



PUKETI FOREST KAURI CHALLENGE 2018

EVENT INFORMATION

THE CHALLENGE

The Puketi Forest Kauri Challenge is an annual fundraising event organised by the Puketi Forest Trust. The Challenge comprises a choice of either a full 21km tramp or a shorter 12km tramp through some of the most spectacular parts of Puketi Forest. The route passes through a diverse range of forest types, includes varied terrain and stunning views, and ends with a picnic reception at Forest Pools. A good level of fitness and some tramping experience are required.

Next year's Challenge will be held on **27 January 2018** with a back up date of 3 February 2018.

Anyone not taking part in the Challenge, but still wanting to be part of the day, is encouraged to join us at Forest Pools to cheer the participants over the finish line, and enjoy a relaxing day by the Waipapa River.

ENTRY

To take part in the Challenge you will need to:

1. Complete and return the official entry form (available online at www.puketi.org.nz).
2. Make an entry donation and pay any additional transport costs (details below and on the entry form).

There is a limit of 30 entrants for the shorter 4wd/12km tramp option, so please get in early if this option interests you. No limit applies to the full 21km option.

Entry donations and transport costs are as follows:

- Full 21km tramp - \$50 entry donation.
- Shorter 12km tramp with 4WD drive transport to midway point - \$60 entry (includes \$50 donation and \$10 towards 4WD transport).
- Optional return shuttle from Forest Pools back to the Puketi Recreation Area starting line – Additional \$10 towards transport costs.

Each entry donation will be applied to sponsorship of 1ha of forest for one year and entitle the participant to one year's membership of the Trust. Transport charges go to petrol and vehicle hire. Additional donations are always welcome.

Receipts will be issued for all donations, which will qualify for NZ tax rebates.

