SUGARLOAF HILLS ROUTE DIRECTIONS

The trail starts at the Withers Carpark at the Halswell Quarry Park.

Start at the old stone house and take the track that heads up west behind it. This trail climbs up and around the west of the old quarry. It circles around it to the south, then at the eastern end of the quarry the track heads off to the right. The track then opens into a large park area. Climb the stile, and head east across the park to the reserve strip with a zig-zag path that exits onto Kennedys Bush Rd. Continue along Kennedys Bush Rd to the very end, where there is a gate and stile. Climb the stile and continue up the Kennedys Bush Track. The track climbs up to the Summit Road.

Cross the Summit Rd and follow the track that heads east and along near the Summit Rd, skirting to out near the bluffs, and climbing up the hill alongside the road through the Hoon Hay Scenic Reserve. The Crater Rim Walkway then descends to rejoin the Summit Rd near the intersection with Worsleys Rd.

Cross the Summit Rd here and follow the track along the western side of the road. When you get to a small shingle carpark, cross the Summit Rd again, and follow the Crater Rim Walkway east of the road. Keep following the Crater Rim Walkway all the way to Pukeatua / Dyers Pass and the Sign of The Kiwi.

Cross Dyers Pass Road very carefully. It is difficult to see any traffic coming from either side of the saddle.

Take Mitchells Track to the south of Sugarloaf Peak. There are a couple of lookout deviations that are worth checking out. Follow this route east until you reach the Summit Rd again. Here you rejoin the Crater Rim Walkway.

The route then turns towards the north-east generally, climbing the hills just above the Summit Rd. It then climbs up to the top of Mt Vernon, before zig-zagging down to meet the Summit Rd again at another carpark.

The Crater Rim Walkway continues on along the Summit Rd before climbing and skirting around Te Upoko-o-Kurī / Witch Hill. The track meets the Summit Rd at another car park, before continuing on, following along the Summit Rd on one side then the other. The track goes around the Tors Scenic Reserve to the north, between the tors and the road. Keep following the Crater Rim Walkway, and you will get to the Bridle Path saddle. The stone shelter here is the Pioneer Womens' Memorial.

Continue on the Crater Rim Walkway to the east. Where it forks, the Christchurch 360 Trail follows the Gondola Track, not the Mt Cavendish Bluffs track. The latter carries on under the Cavendish Bluffs and emerges at the carpark at the end of this

segment, so it might be considered as an alternative route. The Christchurch 360 Trail follows the Gondola Track so that walkers can make use of the Gondola as a means of accessing the trail.

Continue up the Gondola Track, up to the Gondola upper station. Here you can get a ride down the hill to get back into the city, if you wish.

Otherwise, carry on down the hill to the east to the car park, where you will find the sign marking the end of leg of the Christchurch 360 Trail and the start of the Godley Cliffs leg.