

Mt EDGECUMBE

Topo50 Map: BE39 Mt Edgcumbe

GPS: NZTM on WGS84

How to get to START: Exit Taupo on SH1 North

- At Wairakei follow SH 5 to Rotorua
- Enter Rotorua and at roundabout follow SH30 towards Whakatane
- Stay on SH30 until the sign for Kawerau indicates a right turn to SH34
- Get into Kawerau
- Locate Maori Investments House on Waterhouse Street which is off River Road which is where a permit can be obtained
- A good detailed road map or the full 1:50,000 scale should be carried to assist navigation to the start point which is on private forestry road and marked in yellow on the map on the right.

Rough description: From Taupo travel time to the start is over two hours including getting and paying for the required permit. The permit costs \$10 dollars and is obtained from Maori Investments House on Waterhouse Street which is off River Road, Kawerau Tel 07 323 8146. After completion of the tramp it is necessary to advise the office that you have left the restricted area – this can be done by cell phone as soon as service is available on the road in / near Kawerau. The walk itself can only be described as hard work with a two hour “grunt” up the unrelenting hill but, if the head can be raised, the native vegetation is worth studying. At the top there are a few features including the forestry look-out, service hut for the communications’ masts and wonderful views all around from the high points. The walk back down takes half the time.

Permit: Maori Investment House, Waterhouse Street off River Road 07 323 8146 07 362 8080

Detail: Enjoy the more or less flat piece of road at the gate (**WP01265masl**) on the road you are to walk up as the rest varies from steep to rather steep and is a test for most. Within 10 minutes or so the remnants of an old gate are encountered – take note of this as on finding it on the way down spirits will soar as sore knees and tired legs will know the end is nigh.

Maori Investment House



Plenty of warning



The start point



There really are very few features to take note of on the way up apart from dense native bush with some impressive ferns then there is an old marker post (**WP02444masl**) half an hour from the start – not sure if this is marking 15km from somewhere! The next noticeable feature is a big switchback (**WP03562masl**) about 750m on up the hill from the post.



