



Colonial Knob

(Map 074, 075)

Northern Start	Station Rd, Porirua
Southern End	Mt Kaukau, Wellington
Distance	21km
Time	6hr
Tramping Standard	Tramping track

Route

Few capital cities offer walks with such spectacular views as the section of Te Araroa from Porirua to Wellington's suburbs of Johnsonville or Khandallah. On a clear day, the views stretch up to Mt Taranaki in the north, across to the South Island's Kaikoura Ranges and Marlborough Sounds, and embrace the city's attractive harbour and hillside suburbs. There is easy accessibility to the start and end points for the 21km walk.

Porirua to Elsdon - 3km / 45min

- From Station Road (adjacent to Porirua Railway Station), cross Lyttelton Avenue at pedestrian crossing and turn right.
- On Northern edge of New World Supermarket car park turn left onto pathway. Follow path to city centre uncovered carpark..
- Cross the carpark and cross pedestrian crossing on Hagley Street and turn left.
- Cross Titahi Bay Road at crossing.
- Immediately cross Hagley Street again towards south.
- Follow the Raiha Walkway on right hand side of pine trees along grass verge.
- Follow signed route along grass beside Te Wananga driveway.
- Continue along walkway through to Raiha Street.
- Exit to right. Walk 200-300m to Colonial Knob Walkway car park on left (past Elsdon Camp).

Elsdon to Colonial Knob - 4km / 1hr

- Follow marked track up Colonial Knob.

Colonial Knob to Mt Kaukau - 14km / 4¼hr

- Follow markers down other side (blue) to edge of Spicer Forest.
- Cross stile turn right and follow fenceline on edge of forest.
- Turn left into forest following yellow circles through forest and down to the valley floor.
- Exit through gate and turn left into Ohariu Valley Road.
- Walk along road (approx 5kms) to crossroads. Straight through crossroads to Rifle Range Road to end. Enter Old Coach Road.
- (Optional exit into Johnsonville at Truscott Ave.) Continue along marked track towards television mast on Mt Kaukau.

Optional exit down to Woodmancoate Road, Khandallah.

Other Information

Cellphone Coverage

Good coverage apart from Ohariu Valley Road, Rifle Range Road and Old Coach Road.

Refreshments

Ohariu Valley Equestrian Centre & Saddleback Cafe - 517 Ohariu Valley Road, Ohariu Valley - P: 04 4788 733 - E: info@saddlebackcafe.co.nz.

Allen Goh welcomes walkers to his house on Ohariu Valley Rd - first on right (southbound) after leaving Spicers Forest - look for sign marked "Rest Stop".

Camping (small charge), refreshment, wifi.

Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track take plenty of care along Ohariu Valley Rd - it is narrow and twisting
- Farming operations Go around cattle and take extra care at calving/lambing
- Forestry operations in Spicer Forest (occasional)
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold along the tops
- Weather extremes along the tops
- Few water sources along the tops

Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land
- Forestry operations - Track may be closed occasionally
- Dogs on leash only allowed on the Northern Walkway sections. Other sections of the walkway are not suitable for dogs as they go through private farm land.
- No firearms

Amenities (Start)

- Full range of amenities in Porirua
- Car park
- Toilets
- Shop
- Accommodation

Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities Except in Suburbs
- Carpark Base of Colonial Knob - Raiha Road
- Toilets At Ohariu Cafe (open only Saturday-Sunday)
- Standard Campsite Elsdon Camp Ground at base of Colonial Knob