

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

TARANAKI

like no other

A WALKER'S GUIDE

5th Edition



A Venture Taranaki publication

WELCOME

Taranaki boasts magnificent gardens, the iconic Mt Taranaki, a spectacular national park, three marine reserves, iron sand beaches fringed with great surf, wonderful lakes, a vibrant art and cultural scene, gourmet cafés and restaurants, museums and galleries, and a range of activities for those with a sense of fun and adventure.

A network of walking tracks and pathways provides visitors with a link between these many attractions, and a unique perspective of the dramatic Taranaki landscape.

These trails offer you the chance to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life and help you discover some of the region's many reserves, parks, areas of historical interest and natural beauty. In this booklet we highlight some of the best scenic tracks and pathways the region has to offer, from exploring the alpine splendour of the Wilkies Pools Track to meandering along one of our coastal paths. Discovering Taranaki by foot will give you an experience like no other.



GETTING TO TARANAKI

By air, land or sea, Taranaki is an accessible region located halfway between Auckland and Wellington on the west coast of New Zealand's North Island.

By Air

Air New Zealand flies direct to New Plymouth from Auckland or Wellington daily. The non-stop 45 minute flight will reaffirm your decision to visit Taranaki. Centred around a picture-perfect mountain, the lush regional countryside fertilised by countless eruptions over the centuries is simply stunning on a perfect day, framed on three sides by the endless Tasman Sea lapping the coastline with world-renowned surf breaks. If you are in the South Island, Air New Zealand flies direct from Christchurch to New Plymouth Monday to Friday. The flight takes around 90 minutes.

By Road

There are two main arterial routes into Taranaki. From the north State Highway 3 (SH3) brings you along the dramatic coast of North Taranaki from Te Kuiti, whilst from the south State Highway 3 brings you north through Wanganui and into Taranaki via Waitotara.

For those who are coming from the east and enjoy adventure and history, the Forgotten World Highway (SH43), New Zealand's oldest heritage trail, is a must. Starting in Taumarunui the 155km highway winds its way through rugged hill country and historic Whangamomona to Stratford and takes around three and a half hours to drive.

Regular bus services to Taranaki operate from Auckland and Wellington and stop at points in between.



CONTENTS

Route no.	Name of Walk	Distance (km)	Grade Of Walk	Approx. Time
Egmont National Park				
1	Pouakai Circuit	23.4	Moderate/Strenuous	2 - 3 day circuit
2	York Loop Track	7.0	Moderate	3 hours
3	Potaema Track	0.6	Easy (Barrier-free)	15 - 20 mins
4	Mt Taranaki Summit Track	14.0 (return)	Strenuous	8 - 12 hours
5	Wilkie Pools Loop Track	2.3	Easy/Moderate	1 - 1.5 hours
6	Kapuni Loop Track	2.0	Moderate	1 - 1.5 hours

This is only a selection of walks on offer in Egmont National Park. For a full list visit www.doc.govt.nz

New Plymouth District

7	Whitecliffs Walkway	6.5 - 14.0	Moderate	4 - 7 hours
8	Waitara Heritage Trail	6.0	Easy/Moderate	1.5 hours
9	Mangati/Hickford Park Walkways	6.0	Moderate/Strenuous	2 - 2.5 hours
10	The Coastal Walkway - Part 1	2.5	Easy/Moderate	55 mins
11	The Coastal Walkway - Part 2	5.6	Easy/Moderate	1 hour 20 mins
12	The Coastal Walkway - Part 3	4.7	Easy/Moderate	1 hour 5 mins
13	Te Henui Walkway	5.9	Easy/Moderate	up to 2 hours
14	Tupare Walkway	1.0	Moderate	up to 2 hours
15	Huatoki Walkway	5.0	Moderate/Strenuous	1.5 hours
16	Ratapihipihi Scenic Reserve Track	1.9	Easy	up to 1 hour
17	Meeting of the Waters/ Araheke Bush Walk	3.0 (return)	Easy	2 hours
18	Lake Mangamahoe	3.0 - 6.0	Strenuous	1.5 - 2 hours

Stratford District

19	Mt Damper Falls Walk	2.0 (return)	Easy	40 mins - 1 hour
20	Stratford Heritage Walkway	1.0	Easy	30 - 40 mins
21	Carrington Walkway	3.0 - 9.0	Easy/Moderate	1 - 4.5 hours
22	Cardiff Centennial Walkway	3.0	Moderate/Strenuous	1.5 hours
23	Hollard Gardens Walkway	2.0	Easy	up to 2 hours

South Taranaki District

24	Opunake Walkway	7.0	Easy/Moderate	3 - 4 hours
25	Ohawe Beach to Waihi Beach Coastal Walk	5.0 (one way)	Moderate	3 hours
26	Lake Rotokare Walkway	4.2	Easy/Moderate	1.5 - 2 hours
27	Lake Rotorangi Walkway	1.5	Easy	40 mins
28	Patea River Historic Walkway	1.5	Easy/Moderate	1 - 1.5 hours

ABOUT VENTURE TARANAKI

The Taranaki Walkers Guide booklet is part of a collection of publications produced by Venture Taranaki Trust the Regional Development Agency. These booklets and brochures showcase aspects of our region to the many and varied visitors and our communities.

Venture Taranaki is a dynamic organisation working across tourism and conventions, regional marketing and major events, and business and economic development. As such the Trust is the first point of contact for anyone looking to enhance their knowledge of the Taranaki region.

The region's official website – www.taranaki.info – presents a wealth of information for anyone looking to visit, move to or learn more about Taranaki, or grow a business within the region. The site offers everything from accommodation options to coming events, jobs opportunities in the region to a lifestyle toolkit, and regional intelligence to business assistance programmes.

Venture Taranaki works one-on-one with individuals, businesses, small groups, clusters, media and industry to grow the economic wellbeing of Taranaki. Contact us now to find out how we can work with you.

For more information: www.taranaki.info



STAYING IN TARANAKI

There's somewhere for everyone to lay their head in Taranaki.

From international hotel chains and good value motels, to boutique hotels, lodges, bed and breakfast and quality hostels. Whether you're after luxury, alpine, or character-filled accommodation, Taranaki has it all.

For up to date information on accommodation and to book visit www.taranaki.info/visit/accommodation.php or visit one of the region's i-SITEs.



SITE

i-SITE Visitor Centres



***New Plymouth
i-SITE Visitor Centre***

Puke Ariki.
1 Ariki St, New Plymouth
Phone: 06 759 0897
0800 639 759
Email: info@npdc.govt.nz
www.newplymouthnz.com



***Stratford
i-SITE Visitor Centre***

Prospero Place
Miranda Street, Stratford
Phone: 06 765 6708
0800 765 670
Email: info@stratford.govt.nz
www.stratford.govt.nz



***South Taranaki
i-SITE Visitor Centre***

55 High Street, Hawera
Phone: 06 278 8599
Email: visitorinfo@stdc.govt.nz
www.southtaranaki.com/visit

WALKWAY CLASSIFICATION

Paths

Paths are well-formed and provide for easy walking suitable for all ages and most fitness levels. Access is provided on a durable surface such as concrete, chip seal or compacted gravel. Many paths cater for people with mobility difficulties or limitations, and children in pushchairs or prams.

Short Walk

Short walks are well-formed and provide for up to one hour's easy walking suitable for most ages and fitness levels.

Walking Track

Walking tracks cater for those who want a walk that takes from a few minutes to one full day return. These tracks are usually reasonably easy day trips with a low level of risk, and are of a standard to enable use by relatively inexperienced walkers with a low level of backcountry skill. Some may be suitable for cyclists or mountain bikers as well as pedestrians.

Easy Tramping Track

These tracks cater for less experienced trampers expecting a low-risk experience in the backcountry. They will generally be multi-day tramping tracks and some may be suitable for mountain bikers as well as pedestrians.

Tramping Track

These tracks cater for more experienced backcountry adventurers including trampers, hunters, anglers and

mountaineers. A few may be suitable for mountain bikers. The tracks generally follow the lie of the land and are commonly not formed.

Barrier-Free

Barrier-free standard is where there is a demonstrated demand or significant potential use by physically disabled people. Where a track has been developed to a barrier-free standard, the facilities associated with the track include bridges, shelters, toilets and display signs that also cater for people with disabilities.

Barrier-free design strives to make the built environment accessible to and usable by all persons. It promotes integration and independence through design that is safe and functional for everyone.

Courtesy on our shared pathways

Courtesy is paramount on our pathways - they are there for us all to share. Keep left to allow others to manoeuvre past you. Stay on the path - we share the environment with native plants and animals. Riders beware there are slow moving humans ahead so keep your speed down, keep left and yield to pedestrians. Ring your bell or say hello if you are coming up on someone.

TIPS FOR WALKERS

Walking is one of the most accessible pastimes: you can safely walk in towns or in the countryside without any specialist clothing, equipment or skills. However, if you plan to go deeper into the countryside you will be more comfortable and safe if you take a little time to prepare and follow a few simple safety instructions. If you intend to go into more remote and rugged areas, good planning and preparation are essential.

THE OUTDOOR SAFETY CODE

- **Plan your trip.** Seek local knowledge, plan your route and allow a reasonable amount of time.
- **Tell someone.** Tell someone your plans and leave a date for when to raise the alarm if you haven't returned (visit www.adventuresmart.org.nz to log your intentions).
- **Be aware of the weather.** New Zealand's weather can be highly unpredictable. Check the forecast and expect weather changes. (visit www.metservice.com or dial metphone 0900 999 24 *charges may apply*)
- **Know your limits.** Challenge yourself within your physical limits and experience.
- **Take sufficient supplies.** Make sure you have enough food, equipment, clothing and emergency rations for the worst-case scenario. Take appropriate means of communication.

ENVIRONMENT CARE

- Respect the plants, wildlife and the natural environment.
- Have consideration for others.
- Remove all rubbish you take with you or use the rubbish bins provided.
- Never light fires.
- Take only photographs and memories.
- Stop the spread of didymo and other freshwater pests. Remember to check, clean and dry all items before entering and when moving between waterways.



PERSONAL SAFETY

Be prepared!

- It is essential that you check tide tables (www.metservice.com) before you leave for some coastal walks and where river mouths are crossed.
- Avoid coastal or river walks where inclement weather is forecast.
- Don't walk alone, particularly in bush or secluded areas.
- Check with DOC visitor centre staff for updated track conditions.
- Take the right gear: waterproof raincoat and leggings; sturdy footwear; warm clothing, gloves and hat; sunhat, sunglasses and sunscreen; first aid kit; food and 2-3 litres of water; cellphone/mountain radio/personal locator beacon; walking poles (optional); putties/gaiters (optional); ice axe, crampons (and mountaineering experience) in snow and ice conditions.
- At least one member of the party should carry a full first aid kit in a water proof container (available from many outdoor shops or pharmacies).
- In an emergency dial 111.
- Your safety is your responsibility.

Warning: The maps in this booklet are a guide only and are not suitable for navigation.

For greater detail refer to topographical maps available from the Department of Conservation.



Pouakai Circuit

Type of Walkway: Tramping Track

Distance: 23.4km

Grade of walk: Moderate/Strenuous

Time: 2 - 3 day circuit

1

The Pouakai Circuit displays centuries of volcanic activity with the active erosion scar of the Boomerang slip, the towering columns of the Dieffenbach cliffs and the red water of the Kokowai Stream caused by manganese oxide oozing from the earth.

The circuit takes you through the fragile Ahukawakawa Swamp, golden tussocks, summer flowers with a side trip to the Stony River's Bells Falls. Gnarled trees bent to the will of the weather line the track.

Route Description

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre to Holly Hut (Time: 3 - 4 hours)

From the Camphouse, the well-formed track steadily climbs through montane forest and sub-alpine scrub. You'll have excellent views of the Waiwhakaiho and Kokowai river gorges, Ahukawakawa wetland and the upper slopes of Mt Taranaki as the track gradually descends to cross the unbridged Minarapa stream, and on the Holly Hut.

Holly Hut to Pouakai Hut (Time: 2 - 3 hours)

The Ahukawakawa track crosses an extensive wetland. Rest at the viewing platform to appreciate the full benefits of this major wetland. It crosses the Stony River and ascends the ridge through sub-alpine mountain cedar before turning right along the top of the Pouakai range. Turn left at the junction of the Mangorei track for a short descent to Pouakai Hut. Breathtaking views of

the North Taranaki coastline greet you atop the range.

Pouakai Hut to Egmont National Park Visitor Centre (Time: 6 hours)

From Pouakai Hut, the Pouakai track traverses open tussock lands and sub-alpine forest to the top of Henry Peak. Take advantage of the viewing platform to gaze down over the Taranaki ring plain, Ahukawakawa swamp and across to the northern slopes of the mountain.

The track then descends into mixed kamahi forest and crosses the bridge over the Kaiauai stream.

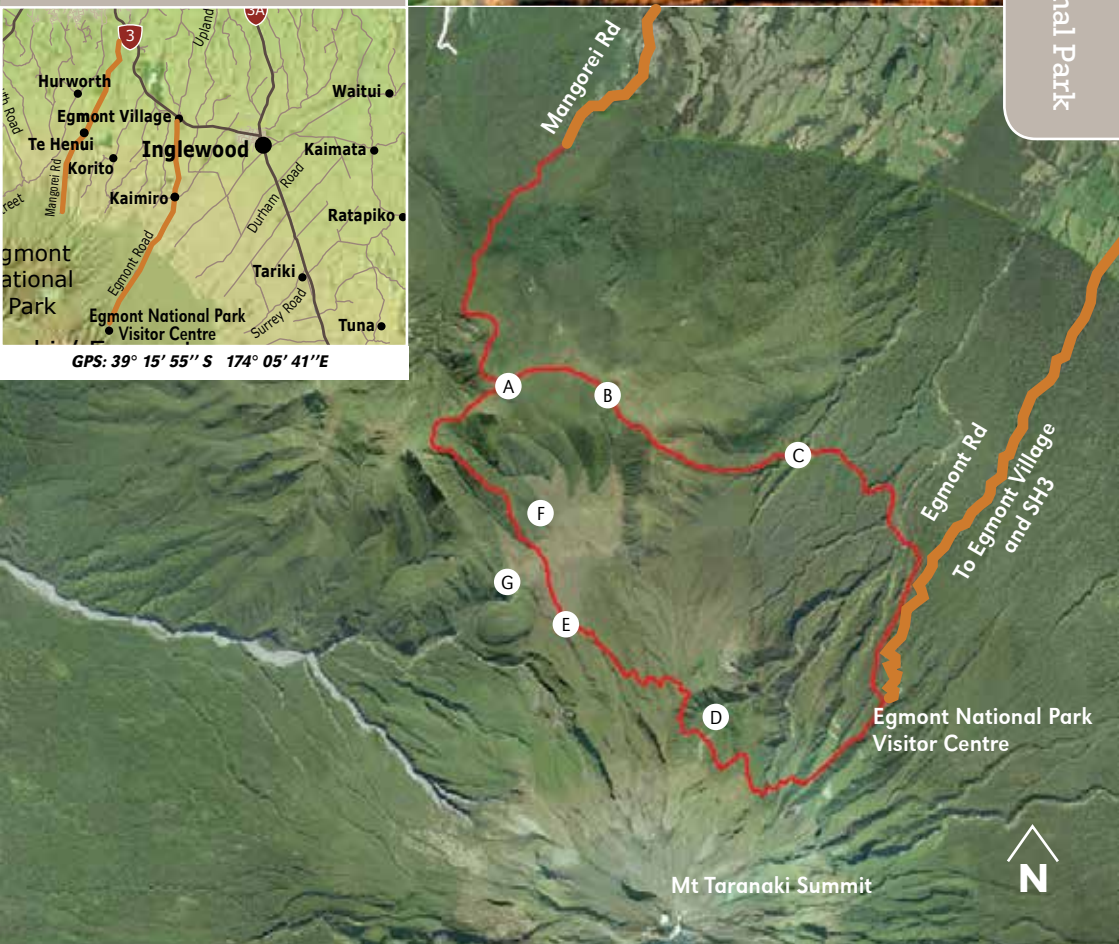
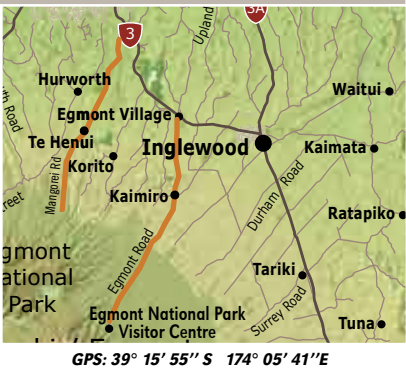
After crossing the stream, the track traverses some deep gullies before reaching the swingbridge over the Waiwhakaiho River.

You can then take the shorter track to Kaiauai car park on Egmont Road or follow the Ram Track up to the Egmont National Park Visitor Centre.

The track is steep and muddy in places with tree roots and embedded rocks. Some streams are not bridged and weather in this area is changeable and difficult to predict.



Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre

2879 Egmont Rd. (off SH3 at Egmont Village)
 Phone: 06 756 0990
 Email: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz
 Website: www.doc.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Pouakai Hut
- B** Tarn
- C** Kaiaua Shelter
- D** Kokowai Stream—ochre deposits
- E** Holly Hut
- F** Ahukawakawa Swamp
- G** Bells Falls

York Loop Track

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 7.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate

Time: 3 hours

2

York Loop track is within Egmont National Park and follows part of the old Egmont Branch Railway Line which was constructed in 1901 to provide metal for roads and rocks for Port Taranaki. It carried rock from mountain quarries for use on Taranaki's roads and railways and the breakwater at the port of New Plymouth. The quarry operated until the late 1920s.

The York Rd. Railway was an industrious place. House sites, crusher remains, waterlines, a sand trap and culverts can still be seen.

Route Description

Turn left 100m up the track from the park boundary. On approaching the Crusher site take a two-minute detour to visit the site of the bunk houses and cottages.

Return and walk past the old crusher site where the massive retaining wall remains. It was part of the building that housed the crushing machine and other works.

Continue over the footbridge and follow the old railway embankments and water pipeline to view the sand trap. On the way you'll see the rusting remains of the old waterline. The sand trap is still semi-operational and you will see the old valves.

Follow the track to the embankment and then turn left. A little further on, the first sidetrack on your left takes in the river quarry where line segments are still visible.

The second sidetrack takes you part way to the middle quarry which was closed after flooding. A large pile of spoiled rock can still be found there.

Return to the fork and turn left and continue to the footbridge and a large clearing known as the Foot Station. You'll pass old water flumes and culverts along the way. The foot station was the end of the railway line and the clearing was once a rail yard. A ropeway was planned to an upper mountain quarry but access remained by foot and horse-drawn wagons on rails.

The track returns to the starting point via the old service road.

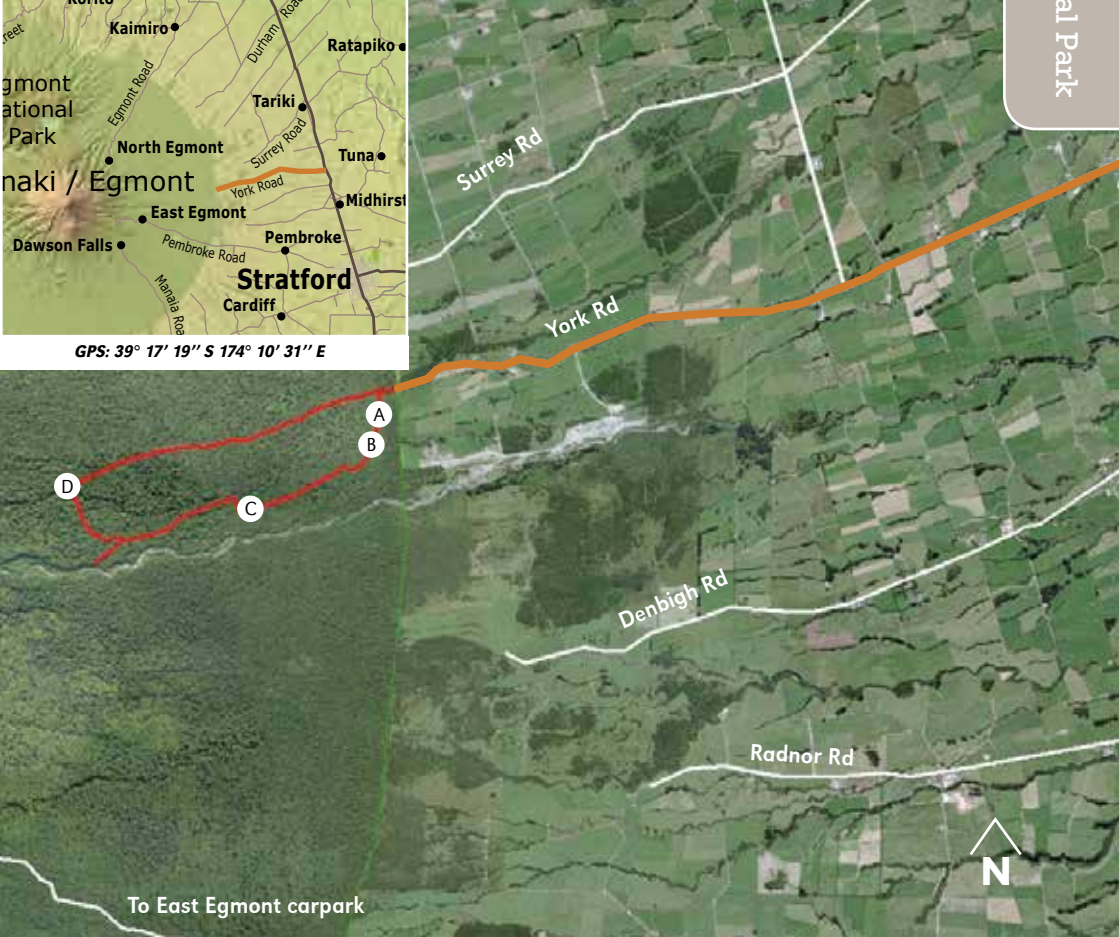




Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 17' 19" S 174° 10' 31" E



Further Information:

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre
 2879 Egmont Rd. (off SH3 at Egmont Village)
 Phone: 06 756 0990
 Email: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz
 Website: www.doc.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Barrack site
- B** Crusher site
- C** Sandtrap
- D** Foot station

Potaema Track

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 0.6m

Grade of walk: Easy (Barrier-free)

Time: 15 - 20 minutes

3

This barrier-free track starts at the Potaema picnic area about 3km from the park boundary on Pembroke Road. Suited to families, wheelchairs, pushchairs, the disabled, aged and short-stop travellers, this track truly exhibits a rain forest environment, lush with its hanging gardens and carpets of moss and ferns dwarfed by a towering forest.

On a fine day witness from the viewing platform at the end of the track the origins of its name: Potae (hat) ma (top or white); the magnificent view of the mountain towering over the swamp. Potaema is the most accessible of the lowland mires in the park and has the greatest variety of vegetation. No matter the time of the year, Potaema will display an array of flowering plants, native birds and insects catching the interest of inquisitive visitors.

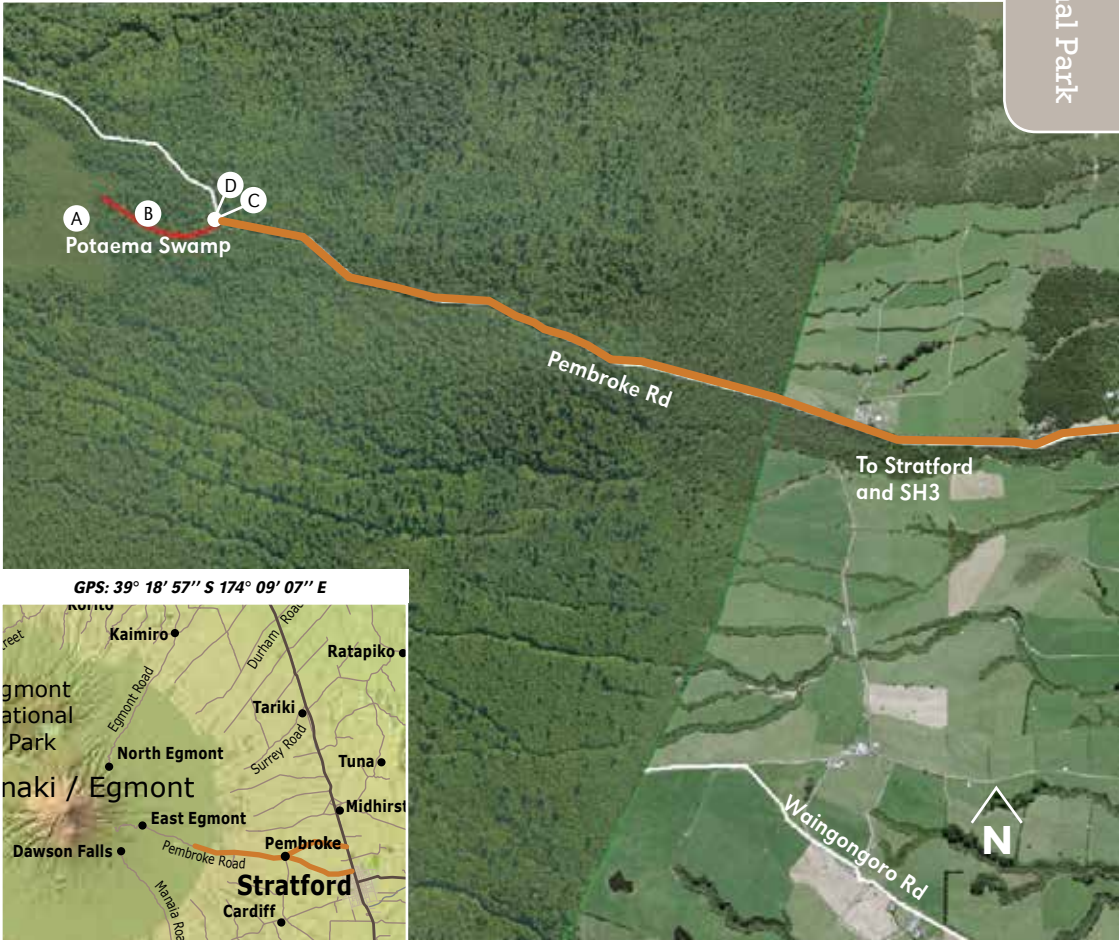
East Egmont is at the end of this road but begin this track from the Potaema picnic area, 3km in from the park boundary on the left side of Pembroke Rd.

The track leads to a large lowland mire (bog) that sustains a wide variety of flora and fauna.

You'll pass through lush lowland forest made up of rimu, rata, kamahi, kahikatea, mountain totara, pokaka and a few pahautea or mountain cedar. These trees thrive in the rich fertile conditions. Magnificent views of the mountain can be seen across the swamp from the viewing area.



Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 18' 57'' S 174° 09' 07'' E

Further Information:

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre

2879 Egmont Rd. (off SH3 at Egmont Village)

Phone: 06 756 0990

Email: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz

Website: www.doc.govt.nz

- A** Potaema Swamp
- B** Lowland forest
- C** Potaema picnic area
- D** Car park

Mt Taranaki Summit Track

Type of Walkway: Tramping Track

Distance: 14.0km (return)

Grade of walk: Strenuous

Time: 8 - 12 hours

4

This climb is the most spectacular and adventurous in Taranaki and is not to be taken lightly. Be well prepared and if not experienced, take a guide. There are ever-changing views as you ascend through the vegetation zones from montane forest at the Egmont National Park Visitor Centre through to scoria and rock in summer and snow and ice in winter.

Route Description

From the Egmont National Park Visitor Centre the Summit Climb heads up the boardwalk past the historic Camphouse and onto Translator Rd. You will approach the TV translator and Taururangi Lodge after a tough walk of about 1½ hours and you will notice you have entered the alpine zone where tussocks and mosses struggle for survival at this exposed altitude.

On clear days the views are expansive over the blue Tasman Sea, the lush pasture checkerboard of North and South Taranaki and on to the snow-capped volcanoes of the Central North Island.

Continue up past Taururangi Lodge, cross the Around the Mountain Track into Hongi's Valley. Climb the many stairways to the scoria zigzag track on the poled route. This track takes you to a rock lava flow called the Lizard. When the rocks emerge from the

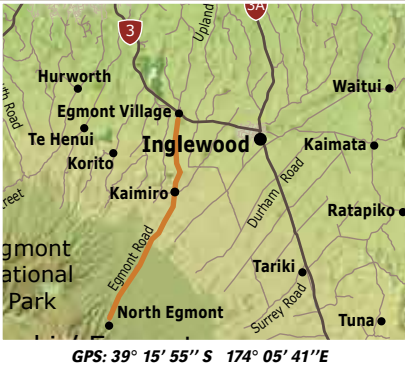
snow in the late spring, this flow begins to look like a lizard. Take care not to dislodge rocks as you climb higher. Rocks gather speed as they bounce down the mountain and can be extremely dangerous for climbers following your path.

An ice axe, crampons and mountaineering experience are essential if there is snow or ice on the summit and upper slopes. The crater has snow in it all year round. Climb the short steep slope to reach the summit rocks but please respect the spiritual significance to Maori of this mighty ancestor by not standing on the very highest point. From the summit area most of the mountain features are visible. Look south to Fanthams Peak and out to the Kaikoura Range in the South Island. Look west over the collapsed crater rim to the Turtle, the rocky feature that from some aspects has a broad turtle-like back. Look down the eroding western slopes to the lahar-covered farmland.

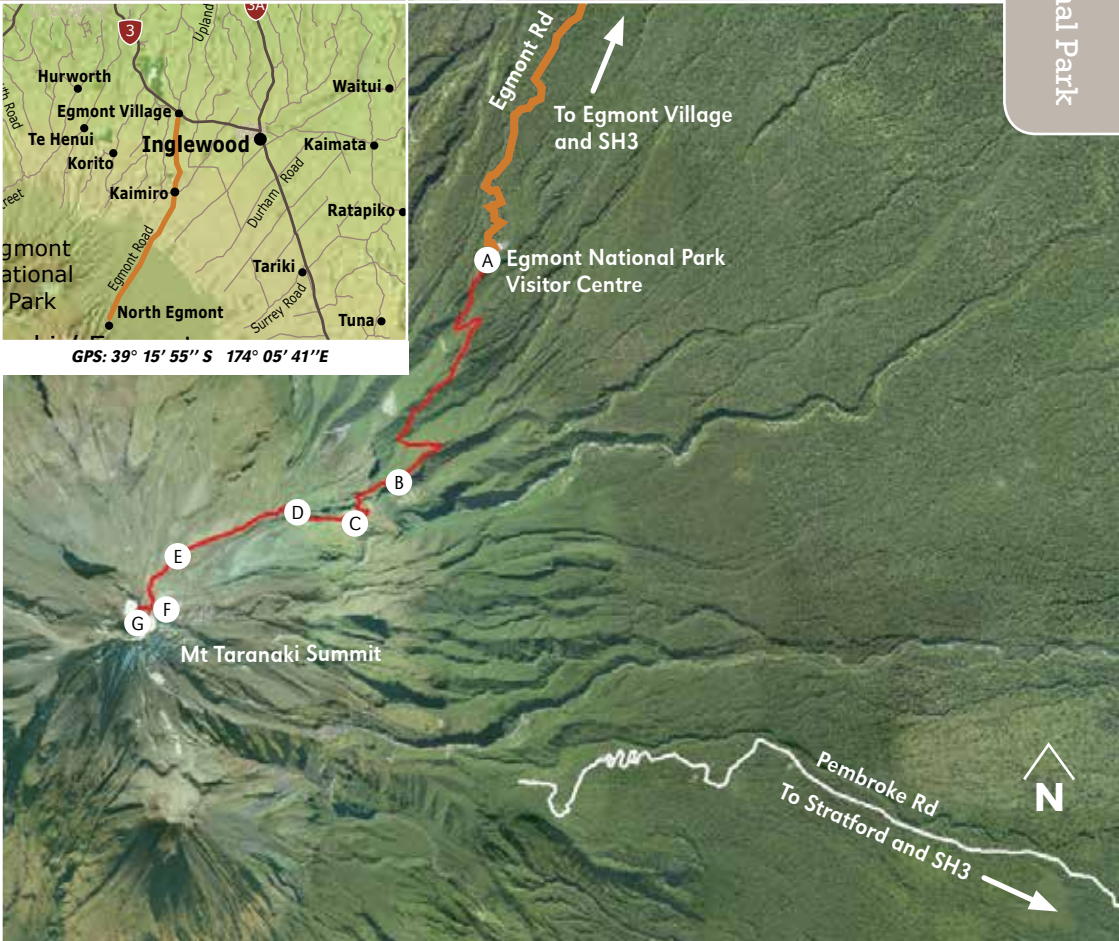
To the North you'll look down to the Ahukawakawa Swamp nestled under the Pouakai Range and out to the extinct volcanic succession of the Kaitake Range, the Sugar Loaf Islands and Paritutu Rock at New Plymouth. Look east, over the crater to the Shark's Tooth, to the very top of the East Ridge.

The town of Stratford sits to the east and further on are the vast lowland forests of the Matemateaonga and Waitaanga ranges with the volcanoes of the Tongariro National Park visible on the horizon. The descent is usually faster and a rest and afternoon tea at the Egmont National Park Visitor Centre are just rewards.

Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 15' 55" S 174° 05' 41" E



Further Information:

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre

2879 Egmont Rd. (off SH3 at Egmont Village)
 Phone: 06 756 0990
 Email: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz
 Website: www.doc.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Historic Camphouse
- B** The Puffer
- C** TV translator/Tahurangi Lodge
- D** Hongi's Valley
- E** The Lizard (rock lava flow)
- F** Shark's Tooth
- G** Crater

Wilkie's Pools Loop Track

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 2.3km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1 - 1.5 hours

5

This is a loop track that will probably take you longer if you stop to enjoy the water or views. You begin and end on the same track above the Dawson Falls Visitor Centre. It is possible to go to the pools and return the same way, without crossing the river. The track takes you to a series of pools formed by the scouring action of water-borne sand and gravel on 20,000-year-old lava. They are well worth the walk.

Route Description

The track begins from the car park 100m above the Dawson Falls Visitor Centre. Walk through the Goblin Forest of twisted kamahi trunks hanging with ferns and mosses.

Walk straight ahead past the turnoff to Waingongoro Hut. This junction is also where the return loop will bring you back later in the walk.

Cross the Kapuni Stream. Take care here as the river bank may be eroded, making access difficult. There is no bridge across this stream.

Rock steps allow you to walk up beside the pools to the top but take care as it can be slippery.

Return to the base of the pools to

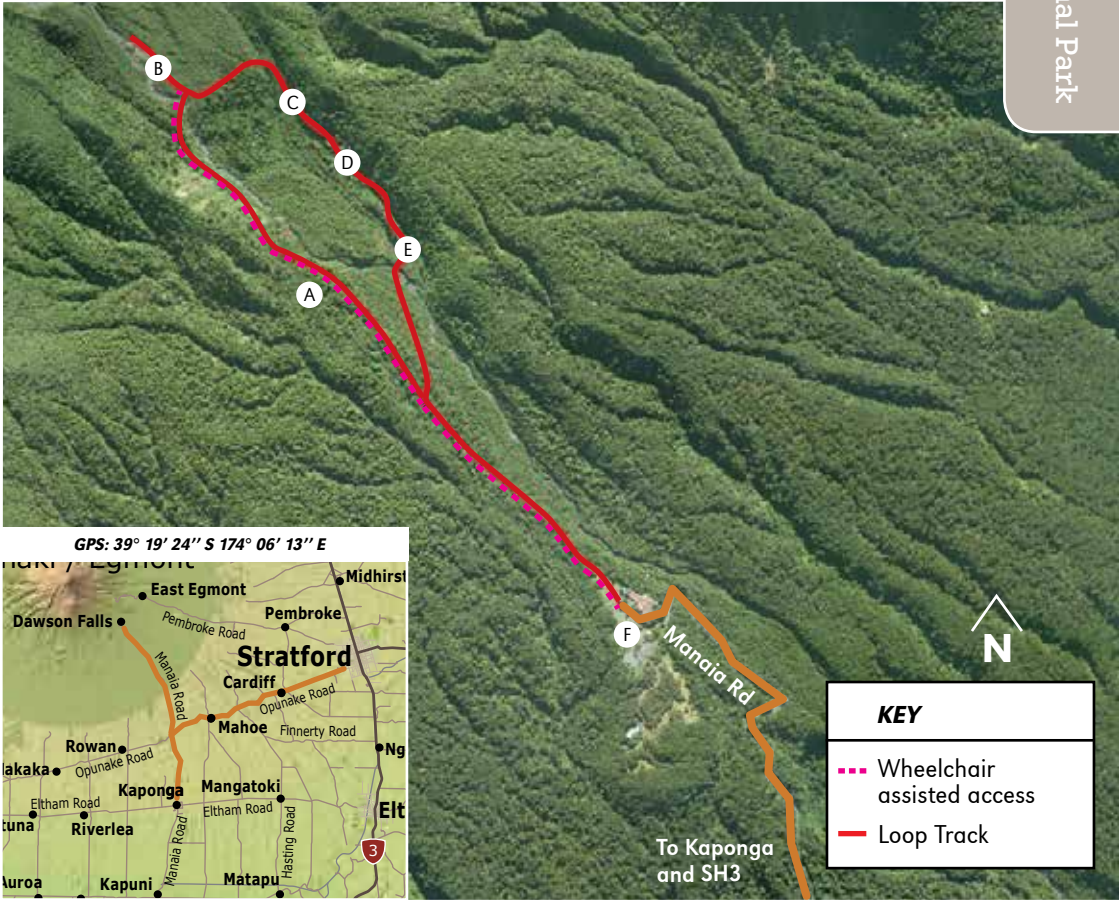
continue the walk.

The rest of the loop leads through sub-alpine scrub and montane forest past Twin Falls and Bubbling Springs.

Walk past the road end's water intake weir, cross the Kapuni Stream and turn left to return to the parking area.



Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre
 2879 Egmont Rd. (off SH3 at Egmont Village)
 Phone: 06 756 0990
 Email: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz
 Website: www.doc.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Lookout
- B** Wilkie's Pools
- C** Twin Falls
- D** Bubbling Springs
- E** Weir
- F** Dawson Falls Visitor Centre

Kapuni Loop Track

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 2.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate

Time: 1 - 1.5 hours

6

A pleasant drive to 900m above sea level on Mt Taranaki's south-eastern slopes brings you to the Dawson Falls road end. This is the starting point for many walks on this side of the mountain.

The Kapuni Loop track meanders its way down the true right bank of the Kapuni River where alpine plant species can be found out of their vegetation zone due to water and wind borne seed distribution. Witness this river carving its way down the ancient lava flows to Dawson Falls. Make your way to your start point via montane forest dominated by kamahi and totara.

Route Description

The walk starts to the left of Manaia Road below the Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge. A two minute return walk to the power station is a worthwhile detour. Listen to the Kapuni Stream which drives one of world's oldest continually operating generators. It supplies the power for the Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge and is located only 30m from the Lodge.

Further on down the road, the Kapuni Loop Track enters the forest. Follow the southern bank of the Kapuni Stream through mountain rainforest to the top of Dawson Falls.

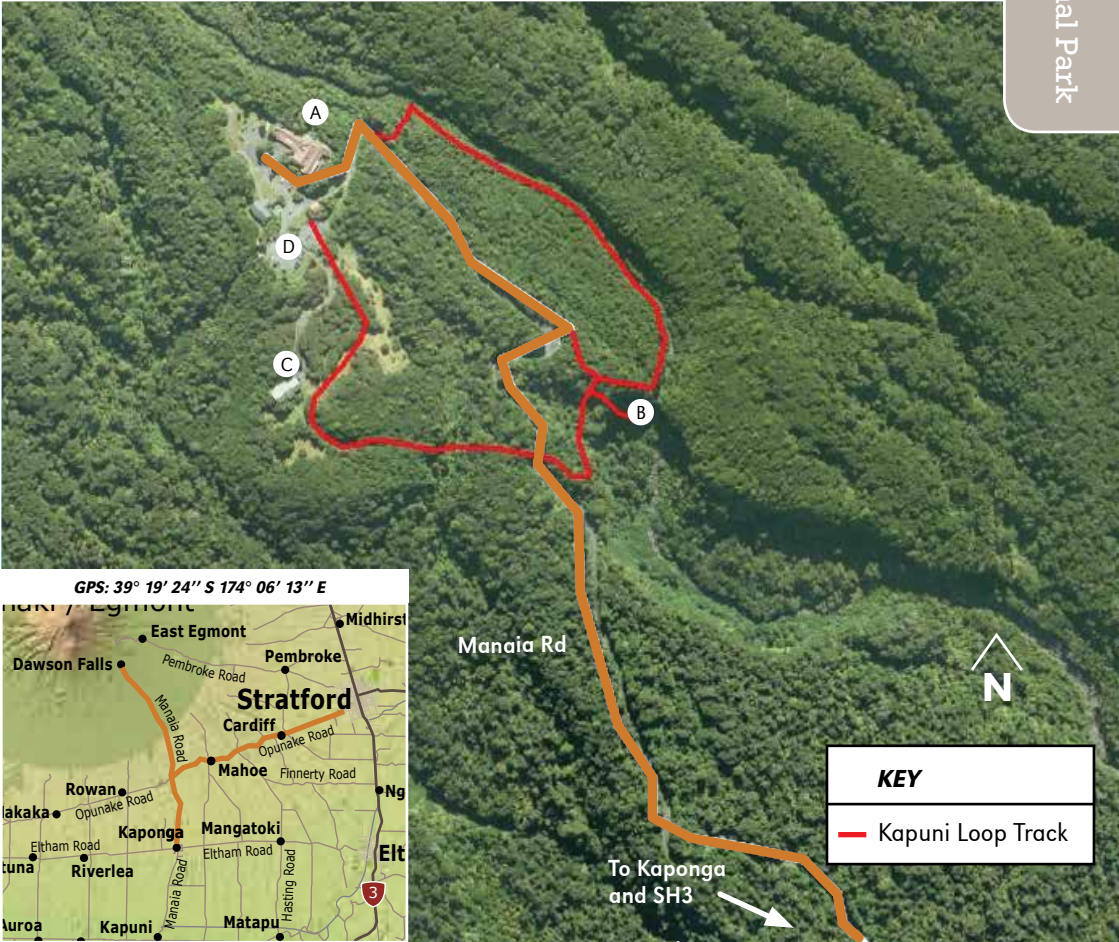
A steep side-track leads down to the base of the falls but a railed viewing point on the main track provides the best overall view of the waterfall. After the viewpoint, the track winds its way up to the road. Look for the layers of lava, pumice, gravel and ash in the bluffs flanking the waterfall, then return to the railed lookout for the best view.

Walk past the lookout and follow the track as it winds up to the road. Cross the road and enter a forest of fuchsia, kotukutuku and fern. The track leads to the clearing below Konini Lodge and a path up to your starting point.

Exercise caution when walking in the vicinity of the road and near the waterway.



Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

Egmont National Park Visitor Centre
 2879 Egmont Rd. (off SH3 at Egmont Village)
 Phone: 06 756 0990
 Email: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz
 Website: www.doc.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Dawson Falls Power Station
- B** Dawson Falls
- C** Konini Lodge
- D** Dawson Falls Visitor Centre

Whitecliffs Walkway

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 6.5 - 14.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate

Time: 4 - 7 hours

7

The walkway travels over private land and is closed to access from 1 July to 30 September for lambing and other farming related work.

*This walkway uses the Kapuni to Auckland gas pipeline route for 14 km from Pukearuhe to Tongaporutu and offers stunning views of the North Taranaki coastline and the Parininihi Marine Reserve. The laying of the pipeline involved an immense amount of heavy construction work and these operations opened up walking access to the dramatic forest and coastal country of the region. The walkway crosses open farmland (privately owned) to Mt Davidson, where it enters Ngati Tama private land. It then follows the pipeline route along the ridge tops before descending to the Waipingau Stream. Here you can divert from the track and return to Pukearuhe by following the stream to the coast (1.2km) and walking south along the beach (tide permitting). **For your own safety, do not attempt to walk unless you can reach Pukearuhe no later than two hours after low tide.***

Begin at the Pukearuhe boat ramp at the end of Pukearuhe Rd. It's just north of Urenui and near the cliff top site of an old redoubt and military settlement. Park to

allow access to the ramp and farm, and then follow the signs to the cliff top track. Cross open farmland to Mt Davidson and then follow the ridge top track across land of Ngati Tama, the local iwi.

Descend to the Waipingau Stream where you can follow the stream to the coast and walk south along the beach back to Pukearuhe. The round trip is 6.5 km but be aware of the tide times. There are no exit points along this beach until you are back at the boat ramp. For your own safety do not attempt the walk unless you can reach Pukearuhe no later than two hours after low tide.

Off the coast is the Parininihi Marine Reserve, home to a variety of fish species, large lobster populations and a colourful tangle of exotic sponges. Anglers can surf cast from the beach south of the Waipingau Stream, but the beach to the north is part of the reserve.

The walkway continues to the Parininihi trig and then descends to the junction of the Mt Messenger Track leading to State Highway 3. This option is 11 km (up to 7 hours).

The Whitecliffs Walkway now descends to private farmland and the old Te Horo stock tunnel (no longer accessible).

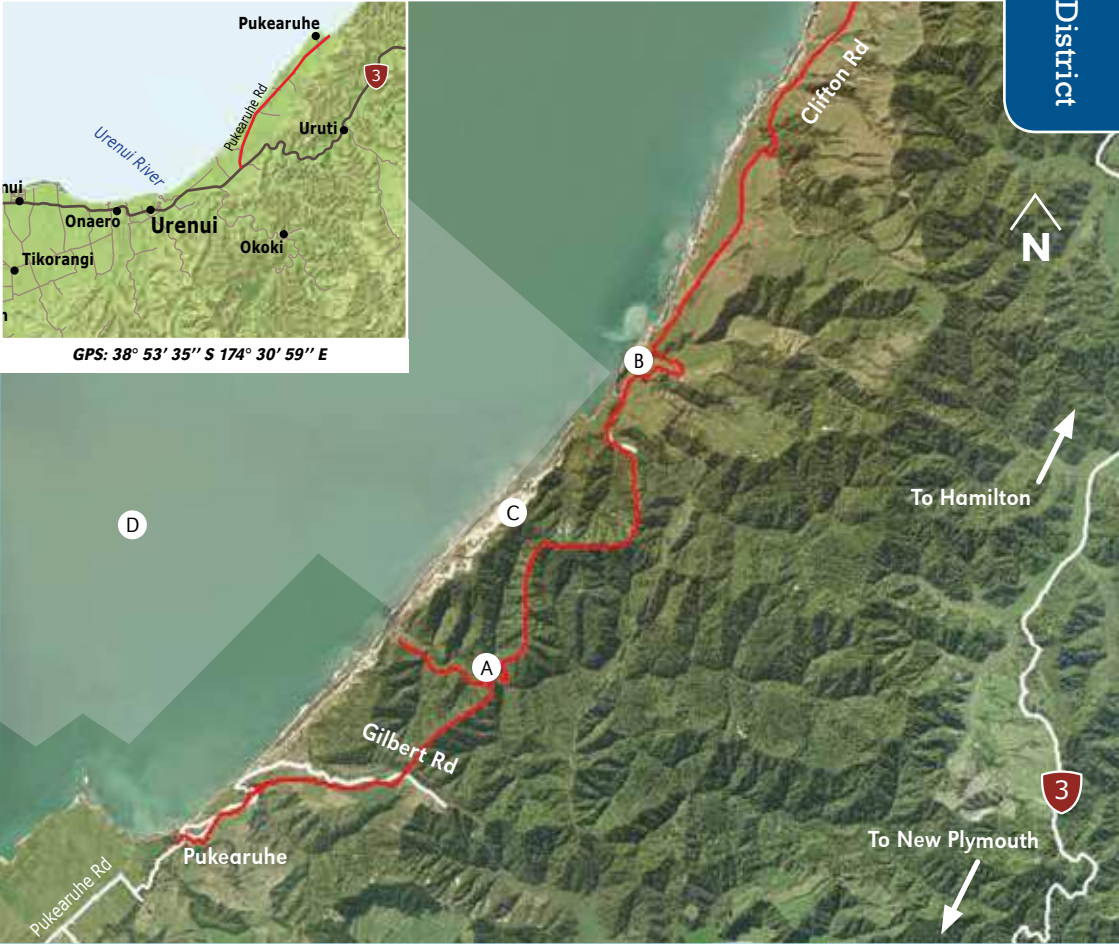
The rest of the walkway follows Clifton Rd. through private farmland to the sealed road at Tongaporutu. Spectacular views include the Three Sisters rock formations.

If walking the whole walkway, return transport needs to be arranged.

Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 38° 53' 35" S 174° 30' 59" E



Further Information:

Dept. of Conservation Taranaki Area Office
 55A Rimu St, New Plymouth, Ph: 06 759 0350
 Web: www.doc.govt.nz

New Plymouth's i-SITE Visitor Centre
 Puke Ariki, 1 Ariki Street, New Plymouth
 Phone: 06 759 0897 or 0800 639 759
 Email: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz
 Website: www.newplymouthnz.com

Points Of Interest

- A** Waipingau Stream
- B** Te Horo stock tunnel
- C** Whitecliffs
- D** Parininihi Marine Reserve



Waitara Heritage Trail

ROUTE 8

Type of Walkway: Path

Distance: 6.0km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1.5 hours

8

The Waitara valley has a rich and sheltered history, with the countryside scattered with evidence of fortifications reflecting a period of human occupation over many hundreds of years. With European settlement in North Taranaki occurring from 1841, conflict began to arise over the colonists attempt to gain land for cultivation. This culminated in the first Taranaki War in 1860/61. The town (then known as Raleigh) came into being, with borough status achieved in 1904 when the name reverted to Waitara.

Points of Interest

A. Te Roimata O Te Atiawa

This stone commemorates Wiremu Kingi Te Rangitaake, a paramount chief of Te Atiawa at the time of the first Taranaki War in 1860/61.

B. The Bridges of Waitara

Bridging the Waitara River was a major challenge in early settler days but in 1871 the first pile of a bridge was driven in.

C. Carved Panels

Ten carved panels are located on the boardwalk representing the flora and fauna of Waitara.

D. Ruamano

This stone is dedicated to the many workers who (since 1880) have worked in the meat processing plant originally near this site.

E. Waitara Pill Box

The Home Guard (formed during World War II) used this to defend the area of coast between Waipapa Stream to Waiongana River.

F. The Works Wharves

In the 1890s two small wharves were built to service the growing freezing works industry.

G. Railway Signal Box

This originated in Stratford but was brought to Waitara in 1960 to serve as a club house for the Waitara Boating Club.

H. River Fords

These were utilised by travellers in the early days of settlement.

I. Hurirapa Pa

This was the only pa of four in the district that was not destroyed in the first Taranaki War.

J. The Return Port

In 1848 Wiremu Kingi Te Rangitaake and followers returned home to occupy four new pa on the western side of the River.

K. The Waitara Blockhouse

Kuhikuhi Pa was erected here in 1848 but was destroyed in 1860 to build a blockhouse at the beginning of the first war. The harbour pilot's house and signal box (c.1880) still remain here.

L. Pukekohe

Originally built as a village before 1700, Pukekohe was defended by ditches, banks and palisades.

M. Rose Garden

This garden commemorates the late Mr Bob Donaldson for his long service to Waitara as a borough councillor.

N. The Railway

The New Plymouth to Waitara railway was opened in 1875 to link New Plymouth with the nearest sheltered port.

O. Memorial Cenotaph

This monument commemorates the 78 servicemen from Waitara District who fell in the two World Wars.

P. Aorangi Pa

For several hundred years a fortified pa and settlement occupied this bluff.

Map Of Walk Area



For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6.



Mangati/Hickford Park Walkways

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 6.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate/Strenuous

Time: 2 - 2.5 hours

9

Only minutes away from the Bell Block residential area, this beautiful walkway travels through farmland and coastal plantings.

Route Description

Follow the track through the paddocks and sealed areas.

Te Rewa Rewa

Ngati Tawhirikura hapu have mana whenua over this historic site and surrounding area. Their lands were strategically chosen to provide a good defence mechanism with well sited lookout points to see approaching enemy, access to an array of food-gathering places, and large flat areas for cultivation.

On 6 June 1887 a Crown grant was issued for 504 acres, three roads and 36 perches, known as Katere or Waiwhakaiho Native reserve, to members of the Ngati Tawhirikura hapu. A certificate was issued some 17 years later to the Public Trustee who administered native reserves under section 8 of the Native Reserves Act 1882. In 1905, just under 80 acres of Katere Reserve containing the historic Rewa Rewa Pa and urupa were compulsory acquired through the Public Works Act 1905 for a rifle range.

On 4 June 2007, a joint partnership for Te Rewa Rewa between New Plymouth District Council and Tawhirikura Hapu Trust was signed.

Hickford Park

The coastal portion of the reserve is made up of expansive vegetative dunes which increase in size and height to the east. The undeveloped mown pathway that runs along the foreshore provides access to the rocky beach. Also found at this location are spring-fed wetlands at Waipu Lagoons and the artificial wetlands at the former oxidation ponds, both of which provide habitat for a number of bird and animal species. The area is one of the few remaining natural wetlands in Taranaki. The Department of Conservation has listed Waipu Lagoons as a protected natural area because of their wildlife values.

The reserve is also of historic and cultural significance to Puketapu hapu, which is within the tribal rohe (boundary) of Te Atiawa iwi.

Mangati

A mown and sealed pathway follows the Mangati Stream as it winds from Bell Block Beach, through a residential area to Parklands Ave, and now connects through to De Havilland Drive. In 2011 this walkway was extended to the Bell Block industrial area.

Bell Block Beach

This beach provides access for water-based activities, including boat launching. Toilets are available, dogs are permitted on this pathway and there is free parking.

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6.

Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 01' 44" S 174° 08' 14" E



KEY

- Mangati Walkway
- Hickford Walkway
- ⋯ Coastal Walkway
- Access



Points Of Interest

- A** Waipu Lagoons
- B** Hickford Park sportsfields
- C** Velodrome





The Coastal Walkway - Part 1 Ngamotu Beach to Kawaroa Park

ROUTE 10

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 2.5km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 55 minutes

10



GPS: 39° 03' 38" S 174° 02' 43" E



The award winning Coastal Walkway is an expansive sea-edge promenade stretching almost the entire length of New Plymouth. Ideal for walking, running, cycling, skating, or simply enjoying the view of the dramatic west coast, the walkway connects popular recreational areas and the city centre to the sea.

History

In 1997 the planning for the Coastal Walkway began and within 2 years the construction of the then 7km-long walkway from Ngamotu Beach in the east to the Waiwhakaiho River in the west began. It was completed in December 2001, excluding the lower Woolcombe Terrace

path, which required cliff strengthening. In 2003, the lower path in front of the cliffs (between the city and the East End Reserve) was constructed and the entire pathway was raised by 2m to a finished height of 7m above sea level.

Design

An important feature of the path along the sea margin is the use of robust materials with strong lines and textures to stand up to and reflect upon the character of the west coast as well as a curved seawall in front of the city centre to provide protection from the waves.

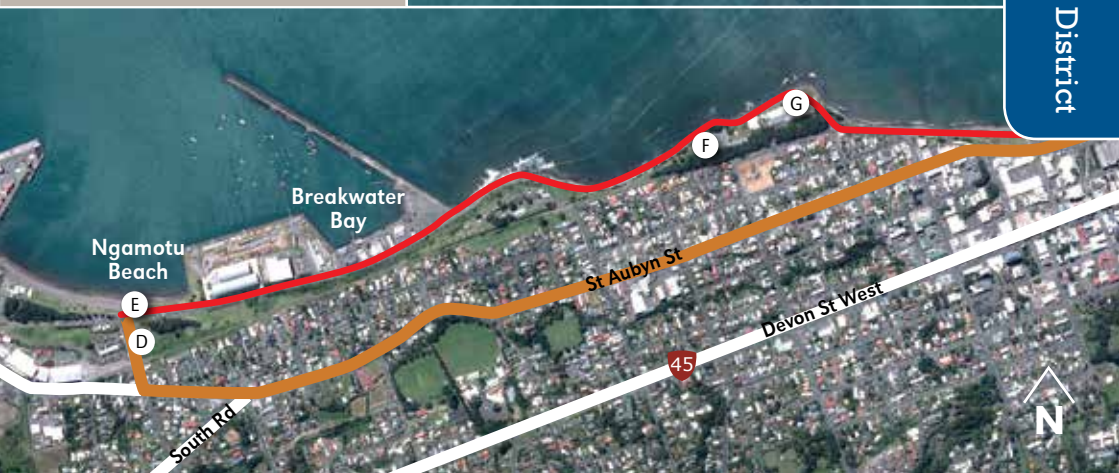
Route Description

Begin the Coastal Walkway at Ngamotu Beach There is plenty of parking and you can enjoy some time at the beach – a safe swimming beach for the family.

Near to Ngamotu Beach are several points of interest. At **Back Beach (A)** you may see some of the many surfers that flock there for the great surf breaks all year round. If it's adventure you're after then



Map Of Walk Area



head to the sand dunes with your body board. From the Back Beach car park follow Centennial Dr to **Paritutu Rock (B)**, one of Taranaki's must-do experiences. Climb to the top of this steep volcano outcrop and enjoy panoramic coastal views of the region, the Tasman Sea and the adjacent Sugar Loaf Islands.

From Ngamotu Beach it is an easy walk to various historical points of interest including the **Settlers Memorial (C)**, **Dicky Barrett's Grave (D)** and the **Beam Pump Memorial (E)**.

Heading east, the Coastal Walkway then arrives at Breakwater Bay. Take a quick rest at one of the various restaurants by the Port, overlooking the harbour.

Points Of Interest

- A** Back Beach
- B** Paritutu Rock
- C** Settlers Memorial
- D** Dicky Barrett's Grave
- E** Beam Pump Memorial
- F** Kawaroa Park
- G** Todd Energy Aquatic Centre

Kawaroa Park (F) is the ultimate in child friendly experiences with the newly refurbished play area boasting huge slides that head straight for the sea. Within the park is the **Todd Energy Aquatic Centre (G)**, complete with a 50m outdoor swimming pool as well as 1m and 3m high diving boards.

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6.





The Coastal Walkway - Part 2 Kawaroa Park to Te Rewa Rewa Bridge

ROUTE 11

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 5.6km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1 hour 20 minutes



Continued from previous page...Running alongside the Tasman Sea, the Coastal Walkway stretches from the well-known surf break at Back Beach on Surf Highway 45, through New Plymouth centre, reaching Bell Block without being more than a few metres from the sea.

History

In 2004 the new 'lightning bolt' bridge over Te Henui Stream opened and 2 years later the pedestrian bridge and viewing platform from Liardet Street opened, creating a safe connection from the city's business and shopping area.

In 2007 the NPDC and Ngati Tawhirikura Hapu signed Te Rewa Rewa Agreement and plans began for Te Rewa Rewa Bridge. In 2008, at the request of the Hapu, the

design of the bridge was turned around so that the span opens towards the mountain, a feature that soon became one of the most iconic in Taranaki. Construction started in 2009 and within a year the bridge was formally opened for public use, along with a 4km extension of the walkway from the Waiwhakaiti River mouth to Hickford Park - bringing the Coastal Walkway's entire length to 11km.

Design

The 83m long Te Rewa Rewa Bridge is reminiscent of a breaking wave or a whale skeleton. It was designed and built by a consortium led by local company Whitaker Civil Engineering Limited and included Novare Design, CPG and Fitzroy Engineering.

Route Description

Approaching the central section of the walkway you will see the **Honeyfield Drinking Fountain (H)**, constructed in 1907, which represents the philanthropy behind early urban beautification schemes



Map Of Walk Area



and the development of New Plymouth's celebrated waterfront promenade. Once you reach the New Plymouth District's iconic 45 metre **Wind Wand (I)**, where you will see a number of interesting stone carvings and pieces of public art, you can take a detour into the CBD - home to the award-winning and innovative heritage and information centre **Puke Ariki (J)** and the **Govett-Brewster Art Gallery (K)**.

Continue on the walkway to **Te Henui Bridge (L)**, where you can extend your walk onto the popular Te Henui Walkway heading inland alongside the picturesque Te Henui Stream. Returning to the coast, your next point of interest is **Fitzroy**

Points Of Interest

- H** Honeyfield drinking fountain
- I** Wind Wand
- J** Puke Ariki
- K** Govett-Brewster Art Gallery
- L** Te Henui Bridge
- M** Fitzroy Beach
- N** Te Rewa Rewa Bridge

Beach (M), a popular venue for national and international surfing competitions. Pass Fitzroy Motor Camp and the New Plymouth Golf Course and you will come to the dramatic **Te Rewa Rewa Bridge (N)**, which frames Mount Taranaki.

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6.





The Coastal Walkway - Part 3 Te Rewa Rewa Bridge to Tiromoana Cres

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 4.7km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1 hour 5 minutes



Continued from previous page...With numerous pedestrian access points, toilets and drinking water fountains throughout the walk, this is a perfect walk for all ages and abilities. Even dogs are allowed on the walkway providing they're on a leash!

History

In the late 1980s the Ministry of Defence declared the 26ha Te Rewa Rewa Reserve surplus and in 1995 the NPDC bought the land with the intention to manage it jointly with Ngati Tawhirikura Hapu and use part of it to extend the Coastal Walkway northward.

In 2007 the NPDC got a coastal strip to extend the Coastal Walkway to Bell Block, and the Hapu were given the opportunity to develop the rest of the site for the cultural benefit of the Hapu as well as the wider community. Then in 2008 Land Transport New Zealand announced it would pay \$1.88m of the cost to extend the Coastal Walkway, the 4km from Waiwhakaiho to Bell Block, and the rest of the cost would be met by NPDC and the Whitaker Family Trust.

In 2012, the \$1.2 million Cycle Park was officially opened at Bell Block's Hickford Park, marking an end to a 12-year period Taranaki had been without a velodrome.

Design

Accessibility was a key design feature of the extension from Fitzroy to Bell Block. It



GPS: 39° 01' 38" S 174° 07' 39" E



was important to make the Coastal Walkway and Cycleway accessible for all and this was successfully achieved with the use of clever design.

Route Description

Begin at **Te Rewa Rewa Bridge (N)**, crossing the Waiwhakaiho River which flows from Mount Taranaki and holds many native fish and trout. Continue your walk through picturesque farmland where you can take a detour up to the award winning lifestyle development, **The Links (O)**. Continue on towards Bell Block and come to the **Waipu Lagoons (P)**, a series of small coastal lagoons,

Map Of Walk Area



which provide habitat for a wide variety of birdlife, including the Australasian Bittern, Australian Coot, Grey Teal and Pukeko.

Next is **Hickford Park (Q)**, where you will come to the brand new cycle park featuring a 1.75km closed road circuit and a 333m banked **Velodrome (R)** built to world competition standards. You can then continue across to Mangati Walkway, down to Bell Block Beach's western end through to Tiromoana Crescent.

Points Of Interest

- N** Te Rewa Rewa Bridge
- O** The Links
- P** Waipu Lagoons
- Q** Hickford Park sportsfields
- R** Velodrome

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6.





Te Henui Walkway

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 5.9km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: Up to 2 hours

13

This is the more popular of New Plymouth's two river walkways. Te Henui winds its way up from the coast through a variety of native and exotic flora, and past several picnic areas and swimming holes. It extends from the coast at East End Reserve to Welbourn and follows the scenic Te Henui River. On the way you pass by historical pa sites and a wide range of flora and fauna.

Gazetted as a national walkway, Te Henui is one of the most beautiful walkways in New Plymouth District and yet, incredibly, it originates from a sewage pipe route.

Route Description

There are many places to access this walkway. To complete the whole walk, begin from the 'lightning bolt' bridge on the New Plymouth Coastal Walkway at the East End Reserve, at the eastern end of Buller St.

A concrete path takes you under the railway bridge on the eastern side of Te Henui River. Follow this past the bowling club, cross the river and go left to follow the river past the croquet greens. Before going under the Devon Street Bridge you are likely to encounter hungry ducks waiting for an offering.

Continue beside the river, under the Northgate bridge and below Te Henui

Cemetery. This is an attractive area in spring with its many rhododendrons. A bridge takes you over the river again, back onto the east side where you stay until Cumberland St. Other than where the walkway narrows to a single lane track, where there are some steps over a rise, the walkway is wide enough for a vehicle. As such it is popular with cyclists.

At Cumberland St. you can head back to the coast on the other side of the river.

You can continue south to the end of the walkway (another 1.5km) which is very scenic and worth the walk. You need to cross both Cumberland St. and the river, carrying on over what eventually narrows to a track with a reassuring sign that you are going the right way!

The track winds its way along before crossing the river and beginning to climb up the 56 steps to Durham Ave. To walk a loop back to Cumberland St. (and then back to the coast) walk down Durham Ave, left at Junction Rd, left at Puketotara St. and left at Heta Rd. Heta Rd. is now extended down to Cumberland St. There is also a walkway that links from London Tce. to Heta Rd

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6.



Map Of Walk Area



Points Of Interest

- A** Te Henui cemetery
- B** Puketarata Pa
- C** Pukewarangi Pa
- D** Parihamore Pa
- E** Te Kainga Marire
(Garden of International Significance)



Tupare Walkway

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 1.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate

Time: Up to 2 hours

14

Tupare is a beautifully sculpted landscaped garden nestled on a hillside overlooking the Waiwhakaiho River on the outskirts of New Plymouth. The property features a Chapman Taylor designed homestead and a gardener's cottage. Tupare was the home of Sir Russell and Lady Matthews. They bought the property in 1932 as a gorse and bracken covered hillside. You can learn about the garden's history and the people involved from information in the cottage and also around the garden.

At the Gatehouse there is wayfinding information and visitor guides to assist you on your walk. Tupare is owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council.

Route Description

There are three marked trails which you can follow at Tupare:

The Boundary Trail

The Boundary Trail takes you around the perimeter of the property through huge redwood trees, down onto the River Flat, up through the Bush Walk and then back through the garden. This is the most challenging walk.

The Garden Walk

The Garden Walk traverses the main garden areas of Tupare, with some steep

gradients. There are a number of seats to rest on and take in the scenery.

The House Stroll

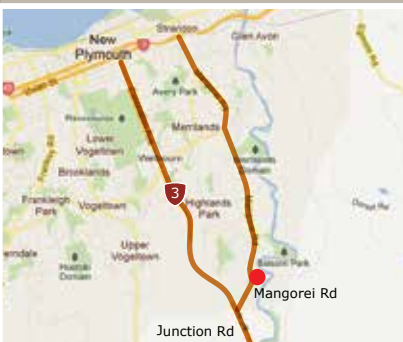
The House Stroll is the easiest walk of the three. Once you walk down the drive to the house area the paths are all on the same level. You will experience some of the most popular areas of the garden including the Elizabeth Garden (a popular garden for weddings), the glasshouse area which encompasses some delightfully planted herbaceous borders, and of course the gardens around the house.

All of the paths on the Garden Walk and the House Stroll are asphalted.





Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 05' 19" S 174° 06' 30" E



Further Information:

New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre

Puke Ariki, 1 Ariki Street, New Plymouth
 Phone: 06 759 0897 or 0800 639 759
 Email: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz
 Website: www.newplymouthnz.com

Taranaki Regional Council

47 Cloten Road, Stratford, Ph: 06 765 7127
 Web: www.tupare.info

KEY

- The Boundary Trail
- The Garden Walk
- The House Stroll

Huatoki Walkway

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 5.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate/Strenuous

Time: 1.5 hours

15

The walkway follows the meandering Huatoki Stream from the foreshore to Tupari Reserve, winding through parks, native bush and city suburbs.

Route Description

The mouth of the stream is beside Len Lye's Wind Wand sculpture on New Plymouth's foreshore. The stream runs between Puke Ariki Landing and the Centre City mall. If walking from here, cross Ariki St. and walk up the eastern side of Brougham St., New Plymouth's original main street. Continue up to the Halamoana sculpture on the corner of Powderham St. created by local Tongan artist Filipe Tohi. Cross Powderham St. at the lights and turn left, walking with the traffic down to Sir Victor Davies Park. The rock embankment you will see on the right was built as part of the railway that used to run through here before it was moved to the coast.

When you come out of Sir Victor Davies Park into the car park, walk towards and under the Vivian St. viaduct. The walkway continues beside the river, past the old flour mill site, to the quarry below the prison. The prisoners used to load gravel onto trucks here with shovels.

The walkway continues at the far end of the quarry (the bridge to your left provides access to Carrington St). Once you reach

Mill Rd. walk a short distance down to the street and re-enter the walkway.

Continue on past the bottom of Maratahu St. and up a short rise. From here you go under the Parsons St. Bridge, and up to a playground. Look for the concrete path to follow, just to the right. You will come to a bridge, which only provides walkway access; you then need to continue to the right of this, beside the river.

The steepest piece of the track is next, before descending to Brois St. The track continues diagonally to the left. When you enter the bush it opens quickly onto grassed playing or picnic areas. This is the lower part of the Huatoki Domain.

To get to the Tupari Reserve (another seven minutes) cross the road access to the domain and head up the steps on the bank to the right, then down the Johns Walk. There are more steps involved in this very pretty section of the walkway.

Cross Huatoki St. to the Tupari Reserve. This is a pocket of regenerating native bush. Here there are four tracks to choose from. The loop walk begins on the left, beside the river. Keep left on this and you will come out at the top of the reserve, cross the road and continue in the bush and you will eventually come out to the right of the gate at the entrance to the reserve.

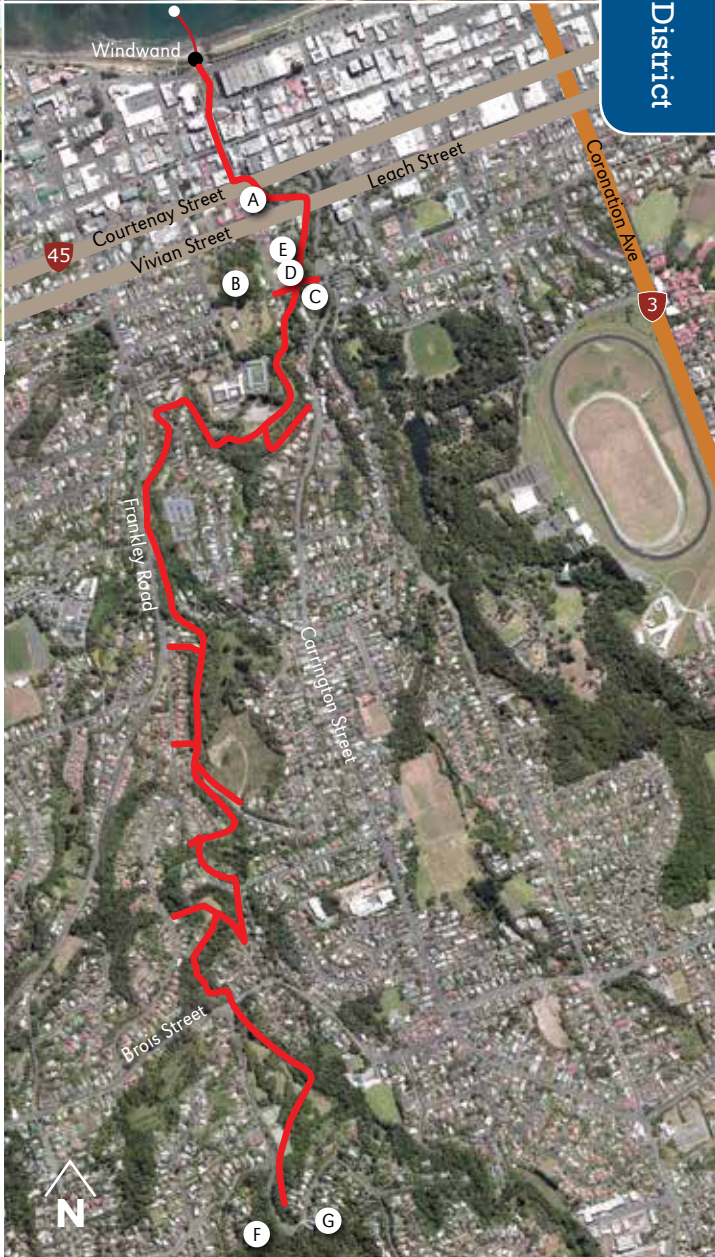
The Bendall Walk, going up the steps, joins up with the loop. There is a myriad of tracks in this reserve, many enjoyed by mountain bikers. The reserve isn't big enough to get lost for too long, and you can always use the gravel road as an escape route.



Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 03' 20" S 174° 04' 21" E



Points Of Interest

- A** Sir Victor Davies Park
- B** Marsland Hill
- C** Red Coat Lane
- D** Mill stones
- E** Hempton Rose Garden
- F** Tupari Reserve
- G** Bendall Walk

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6..



Ratapihipihi Scenic Reserve Track Nikau Loop Walk

ROUTE 16

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 1.9km

Grade of walk: Easy

Time: up to 1 hour

16

Here you will see an outstanding example of a lush, temperate rainforest with kohekohe, tawa, pukatea and nikau palms. There is an early exit option if you need it.

The name Ratapihipihi is derived from a traditional Māori hunting method. Hunters would attract kaka and other birds by sitting in a tree and making a “pihipihi” call by blowing through a leaf placed in the mouth. The birds attracted were then killed with a short club and eaten.

Route Description

To the left of the lawn is a small wooden gate that leads you into the forest. Here you'll see the glossy leaves of the kohekohe which bring a tropical look to the forest.

This track is well graded, though steep in places. Follow it to the valley floor where you will cross the stream and its tributaries a few times while surrounded by a stunning coastal forest. A small scenic waterfall presents a lovely photo opportunity only a few metres beyond the first track exit back to your start point.

A steady stream of timber was taken from this area, first to build a schooner to take goods to Sydney and later to build bridges. A sharp eye may spot some of the old sawpit holes either side of the track.

As you make your way downstream, pukatea and nikau palms fill this damper environment.

Look for the unusual shapes that some of the trees have grown into. The tawa in particular have elbows, multi-trunks and even a window. They're the dominant canopy trees.

As you come around the edge of the forest at the track's end you can see a wall of foliage that comes out to meet the light. In here are trees that were planted in earlier years, to represent trees from outside the region. These include kauri, beech and tanekaha.

With its nikau palms and dappled light, this track looks like a walk in the tropics. It's well worth a visit.



Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

Dept. of Conservation Taranaki Area Office

55A Rimu St, New Plymouth, Ph: 06 759 0350
 Web: www.doc.govt.nz

New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre

Puke Ariki, 1 Ariki Street, New Plymouth
 Phone: 06 759 0897 or 0800 639 759
 Email: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz
 Website: www.newplymouthnz.com

Points Of Interest

- A** Picnic area
- B** Waterfall

Meeting of the Waters/Araheke Bush Walk

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 3.0km (return)

Grade of walk: Easy

Time: 2 hours

17

Picnic beside the Waiwhakaiho River and choose from two easy short walks suitable for all the family. Both walks can be accessed from the Meeting of the Waters car park.

This quiet Meeting of the Waters scenic reserve is just 3km south of New Plymouth and from here you access the Araheke Track. The track itself is wheel and pushchair friendly but the wheelchair access to the start of the track is yet to be completed. Wheelchair users can access the swingbridge near the start of Araheke by picking up the key for the gate from DOC's Taranaki Area Office.

Route Description

Walkers parking at the Meeting of the Waters have a 20 minute stroll through tawa, kahikatea, matai and large totara trees to the swingbridge.

You'll begin with steps down along a path that borders a popular swimming hole. Veer right around a concrete path and onto a track leading to a wooden bridge where the tailrace waters of the Mangorei Hydro Station rush underneath.

Walk over the bridge and follow the fenceline and beaten track past a stand of totara trees. Continue on, with the river to your left. A dip and climb and some small round rocks make this section a little bumpy. On your right is TOPEC, an

outdoor pursuits centre that is well utilised by the schools of Taranaki. Walk on to the swingbridge where a small springed gate opens on to the bridge.

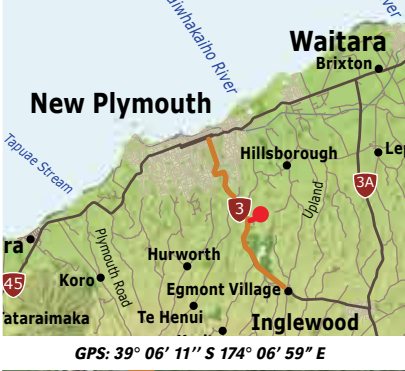
Turn right at the end of this bridge for a 30 minute stroll around a loop on a flat and friendly track and boardwalks. While strolling under a canopy of a podocarp forest, admire the lush green tree ferns and coprosma, carpeted at their feet by mosses, grasses and exotic foliage. Native trees like tawa, matai and totara and smaller ferns also present a spectacular sight as the sunlight filters through.

The Araheke Stream is quite close at some points and it's crystal clear unless in flood. Continue around the loop and back to the swingbridge.





Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 06' 11" S 174° 06' 59" E



Further Information:

Dept. of Conservation Taranaki Area Office
 55A Rimu St, New Plymouth, Ph: 06 759 0350
 Web: www.doc.govt.nz

New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre
 Puke Ariki, 1 Ariki Street, New Plymouth
 Phone: 06 759 0897 or 0800 639 759
 Email: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz
 Website: www.newplymouthnz.com

Points Of Interest

- A** Meeting of the Waters Car park
- B** Mangorei Hydro station tailrace
- C** TOPEC Camp
- D** Gate for wheelchair access

Lake Mangamahoe

Type of Walkway: Path/Short Walk

Distance: 3.0km or 6.0km

Grade of walk: Strenuous

Time: 1.5 - 2 hours

18

Lake Mangamahoe is a 262ha production forest, a popular place for mountain biking, walking, and running, and has a bridle path for horses, a scenic lake and park. It also has spectacular views of Mt Taranaki.

In the early 1920s New Plymouth City Council purchased land for the construction of a dam and a lake to act as a water catchment area for the expanding city of New Plymouth. In 1932 the lake was created by forming a dam across the valley and submerging 79 acres. It was named after the Mangamahoe stream which flows into the upper reaches of the lake. Water from both the stream and the nearby Waiwhakaiho River feeds the lake through a 548m pipe.

In order to protect the steep hillside from eroding, development planting was undertaken and shelterbelts were planted to protect the pine trees growing in what is now the Mangamahoe Forest. The lake itself is also significant to the district in terms of power generation. Trustpower Ltd administers this from the Mangorei Power Station.

Route Description

The walk takes you on a journey around the lake through production forest, up to impressive lookouts and among mature ornamental tree plantings that are mixed with pockets of regenerated native bush. The circuit walk is an enjoyable one for people of all ages. However, there are some steep undulating sections on the

walk that require a reasonable standard of fitness. The walk may be started at either end of Lake Rd.

Along the circuit walk you will meander through a small collection of redwood trees which were planted in 1931. In California, where they originate, they are known as giants of the forest, reaching heights of up to 111m. Redwoods are known for their longevity. The growth rings of fallen trees in California indicate that some have lived for more than 2,000 years.

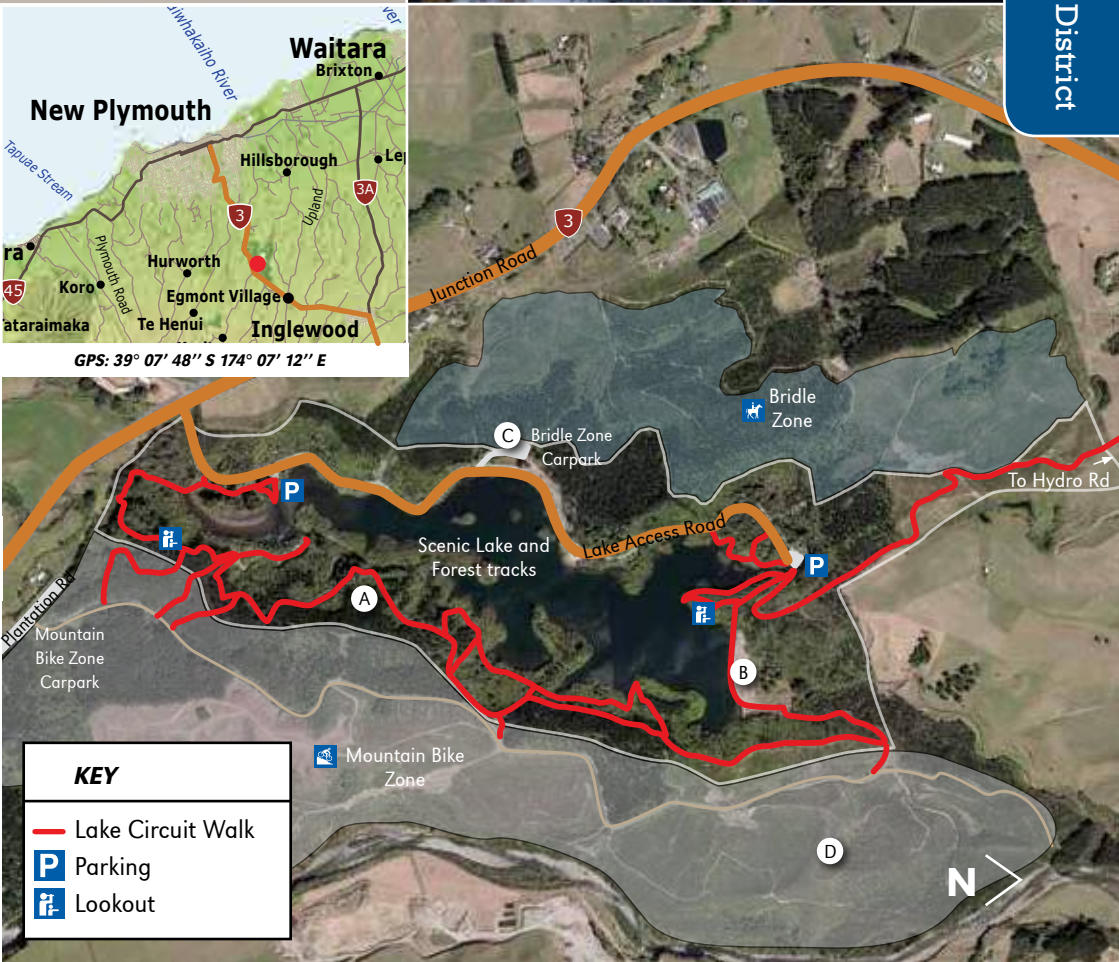
On the eastern side of the lake the circuit walk gives the choice of two routes:

- 1) The upper ridge takes you over a forest access road used for logging operations. As this road is up high on a ridge above the lake it provides remarkable views of surrounding farmland, Mt Taranaki and the lake itself.
- 2) The lower lakeside route takes you on an ambling walk close to the lake edge. Lakeside vegetation and regenerating pockets of native bush provide a cooling atmosphere and a home to many birds. The northern section is a popular area for mountain bikers, so caution is advised on these tracks.

For further information contact New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre, refer to page 6..



Map Of Walk Area



KEY

- Lake Circuit Walk
- Parking
- Lookout

Points Of Interest

- A** Redwood plantation
- B** Lake dam
- C** Bridle Zone entrance
- D** Forestry production



Mt Damper Falls Track

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 2.0km (return)

Grade of walk: Easy

Time: 40 minutes - 1 hour

19

At 74m high the falls are one of the highest in the North Island and have become a "must see" for travellers. Nestled in the northern Taranaki forests just off the Forgotten World Highway.

Route Description

The track has a firm user-friendly surface that suits a range of footwear and caters for all types of walkers. Climb the stair stile by the car park and walk over the formed track beside the creek. The first ten minutes is quite a smooth walk over open farmland. A wheelchair or stroller could be pushed but it may be a little bumpy.

Cross a steel beamed bridge into a lowland forest represented with rimu, tawa, silver beech, rewarewa and manuka. Meander your way along an evenly graded benched metal track. Along the way you will see the junction to the Mt Damper Track. Do not take that track unless you want an 8-hour walk.

From the first viewing platform you will get a view of the falls and valley. The track descends, gradually at first and then down some stairs, to the second viewing platform. This one offers a closer look at the falls and the plunge pool at the bottom. Return to the car park the same way.



Water hazards are present, so do not deviate from the track.

Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 38° 55' 29" S 174° 46' 59" E



Further Information:

Stratford i-SITE Visitor Centre

Prospero Pl, Miranda St, Stratford
Ph: 06 765 6708 or: 0800 765 670
Web: www.stratford.govt.nz

New Plymouth's i-SITE Visitor Centre

Puke Ariki, 1 Ariki Street, New Plymouth
Phone: 06 759 0897 or 0800 639 759
Email: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz
Website: www.newplymouthnz.com

Points Of Interest

- A** Mt Damper Falls
- B** Eastern farm land
- C** Car park
- D** East Taranaki Heritage Trail

Prospero Place

Prospero Place was originally part of a large gully and stream. It was purchased for seven pounds and ten shillings in 1838 and then after the stream was piped and fully filled in, changed hands for four hundred pounds. The Bank of New Zealand building opened in 1889 and replaced the old County Hall.

Stratford Heritage Walkway

ROUTE 20

Type of Walkway: Path /Short Walk

Distance: 1.0km

Grade of walk: Easy

Time: 30 - 40 minutes

20

The Stratford Heritage Walkway combines the unique features of Stratford: areas of parks and gardens, the crystal clear mountain-fed waters of the Patea River, the Shakespearean background reflected in street names, and the pioneering development of the town as outlined by many buildings and points of special interest.

Points of Interest

A. Bell Tower

This tower was constructed in 1981. The bells were removed from the old clock tower (built in 1924 and demolished in 1963) and lay in disuse for 20 years until this tower was built. The original clock tower and bells were built as a memorial to the soldiers of Stratford who fell in the Boer War and WW1.

B. Malone Memorial Gates

The largest war memorial to an individual soldier in NZ was erected in 1923 to recognise the outstanding bravery and leadership of Lieutenant Colonel W G Malone of Stratford who died at the battle of Chunuk Bair at Gallipoli.

C. Kauri Tree and Lone Pine

This kauri tree was planted in 1954 to commemorate the visit of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip to Stratford. The lone conifer tree was planted from a seedling off Lone Pine Ridge in Gallipoli.

D. Swingbridge

Erected in 1902 to commemorate the coronation of King Edward VII.

E. Otago Chambers

Built in 1912/13 this impressive brick structure has housed a law firm associated with the Thomson family since that date.

F. Newton King

Once a livery stable then a vehicle and machinery centre.

I. Victoria Bridge

This wide bridge was opened in 1924 by the Prime Minister, Hon J G Coates.

J. Salvation Army Building

This has been the site of the Salvation Army since it was built in 1894.

L. Curtis Store Site

Site of the first shop in Stratford in 1878.

M. Hall of Remembrance

This unique war memorial of photographs commemorates soldiers from the district who lost their lives in the Boer War and two World Wars.

O. Post Office

Site of the original Post Office built 1896.

P. Clock Tower/Glockenspiel

This Elizabethan clock tower was built in 1996 and surrounds the previous tower built in the 1960s. The tower hosts NZ's first glockenspiel which performs four times daily (10am, 1pm, 3pm & 7pm) a 5-minute sequence depicting the world's best known love story, Romeo and Juliet.

Q. Kings Theatre

Built in 1918, the first talking pictures in the Southern Hemisphere were shown here in 1925.

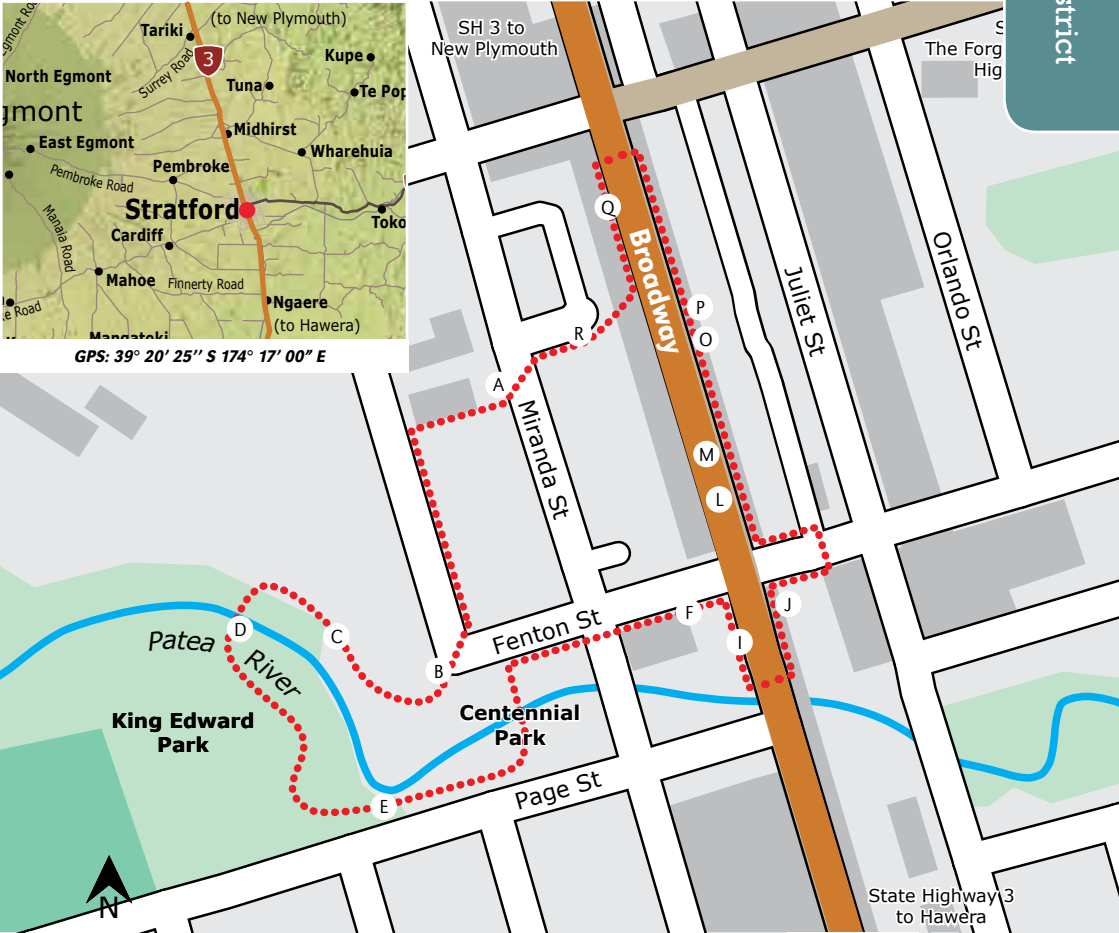
R. Prospero Place

Originally part of a gully and stream which was piped and filled in. Now a popular pedestrian link through to Miranda St.

Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 20' 25" S 174° 17' 00" E



Further Information:

Stratford i-SITE Visitor Centre
 Prospero Pl, Miranda St, Stratford
 Ph: 06 765 6708
 or: 0800 765 670
 Web: www.stratford.govt.nz



Carrington Walkway

ROUTE 21

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 3.0km - 9.0km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1 - 4.5 hours

21

The Carrington Walkway is a looped urban bush walk encompassing native bush into which European and American species have been introduced. Along the walkway discover some impressive views of Mt Taranaki which rises 2,518 metres (8,260 feet) and dominates the western horizon.

Route Description

Start at the Malone Gates located on the corner of Fenton and Portia streets. These white marble gates were erected in 1923 as a tribute to Lieutenant Colonel William George Malone, who was killed after successfully leading the Wellington Battalion in an attack on the Turks at Chunuk Bair on 8 August 1915. Follow the signage from here. This section provides a choice of routes, which adds interest for those doing the round trip or subsequent walks.

Stratford's climate and soil provides ideal conditions for growing. Visit the McCullough Rhododendron Dell in spring. Formed in the 1960s, these gardens contain several hundred rhododendrons and include some propagated from seed sent from the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh, Scotland as well as some from Lord Rothchild's gardens in England.

In 1952 the Clemow Reserve, a native arboretum, was established along the northern edge of the Rhododendron Dell.

As the river winds its way down through the township there are four pedestrian bridges that cross the river giving panoramic views of the steep banks and vegetation. Wait long enough on these bridges and you may glimpse a brown trout. Also there are sizeable natural pools (used by past generations as swimming holes) which may contain the occasional trout. A boulder weir was also constructed to dam the flow of the river, and two caves were dug into the banks for changing sheds and are still visible today.

View the stock ford which crosses the river - this was used to get cattle to the saleyards on Miranda St. from the south and west. Cattle or horses were accorded the right of way on the streets! In 1952 these saleyards were closed and new yards opened in Esk Rd.

Cross the state highway (Broadway) and walk under a rail bridge and you will find Windsor Park, a delightful miniature landscaped area which includes several large magnolias and many fine specimens of rhododendrons.

To the east of Windsor Park is the Thomson Arboretum, established in 2001 with the plantings reflecting a Taranaki feel. The planting on the eastern side of the arboretum is designed to recreate a sense of the bush edge while the western side contains plants reminiscent of ancient primeval forests.

Some sections of the walkway follow farmland boundaries, giving views across the countryside of rolling green pastures and grazing cattle. Wooden stiles are used to cross all stock fences which help make access reasonably easy.

Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 20' 30" S 174° 16' 57" E



Further Information:

Stratford i-SITE Visitor Centre
 Prospero Pl, Miranda St, Stratford
 Ph: 06 765 6708
 or: 0800 765 670
 Web: www.stratford.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- Red** Carrington Walk
- Green** Three Bridges Trail
- Orange** Clemow Walk
- Purple** Western Loop
- Yellow** Eastern Loop



Cardiff Centennial Walkway

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 3.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate/Strenuous

Time: 1.5 hours

22

The Cardiff Centennial Walkway is sited on the Waingongoro River at Cardiff, approximately 6km from Stratford. It is a pleasant walkway through farmland and natural bush which gives access to points of local historical significance. This walkway is ideally suited for combining with a day's outing to Dawson Falls in Egmont National Park or Hollard Gardens near Kaponga.

