



Whakapapa crag trip

29 November >> 1 December 2024



Woo hoo - Crag trip #2 is on.

Whakapapa crag has some of the best climbing in the North Island according to many. It's easily accessible, has a great range of grades, and has spectacular views across Tongariro National Park.

Once again, JJ will be leading the group. We were all stoked to learn from JJ on the last trip, and there will be more to come on this one too. It's pretty neat to see our younger climbers, especially, upskill under such considered and safe guidance. Kia ora, JJ.

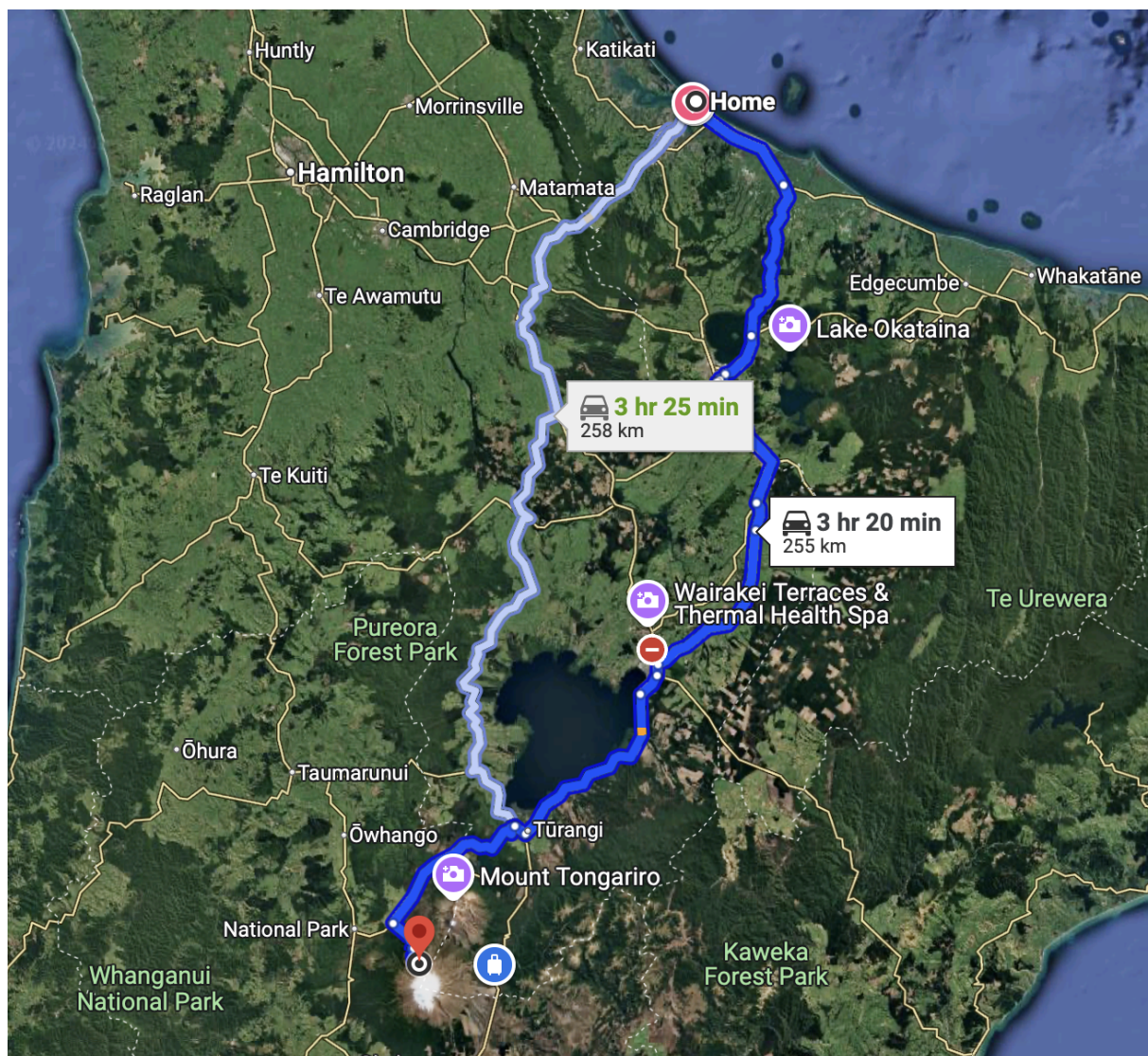
[Find Whakapapa on The Crag](#)

Take a good look and pick out a few climbs you want to conquer!

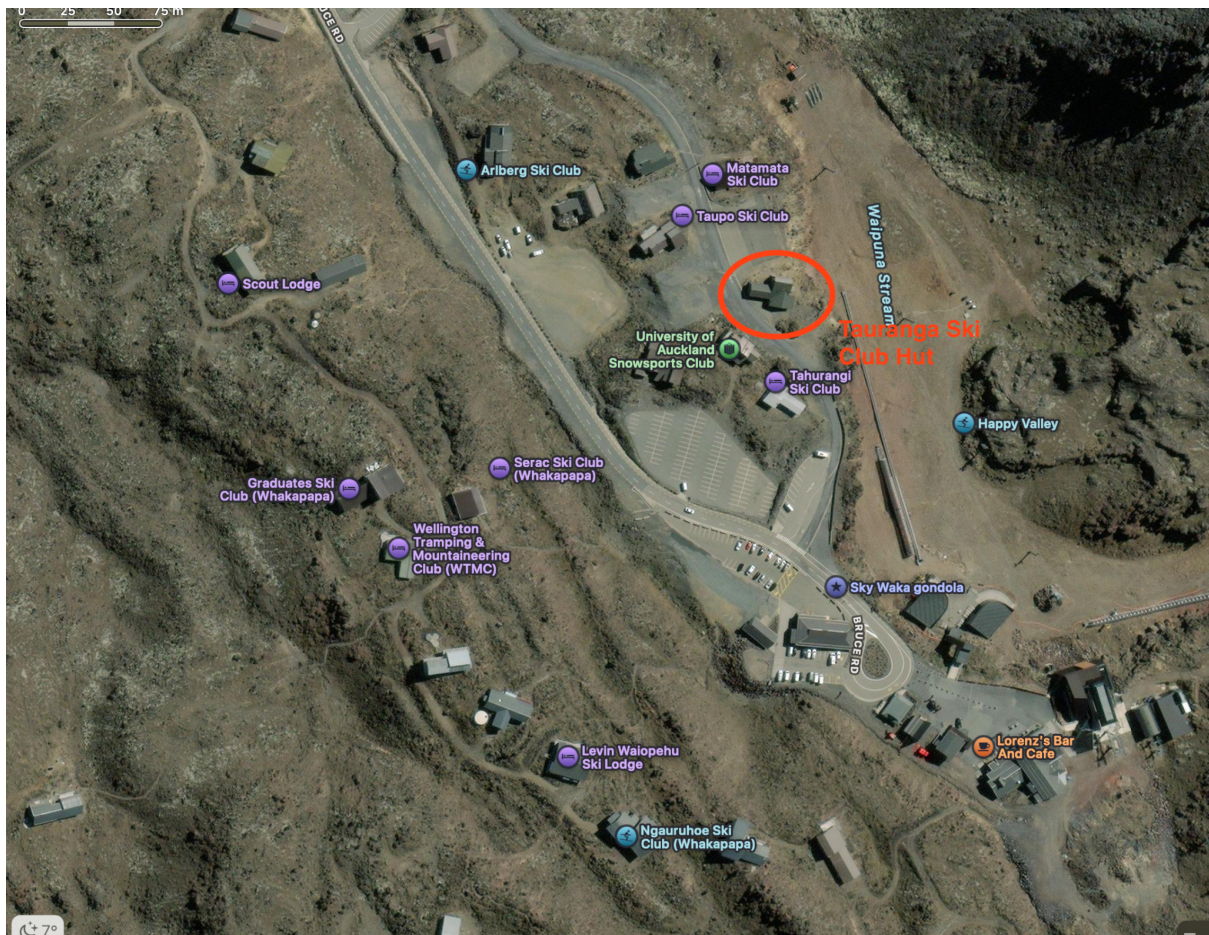
Accommodation and getting there

We have booked the [Tauranga Ski Club hut in the Iwikau Village at the top of Bruce Road](#) for Friday 29th and Saturday 30th.

In winter, the huts in this village are ski-in-ski-out, but in spring, we can drive right to the door. It is just under a three and a half hour drive from the Mount, so for a good day's climbing on Saturday we suggest that you travel on Friday night.



The hut sleeps 22 and we are expecting somewhat more than this already, so I am in the process of securing another hut, also in the village, so we can all hang out up the top of the hill together. If this is not possible, there is also a Tauranga Ski Club hut in National Park that we may be able to fall back on. Either way, we will need to secure these booking ahead of the weekend, so please make your plans in plenty of time.



The sleeping arrangements in the huts are bunk beds in dorms of 5-8 people. Water is a bit scarce, so showers are capped at 3 minutes, and only 1 per day per person. We need to leave the hut clean and tidy when we leave and take all our rubbish with us. There are no cleaners that follow up and do it for us, so come expecting jobs on Sunday before you leave*. Kids included!!

You'll need to bring bedding and a sleeping bag each.

[All the hut procedures are here.](#) The hut works out at \$18 per person per night.

Food

Just like the last trip, you'll need to bring everything you want to eat for the weekend. The closest shop is, again, a solid 20 minutes away.

There are good facilities in the hut this time though, so it's a bit easier!

Friday dinner

If you are coming on Friday evening you'll need to cater for yourselves.

Saturday dinner

After a great day of climbing, we're going to have a communal dinner again.

Please will each family/car/friends group bring a main-meal contribution, and then pitch in with nibbles, drinks, and sweets. It'll be a feast.

Other food...

Remember to bring breakfasts and lunches. Climbing can be hard work, so bring plenty of snacks.

Bring

Personal things

Sleeping bag

Pillow

Headtorch and/or lantern

Sunscreen

Warm clothes. It's spring, it could be really warm, or really cold - especially in the evening. It was pretty cold on the crag last time so come prepared.

Loo paper

Picnic rug for the crag.

Dish clothes and tea towels.

Waste

This is a pack-in-pack-out event. There will be no bins, so everything you bring needs to be taken away again *by you*.

We encourage you not to bring throwaway plates and cups. These can't be justified (ever*), but especially not when we are getting back to nature. Please bring real cups and plates and crockery and wash them. There is plenty of crockery at the hut.

Climbing

Gear

BOPSCA has a little gear, but not nearly enough to stage the whole trip. Please bring the personal gear that you have. Between us all, we will have enough for everyone to climb.

If you are climbing on someone else's gear, remember that this is a privilege and not a right. Gear is valuable - both as a lifesaver (literally, when it comes to climbing), and because it is expensive. Always look after the gear you are using as if it is your own. Treat it well, don't abuse it. Always ask - don't wander away with gear that's not yours. Don't ever stand on ropes - this grinds the dirt in and can damage them.

If someone who owns the gear, or someone with more experience than you, asks you to do or *not* to do something with the gear, please listen and be respectful. Follow the universal law*.

Each morning, JJ will lead a 30-minute compulsory gear check and briefing for the day. If you don't have your own gear, we'd still like you to be involved, and we'll ask people to check the BOPSCA gear. We do not run a log book for BOPSCA gear as this is impractical, so this visual inspection is crucial to ensure the safety of our climbing.

We encourage you to wear a helmet, especially if you are belaying as you can't control things that fall from above, nor can you run away from them. If you haven't got a climbing helmet, a bike helmet is a good option.

Workshops

JJ will be leading some optional workshops.

There will be one before the trip. This is for rock leaders and this time, also for those developing climbers who are getting more knowledgeable in gear selection and use. In particular, JJ will be setting some challenges about setting anchors. The developing climbers will need to select gear that is appropriate and set it up from scratch to place anchors. Non-climbers and parents will critique these anchors for safety.

- **Rock leaders** - 6-8pm, Rocktopia. Monday 18th November

The others will all be at the crag

- Saturday morning // **Lead belay for 15+**
- Sunday morning // **Stripping a climb 15+** (13+ with parental consent)

We encourage all those climbers who did the stripping workshop last time to repeat it. Practice makes perfect.

First aid

JJ, Jaron Faber, Maeve Henihan and Bridget Ranger are all First Aiders and hold current certifications and are all happy to assist those who need help.

Please let us know if you are as well. We'll communicate this to the group at the briefing.

Costs

\$18 per person per night. We will collect this and the club will settle this as a group with them.

\$10 per person, climbers and non-climbers.

This is a small contribution that will go towards gear maintenance if needed, then the balance will go to [ACAT](#). This pays forward the privilege we have in accessing the crags.

BOPSCA membership

The trip is for BOPSCA members, but a few people have asked, "Can we come on the trip if the kids climb but we haven't got a family membership" - great question! YES!! Please come. We need parents to facilitate climbing kids, and we love a community, so please don't let this be a barrier to coming. And joining in - you might just love it and stay. If you want to join in JJ's workshops, you are also more than welcome. BOPSCA has financially supported JJ to get his quals to make this possible, and you are welcome to contribute but again - don't let this stop you from getting involved if you are supporting your kids. If you love it, we'd love for you to consider joining. If you are an adult and you are facilitating your own climbing, please join BOPSCA and contribute.

Police vetting

The committee has made a decision to have all adults vetted on future trips, but this is a process that takes time and CNZ, our umbrella organisation, has not been able to get this set up prior to this trip. We are going to proceed, and as soon as this is available we will make this a requirement.

Register to come!

[Register here.](#)

Please transfer the appropriate trip fees into the BOPSCA account.

02-0466-0364965-00

Reference [Name] Whakapapa

Accommodation fees will be paid to Tauranga Ski Club as a group.

Get ready for some climbing magic!

*Universal law stands: Don't be a dick.