

## Tukino Ski Village Mangatoetoenui Stream

**Topo50 Map:** BJ34 Ruapehu & BJ35 Waiouru

**GPS:** NZTM on WGS84

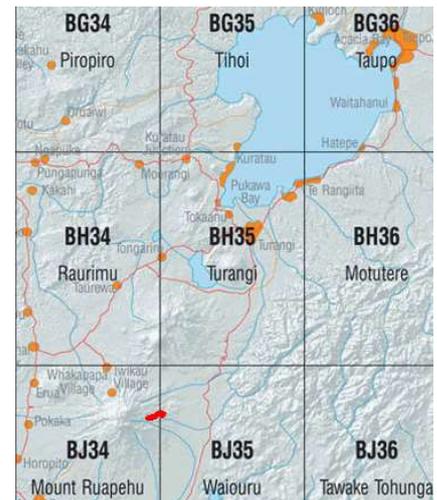
**How to get to START:** The route to the start is down SH1 from Taupo through Turangi and then follow the Desert Road. Exit right off the Desert Road in about an hour on to the **Tukino Access Road** which does have signage – taking note of the signs at the start about 2 wheel drive vehicles on this gravel road.

Follow the gravel road and take notice of the signs posted denoting Army territory. The road is pretty well marked with poles, does weave around a little bit, watch out for some minor puddles to rather large stretches of wet flooded areas.

