

Waihi Beach Orokawa Bay

Topo50 Map: BC36 Katikati

GPS: NZTM on WGS84

How to get to START:

- Leaving Taupo head north on SH1 to Tirau then over through Matamata and Paeroa. From Paeroa Waihi is on the road signboards then Waihi Beach is only 11km further on.
- *The location of the tramp can be seen opposite in the middle upper part of sheet BC36*

Rough description: A walk of 3 - 5 hours including coffee / tea stops and lunch break and all dependent on how fast one goes and how far one wants to go. On the day there were two parties; fast and not as fast. The fast party went all the way to Homunga Bay whilst the slower group got to the north end of the beach in Orokawa Bay intending then to go to the William Wright Falls another 40minutes or 1.2km up the Orokawa Stream.

Detail: Very simple really as all that is required is to get on to the beach after establishing when high tide will occur but even when the tide is well in the beach is passable and the only complication is that there can be some scrambling on the rocks around **WP01** 5masl. There is good access to the beach from the residential area via a wooden walkway at the end of Hillary Road – but there are other access points.



The Norfolk pines that are dotted around are very good markers for getting the correct exit point later when returning. The surf can be quite high and exciting for those inclined to partake of water sports.

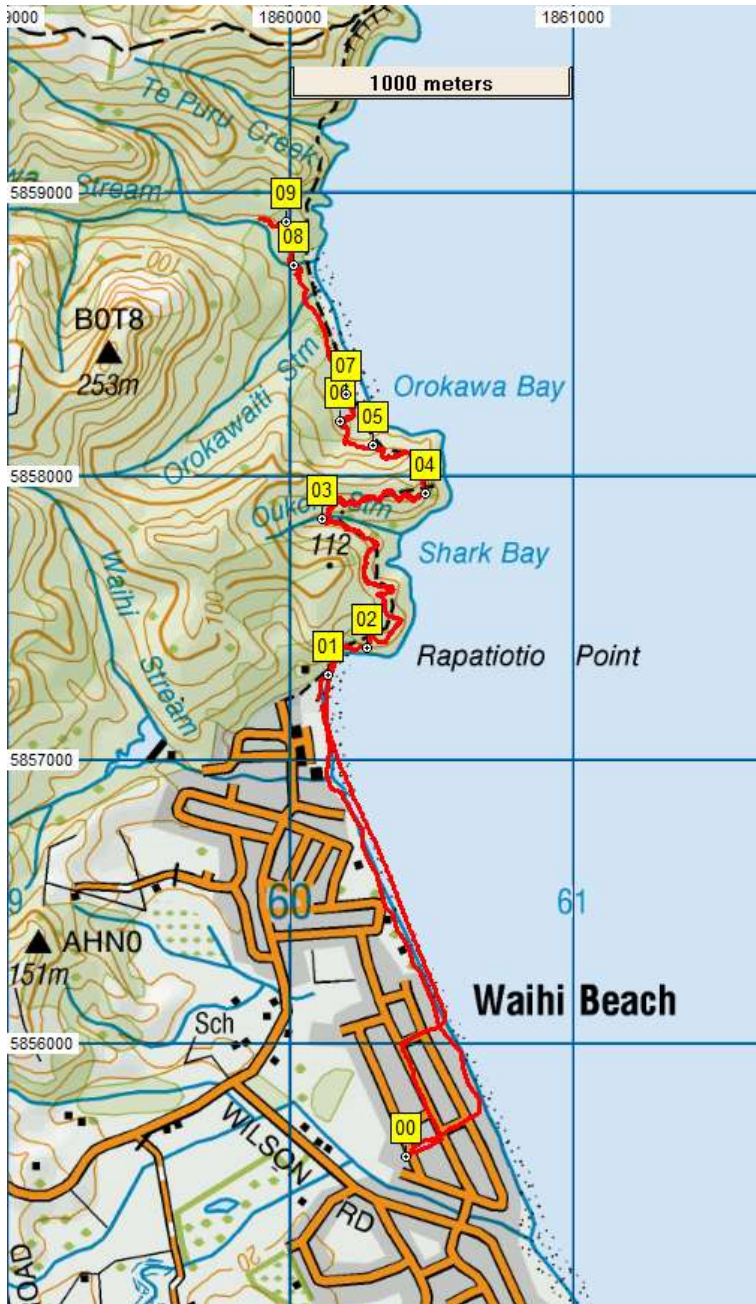
Once on the track, which is first rate and comprised of hard packed clay with very few roots or rocks to trip over – however if wet it can be slippery. There are two wooden bridges **WP03** and **WP06** to cross, a couple of seats at viewpoints back over Waihi Beach and a Doc toilet (**WP05** 37masl)

There are no difficult sections and no slopes steep enough to be considered a grunt – the steepest section is at **WP08** 10masl near the north end of Waihi Beach.



The only slightly tricky bit is working through a huge tree where the track (**WP09** 23masl) off to the waterfalls heads off left. The waterfall track has not been maintained and is very rough, in fact walking in the stream bed was easier but there are warning signs about waterflow when it is wet. This track was abandoned after a couple of hundred metres as it was a tad rough and not worth the effort.





N...	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
00	1860407	5855603	5.0	Bach Waihi Beach - down Hillary Rd to beach
01	1860133	5857301	0.0	2.02km (35min); North end of beach on the rocks as high tide - tricky
02	1860272	5857399	18.9	2.27km (43min); minor junction - go left. Right for view point
03	1860111	5857852	34.1	3.14km (58min); wooden bridge at head of gully then uphill
04	1860475	5857939	73.2	3.78km (1:14min); seat with views back over Waihi Beach
05	1860294	5858108	36.9	4.13km (1:20min); junction on RHS to DOC toilet
06	1860173	5858195	14.0	4.41km (1:25min); bridge then down to Orokawa BAY
07	1860193	5858293	7.0	4.58km (1:31min); noticeboard at start of beach in Orokawa Bay - lunch spots
08	1860009	5858744	10.1	5.34km ((2:07min); steep descent through valley at N end of beach
09	1859984	5858895	22.9	5.55km (2:21min); track junction at huge tree - go left on very poor track up Orokawa Stream

Notes:

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