

FOOTSTEPS WALKING CLUB OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

the best day-walks in **WONDERFUL WAIKATO**

HIGHLIGHTS

- One of the North Island's highest waterfalls (Wairere) and most stunning springs (Waihou)
- The longest pest-proof fence in the world (Maungatautari)
- The underground home of a unique creature – *arachnocampa luminosa*
- Spectacular *Lord of the Rings* locations in the King Country (Tawarau)
- New Zealand's tallest native tree (Pirongia)
- The wild west coast: raging surf, black sand, and white cliffs (Raglan)
- The picturesque setting of NZ's largest inland city – dissected by a river
- Scenes of heroism and tragedy from our colonial past: redoubts, battlefields, and graves

DATES		12-18 November 2023 / 9-15 November 2025	
DATE REGISTRATIONS CLOSE		12 September 2023 / 9 September 2025	
STARTING POINT		Hamilton	8.00 a.m.
FINISHING POINT		Hamilton	8.00 p.m.
COST		6pax\$1000,5pax\$1100,4pax\$1200,3pax\$1300	
DAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	OVERNIGHT
<p>Walks that are highly recommended are printed in red.</p> <p>All times given are for a return (out and back) walk, a loop walk, or a linear walk with transport to/from each end.</p>			
Day 1	Kaimai-Mamaku FP Wairere Falls (1.5-2h lookout, 3-4h top of falls)	Te Waihou Walkway Te Waihou (Blue Spring) (2h)	Matamata or Putaruru
Day 2	Mighty River Country Waikato River Trail: Arapuni to Jones Landing (2h) and/or <i>Sanctuary Mountain: Maungatautari Ecological Island</i> : Wairere Traverse (5-6h), Over the Mountain 5-6h, Summit (4h), Southern Enclosure Walks 30m-2h, Northern Enclosure walks 30m-1h, a range of guided walks are also available.		Kihikihi or Te Awamutu
Day 3	Wonderful Waitomo <i>Longer Option:</i> Pehitawa Walkway (Waitomo to Te Kuiti, 5h). <i>Shorter Options:</i> Waitomo Walkway (2-3h), Waitomo Glow-worm Cave (own expense), Ruakuri Cave (own expense), Opapaka Pa (40m), Ruakuri Bushwalk (30m).		Waitomo
Day 4	Lord of the Rings Country <i>Longer Option:</i> Tawarau Gorge (3-4h).		Waitomo

	<p><i>Shorter Option:</i> Tawarau Falls Loop (2h30m-3h)</p>	
Day 5	<p>The Wild West <i>Walks selected from:</i> Marokopa Falls (20m) Mangapohue Natural Bridge (20m) Dieffenbach Cliffs Waikawau Beach (45m) Kawhia Harbour Coastal Walk (2-3h) Bridal Veil Falls (top - 15m, base 30m) Te Toto Gorge (30m-1h)</p>	Raglan
Day 6	<p>Pirongia Forest Park and Environs/Hakarimata Range <i>Longer Options:</i> Mangakara Stream to Ruapane (2-4h), Wharauora and Mahaukura Lookouts (4h), Summit via Tirohanga Track (6-7h), Karamu Walkway complete (5h), NZ's tallest native tree (Kaniwaniwa, 5-6h), <i>Hakarimata Walkway</i>: Southern Section along the ridge to the Summit (3h). <i>Shorter Options:</i> Ruapane Direct (2h), Mangakara Nature Walk (1h), Corcoran Road Lookout (15m), Kakepuku Mountain Scenic Reserve (2h), Nikau Walk (2h30m), Kaniwaniwa Caves (2h30m), Lake Ngaroto (1h30m), Yarndley's Bush (Te Awamutu) (30m), <i>Karamu Walkway</i>: Four Brothers Track (15m), North Section (1h30m), South Section (3h), <i>Hakarimata Walkway</i>: Summit only (1.5h).</p>	Hamilton
Day 7	<p>The River City Hamilton Gardens & Waikato River Path (various options from 20m to 1h15m with many combinations) Lake Rotoroa Loop (1-2h) Farewell Dinner. Trip concludes.</p>	



The Blue Spring