

Wanderers Tramping Club Inc



BULLETIN

January – April 2022

www.wandererstramping.org.nz

Wanderers Tramping Club Inc

PO Box 61, Hamilton 3240

Bank account number 03-0306-0208429-000 - Always put your name as a reference

Club Committee 2020/2021

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New Member Co-ordinator :	Jenny West tsew.ynnej@gmail.com	07 856 3140

Trip Programme

TRIP DATE	TRIP DETAILS	BOOKING INFORMATION
Wednesday 26 January	AGM	7.30pm PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE St Albans Church, Comries Road, Chartwell (Opposite Caltex Garage)
30 January	Mystery Ramble Hamilton Garden	Dianne Lee Phone/Txt : 027 272 6617 Email : leedi444@gmail.com Bookings not required – just turn up
13 February	Hapuakohe North Walkway Mangatarata	Grant Svendsen Phone/Txt: 021 047 6518 Email : gsveny@gmail.com Open : Monday 31 January @ 6pm
27 February	Hongi Hika's Track Rotorua	Pam Cornforth Phone : 07 856 5922 Txt : 027 278 0690 Email : pcornforth@xtra.co.nz Monday 14 February @ 6pm
13 March	Western Walkway Rotorua	Dianne Lee Phone/Txt : 027 272 6617 Email : leedi444@gmail.com Open : Monday 28 February @ 6pm
27 March	TBA	
10 April	Pukemokemoke Reserve Orini	Dianne Lee Phone/Txt : 027 272 6617 Email : leedi444@gmail.com Bookings not required – just turn up
24 April	TBA	



COVID Safety

This will be discussed and ratified at the upcoming AGM on 26 January 2022

Due to recent public health events, we are required to follow the guidance set out by government and follow protocols of the Protection Framework that is in place. Currently the club can only take members on tramps who are fully vaccinated and have a current vaccine pass. This is due to the fact that most of our travel is in vans, and we are in close proximity to each other during the trip.

It is expected that everyone will wear masks while traveling. The drivers may have the option not wear masks while driving if they feel they are unable to have adequate safe vision. When traveling in private vehicles as per carpooling, the wearing of masks will be up to each individual driver.

In accordance with Government and Health Department COVID guidelines.



Emergency Information

Wanderers' trips occasionally return up to an hour or more beyond the stated return time given in the Bulletin. This happens due to the variable nature of the tramp, the weather and the people on the tramp. However, in the event of a trip being seriously held up (possibly two hours after the time indicated), communication will be made through the Operations Room, Central Police Headquarters, Hamilton.

Trip Bookings

Remember that any default in notifying the leader of cancellation of bookings renders you liable for the cost of the trip.

Responsibility

"Whilst the committee will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of participants on trips, the participants themselves undertake such trips entirely at their own risk and no responsibility will be accepted for accidents, injury, loss, delays or other misadventures which may occur or happen to members while on trips arranged by the Group."

[Constitution, Rule 29]

Booking Information

Bookings for trips open two weeks before the trip date. Please choose a suitable time to ring the number given. Avoid early morning weekday calls and alternative calls to place of employment. If, after booking, you are unable to go on a trip, please cancel promptly so that your place may be reallocated.

It is essential that at least 24 hours' notice of cancellation be given.

Default in cancelling may render you liable for the cost of the trip.

If you check the programme you will see that each walk or tramp is graded 1, 2 or 3. These "gradings" are defined here:

Grade 1 (easy): A tramp on fairly level formed tracks, duration 4+ hours and where there may be the option of returning by the same track.

Grade 2 (moderate): A tramp of 5-6 hours, often on less well-formed tracks, or on off-track routes; can involve river crossings, or short sections of steep terrain.

Grade 3 (fit): Can be over 6 hours duration, tramping on either formed tracks or off-track routes, river crossings, steep terrain, snow conditions.

You will enjoy a tramp better if your level of fitness isn't of concern to you.

NOTE: Until further notice all trips will leave from the **Community Living Trust** carpark, **Collingwood Street**. **Park free on Collingwood Street on the road.**

AGM

Wednesday 26 January 2022

7.30pm

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

St Albans Church, Comries Road, Chartwell (Opposite Caltex Garage)

President's Ponderings

Welcome back everyone! Well, that is the 2021 tramping schedule done and dusted with unfortunately some tramps and meetings unable to be completed due to COVID restrictions. This bulletin is slightly on the light side for content as the committee/planning team have not been able to meet since September 2021.

There are some marvellous trips ahead, but you will notice two dates (27 March and 24 April) have no trips allocated at this time. These will be looked at once the planning group can get together and will be posted via email and on the website once known.

I'm hoping 2022 year will be better so moving forward we are going to still plan ahead. Hopefully the AGM will go ahead on 26 January "third time lucky". Please note the change of venue.

I need to remind you our club would not still be going and going well if it was not for a hard working few, they are getting tired, older (but we won't admit it) and we really do need more people to support us. If this does not happen it is unsure how long the club can keep going. There are a lot of you who are members of other clubs/groups who get out there and tramp. We only need odd tramps/trips to help us out and we will support you in every way. So please come forward, we do need your help.

This is a heads up, Colin our treasurer has indicated that this might be his last year in this position, so we will need someone to take his place once he is ready. There must be a member or partner/friend who has accounting/bookkeeping skills out there. Colin is very happy to discuss the role, support and train for the position.

Remember to be safe on the track, have a change of clothes and footwear back in the van, some have been caught out and had to ask others for help. This is your responsibility and part of being a safe and healthy tramper...

Dianne



Gear list

- Lunch, snacks - plenty
- Lots of drinking water - in an unbreakable bottle. Take plenty in summer when it is hot – at least 2 litres.
- Raincoat or waterproof jacket with a hood or separate rain hat
- Extra warm layer in case it gets cold or we need to stop for some reason
- A torch - just in case
- Plastic bag (or similar) to sit on when having lunch. Keeps you dry when sitting
- Toilet paper
- Personal First-Aid Kit – including emergency blanket
- Emergency Contact/Medical Details form: keep in a zip lock bag in a front pocket of your back-pack
- Whistle
- In winter include : warm hat, gloves, an extra warm layer, thermos (optional - but nice)
- In summer include : sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses
- Money to cover tramp cost
- Extra money if you wish for coffee/ice cream etc on way home
- Leave a spare change of clothing, including footwear, in the van. This is in case you get wet, hot or dirty and need to change



Optional Extras:

- Gaiters (good in muddy, stony or prickly conditions)
- Walking poles (useful on uneven terrain and when crossing rivers)





Where We Are Going

Sunday 30 January

Hamilton

Grade 1

Mystery Ramble

Just turn up and meet at the lawn by the Gardens Café. Morning tea will be on the walk. We're heading up through the cemetery towards a lovely river walk then back for coffee/ice cream



Start: 9am approx

Return : 12 noon approx

Leader: Dianne & Friends

Bookings: Not required – just turn up
Contact Dianne
Phone/Txt 027 272 6617

Sunday 13 February Mangatarata Grades 1 & 2

Hapuakohe North Walkway

The vans will head along SH27 to North Road where we will park at the end of the road and the start of the track. The first part of the walk is on private land along a farm track to a fence line where the two groups will start a climb up through a pine plantation to the bush edge, once in the bush the track is well marked.

There are two lookout points along the track, the first (G1) 1½ hours and the second (G2) 2 hours. We will return the way we came.

This being the first proper tramp for the year it will not be strenuous. Bring extra money for coffee/ ice cream on the way home



Depart: 8.30am

Return: 4pm

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Grade 2 - Grant & Co
Grade 1 – Keith and Friends

Bookings: Open Monday 31 January @ 6pm
Contact Grant Svendsen
Phone 021 047 6518
Phone/txt gsveny@gmail.com

Sunday 27 February**Rotorua****Grade 1+****Hongi Hika's Track**

We will make our way to Lake Rotoiti and have morning tea by the lake.

From here will start the track which goes through the bush between lakes Rotoiti and Rotoehu, near Rotorua. It was originally known as Te Ara-o-Hinehupu (the pathway of Hinehupu). A famous ancestress, Hinehupu used it to travel between her two homes. Midway along the track she met her future husband, Pikiāo III. The spot is now marked by a tree known as the Wishing Tree. The name 'Hongi's Track' recalls the time in 1823 when Hongi Hika and his army of Ngāpuhi warriors hauled their canoes along the track, enabling them to attack the Te Arawa people on Mokoia Island in Lake Rotorua.

We will be walking for approx. 3-4 hours on an easy well-formed track. Hopefully if time allows a swim in Lake Rotoiti and coffee/ice cream on the way home.



Depart:	7.30am	
Return:	6pm approx	
Cost:	\$25.00 (members) \$30.00 (non-members)	
Leaders:	Pam & Friends	
Bookings:	Open	Monday 14 February @ 6pm
	Contact	Pam Cornforth
	Phone	07 856 5922
	Txt	027 278 0690
	Email	pcornforth@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 13 March**Rotorua****Grade 1+ & 3****Western Walkway** - Millar Road to Lake Okataina Education Camp

We make our way to Millar Road on Lake Okareka. You will be sharing this track with mountain bikes, so be careful. The track is well formed but could be rutted due to bikes.

The Western Okataina Walkway is an old forestry road that dates back to earlier last century when the area was logged for rimu, totara, rata and kahikatea. It is generally wide and well formed. Pass through some stunning native bush. Absorb amazing views of Lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti from the Whakapoungakau Trig.

Grade 3's - will be walking from Millar Rd through to Lake Okataina Education camp this is approx 19 km. You will have morning tea and lunch on the track. There will be some challenges such as the 758m climb up to the Whakapoungakau trig along the way.

Total approx walking time 6-7h – suggest you carry torches

Grade 1+'s - are going to have morning tea then walk in and return on same track for about 3 hours. We then relocate the vehicles to Lake Okataina and walk in from the camp to meet the others. You might if you feel up to a challenge go to the trig this is optional.



Depart:	7.30am	
Return:	6-7pm	
Cost:	\$25.00 (members) \$30.00 (non-members)	
Leaders:	G1+	Keith and friends
	G3	Grant and friends
Bookings:	Open	Monday 28 February at 6pm
	Contact	Dianne Lee
	Txt	027 272 6617
	Email	leedi444@gmail.com

Sunday 27 March

TBA

Details to be advised by email. Also check the website for any updated information

Sunday 10 April

Orini

Grade 1

Pukemokemoke Reserve

We will meet at the usual place Community Living Trust car park and carpool for this trip.

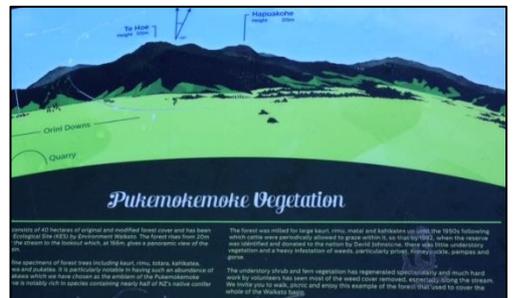
This private reserve has lots of beautifully preserved native trees, a beautiful Kauri Grove and birds. The aim is to gently climb up to the summit lookout (166m) and with good luck get great panoramic views over the Waikato Basin and have drink.

We will then wander down via another track to the picnic area. From here depending on the time, we might have an early lunch then go to do another low level loop track which will head us back to the cars. The walk can be muddy in places but we will take our time.

Total walking time around 4 hours max. Bring money for coffee/ice cream in Gordonton Village.

We will be carpooling for this trip so please bring \$5 for the driver and \$5 for the club.

No bookings required, just turn up



- Depart:** 8am
- Return:** 2pm approx
- Cost:** \$5.00 to drivers + \$5.00 to club
- Leaders:** Dianne & friends
- Bookings:** Not required – just turn up
 Contact Dianne Lee
 Phone/txt 027 272 6617

Sunday 24 April

TBA

Details to be advised by email. Also check the website for any updated information

Where We Went

Otawa Trig

Sunday 12 September



Two van loads left Hamilton with great weather to meet up with club friends no longer living in Hamilton at the car park near the Ottawa Trig. We had a cuppa and chat to catch up on the gossip and then started out in two groups. The faster group set off at a good pace on the farmland uphill then into the bush to get to the trig.

The second slower group also had to do the farmland and hill but was met with an “obstacle” which the other group must have flown over. A gate on a hill leaning the wrong way, it was like rock climbing upside down. The four of us had a discussion on how to get over this. Needless to say, Dianne found away – commando crawl through the bottom of the wire fence. There was lots of laughter, comments on the styles used but we made it. Thank goodness there were no cow pats. We made our way to the bush line with no further obstacles. The views from the farmland were amazing and vast over the Te Puke/Bay of Plenty region.

Once in the bush and the cool we wondered up towards the trig. The bush was amazing and different probably due to eco climate of the area with lots of bird call. We reached a rather longer and steeper bit of track and decided to stop for lunch, so we found a great possie off track in a bit of a clearing, during lunch we decided we had done great but did not want to go further so headed back to the vans, on to meet the “obstacle”. We looked and discussed again how to traverse the gate. John thought we could go over so he led the way, a bit of a mission for short legged people but we made it and got back to the van to wait for the others. They made it to the trig saying it was a bit of a climb. Thanks Brenda and her team great day.

Commando Champion



Leyland O'Brien Track

Sunday 26 September

Despite the gloomy weather forecast, ten keen Grade 2+ trampers, led by Colin and Grant, set off to the Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park for a supposedly six hour walk. The plan was to do a loop, starting on the Leyland O'Brien Tramway Track, leaving the track to take a scantily marked route to Salvation Hut, then upstream to a nearby waterfall (location to be determined) and back to the van via the Ngamarama track.

The tramp started with raincoats, ponchos, overtrousers, and umbrella (for a sleepy yawning Aaron), but the happy trampers still set off with such enthusiasm that ten minutes later we found ourselves back at the van having discovered we had walked the short loop track and we all missed the right turn at the junction to the Leyland O'Brien Tramway Track.

The second time was a little more successful and we were so enjoying the beautiful native bush we again missed the trail on the right that would take us across the stream and onto the route to Salvation Hut. Not to be dismayed, we turned back, found the trail, waded through the stream, climbed up the rise and the trail seemed to end.

Our leaders felt that maybe this wasn't the correct spot to cross the stream, so we retraced our steps through the stream to get back to the Leyland O'Brien Tramway Track and carried on walking further in the hope of finding where to cross the stream. Without sufficient markings, nor any signage, we were at least able to enjoy the historical significance of the area noticing remains of the tram line and a set of bogie wheels on the side of the track.



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Colin and his GPS were an enigma to the rest of us and he also appeared to be a little perplexed by it all, but on seeing the bogie wheels, he optimistically declared "Where there's a wheel, there's a way!" Continuing on and not being able to find the trail to cross the stream, our fearless leaders thought that perhaps that where we had originally crossed the stream was perhaps the right place to cross, so we doubled back and crossed that stream for the third time that morning. The clever ones at the back of the group who were smug about not getting their feet wet the first time, soon lost their dry feet as this was indeed correct. Our leaders were able to find the trail and carry on.

We had no difficulty locating Salvation Hut but were thankful we weren't relying on it to accommodate us. It is a private hut built by a father and his two teenage sons in either the late 1960's or the 1980's (websites disagree) which sadly has not been maintained but we all agreed should be renovated as it would have made a wonderful coffee station on a cold wet September day. A recent Hutbagger review shared that the hut *"Is in a pretty sorry state. Would rather sleep on the ground outside..."* Needless to say, this was not the place to shelter indoors for a lunch stop. Instead, we stopped at a nearby clearing and the weather gods gave us a hint of sunshine by which to enjoy our sandwiches. We realised at this point, we had only done 1/3 of the loop so it was going to be a short lunch break and a long day.

Off we headed to find the waterfall with no name, through what is known as the Long Swamp which lived up to its name; swampy, boggy and very wet underfoot. Little did we know this was tame compared to what was to come. The trail seemed to end at the river, so the logical thinking was that we needed to walk upstream to find the waterfall. Half of us set off whilst the other half rested on the bank, happy to watch the others get wet. However, two of us turned back when the water got above our knees and left our two fearless leaders with newbie William to carry on.



These three eventually arrived back having abandoned hope of finding the waterfall and assumed we would be able to find a trail running parallel with the stream which should get us there. After a couple of forks in the trail, both of which were dead-ends, and no markers, it was back to the river and the realisation the river was the trail and it was deeper than expected due to

the torrential rain.

It was at this point our intrepid leaders were renamed Wallace and Gromit – they were taking us on a day filled with unexpected twists and turns for which there was always a solution. So, everyone gingerly made their way upstream trying to dodge the most slippery of the rocks. Eventually we found the trail leading up from the river to take us over the ridge. Not to be outdone by that waterfall, our intrepid leaders didn't take the trail but carried on upstream to see how much further it was to the waterfall, and soon discovered that on their first recce, they had only just missed the waterfall as it was just around the corner.

Wallace (Grant) eagerly made his way back to the trampers waiting on the riverbank and encouraged us to carry on that extra 50 metres upstream to see this little piece of paradise. “You’ve come this far, are already wet, and it’s just another 50 metres”. He was of course correct. It was a magnificent little Garden of Eden – mossy banks, ferns, clear water and what would have been a fabulous swimming hole had it been a little warmer. Definitely worth the effort.

After this pleasant interlude, it was back downstream to the trail that climbed up and over the ridge. The trail subsequently met the Ngamarama Track which was very well marked and easy to follow but that was when the true Kaimai mud began. It was ankle deep, flowed into the boots of those without gaiters and there was no escaping it in the cuttings where the only way to get one’s foot out of the mud was to drive the other foot in for leverage. And when the mud wasn’t quite as deep it was slip, slip, slippery. Some of us had reasonable mud skiing skills, others didn’t fare quite as well. Stone hopping was avoided in the next few streams as we all tried to find deep water in which to rinse off the boots, which fortunately coincided with an improvement in the grading of the track and some welcome gravel and steps. This obviously meant the van wasn’t too far away and after 8 hours 15 minutes we all found ourselves a rock to sit on and gladly removed the wet mud-caked clothing and boots.



A big thanks to Wallace and Gromit for A Grand Day Out. A long day but there was a lot of fun and laughs were had by all – Colin, Grant, Aaron, Ron, Tony & Rose, Carol, Glenys, Lynette and newcomer William.

Lynette

Puketoki

Sunday 26 September

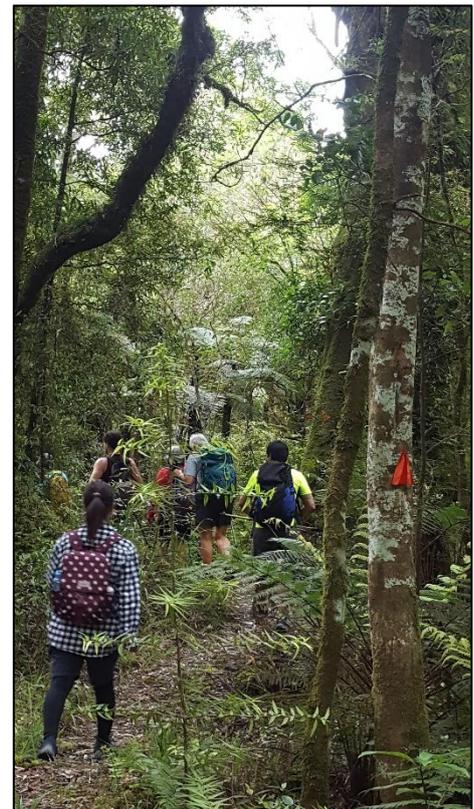


Mokaihaha Track – G2

21 November 2021

After the usual gathering at the car park in Collingwood Street, we all set off in two vans, both full. First stop, the toilets at Tirau, was welcomed by many. Keith set a cracking pace in his van with Dianne suggesting he must have been speeding. Nevertheless, we arrived at our destination, the Mokaihaha Ecological Area on South Rd Mamaku, all rearing to go. After an introductory talk with Keith outlining (with great detail) exactly where we were all going, we separated into the two graded groups. The 2+ Grade set off on the Mokaihaha track, while the others started at West Road.

It was a pleasant walk for about 500m up to Lake Rotohokahoka, which was hardly a lake at all, more of a large swampy puddle. By all accounts it was very special to Maori back in the day as they used to catch eels here. We did wonder how the eels got into the lake in the first place. Continuing along that track we wandered along on a rather nice track where the mature trees were mostly tawa with other large podocarps like rimu appearing here and there.



There were quite a few windfalls that were not really a problem to navigate around. However, one proved a challenge for a tardy group at the back who were not paying attention. The boys said it was the girls' fault who were so busy chatting, yet the boys too were chatting and didn't notice that the trail had disappeared. Some swift thinking soon brought about a few short and sharp blows on the trusty whistle which had been gifted by the Wanderers Club. This soon bought the leader back to the tardy group

who then got an ear full as to how to negotiate a windfall. This wee incident was all very light-hearted and brought smiles to our faces!

Yet another light-hearted moment came soon after, as that same whistle blower stomped on a log only to have it break in two, leaving him in a rather precarious position. That soon brought uproarious laughter to our faces!



Frivolities over, lunch was next on the program. This we had at the junction of the Mokaihaha track and a four wheel drive track. We then had to navigate this deeply rutted and puddled track which produced a few minor tumbles as we made our way back to South Road. The van had been expected to be there but was not, so we made our way along the road for about 1.5km to the junction of South and West roads where the vans had been left. We waited very leisurely for the other group to return to the vans (they had the keys).



All and all, it was a very pleasant and somewhat low key tramp that was not difficult - just perfect for the first tramp after lockdown. The casual atmosphere continued as we stopped for an ice cream at Tirau on the way home. Thank you to the leaders, Grant, Dianne and Keith for a lovely relaxing day out. **Adrienne**

Mokaihaha Track – G1

21 November 2021

This tramp was a substitute for the planned trip to Waitekauri which for various reasons wasn't suitable. The Mokaihaha Ecological Area is situated on the Mamaku Plateau, 9.6 kms. south-east of the Mamaku township, a very small settlement which we drove through on the way home. The tramp was graded as a G1 but included a few ups and downs and some dead trees to climb over, so was probably at least a 1+, maybe even a 2.

It was the first time the Wanderers' had been out for a while because of Covid restrictions. Two van loads of happy trampers were keen to get out of town. The majority of these were booked in for the harder tramp but there were seven of us who preferred the easier option.

The more energetic group set off at a good pace, but we enjoyed our morning tea before we started to walk. We were surprised how cool the weather was, as most of us had been expecting it to be very warm and lots of sun. However, once we were in the bush, the temperature was just right, there was no need to keep taking off, or putting on, extra clothes. It was **so** good to be out tramping again – with like-minded people. What struck me most was the absolute quiet - silence even. I felt that I wanted to absorb it. Then there were the amazing, huge trees, including the large podocarps. We felt awed by the sheer size of them. We were fortunate to hear a kaka, which was a very distinctive sound. We weren't lucky enough to see one though. .

The walk itself was very pleasant, a few tricky paths to manoeuvre and some steepish parts but nothing too difficult. Walking in a small group was very pleasant, an easy pace and time to chat. We went and had a look at Lake Rotohokahaka which wasn't very impressive; it was more like a large mud pool than a lake. I had been imagining that perhaps it would be suitable for a swim!

We sat and had an early lunch, then made our leisurely, way back, to the South Road, where we had left the vans. and were due to meet the other group.

It seemed that everyone had had a good day. Thanks go to the leaders and the drivers. As usual we stopped on the way home, for a coffee or an ice-cream.

Margaret

Christmas Lunch

5 December 2021

About 12 walkers turned up for our last walk of the year which was at a leisurely pace around the river path from the gardens. The weather was great, and the company of course was marvellous. We walked through the rose garden, under the Cobham Drive Bridge towards the Victoria Street Bridge. There were lots of people and families also out enjoying a Sunday outing. Over the bridge we stopped for a short break and drink in the rotunda near the river. From here it was a hot walk back to the gardens for a coffee in the café before a change into the glam clothes for the lunch.

A big Thank You to Jenny and the team at the Gardens Café and Function Room...they did themselves proud yet again. We had a welcome drink provided by the club, the food was scrummy and there was *lots* of it! The tables and room had been decorated for Christmas by Jenny. About 32 attended the lunch, it was great to see people we had not seen for a while, and it would have been a first outing for some people as we had not been long out of lockdown.

A big thank you to the committee and helpers throughout the year.

Dianne



TREK'N'TRAVEL

GEAR LIST FOR MULTI-DAY WALKS

FOR TREKKING

- Backpack / Pack Liner
- Sleeping Bag / Liner
- Towel
- Water Bottles / Bladder
- Sun Hat
- Quick Dry T-shirt / Shorts / Trousers
- Thermal Top / Pants / Leggings
- Wool or Fleece Hat / Gloves
- Mid Layer / Fleece Jacket
- Raincoat / Waterproof Overtrousers
- Boots / Trekking Shoes / Socks

EXTRAS

- Earplugs
- Insect Repellent
- Sunscreen
- Torch / Head Torch
- Trekking Poles
- Tent

FOR HUTS

- Toiletries
- Sleepwear
- Lightweight Clothing / Footwear

10%
CLUB MEMBER
DISCOUNT



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