



## Bulls to Feilding

(Map 064, 065)

<b>Northern Start</b>	Junction of High St and SH3, Bulls
<b>Southern End</b>	Kowhai Park, South St, Feilding
<b>Distance</b>	21km
<b>Time</b>	5-6hr
<b>Tramping Standard</b>	Road margin

### Route

#### **Bulls to Ngaio/Wilsons Rd intersection - 7.7km / 2hr**

*Leaving Bulls, follow the footpath on the southwest side of the highway, crossing the bridge over the Rangitikei River.*

At the junction of Tangimoana Rd, cross SH1 to Wightmans Rd. From here the route is well marked on posts with Te Araroa logos and chevrons.

Looking south, Wightmans Rd gives a good view of the Tararua Range from Palmerston North south, and the wind turbines can be seen north and south of the Manawatu Gorge. On the left are views of the meandering Rangitikei River. Passing some of the Ohakea Defence Base outbuildings, continue along Wightmans Rd until you reach the intersection with Hurst Rd. Follow along Hurst Rd and turn left at the intersection of Hurst Rd and Wilsons Rd.

*Follow this road for about 2km until you reach the Wilsons Road/Ngaio Rd intersection where the Ohakea Radar Station is located.*

#### **Ngaio/Wilsons Rd intersection to Mt Biggs School - 5km / 1-1.5hr**

Cross Wilsons Rd heading east along Ngaio Rd to Mt Lees Reserve. Originally part of Ngaio Station, which encompassed the area between Feilding and the Rangitikei River, Mt Lees is now a scenic reserve, but the station provides accommodation, morning and afternoon teas, and caters for functions. There is a basic sheltered campsite with drinking water and toilets. The 2.5km long bushwalks around this reserve are a good side trip with some impressive specimen trees. Further information is available at [www.mtlees.co.nz](http://www.mtlees.co.nz).

Going east, Ngaio Rd leads onto the Mt Stewart Halcombe Rd. From this intersection to Sandon Rd by Mt Biggs School (approx 1km), the Ruahine Range is visible.

#### **Mt Biggs School to Kowhai Park - 8.3km / 2-3hr**

Continue east along Sandon Rd for 1.5km, passing Te Rakehou Rd, veering south east until you reach the Lees Rd intersection.

The trail follows Sandon Rd for a further 3.5km, turning into Ranfurly Rd, which leads into the suburban area of Feilding. On Ranfurly Rd there are views of both the Ruahine and the Tararua Ranges, windfarms on the ranges, and Kapiti Island on a clear day.

At West St, turn right for 300m then left into South St. Continue for 200m to reach Kowhai Park.

*(An interesting walk and alternative to the main trail is from the Lees Rd/Sandon Rd intersection. Follow Lees Rd to the Awahuri Rd intersection, turn right for about 1km and then turn left into Kawakawa Rd. Enter Kitchener Park, follow the boardwalk and walkway beside the Makino Stream and alongside Manfeild, crossing Rimu St to the Kowhai Park exit to meet the trail on South St. This alternative is not marked with Te Araroa signage.)*

Outside the Kowhai Park entrance, the Feilding town centre is seen with the clock tower prominent, 600m away.

## Other Information

### Feilding

#### **General Information**

For information on Feilding (not misspelt, but named after Colonel Feilding) log onto - [Feilding Visitor Information](#)

#### **Accommodation**

**Mt Lees Reserve** - 199 Ngaio Road, RD 9, Feilding - P: 06-329-393806-329-3938 E:gteahan@xtra.co.nz. The trail passes Mt Lees Reserve. B & B. Basic sheltered campsite with drinking water and toilets.

#### **Resupply**

[New World Supermarket](#) - 21 Fergusson St, Feilding - P: 06 323 890906 323 8909

[Countdown Supermarket](#) - 147 Kimbolton Road, Feilding - P: 06 323 311306 323 3113

## Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track Take extreme care and walk as far off road as possible
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Few water sources

## Requirements

- Respect private land
- No firearms
- Wear hi-viz clothing/pack cover and don't use headphones

## Amenities (Start)

- Full range of amenities in Bulls
- Car park Parking at Bulls Bridge
- Toilets
- Shop
- Accommodation

## Amenities (On Route)

- Carpark Mt Lees Reserve
- Picnic area Mt Lees Reserve
- Toilets Mt Lees Reserve
- Basic camp site Mt Lees Reserve with drinking water
- Accommodation Mt Lees Reserve



## Feilding to Palmerston North

(Map 065, 066)

<b>Northern Start</b>	Kowhai Park, South St, Feilding
<b>Southern End</b>	Riverside Dr, Palmerston North
<b>Distance</b>	17.5km
<b>Time</b>	4-4.5hr
<b>Tramping Standard</b>	Mixed grade

### Route

#### **Feilding to Bunnythorpe - 9km / 2-2.5hr**

From Kowhai Park, continue east along South St to the end, passing the Feilding Sale Yards on left. Renowned as the largest sale yards for selling sheep in the southern hemisphere, they are worthy of a visit on a Friday (being "sale day" when the country comes to town).

From South St, cross the road and turn right into Aorangi St. Take the combined cycleway/footpath for 1km, crossing the Oroua River. At the next intersection, the route turns left, crosses the North Island Main Trunk Railway and continues left/south along Campbell Road adjacent to the railway line, passing the Taonui Aerodrome (home to the Feilding Aero Club).

Several kilometres further on at an intersection cross the railway line and continue south along Waughs Road till where the road ends and there is a style. Here continue along a track on the left beside the Transfer Station. Turn right (not left) and go through a gate and keep to the right down to the Mangaone Stream crossing. There is no bridge there. The stream is very shallow in dry weather. Continue up the other side. After about 150 metres cross the small Jacks Creek and continue to the Kairanga/Bunnythorpe Road. Turn left and cross the railway line and then turn right into the village of Bunnythorpe.

#### **Bunnythorpe to Riverside Drive - 8.5km / 2hr**

The footpath through Bunnythorpe passes the old Glaxo factory. (Glaxo is now the worlds 2nd largest multinational pharmaceutical firm and this was its birthplace in 1904). Leading onto Stony Creek Rd, the route veers away for 500m before turning right at Clevelly Line back toward the railway line. Without crossing the railway, turn left (south) into Sangsters Rd. At the end of the road, the trail continues along the legally designated paper road reserve. Crossing several fencelines, via gates or styles, a bridged drain and a gravel roadway the route comes to Roberts Line.

Turn left/south along Roberts Line to Kelvin Grove Rd, the edge of the Palmerston North residential area. Crossing Kelvin Grove Rd, a sealed pathway leads to Lydia Place, a cul de sac which again leads back onto Roberts Line and through the residential area of Kelvin Grove. It crosses the railway line (leading to the Manawatu Gorge and the East Coast).

*Roberts Line ends shortly after at State Highway 3, also known as Napier Rd. After crossing SH3, stright aheads follow Te Matai Rd, veering right after about 1km into Riverside Drive.*

### Other Information

## Palmerston North

**Please Note: Dogs ON Leash ONLY. Fires in designated fireplaces ONLY. NO firearms or vehicles.**

**Potential hazards: Farming operations and vehicles**

### **Detour option available**

1.5km to Palmerston North city

### **General information**

[Manawatu I-SITE Visitor Information Centre](#) - The Square, Palmerston North - P: 06 350 192206 350 1922 or 06 350 192206 350 1922

[DOC Manawatu Rangitikei area office](#) - Malden Street, Palmerston North - P: 06 350 970006 350 9700 - E: [wellingtenco@goc.govt.nz](mailto:wellingtenco@goc.govt.nz) - W: [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

### **Getting there/away**

[Air New Zealand](#) - flies to/from Palmerston North - Palmerston North Airport - Airport Drive/McGregor St, Milson - P: 0800 737 0000800 737 000 FREE freephone or 09 357 300009 357 3000

[InterCity](#) (to/from Auckland) - P:09 583 578009 583 5780 - E: [info@intercity.co.nz](mailto:info@intercity.co.nz)

[Naked Bus](#) - P: 0900 625330900 62533 (call costs)

[Magic Bus](#) - P: 09 358 560009 358 5600 - [www.magicbus.co.nz](http://www.magicbus.co.nz)