This walkway was developed by members of the Cardiff Branch of Federated Farmers to coincide with the centennial of the Cardiff School and District in May 1986.

Route Description

The walkway is an attractive and tranquil riverbank walk. Changes of direction and elevation provide variety as there are steep slopes and river flats. There is a well-maintained path through bush and farmland with some steep gradients following the natural contour. Tracks are constructed with as little disturbance as possible to the land form.

From the car park on Opunake Rd. the walkway follows the river on both banks upstream from the Opunake Rd. bridge for approximately 1.5km (giving a total length of 3km). The walkway is a pleasant walk through farmland and natural bush and gives access to points of historical significance otherwise little known beyond the immediate locality.

Adequate supplies of water for the nearby Cardiff Co-Operative Dairy Factory caused anxiety when the supply from the well, sunk when the factory was built in 1891, proved insufficient. Ultimately supplies were established by a well, by water from the Waingongoro River and by a bore, thus making the historical significance of the area as being one of the first dairy factory water supplies in New Zealand.

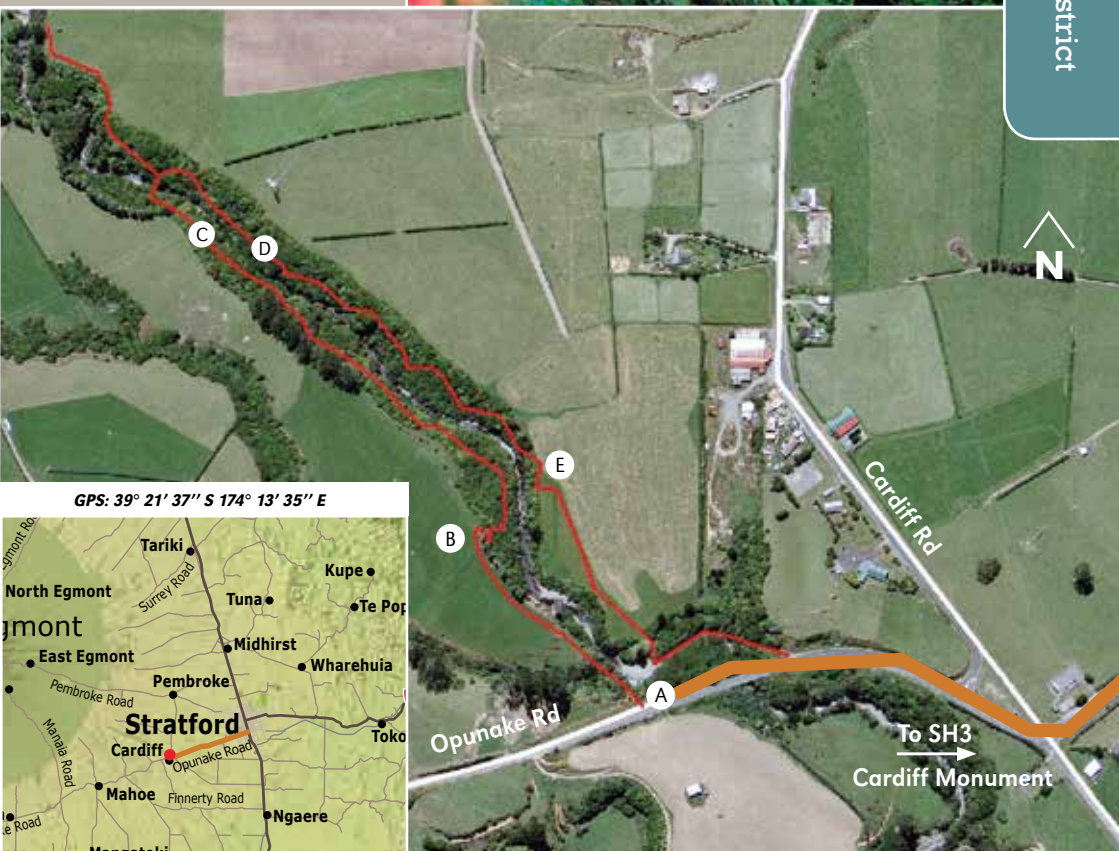
The factory closed in 1951.

Visit the sites of two weirs built to dam the river to operate a double ram system which pumped water to the Cardiff Co-Operative Dairy Factory. This site also features a recently constructed swing-bridge.

Provision has been made for a short sidetrack, which ends at a cliff-top look-out platform above the river giving views of the mountain, the surrounding farm land and a 55m natural gas pipeline bridge.

If your time is limited, or if you just want to sit back and enjoy nature, then follow some steps and after a short two to three minute stroll through a natural bush pathway you will discover a picnic area. From this area you catch a glimpse of the river and its stoney banks. Seats and a table are provided but why not enjoy your picnic on the river bank to the sound of the water and native bird song.

Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

Stratford i-SITE Visitor Centre

Prospero Pl, Miranda St, Stratford

Ph: 06 765 6708

or: 0800 765 670

Web: www.stratford.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Layers of volcanic eruptions
- B** Outlook over old dairy factory
- C** Swingbridge
- D** Two weirs
- E** Old sand trap & water ram

Hollard Gardens Walkway

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 2.0km

Grade of walk: Easy

Time: Up to 2 hours

23

Hollard Gardens is an interesting and relaxing place to visit at any time of the year. Primarily a plant collection, the style of the gardens is informal and much of the 4ha garden is woodland. The gardens are renowned for their repository of plants, representing exotic introductions and New Zealand-bred plants spanning the last 80 years. The gardens are at their best during October and November.

Hollard Gardens was the creation of Bernie and Rose Hollard. Bernie (1903 – 1996), from a local dairy farming family, began the garden in 1927. He was an avid plant collector throughout his life and had a reputation as one of New Zealand’s foremost plantsmen. Rhododendrons, camellias and azaleas were his favourite plants.

Route Description

This is an easy walk through extensive gardens and bush. At the Gatehouse is wayfinding information, and visitor guides are available to assist you in your walk.

There are two marked trails which you can follow at Hollard Gardens:

Bernie’s Walk

Bernie’s Walk takes you right around Hollard Gardens and includes the swamp, which is a spectacular display of bog plants in the spring.

Rose’s Walk

Rose’s Walk is a short stroll that explores the maturing new garden and the intimacy of the old garden.

During either walk you will see many beautiful plants. You will also learn about the history of the gardens and the early days of farming.

These walks are interesting at any time of the year, and there are a number of shelter and lookout points throughout the property. There is also a children’s playground to enjoy.

Visitors are encouraged to explore and experience other paths and walkways that interlink the two marked trails.

Hollard Gardens is owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council.



Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 23' 59" S 174° 09' 03" E



Further Information:

Taranaki Regional Council

47 Cloten Road, Stratford
 Ph: 06 765 7127
 Web: www.trc.govt/hollard-home

South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre

55 High St, Hawera
 Ph: 06 278 8599 or: 0800 111 323
 Website: www.southtaranaki.com/visit

KEY

- Bernie's Walk
- Rose's Walk

Opunake Walkway

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 7.0km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 3 - 4 hours

24

The Opunake Walkway is the longest of the formal South Taranaki walks and takes you through beautiful lake and beach scenery. It travels around Opunake Lake and across the cliffs, providing views of Te Namu Pa, Mt Taranaki and the rugged coastline. The lake is popular for boating, swimming and water skiing.

Points of Interest

The walk can be started from a number of easily accessible points but if you wish to complete the whole walk, the best place to begin is by the boat ramp at the Opunake Lake (Layard St). Along this walk you will find many points of great historic and environmental interest, including:

Opunake Lake

The lake is used to provide hydroelectricity. It was once a vegetable garden used to supply the Armed Constabulary and early settlers. There are public toilets at this stop for your use.

Armed Constabulary Cemetery

The cemetery is located on the headland that juts into the lake. It has four historic headstones. The perimeters of the cemetery are unknown but some cairns help estimate the cemetery boundaries.

Orimupiko Cemetery

This cemetery is adjacent to the entrance to the Armed Constabulary Cemetery. It is located on a former pa site.

Waiau River Mouth

This is a must-stop location – it will offer you extraordinary views of Taranaki’s dynamic coastline.

The Cottage Hospital

The hospital was the birthplace of many famous New Zealanders including runner Peter Snell.

Opunake Beach

The Riviera of South Taranaki is an outstanding, natural surf attraction that draws visitors and surfers from all over the world. A holiday park and playground are available. The beach was also recently upgraded to offer barbecues and picnic sites for everyone’s use.

The Lion’s Lookout

The lookout is located next to the ramp by the old wharf and offers clear views of the Taranaki Bight.

Middleton Bay

Middleton Bay has a boat ramp for easy launching, though it is not a safe swimming beach.

Te Namu Pa

The pa is visible from the northern end of the walkway and is an extremely important site in Taranaki. It was the location of a famous battle where Wiremu Kingi Matakatea repelled 800 Waikato Maori and successfully withstood a month-long siege armed with a single rifle. The best access to the site is via Opunake Cemetery and then over the Otahi Stream. Te Namu Pa is on private property and the owners and the Historic Places Trust ask that the area be treated with care and respect. There are open food storage pits and tunnels on the site and these can be dangerous.

There are comprehensive maps for your information at either end of the walk.

Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre

55 High St, Hawera

Ph: 06 278 8599

or: 0800 111 323

Website: www.southtaranaki.com/visit

Points Of Interest

- A** Opunake Lake boat ramp
- B** Armed Constabulary Cemetery
- C** Opunake Beach
- D** The Lion's Lookout
- E** Middleton Bay
- F** Te Namu Pa



Ohawe Beach to Waihi Beach Coastal Walk

ROUTE 25

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 5.0km

Grade of walk: Moderate

Time: 2.5 - 3 hours

25

The walk can begin from either Ohawe Beach or Waihi Beach. Ohawe Beach is accessed by turning left into Ohawe Rd from Surf Highway 45, 5km west of Hawera. Alternatively you can turn west into Denby Rd. at Hawera. The descent to Waihi Beach is via a steep gravel track from the car park at the end of Denby Rd.

Safety First

This is a tidal route and is safe to walk up to 2.5 hours before and after low tide. Don't forget to check the tide tables before you leave. Swimming is not safe along the walk but there is a safe swimming area at the end of the boat ramp at Ohawe Beach. Toilets and changing rooms are available here.

Points of Interest

A. Waingongoro River and Ohawe Beach

It was here at the mouth of the Waingongoro River that the first Maori settlers in Taranaki lived in small undefended settlements. The remains of moa have been found in cooking ovens around the edge of the present camping ground. Later, in the 1940's a strongly fortified pa stood on an isolated hill within the last seaward bend of the river, where the car park is now located. The hill and pa have since been entirely removed by quarrying.

B. Cliffs

The uplifted marine terraces that form the South Taranaki coastline from Ohawe to Wanganui begin here. These cliffs are characterised by spectacularly high, soft papa rock that forms the lower part of the cliffs. These have been uplifted from the sea over the past 3 million years.

C. Rock Pools

The coastline features coastal reefs with two particularly large and accessible areas of rock pools. These pools contain a wide range of interesting sea life and are safe to explore at low tide.

D. Tram Rails

Remnants of a tram rail can be seen at the base of the cliffs near the end of Hauroto Rd. This rail was used to haul shingle and sand from the beach to build roads and some of the earlier concrete buildings in South Taranaki.





Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 35' 10" S 174° 11' 34" E



Further Information:

South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre

55 High St, Hawera

Ph: 06 278 8599

or: 0800 111 323

Website: www.southtaranaki.com/visit

Points Of Interest

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| A Waingongoro River | E Ohawe Beach Camp |
| B Ohawe Beach | F Cliffs |
| C Ohawe Soldiers Cemetery | G Rock Pools |
| D Rangatapu Marae | H Tram Rails |
| | I Waihi Beach |



Lake Rotokare Walkway

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 4.2km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1.5 - 2 hours

26

Rotokare, the 'rippling lake', is part of a peaceful and undisturbed bush reserve. It has a surface area of 17.8ha and an average depth of more than 6m. It is fed entirely by natural springs, with the only outlet being Te Ararata Stream at the western end of the lake. The lake, together with the surrounding 212ha of thriving native bush, forms the Rotokare Scenic Reserve which is administered by the South Taranaki District Council.

In 2008 the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust completed construction of a predator-proof fence around the reserve. This has created a pest-free sanctuary which provides diverse habitats ranging from the lake itself to the wetlands, swamp forest and bush.

Boating, water-skiing and kayaking are popular pursuits on the lake, although power craft are excluded from the lake from May to November to provide a peaceful refuge for birdlife. Dogs are prohibited in the reserve at all times.

History

Maori have utilised the lake and surrounding areas as a food source for many years and some of the flora is still used today by local Maori for medicinal purposes. An archaeological site, a midden, which holds the remains of many fresh-water mussels is located in this area.

Route Description

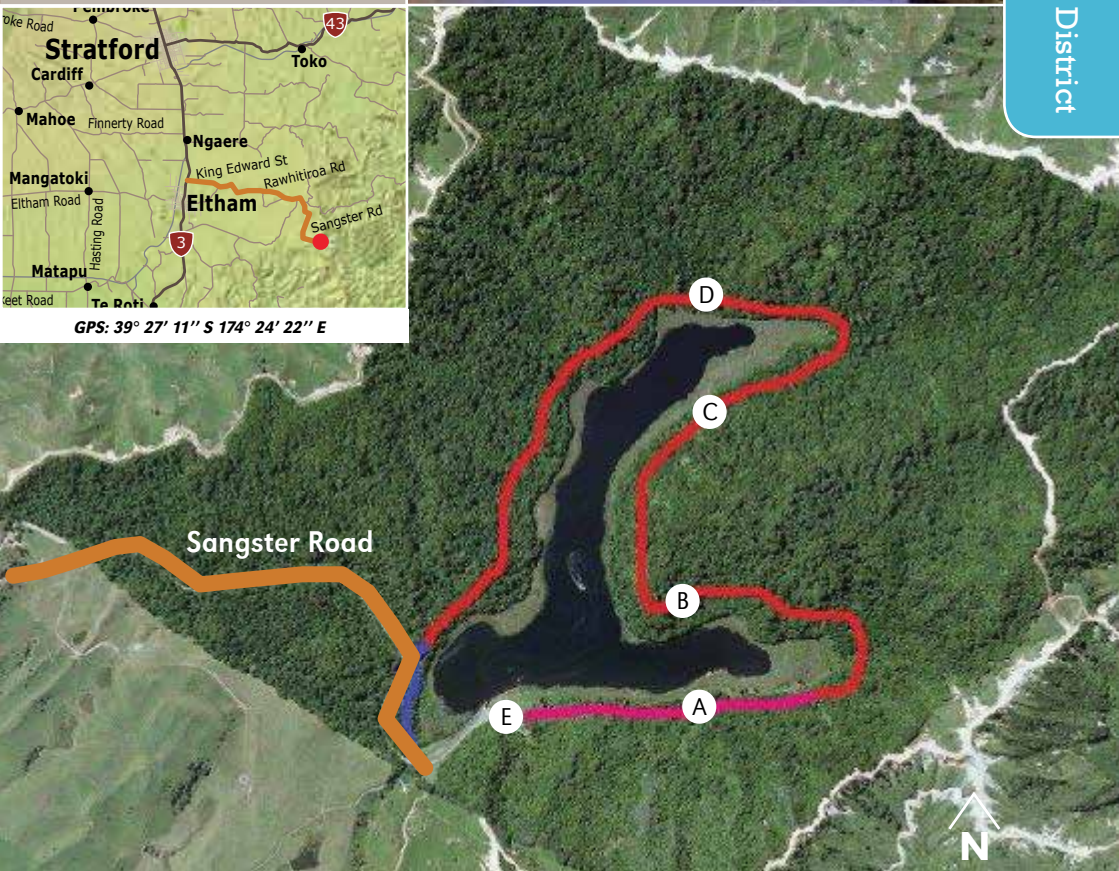
The walkway starts at the car park/picnic area and encircles the lake. It follows the southern shore of the lake before entering native bush for most of the remainder of the walk. The track is well graded and a boardwalk extends through the swamp forest. Sturdy walking shoes are recommended, particularly in wet weather as there are some muddy areas.

