

Whakapapaiti Hut, Tongariro National Park

The trail to Whakapapaiti Hut is well marked and easily navigable, with numerous waterfalls and spectacular views of the volcanic landscape of Tongariro National Park.

The hut is part of the Round the Mountain Track – the multi-day walk around Mt Ruapehu which includes six other huts – and is usually the final hut trampers visit before completing the hike at Whakapapa Village. But it also can be accessed for an overnigher from near the Chateau Tongariro.

The trail begins with a steep descent to Waikare Stream along the Lower Silica Rapids Track. Climbing out of the stream, the trail joins the Whakapapaiti Valley Track, which skirts the lower flanks of Ruapehu. The track passes through forest with abundant birdlife, including fernbirds. Where the track emerges from the bush there are stunning views overlooking Tongariro National Park and Mt Ruapehu. About an hour before the hut, the track heads east, following Whakapapaiti Stream to the hut. The valley is wide open and standing front and centre is Mt Ruapehu.

Be careful crossing Whakapapaiti Stream – take heed of the signs warning trampers: 'Do not attempt after heavy rain'.

There is a waterfall about five minutes walk from the hut and a side trail up a nearby hill provides views of multiple waterfalls flowing down Mt Ruapehu when it rains.

From the hut, retrace your steps back to the Chateau.

Wild file

Access Whakapapa Village

Grade Easy

Time 2.5-3hr

Distance 7.83km

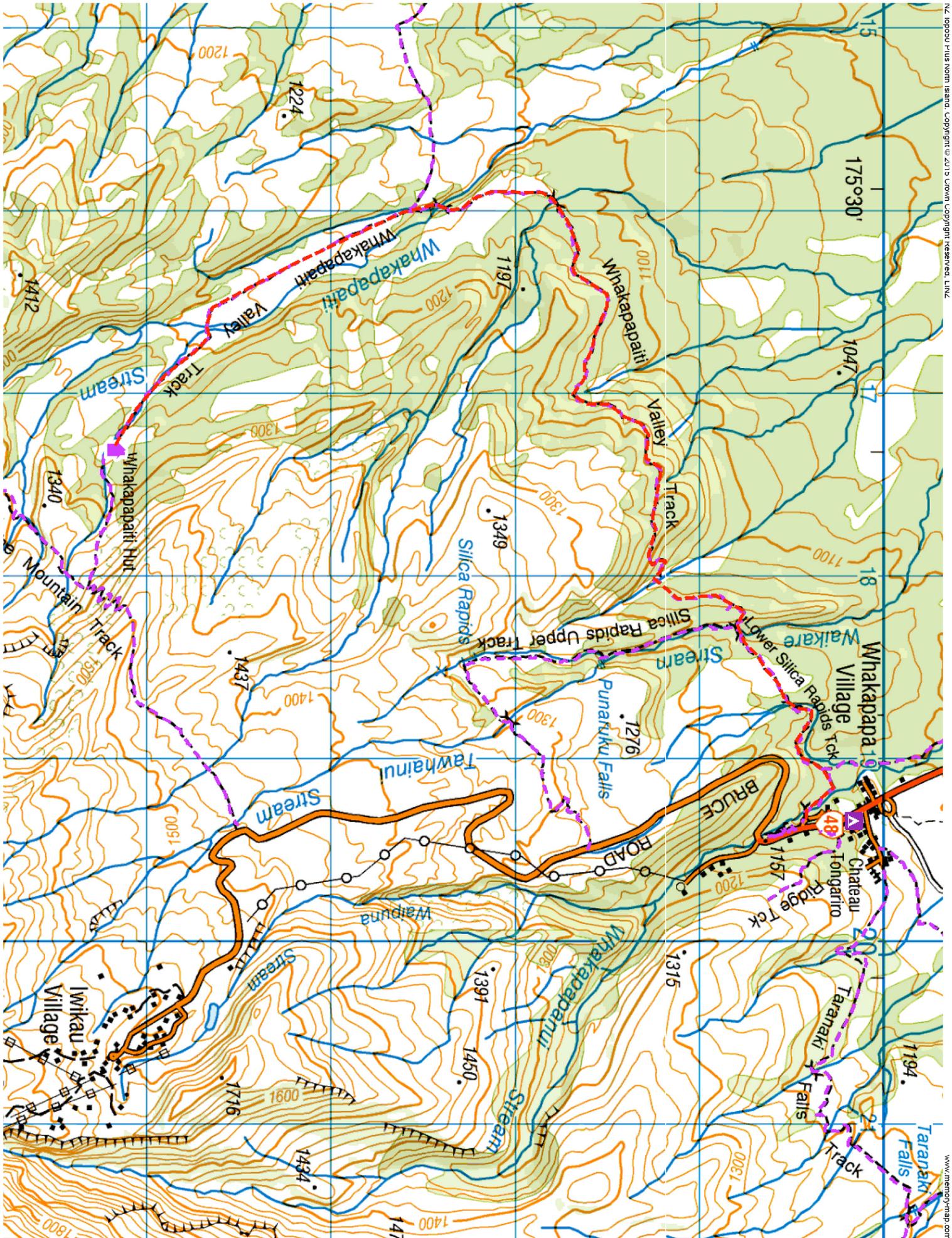
Total ascent 326m

Accommodation Whakapapaiti Hut (\$15, 18 bunks)

Map BJ34

Elevation Profile





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