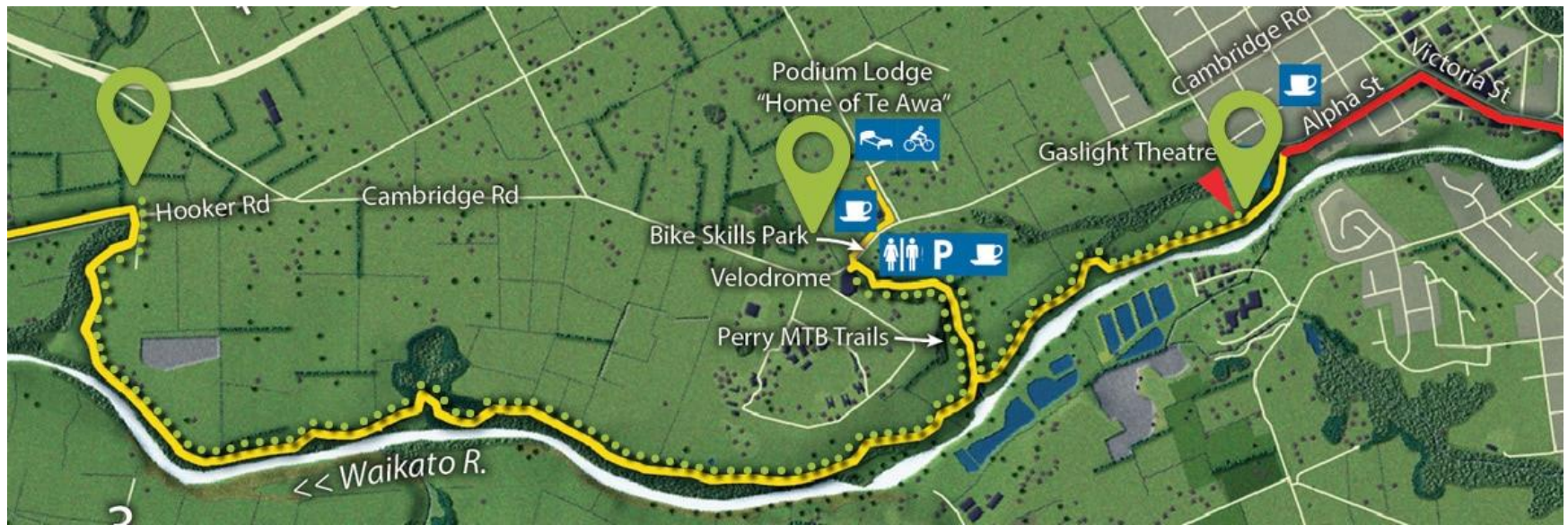


Avantídrome ↔ Hooker Road

May 8, 2022

*Te Awa - The Great
New Zealand River Ride*



*Distance: Hooker Rd to Velodrome, 7.5km
Velodrome to Gaslight Theatre, 3.5km*

Difficulty: Grade 2-3

From: Te Awa River Ride 2021 Website (<http://www.te-awa.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Mini-Map-Sections6.jpg>)



Having a late start (9 am), we jump in the van at the usual Collingwood Street Carpark in Hamilton.

In the midst of cloud cover, the sun is getting stronger.

By the time arriving Avantidrome, the sky is totally clear.

Sun shining brightly, the morning radioactive cooling mist has gone.

Time flies, river flows...

here comes the new section of Te Awa River Walk (Grassroots Trust Avantidrome to Hooker Road and return)

On this mid-autumn sunny day, we begin our journey into new ground.

