



Geothermals at Orakei - Korako



Orakei - Korako

Route card No. 0023 | Skill level: Beginner | Distance: 16 or 22 Km | Map no: BF36/37 | Tidal Port: N/A

Start point: Tutukau Bridge, Tutukau Road

Finish Point: Orakei - Korako Café or Tutukau Bridge

Emergency contact: Dial 111

Comms coverage: Cellphone coverage in gorges is unreliable – may need to climb a hill, and then need to ring a landline.

Introduction: Begin the adventure at the Tutukau Bridge. You'll paddle through the remarkable landscapes and natural beauty of the gorge and past the hidden valley (Orakei - Korako, geothermal park) where you can see gushing geysers, silica terraces and boiling mud pools from sitting in your kayak. There is a charge to visit the site if you wish to land.

Description:

Paddle downstream to the Orakei-Korako thermal area; continue on to sample the hot water at Waihunuhunu stream. Then return to do the 'squeeze' and soak in a hot pool, before a coffee at the café at Orakei-Korako, and the return car shuttle. (16km) Or paddle back to put in. (22km total).

Alternatively, for those wanting a longer paddle, get dropped off & launch from the Mihi Bridge. (extra 13km).

Access/parking – From Taupo, drive North on SH 1 to Tutukau Rd turn right immediately after the first bridge.

Organise a shuttle, leaving only one car at Orakei-Korako café.

Hazards:

- Avoid duck shooting season early May
- Power boats, water skiers, wake-boarders. -
- Keep to the sides of lake where possible
- Keep a good lookout.



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: May 2015