[Overlander rail service](#) between Auckland and Wellington - Departs from Train Station - Off Tremaine Avenue, Palmerston North

### **Local transport**

[Tranzit Coachlines Manawatu](#) - The Square, Palmerston North - P: 06 351 683106 351 6831 or 0508 800 8000508 800 800 freephone

[Taxis Palmerston North](#) - P: 06 355 533306 355 5333 freephone - E: [callcentre@pntaxis.co.nz](mailto:callcentre@pntaxis.co.nz)

### **Accommodation**

Many options are available, including:

**HOMESTAY**, just 50m off the trail near the Fitzherbert Bridge over the Manawatu River. Ph 027-6900 260 or 027-222 3742 or 06-355 1072. - E: [degoldiway@gmail.com](mailto:degoldiway@gmail.com)

[Palmerston North Holiday Park](#) - 133 Dittmer Drive, Palmerston North - P: 06 358 034906 358 0349 - E: [palmerstonnorthholidaypark@xtra.co.nz](mailto:palmerstonnorthholidaypark@xtra.co.nz)

[Pepper Tree Hostel \(BBH\)](#) - 121 Grey St, Palmerston North - P: 06 355 405406 355 4054 - E: [peppertreehostel@clear.net.nz](mailto:peppertreehostel@clear.net.nz)

[Grandma's Place \(BBH\)](#) - 146 Grey St. Palmerston North- P: 06 358 692806 358 6928 - E: [ak1@clear.net](mailto:ak1@clear.net)

[Achilles Court Hostel](#) - 42 Achilles Crescent, Palmerston North - P: 06 354 112706 354 1127

[Whiowhio Hut](#) - 20 Dorset Crescent, Palmerston North (adjacent to the riverside walk)

P: 027 470 9829 - E: [whiowhiohut@swampthing.co.nz](mailto:whiowhiohut@swampthing.co.nz)

Urban tramping hut. Kitchen, shower, laundry, bikes and even electricity. Payment by Koha (donation). Hosted by Te Araroa walkers and Whio (native blue duck) enthusiasts Anthony and Fiona (aka Whinny and Whiona).

### **Resupply**

[Pak N' Save](#) - 327 Ferguson St, Hokowhitu - P: 06 356 404306 356 4043

[Countdown Supermarkets](#) - Cnr Ferguson & Ashley Sts, Palmerston North - P: 06 356 606606 356 6066

[Pioneer New World Supermarket](#) - 187-193 Main St, Palmerston North - P: 06 357 618006 357 6180

[4 Four Square](#) - 354 Albert St, Hokowhitu - P: 06 357 868006 357 8680

### **Potential Hazards**

- Vehicles on road or track Stay as far off the road as possible
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Few water sources

### **Requirements**

- Respect private land
- Dogs on leash only
- No firearms
- Fires only in designated fireplaces
- Wear hi-viz clothing/pack cover and don't use headphones

### **Amenities (Start)**

- Full range of amenities Feilding shops only 1km away
- Car park At Kowhai Park and Fitzherbert Bridge.
- Picnic area At Kowhai Park and Esplanade in Palmerston North
- Toilets At Kowhai park and in Manchester Square, Feilding

- Shop Shopping Centre 1km from start
- Accommodation

#### Amenities (On Route)

- Carpark Car parking at Bunnythorpe
- Toilets Public Toilet at Bunnythorpe
- Shop Dairy and Hotel at Bunnythorpe



## Palmerston North

(Map 066)

<b>Northern Start</b>	Riverside Dr
<b>Southern End</b>	Old West Rd (SH57)
<b>Distance</b>	10km
<b>Time</b>	2.5hr
<b>Tramping Standard</b>	Mixed grade

### Route

#### **Riverside Walkway (from Riverside Drive to Fitzherbert Bridge) - 6km - 1.5hr**

From the end of Riverside Drive, walk down a fenced right of way to the Riverside Walkway. This is an easy walk along the Manawatu River and is popular with residents for walking and cycling. It has numerous access points along the way before reaching the Fitzherbert Bridge. The entrance to the riverside walk is 500m down Riverside Dr.

