

Deerford Loop Track, Ruahine Forest Park

Deerford Loop Track starts with a flat walk over farmland before heading down into the bush. It's an easy start to the track, but a quick glance up at the looming Ngamoko Range high above suggests a bit of climbing to be done.

Soon after entering the bush, Makiekie (Coal) Creek is crossed and then a track junction is reached. Choose either direction to make a loop. However, taking the right branching track allows a good lunch spot to be reached beside the creek at the junction with the Knights Track.

A few hundred metres after the junction, the track steepens sharply and turns east as the climb of the Ngamoko Range begins. There are plenty of stunning viewpoints on the way up which also provide a chance to rest and catch your breath.

At the top of the loop, Shorts Track carries on to the Ngamoko Range and the route into Leon Kinvig Hut. But the Deerford Loop Track turns north and then west to complete the loop.

The sharp descent is unfriendly at times. Tree roots and logs lie across the dirt path, and the rocky descent makes for slow going.

At the junction with Knights Track – which also climbs steeply to the Ngamoko Range – cross the creek to find a glade to rest and eat lunch – if desired. There's a hidden waterfall a short detour off the track.

It's not far from here to the car park.

Wild File

Access From the end of Limestone Road, east of Apiti

Grade Easy

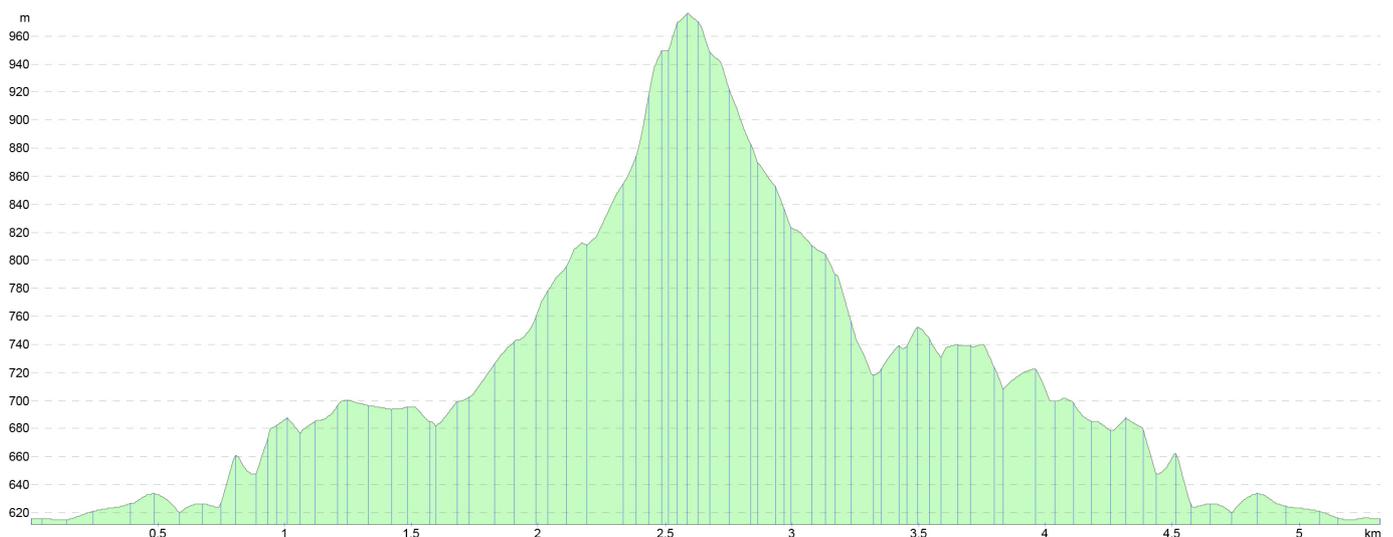
Time 3hr

Distance 5.32km

Total ascent 517m

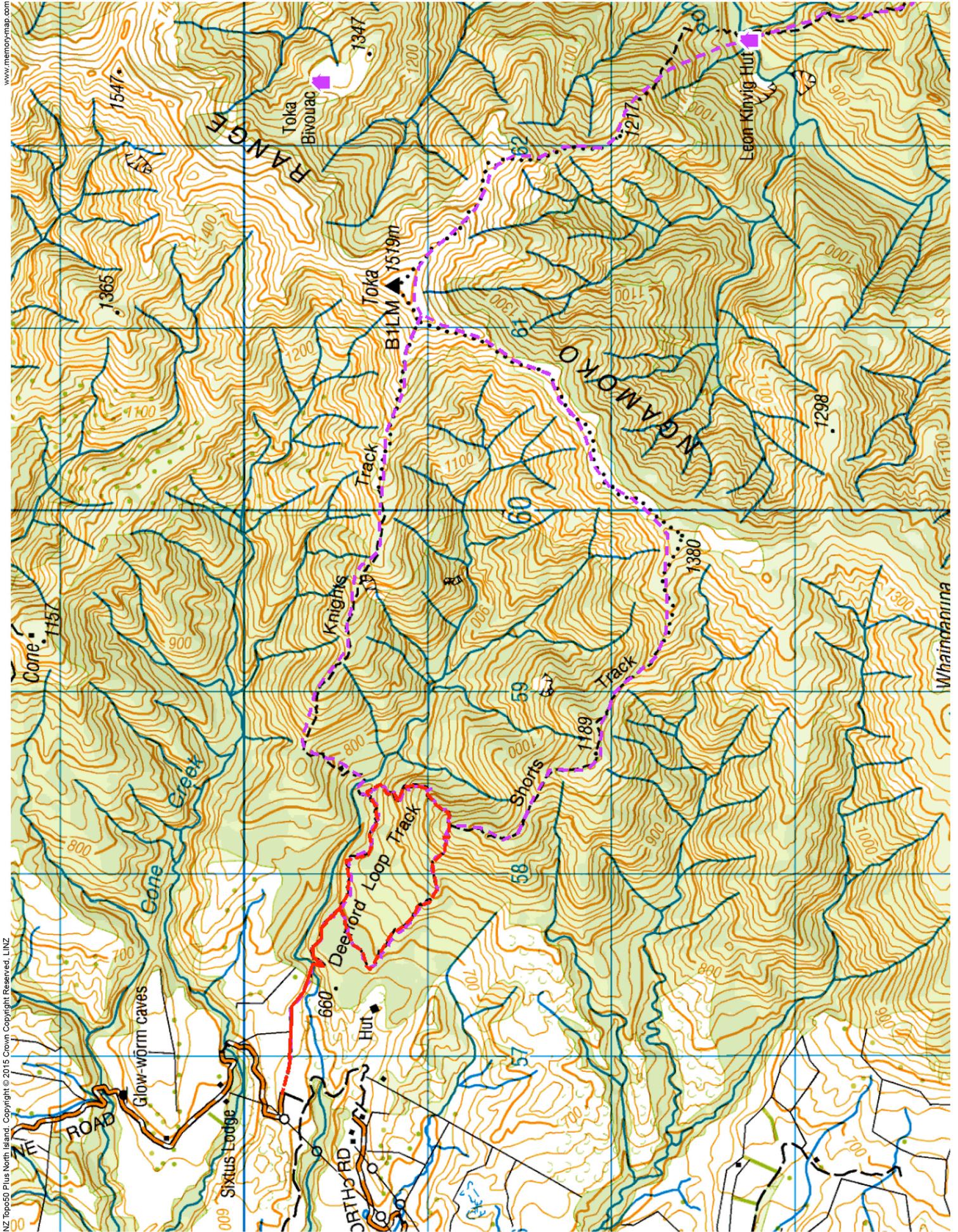
Topo50 map BL36

Elevation Profile



Deerford Loop Track, Ruahine Forest Park

www.memory-map.com



NZ Topo50 Plus North Island. Copyright © 2015 Crown. Copyright Reserved. LINZ