



Dry Acheron Track



Walking

Difficulty

Hard

Length

10 km

Journey Time

8 hrs return

Region

[Canterbury](#)

Sub-Region

[Selwyn District](#)

Part of the Collection

[Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa Walkways](#)

Track maintained by

[Department of Conservation](#)

Dry Acheron Track follows the Dry Acheron Stream across high country farmland before climbing steeply to the summit of Mount Big Ben. The track crisscrosses the stream and passes by two developing bush covenants with interesting rock formations.

The climb to Big Ben is recommended for people with high-level backcountry skills and experience. It offers stunning views over the surrounding high country.

Track times

- Car park to Clay Gully junction – 1 hour
- Clay Gully junction to Clay Valley covenant – 10 minutes
- Clay Gully junction to Big Ben Route junction – 1 hour
- Big Ben Route junction to Conical Knoll covenant – 30 minutes
- Big Ben Route to Big Ben (Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Park) – 2 hours

Conditions

Access to Dry Acheron Stream and the two covenant areas is provided courtesy of the Dry Acheron and Big Ben station owners.

Be respectful when crossing private farmland:

- Stay on the marked route and keep within the boundary of covenant areas at all times
- Cross fences only at stiles
- Do not disturb stock
- Leave gates as you find them (open or shut)

How to get here

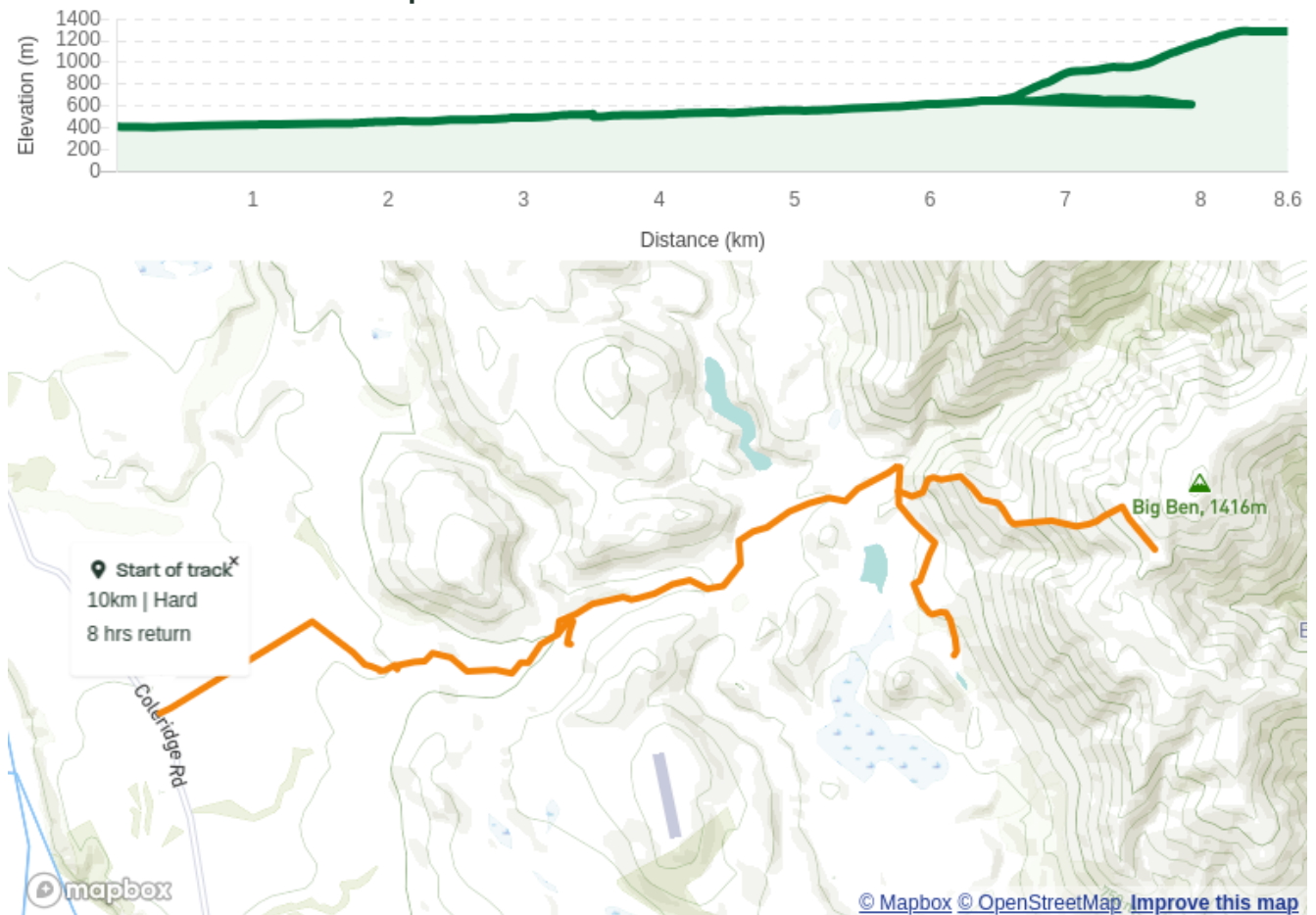
The Dry Acheron Track entrance is off Coleridge Road, between Windwhistle and the Lake Coleridge village, an hour west of Christchurch.

Transport

Accommodation

Food And Supply

Track Elevation and Map



More information

[Department of Conservation](#) [↗](#)

This track is part of the Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa track database. Herenga ā Nuku has [maps and advice about public access to the outdoors](#) [↗](#).

We encourage you to continue gaining the skills and knowledge required for a safe trip. The NZ Mountain Safety Council has lots of free resources and information you can use. These can be accessed via www.mountainsafety.org.nz [↗](#).

We recommend trying these online learning tools:

- [Trip Planning](#) [↗](#)
- [Tramping/field Skills](#) [↗](#)
- [Basic Navigation](#) [↗](#)
- [River Safety](#) [↗](#)

Additionally, check out the range of helpful videos available from the NZ Mountain Safety Council [YouTube channel](#) [↗](#).



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