

## 5. KAMO AND TIKIPUNGA SHARED PATHS

The fully accessible Kamo and Tikipunga shared paths are shared off-road routes that connect the city centre and residential suburbs. The Kamo Shared Path follows the existing rail corridor.

- 🕒 2 hours one way 🚶 6.5km one way 📌 Easy to Medium
- 📍 Forum North Carpark, Lupton Avenue or Kensington Park
- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

## 6. PARIHAKA SCENIC RESERVE

This ancient volcanic cone dominates the Whangārei skyline and the summit offers panoramic views over the city, harbour and beyond. Read the stories and history of the maunga (mountain) and other landmarks that can be seen from the viewing platform. A special carved commemorative stone at the lookout summit represents the mauri (life essence) of the mountain, inspiring a sense of gravity and significance at the lookout. The summit is home to a memorial to New Zealanders who died in World War II. The obelisk, unveiled in 1957, glows red in the night sky and is a local landmark.

There are three bush tracks to choose from. The Dobbie and Drummond tracks are both accessible from Mair Park, while the Ross Track begins at the top of Dundas Road.

- 🚶 Drummond Track 1.1km to the summit
- 🚶 Dobbie Track 500m to the summit
- 🚶 Ross Track 1.3km to the summit
- 🕒 1.5 hours return 📌 Medium
- 📍 Rurumoki Street (Mair Park) or Dundas Road
- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

### 6a. Goetsee Track

Goetsee Track trails through harvested exotic pine forest that is slowing reverting back to native forest, a process which may take decades. Meanwhile, the gorse acts as a nurse cover and wilding pines are controlled as they grow. Please take care – this track is shared with mountain bikers.

- 🚶 Whareora Road or Forest Track to Parihaka summit 2.7km
- 🕒 1 hour one way 📌 Medium
- 📍 Whareora Road or Abbey Caves Road
- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

## DISCOVER WHANGĀREI CITY AND ITS SURROUNDS OFF-ROAD

This brochure provides a sample of the wonderful walks you can enjoy in Whangārei Central and the wider district.

Whangārei Central is nestled between the green hills of Pukenui Western Hills Forest and Parihaka Reserves. The city and these forests are connected by a network of more than 20km of off-road tracks.

The Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai at the Town Basin connects to the Onerahi Shared Path. This path links to the Boswell Track and Beach Road on the Onerahi foreshore.

The fully accessible Kamo, Tikipunga, Raumanga and Onerahi shared paths are shared off-road routes that connect the city centre and residential suburbs.

Enjoy more challenging forest walks and tracks between the city centre, the Quarry Art Centre and Whangārei Quarry Gardens. The Hātea River Walk connects several key locations: Otuihau – Whangārei Falls, A H Reed Memorial Park, Parihaka Reserves and the summit of Mt Parihaka. The Parihaka Forest Track, Goetsee Tracks and Mackesy Tracks connect to Abbey Caves Reserve and then back to the city centre.

Visit WhangareiNZ.com for more information, or contact the Whangārei isite Information Centre for helpful local knowledge. Phone 09 438 1079 or email info@whangareinz.com

## WHAT IS A SHARED PATH?

Shared paths offer a road-separated option for recreational and commuter cycling and walking. These paths are used by cyclists, pedestrians and mobility scooters. When using shared paths, please stay to the left, maintain a polite speed and distance when passing others, and use the pavement.



### 6b. Parihaka Forest Track

The Parihaka Forest Track runs from Abbey Caves Road to the Parihaka summit. The Goetsee Track links the Parihaka Forest Track and A H Reed Memorial Park.

- 🕒 1 hour one way 📌 Medium

🚶 Parihaka summit to Abbey Caves Road 2km plus short road section to Abbey Caves Reserve

📍 Multiple entry points and parking including Abbey Caves Road - Mountain Bike car park, A H Reed Memorial Park and Town Basin

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

### 6c. Mackesy Bush Track

The Mackesy Track, which features large kauri trees, connects to the Hātea Loop and Onerahi Shared Path to the greater Parihaka Reserves and Abbey Caves Reserve.

