

OTANEWAINUKU WHATAROA FALLS

Topo50 Map: BD37 Tauranga & BE37 Rotorua

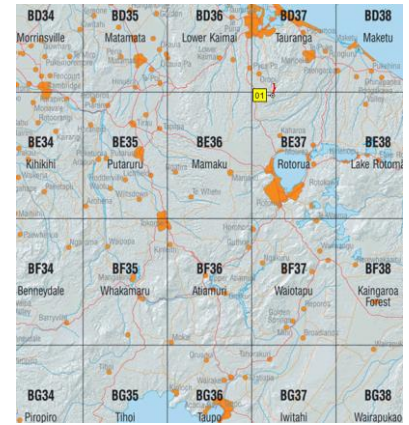
How to get to START: It is about 2 hours driving from Taupo and the route is via Rotorua to eventually pick up SH36 Tauranga Direct Road which leads into Pyes Pa Road. Turn right off this to Mangatoui Road which is windy, steep and gravelly, left to No 2 Road and then left off this to Mountain Road. The car park (**WP01463masl**) is soon found with a shelter on the left hand side and the sign-posted track entrance on the right.

Rough description: A fairly tasking little walk on good track, which needs careful watching as there are a few turns which are not too obvious though there are plenty of orange track markers – however in places there are even more pink markers as pest eradication and hunters seem pretty active in the area. In places there is fair birdlife – robin seen several times – and the track is soft as it passes through the lush forest but some sections are a bit root infested.

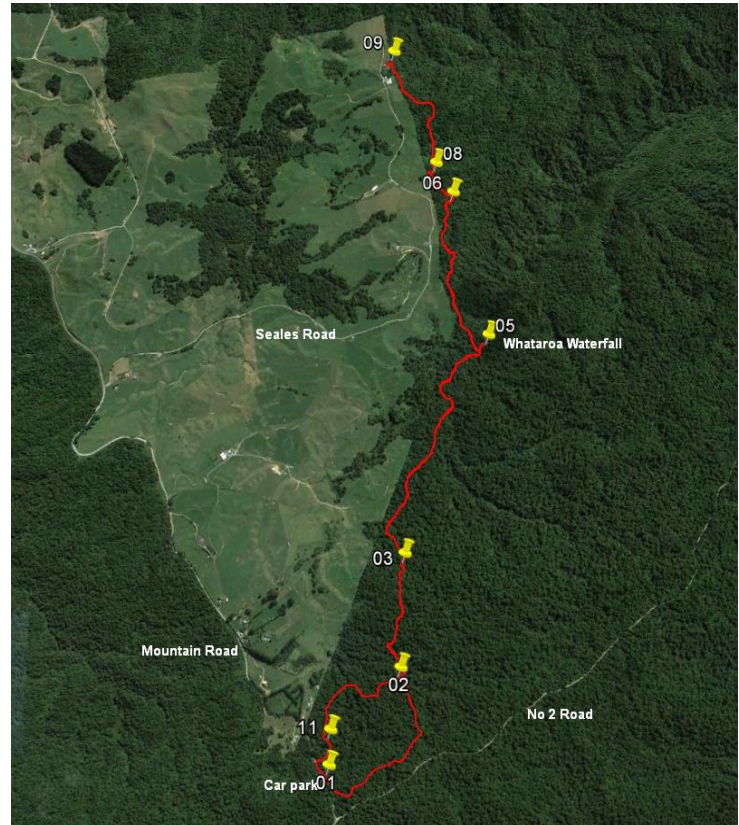
Detail: The outing starts on the “Loop Track” and one can go clockwise or anti-clockwise with both directions heading downhill to start to arrive at the start of the Whataroa Falls Track (**WP02441masl**) in a bit over 20mins. There are many “Tree” info points along here.

NZTM GPS: NZTM on WGS84

Location



There are not too many features to note on this track but there is an incised stream line (**WP03415masl**) after 40minutes then a stream crossing (**WP04364masl**) after 1:20min to face a notice board with right being a diversion of minutes to the falls (**WP05352masl**).

