

Mt Taranaki Summit Climb

Egmont National Park



Welcome

The majestic cone-shaped Mt Taranaki sits in the middle of the Taranaki ring plain. Rising above the clouds, the 2518m high mountain offers some spectacular scenery to those who make the challenging 1.6km vertical climb to its peak.



Essential Equipment

The following should always be carried:

- Waterproof raincoat and over trouser
- Warm top, hat, long johns and gloves
- Strong tramping boots
- Food and drink 2-3 litres minimum (there is no water available on the track)
- First aid kit
- Sunscreen, sunglasses and sunhat
- Map and compass (and know how to use them)
- For snow and ice conditions: ice axe, crampons, helmet and full winter clothing.

Also consider carrying: cell phone and/or mountain radio, putties/gaiters, walking poles

Mountain Guides

There are three Department of Conservation approved mountain guides who can take people to the summit of Mt Taranaki. These are:

Adventure Dynamics:

phone, +64 27 248 7858

e-mail, info@adventuredynamics.co.nz

MacAlpine Guide s:

phone, +64 27 441 7042

e-mail, alpineguidesmac@xtra.co.nz

Top Guides:

phone, +64 21 838 513

e-mail, info@topguides.co.nz

Transport

There are several local transport providers who visit Mt Taranaki:

- Cruise NZ Tours:
phone, +64 6-758 3222
- Eastern Taranaki Experience:
phone, +64 6 765 7482
- Taranaki Tours:
phone, +64 6 757 9888
- Kiwi Outdoors:
phone, +64 6 758 4152

Safety on the mountain

Mount Taranaki has changeable and unpredictable weather. Temperatures drop considerably as you climb higher on the slopes and weather conditions can be more severe on the exposed alpine terrain.

Contact the MetService (ph 0900-999 24 or <http://www.metservice.com/public/mountain/egmont>) for the latest weather forecast before you go and carry enough clothing and equipment to ensure you are able to cope with any type of weather.

Snow and ice are present on Mt Taranaki for several months of the year. Climbing Mt Taranaki in winter conditions is recommended only for experienced mountaineers or with a qualified guide.

Before you go tramping please tell someone responsible where you are going and your estimated time of arrival back. There is an intentions book in the foyer at North Egmont Visitor Centre. Ensure you sign out on your safe return.



Protect plants and animals

Remove rubbish

Bury toilet waste

Keep streams and lakes clean

Take care with fire

Camp carefully

Keep to the track

Consider others

Respect our cultural heritage

Enjoy your visit

*Toitu te whenua
(Leave the land
undisturbed)*

Published by
Department of Conservation
Wanganui Conservancy
Private Bag 3016
Wanganui
May 2009
www.doc.govt.nz

