I’m starting to get used to the weather pattern here in Dunedin: back and forth between rain, gloom, and wind, and blue bird days, and everywhere in between. I was raised on frequent comments about the changeability of Montana weather, but in comparison, Dunedin weather is downright schizophrenic. One day I’m lifted up by a perfect sunny day and the next hunkered down in winter mode. Okay, so maybe I’m not used to the weather pattern here, yet.

For our family outing this week, we drove half an hour out of town with the intent to hike Hayward Point, but ended up turned back because the track was closed for lambing. The presence of baby sheep in the fields here reminds me that it’s spring, though my internal seasonal clock is still backwards: I could swear that we’re experiencing fall weather right now.

Less than a mile along the road back from the Hayward Point trailhead, we turned off on a steep road down to Murdering Beach. Apparently a murder did occur here at some point, giving the beach its awful name. Or perhaps it was named by the locals to keep the tourists away, because this is a wonderful spot, with calm surf, tidal pools, and a perfect vantage point for the sunset.
Also this week, I brought the camera along on what has become my standby bike ride: up Leithe Valley Road, where it turns to dirt down to Waitati, and then on pavement up the backside of Mt. Cargill, and down into town. It’s a great mixed dirt-road/pavement 35km ride with great views and lots of climbing. The only way it could be better is if I had a cross bike (which they don't sell here) instead of my mountain bike.
Otago Peninsula from Mt. Cargill Road.