



## Lake Rotoma

Route card No. 004 | Skill level: Beginner | Distance: 10 - 12 Km | Map no: BE38 |

**Start/ finish point:** Boat Ramp on State Highway 30 by Whangaroa Inlet

**Comms coverage:** Communication coverage is intermittent with VHF & phone

**Introduction:** If you're wanting peace and tranquility and a chance to explore one of the smaller and less intimidating lakes of Rotorua then look no further. Lake Rotoma is quieter than many of the others and offers it's own character. This is a scenic lake paddle with a few hidden surprises. On first appearances the lake seems just like many others but depending on the lake level you will discover a few treats

**Description:** Lake Rotoma, which is the fourth largest lake of the 11 lakes in the Rotorua Lakes district, or the Hot Lakes district as it was known in the early decades of the 20th century. Lake Rotoma is the easternmost in the chain of three lakes to the northeast of Lake Rotorua. The other two are Lake Rotoiti and Lake Rotoehu. Rotoma is located half-way between the city of Rotorua and town of Whakatane. From the boat ramp head across the lake to the other side (north east) and hug the shoreline. Keep your eyes peeled for a small opening in the Manuka. When the lake level is high there is an opportunity to paddle straight in to the hidden lagoons on the north eastern side of the lake. However, when levels are lower you may have to portage through some bush before being able to access Onewhoro and Whakarewarewa Lagoons. Just north of the lagoons is a small beach in Otumarokura Bay just perfect for a picnic lunch, with stunning views back over the lake. Continue anti-

clockwise around the lake following the shoreline, if you wish to shorten your trip just cut out exploring Te Rotoiti Bay and go from one peninsula to the other. Heading back round the lake you'll start to see some secluded baches nestled in the bush. Keep your eye open for the white sculpture in the water, which is best seen when lake levels are mid to low. Heading back towards the boat ramp you can explore up the Whangaroa Outlet before exiting the lake. Fishing on the lake is permitted and there are good trout to be had but you do need to get a permit from DOC.

**Hazards:**

- Other Vessels on the Water
- Lots of sandflies in summer

**Local tourist attractions:**

Hells Gate

[hellsgate.co.nz](http://hellsgate.co.nz)

**Local eateries:**

Superette in Rotoma

[View the Gallery](#)

[Trip planner](#)

**Please note;**

Every care has been taken to ensure the information contained in this Trip Card is correct at the time of publication, but things change and you will need to confirm the information provided. You will also need to get further information to ensure a safe trip, this will include an up to date, relevant weather forecast and the ability to understand its implications for the area and talking to locals in the area to garner new information on any hazards in the area. It is also expected that an appropriate level of knowledge, skills and equipment are required to safely complete the trip. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are unsure of any information or you find the Trip Card needs updating. Cheers Peter Townend, Yakity Yak Kayak Club. Updated: August 2012