#### **Fitzherbert Bridge to Old West Rd - 4km / 1hr**

Leaving the Bridle trail before the Fitzherbert Bridge, cross the stopbank, head over the bridge and follow around Tennent Drive entering Bledisloe Park at the carpark adjacent to Turitea Stream before the Massey main entrance opposite the Fitzherbert Science Centres. The trail follows the Lower Turitea Walkway, a well formed pathway with 3 footbridges over the Turitea Stream. A short side trip can be taken into the Massey Aboretum before climbing up the stepped terrace where good views over the picturesque Massey University Campus are seen.

Following further undulating contour, the trail passes through open parkland and play areas, alongside bush streams and open fenced farmland with views over the Massey Sports Institute. At the steps leading down to Old West Road access to the carpark is reached crossing under the highway at the Turitea Stream bridge.

### Other Information

#### **Palmerston North**

**Please Note: Dogs ON Leash ONLY. Fires in designated fireplaces ONLY. NO firearms or vehicles.**

**Potential hazards: Farming operations and vehicles**

#### **Detour option available**

1.5 kms to Palmerston North city

#### **General information**

[Manawatu I-SITE Visitor Information Centre](#) - The Square, Palmerston North - P: 06 350 1922 or 06 350 1922

[DOC Manawatu Rangitikei area office](#) - Malden Street, Palmerston North - P: 06 350 9700 - E: [wellingtonco@goc.govt.nz](mailto:wellingtonco@goc.govt.nz) -

W: [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

#### **Getting there/away**

[Air New Zealand](#) - flies to/from Palmerston North - Palmerston North Airport - Airport Drive/McGregor St, Milson - P: 0800 737 000 freephone or 09 357 3000

[InterCity](#) (to/from Auckland) - P:09 583 5780 - E: [info@intercity.co.nz](mailto:info@intercity.co.nz)

[Naked Bus](#) - P: 0900 62533 (calls cost)

[Magic Bus](#) - P: 09 358 5600 - [www.magicbus.co.nz](http://www.magicbus.co.nz)

[Overlander rail service](#) between Auckland and Wellington - Departs from Train Station - Off Tremaine Avenue, Palmerston North

#### Local transport

[Tranzit Coachlines Manawatu](#) - Cnr Main St & Pitt St - P: 06 351 6831 or 0508 800 800 freephone

[Taxis Palmerston North](#) - P: 06 355 5333 freephone - E: [callcentre@pntaxis.co.nz](mailto:callcentre@pntaxis.co.nz)

#### Accommodation

Many options are available, including:

**HOMESTAY**, just 50m off the trail near the Fitzherbert Bridge over the Manawatu River. Ph 027-6900 260 or 027-222 3742 or 06-355 1072.

[Palmerston North Holiday Park](#) - 133 Dittmer Drive, Palmerston North - P: 06 358 0349 - E:

[palmerstonnorthholidaypark@xtra.co.nz](mailto:palmerstonnorthholidaypark@xtra.co.nz)

[Pepper Tree Hostel \(BBH\)](#) - 121 Grey St, Palmerston North - P: 06 355 4054 - E: [peppertreehostel@clear.net.nz](mailto:peppertreehostel@clear.net.nz)

[Grandma's Place \(BBH\)](#) - 146 Grey St . Palmerston North- P: 06 358 6928 - E: [ak1@clear.net](mailto:ak1@clear.net)

[Achilles Court Hostel](#) - 42 Achilles Crescent, Palmerston North - P: 06 354 1127

[Whiowhio Hut](#) - 20 Dorset Crescent, Palmerston North (adjacent to the riverside walk)

P: 027 470 9829 - E: [whiowhiohut@swampthing.co.nz](mailto:whiowhiohut@swampthing.co.nz)

Urban tramping hut. Kitchen, shower, laundry, bikes and even electricity. Payment by Koha (donation). Hosted by Te Araroa walkers and Whio (native blue duck) enthusiasts Anthony and Fiona (aka Whinny and Whiona).