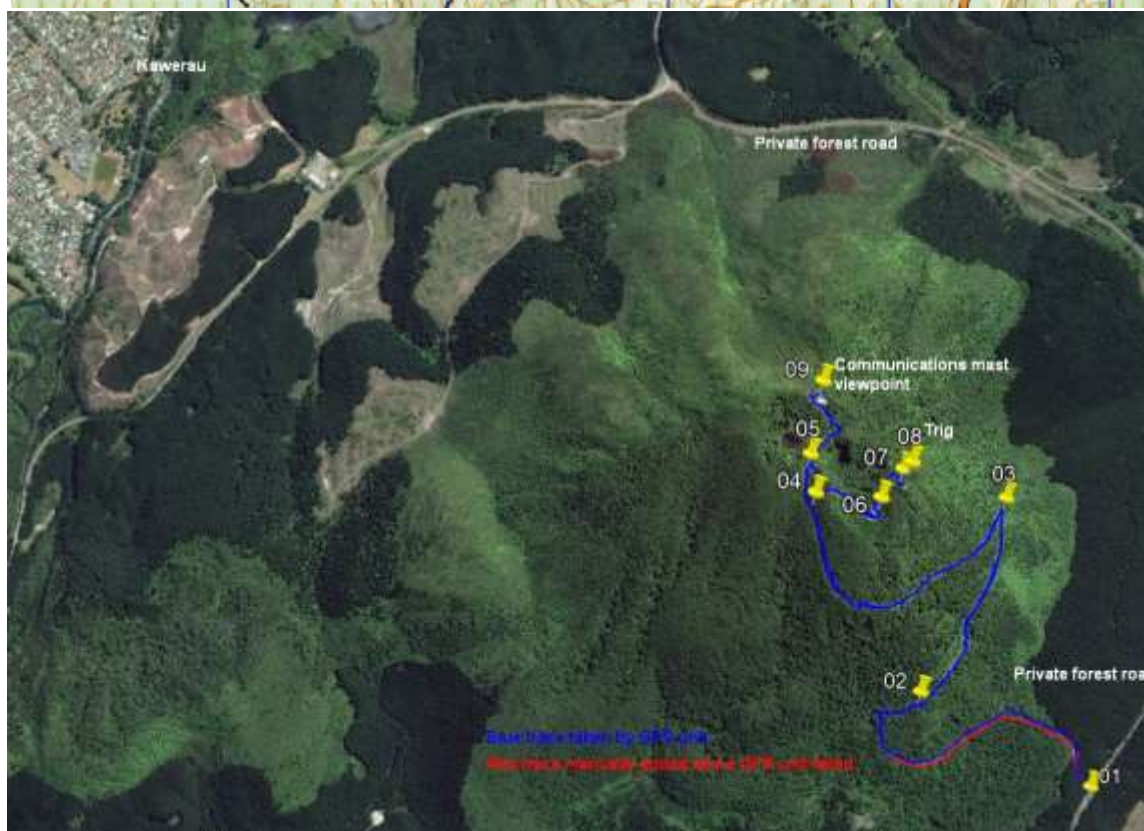
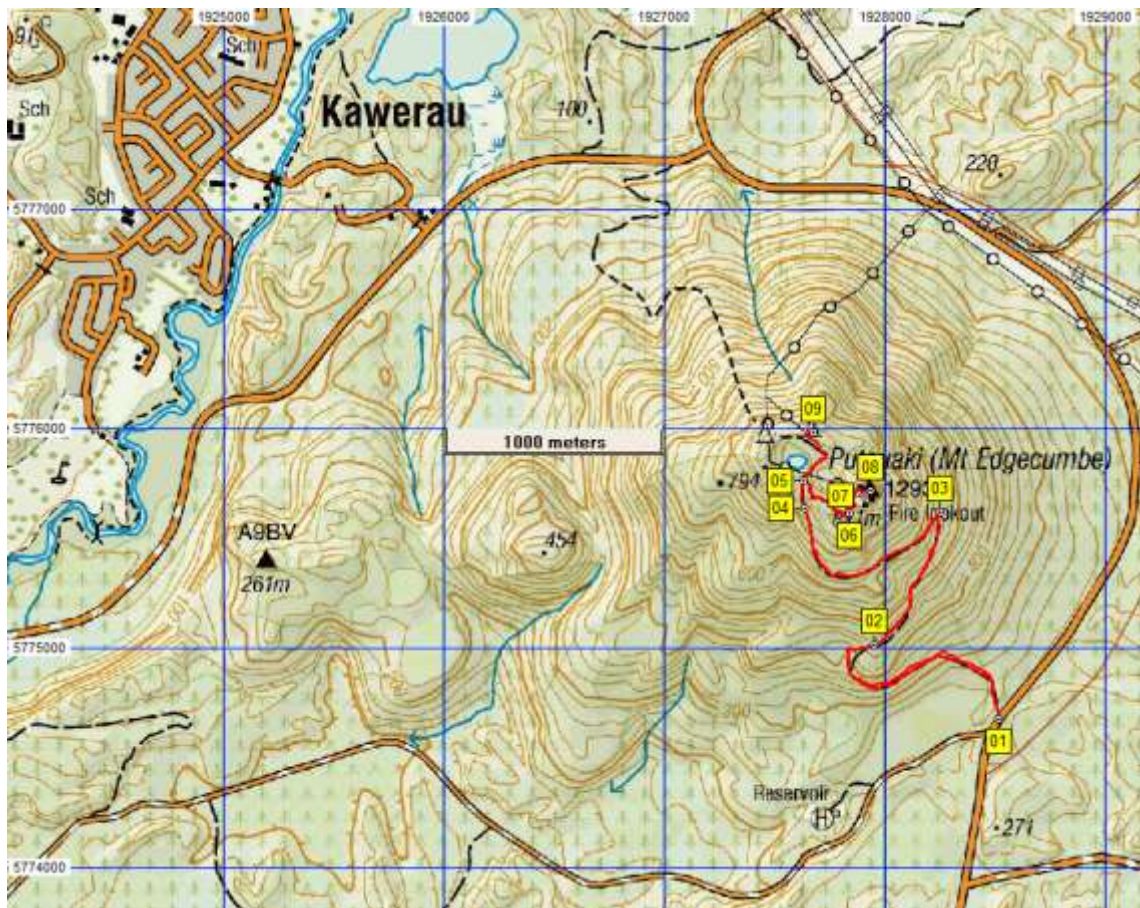
Continuing upwards there is a small moment of relief when a minor high-point (**WP04738masl**) is crossed and there are a few strides on the level to downwards. A hundred and fifty metres later there is a junction (**WP05750masl**) where by going right then through a dip there are good views of the communication masts upslope ahead.



The road ends 350m from the junction with a car (**WP06761masl**) park with a huge rock in the middle. A steep track with steps then leads up to a green wooden service hut (**WP07811masl**) for the masts and the Putauaki Trig (**WP08811masl**). Back tracking to the junction and going right leads to directly under a huge coms mast **WP09776masl**) from where on



clear days there are good views of Kawerau and surrounding area. The trip back down takes considerably less time but can be hard on the knees and slipping on the road gravel can be a hazard. Roughly 9.76km total with 559m of ascent.



Name	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
01	1928518	5774680	265	Park at gate on to gravel road - forestry / repeater masts access
02	1927953	5775020	444	1.2km (30min); White wooden marker post 15 on RHS
03	1928249	5775621	562	1.95km (49min); Sharp switch-back from NNE to SW
04	1927638	5775644	738	2.97km 1:17min); Minor highpoint with a few strides downslope
05	1927627	5775761	750	3.1km (1:21min); Road junction, go right
06	1927836	5775617	761	3.41km (1:30min); Car park with run-around a huge rock, rocky track continues
07	1927903	5775695	811	3.68km (1:40min); Green service hut below repeater mast
08	1927932	5775716	825	3.77km (1:50min); Putauaki Trig on rocky outcrop
09	1927675	5775983	776	4.9km (2:22min); Below massive repeater mast

Notes • **GPS** Garmin GPSmap 62sc **WP** = Waypoint as taken by GPS unit **masl** = metres above sea level