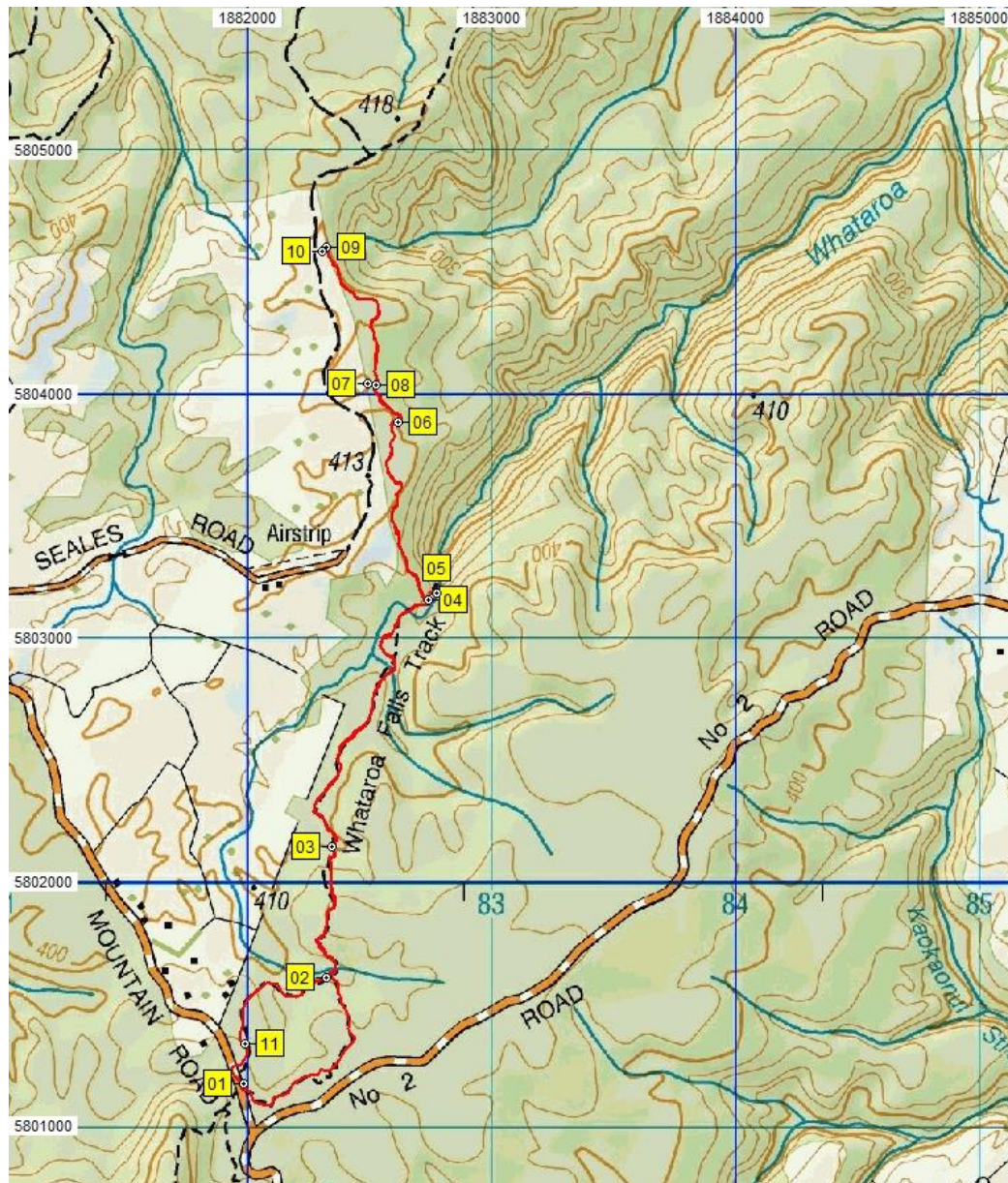


From here on it is worthwhile looking carefully for the orange markers as there are so many bait-lines and other places that look like tracks. There is a short section in a dry valley (**WP06399masl**) that is crossed then an old track or road is met. Left uphill leads to paddocks (**WP07410masl**) and the route is a few metres downhill to then slip off left (**WP08408masl**). The track then follows a fence line and there is a stile with an invitational notice (**WP09416masl**) to enter and see the views from a local house (**WP10418masl**). On the day in question there was no one apart from unseen barking dogs at home and, as it was raining, lunch was had under the deck (balcony).

The return route used was the same as the outward as far as the Loop Track junction (**WP2**) and by turning right the rest of the loop walk can be completed – well worthwhile as a huge 500 year old rimu is found lying (**WP11443masl**) along the side of the track



Map with GPS data



Waypoints – NZTM

N...	Easting	Northing	Alt(m)	Description
01	1881982	5801178	463	Park on Mountain Road with shelter and info boards etc
02	1882326	5801611	441	25min (970m); Junction with straight for loop track and right for Whataroa
03	1882348	5802143	415	41min (1.6km); incised stream line
04	1882739	5803154	364	1:23min (2.95km); Stream crossing then right for falls and left for Seales R
05	1882772	5803185	352	1:27min (3.02km); Whataroa Waterfalls
06	1882614	5803886	399	1:55min (3.95km); Down a dry vally and slip off up to the left
07	1882494	5804039	410	2:04min (4.19km); Left for paddock view then right (East) on old road 50m
08	1882530	5804037	408	2:05min (4.22km); Slip off old road on the left hand side
09	1882325	5804603	416	2:24min (4.92km); Stile over fence with welcome notice to Pendergrast ho
10	1882305	5804582	418	2:26min (4.96km); House - lunch under deck
11	1881989	5801339	443	4:42min (9.42km); Huge, felled ancient Rimu tree minutes from carpark

From : 11-May-16 09:15:42
To : 11-May-16 14:01:35

Time taken : 4:45:52
Total Distance : 9.634 Km
GPS distance : 11.19km
Minimum Speed : 0.030 KPH
Maximum Speed : 6.558 KPH
Average Speed : 2.022 KPH

Minimum Altitude : 352 Meters
Maximum Altitude : 464 Meters
Total ascent : 479metres

Notes:

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