



CONFERENCE BULLETIN • ISSUE 1 • SEPTEMBER 2026
30 April – 2 May 2027 | Oamaru, New Zealand
Inspired by the Past, Leading the Future

Kia ora and welcome to Oamaru!

We are looking forward to welcoming Altrusans to Oamaru for the Altrusa International District Fifteen Conference 2027. This first newsletter is all about helping you start planning your trip – with travel information, a taste of what Oamaru and North Otago have to offer, and a little look at what you can expect.

Draft Conference Programme for Oamaru 2027

Friday 30th April 2027

Time	Programme
12.30pm – 2pm	Past Governors Lunch
12.30pm	Registration & Credentials Desk open
1pm – 4pm	President Elect Training
1pm – 4pm	Drop-In Hands-on Project
4pm	First Timers Session
5.30pm	Activity to be Advised

Saturday 1st May 2027

Time	Programme
7.00 - 8.00am	Leadership Breakfast
8.30 - 8.55am	Registration Desk open
9.00 - 10.30am	Opening Ceremony, Banner Parade, Guest Speaker
10.30 - 11.00am	Morning Tea
11.00 - 12.00pm	Business Session
12.00pm	Elections
12.15 - 1.15pm	Lunch
1.15 - 3.00pm	First afternoon session/workshops
3.00 - 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30 - 4.30pm	Second afternoon session/workshops/Town Hall session
6.00 - 10.00pm	Mix and mingle and Governors Banquet - Installation of new Board and the announcement of Award winners.

Sunday 2nd May 2027

Time	Programme
8am - 8.35am	Memorial & Inspiration Service
9am - 9.45am	Breakfast
10am - 11am	Conference Session – Guest Speaker
11am - 12.00pm	Award Winners Presentation; Presentation of the New Biennium Theme; Call to Conference; Conference Round Up
12.00 noon	Conference Ends
12.30 - 2.30pm	New District Board Meets

Conference Venue



The Brydone Hotel will be the main venue for the Altrusa International District Fifteen Conference 2027. The hotel is located at 115 Thames Street, Oamaru. The conference sessions, meetings and other conference activities will be centred here.

Getting to Oamaru

The best option to get there is to Fly/Drive, with 3 airports to choose from. Christchurch, Timaru or Dunedin. Driving times are approximate and can vary with traffic and conditions.

Airport / City	Approx. travel time to Oamaru	Useful information
Dunedin Airport	1 hr 45 min	Regular flights; rental cars available at the airport.
Timaru Airport	1 hr 15 min	A convenient option from Wellington.
Christchurch Airport	3 hours	A wider range of domestic flights; rental cars available.

Flight Times for Conference Weekend

The following flight times are provided as supplied, to assist delegates with planning travel for the Conference weekend.

Hamilton to Dunedin:			Dunedin to Hamilton		
Date	Depart	Arrive	Date	Depart	Arrive
Friday April 30	7.00am	10.05am	Sunday May 2	2.20pm	6.55pm
Hamilton to Chch			Chch to Hamilton		
Friday April 30	7.40am	9.35am	Sunday May 2	5.50pm	7.40pm
Palm Nth to Dunedin			Dunedin to Palm Nth		
Friday April 30	6.45am	10.20am	Sunday May 2	2.20pm	6.00pm
				3.15pm	7.00pm
Palm Nth to Chch			Chch to Palm Nth		
Friday April 30	8.55am	10.20am	Sunday May 2	5.35pm	6.55pm
	6.45am	8.10am		4.40pm	6.00pm
Tauranga to Dunedin			Dunedin to Tauranga		
Friday April 30	6.35am	10.05am	Sunday May 2	3.15pm	7.15pm
				4.50pm	8.40pm
				4.25pm	8.20pm
Tauranga to Chch			Chch to Tauranga		
Friday April 30	6.00am	8.05am	Sunday May 2	4.15pm	7.15pm
	6.50am	9.55am		5.00pm	8.20pm
				6.45pm	8.40pm
Wellington to Dunedin			Dunedin to Wellington		
Friday April 30	8.45am	10.05am	Sunday May 2	2.20pm	5.00pm
				4.25pm	5.40pm
				4.50pm	7.55pm
Wellington to Chch			Chch to Wellington		
Friday April 30	7.00am	7.55am	Sunday May 2	3.55pm	5.00pm
	6.30am	7.35am		5.00pm	6.05pm
	8.15am	9.20am		6.50pm	7.55pm

Looking at the available travel options, flying into Dunedin appears to be the best option for most delegates.