#### Resupply

[Pak N' Save](#) - 327 Ferguson St, Hokowhitu - P: 06 356 4043

[Countdown Supermarkets](#) - Cnr Ferguson & Ashley Sts, Palmerston North - P: 06 356 6066

[Pioneer New World Supermarket](#) - 187-193 Main St, Palmerston North - P: 06 357 6180

[4 Four Square](#) - 354 Albert St, Hokowhitu - P: 06 357 8680

#### Potential Hazards

- Vehicles on road or track
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold

#### Requirements

- Respect private land
- No fires in forest

#### Amenities (Start)

- Full range of amenities in Palmerston North CBD
- Toilets Toilets at Fitzherbert Bridge
- Accommodation In Palmerston North

#### Amenities (On Route)

- Full range of amenities in Palmerston North CBD
- No amenities on Trail
- Toilets There are toilets at start of Back Track



## Massey to Levin

(Map 067, 068, 069)

<b>Northern Start</b>	Old West Rd (SH57), Palmerston North
<b>Southern End</b>	Junction of Gladstone and Poads Rds, Levin
<b>Distance</b>	60km
<b>Time</b>	2-3 days
<b>Tramping Standard</b>	Tramping track

### Route

#### **Old West Rd to Greens Rd - 10km / 2-3hr**

From the carpark on Old West Rd follow the Upper Turitea Walkway for a short distance then turn right into Turitea Road. Follow Turitea Road for about 1km. 300m after the one lane bridge, enter the gate on the left and follow the fenced off riparian reserve strip for 1km. The strip is a mix of developing and new riparian plantings by Green Corridors and Palmerston North City Council. Return to the road at a second one lane bridge, turn left and walk a further 500m along Turitea Road. Turn right into Ngahere Park Road.

About 100m down the road cross the bridge over Turitea Stream, turn left through the gate and after about 10 metres on the right a new track leads up the hill for about 100 metres. At the top there are views over the valley and Tararuas.

Take the staircase down and follow a new track through the bush. Turn right to join the Turitea Green Corridor Track. Cross a bridge then turn right and follow the track for about a kilometre through bush where the trail joins again on to Turitea Road.

Turn right and follow the road for about 200m and cross the bridge. The trail passes the entrance on the left to the Turitea Dams (Palmerston North water reservoir, closed to the public). Take the gravel road/track to the right that rises gradually through native bush to the closed road which comes out at the end of Greens Rd. Watch out for mountain bikes on this track.

#### **Greens Rd to Back Track - 7km / 1.5-2hr**

Following Greens Rd through open farmland, the track drops to the Kahuterawa Road junction, then heads up the Kahuterawa Rd past the "Lions Reserve" picnic area following the Kahuterawa Stream. Near the end is the car park which serves as the hub for the Kahuterawa Recreation Area. From here it is a short walk to Black Bridge, where the Sledge Track and Back Track both start.

#### **Back Track to Burttons Track - 7km / 2-3hr**

Cross Black Bridge and follow Back Track, a former road which was closed in the 1960s. It is a steady climb up, mainly through native bush but with some open farmland allowing good views over the Manawatu and some pine forest near the top. Small streams are crossed and altitude rise is 200m before reaching the end of Scotts Road. A toilet has been installed in October at the Arapuke Scotts Road Carpark. The final 2km along Scotts Rd leads to the entry to Gordon Kear Forest. From Scotts Road, a stile crosses the fence and an information sign is located just before the bridge over the Kahuterawa Stream.

The walk to the start of the Burttons Track commences following the metalled forestry road alongside the Kahuterawa Stream. Keep right at the first "Y" in the road and after approximately 40min from the start take the clearly signposted "Toko Corner Rd" to the right. After a 5min walk along Toko Corner Rd the trail enters a recently felled pine forest. Continue through the forest to a stile next to a locked gate, approximately 1hr walk from the locked gate just past the Loop Road sign post. Carry on, passing a second gate as you leave the plantation forest behind and enter regrowth native bush. The track climbs uphill to a



stile and a DOC sign at the start of Burttons Track.

### **Burttons Track - 15.5km / 6hr (7hr northbound)**

Descends through native forest to Tokomaru Valley. The track crosses the No 1 stream, sidles downstream a short distance and then begins to follow up the Tokomaru River. Remains of an old campsite with rusting iron are passed. After descending to the river and crossing No 2 creek, the track continues to follow the Tokomaru River upstream, clearly marked with large orange triangles.

