



Taranaki Alpine Club - Open Climb

Public Information Brochure

\$100
per person

Saturday 12th
February 2022

General Information

The ascent and descent will take the whole day and will only proceed with favourable weather conditions.

Participants make their own way, on foot, from the Stratford Plateau car park to Taurangi Lodge. You should leave the car park by **5am** and the trip will take approximately **1½ hours**. A torch or head torch will be useful for the first ½ hour of the walk. Club members will be on hand at the car park and at various key locations on the track to Taurangi Lodge to help if further instructions are required.

Tea, coffee, cordial, and water will be available at Taurangi Lodge on arrival and later upon your return from the summit.

There are DOC toilets at Stratford Plateau car park, at the Maunganui Ski Field Shelter, and 150m below Taurangi Lodge. Toilets are not available at Taurangi Lodge.

At Taurangi Lodge, you will be grouped into parties of ten and will be escorted by two club members of the Taranaki Alpine Club. The first party will leave Taurangi Lodge at **6.45am**. The last party must leave no later than **7.45am**.

Club members have a detailed knowledge and experience of the mountain and are willing to share it with you. Please do not hesitate to ask about the mountain, the climb or mountaineering. Stopping to take photos and ask questions is a good way to get a rest.

The summit of the mountain has special cultural significance to Tangata Whenua (local Māori/iwi). To respect their beliefs please do not stand on the summit block.

More information about the route and the event can be found on our website – see link at bottom of this brochure.

On Saturday at 5am, we will announce if the Open Climb is proceeding on our Facebook page. If postponed the Open Climb will be on the next day, Sunday (February 13th).

*Watch the excellent NZ Mountain Safety Council 9-minute video about the Mt Taranaki summit climb here:
<https://youtu.be/UVqQE9p0i5E>*

Pre-Requisites

- Must be age 12 years or over
- Must be accompanied by a guardian if younger than 18
- Must have sound health
- Must be physically fit – prior training, hill walking, long walks are strongly recommended
- Must be fully vaccinated (covid) & bring their vaccine passport

Health and Safety

The Taranaki Alpine Club reminds you that mountaineering can be hazardous. The Club takes due care to manage and minimise the risks but cannot eliminate them.

For the health and safety of all involved with the Open Climb, each party must complete their climb from Taurangi Lodge to the summit and back within **8½ hours**. The Club reserves the right to turn back any participant it deems will not complete the climb in this timeframe – in this instance the participant will be safely guided back down to Taurangi Lodge by Club members.

What You Can Expect

A fantastic day out on the mountain!! And also a long and physically demanding challenge to complete the climb!

You will have the chance to take in some amazing views of Taranaki, with plenty of opportunities to take once in a lifetime photos.

You'll meet an incredibly interesting bunch of people in your party, and our crew will take the absolute best care of you on the day.

Once you leave Hongi's Valley and head towards Drinking Rock the views down the mountain overlooking the National Park really start! It's also at this point that the size of the mountain really impacts you.

From Drinking Rock you will head up and across to the Lizard. Ascending the Lizard is the final climb that takes you to Summer Entrance. Here our crew will move the parties into and out of the crater. This is also the last push to the summit.

On the Summit – the views!!

Personal Clothing, Equipment & Food

The mountain's location and altitude create an environment that can experience sudden and dramatic weather changes. Within an hour, it can change from a hot, calm day to freezing.

Each participant must be equipped with the following minimum compulsory equipment. The Club reserves the right to not allow participants who arrive for the climb without these items.

You will need at least 2 litres of water on the trip from Taurangi Lodge to the summit. You can refill your drink bottles at Taurangi Lodge before leaving.

Footwear:

- Sturdy footwear is essential. We strongly recommend tramping boots with good ankle support.

For sun protection:

- Sun hat
- Sunglasses
- Sun block SPF15+ (or more) and lip sun block
- As an option, we recommend an old, long-sleeved shirt

For wind and rain protection:

- Raincoat or weatherproof jacket
- As an option, we recommend over trousers or leggings

For warmth:

- Warm pants, leggings, or track pants
- Jersey, fleece, or jacket of insular material
- Warm hat or balaclava
- Woollen mittens or ski gloves
- Don't wear jeans

Food:

- Lunch and plenty of snacks: you will get hungry, bring a sizable lunch and your chocolate bars.

Optional:

- Trekking poles, gaiters, camera, and a basic first aid kit

Don't miss the opportunity to create the memories of a lifetime – come & climb Mt Taranaki with us!

Register for your place at www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz/openclimb