



**A13.WCK**

**West Coast Caves and Karst**

**South Island, New Zealand**

This is the third of a series of post-congress excursions in New Zealand that will be run consecutively. You can choose to do one, two or all three of the excursions. This excursion will follow on from the A12.NL (Nelson) excursion. You can either join the West Coast excursion as an extension of A12.NL or make your own way to Nelson to meet on the morning of Friday 11 April.

This excursion will visit the Paparoa National Park, New Zealand’s largest limestone reserve, with original vegetation cover over most of the limestone landscape. Options will include caving trips, surface karst walks and interpretation tours. There will be talks and presentations to introduce the West Coast caves and karst. Examples of the proto-karst landscape of the dry, eastern South Island will be visited on the Tuesday.



Photo: Neil Silverwood

**Because this excursion is outside Australia it cannot be paid for with other registration charges. ICS registrants who book this and or the other New Zealand excursions will be advised the method of payment after booking.**

**Summary:**

Starting place, date and time.	End place, date and approximate time.	Number of participants.	Sleeping bags required.	Camping gear (tents) required.	Included meals.	SRT required.	Cost
Nelson, New Zealand, 11 August, 10.00 a.m.	Christchurch, 15 August, approximately 4.00 p.m.	Min: 8 Max: 14	Only if you select the cavers hut for accommodation.	No.	All meals, from Friday evening until lunch Tuesday.	No.	\$260 NZD



### Details:

Name of excursion.	A13.WCK West Coast Caves and Karst South Island, New Zealand
Contact person.	Alice Shanks: <a href="mailto:alice@caverock.net.nz">alice@caverock.net.nz</a>
Overview of excursion.	<p>You can participate in this excursion as a continuation from the A12.NL (Nelson) excursion or travel to Nelson to meet on the morning of Friday 11 August. The tour will be based in Charleston until the morning of Monday 14 August, before relocating to the town of Kumara for the final night.</p> <p>On 12-14 August, the excursion will offer the options of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Caving trips. There will be trips to the classic caves of the Charleston and Punakaiki areas (four to six hours underground each day); or</li> <li>(2) Surface karst, interpretive walks and sight-seeing of the exciting West Coast landscape.</li> </ol> <p>There is also the option for a tour of the cave used by Nor West Adventures, which will suit most people.</p> <p>The final days trip from Kumara to Christchurch will include time to stop and investigate the Flock Hill syncline and its intriguing boulder-field.</p> <p>Trip leaders will be experienced cavers. Participants for caving trips will need to provide brief details of recent caving experience and general fitness.</p>
Starting place, date and time.	Nelson, Friday 11 August. 10.00 a.m. Pick-up available at Nelson airport if required.
Finishing place, date and time.	Christchurch, Tuesday 15 August, 4.00 p.m. Drop-off at airport if required.
Min and max no of participants.	Minimum: 8 People Maximum: 14 People
Cost of excursion and what is included.	\$260NZD per person for food and transport. Accommodation is not included.

Transport.	Mini-van and one private car.			
Accommodation type.	There are a number of accommodation options and the organisers will assist you to select accommodation that suits your preference and budget. Options include motels, bed and breakfasts, backpackers, campground, and caving club hut. The local caving club hut is about \$10NZD per person per night, the campground \$30NZD per night and the motel \$80NZD per night (shared room, so \$40NZD per person). Transport will pick people up from their accommodation each day. Accommodation during winter is readily available and does not need to be booked far in advance.			
Bedding requirements.	Bedding supplied for campground and motels. Sleeping bag required if staying at the caving hut. All accommodation will have cooking facilities, crockery and utensils.			
What meals are included?	Meals for this excursion are included from the Friday evening meal through to lunch Tuesday (simple vegetarian evening meals).			
Arrangements for meals not covered and anticipated costs.	We will visit the Westport supermarket on the Friday so you can buy snacks and extra dietary requirements.			
Is SRT required?	No.			
Clothing requirements.	You will need rain coats and warm, layered clothing for general travel. Caves will be cool and damp and thermal clothing, helmets, lights, overalls and solid footwear are required. Bring clothing to enable you to be comfortable walking for an hour in untracked bush in winter conditions. Please bring a refillable water bottle.			
Average weather details for August (Westport).	Min temp 1° C	Max temp 16° C	Rainfall 162 mm	Daylight hours 10 hrs
Travel considerations: remote area, phone coverage, medical access, money access, local quarantine issues.	Mobile phone coverage is available on the West Coast but not always in the areas where we will be caving. ATM and credit card facilities are readily available. Larger service towns with supermarkets, pharmacies and doctors are about 30 minutes away from Charleston, transport provided as required. New Zealand has strict quarantine requirements. Boots and equipment must be cleaned before arrival in New Zealand and between trips.			



Photo: Neil Silverwood