

Track categories

Choose the type of track that most suits the skills and abilities of your party.



Easy access short walk: suitable for people of all abilities, wheelchairs and children's buggies.



Short Walk: well formed, easy walking for up to an hour.



Walking Track: well formed easy walks from a few minutes to a day.



Tramping Track: mostly unformed but have track directional markers, poles or cairns.




Route: unformed, suitable only for people with high level backcountry skills and experience.

Plan and prepare

It is important to plan and prepare your trip and be well equipped.

Before you go, know the *Outdoor Safety Code* - 5 simple rules to help you stay safe:

1. **Plan your trip:** Take a map/track brochure and remember to buy hut tickets for overnight stays.
2. **Tell someone** responsible where you are going and your estimated return time. See www.adventuresmart.org.nz.
3. **Be aware of the weather:** Check weather forecasts before you go on 0900 999 24 or www.metservice.com.
4. **Know your limits**
5. **Take sufficient supplies** and consider taking a personal locator beacon (available for hire from Taranaki/Egmont National Park Visitor Centre).

 Weather on the mountain changes rapidly. You must be well prepared with suitable clothing and equipment for all weather and conditions. Snow, high rainfall and storm damage can make tracks impassable - many rivers and streams are unbridged. Check with visitor centres for up-to-date track information.

Your safety is your responsibility

Dogs



Dogs and other pets are not allowed in Egmont National Park, even inside vehicles.

Further information

For park information, hut tickets and Konini Lodge bookings:

Taranaki / Egmont National Park Visitor Centre

(North Egmont) - Open daily

Egmont Road

Inglewood

Phone: (06) 756 0990

E-mail: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz

Dawson Falls Visitor Centre

(limited opening hours - check website)

Manaia Road

Kaponga

Phone 027 443 0248

E-mail: egmontvc@doc.govt.nz



BETWEEN WATERWAYS

Check, Clean, Dry

Stop the spread of didymo and other freshwater pests.

Remember to Check, Clean, Dry all items before entering, and when moving between, waterways.

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468

Report any safety hazards
or conservation emergencies
For Fire and Search and Rescue Call 111

www.doc.govt.nz

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New Zealand Government

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North Egmont Walks



Nga hīkoi o Mounga Taranaki
Egmont National Park



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Welcome

Nei rā te mihi atu ki ā koutou i raro i te korowai o tō tātou nei tauheke a Taranaki.

Greetings to everyone who sits under the cloak of our ancestor Mounga Taranaki.

North Egmont/Waiwhakaiho

Lush native forest, stunning views and a variety of walking opportunities are available at North Egmont roadend (945 m) – just a 30 minute drive from New Plymouth. The Taranaki/Egmont National Park Visitor Centre has track information and displays. Other facilities include a privately run café and historic backpacker accommodation.

Take care during winter months as roads into the park may be icy.



Taranaki/Egmont National Park Visitor Centre. Photo: Tim Weston

The Mighty Mounga

The majestic andesitic volcano Mt Taranaki (2518m) is the central point of the 34,170ha Egmont National Park. Approximately 125,000 years old, it is the park's most recent volcanic peak. Last erupting around 1755 AD the mountain is now considered dormant.

Local Māori believe Mounga (Mt) Taranaki once stood with the mountains of the central North Island. After a dispute over the maiden Pihanga, Taranaki fled his ancestral home, carving out the bed of the Whanganui River on his journey to the coast.

Egmont National Park became New Zealand's second national park (after Tongariro) in 1900. Named Mt Egmont by Captain Cook, the traditional Māori name of Mt Taranaki is now more widely used.

Sacred to Māori, visitors are asked to respect the mounga by not standing directly on the summit peak, not camping or cooking on or around the summit area and removing all rubbish.

Historic Camphouse



the Taranaki Wars of the 1860s. The building was sledged to North Egmont in 1891 for use as accommodation.

The Camphouse has been restored and upgraded for backpacker accommodation – but many of its unique historic features such as handwrought corrugated iron with rifle firing slits (loopholes) and tongue and groove timber panelling are still visible.

New Zealand's oldest building within a national park is found at North Egmont. The historic Camphouse was originally used as military barracks in New Plymouth during

Flora and Fauna

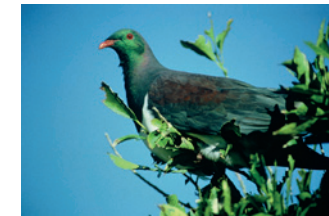
Lush rainforest on the mountain's lower slopes is evidence of the park's high rainfall. Dripping with moss and lichens this tōtara and kamahi forest is sometimes referred to as 'goblin forest'. On higher slopes the forest gives way to dense subalpine shrubs and alpine herb fields.



Goblin forest on the Ngatoro Loop Track



Bellbird/korimako



Woodpigeon/kererū

Common forest birds include: tomits/miromiro, tui, bellbirds/korimako, and woodpigeon/kererū.

