



## Half Day Hikes.



The start time of your chosen half day hike will vary. We ask you to get in contact with us two evenings prior to your hike to confirm pick up locations and start times.

On our half day hikes, we don't need to take as much gear as on a full day.

You will need, a back pack, water at least 1litre, clothes you want to hike in (preferably no jeans) sturdy shoes, and a rain jacket. Depending on the time of your hike either we will provide your lunch or you will need to bring all the food you think you will need for about 5.hours.

All of our vans and vehicles will have the gear you need to ensure for a comfortable day, however we ask you to provide us with shoe sizes if boots are needed. You and your guide will discuss hiking options and this is where you can refer back to this PDF and see what one interest you the most.

### Lake Rotopounamu

Rotopounamu is a 6.4km loop around nestled into the flanks of an extinct volcano-Mount Pihanga. Please allow 2-3 hours as there is much to see and learn throughout this journey.

Lake Rotopounamu was the last part to be added into the Tongariro National Park, it truly is the perfect place to take a relaxing walk, learn about the native trees and bush and bird watch! Keep an eye on the sky for the Flacon and Long Tailed Cuckoo keep an eye in the trees for Tui and Kereru and keep an eye near the ground for the friendly Bush Robin and Fantail.

The track has a very gentle 15minute climb to where the loop begins, take your time as this is the only big hill, the rest is undulating and a very well maintained track.





#### A Half Day Tongariro Alpine Experience

This trip takes you 5km up the Mangatepopo Valley and 5km back down. This valley is very unique valley in New Zealand for multiple reasons, which your guide will explain in depth on the track.

There is about 240m-340m of climbing and descending depending. The track is well formed and marked, you'll walk on natural path and board walks and have the option to head out to Soda Springs which is a 300metre detour on the way back down the valley. You will see views of Mount Tongariro, Mount Ngauruhoe and walk amongst pre-historic lava flows that have stretched down the valley.

Learn about the Alpine Plants native or introduced.

#### Taranaki Falls.

Taranaki Falls is a 6.6km loop track with minimal ascending and descending. This loop track passes through alpine, tussock shrub land's and Mountain Beech forest. On a clear day you will be able to see the glorious volcanoes in all their glory in the Tongariro National Park, Tongariro with his rolling hills, Ngauruhoe with his symmetrical cone shape and Mount Ruapehu the biggest mountain in the North Island of New Zealand. Once you arrive to Taranaki Falls you will see the 20m waterfall rolling over the edge of an old lava flow from Mount Ruapehu. The track is well maintained and easy to follow.



#### Mount Tihia.

A very true New Zealand bush track leads up to the open tops of Mount Tihia.

You'll get big views looking out over Lake Taupo which is the biggest lake in New Zealand and also out over Mount Tongariro and Mount Ngauruhoe. A true New Zealand experience, a vague track pushes through sub-alpine scrub.

Mount Tihia is off the beaten track so crowds won't be an issue and we may even have it all to ourselves.

Please allow 3-4 hours to complete this 6km hike which has 340 metres ascending and 340 metres descending.





### Ohinepango Explorer

A fabulous blend of history, natural beauty, and relatively easy walking, for a half-day adventure the crystal clear Ohinepango Springs never fail to impress, while the historic hut reminds us of the rich history of our first National Park. This five-hour experience only requires moderate fitness, but enjoys some of the most expansive and breath-taking scenery in the Tongariro National Park.

A 12km (6km each way) with gentle rises that gain 120metres and descend 120 metres.  
(once used by horse drawn coaches)



### Mount Urchin

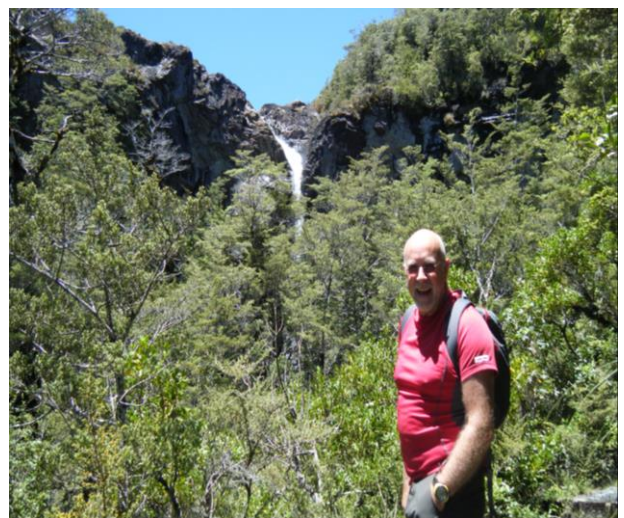
Located in the Kaimanawa Forest Park, the half-day hike up to Mt Urchin offers a unique perspective of the volcanoes of the Central North Island. A traditional New Zealand "tramping" track, the Urchin track climbs up through a mix of ancient native hardwood and gnarled beech trees. This native forest is home to many species of bird, from the frenetic fantail, the shrill long-tailed cuckoo in summer, to the occasional screech of Kaka, our native bush parrot. Above the bush line we have panoramic views extending around from the eastern side Desert Road, the three volcanoes of Tongariro National Park.

6.6km, 3-4 hours and 530metres ascending and descending.



### Silica Rapids.

This walk will take you through Beech Forest and bog lands (you will walk on the board walk to reduce erosion). Make sure to take a look into the water where an array of colours will be shown from the minerals and chemicals carried down from volcanic rocks, at first the water and rocks will be a deep orangey-red colour due to iron oxide, later on in the walk silica will be more present and the water turns more pearly-white. Old lava flow valleys will be an amazing feature of this walk, from an eruption from Mount Ruapehu 15,000 years ago.







Meads Wall.

This is a perfect short trip for those Lord of the Rings fans. Meads Wall was a filming location for 5 weeks. It is where several scenes from 'The Fellowship of the Ring' and 'The Two Towers' were filmed. This area can be very mysterious and moody due to the lack of flora and fauna found in the area. Barren rock gardens with 3 of NZ's most famous active volcanoes near by.



We love getting peoples' feedback on either Trip advisor, Google or any other feedback service provider.

We have an Instagram and Facebook profile so feel free to give us a follow or like and tag us in the pictures you took. If you circled \*I agree\* in the medical declaration to allow your photo to be used for promotional purposes then we can post the pictures of you and the group on our profiles or website.

Instagram: @tongariroguidedwalks

Facebook: Tongariro Guided Walks.

We are looking forward to taking you, your friends, family and loved ones on these amazing adventures!

### Tawhai Falls.

Tawhai Falls is a 13m waterfall, it is also known as Gollum's Pool. It is a short but sweet walk that is only 800m from SH48. Walking down through native New Zealand bush it is a good time to listen to your guide that will be teaching you about the bush and its medicinal properties and/or other fascinating facts about the flora and fauna around the area. Surrounded by native bush means that the native birds should be fluttering around. Hopefully a friendly Toutouwai (Bush Robin) or a cheeky Piwakawaka (Fantail) will come up close and personal.



Make sure to get a finishing photo to compare the start of the day to the end.

Once at the vehicle we will collect all the gear you may have borrowed.

We will take you back to your lodging or car.

Please let us know when you book, where you will be coming from in the morning and where you want to be in the evening, so that we can pick you up from the most practical location

