

WAIHORA to BOG INN

260 Series Map: Kuratau, T18 and Whakamaru T17

Topo50 Map: BG34 Piropiro & BG35 Tihoi

How to get to START:

- Exit Taupo on **SH1** North.
- Near top of the hill out of Taupo, left into **Poihipi Road**
- Follow the road out past the Wairakei Forest then turn left into **Whangamata Road**, signed for Kinloch
- Do **NOT** turn left for Kinloch but go straight ahead to T-junction
- At **SH32** (Western Bays Road) turn left and pass Tihoi Mill Rd on RHS after about 3.5km
- About 3.5km south of here turn right on signs for Pureora Forest and Lagoon near the Waikokomiko Stream
- Follow this gravel road for about 7km to reach **Car Park WP01**^{670masl}

Rough description: A fairly strenuous 6 hour A to B day tramp which can be tackled in either direction but there are hills in either direction. If really keen a short 2km extension can be added by going in to the Bog Inn Hut but this section of track is diabolical when the tide is in! Walking clockwise from Waihora to Bog Inn gives just on 15km distance with an ascent of 785metres requiring just on the six hours.

Detail: To begin it is an easy stroll to the WNW on wide forest tracks with a small junction off to the right after a few minutes – ignore this badly overgrown teaser. If the weather has been wet then there will be several large, large enough to accommodate a hippo or two, pools on the track which have to be negotiated with care. Soon some slippery clays on the slope are encountered and these can also be tricky if wet. All through this area there seems to be an abundance of wood-pigeons, creaking wings are often heard. The odd small hunters' campsite, with attendant abandoned bottles etc, is passed with the most obvious one (**WP02**^{767masl}) just before a bit of an ascent starts. The first severe slope downwards is tackled after about 90 minutes and care must be taken though there is nothing too tricky or overly steep – this is still a walk and not a scramble.

Once up the other side after crossing the Pikopiko Stream there are some boggy areas then it is on to a steady climb to meet a well-marked junction (**WP03**^{887masl}) with the Waihaha track off left whilst the track to Weraroa and Bog Inn goes right. After a couple of hours or so there is another Hunters' camp (**WP04**^{821masl}) then 10 minutes later the grunt of the day starts (**WP05**^{846masl}) as there are 250 odd metres of ascent to now get up (**WP06**^{1099masl}) to the Weraroa Trig. Careful study of the map in this area shows that the route now followed is not exactly as shown on the map and generally lies a bit to the east of the mapped route. An hour beyond here at around 4 hours there is some magic as the trees through this more or less level area are thickly covered in moss (**WP07**^{991masl}) and do not be lulled into thinking it is all downhill to Bog Inn for there are still a few minor ascents ahead. There is one area reached in around 5 hours which is slightly exposed (**WP09**^{935masl}) and wind-blasted but on clear days it does offer views of Lake Taupo. Ten minutes past here there is a slightly tricky stream crossing (**WP10**^{884masl}) at a point where the track direction swings from NW to the NE and lies well to the west of the mapped track then some more altitude has to be gained to get back up to some level walking with some gentle descending but there are many minor deviations to get round wind-falls and boggy areas (**WP12**^{908masl}).

By this time most legs are a bit weary and the arrival of the junction (**WP13**^{839masl}) for Bog Inn Hut is a welcome sight. This is the time for decision making as, to go to Bog Inn Hut and back, will take close on one and a half hours.