The track continues on the true right of the Tokomaru River for 15-20min. *The trail here is on private land. Firearms are not permitted and dogs must remain on a leash.*

You soon re-enter the forest park and the start of the original Burtton's Track. Five minutes further on the former Burtton's Whare site is reached. *Considered as midway, it is an ideal site for a lunch break and to absorb something of the history, well described in Ian Argyles book Burtton's Track. The site of the former swingbridge that crossed to his farm on the western side of the river, that collapsed leading to the death of Jim Burtton in 1941 can be seen.*

You may see a cottage on the other side of the stream however THIS IS A PRIVATE RESIDENCE, please stick to the marked route (do not cross the river) and continue south. The trail here goes over private land and we do not want to upset the owner who has given us permission to go over their property.

From here the track is the historical trail built by Jim Burtton almost 100yrs ago. Mostly benched and of good width through regrowth bush, it follows up the Tokomaru River passing some attractive open clearings. *Remains of old bridges and other structures can be seen along the way.*

After another 1½hr, a stile is crossed as the track passes out of Tararua Forest Park.

The final hour of walk is 3.2km is along the former Tokomaru Valley Rd (now closed to unauthorized traffic but is sometime used by registered 4WD vehicles) to the junction with Mangahao Rd.

### **Mangahao-Makahika Track - 20.5km / 1 day**

From the junction of Tokomaru Valley & Mangahao Roads, walk SW for 2.5km along Mangahao Road, past the Tokomaru No 3 Reservoir (lake) to a small carpark and a short post marking the official start of the Mangahao-Makahika Track. (Note: It is 800m beyond the southern end of the reservoir and 400m past the Tararua Forest Park sign).

From the carpark, the track enters the bush and climbs 15m to a low spur and a *track information sign, with distances and a map.*

The track continues in a southerly direction for 2.5km passing some fine examples of large rimu trees that escaped the bushman's axe, before descending and crossing three tributaries of Blackwood Stream (named after the magnificent Black Beech in the vicinity). *Note: This is the last drinking water until reaching the Makahika Stream.*

The track continues south with an easy and a gradual gain in elevation before veering to the west (passing an area of re-generating Manuka on land that was once farmed), before turning south and following the Makahika Ridge.

Passing spot 657 (the highest point on the track), there are several openings to the west that give an outlook down to the Mangaore Stream along with views of Kapiti and on a good day the South Island is visible.

The Horowhenua Lookout, a small cleared area with seating, is reached after three to four hours walking from the road end and gives a grand vista of Shannon, Horowhenua and the Manawatu.

The track soon drops off with a steady descent of 350m passing Kapiti Viewpoint (Archeys Lookout) where Kapiti Island, the South Island, the Makahika Valley and Gladstone Road are seen again before reaching the terminus of the Makahika tramline formation. It was near this point that the Bartholomew Timber Company ended native logging in this area of the Tararuas in early part of the 20 century.

From here, the trail follows the former tramline route with benched track and cuttings clearly visible in many places. Several crossings of the Makahika stream are encountered and about 30 minutes after meeting the tramline, open clearings appear amidst the native bush. It was here on 23 February 2008, the Prime Minister, the Right Hon. Helen Clark unveiled a plaque commemorating the opening of the track.

These clearings become more frequent until reaching the park boundary and another orientation sign. Across the river is the former sawmill site.

For the last half hour, the track follows a poled route along an unfenced right-of-way through private land and crossing the Makahika Stream before reaching the stile at the Poulton Drive parking area.

*Continue right along Gladstone Road for about 5kms passing Makahika Outdoor Pursuit Centre on right and later turn left when you reach Poads Road.*

## **Optional - (route into Levin for amenities/re-supply) - The Arapaepae Lookout Track**

This section of Te Araroa crosses east west over Arapaepae and connects the Mangahao-Makahika Track leading north toward Shannon with Levin.

### **Getting there**

Coming from the Makahika Track exit, the trail starts at a locked gate 1.3 km down Gladstone Rd and 300m before the Makahika Outdoor Pursuit Centre.

