



## National parks

# Tongariro National Park

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Tramper looking at Mount Ruapehu, Tongariro National Park

## **Central North Island region**



Established in 1887, Tongariro was the first national park in New Zealand and the fourth in the world. It is also a dual World Heritage area, a status which recognises the park's important Maori cultural and spiritual associations as well as its outstanding volcanic features.

For an historic perspective, you can view a 1951 National Film Unit short film about the park at [NZ on Screen](#).

It is a place of extremes and surprises, a place to explore and remember. From herb fields to forests, from tranquil lakes to desert-like plateau and active volcanoes - Tongariro has them all.

For detailed information about the walks available, you can download the publication [Walks in and around Tongariro National Park](#).

## **Location**

Tongariro National Park is located in the central North Island of New Zealand. It is the closest national park to Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, and is very accessible from State Highway 1. The nearest towns are



Turangi, National Park and Ohakune.

## **Features**

Tongariro's dual World Heritage status recognises the park's important Maori cultural and spiritual associations as well as its outstanding volcanic features.

## **Activities in Tongariro National Park**

Find out about activities you can do in Tongariro National Park. One of the best one day treks in the country is the traverse of Mount Tongariro (known as the Tongariro Alpine Crossing). It can be done as part of the longer Northern Circuit, one of New Zealand's Great Walks.

## **Places to stay**

Find out about accommodation options around Tongariro National Park.

## **Plan & prepare**

If you are going to be using the track system in the park make sure you are properly equipped and well prepared.

## **Highlights:**

### **Draft Tongariro National Park Management Plan Partial Review**

The Tongariro Taupo Conservancy is undertaking a partial review of the Tongariro National Park Management Plan (TNPMP).

### **Tongariro Alpine Crossing**

The Tongariro Alpine Crossing track passes over varied and spectacular volcanic terrain and takes around - 8 hours to complete.

### **Mt Ruapehu Crater climb**

The climb up to Mt Ruapehu Crater is not a marked route. People wishing to make the climb to the crater should be experienced trampers and well equipped.