Start of the tramp



Large pools



That is the track



NZ Grid GPS: Geodetic Datum 1949

NZTM GPS: NZTM on WGS84

Access



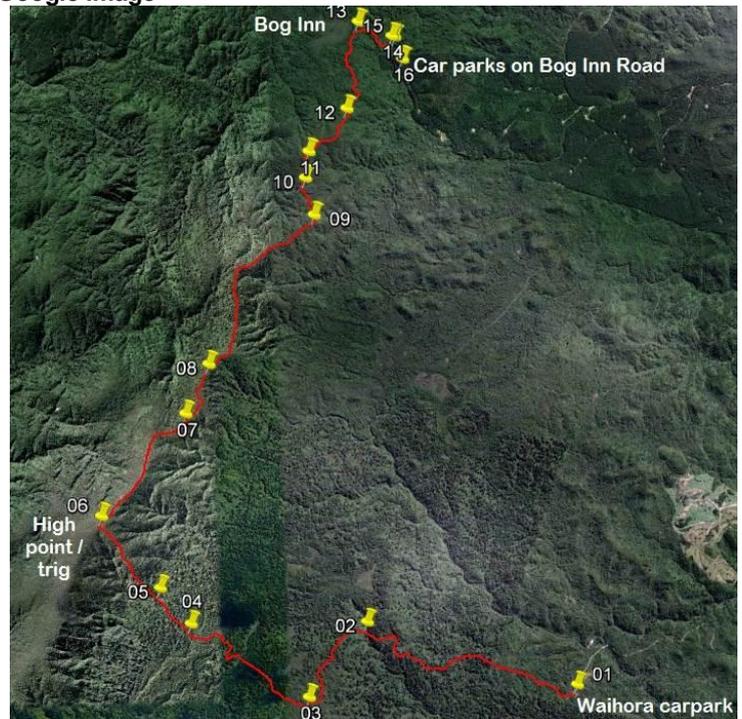
From : 15-Aug-12 08:19:42
To : 15-Aug-12 14:29:27

Time taken : 6:09:44
Total Distance : 14.944 Km

Minimum Speed : 0.012 KPH
Maximum Speed : 9.130 KPH
Average Speed : 2.425 KPH

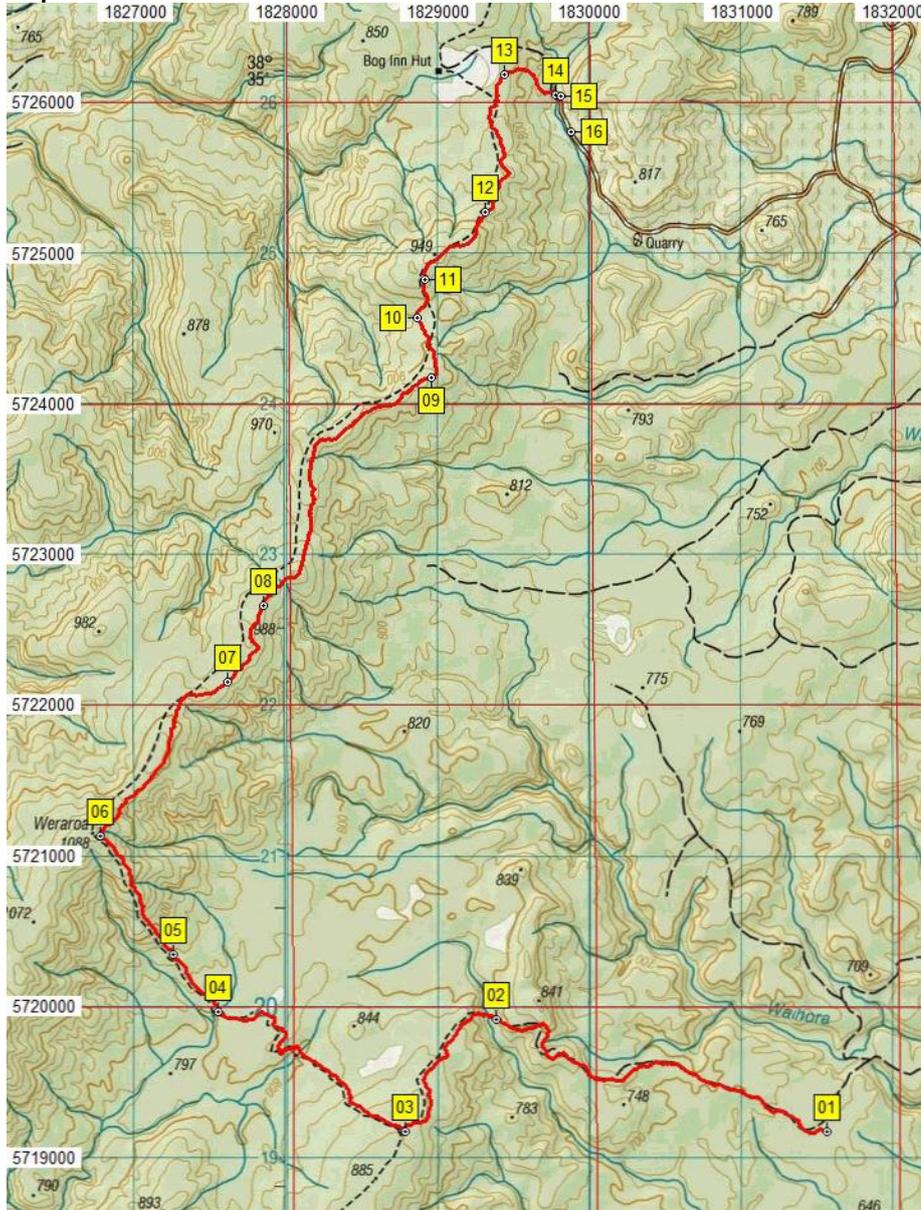
Minimum Altitude : 669 Meters
Maximum Altitude : 1099 Meters