From a cost perspective, it is generally best to return your rental car to the same location where you collected it, rather than paying additional one-way rental fees.

Consider teaming up with other delegates to fill a rental car and share the travelling costs.

Delegates have the option of flying into either Dunedin or Christchurch and hiring a rental car to travel on to Oamaru.

Another Option – Flying to Timaru

You can also fly into Timaru and hire a rental car. The driving time to Oamaru is shorter; however, the flight options on Sunday 2 May may not allow enough time to get home that day and could require you to stay an additional night in either Oamaru or Timaru.

If you are able to arrive in Oamaru on Thursday 29 April, or stay until Monday 3 May, there will be many more travel options available — as well as extra time to explore beautiful North Otago.

Travel links

- [Air New Zealand](#)
- [Dunedin Airport – car rental](#)
- [Timaru Airport – Avis car rental](#)
- [Christchurch Airport – domestic flight schedules](#)
- [Christchurch Airport – rental cars](#)

Travelling by bus

Approximate bus travel times to Oamaru:

Bus Timetable

From Christchurch

There is no direct bus service from Christchurch Airport to Oamaru. Passengers need to take a shuttle into Christchurch Central to catch a bus.

Direction	Departure	Arrival
Christchurch Central → Oamaru	7.45am	12.00 noon
Christchurch Central → Oamaru	2.25pm	6.30pm
Oamaru → Christchurch Central	9.15am	1.40pm
Oamaru → Christchurch Central	3.35pm	7.40pm

From Dunedin

Direction	Departure	Arrival
Dunedin Airport → Oamaru	11.45am	2.30pm
Oamaru → Dunedin Airport	12.15pm	3.04pm

Accommodation

Something for every budget. We have a range of accommodation options in Oamaru, from budget-friendly options through to more expensive choices.

Oamaru Accommodation for 2027 Altrusa Conference

Please quote: **Altrusa Conference 2027** when booking.

Brydone Hotel – Conference Venue

<https://www.brydonehotel.co.nz/>

Address: 115 Thames Street, Oamaru 9400

Contact: 03 433 0480 | brydone.hotel@olt.co.nz

Accommodation	Beds	Rate	Availability / per person
Superior Twin	2 beds	\$200 per room/night	2 rooms
Standard Queen	1 bed	\$195 per room/night	3 rooms
Premium Queen	1 bed	\$220 per room/night	3 rooms
Junior Suite	1 bed	\$235 per room/night	1 room
Classic Suite	1 bed	\$235 per room/night	1 room

More rooms are likely to become available & I will send out a post when they do.

Alpine Motel

<https://www.alpineoamaru.co.nz/index.html>

Address: 285 Thames St, Oamaru

Contact: 0800 27 27 10 | info@alpineoamaru.co.nz

Accommodation	Beds	Rate	Availability / per person
Studio unit	2 beds	\$150/unit/night	6 units \$75 pp/night
One bedroom unit	4 beds	\$270/unit/night	3 units \$65.50 pp/night
Two bedrooms unit	4 beds	\$280/unit/night	1 unit \$70 pp/night

Asure Ambassador Motor Lodge

<https://www.hotelsone.com/oamaru-hotels-nz/asure-ambassador-motor-lodge.html>

Address: 296 Thames H/way, Oamaru

Contact: 0800 666 716 | ambassador.oamaru@xtra.co.nz

Accommodation	Beds	Rate	Availability / per person
Studio Unit	2 beds	\$169/unit/night	5 units \$84.50 pp/night
One Bedroom Unit	2 beds	\$169/unit/night	3 units \$84.50 pp/night
One Bedroom Family	3 beds	\$214/unit/night	1 unit \$71.33 pp/night
Two-Bedroom Unit	4 beds	\$259/unit/night	1 unit \$64.75 pp/night
Two-Bedroom Unit 2	4 beds	\$259/unit/night	1 unit \$64.75 pp/night

Mariner Suites

<https://www.marinersuites.nz/>

Address: 47 Tyne St, Oamaru

Contact: 03 434 77 88 | stay@marinersuites.nz

Accommodation	Beds	Rate	Availability / per person
Executive Studio – downstairs	1 king bed	\$230/night	7 units couple
Executive Studio – downstairs	1 king + 1 single	\$230/unit/night	4 units \$115 pp/night
Premier Studio – upstairs	1 super king bed	\$270/night	11 units 2 people/couple

