

OENZ COURSE OUTLINE

Navigation, Bushcraft & River Crossing (3 Days)

Day 1

8:30am - Meet your group and Instructor/s at Darfield Bakery in the Darfield on West Coast road/State Highway 73. Darfield is a small town approx. 40 mins from Christchurch city.

9:30am - Arrive at Craigieburn Forest Park location.

- Packing and selecting good outdoor clothing & equipment
- Gear check
- Introduction to NZ Topo50 maps
 - Colours and symbols
 - Scale and distance
 - 6 figure Grid references
 - Identifying features (Valleys, Spurs, Gullies, Ridges, High points, Saddles)
- Orientating a map using features & using a compass

12:30 – Lunch

- Estimating time and distance
- Navigation legs, this is where it all starts to come together.
- Lead the group to a given destination, estimating the distance and time required to complete.
- When you're not leading, your challenge is to follow along on your map and pick the destination once we arrive.

3:30pm - 4:30pm - Arrive at our overnight campsite.

- Emergency/back country communications
- Camp craft (Pitching tents, camp location etc)

6:30pm - Dinner

Day 2

8:00am Breakfast

Pack up camp

9:00am

- Introduce compass & techniques
 - Resections/triangulations (using your compass to identify where you are on the map)
- Navigation in thick bush or white out conditions (Map: Field Bearings)
- Field: Map bearings

12:30pm

- Navigation legs, another chance to consolidate your nav skills

3:30-4pm – Back at vehicles, time to head into Arthurs Pass accommodation

Day 3

River Crossing (Mt White Bridge)

9:30 am - Meet your group and Instructor/s

Meet at Mt White Bridge, Arthurs Pass at 9am [See on GOOGLE MAPS](#)

9:45am - Arrive at River.

- Gear check
- Decision making & heuristics
- Introduction to different parts of the Rivers
- Identifying river features (braids, eddies, strainers etc...)
- Tips and tricks to check river flow and depth.
- Identifying a safe river crossing location.

11:00 – River crossing practice (time to get wet!)

- Footwork
- Group river crossings
 - Backing out if it's too strong
- Solo river crossings
 - Backing out/turning if it's too strong
- Pack float river crossing (when it's too deep to touch the bottom)

- What to do if you get taken off your feet (ferry gliding/self-rescue swimming)

3:00pm - Back at vehicles

- End of course paperwork
- Wrap-up & Goodbyes

3:30 – Driving Away

It's approximately 1.5 Hrs from Mt White Bridge to Christchurch Airport/15 mins to Arthurs Pass Village

**Please note that this is just a guide to how the course normally runs and your instructor may choose to run your course in a different order to fit in with local conditions and the abilities or the group.*