated by your body between multiple layers of insulation. The layering system allows you to adapt to air temperature, body temperature according to activity level, and whatever Mother Nature dishes out. Here is the formula preferred by the staff at The Fly Shop®:

#### **Base Layer:**

Start off with a synthetic fabric next to your skin (the Patagonia Capilene is a good start). This often is a pair of thermal underwear (tops and bottoms) and they usually come in three weights: light, mid and expedition. According to your individual metabolism, pick what is best for you. Synthetic (noncotton) materials retain little moisture and "wick" moisture away from your skin. This is very important when you are walking in waders or when outside temperatures heat up.

#### Thermal Layer:

Your second layer of insulation should match the weather and conditions you are going to be fishing in. Lightweight insulation for cool weather, mid-weight for colder conditions and heavyweight for frigid days. Fleece is an outstanding choice here in tops and bottoms, or overalls. The new merino wool is also a good choice as, like fleece, it stays warm when damp.

- 1 set mid weight Simms wading underwear, or Patagonia heavyweight Capilene, or fleece equivalents. Tops and bottoms.
- 1 set fleece pants--Simms bibs or pants; Skwala or Patagonia Capilene Fleece
- 1 fleece jacket—Simms, Skwala, or Patagonia



#### Outer Shell (Rain Jacket & Waders):

Your final layer should be a breathable rain jacket and waders.

#### Rain Jacket:

High quality Gore-Tex® type products are the best. Your rain jacket should be 100% waterproof and breathable. Rain jackets must be seam sealed, multi-layered, of QUALITY construction and from a recognized outdoor clothing company. Jackets specifically designed for fly fishermen are the most comfortable and practical. We recommend Patagonia, Skwala, and Simms.

#### Waders:

Stocking foot, breathable waders are the way to go. You will experience little or no moisture buildup inside the waders, even after a long wade; they wear like iron, are comfortable to be in all day. For safety we strongly recommend always wearing a wading belt. Good choices are Simms, Skwala, and Patagonia.

#### Wading Boots:

New Zealand rivers tend to be easy to wade, with a bottom formed of non-slippery pea gravel or rocks, and mellow currents throughout. For this reason, the new knobby, "sticky" rubber Vibramsoled wading boots are recommended. Felt-soled wading boots are **NOT** allowed in New Zealand, as they have been found to transport invasive parasites detrimental to the trout and streams in general. If you are not a strong wader, you might consider getting aluminum studs to put into the bottom of your rubber-soled boots to keep yourself from slipping on rockier bottoms. Gravel guards are a must. The lodge can provide waders and shoes, if desired. We highly recommend Korkers, Simms, and Patagonia wading boots.

The use of felt-soled boots is now banned in New Zealand. The move is to help prevent the spread of the introduced alga – didymo – which is a microscopic organism that can be transferred on wet equipment. Felt soles are a high risk as it is impossible to effectively decontaminate the soles other than by freezing, which is not practical in all circumstances. New Zealand customs will seize and destroy your felt-soled boots should you bring them to New Zealand. The lodge is happy to provide wading boots for clients.

#### Socks:

Anglers should bring enough socks to alternate daily. For a week's fishing trip, three pairs should be fine. Do not wear the same socks every day, but alternate, leaving one pair to dry and air while wearing the other set. Smartwool, polypro or a combination of both are the best choices in sock material. Try on your socks with your waders and wading boots before you leave for your trip to ensure that you have plenty of room to move your toes. 3 to 6 pairs of Simms or Patagonia Wading Socks.

#### Sun Gloves:

Fingerless sun gloves are great to protect your hands from the intense New Zealand sun.

#### Fishing Vest or Tackle/Vest Pack:

For vests, we like a high-quality product, in a 'shorty' model. Choose one that has room for a rain jacket or camera in the back. Brands we like are Fishpond, Patagonia, and Simms. If you prefer a tackle pack, take a good look at Fishpond and Patagonia.



#### Fishing Hat:

Look for a hat that is comfortable, with a dark brim to keep the sun off your face.

# Helpful Information

#### **Fish Estimation Formulas:**

This is a widely accepted formula that will give you a fair estimate of your released trout's weight.

<u>G x G x L</u>	G = girth (inches)
800	L = length (inches)
	W = Weight (pounds)

Conversions from Metric to U.S. Equivalents		Metric Equivalents	
To convert	into	multiply by	1  inch = 2.54  centimeters
Centimeters	Inches	.394	1  yard = .9144  meter
Meters	Yards	1.093	1  mile = 1,609.3  meters or  1.6
Kilometers	Miles	.621	1 pound = .454 kilograms
Kilograms	Pounds	2.205	1  acre = .4047  hectare
			640  acres = 259  hectares
			or 2.59 square kilometers

#### Lodge Gratuities:

Gratuities are a personal thing based on service rendered. Normally guides and staff are tipped upon departure in accordance with their individual effort and service. In most cases we like to leave a gratuity with the lodge manager or host, who then splits it up equitably between the guides and staff (with the lion's share going to the guides, of course). A good rule of thumb for an amount to leave is 10 - 15 percent of the total lodge package cost. Gratuities should be paid in US\$ cash. If you have any questions concerning gratuities, please feel free to call us or ask the lodge/camp manager or host for guidelines. Credit cards are not accepted at any of our New Zealand Lodges.

