

HEAPHY TRACK

Great
Walks



Photo: Shakey Finger Photography - Stephen Roberts

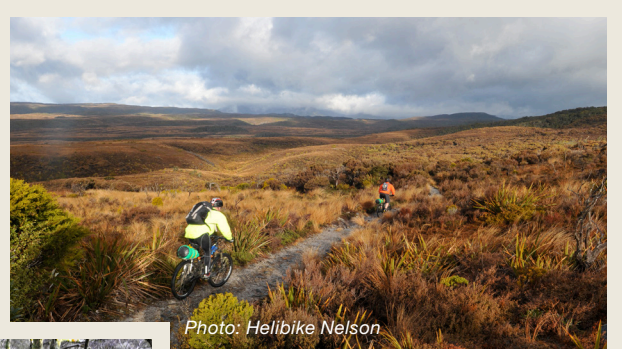


Photo: Helibike Nelson



Photo: Helibike Nelson

Mountain bike through tussock landscapes, lush forest and beside roaring seas on the Heaphy Track. Walkers and mountain bikers share the track between 1 May and 30 November. Biking is not allowed at other times.

➤ 3 days and 2 nights

Brown Hut to Perry Saddle Hut
17.5 km, 2 hr 30 min

Perry Saddle Hut to Saxon Hut
12.4 km, 2–3 hr

Saxon Hut to James Mackay Hut
11.8 km 2–3 hr

James Mackay Hut to Lewis Hut
12.5 km, 1–2 hr

Lewis Hut to Heaphy Hut
8 km, 1 hr 30 min – 2 hr 30 min

Heaphy Hut to Kohaihai Shelter
16.2 km, 3–4 hr



MTB grade: Advanced (Grade 4)

A mixture of long, steep climbs, narrow track, poor traction and obstacles that are difficult to avoid or jump over. Generally exposed at the track's outside edge. Most riders will find some sections easier to walk.

Can I do it?

The Heaphy Track is a tough ride – to ride safely you need to be fit, experienced and have good equipment.

The track is suited to riders with advanced skills (Grade 4). Read up on the distance, remoteness and the technical skills needed for wet and cold weather before deciding to ride the track.

You can expect:

- a **well-formed 78.4 km track**, maintained to the Department of Conservation's Great Walk standard.
- to spend **two nights** on the track. There are bike stands at Perry Saddle, Saxon, James Mackay and Heaphy huts.
- **changeable weather**, including extremely cold temperatures, rain, wind and possibly snow. There are steep slopes, many bridges, avoidable obstacles and sections of track prone to deep flooding.
- some **rough track** on the West Coast side. This area is more vulnerable to damage from rutting and erosion.

Respect others, respect the rules, respect the track

Follow the mountain biking rules below.

- You are not permitted to take a mountain bike into any hut or shelter, or onto hut porches.
- Stay on the formed and designated mountain bike tracks.
- Electric bikes are not allowed on the track.
- Bikers must give way to walkers.
- Night riding is not permitted.

You are responsible for:

- obeying the mountain bikers code. The track is shared with hikers and other bikers – show respect for other users.
- following signs and other markers that clearly identify where mountain bikes can be ridden and where they are not allowed.



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai