

**CITY & SURROUNDS**  
**TOWN BASIN**  
**TŪTŪKĀKĀ COAST**  
**WHANGĀREI HEADS**  
**BREAM BAY & WAIPŪ**

# *Whangārei District* **Love it Here!**

**VISITOR GUIDE**



**i site** Visitor Information

[WhangareiNZ.com](http://WhangareiNZ.com)



NEW ZEALAND

# EXPLORE

## THE WHANGĀREI DISTRICT & TE TAI TOKERAU NORTHLAND

### KEY TO MAP

- Twin Coast
- Discovery Highway
- Alternative tourist drive
- Other major roads
- Airports
- Cities and towns
- Journey planning – check with Waka Kotahi for road closure information.



### TAKE THE SCENIC ROUTE

Follow the Twin Coast Discovery Highway signs and discover the best of both the East and West Coasts.

### DRIVE TIMES

Auckland	→	Warkworth	1 hour
Warkworth	→	Whangārei	1 hour 30 mins
Whangārei	→	Paihia	1 hour
Paihia	→	Mangonui	1 hour 15 mins
Mangonui	→	Kaitiāia	35 mins
Kaitiāia	→	Omapere	2 hours
Omapere	→	Dargaville	1 hour 10 mins
Dargaville	→	Wellsford	1 hour 45 mins
Wellsford	→	Auckland	1 hour 25 min



# NAU MAI, HAERE MAI KI WHANGĀREI TERENGA PARĀOA

📍 Hātea River Walk

## HI AND WELCOME TO WHANGĀREI

Just a couple of hours north of Auckland, discover our small, attractive city and the beautiful coastal areas of Waipū, Ruakākā, Whangārei Heads and the Tūtūkākā Coast.

Enjoy superb walks, beautiful beaches and picturesque waterfalls. Play outside in our wonderful natural environment; kayak, cycle and mountain bike, dive, snorkel, paddleboard, surf, fish, golf and go horse trekking. Enjoy the antics of kiwi birds at Northland's only Kiwi House.

Connect with our unique heritage on a Māori cultural tour and in our museums which hold our precious heritage stories. Explore fantastic art and craft galleries, and follow impressive sculpture and street art trails. Don't miss the extraordinary Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery at the Town Basin.

Enjoy boutique shopping and frequent markets and then relax with a delicious choice of dining throughout the district. We'd love to meet you!

### Whangārei

Need a little help pronouncing Whangārei?  
Try saying Far-ngah-ray with the "ng" as in 'singer'.

And if you can get a soft roll on the 'r', even better.  
Easy aye!

📍 Cover photo: Town Basin, Whangārei

## WHANGĀREI TERENGA PARĀOA

Whangārei was a well established and thriving Māori settlement by the time Captain Cook arrived in 1769. Many prominent hill and land features around the harbour and river valleys show signs of being part of a pā (fortified village), garden or food storage pit.

Whangārei Harbour was a waypoint for Māori tribes from the north travelling south by waka (canoe). Early missionary records show as many as 3000 Māori would camp on the shores of this bountiful harbour.

Parāoa is the Māori name for the sperm whale, which was highly regarded by Māori. Symbolically the Parāoa represented persons of chiefly status. Legend has it that great assemblies of these whales, that gathered to feed there during summer, inspired the harbour's true name – Whangārei Terenga Parāoa, meaning 'the swimming place of the whales'.



## ACCESSIBLE WHANGĀREI

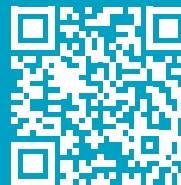
Whangārei has a mostly flat, compact city centre which helps with easy access. Access Whangārei has a brochure which provides accessibility information and a map which highlights mobility parking spaces and accessible amenities including toilets, attractions, accommodation, conference, shopping and dining options. Brochures and assistance are available at the Whangārei i site Visitor Centre or you can download it from: [www.WhangareiNZ.com/accessible-Whangarei](http://www.WhangareiNZ.com/accessible-Whangarei)

Recognising that accessibility means different things to different people, please refer to the brochure for the specific definitions that have been used to define the facilities' accessibility.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Discover wonderful places to go, great things to see and do and where to stay, and check out our handy visitor maps and guides.

[WhangareiNZ.com](http://WhangareiNZ.com)



## CLIMATE

Whangārei district is part of Northland, New Zealand's warmest and only subtropical region, with an average of 2,000 sunshine hours every year. The hottest months are January and February and winters are mild – there's no snow here!

## AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Spring: (Sep-Nov) 17°C high, 10°C low

Summer: (Dec-Feb) 24°C high, 14°C low

Autumn: (Mar-May) 21°C high, 11°C low

Winter: (Jun-Aug) 16°C high, 07°C low

## TALK TO THE EXPERTS

Local or visitor, our friendly team at the Whangārei i site Visitor Centre make it easy for you!

We'll help you plan your visit, not only in Whangārei but anywhere in Aotearoa!

We offer a FREE booking service for accommodation and activities with free maps and brochures, as well as a great range of giftware and souvenirs.

Event and transport tickets also available.

Open 7 days (closed only Christmas Day).

**Whangārei i site Visitor Centre**  
Tarewa Park, 92 Otaika Road  
09 438 1079

Event tickets 09 470 3032  
[info@WhangareiNZ.com](mailto:info@WhangareiNZ.com)

[WhangareiNZ.com](http://WhangareiNZ.com)

*Whangārei District*  
**Love it Here!**

 **Whangarei**  
District Council



**i site** 



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📍 The Bream Head skyline with Manaia and Te Whara, and offshore islands Taranga and Marotere



# Love our DISTRICT!

*Discover, escape, explore and enjoy all the great things to see  
and do in the subtropical Whangārei district.*

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Culture

Discover and explore sites of significance to tangata whenua; some natural places like mountains and rivers, some built like bridges and pou (carved poles). Be embraced, take your knowledge, understanding and connection to the next level with a genuine Māori cultural experience.

**More on page 6**

## Walks & Trails

Walk and hike all year round in sub-tropical Whangārei. Meander slowly along an easy track through native forest or challenge yourself with an all-day hike that follows an ancient Māori trail. Discover beautiful waterfalls, streams and rivers, white sandy beaches and coastal panoramas that will take your breath away. Enjoy a network of walks that connect the city and surrounding forests including the fully accessible waterside Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai walkway in the heart of the city. **More on page 10**

## Beaches & Water Activities

The Whangārei district has many superb harbour and East Coast beaches which fringe the Pacific Ocean. Explore secluded coves or long, sweeping white sand beaches; surf, swim, dive, snorkel, fish, kayak, paddleboard, wakeboard or just dig your toes into the sand and relax. **More on page 16**

## Waterfalls

Discover six stunning waterfalls including 'world-famous' Otuihau – Whangārei Falls, a picturesque 26m high waterfall with picnic spots and native forest. **More on page 18**

## Gardens

The district's climate means a long growing season, lush gardens and 'farmgate' subtropical edibles. Enjoy public gardens and parks along with garden trail events. **More on page 23**

## Cycling

Discover and enjoy a network of fun, scenic cycle paths, a bike park with circuit, pump, and BMX track, and MTB tracks for riding all year round.

**More on page 20**

## Markets

Savour New Zealand's first growers market and many other wonderful craft, art, community, food and antique markets, all with treasures to discover.

**More on page 15**

## Art & Craft

Discover Sculpture and Art Trails, murals, galleries, exhibitions, festivals and events showcasing unique works of art and craft in all mediums by local and international artists. **More on page 24**

## Museums

Reflect on and learn about the fascinating history and heritage of the Whangārei district as told through unique collections that include Māori taonga (treasures), settler collections, vintage vehicles and fascinating clocks.

## Wildlife

Visit Northland's only nocturnal kiwi house to enjoy the antics of our national bird, along with beautiful native gecko and fascinating weta.

## Kids Stuff

Indoors or outdoors, fantastic parks, an adventure playground, heaps of walks, mountains and sculptures to climb, bridges to marvel at, jetties for fishing off, snorkelling, crazy clocks, jails, moa bones, kiwi, and a whole lot more. **More on page 9**

## Fishing & Golf

Cast off from a charter boat, from one of the jetties, beaches or rocks dotted around the harbour and coast. Launch your own boat from ramps throughout the district. Tee off at golf courses in beautiful rural or seaside locations.

## Town Basin

Enjoy this waterside precinct packed full of superb experiences; craft and art galleries, cafés and restaurants, shopping, fantastic playgrounds, markets and museums along with frequent events and entertainment.

**More on page 37**

## Poor Knights Islands

A world-renowned marine and nature reserve and scuba and snorkelling paradise. If you're not a diver, you will still enjoy kayaking, snorkelling, paddleboarding or simply relaxing on board a comfortable cruise boat.


**More on page 55**





# Love our CULTURE!

*Tangata Whenua – People of the Land. Māori make up nearly one third of the population of Whangārei so you can expect to meet us wherever you go. We share many of the things and places we love and hold in high regard.*

 Gathering seafood at Pātaua South

# CULTURE

*Haere mai ngā manuhiri  
Haere mai e, tūārangi e  
Mauria mai o koutou aroha i  
Te kaupapa nei  
Tēnā koutou  
Tēnā koutou  
Tēnā koutou katoa*

**Tangata whenua, or the indigenous people, of New Zealand are strongly connected to the environment. Before Pākehā or Europeans arrived, Māori dominated Aotearoa, land of the long white cloud.**

Tangata whenua are the kaitiaki (protectors) of all living forces like the land, forests and waterways. We pride ourselves on manaakitanga or welcoming and caring for our visitors, so hope that you may be better informed and enriched by New Zealand's rich history and beautiful Māori culture. Today, Māori make up nearly one third of the population of Whangārei so you can expect to meet us wherever you go. From our creative Māori artists to our innovative and entrepreneurial business people, we are what make Whangārei special and unique.

Through the Māori Cultural Guide, we share many of the things and places we love and hold in high regard. Most of these have been provided to us by Papatūānuku, our earth mother. We are the kaitiaki of all living forces like the land, forests and waterways. The Whangārei Cultural Guide tells the unique stories and legends of Whangārei Terenga Parāoa. Call into the Whangārei isite, Tarewa Park to collect your copy, or download it from [WhangareiNZ.com/kiara](http://WhangareiNZ.com/kiara).



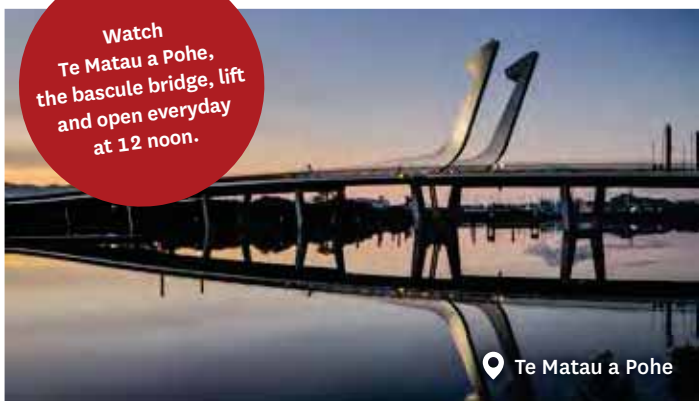
📍 Hātea River, downstream from Otuihau – Whangārei Falls



The Library Pou



Parihaka Summit



Watch  
Te Matau a Pohe,  
the bascule bridge, lift  
and open everyday  
at 12 noon.

Te Matau a Pohe

## CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

### Mt Parihaka

Parihaka was sculpted by early Māori inhabitants into a pā or great fortress, reputedly the largest in all Aotearoa. Battles were fought and after the people of the pā were overwhelmed by attacking forces in the battle of Ōparakau in 1827, a large section of the mountain was declared tapu (sacred). A special carved kōhatu (rock) at the lookout summit represents the mauri (life essence) of the mountain.

Walking tracks lead you through native flora and fauna where native medicinal plants are still collected and from the summit you can see other important landmarks and maunga (mountains).

### Heritage & Sculpture Trail

As part of the Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai walkway, you can read the heritage panels telling the stories of both Māori and European settlement. Enjoy sculptures with significant cultural meaning, created by local artists.

### Otuihau – Whangārei Falls

The waterfall and river have a spiritual, healing and cultural connection for tangata whenua. The waterways that flow in and out of Otuihau provided a variety of food sources especially tuna (eels) and koura (freshwater crayfish). The base of these majestic falls is the beginning of the Hātea River, that flows to the Whangārei Harbour. Otuihau is a wonderful place to reflect and connect with nature.

