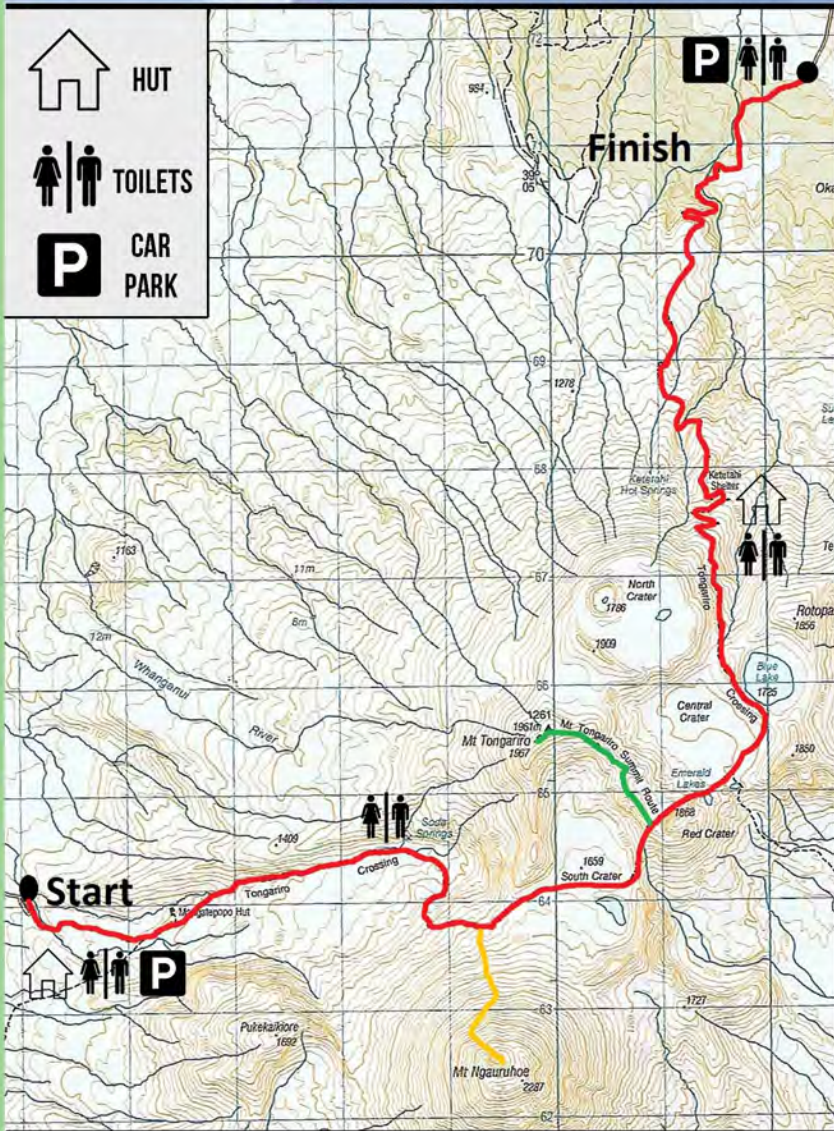


# TONGARIRO ALPINE CROSSING

## TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK - WORLD HERITAGE SITE

THE TONGARIRO ALPINE CROSSING IS AN ALPINE TREK OVER STEEP VOLCANIC TERRAIN AND A REASONABLE LEVEL OF FITNESS IS REQUIRED. TIMES GIVEN ARE AN APPROXIMATE GUIDE AS EVERYONE WALKS AT A DIFFERENT PACE. THE TIME TAKEN ON EACH SECTION OF THE TRACK WILL ALSO DEPEND ON REST AND SIGHTSEEING STOPS. TODAY IS ALL ABOUT HAVING FUN, WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO DO WILL BE ONE OF THE BEST THINGS YOU DO IN NEW ZEALAND.



**MANGATEPOPO TO SODA SPRINGS 4.4KM 1.5HOURS**  
AT A GENTLE GRADIENT THE MAIN TRACK CLIMBS ALONG A STREAM & AROUND THE EDGES OF OLD LAVA FLOWS.

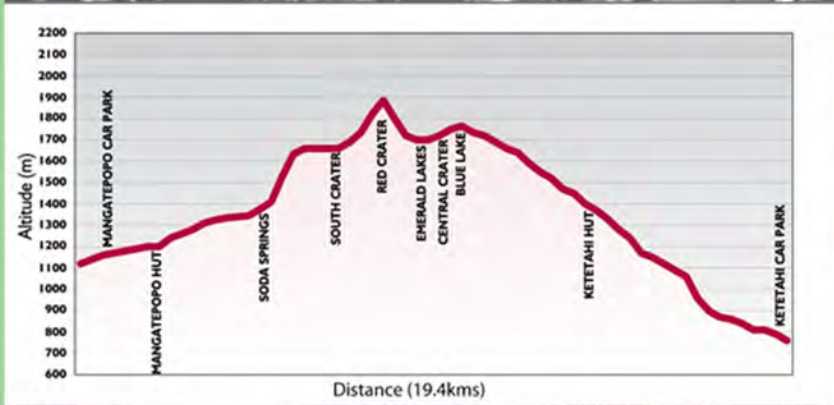
**SODA SPRINGS TO SOUTH CRATER 2.0KM 1HOUR**  
A STEEP CLIMB FROM THE VALLEY TO MANGATEPOPO SADDLE BETWEEN MT NGAURUHOE AND MT TONGARIRO IS REWARDED BY VIEWS OF MT TONGARIRO. THOSE WANTING TO CLIMB MT NGAURUHOE SHOULD TAKE THE ROUTE UP TO THE RIGHT.