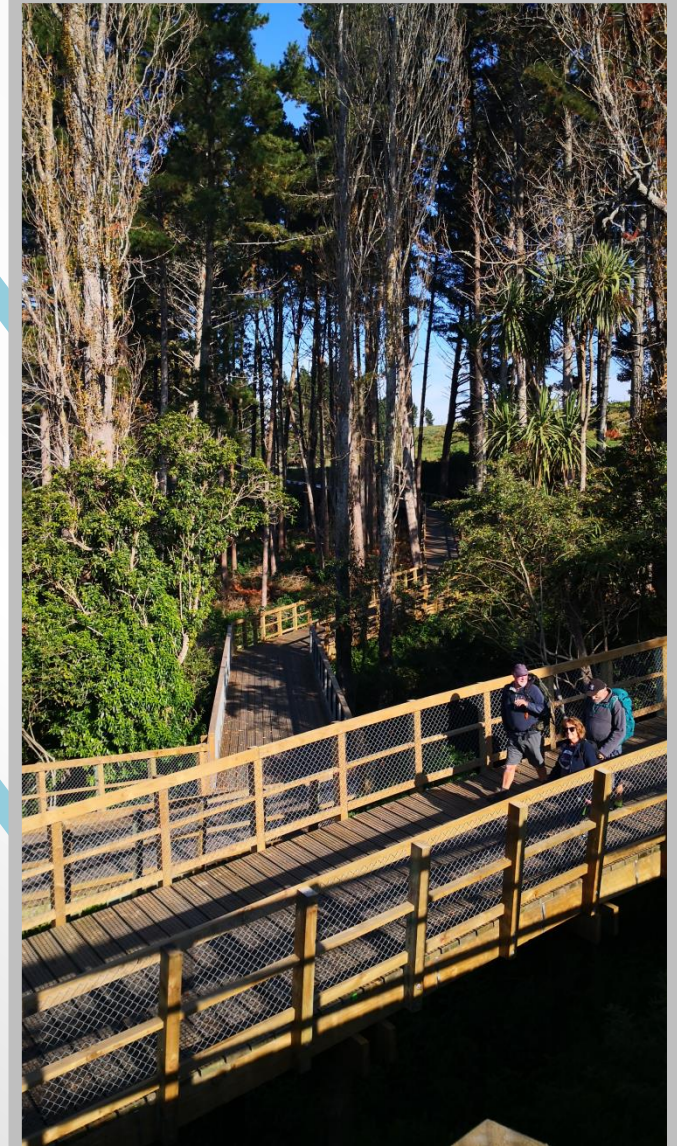
Grade 2 to 3 difficulty, ah...ah...would that difficult?!

All brand new, clean and tidy looking...so nice,

Unique concrete surface covering, lightly brown in the day, although a bit hard for some hikers...probably...

three metres wide can be, not much a challenge for many of us!







Te Awa River Ride is the longest concrete trail in New Zealand. Suitable for everyone with different abilities, the 65 km Trail is both a walking and cycling trail.

This Avantidrome-Hooker Road stretch is the most challenging part. Right at many backdoor steps...

