

Karangahape Loop Dickey Flats

Topo50 Map: BC35 Paeroa

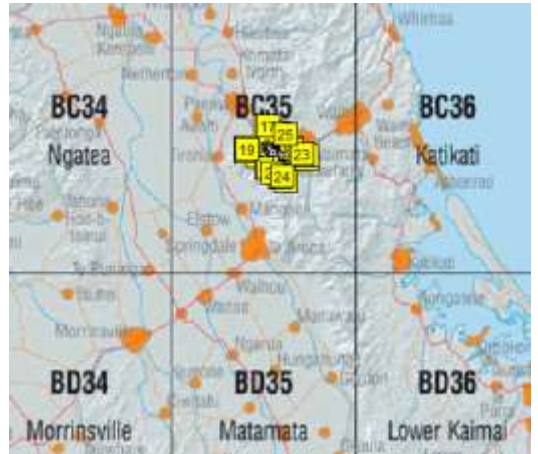
NZTM GPS: NZTM on WGS84

How to get to START:

- Leaving Taupo head north on SH1 to Tirau then over through Matamata to Paeroa. From Paeroa follow SH2 towards Waihi to reach Karangahape and 3-4km after this turn off right to Swetman Road. Turn off at the second left to Dickey Flats Road and head for the carpark at the end of the road..
- *The location of the tramp can be seen opposite in the middle upper part of sheet BC36*

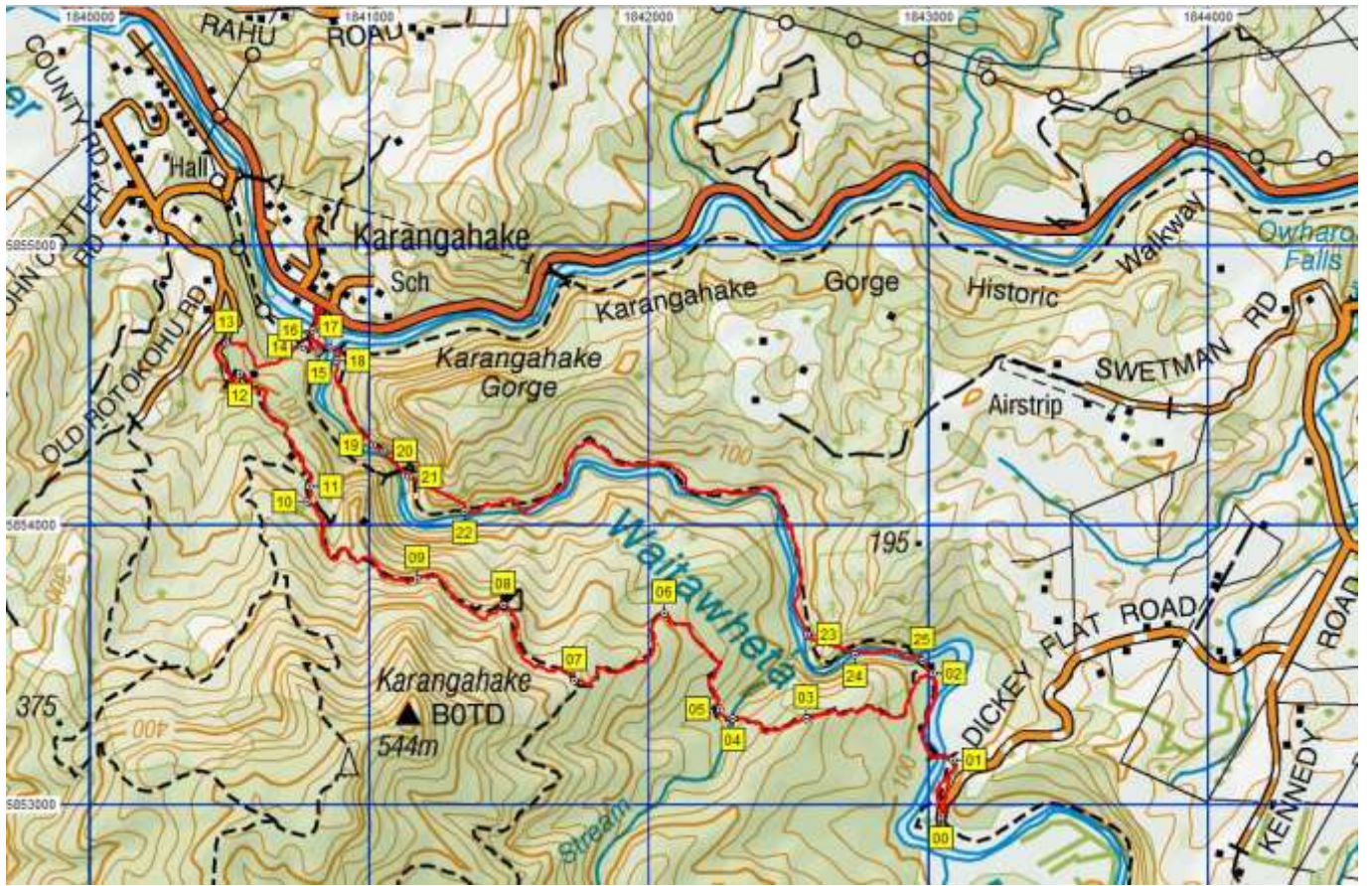
Rough description: A walk of 4 - 6 hours including coffee / tea stops and lunch break and all dependent on fitness level and route followed. Choices on the outward route going N or S of the Karangahape Trig starting at Dickey Flat Road to get to the tourist hub at Karangahape then follow the Karangahape Walkway back to Dickey Flat Road. As mapped the route shown follows the Dubbo Track which passes below the trig on the northern slopes then follows the Karangahape Walkway down the Waitawheta River back to the starting point taking in the Tunnels of the Windows Walk on the way.

