

# Pohangina River

Upper, Middle & Lower Reaches



Wellington Region

# Pohangina River

The Pohangina River has its source on the western flank of the Ruahine Ranges and flows southward to join the Manawatu River at Ashhurst. It contains extensive gravel beaches often lined with willows and other natives which provide pools and stretches of water with excellent cover for trout. Good trout numbers occur along the length of the river. Popular locations are either adjacent to the bridge at Raumai where a picnic area provides easy riverbank access or at Totara Reserve, a further 10km upstream. It is a river best suited to fishing to sighted fish, although nymphing, spinning or bait fishing the fast water in runs or the heads of pools, is worth trying. There is also superb backcountry fishing a long way into the ranges for the adventurous angler.

## **ATTENTION ANGLERS**

Sections of riverbed covered by this pamphlet may be in private ownership, which means anglers do not necessarily have a right of access. Some landowners may have agreed to anglers having access along the riverbed without having to obtain permission first.

Please respect the privilege of access. Once you are on the river, stay within the riverbed and do not wander on to adjacent farmland without the express permission of the landowner. If you require clarification around where you are legally entitled to go, please visit the Walking Access Commission website - [www.wams.org.nz](http://www.wams.org.nz) - and use the public access layers.

### **Conditions Of Access:**

- NO dogs. NO camping. NO fires. NO vehicles on the riverbed.
- Leave gates as you find them.

### **Please Note:**

Fish & Game has endeavoured to show where legal public access exists to and along this river. Because of a variety of factors beyond our control, this is a guideline only. The onus of

avoiding trespassing on private land rests with the angler and, where doubt arises, landowner permission should be sought. If any difficulty occurs through the use of this information, please contact Wellington Fish & Game.

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1

## 📍 **Pohangina Valley East Bridge\***

From SH3 turn off to Ashhurst. Travel northwards along Cambridge Street and it will merge into Pohangina Valley Road. Drive for approximately 8.5km to an area called Raumai where you then turn right onto Pohangina Valley East Road. Continue along this road for about 13km until you reach a turnoff to Churchill Drive or right hand turn onto Pohangina Valley East Road. Take the right hand turn onto Pohangina Valley East Road and drive for another 12km or until you reach a bridge that crosses the Pohangina River. At either end of the bridge there is access to the river via small tracks. For those looking to extend their angling, there is an excellent campground right next to the river at Piripiri, immediately downstream of the bridge on the true left side.

2

## 📍 **Churchill Drive\***

Follow the directions to Raumai for access #1 above. When you get to Raumai, turn right onto Pohangina Valley East Road. Continue along this road for about 13km until you reach the turnoff to Churchill Drive or right hand turn onto Pohangina Valley East Road. Continue straight/veer left along Churchill Drive for about 1km to reach a bridge. Access to the river is from this bridge. There is another excellent campground and picnic area at this site for those looking to extend their angling.

3

## 📍 **Gravel Pit**

Follow the directions to Raumai for access #1 above. When you get to Raumai, turn right onto Pohangina Valley East Road. Drive for approximately 9km past the Raumai picnic area and you will see a gravel pit on your left which you can park in and gain access to the river.

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### 📍Raumai Picnic Area

From SH3 turn off to Ashhurst. Travel northwards along Cambridge Street and it will merge into Pohangina Valley Road. Drive for approximately 8.5km along Pohangina Valley Road to an area called Raumai where you then turn right onto Pohangina Valley East Road. After approximately 1km you will reach an area just before the bridge on your right where you may enter and park. There is plenty of space to park and this is a great spot to have a family picnic or BBQ. It is also a very popular place for swimming in summer so it pays to move well away from the swimming holes before you start fishing.

5

### 📍Saddle Road Bridge

From SH3 turn off to Ashhurst. Travel northwards along Cambridge Street and turn right at either Lincoln Street, Worcester Street or Wyndham Street. Drive for about 300m along either of these streets to reach Salisbury Street. Turn left and head northwards until the road veers right and goes down a hill. Travel down this hill and continue for about 1km to reach the Saddle Road Bridge. Access is at the end of the bridge down a gravel track.

6

### 📍State Highway 3 Bridge

Between Ashhurst and the Manawatu Gorge on SH3 is a bridge. On the Ashhurst side there is a parking area with a track that leads down to the Manawatu River. From here, head upstream about 400m to reach the confluence between the Pohangina and Manawatu rivers. There is plenty of walking and four-wheel-drive access up the true right side of the Pohangina River.

**Access information online: [www.fishandgame.nz/access.org/wellington](http://www.fishandgame.nz/access.org/wellington)**

Access online  
by scanning  
the QR Code



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NEW ZEALAND



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