

Holdsworth

Tararua Forest Park

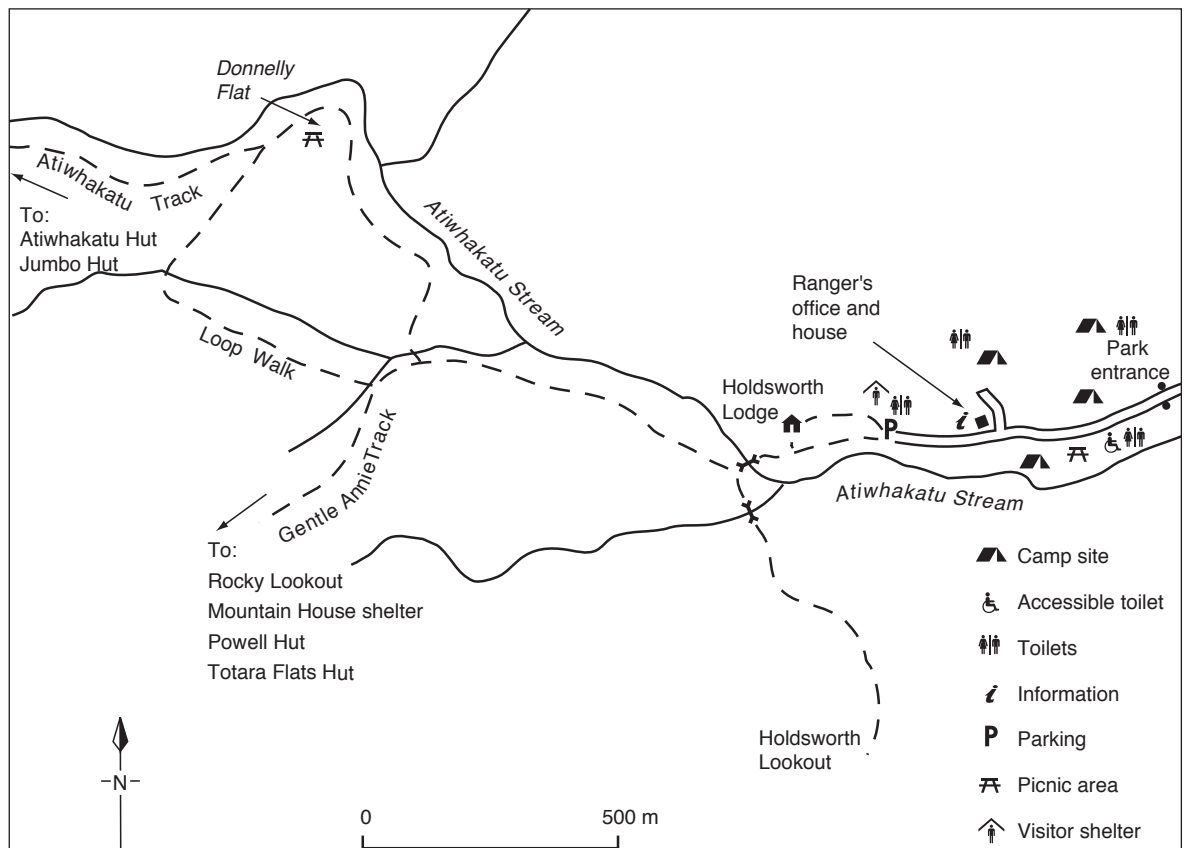
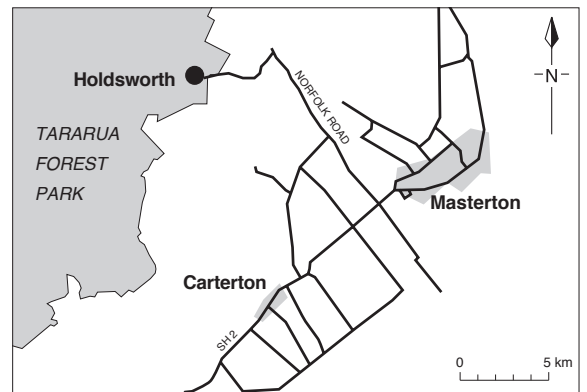


Holdsworth is the main entrance to the eastern side of Tararua Forest Park. Set against the backdrop of some of the highest peaks in the Tararua Range, Holdsworth offers short walks and longer tramps through attractive forest vegetation and higher up into the alpine environment. The picturesque Atiwhakatu Stream passes through the area, which is home to a diverse range of animal, bird and insect life. A ranger is available to offer assistance and provide local information. Holdsworth, along with the remainder of Tararua Forest Park, is administered by the Department of Conservation.

How to get there

Turn off State Highway 2 on to Norfolk Road, 2km south of Masterton. This leads to Mount Holdsworth Road. Holdsworth is 15km from State Highway 2.

There is a daily rail connection and regular bus service between Wellington and Masterton (17km from Holdsworth). Taxis, or for large parties pre-booked buses, can be hired for travel between Masterton and Holdsworth.





Protect plants and animals

Remove rubbish

Bury toilet waste

Keep streams and lakes clean

Take care with fires

Camp carefully

Keep to the track

Consider others

Respect our cultural heritage

*Toitu te whenua
(Leave the land
undisturbed)*

If you think there is a safety hazard in a conservation area, call DOC HOTline or the nearest Department of Conservation office.

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468
Report any safety hazards or conservation emergencies
For fire and search and rescue call 111

Attractions



A series of short bush walks within towering native forest containing rimu, kahikatea miro, and rata. Walking track—suitable for casual footwear and most fitness levels.



Tracks ranging from easy to extremely difficult lead into a network of routes through Tararua Forest Park.



The Atiwhakatu Stream has good, relatively safe swimming areas.



Permits are required for hunting in Tararua Forest Park. Red deer, wild goats and pigs are all hunted in the park.



Local rivers contain brown trout and eel.

Facilities



Well-drained camping areas in secluded settings. Pay by self-registration. Ranger on site all year.



Holdsworth Lodge. Suitable for groups. Communal bunks, electricity, hot water, flush toilet, wood stove.

Barbecues, fire places and picnic facilities in attractive setting—grassed riverflats, surrounded by lush bush, next to Atiwhakatu Stream. Firewood is available from the ranger. Please do not take firewood from the bush.



Walks

To Donnelly Flat

2½ km / 20 min (easy)

via Loop Walk 40 min

Cross the Atiwhakatu footbridge and follow the track to Donnelly Flat. The track also leads to the alternative path via the Loop Walk. Many of the tall native podocarps are over 200 years old.

To Rocky Lookout

2 km / 1½ hr (moderate)

Follow the well graded Gentle Annie track from the Loop walk. Very good views of the mountains and the Wairarapa plains.

To Holdsworth Lookout

1 km / 1 hr (moderate)

Cross the Atiwhakatu footbridge and continue up a steep forest-clad spur to a clearing with magnificent views of the Tararua Range.

Tramping times

From Holdsworth Road end:

Atiwhakatu Hut	3 hours
Mountain House shelter	2½ hours
Mountain House – Atiwhakatu Stream loop	4 hours
Powell Hut	4 hours
Totara Flats Hut	4 hours
Holdsworth Summit	5 hours
Jumbo Hut (via. Atiwhakatu Stream)	5 hours

(Times are approximate for one way travel only)

Safety

Tararua Forest Park is renowned for its changeable weather and because much of the terrain is rugged, trampers and walkers must travel prepared. Food and warm waterproof clothing should be carried, even on short walks. Overnight parties should always include experienced trampers.

Maps

Trampers should obtain appropriate 1:50 000 scale topographical maps for navigation.

The Tararua Forest Park map (NZMS 274-02) is a useful planning tool.

Regulations

Back country hut tickets, purchased in advance, are required for overnight use of huts in the park. Hunting permits and fishing licences are required within the park.



Dogs in the park must be kept under control. They must be kept on a leash at all times at Holdsworth campground. Dogs are not permitted in huts.

More Information

Department of Conservation

Wairarapa Area Office

South Rd, PO Box 191,
Masterton 5840
Ph: 06-377 0700;
Fax: 06-6 377 2976

Wellington Visitor Centre

Conservation House,
18 Manners St, Wellington.
Ph: 04-384 7770;
Fax: 04-384 7773
E-mail: wellingtonvc@doc.govt.nz
Web: www.doc.govt.nz