

Reference Project

Bridge Construction

This 48m long suspension bridge across the Buckler burn at Glenorchy

Location Buckler burn, Glenorchy
Date June 2025
Client Glenorchy Trails Trust
Consultant Abseil Access design and build

The Buckler burn cuts through a narrow gorge just south of Glenorchy, nr Queenstown. The adjacent road bridge is too narrow for the pedestrians so they directly engaged Abseil Access to build an economic suspended structure for the local trail. Several options were considered including trying to utilize the old road bridge abutments.

The work included:

- Installation of 2 load tested rock anchors at 11m deep
- 5m deep piles under the tower foundations
- Galvanised steel rigid frames for increased deck stability
- FRP decking for alpine environment
- 10 person load capacity
- 1.5m wide deck suitable for cyclists in 2 directions

The 3 man team stayed nearby in the remote village of Glenorchy and worked through the winter to complete this build in a 6 week time frame.

Abseil Access Ltd were a pleasure to work with on the Buckler Burn suspension bridge project. Their team worked closely with the Glenorchy Trails Trust to deliver a stunning 48m bridge that met both our budget and design needs—friendly, professional, and a great result in a truly scenic location.

Steve Hewland, Chairman, Glenorchy Trails Trust

This bridge was funded by the Hugo Charitable Trust

