

Harvest Team

At Hortinvest, we specialise in cherry and apricot production in the Central Otago region of the South Island. Visit www.hortinvest.nz

We are seeking a crew of 30 motivated workers to join us for the cherry harvest season in stunning Central Otago.

Employment Options

Contracts are casual but there are two intended periods to consider.

- Full Season from *17 Dec to 9 Feb.
- Peak Season from *3 Jan to 9 Feb.

Jobs

The highest demand is for pickers, but we also have positions for bucket lifters, forklift drivers, and cleaners.

Pay

Pickers are paid per bucket. The “bucket rate” varies depending on the difficulty of picking. Our bucket rate is usually between \$5.00 - \$7.00 It takes between 10 and 20 minutes to fill one bucket. Motivated pickers can make well in excess of minimum wage.

Hours

Harvest is a fast-paced environment, work usually starts at 6am and finishes in the early afternoon so you have plenty of time in the afternoon and evenings to enjoy what Central Otago has to offer. Work is weather dependent, and we do work weekends, but not public holidays.

Picking Cherries

Tarras Cherry Corp has seven different varieties of cherries, they reach their peak ripeness at different times. The volume of fruit we have to pick starts off gradually with the early varieties and then peaks towards the end of the season in late January/early February.

Cherries are a delicate crop; they are always harvested with the green stem intact. Orchards have different approaches to picking, some will selectively pick only the good fruit, some will require you to singulate bunches, others will “strip pick” every piece of fruit on the trees. All these factors along with seasonal impacts on the crop will affect the bucket rate that you are offered.

Experience is not required to be a cherry picker, we will train you in the best way to pick cherries to prevent damage to the fruit, and in efficient techniques so that you have a successful season with us.



Hortinvest

Hortinvest manage four large scale orchard developments in Central Otago, opportunities for seasonal employment with us continue to grow.

- 40ha Tarras Cherry Corp
- 84ha Mt Pisa Orchard
- 36ha Lindis Peaks Orchard
- 35ha Ardgour Valley Orchard (under development)



Tarras Cherry Corp

Proudly sharing the joy of the very best cherries with the world.

Located at 159 Thomson Gorge Road near the small township of Tarras, this 40ha orchard was planted in 2018 and is now approaching its first commercial harvest. The trees are still young, so picking will be almost entirely pedestrian with little or no requirement for ladder work.

35 mins drive from Wanaka
25 mins drive from Cromwell



Summer in Central Otago

Central Otago is a mecca for outdoor activities, swim in the lakes, hit the bike trails, visit Queenstown, sample the local pinot noir, explore gold mining relics, bask in the scenic glory of #thatwanakatree



Accommodation

The Queenstown Lakes District and Central Otago are popular holiday destinations so accommodation can be scarce over the summer holiday season. When you apply let us know if you need assistance finding a short term room to rent, a spot to camp, or a campervan to rent, we're happy to help!



Applications:

Online applications open soon! Check our website www.hortinvest.nz

We will begin offering harvest positions from November 2020, please check your emails for updates.

Employment inquiries to hr@hortinvest.nz