- 🕒 45min 🚶 1.4km 📌 Medium to difficult

📍 Dundas Road or Pohe Island (Riverside)

- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

## 7. ABBEY CAVES RESERVE

An outstanding landscape with naturally sculptured, wild and surreal limestone outcrops and bluffs that are a photographer's dream. Walk beneath the mature podocarp-hardwood forest with fine specimens of puriri trees.

Access is over a wooden stile and down a series of box steps onto a walkway of grass. Waymarks identify the walkway and there are step stiles over internal fences. Livestock may be grazing freely.

- 🕒 1 hour return

🚶 1.6km

- 📌 Medium

📍 Parking available 200m up the road from the reserve entrance on Abbey Caves Road.

- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

## 8. PUKENUI FOREST

### 8a. Pukenui Forest Loop

This loop walk guides you through Pukenui Forest, home to the pekapeka/long-tailed bat and North Island brown kiwi. To access the Pukenui Forest Loop, turn right at the gated forest entrance (don't enter the fenced section, this leads to the longer Tairere Ridge Track). The track follows the boundary fence for a short distance, crosses a stream and reaches an intersection. This is the starting point of the loop itself, from where you can walk the track in either direction. The trail is steep in some areas and may be slippery after rain.

- 🕒 3-4 hours 🚶 8.2km loop walk 📌 Easy to medium

📍 Amalin Drive 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

### 8b. Tairere Forest Loop

The Tairere Forest Loop ascends through various landscapes and forests, including nikau, rimu, kauri and tairere trees. There are several steep inclines and the track is basic. Follow the orange markers for direction. The walk starts at the entrance of the fenced forest and eventually connects to the Pukenui Forest Loop track. It can be walked in either direction; clockwise has a more favourable gradient.

- 🕒 4-5 hours 🚶 8.9km loop walk 📌 Difficult

📍 Amalin Drive 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

## 9. CORONATION SCENIC RESERVE (WESTERN HILLS)

The Coronation Scenic Reserve, also known as the Western Hills, is the bush-clad hills to the west of Whangārei city. The reserve is part of the larger Pukenui Forest and has a network of walking tracks. It was purchased in 1912 and was named to commemorate the coronation of King George V.

There are two Māori pā sites and over 100 storage pits. Gold mining took place next to the Rust Track in the 1870s.

Note that these track can be slippery. Please take care and follow the orange waymarkers.

- 🚫 Strictly no dogs are allowed in the reserve as it is home to kiwi.

📍 Kauika Road West, Selwyn Avenue (access from Quarry Arts Centre), Russell Road (directly on your left exiting SH1) and Quarry Gardens – Russell Road

### 9a. Frank Holman Memorial Track

Accessed from either Russell Road or Kauika Road West, there are steep inclines at both ends of the track. It passes through impressive stands of mature native trees, a pā site, nikau groves and views of the city and harbour.

From the Kauika Road West end of the track, there is an option to turn right on the Kauika Road West link for a shorter, circular walk, which passes a lookout over the city.

Close to the Russell Road end of the track, there is a short detour via the Rust Track that takes you to the site of a former goldmine.

- 🕒 1.5 hours one way 🚶 3.2km 📌 Difficult

📍 Kauika Road West or Russell Road

- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

### 9b. Selwyn Avenue Link

This signposted track starts from the Quarry Arts Centre at the end of Selwyn Avenue where there is a grass carpark. The track is surfaced and there are numerous steps and board walks.

After about 300 metres, there is an offshoot track that leads to a Māori pā site. The main track continues up to meet the Frank Holman Memorial Track at the ridge.

- 🕒 30 minutes 🚶 680 metres 📌 Difficult

📍 Selwyn Avenue (Quarry Arts Centre)

- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

### 9c. Quarry Gardens Link

Starting just past the cafe, the track winds its way up a steep path to meet the Frank Holman Memorial Track. At this point, walkers can choose to return back to the gardens or carry on and complete different sections of the track, exiting at either Russell Road, the Quarry Arts Centre or Kauika Road West.

- 🕒 1 hour one way

🚶 1km

- 📌 Medium to difficult

📍 Whangārei Quarry Gardens, when open, or entrances to Coronation Reserve

- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed

## 10. RAUMANGA SHARED PATH

The 2.5km Raumanga Shared Path connects Raumanga to the city centre via Tarewa Park and the Whangārei site Information Centre, and then joins with the Kamo Shared Path which connects suburbs north of the city.