From Levin, follow Queen St East toward the hill and turn left into Denton Rd. It is 100m to the car park and a further 50 metres to the start of the track

### **Track Description**

The track is 7.3km with an elevation gain of 250m and can be walked from either direction. Easy walking time considered as 2hr30min either way or 5hr return. Being close to Levin, the area is frequently used by local walkers, joggers and mountain bikers.

From the Denton Rd parking area, a sign located inside the locked gate shows the trail route through the Matariki Forest and estimated times.

Arapaepae Lookout	3.5km	1¼hr
Spencer Junction	4.7km	1¾hr
Gladstone Rd	7.3km	2½hr

The trail ascends on a steady gradient through the pine forest until it reaches a junction on the ridgeline (2.3km) where it turns left and follows the ridge north. Adjacent to the forestry road are mountain bike trails with numerous jumps. For safety reasons, walkers are requested to stay off these tracks.

Walking north through the cleared areas, there are views east to the Tararua Ranges and west over Levin and the Horowhenua with the best view of all being from a large cleared area "The Arapaepae Lookout" which is 80m from the Ridge Rd junction. From here Kapiti Island is easily visible and on clear days the South Island, Mt Taranaki and Ruapehu can also be seen.

Following Ridge Rd for a further 1.2 km to Spencer Junction, there are good views into the Ohau and Makahika Valleys. The trail then descends and passes through an area of native bush, designated the Bentons Bush Covenant and managed by the Department of Conservation. Nearing the bottom the trail passes an old rock quarry site and crosses the bridged Makahika Stream before reaching the locked gate onto Gladstone Rd.

Walkers starting from the Gladstone Rd end should allow an extra half hour for the climb to Spencer Junction and a similar time saving on descent from Arapaepae Lookout to Denton Rd

## **Other Information**

### **Burrtons Track**

**Please note: This trail crosses private land - Open daylight hours ONLY. NO Horses, guns, vehicles, fires in forest. Dogs MUST be ON lease.**

### **General Information**

**Carparking:** There is a carpark on Scotts Road. Vehicles may not be parked on the forest road where there is a locked gate at the track. Any vehicles parked on the forest road risk being towed away or damaged.

### **Section Walking Times:**

- To DOC Boundary - 1.5hr
- To Tokomaru River - 3hr
- To Burtton's Whare site - 3.5hr
- To Mangahao Rd Carpark - 6hr

### **Direction**

Walking south from Scotts Road is easiest for the steepest gradient is then downhill. For walkers going from south to north, an extra 1½hr is recommended due to the uphill climb from the Tokomaru River in the latter part of the walk.

### **Local attractions**

From the track end at Mangahao Road, it is 7.7km to the Mangahao Power Station. Also there's the National White Water Slalom Course at Mangaore, 3km east of Shannon.

## **Mangahao-Makahika Track**

**Potential hazards: Vehicles and creek crossings.**

### **General Information**

#### **Approximate walking times**

To Blackwood Stream 1hr; Horowhenua Lookout 3-4hr; Makahika Tramline 5-6hr; Gladstone Road 6-7hr

#### **North or South**

The track can be walked from either direction but is easiest from the Mangahao Road end as the steepest and longest gradient is then downhill.

#### **Directions to Track Start/Ends**

If using the track as a standalone walk, the best entry is from Shannon. Follow Mangahao Road past Mangaore Village, the National White Water Kayak Course and the Mangahao Power Station. The road then winds steeply for 6km to the saddle before descending 1km to the Tokomaru Valley Road junction. (This is the southern exit of Burton's Track). Stay on Mangahao Road a further 2km and you pass a large reservoir (be aware that though this is called the Tokomaru No 3 Reservoir, it's the first and only reservoir you will pass). The entrance to the track is 800m beyond the end of the Tokomaru No 3 reservoir, and 400m past the Tatarua Forest Park sign. The start of the track is marked by a short post, and a small parking area. The main sign, giving distances and a map, is 15m into the bush from this start point.

