

Section 3

Start: Rotorua

End: Paengaroa 83.6km

This section is a long one, chose your distance and accommodation and break it up in as many days as you require. Map on page 4.

Rotorua Lake front to your turn off at SHW 30 the riding is flat.

Slightly undulating along SHW 30 with one very big down hill and corner (**take care**)

From Rotoehu Rd, you start heading back to sea level.

Old Coach Rd is undulating.

Rotorua Lakefront to : Moose Lodge & Golf Resort Hotel Lake Rotoiti is 22.8km

Wildwood Lodge Lake Rotoiti 34.7km


Kennedy Bay 39.5km Lake Rotoehu www.bookabach.co.nz


Otautu Bay 42.1km Lake Rotoehu www.bookabach.co.nz


Equine Sporting Clay birds 44.9km

Old Forest School 56.5km

Old Coach Rd Oasis Glamping 67.8km

From the lake front reserve ride along **Lakefront Drive** and the lake in an anticlock wise direction, (on the road) flowing into **Oruawhata Drive** which will take you into **Queens Drive** (go back to this point when you have finished exploring the beautiful gardens - Government Gardens - and magnificent building that is the Rotorua Museum, formally the Bath House, & Café. (www.rotoruumuseum.co.nz) Riding down **Queens Drive**, towards the back of the Rotorua Museum, with the Energy Events Centre on your right, you will come to an intersection with **Hatupatu Dr**, directly behind this road sign and the Government Gardens sign is the path you want to take onto a boardwalk, - turning right  onto it (**mind your tyres as you ride onto this board walk as the wooden slates are wide**) Keep on this path past the Polynesian Spa following along the lake side edge of the car park. When you come out at the T intersection with Eurera St & Amohau St (Accommodation facility Sudima Lake Rotorua will be in front of you) left into a bike / walk path. Following the **bike signs** along this interesting path through Sulphur flats (**always stay on the path - this is a geothermal area !**) you will come out onto SHW 30 (at the traffic lights.) 5.1km


 Left **carefully** onto the foot path and over the bridge for **750m**

 Left again into **Vaughan Rd** at the blue Tip Top dairy, (to avoid the traffic and a busy roundabout) for **2.8km** (The last bike shop before you leave town is the **Outdoorsman** at 6 **Tarawera Rd** in which case you will not turn off at Vaughan Rd, straight ahead, right at the roundabout into Tarawera Rd. Exiting onto Marino Rd at the Round about on the return.)

 Right into **Owhata Rd** for **160m**

go cycling bop




 Left at the round about into **SHW30 (Te Ngae Rd)**

Continue carefully on this wide verged busy road for **6.9km** passing Rotorua Airport and 3D Maze and Whitewater Raft and Sledge on your left.

Rangiteaorere Rd will come up on your left, prepare as a group to go into the centre 'turn right' lane **when it is safe**. There is a no left verge at this turn off so prepare yourselves back at Raniteaorere Rd. The riding is flat to this turn off.

Right into **SHW 30** (signposted Whakatane,) to Tikitere, passed Hellsgate Geothermal


 Park & Mud bath spa on your left and continue on. (from this SHW 30 turn off to your next major Left at Manawahe Rd is **22.6km**)


22.8km on from the lake front you will come to **Historic Moose Lodge & Golf Resort Hotel** at 843 SHW 30, www.mooselodge.co.nz 07 3627823. info@mooselodge.co.nz) The Queen and Duke had a five day stop over at Moose Lodge in 1954. It has been refurbished in 2016.


Soon Lake Rotoiti will be on your left. You might like to have a spell at Te Ruato Bay opposite Lake Okataina Rd, ([there is hope that one day the trail might go through the Lake Okataina walk way and down Lake Okataina Rd,](#)) Emery's General store is further on, your right.

At Tapuaeharuru Bay, (www.bookabach.co.nz for accommodation here) the north eastern end of Lake Rotoiti, turn left  into Tamatea Street (there is a public toilet.) Ride to the end of the bay and take the path on your right. This beautiful historical bush track is **Hongi's Track 2.2km** (www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to/hinehopu-hongis-track) Follow track - if you turn off to the Wishing Tree retrace your path to continue on - through to Lake Rotoehu. This beautiful track comes out just before the Lake Rotoehu onto SHW 33.

From the SHW 30 Tikitere turn off to **Wildwood Lodge** at 11 Morehu Rd, Lake Rotoehu is 20.2km. (www.wildwood.co.nz 07 3620016 Max 6 guests) or from the Rotorua Lake Front Reserve to here is 34.7km

 Left into **Manawahe Rd** for **800m** past the Waitangi Soda Springs (if you want to pack your swim wear) on your left.

 Left at the T intersection into **Pongakawa Valley Rd** (signed posted Pongakawa Rd) for **10.8km** (46mins) For accommodation www.bookabach.co.nz at Kennedy and Otautu Bay. There is a small hill out of Kennedy and Otautu Bay. Worth a visit to Otautu Bay.

 Right **Rotoehu Rd** at the T intersection (also goes left) Sign posted Pongakawa Valley Rd. Riding through the bush clad Pongakawa Ecological Reserve.

Equine Sporting Claybirds. 1412 Rotoehu Rd will be on your left (Equine Sporting Claybirds: www.equineclaybirds.co.nz 07 5333220, 0274305080. 1412 Rotoehu Rd, Te Puke. equine@farmside.co.nz) From the Rotorua Lakefront Reserve to here is **44.9km**




3.7km further on is the very beautiful **Old Forest School**, a wedding / function venue with the possibility of accommodation (This needs to be booked well in advance as it is such a popular place. Weekends would be booked out, so you might like to start your accommodation planning and booking from this point first if this is a must have for you.


Old Forest School: www.oldforestschool.co.nz 795 Rotoehu Rd, Te Puke 075333925

From Pongakawa Valley Rd down Rotoehu Rd is a very quiet road, be mindful of the odd logging truck, car and mail delivery van.

Continuing down Rotoehu Rd, which flows on to **Old Coach Rd** (also goes right but stay left)

Accommodation Option : At this point if you ride right  into Old Coach Rd for 900m on your right at 1494 Old Coach Rd is **Old Coach Oasis Glamping**. 07 5333711 027 3409341 oldcoachoasis@gmail.com. From the Rotorua Lake Front Reserve to here is 67.8 km. If this is your accommodation option retrace your path in the morning by turning left out of their drive way and right at the T intersection.

Continue along Old Coach Rd and across the Pongakawa Stream (Hongi's route)

Follow undulating Old Coach Rd until you get to the T intersection at **Pongakawa Bush Rd** turn  right.

Past Pongakawa School, (Old Forest School to Pongakawa School is **12.5km**)

Carry on Old Coach Rd passing Maniatutu Rd on your left and right, to Paengaroa.

An over night option or refreshment break.

Visits to Dairy Farms/ Avocado Orchards and or Kiwifruit Orchards can be arranged in advance along this route.

Pongakawa School to Paengaroa via Old Coach Rd is **9.4km**

Accommodation Option: Junction Motel: www.junctionmotel.co.nz 246 SHW 33

Paengaroa. 07 5331023 junctionmotel@xtra.co.nz, where there is secure bike storage and room to leave your car, while you are riding the trail.

Turning left into Sunset Drive opposite Paengaroa School, left again into SHW 33 and the Junction Motel is just down a little on your right.

Or you might like to visit Paengaroa first, by carrying on Old Coach Rd, before you retrace your steps.