- 🕒 45 minutes one way 🚶 2.5km 📌 Easy

📍 Raumanga Valley Reserve, site Information Centre or city carparks

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

## 11. RAUMANGA FALLS

Enjoy the pleasant walk from Raumanga Valley Reserve through native forest to discover the 15m-high cascading waterfalls with naturally formed pools that are part of the Te Hihi Stream flowing down from the Pukenui Forest.

- 🕒 30 minutes return from Raumanga Valley Reserve

🚶 Approximately 1km

- 📌 Easy to Medium

📍 Raumanga Valley Reserve

- 🐾 Dogs are allowed and can be run off the leash but must be under the control of their owners at all times.

## 12. ŌTAIKA VALLEY WALK

The Ōtaika Valley Walk leads hikers through native bush and farmland, ending at Raumanga Heights. Start at the Ōtaika Valley Road entrance and climb steeply to the ridgeline for great views, then descend over several streams. The trail ends at a kissing gate, where you can either return or cross open pasture following orange posts to reach Raumanga Heights Drive.

- 🕒 2-3 hours one way 📌 Easy

🚶 2.5km to reserve, 4.5km to Raumanga entrance

📍 Ōtaika Valley Road (SH15 - not shown on map), end of Raumanga Heights Drive

- 🚫 No dogs allowed



## WALKING THE DOG

Let your dog off leash at the Dog Exercise Park at William Fraser Memorial Park, purpose designed and built for dogs to have fun! Detailed information on other dog exercise areas can be found at [wdc.govt.nz/DogRules](http://wdc.govt.nz/DogRules)

- 🌟 Dogs on a leash are allowed along all of the Hātea River Walk between Otuihau – Whangārei Falls and the Town Basin.

However, dogs are NOT allowed anywhere on the west side of the mountain between the walkway (which mostly follows the Hātea River) and the Parihaka summit.

East of the summit, dogs on a leash are allowed.



## HELP SAVE KIWI

Whangārei District is making great progress in bringing the iconic kiwi bird back to our wild forests. Please do not take your dog, even on a leash, into forests or tracks that are signposted 'No Dogs' – any dog can kill kiwi.



## HELP SAVE KAURI

Kauri dieback disease is killing one of Aotearoa / New Zealand's taonga (treasures) – our unique kauri forests. Help save our kauri trees and stay on the tracks. If there is a cleaning station at a track, always follow the instructions. Find out more at [KauriDieback.co.nz](http://KauriDieback.co.nz)

Whangārei Takiwā

Arohātia!

# WHANGĀREI CENTRAL WALKS



Enjoy spectacular walks all year round in subtropical Whangārei

WhangareiNZ.com

## LEGEND

- 🕒 Approximate time to walk the track
- 🚶 Wheelchair access
- 🚶 Distance of track
- 📌 Track grade
- 🚫 Strictly no dogs allowed
- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed
- 📍 Parking

All times and distances are approximate. Please check the weather and ensure you are appropriately prepared before embarking.

## 1. HĀTEA RIVER WALK

🚶 Follow the walkway symbols down the Hātea River between Otuihau – Whangārei Falls and the Town Basin, immersing yourself in the sights and sounds of the beautiful river, native forest and farmland along the way.

The walk can be done in its entirety or enjoyed in shorter sections by accessing it at Mair Park, Whareora Road and/or A H Reed Memorial Park.

- 🕒 3 hours one way 🚶 6km 📌 Easy to medium

📍 Town Basin, Rurumoki Street (Mair Park), Whareora Road (A H Reed Memorial Park) or Boundary Road (Otuihau – Whangārei Falls)

When parking, make sure you are parked legally for the length of time required to complete the walk.

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

### 1a. Otuihau – Whangārei Falls to A H Reed Memorial Park

🚶 A loop walkway around a stunning 26m-high waterfall. Three viewing spots along the track offer fantastic photo opportunities and there are many picnic spots within the reserve. The viewing platform closest to the carpark is wheelchair accessible. The gravel track leading down to the base of the waterfall is fairly steep in some places.

