

SKI & RIDE THE MAUNGA

BOOK YOUR NEXT SCHOOL SKI TRIP



Mt Ruapehu is one of the best places to learn to ski & ride in New Zealand. Students can have fun, feel safe and build confidence at Happy Valley, a self-contained premier learners' facility at Whakapapa, or at Alpine Meadow at Tūroa. Take the classroom outside and get your students stoked. It's an unforgettable experience learning to ski & ride on an active volcano here at the UNESCO dual World Heritage Tongariro National Park..

Planning a trip for
your school or youth
group? This is the
place for you!

In September 1887, the mountain peaks; Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe and Tongariro were declared sacred by the Paramount Chief of Ngati Tuwharetoa, Horonuku Te Heu Heu Tukino, enacting a tuku (act of customary lore) ensuring their protection for all people for all time. This formed the nucleus of Tongariro National Park, New Zealand's first National Park and a dual World Heritage area. A trip to Mt Ruapehu can provide plenty of hands-on learning opportunities for students to discover the traditions and stories of the maunga (mountain).

RAL is also committed to nurturing and developing the next generation of young skiers and snowboarders. Our Learn to Ski program introduces thousands of students each season to winter sports and our wonderful alpine environment in New Zealand. This document will provide some useful information for School Group Coordinators who are thinking about bringing a group of school students/youth groups on a snow sports trip to Whakapapa and Tūroa.

SKI THE VOLCANO

Happy Valley at Whakapapa

Happy Valley Opens 20 May 2020. Guaranteed snow!

Learn to ski and snowboard at NZ's best beginners' facility! A fully self-contained learners' area, Happy Valley boasts its own café, rental complex and ski school meeting area, while also being free of advanced skiers and snowboarders. The gentle slope is nice and long, allowing for plenty of time to really get the hang of turning and stopping. The easy to use carpet lifts and a slow-moving chairlift help encourage quick progression.



1 x double fixed chairlift & 4 x carpet lifts (2 covered).

Whakapapa Ski Area

Whakapapa Lower Mountain Opens 13 June 2020

Whakapapa Upper Mountain Opens 27 June 2020

Located on Mt Ruapehu's north-west facing slopes, Whakapapa is NZ's largest ski area. The huge variety of terrain offers mellow slopes for first-timers and epic chutes, drops and bumps for the most experienced. Whakapapa is also home to the Knoll Ridge Chalet at the top of the Sky Waka gondola, offering a selection of cuisine at NZ's highest eateries 2,020m above sea level.



NZ's most extensive lift facilities – 1 x gondola, 1 x quad express chairlift, 2 x quad fixed chairlifts, 3 x T-bars.

Tūroa Ski Area

Tūroa Opens 27 June 2020

Tūroa is home to Mt Ruapehu's south-west facing slopes. Renowned for huge snow bases, unique volcanic terrain, wide trails and epic terrain parks. Boasting NZ's longest vertical descent at 722m, Tūroa is also the home of NZ's highest chair lift: The High Noon Express. The Alpine Meadow and Wintergarden are perfect areas for first time skiers and snowboarders with plenty of room to learn the turns.



1 x 6 seater, 2 x quad chairlifts, 2 x triple chairlifts, 2 x platter lifts & 1 x carpet lift.



WHERE WE ARE

Located in the Central Plateau of NZ's North Island, Mt Ruapehu is an easy drive from the nation's main centres of Auckland & Wellington and tourist hotspots such as Taupō, Rotorua & Tauranga.

Whakapapa is right in the middle of the North Island, an easy drive from Auckland, Wellington & most other North Island cities & towns. Head over for an easy short or long winter break!

