On Thursday, March 7, we were leaving Taupo for New Plymouth. Before we left, we went to the local bakery and got breakfast pies. Then, we departed for Taupo around 8:30am, heading for New Plymouth. As part of our trip to New Plymouth, we decided to take the route along the Forgotten Highway, which only added about 20-30 minutes on our journey. Along the drive, we stopped at the burial site for the pioneer, James Morgan. We also took a pit stop at the Tangarakau Gorge. A little further down the road was Moki Tunnel, also known as “Hobbit’s Hole.” After Moki, we drove over the Tahora saddle, Whangamomona saddle, and the Pohokura saddle. As we peaked the Pohokura saddle, Patrick was able to spot the Tokaanu Volcano.

At the base of the volcano, we were able to take great pictures of the volcano. It was rare that we were able to see the peak because usually there is a lot of cloud coverage. Here is a picture of the volcano and its peak: