

## What should I bring?

- Day pack
- Warm clothes
- Hat and sunscreen
- Raincoat
- Lunch for full day activities
- Sunglasses
- Sturdy footwear (preferably tramping boots)
- Drinks, including a cup
- Snacks for energy
- Own medication (includes antihistamines)

## How hard will it be?

- Easy* ☺ suitable for all the family – slower easy walking
- Medium* ☺☺ two to four hours may include hills, streams and rougher tracks
- Fit* ☺☺☺ four to six hours walk usually over steeper rougher tracks or routes. Check each trip for recommended age for children

For all activities, children must be accompanied by an adult.

## How do I make a booking?

All bookings should be made by contacting the i-SITE Te Kuiti Visitor Information Centre (opening hours: Mon – Fri 9am - 4pm; Sat 10am – 2pm; Sun 12pm – 4pm).  
Phone: (07) 878 8077; Fax: (07) 878 5280; Email: tkisite@waitomo.govt.nz

All bookings must be prepaid and are not confirmed until payment has been received. To avoid disappointment book early!

Please note: EFTPOS and credit card now accepted!

Make cheques payable to North King Country Summer Nature Programme and post to:  
NKC Summer Nature Programme, C/- i-SITE Te Kuiti Visitor Information Centre, Rora Street, Te Kuiti 3941

## How do I know if the trip is cancelled?

In the event of a cancellation, participants will be contacted by phone the day before the trip is scheduled. Refunds will only be made in the event of a trip being cancelled by the organising committee.

This programme was organised by the Northern King Country Summer Programme group, with generous support from:

- Waitomo Caves Discovery Centre
- NZ Native Forests Restoration Trust
- Otorohanga Zoological Society Inc.
- Te Kuiti Tramping Club
- Department of Conservation
- Sport Waikato

**Disclaimer:** The guides reserve the right to exclude from any activity persons not adequately prepared or equipped for the conditions that may be encountered. Children must be accompanied by an adult unless specified otherwise.



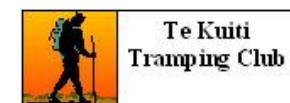
## Northern King Country 2013

Welcome to the 2013 Northern King Country Summer Programme. Our programme provides the chance for visitors and locals, young and old alike, to join exciting tours to discover the rich heritage of this region.



Recreation opportunities, conservation tours, cultural and historical trips - there is something for everyone to enjoy.

The King Country Summer Nature Programme has been running for 23 years. The programme is organised by local community organisations that have a common goal to promote the King Country and its incredible heritage.



# Calendar of Events

Date	Event name	Time	Fitness	What's it all about	Additional information
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Whopper weta walk</b>	9.00am – 4.00pm	Medium 😊😊	Come and meet the Mahoenui giant weta, NZ's largest prehistoric insect in its special home environment. Unchanged over 190 million years, these gentle giants have survived dinosaurs and climate change to settle in the heart of the King Country, in a protected paddock of gorse closed to the general public. Bring your camera and get up close to this local icon.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street Te Kuiti at 9.00am or at the Piopio hall at 9.30am; 45 minute drive from Piopio to Mahoenui. Maximum of 20 people. Minimum age 8 years (must be fit). <b>Bring:</b> lunch, plenty to drink, snacks, cool layered clothing, hat and sunscreen. Sturdy footwear a must. Gloves for protection against the gorse. <b>Price: Adult \$10; Child \$5</b>
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Where does all Taharoa's black sand go?</b>	9.00am – 3.30pm	Easy 😊	Discover Taharoa and the iron sand mining enterprise which has sustained this isolated company village over the last four decades. We call at the village and have morning tea, then take a guided tour of the mining operations, returning via Te Waitere, site of one of the most significant missions established in NZ, that of Wesleyan John Whitely.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street, Te Kuiti at 9.00am. Transport provided. Maximum 40 people. Minimum age for children 8 years. <b>Bring:</b> lunch, drink, cup, snacks, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$30; Child \$24</b>
Thur 10 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Hike to the hidden hebe</b>	8.30am – 4.30pm	Fit / Very Fit 😊😊😊😊	An expedition not for the faint hearted! This trip is designed for avid plant and hiking enthusiasts. Guided by a local expert, you'll hike basic tracks leading to a short climb up to the secret peak where your reward awaits in the rarest hebe of them all, the 'Awaroa.' Be a part of this fabulous opportunity to indulge in a feast of botanical knowledge, for you never know what else you may find in this ruggedly beautiful landscape .....	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at Waitomo Caves Discovery Centre at 8.30am. Approx 45 minutes travel time to destination (car pool). Fill vehicles with petrol before arriving in Waitomo. Maximum of 16 people. Not suitable for children under 12 years. Some climbing involved. <b>Bring:</b> drink, snacks, lunch, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen <b>Price: Adult \$10; Child \$5</b>
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Tatham farm, Mangaotaki Valley</b>	9.00am – 4.00pm	Medium/ Fit 😊😊😊	Guided walk on this award-winning scenic sheep and beef farm, extensively enhanced using fencing and forestry to protect waterways, while improving efficiency of farming operations in a stunning karst (limestone) landscape. If time permits we may walk in the Mangaotaki Reserve which has new signs for over 50 species of trees and plants.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street Te Kuiti at 9.00am, or at the Piopio village green at 9.30am; 15 minute drive from Piopio to destination. Car-pool. Maximum of 25 people. Minimum age 8 years (must be fit). <b>Bring:</b> lunch, drink and snacks. Sturdy footwear a must. <b>Price: Adult \$10; Child \$5</b>
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Step back in time on the Mōkau River</b>	9.00am – 4.30pm	Easy 😊	Mōkau River history comes alive during a three-hour boat trip up-river with Ian Whittaker on the Glen Royal. Once a hive of activity, the Mōkau is now the tranquil haunt of whitebaiters who flock here each spring. Enjoy fresh baked griddle scones on the way. Return either by river boat, or take a guided tramp over remnants of the old packhorse route which used to link Mōkau with Awakau. Tramp option fitness: medium/ fit 😊😊😊	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street Te Kuiti at 9.00am. Transport provided. Maximum of 50 people. Minimum age 8 years if walking. <b>Bring:</b> lunch, drink, cup, snacks, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$75; Child \$30</b>
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> January – Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Kokako chorus – the mysterious melody</b>	(Overnight) 2.00pm (Sun) – 12.00pm (Mon)	Medium 😊😊	The song of the kokako is one you will never forget! Did you know that kokako have a long tail, short wings and long legs so prefer to hop through the trees instead of fly? This is the perfect opportunity to learn more interesting facts about these rare and ancient local treasures and the successful volunteer protection programme for the Rangitoto population. Notoriously hard to find, exploring for these mysterious, yet loveably quirky creatures will sharpen your senses so be prepared to hike off trail.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at the Otorohanga Railway station, Wahanui Cres, Otorohanga at 2.00pm. Approx 1.5hrs travel time to Rangitoto Station via Owawenga Road. 4WD not essential. Some transport may be available. Dinner (Sun) and brunch (Mon) provided. Basic house and woolshed accommodation available or bring your tent. Maximum of 20 people. Minimum age 8 years (must be fit). <b>Bring:</b> sleeping bag, personal toiletries, drink, cup, snacks, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$25; Child \$16</b>
Tue 15 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Te Maika – Seaside Hideaway</b>	10.00am – 3.00pm	Medium 😊😊	Cross Kawhia Harbour by boat with Andrew Shaw to the quaint remnants of Te Maika, a village that time has passed by. Enjoy a picnic lunch while hearing stories of this unique settlement and explore this beautiful seaside hideaway. We have the privilege of stopping off at a privately owned island in the harbour on our return. Be prepared to get your feet wet! Possibility of a swim.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at the Kawhia wharf at 10.00am. Return to the wharf scheduled as 3.00pm. Maximum of 15 people, minimum age 8 years. Picnic lunch provided. <b>Bring:</b> drink, cup, snacks, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen. Swimwear optional. <b>Price: Adult \$40; Child \$18</b>
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Waitomo Waterfall</b>	2.00pm – 7.00pm	Medium 😊😊	Join this trip to discover a little-known treasure in the Ruakuri Scenic Reserve: Waitomo Waterfall. Make your way on a proposed new route to the waterfall hearing a commentary on the flora found. Exposed flaggy limestone is a feature so this reserve offers a set of unique plant environments. Enjoy afternoon tea and then we are back on the move hearing a historical viewpoint of the building of the Ruakuri Walkway. Sausage sizzle to finish.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at Ruakuri Scenic Reserve car park at 2.00pm. Sausage sizzle provided. Maximum of 20. Minimum age for children 9 years. <b>Bring:</b> snack for afternoon tea, drink, cup, sturdy footwear, torch, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$17; Child \$9</b>
Thur 17 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Llama Lark</b>	9.00am – 4.00pm	Medium/ Fit 😊😊😊	A farm walk and unique experience led by owners Bob and Sandy Dawson in the diverse and historic Paekaka Area. Fabulous views. Lunch provided and will be packed in to the picnic area by llamas.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street Te Kuiti at 9.00am or at the Piopio hall at 9.30am. 20 min drive from Piopio to destination. Maximum of 25 people. Minimum age 8 years (must be fit). <b>Bring:</b> drink, cup, snacks, outdoor clothing, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$35; Child \$27</b>
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Golf course ramble and scavenger hunt</b>	5.00pm – 7.30pm	Easy/ Medium 😊😊	Treat yourself to a walk around the championship Waitomo Golf & Country Club. Learn some history of the area as you are guided through the picturesque greens usually reserved for members only. Enjoy a scavenger hunt along the way with a sausage sizzle at the 19 <sup>th</sup> to finish. This is a walk suitable for all ages.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at the Waitomo Golf & Country Club, Golf Road (off SH3 south of Otorohanga) at 5.00pm. Maximum 30 people. Suitable for all ages (prams may be pushed around the golf course). Sausage sizzle provided. <b>Bring:</b> drink, snacks, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$17; Child \$9; 0-5 years Free</b>
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Flying high on adrenaline. Heli-bike / heli-hike</b>	8.00am – 5.00pm	Fit 😊😊😊	A must-do for your mountain-biking or hiking portfolio. This year we are offering another superb biking challenge on part of the highly acclaimed, highly anticipated Pureora Timber Trail, including the ever-popular option of heli-hiking. Tailor-made for adrenaline junkies and hiking enthusiasts. A helicopter will drop you at a specified location, and you'll make your way back to the rendezvous point of Piopiro Flats for well-deserved refreshments and sausage sizzle. A good level of fitness is recommended and both options include the recently completed 141m long Maramataha suspension bridge. Be sure to bring your camera! Must be comfortable with heights for both trips.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Bikers and hikers to meet at Piopiro campground at 8.00am. <b>Heli-bikers:</b> Maximum 60 cyclists. Helicopter travel time approx. 8 min to drop-off point and ride approx. 30kms back to the campground. Option to ride more of the Timber Trail. Minimum age 18 years. <b>Heli-hikers:</b> Maximum 30 walkers. Helicopter travel time approx. 6 min to drop-off point and hike approx. 10kms back to the campground. Minimum age 12 years. A wait list will operate for bookings. <b>Bring:</b> lunch, drinks, snacks, hat and sunscreen. Sturdy footwear essential. A comprehensive gear sheet including maps will be posted after booking. Mountain bikers must be experienced. <b>Price: Heli-bike \$150; Heli-hike \$140</b>
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>Underground overground wombling free</b>	10.00am – 3.00pm	Medium 😊😊	Stubbs' Farm JUST FOR KIDS. Spend the day on a private farm under the care of professional guides. They will start off wild caving (helmets and lights provided), getting wet and muddy up to either their knees or waist. Back on the surface they will change clothes and eat the picnic lunch they have brought with them. They will then set off for a walk in some really special bush.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Drop children at Stubbs' Farm in Waitomo (map provided) at 10.00am. Maximum of 24. Minimum age 7 years, maximum age 12 years. <b>Bring:</b> Sunhat, sunscreen, raincoat, medications, lunch, drink and snacks. Clothes for the cave including warm trousers (no jeans), gumboots and pullover. Rubbish bag to put dirty clothes and shoes into. Clean clothes and sturdy footwear for bushwalk in afternoon. <b>Price: Child \$26</b>
Tue 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	<b>Rauroa</b>	9.30am – 4.00pm	Medium/ Fit 😊😊😊	A quest to find a waterfall on private land at the back of Rauroa Station through a QEII reserve. The reserve contains podocarp forest of which little remains in the Herangi Ecological District. The steep-sided hill country forest is considered important winter feeding grounds for native birds. Along the Rauroa Stream we may see marine fossils from the Teraiken period.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street Te Kuiti at 9.30am or at the Piopio hall at 10.00am. 30 minute drive from Piopio to destination. Carpool. Morning tea will be provided. Maximum of 25. Minimum age for children 8 years. <b>Bring:</b> lunch, drink, snacks and a cup. Sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen essential. <b>Price: Adult \$10; Child \$5</b>
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>Verry Farm, Waitanguru</b>	9.00am – 4.00pm	Medium/ Fit 😊😊😊	We will travel through the picturesque Mangaotaki Valley featuring spectacular limestone cliffs. Guided walk through a large hill country sheep and beef farm with lots of interesting features. Recent riparian planting. May be lucky to arrive during shearing and also see Mark and Sue's working dogs in action. There may be an opportunity to visit a cave nearby which is a special home to NZ longtail bats.	<b>Bookings essential.</b> Meet at DOC office, 78 Taupiri Street Te Kuiti at 9.00am or at the Piopio hall at 9.30am, 30 min drive from Piopio. Carpool. Maximum of 20 people. Minimum age 8 years (must be fit). <b>Bring:</b> lunch, drink, snacks, torch, outdoor clothing, sturdy footwear, hat and sunscreen. <b>Price: Adult \$10; Child \$5</b>

**A FULL HEALTH & SAFETY BRIEF WILL BE GIVEN ON EACH TRIP. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT (with the exception of event 21<sup>st</sup> Jan)**