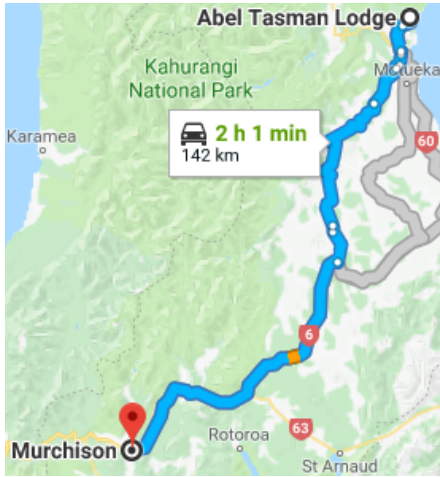


# DRIVING TO PUNAKĀIKI (WEST COAST)

Approximately a 4-hour drive (non-stop).

If you want to self-cater then pick up groceries in Motueka or Westport as there is no supermarket in Punakāiki.

## Abel Tasman Lodge to Murchison (2 hrs approx.)



- Go through Riwaka to Motueka. Go past shops.
- Turn right at the clock tower roundabout. It's well signposted for Murchison.
- Drive for about 55kms (40 mins) to the intersection with State Highway 6.

There is a lovely historic pub/café, Kōhatu Flat Rock Café, which has good food and coffee. If you need a break, this is a nice choice. Just before you join SH6.

- Turn right onto SH6
- Once on SH6 drive for about 73km (50 mins) until you reach Murchison.

### Murchison

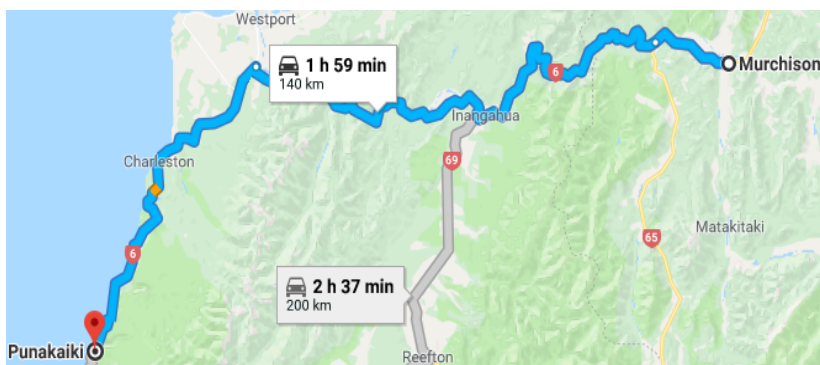
Murchison has a couple of cafés, a pub and a service station. It's worth a stop for a coffee at either of the cafés. One is on the main street and the other is on the side street, turn left at the Four Square store:

- **Rivers Café** – Decent meals and good coffee. On Fairfax St
- **Tutaki Bakery** – (Good) Kiwi pies, sandwiches and sweet treats. Also on Fairfax Street. Opening hours vary.
- **Beechwoods** – just as you leave Murchison – old-style café.

## Murchison to Punakāiki

Once you leave Murchison, drive for 10 minutes, and turn right (this is still SH6). It's signposted for the West Coast.

- Five minutes past the turnoff you will see some signage for the **Buller Gorge Swing Bridge** - the longest swing bridge in New Zealand with great views over the Buller River. It's well signposted and there is good parking.
- Next, drive through the small settlement of Inangahua and then cross a bridge
- At the intersection turn right towards Westport, Karamea and Punakāiki.



The drive from here is stunning with beautiful trees, rivers and the mountains next to the sea!

Westport is a small detour from the main road, so not something you necessarily need to see. But there are some interesting sights in the area relating to gold mining.

If you bypass Westport, you need to turn left towards Punakāiki (well-signed). You will start to follow the coastline south.

- A few kilometres down the coast road you will see a sign for Cape Foulwind. Again a detour. Drive down this road (for about 10 minutes) to visit the seals.
- Staying on SH6 you will reach Punakāiki in about 25 minutes.

## Punakāiki

Things worth seeing here are Truman's Walk and of course the Pancake Rocks. There isn't much else other than a arts & craft store and a restaurant called On the Beach at Scenic Hotel Punakaiki.

- Greymouth is another 45 to 60 minutes down SH6 after Punakāiki.
- Hokitika another 30 minutes further on from Greymouth.

Please note things change and this is just a helpful guide