New Zealand Government



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

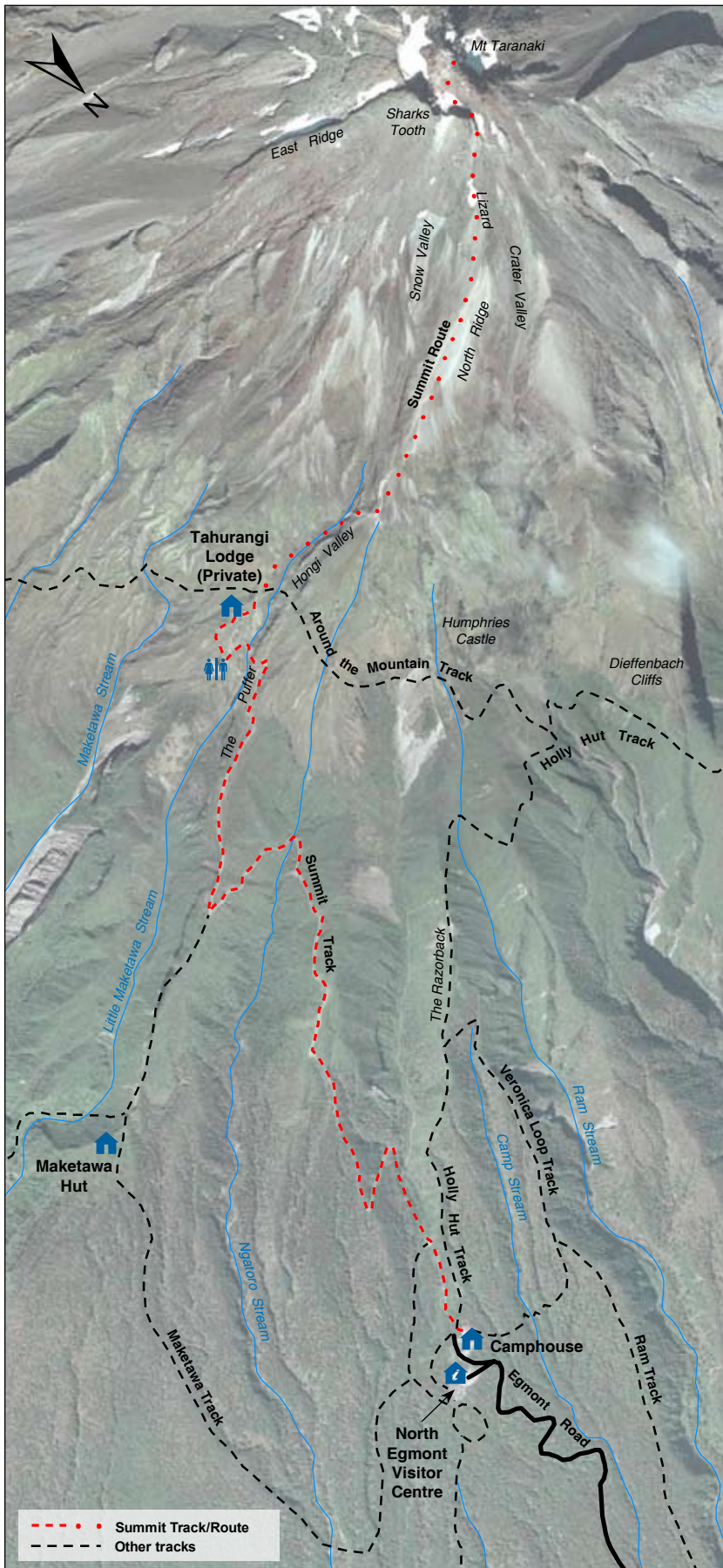


Diagram only, not to scale

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

Warning
 This map is not suitable for navigation. For greater
 detail refer to Infomap 273 - 09 and the Topo50 map
 series.

Summit Track

**Summer description only - upper route will
 change in winter conditions.**

5-6 hours to summit – 8-10 hours return

**North Egmont to Tahurangi Lodge (1492m) 1½ - 2
 hours**

The summit track begins above the North Egmont car park adjacent to the red Camphouse building. Climb the stile over the locked gate and wind up the gravel road to Tahurangi Lodge (private). Sections of this track are very steep. There is a public toilet 100m below the lodge.

**Tahurangi Lodge to the Summit (2518m) 3 - 4
 hours**

The track passes in front of Tahurangi Lodge and continues upwards, via the poled route through the rock covered Hongi Valley (do not loiter in this valley). A series of steps leads out of the valley onto the scoria slopes. This gravel-like substance is difficult to walk on. Please be careful not to dislodge stones and rocks as they may fall on other trampers below.

The scoria slope continues west of the Snow Valley to the Lizard (2134m) a prominent rocky ridge which leads up to the crater entrance. Sections of this route involve clambering over rocks.

The route then crosses the crater ice to the final short climb up to the summit rock (2518m). Warning: there is ice in the crater all year round. Crampons and/or ice axe may be required to cross the crater at any time.

Mt Taranaki has great spiritual significance to local Maori: the crater and summit is the sacred head of Taranaki, the rocks and ridge are his bones, rivers his blood and plants and trees are his cloak and offer protection from the weather.

Please respect the mountain and do not litter or camp on the summit.

Return via the same route (allow 3 - 5 hours)

Further information

For more information on the summit and other tracks in Egmont National contact the North Egmont Visitor Centre:

phone: +64 6 756 0990
 e-mail: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz

Office hours: open 7 days a week 8am-4.30pm.
 Closed Christmas Day.

Tramping and climbing equipment can be hired or purchased from Kiwi outdoors, Ariki St, New Plymouth, phone, +64 6 758 4152.

For the latest weather forecast, phone:

METPHONE
0900 999 24