

HUNTING > FISHING > CAMPING > TRAMPING

Hunting & Fishing®

NEW ZEALAND

SUMMER 2014/15

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OUT THERE DOING IT

INSIDE

> NEW EQUIPMENT
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WIN

35 TO BE
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Coleman

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Details on page 5

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DETAILS INSIDE

LOWA Z-8S GTX BOOTS

Finding the perfect boot to do everything that our country has to offer in the hunting and tramping field is near on impossible, but after 3 months of solid use I think it's fair to say the new Lowa Z-8 can do 90% of it!

Many boots have so much flex that they're only suited to going on light trail walks while others are so stiff that they're only any good to you in the roughest of mountain terrains, and may take many months of semi-comfortable walking-in to mould to your feet completely. For the past three months I've been wearing a boot that sits fair in the middle of those two extremes, it's the Lowa Z-8 and I like it. It also turns out that I am not alone as I'm informed the Z-8 is also popular with members of the military.

From a hunting and tramping perspective the Z-8 is light enough in construction that it doesn't need days of walking-in before heading into the hills. It flexes well enough that it is very comfortable from the moment you lace it up. No blisters because of excessive movement causing rubbing or sore feet because the boot is too stiff. Lowa class the Z-8 as a hybrid as they have used a lightweight synthetic in the ankle construction, with high grain leather over the rest of the boot to enhance foot protection and longevity. As the GTX in the names alludes, the Z-8 is Gore-Tex lined to ensure it is waterproof and breathable. Check out the rand in the photo on the advertisement opposite, it provides awesome protection and enhanced stability. The Z-8 has an 8" ankle shank which means you can cross shallow creeks and keep your feet dry, especially when worn with gaiters.

The Z-8 has a full length nylon stabiliser through its sole plus an additional thicker polyurethane frame. These features stop the boot from flexing too much, and this excellent support really comes into its own when you deal out some excessive pressure like when lifting heavy loads such as large packs or when carrying animals out of the hills. All these benefits add up to a very comfortable boot and are great attributes especially as we age

and some of our joints don't take the rough and tumble as well as they used to.

As a bush stalking boot the Z-8 is supreme with great comfort and the all-important 'feel' through the sole that hunters will love. You can sneak along so much more quietly when you can feel a twig beneath your foot before you put enough weight down to snap it and give the game away. I have been lucky enough to have walked approximately 100km in these boots over the time I have had them and to date they have been faultless. My trial period took in some very steep Hawkes Bay back country work, difficult forestry cutover work which is very hard on any boot, and a fair bit of close quarter bush stalking. For hunters wanting a stalking boot to chase sika and red deer the Lowa Z-8 boot should be really high up on your list. Alternatively if you are a keen trampler and plan on tackling some of the countries more difficult walking trails the Z-8 will be one of the best boots you will ever buy. It will have too much flex for those folks who are traversing New Zealand's most rugged mountains hunting for tahr, turn the page to 113 and check out the Lowa Tibet for a specialist boot designed for Alpine situations.

I FOUND THE Z-8 CAME INTO ITS OWN WHEN CARRYING EXCESSIVE LOADS - LIKE PACKING OUT VENISON! - MIKE DAVIS

AT JUST 1400G, WITH AN 8" ANKLE SHAFT, LINED WITH WATERPROOF AND BREATHABLE GORE-TEX, AND WITH ITS MID FLEX SOLE, THE Z-8 IS PERFECT FOR MOST HUNTING SCENARIOS, AND WAS VERY FORGIVING WHEN TRAMPING AND CARRYING HEAVY LOADS.



OUT THERE DOING IT



Lowa Z-8S GTX

A hybrid stalking boot – lightweight & flexible for quiet stalking, but tough enough to carry a heavy pack through rugged New Zealand bush. High 8 inch GORE-TEX ankle shaft to keep the elements out, Lowa's patented PU MONOWRAP for enhanced stability and a grippy sole for superior traction. Comfort right out of the box! RRP \$549.99

SET YOUR SIGHTS HIGHER

'The most comfortable boot I have worn – no breaking in needed' (Military respondent)



Waterproof / Breathable
Gore-Tex lining

High 8 inch
ankle shaft

Lightweight,
only 1400g



Lowa recommend regular care and maintenance to improve the life and performance of your footwear.



OVER 90 YEARS

Since 1923

LOWA

simply more...

To learn more and experience the comfort for yourself, ask your local Hunting & Fishing New Zealand store to try a pair of LOWA'S today.

lowa.co.nz