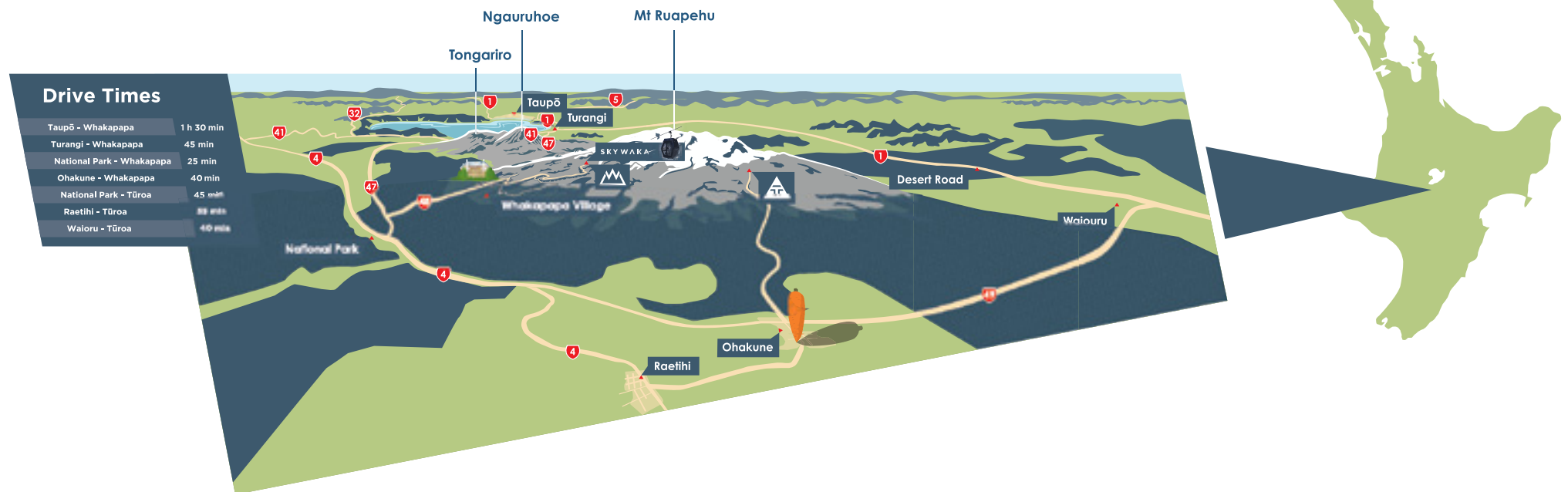
Once you're in the region you'll find it well serviced by the local villages of National Park & Whakapapa Village. From Whakapapa Village you're only a short 6km drive to the ski area - it's the easiest mountain road in NZ!

[Click here for directions to Whakapapa](#)

Tūroa is an easy drive away from the main centres of Auckland & Wellington for a short or long winter break. It's also a pretty quick day trip from a lot of North Island towns including Napier, Hastings, Palmerston North and Taupo.

At the base of the Tūroa access road you'll find the North Island's most popular ski resort town, Ohakune, which is well serviced with a great range of accommodation, activities, restaurants, cafes and bars. It's easy to get to by bus or train so you don't need your own car to get here! From there, catch a shuttle or drive up the Ohakune mountain road.

[Click here for directions to Tūroa](#)



SHUTTLES AND TRANSPORT

We offer shuttles from National Park and Ohakune to Whakapapa & Tūroa Ski areas. This guarantees you will get up to the mountain on days where the road is restricted due to snow and/or ice. If your school requires transportation from other locations, contact our Schools and Groups Coordinator to organize long distance shuttles and multi-day trips. This needs to be communicated and organized prior to your arrival date.

If you choose to use an alternative transport provider, it is important to note that particular attention needs to be given to the travel time required, prior to your arrival up on our snowy white slopes! Please ensure that they carry and have the ability to fit snow chains on road restricted days.

CHECKING IN

Your school is required to check in at least an hour before your lesson time at the Schools and Groups office to allow sufficient time for rental collection. We highly recommend your school to allow plenty of time for inevitable last-minute changes which are likely to slow you down, whilst still ensuring students will be ready to spend the entire duration of the lesson out on the snow.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the instance of inclement weather conditions, please refer to our website for reports with up-to-date information as to the status of the mountain and available facilities for the day. Further to this; our Schools and Groups Coordinators will maintain regular contact with you in the lead-up to your visit in order to establish the most suitable plan of action for all parties involved and provide you with the best advice. We will always do our best to ensure that your experience up on our slopes is as memorable as possible!

[Click here for Status Report](#)

[Click here for weather forecast](#)

Please select the appropriate ski area

WHY BRING YOUR SCHOOL TO OUR MOUNTAIN?