If starting from Levin, at end of Queen Street East, follow around Gladstone Road for about 8km passing the Levin water treatment works and the Gladstone Road Reserve. On the right is Poas Road crossing the Ohau River. Continuing up Gladstone Road and 300m past the Makahika Outdoor Centre on left is the eastern entrance to the Arapaepae Lookout Trail that Te Araroa returns to Levin. It is a further 1.9km along Gladstone Road to the junction with Poulton Drive and the car park and start of the Mangahao- Makahika Track.

## **Levin**

### **General information:**

[Levin I-SITE Visitor Information Centre](#) - 93 Oxford St - P: 06 367 8440 - Topo Map Series 260 S25 Levin

### **Getting there/away**

[InterCity](#) (to/from Auckland) - P: 09 583 5780 - E: [info@intercity.co.nz](mailto:info@intercity.co.nz)

[Naked Bus](#) - P: 0900 62533 (calls cost)

[Overlander rail service](#) between Auckland and Wellington - Departs from Train Station - Main Rd, Weraroa, (SH 1).

### **Local transport**

[Metlink](#) - (bus, train, ferry in greater Wellington area) - P: 0800 801 700

[Levin Taxis](#) - 5 Durham St, Levin - P: 06 368 4179

### **Accommodation Options Available at Levin end (2km detour):**

[Paradiseonahillside B & B](#), Gladstone Rd, Levin - P: 06 3688105 or 0274 316812 - E: [stephcook.wgtn@gmail.com](mailto:stephcook.wgtn@gmail.com)

Bed and breakfast available, and extras - washing, drying, transport to resupply/next trailhead, can take bounce boxes.

[Levin Holiday Park](#) (camping, cabins & motel units) - 38 Parker Ave, Levin - P: 06 368 3549 - E: [lhp@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lhp@xtra.co.nz)

[Totara Lodge Motel](#) - Cnr Devon & Bristol St - P: 06 368 4114 - E: [reservations@totalodgemotel.co.nz](mailto:reservations@totalodgemotel.co.nz)

[Panorama Motel](#) - 170 The Avenue SH 1 - P: 06 368 5401 or 0800 660 220 - E: [admin@panoramamotel.co.nz](mailto:admin@panoramamotel.co.nz)

[Makahika Outdoor Pursuits Centre](#), is situated approx 1.7 km from the farm exit of the Mangahao-Makahika Section of the Te Araroa Trail. It is a residential leadership camp, booked most Mondays-Fridays, however, all 'trail-walkers' are welcome – anytime! We will readily find a bed for you, and worst case scenario we have acres of beautiful grasslands for your tents. You are welcome to have a night of luxury and book the cottage on AirBnB (Makahika Cottage-Levin), or (if available) access one of the 46 bunks in our Lodge.

Available: Hot showers, cold beer, dinner with your hosts, washing and drying facilities, re-stock (you can pre-order by emailing orders to [Makahika@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Makahika@xtra.co.nz), you can pay electronically), PLBs on loan and trail knowledge (for the Waiopahu to Otaki Forks sub-alpine section). There is no charge for dinner with your hosts, tenting or a bunkroom, though you are welcome to gift a small koha to be used to support our Youth Justice Programmes. John and Sally Duxfield 06 368 9347 or email [jsdux@ihug.co.nz](mailto:jsdux@ihug.co.nz) OR [Makahika@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Makahika@xtra.co.nz)

### **Resupply:**

[Countdown Supermarket](#) - 15 Bristol St, Levin - P: 06 366 0050

## **Potential Hazards**

- Vehicles on road or track Stay alert for logging traffic in Gordon Kear Forest
- Poisons & traps
- Forestry operations
- River crossings - Never cross flooded rivers

- Small stream crossings
- Track exposed to sun, wind or cold
- Weather extremes

#### Requirements

- Keep to the track
- Respect private land Part of the track goes over DeCleen's farm
- Forestry operations - Track may be closed occasionally
- Open daylight hours only
- No litter
- Dogs on leash only
- No horses
- No firearms
- No vehicles
- No taking plants
- Camp with care
- No fires

#### Amenities (Start)

- No amenities
- Roadside parking only On Scotts Road
- Accommodation in Palmerston North

#### Amenities (On Route)

- No amenities