

**NEW ZEALAND
PHOTO JOURNAL #12
CYCLING WANGANUI VALLEY**

Adventures by Scott David Plumlee

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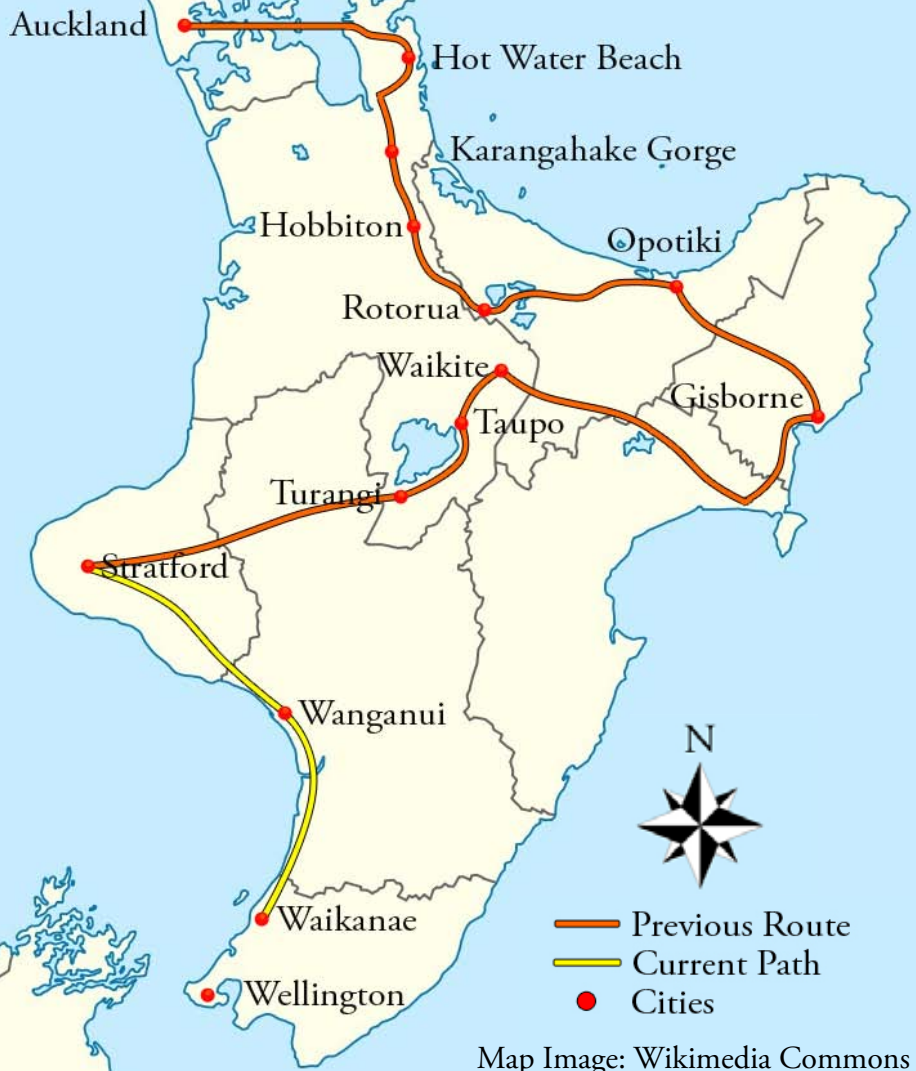
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NORTH ISLAND ZEALAND



NEW



- Previous Route
- Current Path
- Cities

Map Image: Wikimedia Commons

Previously on NZ Photo Journal:

After sailing from Auckland to the Coromandel Peninsula, I cycled down to the Hobbiton Shire and then did a four-day hike outside of Rotorua. Next, I biked past the Rere Waterfalls to Gisborne and then to see Lake Waikaremoana. Recently, I hiked the Tongariro Alpine Crossing and then traveled eastward to Stratford to hike the enchanted Mount Taranaki. Today, I'll be pedalling south to Wanganui and riding the coastline down to the capitol of Wellington. Wow, so much to see - let's go!





January 11th: Up at 6am to drizzle, coffee-n-protein shake, packed my wet gear, did my yoga routine, made a second coffee, and finally started pedaling down the road at 8am.



I am thankful for the gray skies, flat terrain, wide road shoulders, and the wind on my back.



It may seem silly, but on a gloomy day, this bit of bright color really made my morning.

I had planned an easy 75km bike ride today, but the highway was smooth and with a tailwind pushing me along -- I arrived at my destination just after Noon.

Feeling indecisive, this slyly smiling Buddha head statue seemed to whisper: “Carpe Diem -- go seize the day.”

After a quick pub lunch, I jumped on my bike and pedaled off into the distance feeling strong and quite excited for the triple-digit bike ride today.







Today, I cycled 132km (82 miles) to Wanganui, found a cheap campsite behind an old pub, took a hot shower, had a plate of fish-n-chips with a pint of beer, and went directly to sleep.



January 12th: Up at 7am, made two coffees and a protein shake, did a slow yoga session for my sore legs, and started reading the book *Banco* by Henri Charriere, the sequel to *Papillon*.



After packing my camp gear, I used the pub WiFi to buy a ferry ticket to the South Island, ate a meat pie for lunch, and started pedaling at 10am towards the Wanganui River Valley.

64 km Pīpiriki

WHANGANUI RIVER
OUTLOOK 4 km

21 km WHANGANUI
NATIONAL PARK

Mountains To Sea
Nga Ara Tuhono
Cycle Trail





This is one of 20 steep switchbacks on the 'not-so-gentle' climb up Gentle Anne Hill.



Wow! This is the view from Gentle Anne Hill looking down into the Wanganui River Valley.

Thank you for joining me on this 15-page preview to visit Wanganui Valley, to continue the adventure with me to Himatangi Beach, purchase the full 50-page eBook at Amazon.com.

Won't you join me for my next adventure to visit the artistic capitol city of Wellington?

The author, Scott David Plumlee, seen with a monkey on his head below, is an avid world traveler, photographer, and writer. He has traveled to over 40 countries, taken millions of photos, and is always willing to share his jokes, stories, and philosophies. Plumlee is also the author of the five book Chain and Bead Jewelry series, and currently loving life in Asheville.

Discover more adventures at:

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