Opening hours of SH1 North and South of Kaikoura

**SH1 between Picton and Christchurch opens on 15 December 2017, (time TBC).**

**Night closures:** Between Clarence and Mangamau in the north, and between Goose Bay and Peketa in the south. Closure points will be monitored 24/7.

**Planning to travel on SH1?** Consider road closure hours before undertaking your journey. Leave enough time to be clear of closure areas so you can continue onto your destination.

Plan your journey – Picton to Christchurch

Depending on where you’re going and at what time, choose what route best suits your needs: SH1 via Kaikoura or the alternate route via Lewis Pass.

**CURRENT ESTIMATED TRAVEL TIMES BETWEEN PICTON AND CHRISTCHURCH:**

**Alternate route:** A minimum of 6½ hours

**SH1 from 15 December 2017:** A minimum of 5½ hours

Allow plenty of extra time in case of unexpected delays. Be prepared with food, water, and a fully charged cell phone.

For real-time travel information visit [www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/p2c) or freephone 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49).

What to expect on SH1

The road will still be under construction, so expect:

- Some unsealed surfaces
- Lane closures with Stop/Go controls
- Speed restrictions

**Drive to the conditions:** the weather, the road you’re on, the vehicle you’re in, the traffic around you, and your level of experience.

Be road courteous

- No stopping on SH1 within the closure areas outside of designated stop bays.
- **Be patient and cautious.** Road conditions will be unfamiliar to many drivers, so a little bit of patience will go a long way.
- Follow all traffic signs and any instruction given by road crew.
- **Obey speed limits** to keep all road users safe.
- Stay focused around rail lines. **Expect trains at any time.**
- **Keep fresh by taking breaks** and supporting communities on the route.

The opening hours are subject to adverse weather and seismic activity. If there is a lot of rain or another significant event, we may have to close the road for short periods of time. It’s important to remember, the safety of those using the highway and working on the road will always be our top priority.