

Camp Creek v3a2III*

Kauaeranga Valley

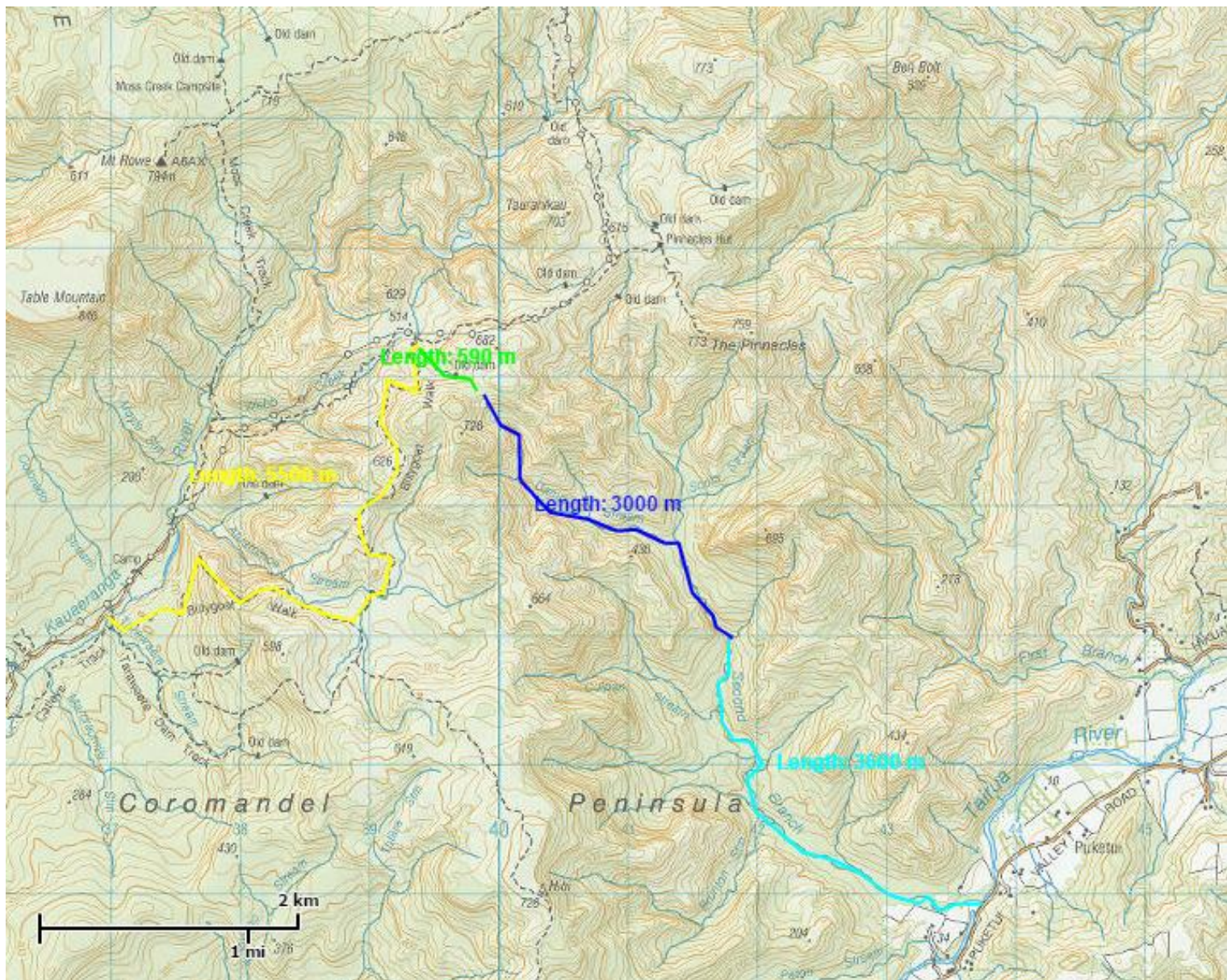
Derived from notes made by Greg Or

Total Time:

From Kauaeranga road-end carpark to puketui valley road would probably take 7-10h for a team of 2.

Access:

We stream-bashed up from hydrocamp on the webb creek track then bush-bashed over the saddle to drop into the camp stream. This took us about 2 hours but we followed up the wrong stream up and only broke the compass out near the summit of pt 682. It should probably only take 45min-1h. The bush is quite dense.



Descent

It was pretty low flow (Feb 2015), there is lots of scrambling and down-climbing to grade 16 (ewebank) in the top section.

First rap: 10m rap but the nearest anchor was 15-20m away we left tat+maillon in situ, this would be hard but not impossible to bush bash around.

Second rap: We downclimbed a dodgy tree for the next 8m drop rather than rapping it. There are also rap anchors available.

There are 2 more significant drops ~20m but both can be bush-bashed around. Both are beautiful slot formations and would make great pitches.

There are 1-2 compulsory short and easy swims and a handful of compulsory wades. No jumps 😞
Although technically easy with lots of rock-hopping this canyon gets a star because the views are absolutely stunning, so many sheer rock faces, old kauris and funky slot formations in the stream. From the start of the stream the descent took us 7-8h but we had a climbing rack and bivvy gear with us and stopped at all the rock faces to look for lines.

Gear:

1X60m rope or 30m and pullcord is enough. Bring tat + Maillons.

Wetsuits optional on a warm day, all the raps are before you get wet so you can keep moving to stay warm once you are wet.

Other:

Care for the kauris, clean your gear with trigene at the Webb creek track.

The top 2km or so of the canyon would get pretty prone to flooding during strong rain and escape options are limited.

There are many great camping spots along the way after the first 2km of stream if you want to break the trip up.