

WHANGANUI RIVER | 4-DAY GUIDED TRIP

Day 1 | Whakahoro to Ohaoura

27km | 5-7 hours from launch to camp

Your 4-day journey begins at our base in Ohakune, where you will meet your guides before setting off on a peaceful drive through the rolling hills of the central plateau. Once at our launch site, Whakahoro, your guides will show you how to pack your canoe, paddle efficiently and cover all the necessary information for a safe and fun trip. After a lovely morning paddle, stop for a rock jump followed by a picnic lunch. Traverse through the massive horseshoe bend at Kirikiriroa, go on a canyon walk and see the famous Tamatea's cave before arriving to camp for the evening. Enjoy a refreshing swim before dinner, then enjoy a peaceful night's sleep in the rainforest.























Awaken on day two to the sound of songbirds and the smell of a gourmet hot breakfast. Enjoy a peaceful morning paddle through the straightest part of the river to John Coull Hut, where we stop for a break and learn about the famous auctioneer and historic hut site. Pass by the Tangarakau and Whangamomona Rivers that help fuel the mighty Whanganui. Explore the Mangawaiiti canyon and pass by Otumangu Landing, one of the first post-WW1 farming settlements in the valley. Admire waterfalls and mirror reflections of the river before arriving at Mangapurua, our campsite for the evening. Watch as the river twists and turns from this elevated campsite before enjoying another delicious dinner cooked by your guides.



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Day 3 | Mangapurua to Ramanui

5km walk & 11km paddle 4-6 hours from camp to camp

After breakfast, take a brief paddle to the Mangapurua stream entrance, where we stop and walk to the iconic Bridge to Nowhere. Learn more about the interesting history of the former farming settlement before setting off for a short paddle, stopping for lunch on the way. Once at camp, enjoy a hot shower, take a short walk to the Bridge to Nowhere Lodge and enjoy a cold drink on the deck, or simply relax at camp before our final group dinner. Cabins are available at this campsite (subject to availability), pre-bookings are advised.







Day 4 | Ramanui to Pipiriki 22km | 4-6 hours from camp to finish

Following breakfast, we begin our paddle through one of the most peaceful sections of river. Admire the massive canyon walls, the sides dripping with moss and ferns. Pass by the filming locations used for the movies River Queen and Utu.

Navigate the exciting Ngaporo rapid before stopping for a break. Next, paddle into the beautiful Mangaio stream, explore the Puraroto cave and navigate the legendary Autapu rapid. From Autapu there are several more fun rapids, followed by our first signs of civilization - telephone poles and farmland. After our last big rapid, land at Pipiriki where we load the gear and embark on an hour drive back to Ohakune.





















Please note: all campsites, timings and stops subject to change due to river levels, weather and other circumstances out of our control. Your guide will adjust the itinerary as needed to ensure a safe, fun and memorable trip.