

## Kahurangi Keepers House Hut, Kahurangi National Park

Kahurangi Point sits on the northernmost stretch of the West Coast, about 45km south-west of Cape Farewell, and it's a logistical challenge to get there and back in a weekend.

The biggest issue is the tide. Big River, 2.5km from the hut, needs to be crossed at low tide. The best option is to time any visit with an afternoon low tide, which gives time to get in and out from Nelson on consecutive days. Then there's the weather; Big River can easily become 'Bigger River' after a deluge.

The trip begins by wading the Turamawiwi River and then passing through the dunes to the beach, where gorgeous white sand stretches all the way to the lighthouse on Kahurangi Point.

Walking along the beach leads to Anaweka River estuary, where a limestone outcrop provides a lunchtime seat.

Fording the estuary is easy, then the next stop is Big River. Crossing close to the mouth looks feasible, although, there is a shallower crossing about 200m upstream. Make your choice based on conditions.

South of Big River, macrocarpa trees and some building remains mark the landing site for the lighthouse keeper's supplies.

A DOC sign indicates where to leave the beach, and a track leads to a grassy flat and the spacious hut, once home for the keepers manning the nearby lighthouse. It was built from the remains of houses adjacent to the lighthouse, which were destroyed in the 1929 Murchison earthquake.

### Wild File

**Access** From Cowin Road, 64km from Collingwood. A high ground clearance vehicle will allow you to cross the Anatori River, saving a 7km walk to the road end

**Grade** Easy

**Time** 3-4hr

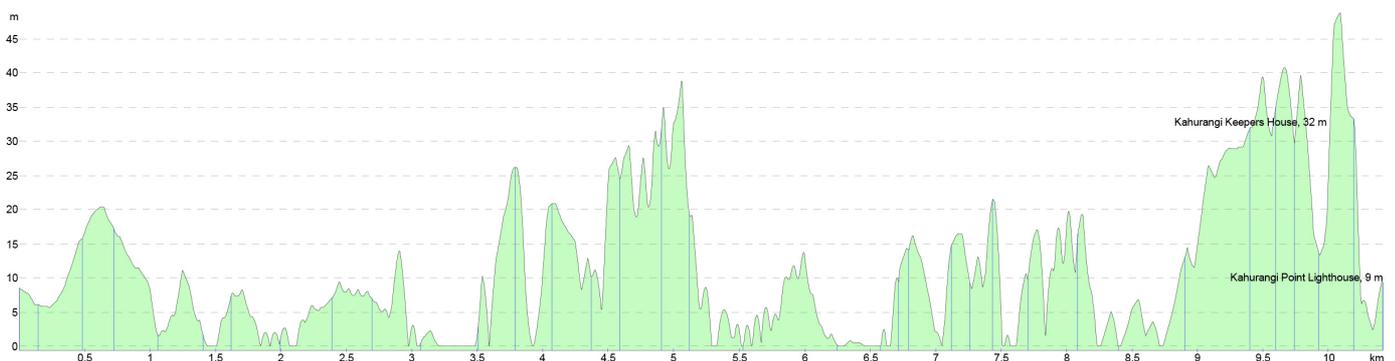
**Accommodation** Kahurangi Keepers House (\$5, 25-bunks)

**Distance** 11km

**Total ascent** Coming

**Map** BN22, BN23

### Elevation Profile



Kanurangi Keepers House Hut, Kanurangi National Park