**SOUTH CRATER TO RED CRATER 4.0KM 1 HOUR**  
SOUTH CRATER IS NOT A REAL CRATER BUT A BASIN THAT MAY HAVE BEEN GLACIALLY CARVED AND HAS SINCE FILLED WITH SEDIMENT FROM SURROUNDING RIDGES. RED CRATER IS ALSO THE HALF WAY MARK SO IF YOU DECIDE TO HEAD BACK PLEASE RING US.

**RED CRATER TO EMERALD LAKES 1.0KM 20 MINS**  
THE SUMMIT OF RED CRATER (1886 M) IS THE HIGHEST POINT ON THE TONGARIRO CROSSING. FROM HERE THE TRACK DESCENDS STEEPLY TO THREE WATER-FILLED EXPLOSION CRATERS CALLED EMERALD LAKES.

**EMERALD LAKES TO KETETAHI HUT 4.0KM 1-2HOURS**  
THE LAKE IS TAPU (SACRED). DO NOT SWIM IN OR EAT FOOD AROUND THE LAKE. FROM TE WAI-WHAKAATA-O-TE-RANGIHIROA THE TRACK SIDLES AROUND THE FLANKS OF NORTH CRATER (A COOLED LAVA LAKE) AND DESCENDS TO KETETAHI HUT.

**KETETAHI HUT TO KETETAHI CARPARK 6.4KM 2HOURS**  
THE TRACK CONTINUES TO DESCEND THROUGH TUSsock SLOPES TO THE FOREST BUSHLINE. AT TWO POINTS THE TRACK PASSES OVER THE TONGUE OF A LAVA FLOW FROM TE MAARI CRATER AND FOR A DISTANCE FOLLOWS ALONGSIDE THE MANGA-A-TE-TIPUA STREAM. TOWARDS THE END OF THE TRACK A SHORT PATH TAKES YOU TO A LOOKOUT OVER A WATERFALL.



### SIDE TRIPS

#### MT NGAURUHOE (2287 M)

THIS IS NOT A POLED ROUTE. FROM THE BASE OF MT NGAURUHOE AT MANGATEPOPO SADDLE, CLIMB DIRECTLY UP TO MT NGAURUHOE'S CRATER. THE BEST WAY IS UP THE ROCKY RIDGE TO THE LEFT OF THE SCREE SLOPES. THE SUMMIT AREA IS DANGEROUS AND SHOULD BE AVOIDED IF THERE ARE SIGNS OF INCREASED VOLCANIC ACTIVITY. ALLOW 2 HOURS UP FROM THE SADDLE AND 30 MINUTES DOWN.

#### MT TONGARIRO (1957M)

FROM THE RED CRATER FOLLOW THE POLED ROUTE LEADING TO THE SUMMIT. ALLOW 1.5-2 HOURS RETURN.

## IMPORTANT!!

1. INJURIES - CALL 111 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEN INFORM US
2. WATER - WHAT YOU TAKE WITH YOU IS ALL YOU HAVE FOR THE DAY
3. SUNBLOCK - APPLY GENEROUSLY THROUGHOUT THE DAY NOT JUST ONCE IN THE MORNING!
4. TOILETS - SITUATED AT THE START AND END OF TRACK AS WELL AS AT SODA SPRINGS, KETETAHI HUT AND MANGATEPOPO HUT
5. RUBBISH - WHAT YOU BRING IN YOU MUST TAKE OUT
6. AT THE END - CHECK IN WITH OUR DRIVER OF THE BUS. WHEN EVERYONE IS BACK WE HEAD HOME.
7. RUNNING LATE? CALL US!
8. GOT A DIFFERENT RIDE OR TURNED AROUND? CALL US!
9. MISSED THE BUS? CALL US!

## COMMUNICATION

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONTACT US IF YOU ARE RUNNING LATE, HAVE FOUND ANOTHER WAY HOME OR IF YOU DECIDED TO TURN BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THERE IS CELL PHONE SERVICE THROUGHOUT MOST OF TRACK. IF WE DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU, AND YOU AREN'T PRESENT FOR OUR FINAL PICK UP TIME YOUR DETAILS WILL BE HANDED OVER TO SEARCH AND RESCUE AS WE TAKE YOUR SAFETY AND OUR RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY.

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SOCIAL MEDIA!



## BE PREPARED

### WHAT TO BRING

- FOOD AND PLENTY OF WATER, 1.5 LITRES MINIMUM
- RAINPROOF JACKET
- STURDY FOOTWARE
- WARM CLOTHING (NO COTTON OR JEANS)
- HAT AND GLOVES
- SUN PROTECTION
- CELL PHONE
- PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT (OPTIONAL)

WE ALSO OFFER RENTAL HIRE FOR JACKETS, CLOTHING, BOOTS AND TREKING POLES WHICH IS READILY AVAILABLE ON THE BUS.

## WEATHER

TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK WEATHER CAN CHANGE WITH AN ALARMING SPEED. YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS. BE PREPARED TO CHANGE YOUR PLANS AND TURN BACK ESPECIALLY WHEN VISIBILITY IS POOR AND IN STRONG WINDS.



WEATHER



POCKET RANGER

## NEW ZEALAND LEAVE NO TRACE

1. PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE
2. TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE GROUND
3. DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY
4. LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND
5. MINIMISE THE EFFECTS OF FIRE
6. RESPECT WILDLIFE AND FARM ANIMALS
7. BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS