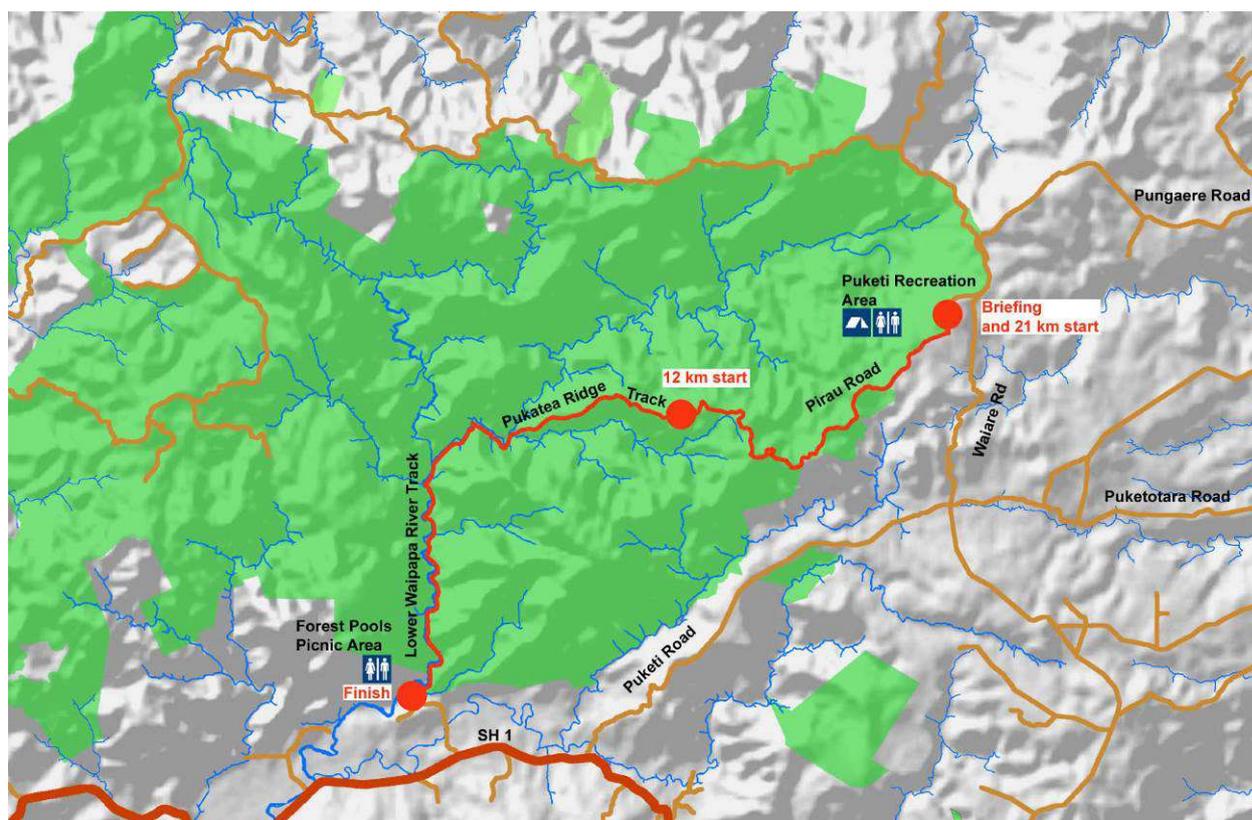
ROUTE DETAILS

The full route follows Pirau Ridge Road (an old logging road) through the forest for approximately 9km. For the shorter tramp option, trampers will be transported down this section in four wheel drive vehicles. At the 9km mark, all participants head down the Pukatea

Ridge track which descends about 350m in altitude over 4kms to the Waipapa River. This part of the route passes along the edge of a beautiful stand of mature kauri and through a variety of other plant communities with some spectacular views of the forest.

On reaching the Waipapa River, participants can either walk in the river or follow an adjacent track. The walk in the river is fairly easy going and really rather lovely; we recommend planning to walk in the river. After approximately 2.5km, the track widens and becomes what was intended to be a road from Hokianga to Kaeo but which was abandoned in a partly constructed state in the 1930s. Participants will walk along this old road for approximately 5.5kms, passing the remains of historic bridges, to the finish line at Forest Pools. Those choosing to walk in the river will be directed back to the road at the appropriate point.

The Trust believes this tramp is one of the best day walks in Northland.



GETTING READY FOR THE CHALLENGE

Fitness

A good level of fitness and tramping experience is required. Participants must be prepared to carry all of their own gear and sustain up to 9 hours of tramping for the 21km option and 7 hours for the shorter option. This event is not suitable for young children.

Gear

The recommended gear list includes a comfortable day pack, appropriate footwear (noting you will want to walk in the water), change of socks, a raincoat, warm top, sunhat, sunscreen, swimwear (to cool off at Forest Pools), food for the day (and extra snack foods), adequate water (at least 2 litres), toilet paper (in case of emergencies) any medications you might need and a basic first aid kit. A map of the route will be provided and it is recommended that you take this with you.

To avoid the risk of spreading kauri dieback disease it is extremely important that you make sure that your tramping boots and other gear are clean and free from any mud or dirt. As an additional safety measure we ask that you also use disinfectant that will be provided at the starting line. Kauri dieback is not known to have infected the kauri in Puketi Forest; we need your help to make sure it stays that way.

Safety

This is not a guided walk and we recommend that all participants:

- Familiarise themselves with the route details and surrounding area prior to taking part; and
- Ensure they are properly equipped and ready to deal with any minor emergencies.

Supervisors will be stationed at key points along the route to check on participants but participants should be prepared to look after themselves for the most part.

ON THE DAY

Arrival and departure

Participants need to arrive at the Puketi Forest Headquarters, Puketi Recreation Area, Waiare Road, Kerikeri **no later than 7:30am**. We have arranged plenty of carparking, so please follow the signs and park in the designated area.

Upon arrival, participants need to **find the registration tent and sign in**. This is important as it will allow us to check that everyone has everything they need and arrives safely at the finish line.

There are public toilets available at Forest Headquarters. Please make use of these if you need to as the next toilet is 21kms away at Forest Pools.

Once everyone is signed in and ready to go, a pre-tramp briefing will be held at 7:45am and the Challenge will commence at approximately 8am. Those opting for the full Challenge will start walking from the Forest Headquarters and those on the shorter tramp will be assigned vehicles and transported along Pirau Ridge Road.