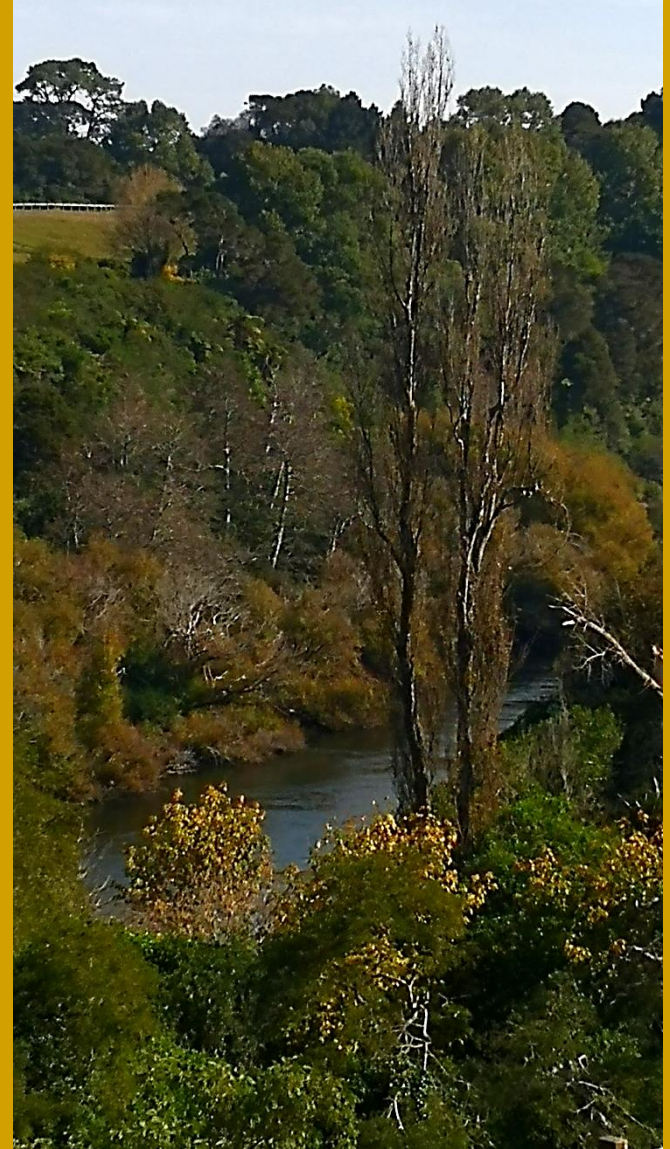
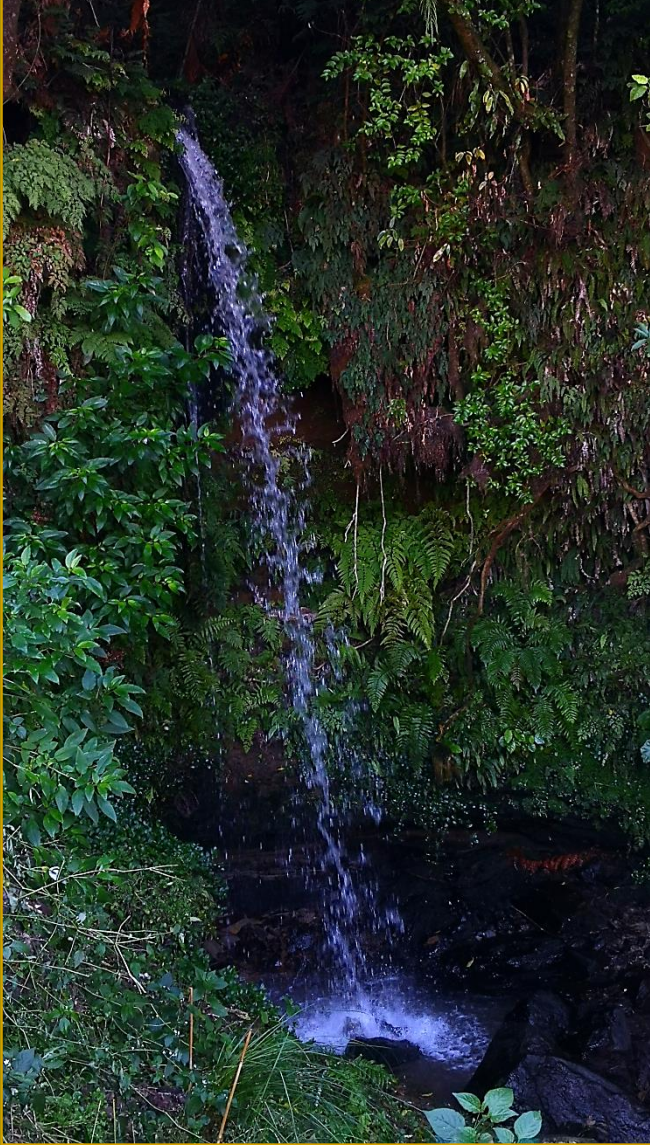
Scenic Waikato River Green swings all the way, with ups and downs, meandering too, that taxes our admiration.

Mirror trees all calmly set on the crystal clear water.

This part of Waikato River is deeply seated in the valley. Standing cliff on both riversides is fully exposed with much pride and appreciation.