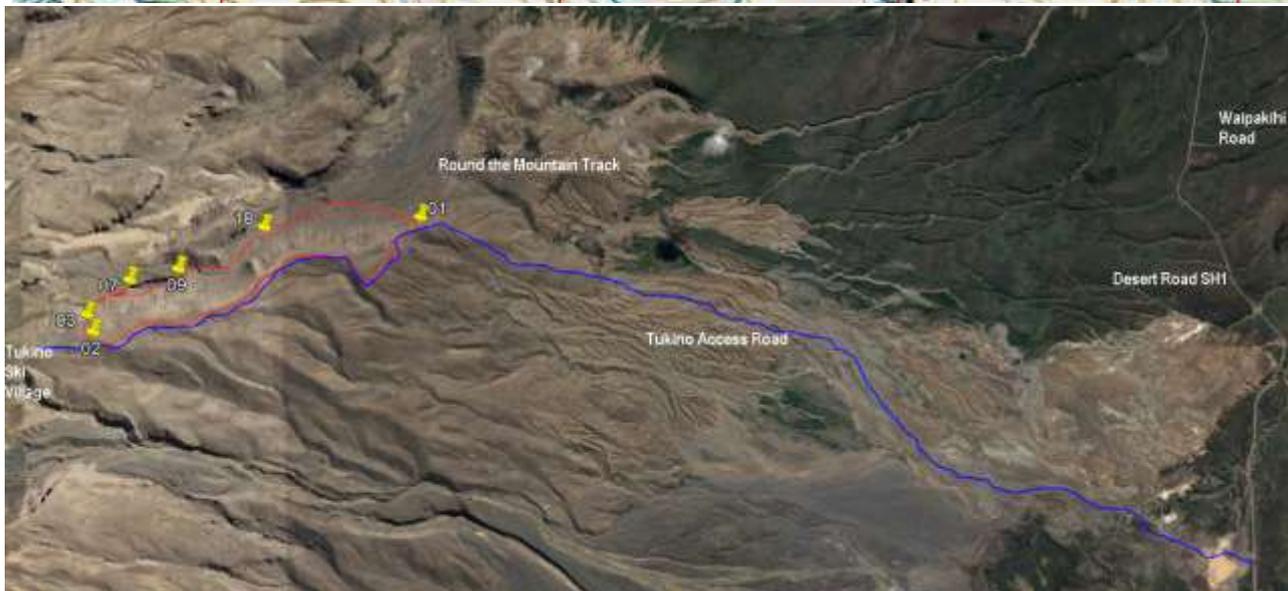
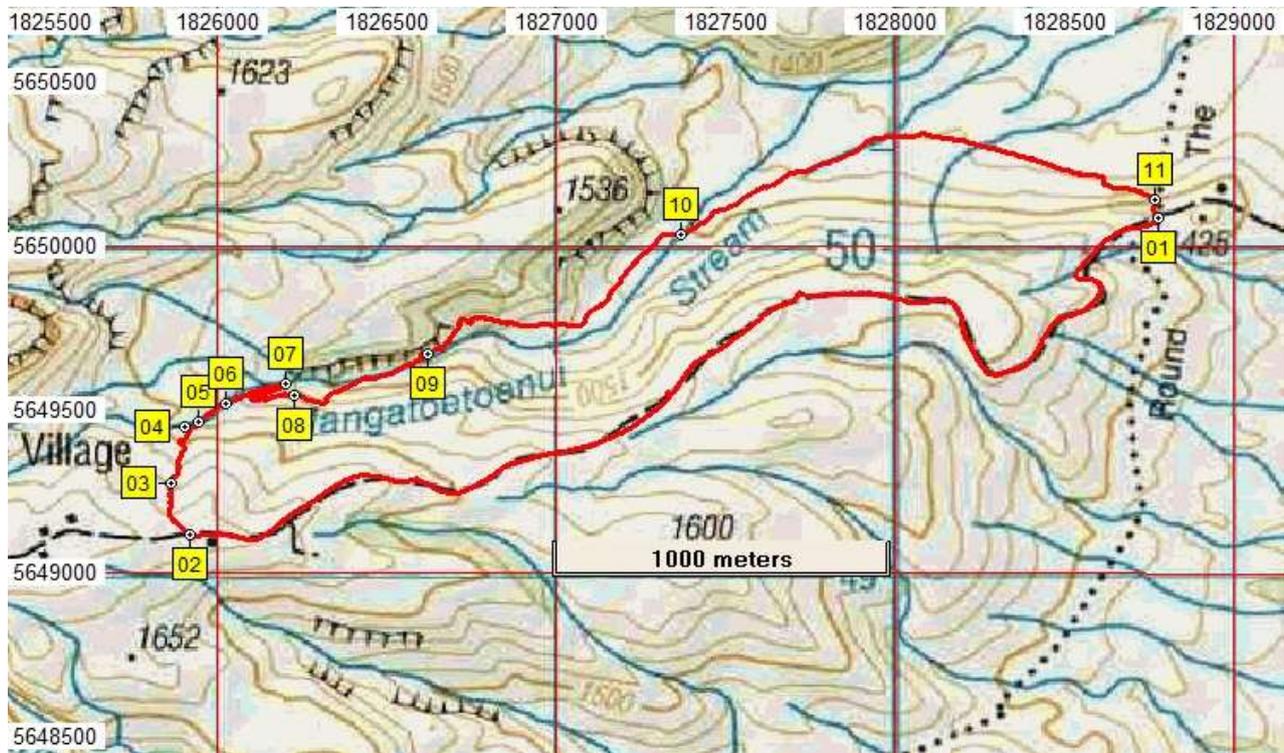
The **2 wheel-drive car park** is reached in 15 minutes and a further 20 minutes is required to reach the repeater station with twin masts. Park near the masts or at the point where the Round-the-Mountain track (RMT) (**01**1407masl) crosses. The drive from Taupo takes about 1:30 minutes covering just over 100km and 4-wheel drive is advised though larger vehicles can make it but it is rough going

**Rough description:** Not a long walk but not for the faint-hearted or clumsy as there is a fair bit of steep gravel slope to negotiate as well as small sections with larger rocks and boulders. There are three stream crossings but only one is deep enough to be “thrilling” whilst the others can normally be crossed without getting wet feet. Depending on skills and fitness 3 – 4 hours can be required for the 8km that are covered. Apart from the first section up the access road the walking is off-track with only metres being covered on the RMT and that section is worse than the off-track walking.

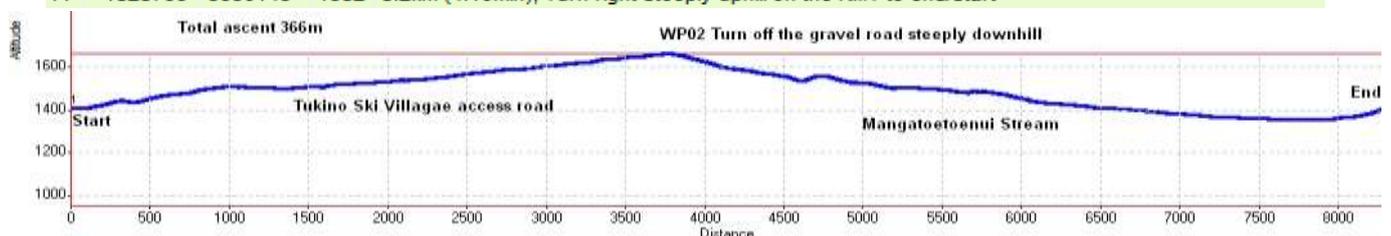
**Detail:** From the crossing point of the RMT go uphill on the road heading for the locked gate – vehicles can access the ski village but a key has to be obtained for this gate. As this is a circular walk there is no point in taking a vehicle up to the village as someone would have to move it back down to the starting point. The minute the walk starts the views come into play. In a bit over an hour of moderate walking (**WP02**1664m) sidle off the road to the NW and down the fairly steep, soft gravelly slope eventually getting into a small stream line (**WP03**1633m). Direction is now NNE and the confluence with a larger stream (**WP04**1590) is soon reached. This stream is usually flowing and is your guide; two simple crossings (**WP05** & **06**) come next but the feet stay dry. The next feature is getting bluffed out (**WP07**1535) but it is worth going there anyway for views of the wild valley ahead down past a large waterfall. From **WP08**1535m there are good views of this waterfall as the route crosses a steep rocky / bouldery slope – looking straight ahead at this point gives great views of remnant walls of rock. Up to date the true right bank of the Mangatoetoenui Stream has been followed and now it is necessary to get over to the true left bank (**WP09**1494m) but this time wet feet, if not a wet bottom, will have to be endured as it can be thigh deep. After a short time heading E the valley opens up and flattens out as it heads NE offering easier walking. The stream is crossed yet again back to the true right bank and the direction is held till the twin communication masts can be seen to the E / ESE. Eventually the RMT track (**WP11**1382m) is reached and it is then only a short grunt uphill to the starting point.



## Map and Google Earth



Waypoint	Easting	Northing	Alt...	Description
01	1828779	5650088	1407	Park at side of road where the Round the Mountain Track (RMT) crosses
02	1825918	5649118	1664	3.767km (1:20min); Turn NW then bear N off gravel road down steep soft gravelly slope
03	1825861	5649277	1633	3.948km (1:37min); Clear side stream course to follow
04	1825905	5649448	1590	4.204km (1:38min); On confluence with larger stream
05	1825943	5649460	1584	4.268km (1:43min:0); Stream crossing - easy
06	1826025	5649518	1569	4.387km (1:46min); Slightly larger stream crossing - still easy
07	1826202	5649581	1535	4.615km (1:53min); Totally out-bluffed - go back and loop left
08	1826227	5649543	1535	4.892km (2:03min); Tricky cross-slope with gravel / boulders and rock walls to see straight ahead
09	1826619	5649670	1494	5.52km (3:03min); Thigh deep stream crossing, fairly easy
10	1827370	5650037	1406	6.577km (3:34min); Easy stream crossing in wide, flattish valley
11	1828766	5650145	1382	8.2km (4:10min); Turn right steeply uphill on the RMT to end/start



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