At RAL, we understand that organising group ski trips can be daunting. We strive to make everyone's snow experience fun and memorable, so our systems are specially designed to make the process of getting on snow as simple and streamlined as possible.

Our passionate Schools and Groups Coordinators at Whakapapa and Tūroa are here to ensure a smooth and simple process for every group. We will look after your booking, pre-print all your passes, book instructors, meet and greet you on arrival and will be there to direct you along the way - we are here to help!

We are proud to offer a competitive, flat-rate package for all skiers and boarders irrespective of ability level. With a large Snowsports school, staffed with internationally qualified instructors, we are able to offer high quality lessons to all of our school groups. Turoa and Whakapapa Ski & Ride Schools have over ten years' experience in coaching and teaching school children and we are committed to delivering a recognised product, designed to cater to the requirements of our schools.

RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Please ensure that you arrive for the recommended time as this is essential to ensure that your students will arrive out on the snow well in advance for their lesson.

Helmets are highly recommended and are included in the package for all school groups, as are wrist guards for those wishing to snowboard. Please note that we do not hire gloves, goggles, sunglasses or beanies at our ski areas. Individuals should bring their own. There are retail shops on each ski area where these items can be purchased if forgotten.

If you choose to book for more than one consecutive day with us, you are able to keep your equipment for the duration of your trip and return it on your last day to the original pick-up location.

SKI & RIDE SCHOOL LESSONS

As a part of your package, all school groups take part in Ski and Snowboarding lessons to ensure safety and maximize the learning for all participants. Whakapapa and Tūroa ski areas pride ourselves on employing the world's best instructors, all of which are certified by a broad section of ISIA member organizations, bringing a global perspective to our lessons, while ensuring students receive the level of consistency and quality ISIA governance mandates.

Our instructors are qualified, many to the highest levels and many have supplemented their certification with specialist accreditations in the areas of Children's Instruction, Race, and Freestyle, including F.I.S. licenses and credentials.

We require all our staff to undergo a clean slate check with the NZ Police prior to commencing work.

We take these measures to ensure the very best in quality Snowsports Instruction.

NCEA CREDIT ASSESSMENT

Students wanting to earn NCEA credits from their trip can do so with our instructors. Assessments according to the NZQA standards can be carried out and verified. Please contact the Schools and Groups Coordinator for more information, and/or to organize assessment criteria.



SCHOOL BOOKING FAQ

Our students do not require lessons, can we opt out of them?

RAL aims to invest in the future of the sport by providing an affordable skiing/snowboarding experience with qualified instructors as part of the school skiing/riding package. If students want to opt out of ski/snowboard lesson, kindly communicate this to the Schools & Groups Coordinator upon booking. Please note that opting out of lesson will not affect package pricing.

I have a season pass, can I just have lesson and rentals?

All school bookings through Schools and Groups are only available through the one package that is offered.

Can the students swap their rental ski equipment to snowboard or vice versa?

Students can select their discipline, and confirm final numbers of skiers and snowboarders at least 48 hours before booking date. We are unable to accommodate changes on the day as instructors for lessons have been pre-organised.

What happens if the mountain closes?

We are able reschedule the booking to a new agreed-upon date. Otherwise, we will cancel the booking and refund the amount in full.

How do we get on the mountain on road restricted days?

All school groups are expected to arrive on the mountain on your own, in time for your scheduled lessons. If for any reason, your vehicles are unable to make it up the mountain on the day, there are shuttle companies available at Whakapapa Village and National Park.

When can I make a booking?

Bookings will be available at this link <https://ruapehualpinelifts.checkfront.com/reserve/>

How long does it take to travel to the Ski Area?

Refer to Page 3 of this document

How can I check the weather before my trip?

As we are situated in an alpine environment our weather can change very rapidly. You can check our Snow Report which is updated daily at 6.30am on the website here – www.mtruapehu.com/report.

This is the most up to date source that provides information on mountain status and the forecast for the day.

FAQ CONTINUED

What about accompanying adults?

Please refer to page 10 of this document.

What information will you require about my group before we arrive?

We require the ability levels of all skiers/snowboarders in lessons prior to your arrival. We also require rental information of each skier/riders height, weight, shoe size (UK),

What should we wear on the day?