#### Wi-Fi:

As with most New Zealand lodges, Riverview Lodge has Wi-Fi available for clients who would like to bring their own Wi-Fi-enabled electronic devices. It is satellite-based and not completely predictable – some days it works better than others – but it is more than adequate to send and receive emails. There is not adequate bandwidth to support sending images or for streaming videos.

#### **Electricity:**

What is the voltage of electricity supply in New Zealand? Do I need to take a converter? Electricity is supplied throughout New Zealand at 230/240 volts (50 hertz), although most hotels and motels provide 110-volt AC sockets (rated at 20 watts) for electric razors only. For all other equipment, an adapter/converter is necessary, unless the item has a multi-voltage option (which many items do, these days). Please note that power outlets only accept flat three or two-pin plugs, depending on whether an earth connection is fitted.



# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Do I need a passport and visa to travel to New Zealand?

All visitors to New Zealand must carry a passport that is valid for at least three months beyond the date you intend to leave the country. You do not need a visa or permit to visit New Zealand if you are a resident of United States of America.

#### How long is the flight from California to New Zealand?

From the West Coast of the United States, a direct flight to New Zealand takes about 12 - 13 hours and covers approximately 10, 450 Km (6,500 miles) from Los Angeles to Auckland, New Zealand.

# Do I have to spend the night in Auckland on the day of arrival into New Zealand and on the night before departure back home?

No, you do not have to overnight in Auckland, unless you would like. International flights arrive in Auckland early in the morning and allow for you to continue onto Queenstown on the South Island on your day of arrival in New Zealand.

#### How much baggage can I bring?

#### International Flights:

- Economy and Premium Economy 2 pieces, each up to 23kg (50 lbs.)
- Business 2 pieces, each up to 32kg (70 lbs.)
- Star Alliance Gold Customers (including Airpoints Gold and Gold Elite) 1 additional piece per person!

#### Domestic New Zealand Flights:

- Economy and Premium Economy 20kg (44 lbs.) total
- Business 30kg (66 lbs.) total
- Star Alliance Gold Customers (including Airpoints Gold and Gold Elite) additional 20kg (44 lbs.)

The absolute maximum weight per piece of baggage for all customers is 32kg (70 lbs.). Each piece of baggage should not exceed total dimensions (length + width + height) of 158cm (62").

# IMPORTANT!!!

#### NZeTA Visas:

The New Zealand government has announced effective October 1st, 2019 U.S. citizens, British, Canadian, and Australian Permanent residents along with 56 other nationalities that can currently enter New Zealand under the NZ visa waiver program will require an NZeTA visa for both arrivals by Air and Cruise ship.

This is a new policy, and if you do not have the NZeTA in your hand when you prepare to board the aircraft from the United States to New Zealand, you will not be allowed to board the plane.

\*Having a NZeTA Visa is MANDATORY!\*



From July 2019, travelers can request their NZeTA via the mobile app, or online at immigration.govt.nz/nzeta. The app is the preferred option because it's fast, easy to use and offers greater data accuracy.

- The cost of the NZeTA is NZD\$9 via the mobile app and NZD\$12 via the Immigration NZ website.
- NZeTA requests take between 5-10 minutes to complete. Once issued, the NZeTA is valid for up to 2 years and can be used for multiple visits.
- Travelers will pay for their International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) at the same time they request their NZeTA. The IVL will cost an additional NZD\$35.

For the latest information about the ETA, visit: <u>https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas</u>

If you would like assistance with your NZeTA Visa you can contact Travel Visa Plus, our preferred visa service company.

Travel Visa Plus Stephen and Aaron Hopkins 580 California St., Suite 1246 San Francisco, CA 94104 <u>Info@travelvisaplus.com</u> | (415) 568-2164



# **Riverview Lodge Travel Checklist**

Airline Tickets and Itinerary
Valid Passport
2 Copies of Passport (packed separately)
Wallet
Cash US\$
Cash and credit cards
Fly Rods
Fly Reels
Spare Spools, Spare (drab-colored) Lines
Leaders
Tippet
Fly boxes
Dry Flies
Nymphs
Floatant
Clippers, Pliers, Scissors
Fishing Vest/Tackle Pack
Day Pack, Tackle Bag
Reel Lubricant
Hook file or Stone
Knot Tool
Hemostats
Polarized Sunglasses
Extra pair of Sunglasses
Reading Glasses
Waders
Wading Belt
Wading Boots
Insect Repellent
Toilet Articles
Prescription Medications Ibuprofen
Notebook
Tape measure
rape measure

Waterproof Bag for Wading Gear \_\_Rain Jacket \_\_\_Light Socks \_\_\_Heavy Socks \_\_Headlamp (LED) \_\_Emergency Telephone Numbers Destination address Buff Bandannas Slacks and Pants Belt \_\_\_Shirts \_\_\_Under-wader wear \_\_Light pile or fleece pants \_\_\_Fishing Hat \_\_\_Fleece or pile jacket/pullover \_\_Long-sleeved Shirts Short-sleeved Shirts \_\_\_Sun Gloves \_\_Electrical adaptor \_\_Reading Book \_\_\_Addresses & phone numbers \_\_\_Camera, Battery charger, Storage card \_\_Sun Screen SPF 30+ UVA/UVB \_\_Lip Balm & hand lotion Flask \_\_Smartphone &/or Tablet with charger \_\_\_\_ AquaSeal or UV Wader Repair