

COVID-19 impacts: some small/remote accommodation options are reducing their offerings as customer numbers are lower than usual. Cafes in small towns may close their kitchen earlier than their published hours.

NORTH ISLAND

Pg 6 Buses: long distance bus are less likely to take bikes these days. Best to check first.

Pg 8 Cape Reinga to Ahipara
Te Pahi Stream “road” to Ninety Mile Beach is sometimes closed to cars (yay!). Cycling is allowed. If you see a random road cone go wide to avoid quicksand holes.

Pg 8 72.0 km Hukatere Lodge B&B and camp ground. is 500 m off the beach.

Pg 8-9 89.5 km Waipapakauri Holiday Park is now Ngapae Holiday Park.

Pg 18 Kaipara Harbour boat trip
There is only one boat you can legally take across the Kaipara Harbour – Kaipara Cruises. The other boat, AliCat has been sold and left the district. If you can't (or don't want to) take the boat, ride the alternative route around the harbour, as detailed in the TA guidebooks. But it is about 100 km longer.

Pg 21 Dargaville to Paparua
A new Highway 12 bypass after Matakohe changes the route a little bit.

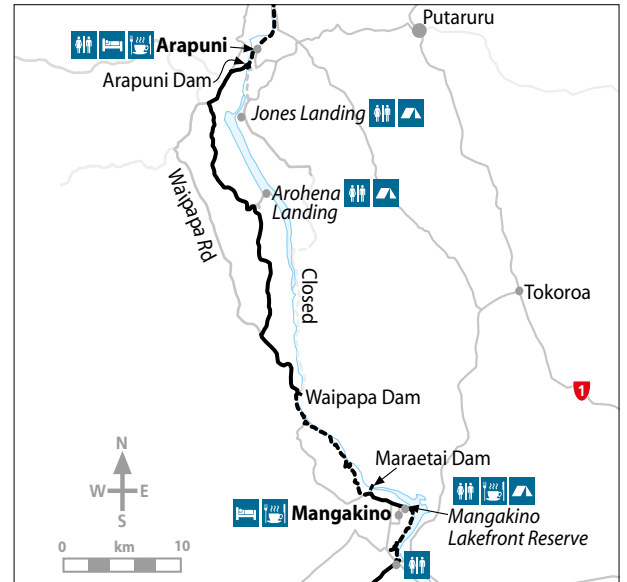
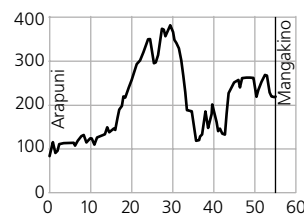
55.0 km From the cafe, head back down to Matakohe East Rd and turn right (north east), then right onto a remnant of Highway 12. After crossing the river turn right onto a new pathway that follows the another banks of the river for 600 m to another remnant of HW12. Turn left then right onto the new Highway 12 (heading east).

Pg 25-26 The North-western Cycle Route now includes:
30.57 km (opposite Lubricants West Auckland) turn left off Triangle Road onto the new shared path. Then just follow it into Auckland, it will re-join with the TA course after 2km.

Pg 29 Auckland Airport to Manukau
There is a lot of development happening around the airport so the route may be somewhat different between Nixon Road and Manukau. Keep your wits about you and you will be fine.

Pg 38 23.2km Karapiro Vista
Private rooms and backpacker accommodation, 1 Lancewood Lane, Piarere, 640m after turning off HW1. Phone Bill on 027 226 1514.

Pg 39-41 Arapuni Dam to Waipapa Dam
The Waipapa Dam segment of the Waikato River Trail has been replaced by the **Easier alternative** we describe on page 41. The overall distance is increased by 1 km.



Pg 41 *Arohena Landing*: DOC Campground, www.govt.nz
Turn off Mangare Rd onto Landing Rd when you are 17.5 km from Arapuni. The campground is 2 km down Landing Road, on the edge of Lake Arapuni.

Pg 45 *Piropiro*: Camp Epic; glam camping and breakfast, ph 027 321 6274. Booking essential.

Pg 48 *Hikumutu (6 km south of Taumarunui)*: community centre with toilet and pool.

Pg 50-52 Whakahoro to Pipiriki
The Kaiwhakauka is tough going. It's condition is worst after rain, but even then it takes less than 2 hours to walk the whole 6 km single-track section. You are allowed to take a rest/recovery day before this.
The Maungapurua Track has been upgraded and is easier than ever.

Pg 55 *Rangiwahia Hall*: showers (\$2), hall available for \$10, ph Steve 027 484 2822.

