

Limited mobility access to Atiu Creek Regional Park

This farm park is accessible using all-terrain mobility equipment, and some paths are suitable for the more powerful models of mobility scooter. Some of the undulations throughout the park are steep (approximately 1:6 or 16% gradient) and some scooters might require additional pushing from behind. Some tracks have surfaces that would accommodate wheelchair users, but again assistance would be needed on the steeper sections.

The park was audited using a power-assist hand cycle.

Areas audited

1. Car park
2. Toilets
3. Picnic table
4. Oruawhoro River Trail (from the car park to just past the Heretoka Pā and past the homestead to the car park)
5. Reservoir Walk (excluding the section shared with Clearfell Track)
6. Clearfell Track (excluding where it shares with the Reservoir Walk)
7. Ti Tree Point Trail

Car park

There is no defined parking and none designated for mobility parking. The surface of the car park is loose gravel, however there are wide grassed areas on the perimeter of the car park where it is possible to park your car and push your wheelchair over the grass.

Picnic table

The picnic table has been designed to accommodate a wheelchair at the end, facing the view. Some assistance may be required to push the wheelchair to the table.



Toilets

There are wheelchair accessible toilets in the main car park toilet block. The quality of the toilets is first class with porcelain pan and basin. The fixtures and fittings are building code compliant; however there is no soap or hand drying provision.



Tracks

There are two routes from the car park to the tracks. Both include cattle stops and vehicle gates that are locked, and one also includes a kissing gate. Most scooters would handle the cattle stops, however they would be challenging for wheelchairs. The width of the cattle stops on the route is 938mm. Take care as the cattle stops can be slippery, and there are steep slopes on both sides.



Oruawhero River Trail

The beginning of this trail is flat and the surface is well compacted, even after rain. It continues as a grassy path. This trail would be do-able in all-terrain mobility equipment.

The homestead has a steep approach from both directions, but the surface is more compacted when approaching from the left side.

Returning to the car park the trail has steep undulations and the surface has large loose stones. It is only suitable for an all-terrain vehicle. Scooters would require a lot of assistance.

The trail terminates with a cattle grid and locked vehicle gate, as with the alternative entrance, but no kissing gate.

Reservoir Walk

The beginning of this trail is flat and the surface is well compacted, even after rain, making it do-able in all-terrain mobility equipment. There are steep undulations (approximately 1:5 or 20%) so scooters would need to be assisted, but there is little resistance from the track surface. This walk is best accessed after the Heretoka Pā.

The route from Reservoir Walk via the Clearfell Track to the Ti Tree Point Trail has undulations and one steep section (approximately 1:8 or 12.5%), but the surface is reasonably compacted. Ti Tree Point is approached on a grassed, gently sloping surface. This route is well worth the effort, as the views are magnificent.

The homestead has a steep approach from both directions, but the surface is more compacted when approaching from the left side.

Returning to the car park via the Oruawhero River Trail the trail has steep undulations and the surface has large loose stones. It is only suitable for an all-terrain vehicle. Scooters would require a lot of assistance.

The trail terminates with a cattle grid and locked vehicle gate, as with the alternative entrance, but no kissing gate.