

## LOST IN TIME

Topo50 Map: BG33 Onagarue

GPS: NZTM on WGS84

**How to get to START:** Exit Taupo on SH1 down the lake for 47km in 45 minutes to Turangi.

On leaving Turangi on SH1 Turn right to SH41 as shown opposite and below:

Name	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
A	1842912	5679907	392	Leaving Turangi Turn right for Tokaanu on SH41
B	1832332	5692958	469	Kurutau Junction straight on SH41
C	1820824	5695278	883	5min diversion to Waituhi Lookout if desired
D	1802289	5692538	202	At T-junction on SH41 turn right to SH4 to Taumarunui
E	1795597	5693719	187	Taumarunui cross bridge and turn right on SH4
F	1792979	5701757	199	Turn left off SH4 to Opotiki Road - steep gravelly 4X4 good



This outing is on private land and permission for access is required.

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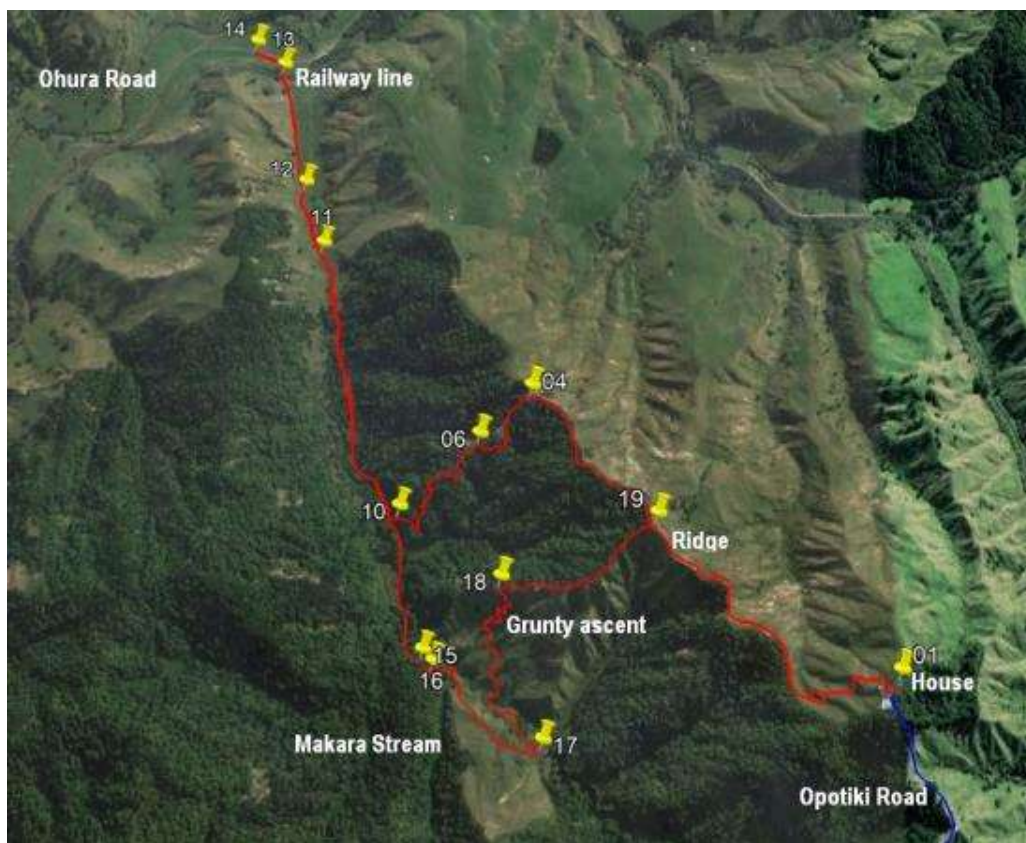
Contacts Janet & Mike

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718 Opotiki Road, Taumarunui

**Rough Description:** A reasonable walk of just under 10km but involving a continuous ascent of almost 500metres taking about 1:15 hours at the end of the day. The day starts with a long descent to the NW on a long ridge before heading down into the Makara Stream valley. Once down there is a choice to do an out and back to meet Ohura Road then head upstream to a delightful cabin for lunch before grunting back up the grassy slopes with whole outing taking about 4:30min.

Getting up Opotiki Road from **WPF199masl** can prove a bit daunting for most drivers as it is very steep and windy with a fair amount of loose gravel, much easier if you are in a 4 wheel drive. At the top there is a delightful house (The Stables **WP01538masl**) where the owners have a well-manicured garden complete with lily pond and views to die for.



Garden



Lily Pond



Pointed lunch meadow

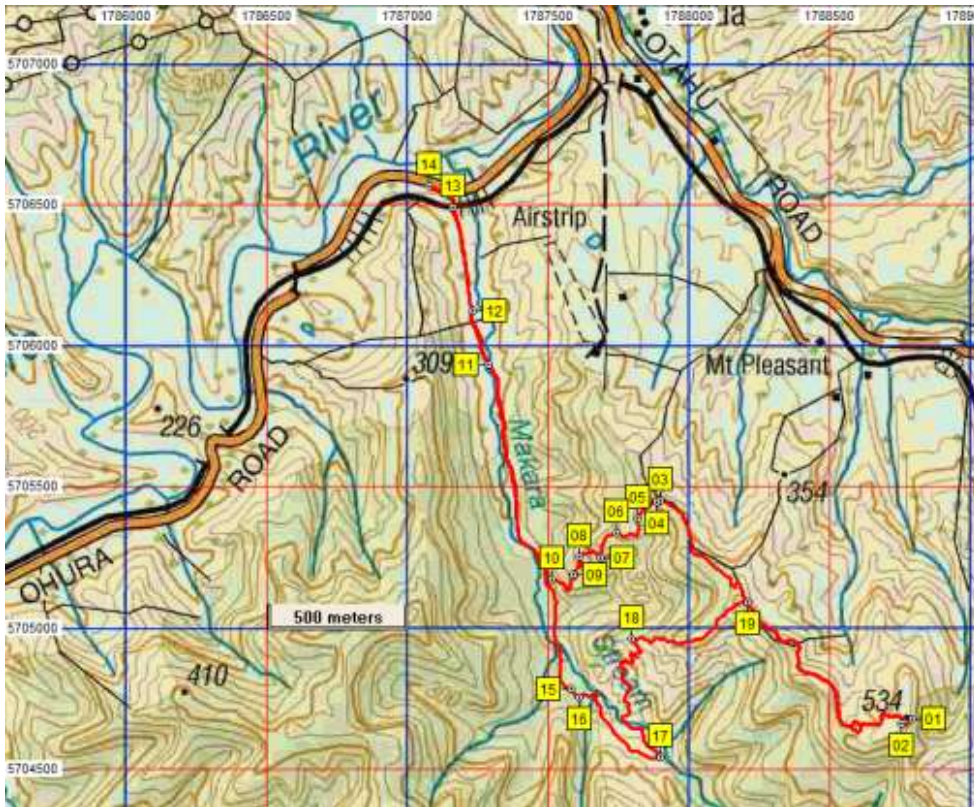


The walk starts at a large farm gate (**WP02537masl**) which leads directly on to a fairly steep ridge to descend – on the day at the start there were views of cattle, sheep and two horses way down below but within 10 -15 minutes the horses were to be seen way above so the descent is quick and easy on the grassy track. After 40 minutes there is a small junction (**WP03404masl**) where the left branch is taken and leads to Pete's Pit Stop (**WP04402masl**). From here direction changes from NW to SW and going can be a little tricky as the track is less well defined and a bit steeper but WPs have been taken at critical turns and, in places there are white track markers to follow – keep the eyes open for markers and the views. In about 1:15min a small, open meadow is entered in the middle of which is a sign denoting Pete's Track (**WP10226masl**).

A short detour loop to the north can be done from here crossing the Makara Stream (**WP11188masl**), passing under the railway (**WP13189masl**) to reach Ohura Road (**WP14182masl**) all in less than 2 hours. If you are lucky you might see one of the rail-carts from Forgotten World Tours going over the bridge. From here the route is reversed back to the grassy meadow (**WP10**) then continues for another 950metres upstream to another grassy meadow. Before the meadow is reached there is a junction (**WP16246masl**) well marked by an 8 foot figure of a tree-feller with his chainsaw and, on going left, there is a gate to pass through to then go right parallel to the stream. In the meadow there is a hut (**WP17279masl**) called Cathy's Cabin which is delightful and well kitted out for over-night guests / clients and makes an excellent lunch spot.

After lunch it really looks like a very daunting ascent up parallel to Snake Gully but by using the slow and steady routine the 1.3km ascent of 250odd metres takes less than an hour to get back on the ridge (**WP19531masl**), from here it is less than a kilometre back to the starting point and all those magnificent views.





Looking down Snake Gully



Pete's Pit Stop



WP10 Meadow



Name	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
01	1788790	5704677	538	The Stables for morning tea
02	1788755	5704657	537	Gate at track start
03	1787899	5705452	404	40min (1.49km); Junction on ridge, go left and down
04	1787886	5705448	402	40:45min (1.52km); Pit stop
05	1787819	5705389	372	47min (1.63km); small junction, left and downhill
06	1787742	5705338	348	52min (1.77km); Track bearing left with huge views over valley
07	1787686	5705250	326	58min (1.89km); Sharp right on heavily over-grown section
08	1787610	5705253	292	1:06min (2.01km); Meet another track, go left on white markers
09	1787591	5705189	261	1:11min (2.13km); Meet bigger track, go left
10	1787514	5705170	226	1:17min (2.28km); Flattish open meadow with Pete's Track sign
11	1787287	5705935	188	1:36min (3.16km); Makara Stream crossing via log, drift or wet feet
12	1787232	5706123	192	1:40min (3.36km); Boundary gate
13	1787161	5706491	189	1:48min (3.75); Pass under railway bridge
14	1787079	5706567	182	1:52min (3.88km); Meet asphalt, Ohura Road
15	1787582	5704782	242	2:29min (5.85km); Shady section on rolling track
16	1787609	5704752	246	2:30min (5.89km); Left at junction, down to gate then right parallel to Makara Stream
17	1787896	5704542	279	2:45min (6.34km); Cathy's Cabin for lunch
18	1787796	5704958	339	3:55min (7.3km); Through gate in fence on steep climb
19	1788206	5705091	531	4:22min (7.88km); Back on main ridge after "grunty" ascent with 960m to go

Railway Bridge



Ongarue Telephone Exchange



Cathy's Cabin



GPS: Garmin GPSMap 62cs on WGS84

WP: Waypoints as taken by GPS unit

masl: metres above sea level