Pg 56 *Apiti*: Tavern has new phone numbers, 06 328 4848 and 027 730 4030. Camping now available at the domain.

Pg 61 *Pahiatua "Track"*: The road now has a wider shoulder and is much safer.

Pg 67 Martinborough to Te Marua
There is now a bridge over Siberia Gully on the Remutaka Incline. Riders are loving it, but if there are gale force winds you're better off taking the old track down into the gully and back up the other side.

SOUTH ISLAND

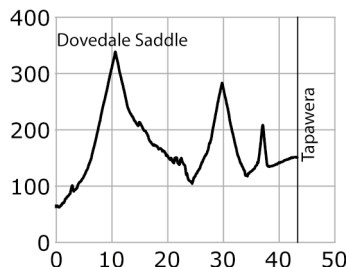
Pg 11 Wakefield to Tapawera

25.0 km From Kohatu Cafe to Tapawera follow the cycle trail all the way in to Tapawera.

If Spooners Tunnel is closed (due to fire risk) then use the old Pigeon Valley route:

WAKEFIELD TO TAPAWERA

22 km sealed road, 21 km gravel road.



| | |
|---------|--|
| 0.0 km | Continue down Edward St to cross Highway 6 and ride up Pigeon Valley Rd. |
| 2.9 km | Veer right on Pigeon Valley Rd. After 2 km, the road turns to gravel and climbs through pine forest. |
| 10.8 km | At Dovedale Hill Summit (326 m), prepare for an awesome downhill straight ahead. |
| 24.7 km | Turn left up Sunday Creek Rd, a quiet and scenic gravel road. |
| 35.0 km | Stanley Brook Recreation Reserve, with shelter if needed. Turn left onto the Motueka Valley Highway. |
| 43.3 km | Tapawera. |

Pg 12 Tapawera

There's a little shortcut to Tadmor Valley Rd that starts from the carpark across the road from the Tapawera Four Square. From the Kiwi "Railway Station" follow the signs.

Pg 15 Maruia

Cafe and accommodation at Maruia; Reids Roadhouse 65 at 1956 State Highway 65, ph 0274 750 780.

Pg 17 Reefton to Ikamatua

DOC has been upgrading the Waiuta Track so it's less of a muddy quagmire - but still challenging.

Pg 24-25 Cowboy Paradise to Hokitika

27.5 km Turn right onto a new bit of trail that connects with some gravel backroads. Follow the signs to reach the eastern edge of Kaniere.

30.5 km Turn right back on to Lake Kaniere Rd.

More sections of the West Coast Wilderness Trail are gradually being constructed over time. Follow the orange trail signs to enjoy any the new bits you find.

Pg 27 20.8 km Pukekura

Pukekura Lodge accommodation is still open, but the The Bushmans Centre cafe has closed.

Pg 35 Lake Hawera Township to Wanaka

The Hawera River Track now starts on the eastern side of the Capell Ave–Domain Rd intersection.

20.4 km The first 100 m of the Wanaka Outlet Track is currently closed for repair [as of 20 Jan 2021]. Ride to the end of Alison Ave and turn right on a short gravel path to rejoin the Outlet Track. There's also a (less enjoyable) signposted bypass route thru Albert Town suburbs.

Pg 46 Invercargill

Zookeepers cafe has closed.

Pg 46 Bluff

24.4 km This stretch of highway is still arguably the worst bit of the Tour. We recommend you ride on the grass verge whenever you hear something coming up behind you. If there's oncoming traffic, then the truck behind you may try to squeeze through the gap between you and the oncoming traffic - at 100 kph.

32.9 km Bypass pathway for cyclists and walkers on the left. As of January 2021 there are some small segments of off road pathway being constructed between here and Bluff.

In Bluff there are medals available for \$10 each to anyone who has walked or cycled from Cape Reinga to Bluff. You can pick them up from the café at Sterling Point, overlooking the AA signs at the end of the tour.

Pg 11-46 South Island mega-bypass

If Highway 6 on the West Coast (between Greymouth and Haast) is closed by another extreme storm you'll need an extreme bypass.

This mega-bypass goes down the *east* side of the Main Divide.

The bypass route will branch off the existing TA route from the West Coast Wilderness Trail at Old Christchurch Rd. Ride over Arthur's Pass (instead of Haast Pass) and rejoin the standard TA route near Wanaka. It *adds* about 240 km to your ride.

A draft version of the GPS file is here:

<http://www.kennett.co.nz/maps/tour-aotearoa/files/parts/> (it's part 7).