

Hakarimata Walkway



Walking

Difficulty

Hard

Length

11.8 km

Journey Time

15 hrs return

Region

Waikato

Part of Collections

Te Araroa - New Zealand's Trail, Te Araroa - North Island

Track maintained by

Department of Conservation

Te Araroa section: The Hakarimata Track is hilly and arduous but the bush and views are worth it. You can walk the Hakarimata Walkway from either its southern end, near Ngāruawāhia, or northern end, closer to Huntly. There are car parks at both ends of the track.

The track from Parker Road starts on the Kauri Loop Track, which leads up a long flight of steps, then levels out to an open area with views to the north. Take the Kauri Loop Track west of the Lower Lookout to walk on past an old pā site and through bush to the large kauri trees. A few minutes further on, there's the kauri grove bush viewpoint. This loop track takes you through to the Upper Lookout.

The Hakarimata Walkway starts from the Upper Lookout. Head in a southerly direction for 20 minutes to the southern lookout where there are excellent views south across Hamilton. The Walkway continues along the undulating crest of the Hakarimata Range with occasional views out to the west and east.

Approx 500m southeast of high point labeled 314 on the map at km 743.5), there is a rough exit track heading down in an easterly direction past the old quarry to Hakarimata Road on the western banks of the Waikato River. It's obviously used by locals as a shortcut to town, but it is tight in places.

The main ridge track continues southwards to the Hakarimata Trig at 374m high. Walking 200m south of the trig, take the track leading down towards the Mangarata Stream. This track - "the Summit Track" is a tremendous success story, where the local community have adopted it as a community wellbeing tool, and it won't be uncommon to see locals heading up or down the track (often multiple times) in their quest for better health outcomes. Kia kaha!

The track then comes out on Brownlee Avenue, which connects with Hakarimata Road. Follow the road southeast until reaching the Waingaro Road Bridge over the Waipā River. The track officially ends on the eastern bank.

If you are after amenities, continue east across the railway and Great South Road to reach Jesmond Street - the main business road in the small township of Ngāruawāhia.

Conditions

Potential hazards

- Vehicles on road or track take care on the one lane bridge
- Poisons & traps
- Few water sources

No dogs allowed.

How to get here

- Northern Start: Hakarimata Scenic Reserve, end of Parker Road
- Southern End: Waingaro Road bridge, Ngāruawāhia

This is a one-way track but it can be walked as return trips to the summit from either end. The track can also be accessed at the Hakarimata summit (374 m) via the Hakarimata Summit Track. The northern section starts from Parker Road, off Hakarimata Road, approx. 7 km south of Huntly and approx. 11 north of Ngāruawāhia. The southern section starts from Waingaro Road, off Hakarimata Road, approximately 3 km south of Ngāruawāhia.

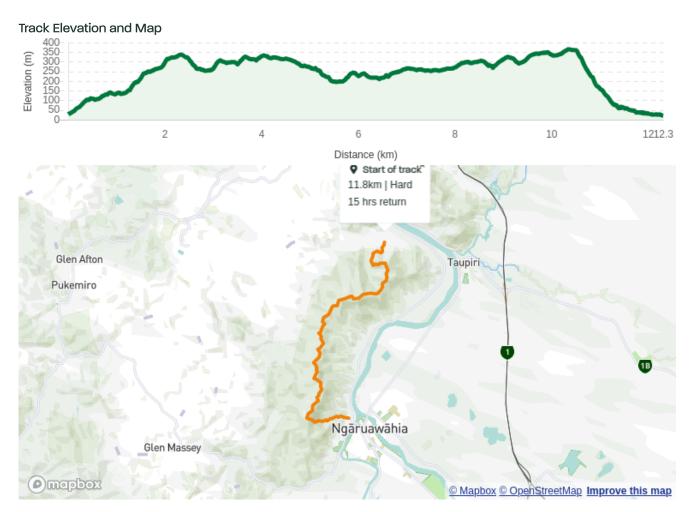
Transport

Accommodation

• RiverBed Motel 2, 13 Market St, Ngaruawahia. P: 07 8248360: E - arrowlodge@callplus.net.nz

Food And Supply

• New World Supermarket 🗹 - 7 Galileo St, Ngāruawāhia - P: 07 824 8275



More information

Waikato trail notes, including information about accommodation, transport and resupplying 🗹

- Map 37 ☑
- <u>Map 38</u> ☑

Functional facts: Approximate population of 5000, limited accommodation, basic shops.



Page last updated: Apr 17, 2024, 9:24 AM