Allow approximately 1.5 to 2 hours to enjoy the walk and the views around the lake, or a bit more if you want to take in the fabulous birdlife. Seats have been installed in some of the best viewing places to enjoy the birdlife along the route. The walk emerges on Sangster Rd. a few hundred metres from the starting point.

There is a wide variety of bird species living around the lake, and this is an important stopover for many different migrating birds. Bellbirds, tui, kereru, grey warbler, fernbird and spotless crane frequent the forest. Water birds abound on the lake margins and often in the thickets about the tracks. One of the larger inlet streams offers a rare opportunity to view banded kokopu (adult whitebait) and tuna (eel) in their natural habitat.

A double gate system allows entry to the reserve - simply push the entry button for the gates to open automatically. Don't forget to check your vehicle and bags for any stowaway rodents before entering, and help to keep Rotokare a special pest-free place.

Map Of Walk Area



Further Information:

South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre

55 High St, Hawera
 Ph: 06 278 8599
 or: 0800 111 323
 Website: www.southtaranaki.com/visit

Rotakare Scenic Reserve Trust

Sangster Road, Eltham
 Ph: 06 764 8756
 Website: www.rotokare.org.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Viewing seat for fernbird and spotless crane
- B** Viewing seat for waterfowl
- C** Giant pukatea tree
- D** Bridge where banded kokopu can be seen
- E** Boat ramp and picnic area

Lake Rotorangi Walkway

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 1.5km

Grade of walk: Easy

Time: 40 minutes

27

This is an attractive short lakeside walk located at the southern end of Lake Rotorangi. The walkway takes you across the spillway and dam and through virgin bush filled with tawa and hinau. A feature of the walkway is a grove of black beech or tawhairauriki, which flower in a burst of brilliant red in October and November.

The walk is accessed from State Highway 3 just north of Patea via Ball Rd. and Rotorangi Rd. The campground located by the dam offers toilet facilities, showers and tent sites.

History

Lake Rotorangi is the longest man-made lake in New Zealand at 46km and was created by the damming of the Patea River. The dam is constructed from 1.2 million cubic metres of sandstone and siltstone that abound in the area and was the first large dam to be constructed using these materials. The dam is 82m high, which made it the fourth highest dam in New Zealand at the time of its construction, and 160m across.

There are three carvings located at the dam site, all crafted from totara in the traditional Taranaki style by Patea carvers under the tutelage of Reverend Te Napi Waaka. They are Pou Tiaki, Rahui and a carved archway consisting of two amo (uprights) and two maihi (apex boards).

Route Description

The Lake Rotorangi Hydro Walk crosses the dam from the car park and enters a mixed podocarp and manuka forest. Travelling in an anticlockwise direction, the track sits above the shore line and leads around a peninsula. Stay alert to the chance of spotting parakeet birds in the forest.

On the northern side of the peninsula the track offers stunning views of the lake as it gradually climbs to a high point, before descending back to the dam.

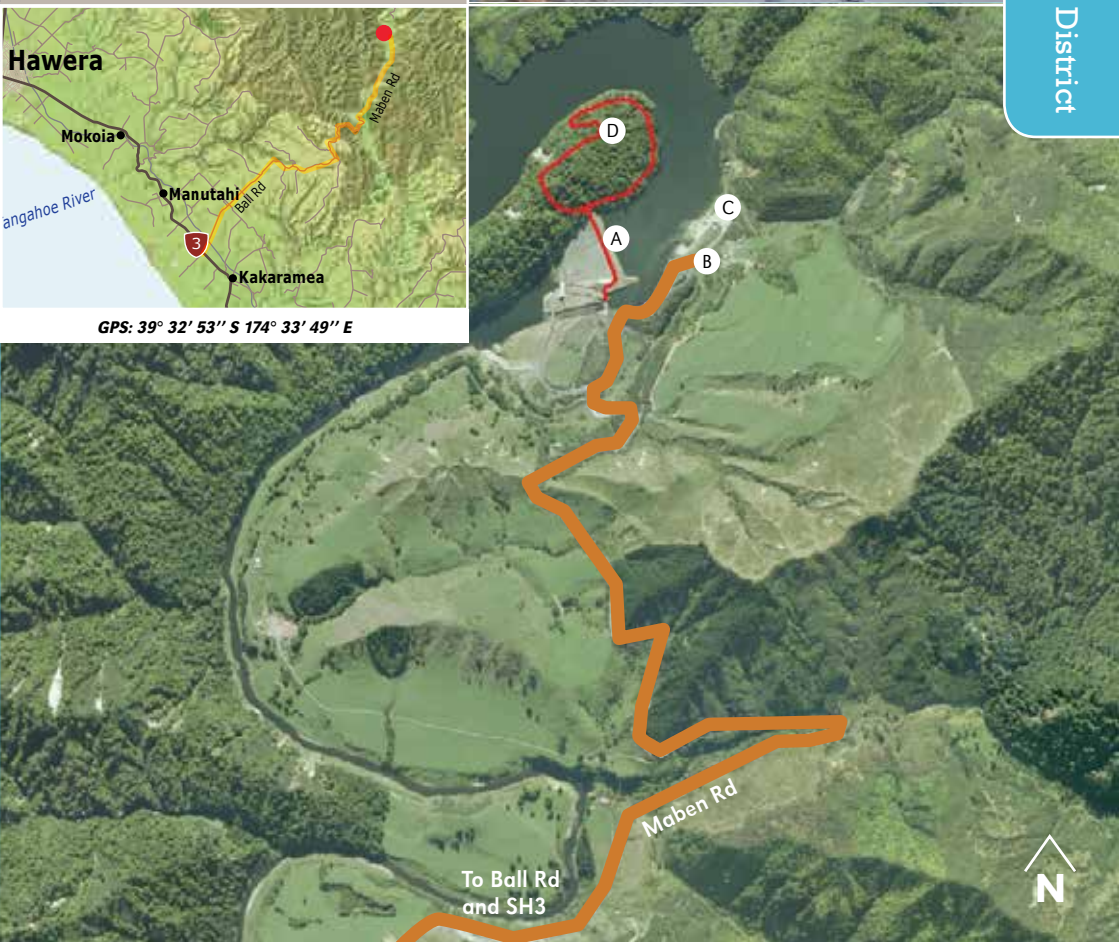
There are a number of seats on which to rest and enjoy the birds and bush as well as views of the lake and the downstream river.



Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 32' 53" S 174° 33' 49" E



Further Information:

Dept. of Conservation Taranaki Area Office

55A Rimu St, New Plymouth

Ph: 06 759 0350

Web: www.doc.govt.nz

Points Of Interest

- A** Patea Dam
- B** Campground
- C** Boat ramp
- D** Lookout



Patea River Historic Walkway

ROUTE 28

Type of Walkway: Walking Track

Distance: 1.5km

Grade of walk: Easy/Moderate

Time: 1 - 1.5 hours

28

The Patea River Historic Walkway leads from Patea Beach and follows the river up to York St. with several interesting historical sites along the way. The walk can be started at either end, and if you finish at the beach you can enjoy a meal using one of the free electronic barbecues in the picnic area. Toilets are available at the beach.

Route Description

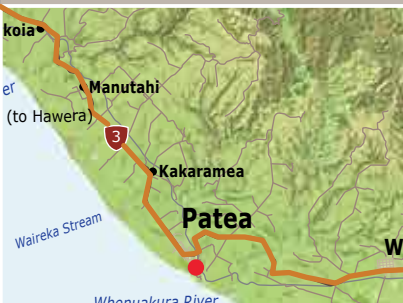
Leaving from the boat ramp on Turi St. the walkway runs alongside the river through pastureland and pine forest. A series of seven illustrated signs outline significant historic points of interest dating back to the 1860s. Main features are stories from the Patea wharf and port, the meat industry, Wai o Turi Marae, Haere Hau Pa and Dawsons Redoubt.

The signs feature historic photographs and watercolours from the South Taranaki District Museum archives as well as illustrations from award-winning New Zealand botanical artist Audrey Eagle.

If entering the walkway from the York St. entry, there is a steep climb which can be muddy and slippery in wet weather.



Map Of Walk Area



GPS: 39° 46' 09" S 174° 29' 18" E



Further Information:

South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre

55 High St, Hawera

Ph: 06 278 8599

or: 0800 111 323

Website: www.southtaranaki.com/visit

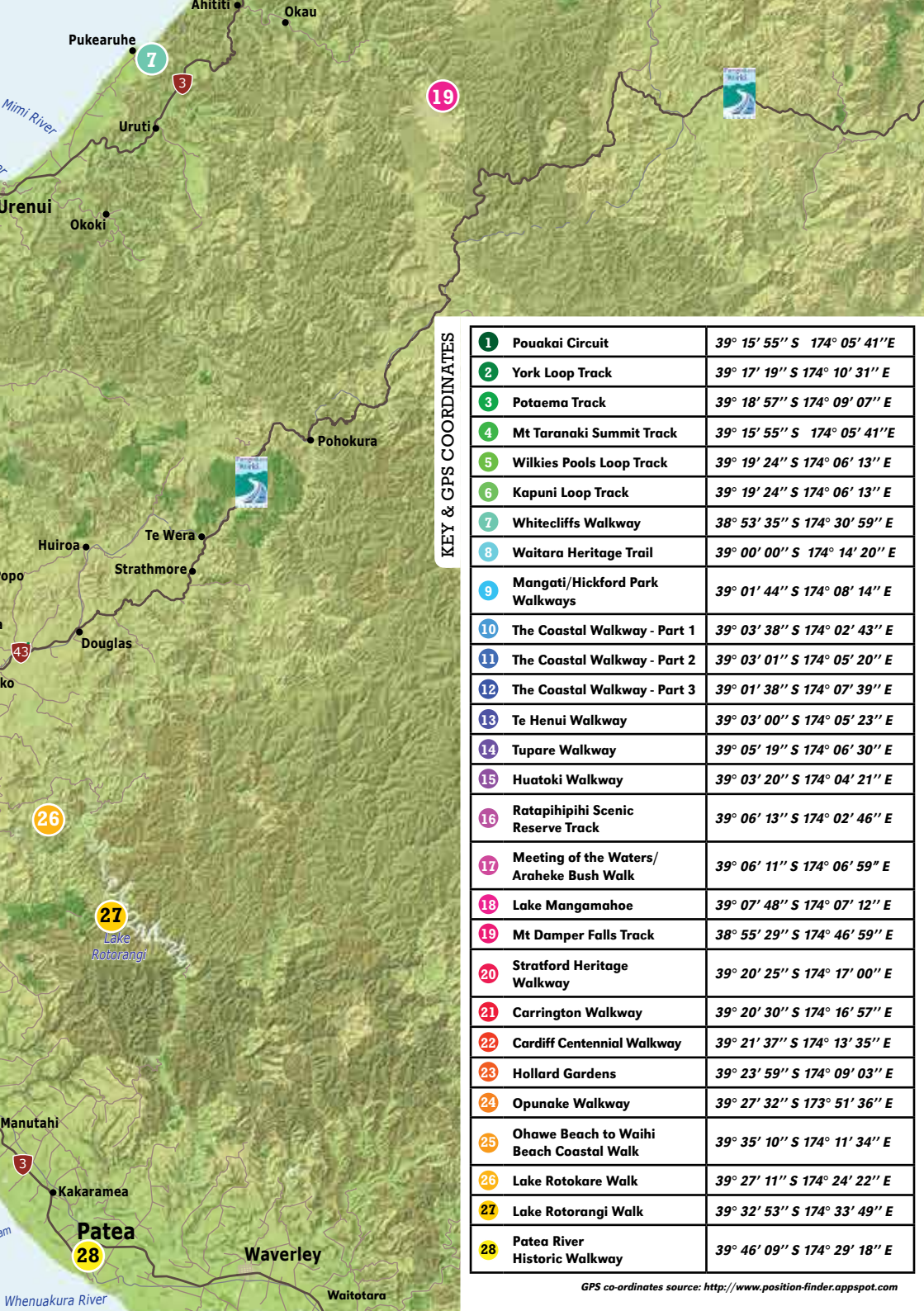
Points Of Interest

- A** Woolstore Wharf
- B** Patea Port
- C** Wai o Turi Marae
- D** Dawson Redoubt
- E** Haere Hau Pa

REGIONAL MAP

Walk Taranaki





KEY & GPS COORDINATES

1	Pouakai Circuit	39° 15' 55" S 174° 05' 41" E
2	York Loop Track	39° 17' 19" S 174° 10' 31" E
3	Potaema Track	39° 18' 57" S 174° 09' 07" E
4	Mt Taranaki Summit Track	39° 15' 55" S 174° 05' 41" E
5	Wilkie Pools Loop Track	39° 19' 24" S 174° 06' 13" E
6	Kapuni Loop Track	39° 19' 24" S 174° 06' 13" E
7	Whitecliffs Walkway	38° 53' 35" S 174° 30' 59" E
8	Waitara Heritage Trail	39° 00' 00" S 174° 14' 20" E
9	Mangati/Hickford Park Walkways	39° 01' 44" S 174° 08' 14" E
10	The Coastal Walkway - Part 1	39° 03' 38" S 174° 02' 43" E
11	The Coastal Walkway - Part 2	39° 03' 01" S 174° 05' 20" E
12	The Coastal Walkway - Part 3	39° 01' 38" S 174° 07' 39" E
13	Te Henui Walkway	39° 03' 00" S 174° 05' 23" E
14	Tupare Walkway	39° 05' 19" S 174° 06' 30" E
15	Huatoki Walkway	39° 03' 20" S 174° 04' 21" E
16	Ratapihipihi Scenic Reserve Track	39° 06' 13" S 174° 02' 46" E
17	Meeting of the Waters/ Araheke Bush Walk	39° 06' 11" S 174° 06' 59" E
18	Lake Mangamahoe	39° 07' 48" S 174° 07' 12" E
19	Mt Damper Falls Track	38° 55' 29" S 174° 46' 59" E
20	Stratford Heritage Walkway	39° 20' 25" S 174° 17' 00" E
21	Carrington Walkway	39° 20' 30" S 174° 16' 57" E
22	Cardiff Centennial Walkway	39° 21' 37" S 174° 13' 35" E
23	Hollard Gardens	39° 23' 59" S 174° 09' 03" E
24	Opunake Walkway	39° 27' 32" S 173° 51' 36" E
25	Ohawe Beach to Waihi Beach Coastal Walk	39° 35' 10" S 174° 11' 34" E
26	Lake Rotokare Walk	39° 27' 11" S 174° 24' 22" E
27	Lake Rotorangi Walk	39° 32' 53" S 174° 33' 49" E
28	Patea River Historic Walkway	39° 46' 09" S 174° 29' 18" E

GPS co-ordinates source: <http://www.position-finder.appspot.com>

*Images courtesy of:
Rob Tucker
New Plymouth District Council
South Taranaki District Council
Stratford District Council
Venture Taranaki Trust
Department of Conservation*



Visit the website for:

*Events, activities and attractions
Getting here and around
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All efforts have been made to ensure information provided in this publication is accurate, but track conditions and situations do change and some tracks in this guide require a high level of skill and technical knowledge. If you are unsure then we advise you to seek expert guidance.



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