- 🕒 15-30 minute loop 🚶 580 metres 📌 Easy to medium

🚶 Partially wheelchair accessible 📍 Boundary Road

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

Walk one of the tracks down either side of the waterfall and follow along the river and through the forest. Cross the swing bridge and continue on through more forest and farmland. Please keep gates closed for livestock.

- 🕒 45 minutes one way 🚶 2.1km 📌 Easy to medium

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

### 1b. A H Reed Memorial Park to Parihaka Scenic Reserve and Mair Park

A H Reed Memorial Park is a remnant of the original Northland kauri forest. View the 500-year-old kauri trees from the treetop canopy boardwalk. The bubbling Wai Koromiko Stream runs through the middle of the park and walkers can take a short detour to the 23m-high Pukenui Falls.

- 🕒 Allow an hour 🚶 1.4km 📌 Easy 🚶 Strictly no dogs allowed

📍 There are three carparks for visitors to use. The main lower carpark is on the left, 1.5km from the turn into Whareora Road, the middle carpark is 300m further on the left and the upper carpark just off Clapham Road, is another 300m along the road.

🚶 Continue along Whareora Road for 1km (turning right) either on the footpath or along the river's edge on the other side of the road, and then enter the Parihaka Scenic Reserve, following the track to Mair Park.

- 🕒 50 minutes one way 🚶 1.3km 📌 Easy to medium

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

### 1c. Parihaka Scenic Reserve and Mair Park to the Town Basin

🚶 Walk past the stone footbridge, which takes you to Mair Park on the other side of the river, follow the markers at Vale Road and Ewing Road and onto the boardwalk through the mangrove forest. Cross Riverside Drive and the Canopy Bridge to the Town Basin.

- 🕒 40 minutes 🚶 1.3km 📌 Easy to medium

📍 Town Basin and city carparks, Rurumoki Street

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

## 2. HĀTEA LOOP – HUARAHI O TE WHAI

The Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai is a fully accessible 4.2km walkway beginning and ending at the Town Basin, Whangārei, a picturesque international yachting marina with restaurants, cafes and shopping. The entire loop is accessible for walking, jogging, pushbikes, mobility aids, scooters and push-chairs.

Along the walkway, enjoy the Sculpture Trail and murals by local artists. Read the history of the area on Heritage Panels. Walk across the elegant footbridge 'Kotuitui Whitinga' and 'Te Mataua Pohe' bascule (opening) bridge.

- 🕒 1 hour loop 🚶 4.2km 📌 Easy 🚶 Wheelchair accessible

📍 Town Basin carparks off Lower Dent Street, Bascule Carpark off Port Road or Pohe Island off Riverside Drive

🐾 Dogs must be on a leash at all times or take a short detour to the Public Dog Park on Dave Culham Drive, where they can run free.

## 3. ONERAHI SHARED PATH

The Onerahi Shared Path is an off-road, sealed path that connects the Hātea Loop with the Waimahanga Network. The shared path section is fully accessible.

- 🕒 3.5 hours return 🚶 Approximately 12.5km return between the Town Basin and Beach Road 📌 Easy 🚶 Wheelchair access

📍 Town Basin carparks off Lower Dent Street, Bascule Carpark off Port Road or Pohe Island off Riverside Drive

- 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed

## 4. WAIMAHANGA NETWORK

The Boswell Track, suitable for walkers, cyclists and buggies, begins at the end of Waimahanga Road and partially follows the course of a disused railway line, passing through a tidal ecosystem rich in mangroves. You can enter or exit via George Point Road, the Waverley Street Link, or Cockburn and Pah roads.

From Pah Road, the path follows the inner harbour along Beach Road to a playground, public toilets and the Onerahi boat ramp.

🕒 50 minutes one way from Boswell Track to Cockburn and Pah roads. 40 minutes one way along Beach Road to the playground

🚶 Boswell Track 2.5km 🚶 George Point Track 155m

🚶 Waverley Street link 1.2km 🚶 Pah Road to boat ramp 2.4km

📍 Waimahanga Road, George Point Road, Waverly Street, Beach Road, Cockburn Road, Pah Road

- 📌 Easy to medium 🐾 Dogs on leash are allowed



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Cover image: A H Reed Memorial Park

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