Other birds present but less likely to be seen are the North Island brown kiwi, fern bird/kōtātā and blue duck/whio.

An endemic giant land snail and many species of native fish are also in the park.



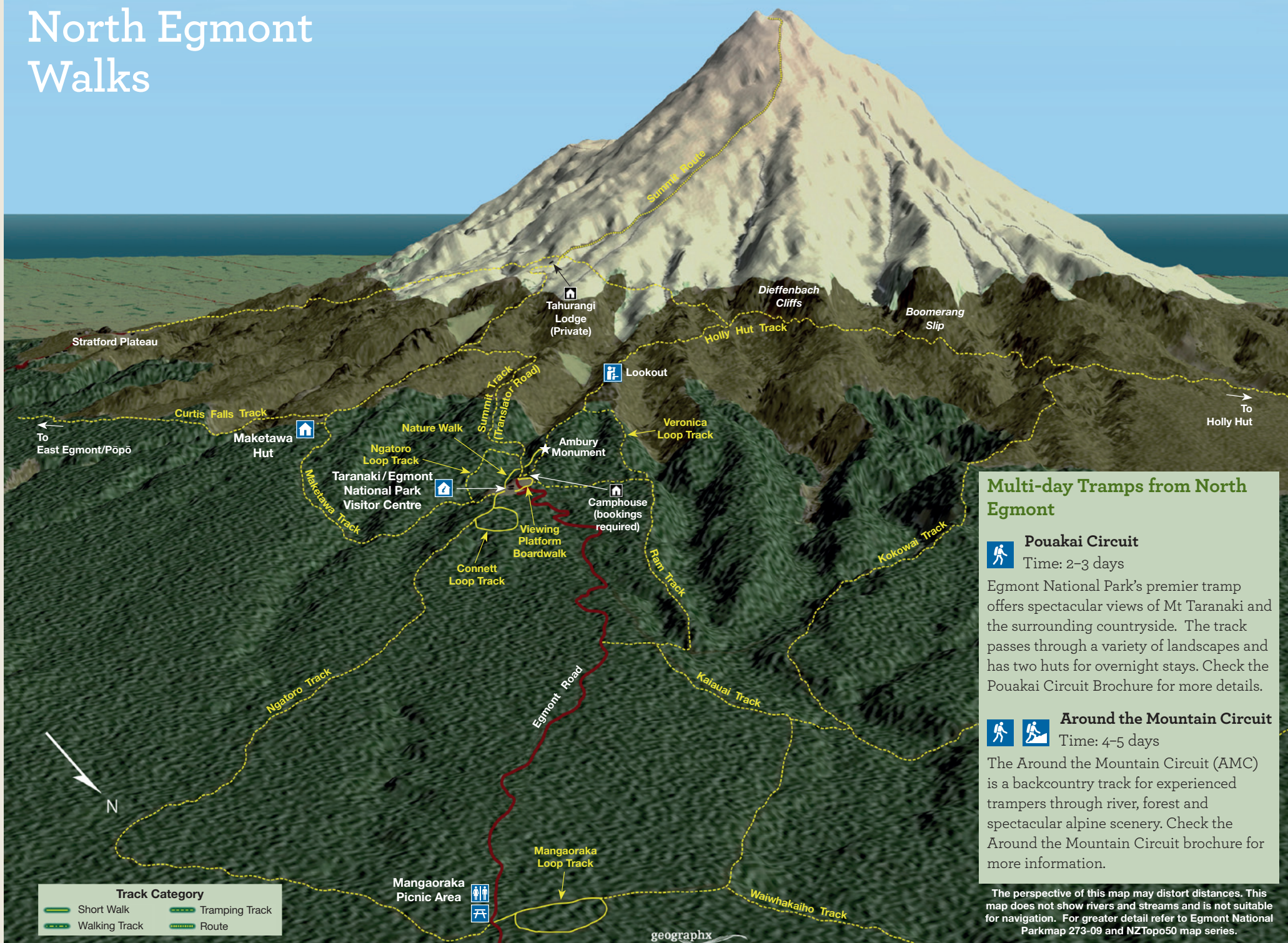
Stoat. Photo: Nga Manu Images

Stoats, rats, possums and goats pose a threat to the forest and its wildlife. Stoats and rats are trapped using rectangular trap boxes seen along several tracks within the park. Goat and possum control is regularly undertaken.



Setting stoat traps

North Egmont Walks



Track Category	
	Short Walk
	Walking Track
	Tramping Track
	Route

Multi-day Tramps from North Egmont

Pouakai Circuit
 Time: 2-3 days
 Egmont National Park's premier tramp offers spectacular views of Mt Taranaki and the surrounding countryside. The track passes through a variety of landscapes and has two huts for overnight stays. Check the Pouakai Circuit Brochure for more details.

Around the Mountain Circuit
 Time: 4-5 days
 The Around the Mountain Circuit (AMC) is a backcountry track for experienced trampers through river, forest and spectacular alpine scenery. Check the Around the Mountain Circuit brochure for more information.