Make sure you wrap up warm! Plenty of layers mean you'll keep warm when it's cold and are able to cool down when it's hot. Make sure you bring eye protection, sun screen (yes, even in mid-winter!), hat, gloves and one pair of thick socks will do. Too many pairs of socks and your ski or snowboard boots can become very uncomfortable. Please note that we do not have gloves/goggles for hire. These are available for purchase at the retail shop on mountain.

Do you have a Risk Assessment Management Form?

Find RAMS online - [HERE](#)

How do we pay?

All school are required to have an account with us, set up at least 2 weeks prior to your visit. Fill out the credit application form [HERE](#) and email it back to the Schools and Groups Coordinator (Turoa/Whakapapa). Your school will be invoiced within a week after your visit.

Where can we store our bags?

We highly recommend you bring only the essentials with you as we have limited storage space available for groups. There are lockers available for rent in both the rentals building at Top of Bruce and Happy Valley.

If you have any other questions, try searching for keywords in this document by holding Ctrl + F . If the information you require is not in this document, email us and we will do our best to get back to you asap.



SKI & RIDE SCHOOL PROGRAMME 2020

Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum of 10 students per booking * ▪ Students must be school age, 5-18 years ▪ Must book directly with RAL <p>* Schools with small roles (and whom don't have 10 students in a group) need to contact the S&G coordinator</p>
Package Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recreational Ski or Snowboard Rental Equipment ▪ 1 x 1 hr 50min Group Lesson ▪ All-Mountain Lift Pass (inclusive of Skywaka Sightseeing Pass)
Rental & Equipment	<p>Included in the price;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recreational skis, boots, poles & helmet or ▪ Recreational snowboard, boots, wrist guards & helmet. <p>Not included in the price;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clothing (Waterproof jackets & pants) are not included but available at an additional cost. Please let the Schools & Groups coordinators know if you would like to include clothing rental. ▪ Gloves and Goggles <p>Due to hygiene purposes, gloves and goggles are not available for hire but available for purchase on mountain at the Retail Shop.</p>
Additional Extras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clothing package (Waterproof jacket / pants) – \$17.5 per set per day ▪ Packed Lunch – \$11.5 per person per day ▪ Extra lesson – \$22.5 per person per day ▪ 1 hr Sledding pass – \$11.50 discount off RRP <p>Please note for lunches, that our Schools & Groups Co-ordinator will discuss your lunch requirements with you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are purchasing lunch from RAL, they will work with you to understand any dietary requirements and provide you a time and a lunch location • If you are self-catering, please contact the Schools and Groups Coordinators to see if we can accommodate your request as the cafeteria seating is reserved for cafe patrols only. This is dependant on business demands on the day.

Ski & Ride Lessons	<p>Booking via website will indicate what lesson times are available. Lesson times are allocated on a first in best dressed approach.</p> <p>Group ratio of approximately 1 instructor to 8 students of similar ability Group size may be in the range of 5 – 15 depending on the ability range of the wider group</p>
Supervisors	<p>For every 6 paying students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 adult receives an equivalent product free of charge which includes: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 x All Mountain Lift Pass Recreational skis, boots, poles & helmet or snowboard, boots, wrist guards & helmet. Sightseeing Pass <p>Any additional adults who are supervising the students may purchase a student product at the student rate.</p> <p>Teachers/Adults who are on the trip in a supervisory role are welcome to join the Ski & Ride lessons with the students if they ski or ride at a similar level. Supervising adults are not eligible to join in Adult Group lessons as part of this product. Supervision of the students is the responsibility of the Teachers/Adults and not of the mountain staff.</p>
Price	Whakapapa & Turoa \$80 per student / day
Schools Contact	<div> <div>Whakapapa</div> <div>E: groups.whakapapa@mtruapehu.com</div> </div> <div> <div>Turoa</div> <div>E: turoagroups@mtruapehu.com</div> </div>



SIGN ME UP

Keen to ski & ride with us this winter? << [CLICK HERE](#) >> for a step by step guide of the booking process and receive immediate quote and confirmation for your trip.

Check out the full Terms and Conditions << [HERE](#) >>

NEED MORE HELP? CONTACT US

We look forward to making your trip to Mt Ruapehu a fun and memorable experience so if you have any questions please contact us.

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