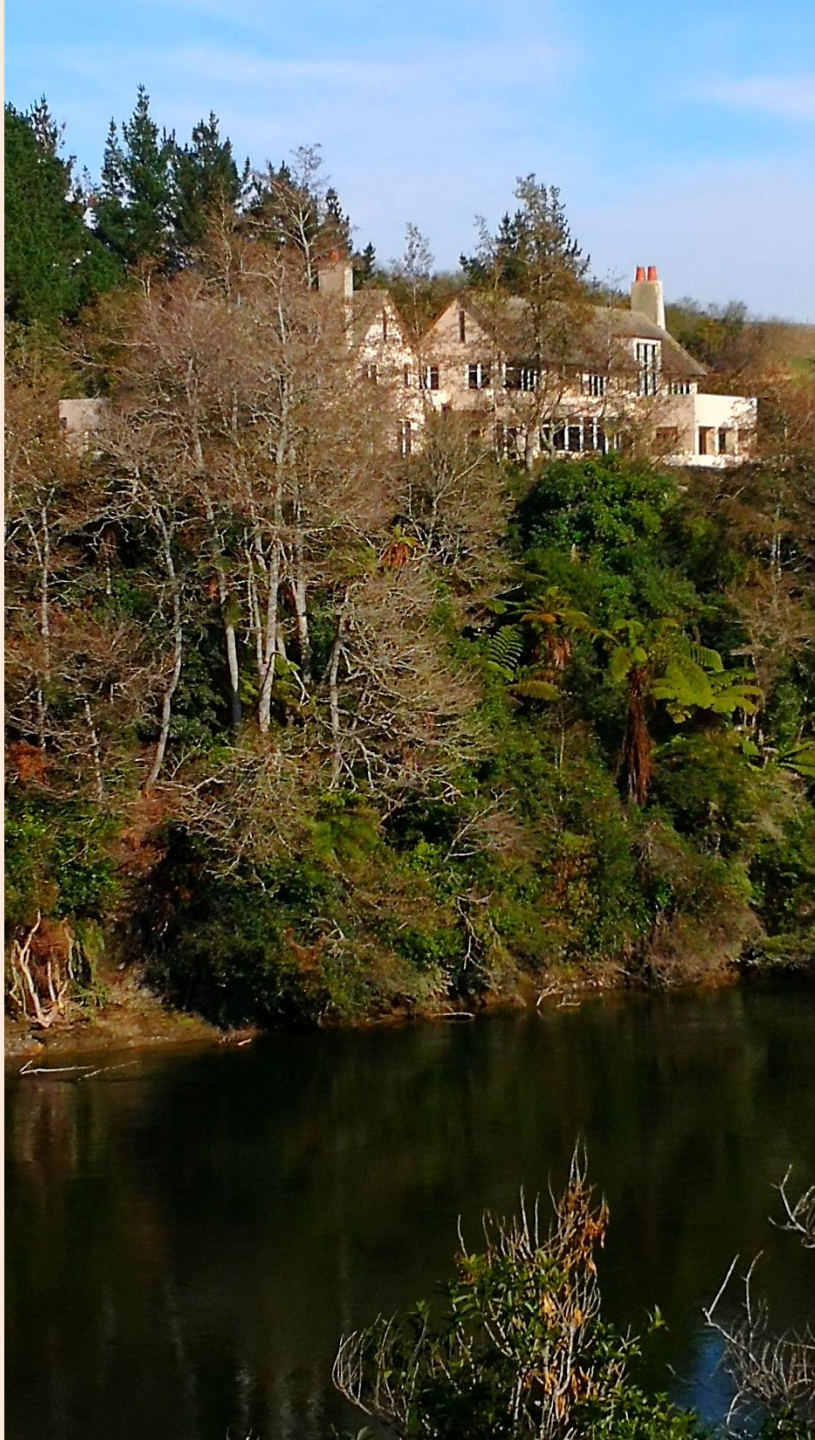
Boardwalks and bridges ease the way of access, saving our energy to ascend and descend the rolling terrain.

Picnic spots with tables & benches are set along the track...having morning tea down by the river bank, having lunch up by the riverside sloppy top. Not at all, without any wind...we were delight to have the clammy morning break and the warm dry sunny treat at lunchtime. What can I say, lovely!









Moving we are...

Passing by bikers...

*Really a biking track, mostly
electric bicycle bikers,
no other hikers, except our
Wanderers Group.*

*Overlooking the Waikato River,
deeply cut terrain with feeding
streams churning through ...*

*This the water of New
Zealanders, the water in the
largest river of Aotearoa. The
natural water that we drink
everyday in Waikato.*

*Thanks Tony for recommending
this track.*

Charming, how's that!