The perspective of this map may distort distances. This map does not show rivers and streams and is not suitable for navigation. For greater detail refer to Egmont National Parkmap 273-09 and NZTopo50 map series.

Walks and Tramps

Walks start from the Taranaki / Egmont National Park Visitor Centre unless stated.

Walks under 1 hour



Viewing Platform

Time: 4 min one way

A wheelchair friendly boardwalk through bush to a viewing platform and the historic Camphouse. Stunning views of Taranaki, the coastline and inland to the central North Island mountains: Ruapehu, Ngaruhoe and Tongariro.



Ambury Monument

Time: 10 min one way

Follow the boardwalk past the Camphouse. From here a track leads to Ambury Monument, a memorial to climber Arthur Ambury. A grassy picnic spot has views of Mt Taranaki.

Return the same way or follow the Nature Walk to exit just below the visitor centre.



Nature Walk (Loop)

Time: 15 min return

This family friendly loop walk follows the boardwalk past the Camphouse. From here the track leads up to Ambury Monument where it turns left and descends to cross the Translator Road and re-enters the forest to head down past some steep drop offs to the visitor centre.



Connett Loop Walk

Time: 40 min return

A pleasant walk through forest laden with moss and lichens (goblin forest) with a small lookout point offering a view of the mountain.



Mangaoraka Loop Track

Time: 30 min return

Begin at the Mangaoraka Picnic Area, 4.5 km down Egmont Road from the visitor centre. This easy track loops through lowland forest, returning to the picnic area. Take care when crossing the road.



Walks and Tramps 1–4 hours



Ngatoro Loop Track

Time: 1 hr return

Descend into a valley through ‘goblin forest’ where ferns and moss hang from twisted tree trunks. Cross a small stream and climb steps to return to the visitor centre. This track is steep in places.



Tahurangi Translator Tower

Time: 1 hr 30 min one way

Climb from montane forest through subalpine vegetation to the true alpine zone of tussock grasslands and herb fields. Nearby Tahurangi Lodge belongs to the Taranaki Alpine Club. It has a small day shelter room available for public use. It is possible to walk from Tahurangi Lodge across to the Stratford Plateau car park at East Egmont. This takes around 1 hr 30 min one way.

Veronica Loop Track



Time: 2 hr return

Follow the boardwalk past the Camphouse. From here the track leads past Ambury Monument and climbs a long series of steps. At the next junction the track loops back to the visitor centre through kamahi and Hall’s tōtara forest.

Alternatively, from the junction, continue up the Holly Hut Track for 10 min to reach a popular lookout point.

Maketawa Hut Round Trip



Time: 3 hr return

A good half day tramp, Maketawa Hut offers fantastic views of the mountain. The low level option through montane forest crosses rivers and climbs ladders before arriving at the hut. To return, head uphill to join the Translator Road then descend the road back to the visitor centre.

It is possible to tramp from Maketawa Hut to Stratford Mountain House at East Egmont/Pōpō. This is a 3 hr 30 min tramp (one way) from the hut, with steep sections and many stream crossings.



Tahurangi Translator Tower Round Trip

Time: 4 hr return

After climbing to the Translator Tower the track continues past Tahurangi Lodge and turns right to follow a poled route below ancient lava flows across exposed alpine terrain. At the junction with the Holly Hut Track turn right and descend to the visitor centre. This track requires good weather conditions. Upper sections may be impassable due to snow and ice.

Full Day Tramps



Kokowai Round Trip

Time: 6 hr return

For those wanting both an alpine and forest experience this is a great all day hike. From Taranaki / Egmont National Park Visitor Centre follow the Holly Hut Track through subalpine scenery to where the Kokowai Track turns off just past the Boomerang Slip. Descend the Kokowai Track through forest, past some steep drop offs to join the Kaiauai Track back to Egmont Road. Return to the visitor centre either via the Ram Track (longer option) or up the road.



Mt Taranaki Summit Climb

Time: 8–10 hr return

Climb through forest, alpine tussock and scoria covered slopes to the 2518 m peak of Mt Taranaki.

This track is recommended only in summer conditions unless an experienced mountaineer or with a guide. Check the Mt Taranaki Summit Climb brochure for more information.

Overnight Tramps

Backcountry hut tickets or passes are required for all overnight stays in huts.



Maketawa Hut

Time: 1 hr 30 min one way

This is a good introduction to staying overnight in a backcountry hut. The 16 bunk hut has a woodburner, water and a toilet. See Maketawa Hut Round Trip for more information.



Holly Hut

Time: 3–4 hr one way

A good day-long or overnight tramp with a few challenging sections. The track leads steeply uphill and passes below the Dieffenbach Cliffs. Further on it crosses the Boomerang Slip and heads past the Kokowai Track junction before descending to the Holly Hut turnoff. Holly Hut is 5 min from here. Be aware of the unbridged Minirapa Stream crossing just prior to the hut.

Holly Hut has 32 bunks, solar lighting, a wood burner, toilets and water.