Midway Motel

<https://midwayoamaru.co.nz/midway/>

Address: 289 Thames St, Oamaru

Contact: 03 434 5388 | midwayoamaru@xtra.co.nz

Accommodation	Beds	Rate	Availability / per person
Studio	2 beds	\$150/unit/night	7 units \$75 pp/night
King studio	1 bed	\$170/unit/night	1 unit couple
One bedroom unit	4 beds	\$270/unit/night	2 units \$67.50 pp/night
Two bedrooms unit	4 beds	\$280/unit/night	1 unit \$70 pp/night

Autumn in Oamaru

April and May are beautiful autumn months in North Otago. Expect crisp mornings, pleasant autumn days and cooler evenings.

Month	Average daytime high	Typical overnight low
April	17°C	5–9°C
May	14°C	1–4°C

Our advice: pack layers, a warm jacket and something for cool evenings!

Discover Oamaru & North Otago

Oamaru and North Otago have many highlights for such a small area. We hope you will allow a little time before or after the conference to explore.

Whitestone Heritage Geopark

Follow the driving trail to discover the remarkable limestone landscapes and geological stories of North Otago.

[Whitestone Heritage Geopark](#)

Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail

A spectacular journey from the Southern Alps to the Pacific Ocean, passing through the Waitaki Valley and Oamaru. [Alps 2 Ocean Trail Map](#)

Victorian Precinct

Step back in time among Oamaru's beautifully preserved limestone buildings, galleries, cafés, shops and distinctive Victorian streetscapes.

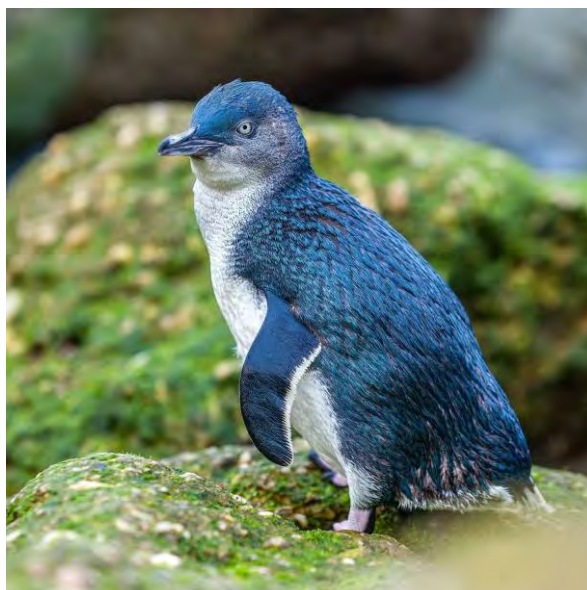


Steampunk Oamaru



Oamaru's famously quirky Steampunk scene combines Victorian heritage, imagination and industrial creativity. It is one of those experiences that is distinctly Oamaru!

Little Blue Penguins



Oamaru is home to a colony of little blue penguins. Visitors can watch these tiny penguins return from the sea at dusk. [Oamaru Blue Penguin Colony](#)

Riverstone Kitchen & Riverstone Castle

For a special outing, Riverstone offers a wonderful combination of food, gardens and a spectacular castle setting just north of Oamaru.

Riverstone Castle Tours: \$30.00 Times: 10am, 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3pm from Thursday to Monday.



Riverstone Kitchen



Riverstone Castle

Partners Day Trip

Saturday 1 May 2027

While Conference delegates are attending the Saturday Conference program, partners will have the opportunity to discover some of the hidden gems of North Otago.

North Otago has many wonderful places to explore, and our inspired local men are looking forward to taking you around the sights and showing off our beautiful small part of the country.

This will be a full-day tour, including lunch, with plenty of opportunities to enjoy the scenery, sights and hospitality of North Otago.

Come and discover what is great about North Otago!

Further details will be provided closer to the Conference.

More to come...

This is just the beginning! Our next newsletter will bring you more practical information and further conference details.

We look forward to welcoming you to Oamaru in 2027!

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT FIFTEEN • OAMARU 2027

"Inspired by the Past, Leading the Future"

For further information, please contact:

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