

Fact sheet for Queenstown suburbs Kelvin Heights

INTRODUCING THE NEW BUS SERVICE

The Otago Regional Council, with support from the Queenstown Lakes District Council and New Zealand Transport Authority, is launching a brand new bus service for Queenstown.

It will soon be the easiest, most convenient and most affordable way to get around Queenstown with flat-rate fares for just \$2.

The new bus service, provided by Ritchies, will be running from November 20, 2017. We envision an efficient, modern and reliable service that becomes part of everyday life for Queenstown locals. Not only will it be a more affordable alternative to driving, it will also ease traffic congestion and reduce the impact that private transport has on our environment.

The new bus route travelling via Frankton Flats – Five Mile – Frankton – Airport – Kelvin Heights will enable the Five Mile Shopping Centre and Frankton Flats retail area to be serviced for the first time. This route replaces the current #6 Kelvin Heights/Hilton bus. Unlike the current bus, it won't include a trip down to the Kawarau Falls Hilton Hotel (Stop ID#79); this is keeping with the overall network principles of having services that are more direct to get you where you're going, faster.

Along with the existing bus stops, new bus stops will be located at:

- > **Hawthorne Drive, near Pak 'n' Save**
- > **Grant Road, outside the entrance/exit to the Five Mile Shopping Centre**
- > **Robertson Street**

\$2 BUS: GET ON BOARD

A 21ST CENTURY COMMUTE: Riders can plan their journey with the NZTA's real-time Choice app and enjoy free wifi on the bus. That means more time to catch up on emails, read the news or message your friends.





JUST GOCARD: Use the smartcard ticket system (GoCard) to pay for your ride and your trip will be just \$2. GoCards can be purchased on the bus, at Queenstown Airport or at the O'Connell's Mall kiosk for \$5.

The minimum top up for GoCards is \$10. GoCards can be topped up anywhere that they're sold. An online top-up system will be introduced in April 2018.

The service can still be used without a GoCard by paying cash on board, with a cash fare of \$5 per trip for an adult and \$3 for a child – or for trips that begin or end at the airport, \$10 for an adult and \$5 for a child.

SAVE MONEY: Every bus fare is subsidised and riders avoid increasing petrol and parking costs (rates for all QLDC-owned car parks will double from December 5, 2017).

Suitable times and routes: Buses run regularly from 6am until late, seven days a week, and there are four return routes:

-  **Fernhill to Remarkables Park runs every 15 minutes right through until midnight**
-  **Arrowtown to Arthurs Point (via Frankton) runs half-hourly on peak and hourly off-peak, through until 10pm**
-  **Kelvin Heights to Frankton Flats runs hourly through until 10pm**
-  **Lake Hayes Estate to Jacks Point runs half-hourly on peak and hourly off-peak, through until 10pm**

The new service will mean changes from the former Connectabus routes.

The provision of routes into the future will be dependent on patronage and any future changes will be driven by demand.

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CARE FOR QUEENSTOWN: The new bus service will ease the strain on Queenstown's roads, reduce pollution and help keep our region pristine.

USE THE BUS FOR WORK OR PLAY: Every bus features free wifi and bike racks, as well as clean and comfortable seats, so riders can sit back and enjoy the scenery, whether on the way to work or weekend activities.

BUS TO FLY IS BEST: the buses will run to and from Queenstown Airport regularly throughout the day from 6am until midnight – locals and visitors can plan their route via the real-time Choice app to ensure they reach their flight on time, without having to consider traffic and parking.

THE WAY OF THE FUTURE: Queenstown's geography means there's simply no room for more roads – the new bus service is the first step in a long-term public transport plan.

SEE FOR YOURSELF

Between November 20-26, you'll be able to receive a free GoCard by simply riding the bus. From November 27, you can purchase a GoCard for \$5 from Queenstown Airport (at the Milford Sound Scenic Flights desk next to the baggage claim area), O'Connell's Mall kiosk (outside Goldfields Jewellers), or on every bus that's part of our \$2 bus network.



DITCH THE DRIVE

You can save more than \$6000 a year by catching Queenstown's new buses. For example, if you live in Frankton and drive to work in the CBD, you'll be spending around \$11 a day on petrol, plus parking costs of up to \$18 a day. That's \$145 for a five-day working week, or \$7540 a year.

**OPT FOR THE \$2 BUS AND IT'LL COST JUST \$4 A DAY
= AN ANNUAL SAVING OF \$6500.**

NEED MORE INFORMATION:

Phone: 0800 ORBUSQT (0800 6728778)

Email: transportoperations@orc.govt.nz

Look out for our new facebook page for the service in late October



In partnership with:

