

Tamahunga Track, Matakana

The route to the 436m summit initially runs along a gravel driveway through private farmland. Follow the orange markers up a grassy slope to a windbreak of pine.

Soon the terrain levels out in front of the forested cloak of Mt Tamahunga and enters the regenerating bush. The trail follows a fence line and burrows into a thick wall of nikau, after which the gradient starts to increase, climbing a ridgeline through a narrow strip of bush between the paddocks.

The trail is well-formed to begin with and the track is lined with hangehange and hardy makomako, which tend to thrive on forest margins. Puriri dominates the bush canopy and grows progressively larger and more sprawling as the trail winds its way up the mountain.

The trail climbs steeply up a ridge to the summit. The path is well-worn and can be muddy after rain, but mostly it's easy to navigate.

After about an hour, the track difficulty shifts up a notch and before long the track levels out with a side path leading to a boulder and rudimentary viewing platform that offers a spectacular vista across Omaha Valley. After another 10 minutes, passing the route to Matakana Valley Road, which connects with the main route to Pakiri to form part of the Te Araroa Trail, you reach the summit. It is one of the highest points in the region and the historic site of Otamahua Pa – an extensive complex that once sheltered 200 escaped Maori prisoners from Kawau Island. All that remains now is a grassy clearing and a wooden platform.

Wild File

Access From Omaha Valley Road, Matakana

Grade Easy

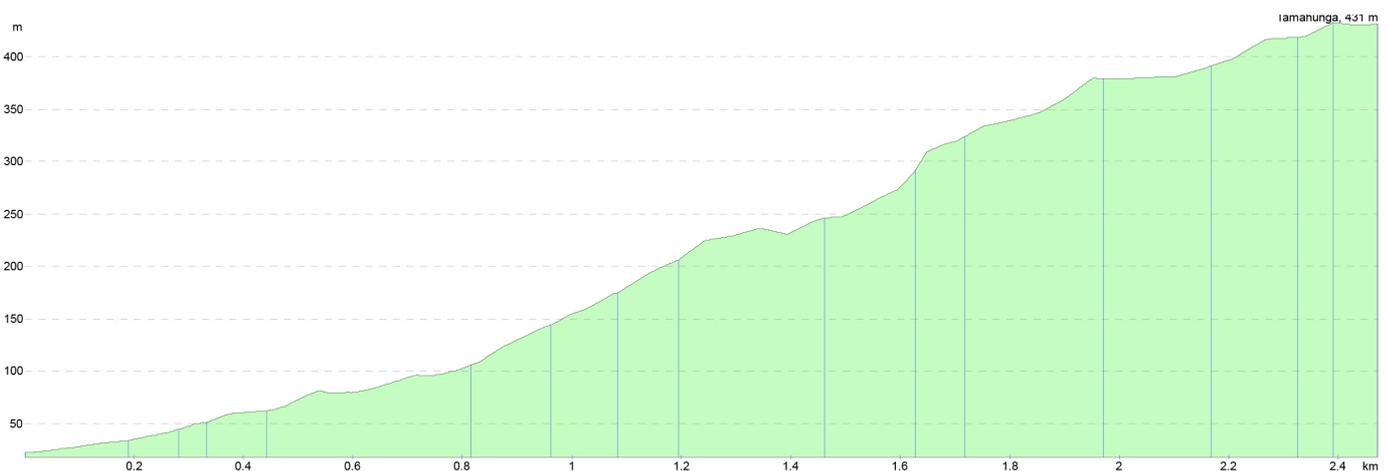
Time To summit, 1.5hr; To Rodney Rd, 3.5hr; To Matakana Valley Rd 2.5hr

Distance 2.47km to summit

Total ascent 412m

Map AZ31

Elevation Profile



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Important Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to map this route correctly, *Wilderness* does not accept responsibility for any errors. The GPX file associated with this route has been drawn using Memory-Map software. Use discretion when following the route, especially when no track is marked on the map. The GPX file in these cases is a 'best guess' of the route. Users should not rely on this. Instead, use a combination of GPS, visual observations, maps and compass – and your own route-finding experience – to find the best possible route. Memory Map shows purple tracks and hut icons as verified routes and huts. Red or blue routes are those drawn by Wilderness.

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