

## Cascade Hut, Kaimanawa Forest Park

The trip begins by following the scenic Hinemaiaia Track, crosses a swingbridge and then follows the Hinemaiaia Stream, passing several swimming and picnic spots.

After about an hour, the track crosses a tributary to the main river and begins a 460m climb to Pt1240 – the highest point of the track. It pays to keep a close eye on the track markers, as in a couple of places it is quite easy to lose the trail.

The track climbs to a spur through beech forest, and turns sharply to the right and begins a gradual and then steep descent to the Tauranga Taupo River. From here, the trail follows the river for about 30 minutes until the hut is reached. A few minutes before the hut, there is one final tributary to be crossed.

The hut has an efficient wood burner, deck and multiple campsites.

Upstream of Cascade Hut is a spectacular gorge, known as The Cascades. Here, the river has eroded a narrow channel through ancient lava flows of andesite and ignimbrite rock to form interesting rock shapes. Thundering water, plus beautiful rock pools suitable for swimming, make this an interesting side trip. This track is not marked but can be reached by heading upstream a few hundred metres.

### Wild File

**Access** From Clements Mill Road, off Taharua Road and SH5

**Grade** Moderate

**Time** 5-6hr

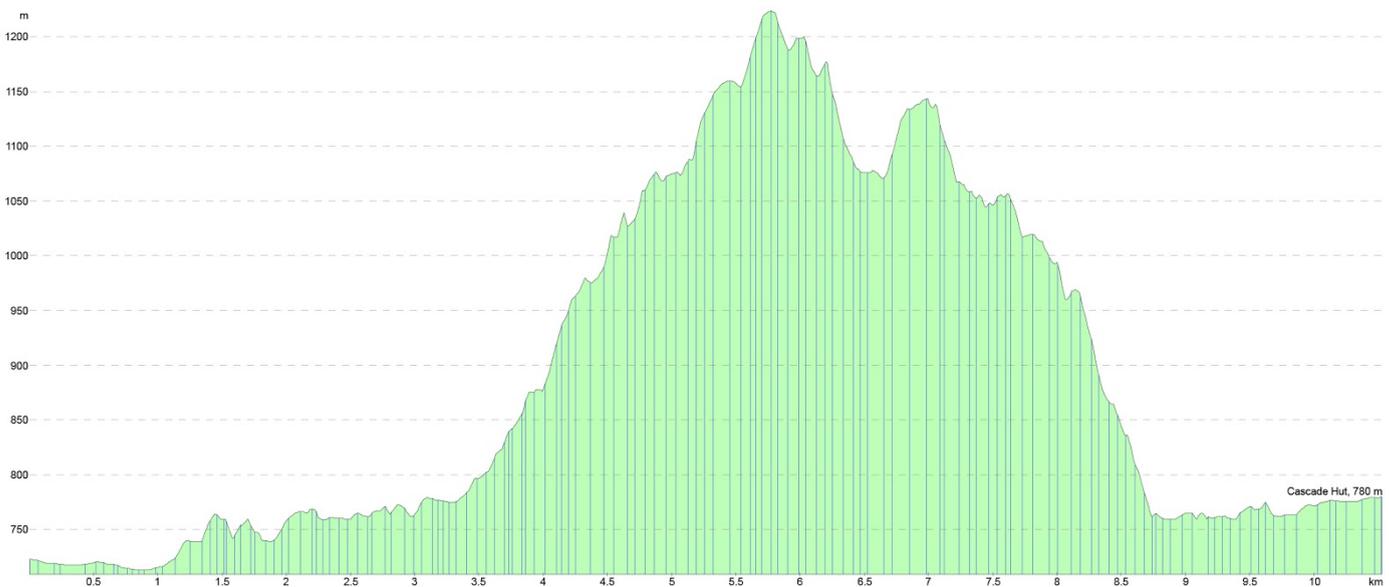
**Distance** 10.6km

**Total ascent** 460m

**Accommodation** Cascade Hut (\$5, six bunks)

**Topo50 map** BH36

### Elevation Profile



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