

Skiing & Snowboarding



Photo: Miles Holden

From Mt Hutt Ski Area to the untracked terrain of the Southern Alps, this district has it all.

Renowned for some of the best snow in Australasia and its long season from June to October, Mt Hutt Ski Area caters for beginners to advanced skiers and snowboarders offering a range of on and off piste runs. Excellent on-field facilities include substantial snowmaking, triple, quad and 6-seater chairs, magic carpet, an award winning ski and snowboard school, snowboard terrain park, licensed crèche and a great bar and restaurant.

Heliskiing opens up 1000s of square kilometres of brilliant powder terrain. Steep and challenging chutes to wide open bowls and long powder runs are ready waiting for skiers and snowboarders. Full and half day excursions are available from Mt Hutt Helicopters, the only NZ operator to have a heli-pad at a commercial ski field, and from Methven Heliski or Southern Alps Heliski which lift off from high country stations up the Rakaia and Rangitata Valleys.

Ashburton District is uniquely placed for keen skiers and snowboarders to enjoy other ski areas in neighbouring districts, all within relatively short drives.

Local operators including Black Diamond Safaris provide various packages to Canterbury ski fields ranging from day transport through to full instructional guiding and multi-day adventures.