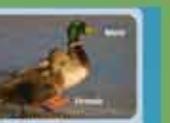


# Welcome to the Otematata Wetlands Walk

 <p><b>1 Scaup</b> The most common of the small New Zealand ducks. They dive to a depth of 3-3 metres in search of fresh water snails and aquatic plants. Males - a soft whistle. Female - a muted quack.</p>	 <p><b>2 Coot</b> The coot's web is a large flat of water weeds, piled together among rushes or reeds in the water. Patters across the water to take off. Voice: Harsh notes uttered singly or in groups together.</p>	 <p><b>3 Crested Grebe</b> A pair-coot associated that sits on the water when swimming. Its head is at right angles to long thin neck. Before starting they perform an elegant courtship dance. Voice: Harsh harking or harking.</p>	 <p><b>4 Pukeko</b> Also known as a swamp hen, this can fly, preferring to run quickly when seeking safety. Their take-off is laboured and fly with feet dragging. Voice: An ear-piercing screech.</p>	 <p><b>5 Paradise Duck</b> A large duck often seen in pairs except during the moulting season (April - June). Males pass on grass and weeds. Voice: Pensive's notes. Paring: monotonous 'kuk'.</p>	 <p><b>6 Black Swan</b> Introduced as a game bird from Australia in the 1820s. Can live for at least 20 years. Voice: High pitched 'baying' to flight of among 'boos' on water. Courtship: a display of neck air-puffing.</p>	 <p><b>7 Mallard</b> Introduced from British Isles in 1867, they are highly feralised during May, moulting by July (over 1000). Female - loud, deep quack. Male - softer high-pitched quack.</p>
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Wildlife sights and sounds you may see and hear along the walk

 <p><b>8 White-faced Heron</b> The most abundant heron in NZ, also known as the blue heron. Found everywhere near water, usually foraging for food alone. Voice: In flight, a guttural 'gr-wr' repeated at short intervals.</p>	 <p><b>Tree Frog</b> First introduced to the South Island West Coast in 1875. Also known as the Whistling Frog, although its call does not sound like a whistle. Voice: A high-pitched 'trill' and 'tick-tick-tick'.</p>	 <p><b>Southern Bell Frog</b> First introduced to the Canterbury area in 1862. It is the largest frog found in NZ. It catches insects near water by sticking out its long, sticky tongue. Its call can best be described as 'tik-tik-tik-tik-tik'.</p>
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**LAKE AVIEMORE**  
Artificially created as part of the Waitaki hydroelectric scheme. It is the second largest lake of its type in New Zealand. Offers great boating and fishing opportunities.

 <p><b>1 Alder</b></p>	 <p><b>2 Raupo</b></p>	 <p><b>3 Flax</b></p>	 <p><b>4 Lombardi Poplar</b></p>	 <p><b>5 Swamp Cypress</b></p>	 <p><b>6 Apple Tree</b></p>	 <p><b>7 Crack Willow</b></p>	 <p><b>8 Strawberry Tree</b></p>
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Trees you may see

 <p>An easy walk for all ages</p>	 <p>30 minutes one way walk</p>	 <p>Cars must be taken crossing the busy highway.</p>	 <p>Seats / viewpoints</p>	 <p>Toilets</p>	 <p>Refreshments</p>	 <p>Parking</p>
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