Important points to remember along the way

This event takes place in the beautiful Puketi Forest which the Trust co-manages with the Department of Conservation. Extensive and concerted efforts in pest control over the past decade are succeeding in bringing the forest back to a healthy state. We encourage you to take a little time to look around and enjoy the forest atmosphere.

Please be conscious that Puketi Forest is a sensitive environment, keep to the track and ensure that you carry out all of your rubbish. If going to the toilet along the way is unavoidable, please make your way off the track in a suitable area and make sure any solids or tissue are well buried.

Some parts of the route can be very rough and slippery, especially after rain. Extra care should be taken at all times.

Arriving at Forest Pools

Participants will be greeted with a picnic reception at Forest Pools at the conclusion of the tramp. The shuttle will leave at regular intervals for those wanting a lift back to the starting line.

It is important that all participants **sign out before leaving**. If you fail to sign out, we may have to send out a search party to make sure you have not gotten lost or injured.

POSTPONEMENT DETAILS

In times of heavy rain the track can become slippery and dangerous, particular the section that runs alongside the Waipapa River. If the Trust determines the conditions on 27 January 2018 are unsuitable, the tramp will be postponed to the following Saturday, 3 February 2018. We will be keeping an eye on the weather and will give you as much notice as possible if there is a need to postpone.

No refunds will be given in the event of a postponement. If the conditions are unsafe on the postponement day, the event will be cancelled and a full refund will be provided.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or require any further information, please do not hesitate to:

Email us at – info@puketi.org.nz

Phone Cherry on – (09) 407 8661 (weekdays) / (09) 401 9313 (weekends and evenings)



PUKETI FOREST KAURI CHALLENGE 2018

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

PERSONAL DETAILS:

FULL NAME:

STREET ADDRESS:

TOWN / CITY:

POSTCODE:

HOME PHONE:

MOBILE:

EMAIL:

TRAMP OPTIONS (please tick):

- Full 21km Challenge** - \$50 entry donation
- Shorter 12km Challenge** - \$60 entry donation (includes \$10 towards 4WD transport)
- Return shuttle** to the Puketi Recreation Area - \$10 optional extra

PAYMENT:

Entry donations will be applied to sponsorship of 1 hectare of forest for one year. Transport contributions go to petrol and vehicle hire. Additional donations are always welcome.

Entry donation: \$ _____
Return shuttle: \$ _____
Additional donation: \$ _____
Total payment: \$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):

Cheque made out to the "Puketi Forest Trust "

Online payment to the "Puketi Forest Trust" account - 03-0351-0165464-00.
Please ensure your name is shown on the payment and use
reference "WALK".

MEDICAL INFORMATION:

If you have any current or recurrent medical information or condition, if you are on any medication or if you have any allergies or reactions to any medication that you think our search and rescue team might need to be aware of, please provide details below (carry on with separate sheet if required):

DISCLAIMER:

I declare that:

1. I acknowledge that there are risks involved with the tramp and fully understand that I am responsible for my own risk and wellbeing during the tramp.
2. I acknowledge that I must take steps to ensure that I do not endanger either myself or others during the tramp.
3. Neither the organisers, nor the sponsors, nor other parties associated with the tramp shall have any responsibility for any liability, financial or otherwise whether or not by negligence, from any direct or indirect loss, injury or death which might be sustained by me or any other party directly or indirectly associated with me from my participation in this event.
4. I authorise my name and picture to be used in any broadcast, promotion or advertising or in any other way pursuant to the Privacy Act 1993.
5. I agree to comply with the rules and event instructions provided to me by the Puketi Forest Trust including any relating to postponement/cancellation or route change.
6. I consent to receiving medical treatment which may be necessary in the event of illness or injuries suffered during the course of the tramp and agree to report any injury to organisers.
7. I agree to being placed on the membership list and agree to receiving newsletters and other communications from the Puketi Forest Trust.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Please submit this entry form and secure your place by –

Emailing an electronic copy to *info@puketi.org.nz*

Posting it (and your cheque if applicable) to Puketi Forest Trust, c/- 120 Forest Road, RD 1, Okaihau 0475

Dropping it off to Cherry Blossom Florist, 86 Kerikeri Rd, Kerikeri