Detail: From the campsite follow the obvious trail to cross a bridge (**WP01**^{94masl}) and reach a junction in 10min or so (**WP02**^{91masl}) where there is a boot-wash station and signs showing the start of the Dubbo Track uphill to the left – this is clayey and root infested. This is a steady ascent with a few features like a mines warning notice (**WP06**^{192masl}) to reach a junction (**WP07**^{272masl}) where left continues to ascend towards the trig so go right on the wide, pleasant easy grade track. The first of several old mine shafts can be noted in just under 2 hours (**WP09**^{233masl}) then meet and go left on County Road (**WP10**^{170masl}). At a gate on the road note another boot-cleaner (**WP13**^{96masl}) on the right, follow the track downhill behind the boot-cleaner. This is pleasant track and leads to the “tourist” hub with shelter, bridges and a coffee house across SH2.

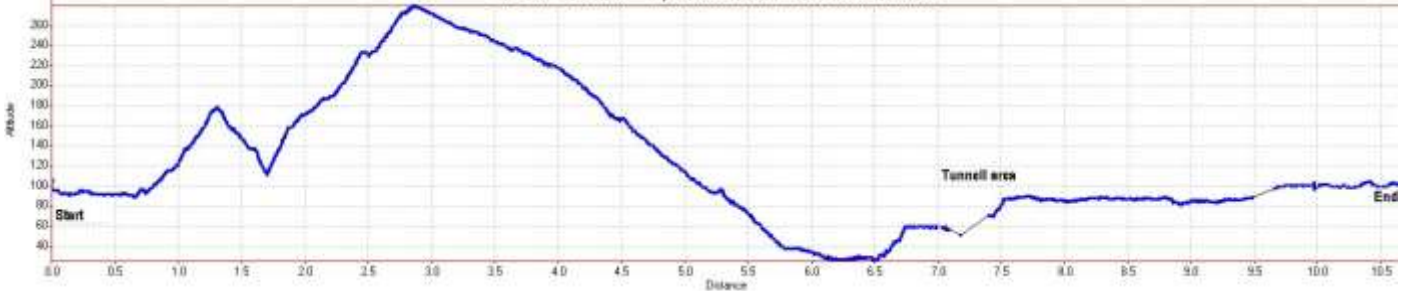


This area makes a good lunch spot then it is back over the larger newish bridge and then the older one as well to arrive at some steps (**WP18**^{36masl}) and signs for the Windows Walk which passes through several old mining tunnels so torches and care are required. At the end of the tunnels (**WP22**^{70masl}) there is a flight of stairs down to the track which follows the river. This track is a very easy pleasant walk and it follows the water pipe that fed the mining area. After about 2km there is a well-used swimming “hole” in the river and a tunnel (**WP23**^{88masl}) with water flowing through it can be seen just before entering a long, dark, wet tunnel with tricky footwork due to rockiness. From the end of this tunnel (**WP24**^{98masl}) it is only 300 odd metres to the starting point at Dickey Flats carpark passing the first boot-wash on the way and crossing the bridge over the Waitawheta river





GPS Distance 11.19km Map Distance 10.66km Total Ascent 406 metres



N...	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
00	1843045	5852960	102	Start and end point 10.66km (4:52min) at carpark for Dickey Flats campsite
01	1843088	5853160	93.9	245m (6min); Bridge from campsite
02	1843014	5853470	91.0	645m (12min); Boot-wash junction, go left uphill on Dubbo. Rooty clay track
03	1842561	5853310	176	1.28km (34min); easier slopes
04	1842299	5853307	136	1.60km (44min); steeper lower slope after long easy downhill
05	1842255	5853341	113	1.69km (48min); stream line
06	1842056	5853688	192	2.24km (1:06min); notice about danger of old mines
07	1841733	5853444	272	2.77km (1:22min); junction with left for trig - go right on wide easy track
08	1841477	5853717	254	3.33km (1:47min); open views and easy grade
09	1841167	5853810	233	3.74km (1:54min); first of several old mines shafts on LHS
10	1840777	5854084	170	4.42km (2:08min); meet County Road and go left
11	1840783	5854140	167	4.49km (2:10min); track from the trig comes in on the left
12	1840533	5854541	107	5.06km (2:20min); fenced development on RHS of County Road
13	1840489	5854652	96.0	5.28km (2:24min); boot cleaner then off road downhill on track
14	1840758	5854639	50.9	5.67km (2:35min); view bridges and highway, meet many tourists
15	1840819	5854622	43.0	5.73km (2:37min); meet road close to bridges, go left to big bridge
16	1840798	5854699	38.1	5.84km (2:40min); middle of large newish bridge, coffee shop over the highway
17	1840860	5854632	32.0	6.55km (3:18min); post lunch backtrack to cross old bridge
18	1840881	5854586	36.0	6.6km (3:20min); steps up to Windows Walk with tunnels
19	1841011	5854289	60.0	6.99km (3:29min); start of tunnels, torches required
20	1841051	5854264	58.0	7.04km (3:31min); start of tunnel
21	1841140	5854171	52.0	7.18km (3:35min); tunnel entrance
22	1841337	5854048	70.0	7.43km (3:45min); end of tunnel with steps to descend then easy walk path following river
23	1842564	5853609	88.0	9.47km (4:22min); large pool & tunnel with high water flow then long wet tunnel to pass through
24	1842734	5853539	98.0	9.67km (4:33min); end of long, wet, dark rocky tunnel
25	1842976	5853516	100.0	9.94km (4:38min); swing bridge over the Waitawheta River

Notes:

- **GPS** Garmin 62sc
- **WP** = Waypoint as taken by GPS unit
- **masl** = metres above sea level)