Google Image



The track to the hut can be really tricky and messy as it gets deeper into the actual bog, whilst it is only fifteen minutes to the end of the track and car park (**WP15**^{779masl}) at the top end of Bog Inn Road. If the road is in poor repair due to erosion note that there is another car park a short distance downhill on the road and the expected transport may have stopped here (**WP16**^{766masl}).

Map with GPS data



Made it to high point



Head for Bog Inn



The last bit

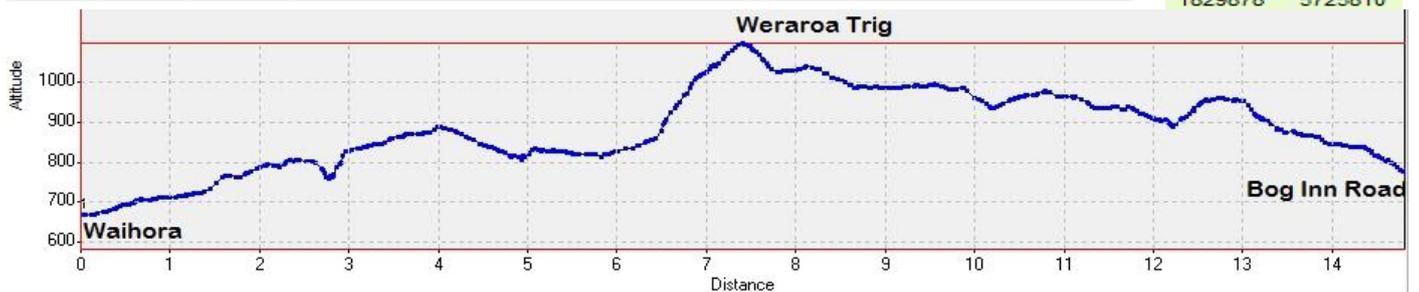


Waypoints – NZ Grid

Na...	Easting	Northing	Alt(m)	Description
01	2741651	6280997	670	Car park at Waihora
02	2739474	6281746	767	55min; Hunters' campsite below steep grunty hill up to the NW
03	2738869	6281001	887	1:40min; T-junction with left for Waihaha and right for Weraroa Trig and Bog Inn
04	2737644	6281788	821	2:21min; Hunters' campsite on level area close to stream line
05	2737345	6282176	846	2:30min; Bottom of steep slope up to Weraroa Trig
06	2736866	6282962	1099	3hrs; Open low bush area on crest metres east of trig with track going from NW to NE
07	2737718	6283980	991	4hrs; Level area with a lot of bog and trees heavily coated in moss
08	2737964	6284484	991	4:15min; Level going after very minor crest
09	2739081	6285995	935	5hrs; High, slightly exposed, wind-blasted area with views of Lake Taupo on clear days
10	2738992	6286389	884	5:12min; Slightly tricky stream crossing at bend from NW to NE on track well to W of mapped track
11	2739046	6286652	942	5:20; More or less level high area after a bit of an upwards grunt
12	2739445	6287096	908	5:36min; More or less level area on long gentle descent - many re-routes for windfalls and bog
13	2739579	6288010	839	5:50min; Y-fork with track off leftish for Bog Inn Hut on very messy track. Exit route swings right
14	2739915	6287871	788	6:06min; Notice for Bog Inn Hut at 1km and 40 minutes
15	2739944	6287867	779	6:09; Car park at end of Bog Inn Road
16	2740019	6287629	766	Alternative car park on Bog Inn Road

NZTM Waypoints

Easting	Northing
1831518	5719177
1829339	5719924
1828734	5719178
1827508	5719964
1827208	5720352
1826728	5721137
1827580	5722157
1827825	5722661
1828941	5724174
1828852	5724568
1828906	5724832
1829304	5725276
1829437	5726191
1829773	5726052
1829802	5726048
1829878	5725810



- Notes:
- **GPS** Garmin GPSMap 60CSx
 - **WP** = Waypoint as taken by GPS unit
 - **masl** = metres above sea level