### Ten Carved Pou

Ten carved pou (carved poles) representing many of the cultures that enrich Whangārei can be seen at the entrance to the Whangārei Library. Five of the poles were carved by, and represent Māori. In what is believed to be a world first, the rest have been carved or decorated by other cultural groups and one, the Generic Pou, represents all cultures.

### Te Matau a Pohe

Te Matau a Pohe, the name of this rolling bascule bridge, means ‘The Fish Hook of Pohe’ and reflects the early history of the people of this area. The design is inspired by the shape of the Māori fish hook and the prows of waka (canoe). Pohe was the Māori chief who welcomed the first settlers to Whangārei. He was skilled in manufacturing traditional fish hooks that settlers used in preference to the standard English hooks made of steel. Pohe also built bridges between the two cultures during the first years of English settlement amongst Māori and used his ranking to protect many of the first settlers from being killed.



## KIDS' STUFF

There are heaps of super activities for kids and families all around our district. Choose from horse trekking, kayaking, stand up paddleboarding, learning to surf, paintball games, monster scooters and mountain biking.

### Playgrounds

Enjoy two of our most popular kids' playgrounds at the Town Basin, including Pūtahi Park with a water feature (expect to get wet!). Across the river is the incredible destination adventure playground with large scale climbing structures, sandpit and heaps of swings.

### Walks

The Hātea Loop - Huarahi o te Whai is 4.2kms of fun with wide spaces, sculptures to climb, wildlife to spot and boats to watch. Don't miss Te Matau a Pohe (a bascule bridge) opening around midday each day.

The walk between AH Reed Memorial Park and Otuihau - Whangārei Falls is magic for kids. Follow the river, cross the bridges, discover loads of places to picnic, run and play. Have a 'race' from Mair Park to the top of Parihaka.

### Fishing

Throw a fishing line off the jetty on the Hātea Loop or at one of the many others throughout the district like the inner harbour jetties at Onerahi, Urquharts Bay or McLeod Bay, or the pedestrian bridges at Whananaki and Pātāua.

### Bikes

Check out the BMX and skate parks at Riverside Drive, Onerahi, Ngunguru and Ruakākā, and the circuit and pump tracks, and coaching area at Pohe Island Bike Park.

### Beaches

Choose from many sheltered beaches, often with shady trees and grassy areas to sit on. Some have playgrounds, picnic areas, BBQs and public toilets. Check out Tamaterau, the estuary at Pātāua South, Waipū Cove, One Tree Point, Whangaumu - Wellington Bay, Kowharewa Bay, McLeod Bay and Ōakura.

### Wildlife

Enjoy the antics of foraging kiwi and gorgeous geckos at Kiwi North.

### Jail, Bones, Trucks & Jeeps, Cuckoo Clocks & More

Check out an old jailhouse and 'real live' moa bones at Kiwi North. There's vintage and classic cars, motorcycles, trucks and jeeps at Packard Museum and Claphams National Clock Museum has heaps of crazy novelty clocks and a cacophony of cuckoo clocks.

Whangārei Libraries has a great selection of kids' books and resources, and activities for little kids and big kids are held regularly.

Phew! After all that, it's time to treat everyone to a 'sweet as' icecream...



📍 Poor Knights Islands fun



📍 Gecko at Kiwi North

# Love our WALKS!

*Enjoy spectacular walks all year round in subtropical Whangārei. Choose from trails in native forest, strolls on white sandy beaches and tracks with superb coastal vistas.*

# WALKS

Here is just a small selection of the fabulous walks you can enjoy in the Whangārei district. Ask at our information centres or visit [WhangareiNZ.com](http://WhangareiNZ.com) for more.

## Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai

A 4.2km shared loop path that follows the Hātea River, crossing two bridges and passing many interesting attractions along the way, including the Town Basin, with restaurants, cafés and shopping. Also enjoy the Heritage and Sculpture Trails, murals, destination adventure playground, the Camera Obscura and rolling ball clock. The entire loop is accessible for walking, jogging, pushbikes, mobility aids, scooters and push-chairs.

## Shared Paths that connect the city

Shared Paths are accessible, mostly off-road, sealed paths that can be walked or cycled. Dogs on leashes are allowed.

The 2.5km Raumanga Shared Path connects the suburb to the city centre via Tarewa Park and then joins with the 6.5km Te Kamo and Tikipunga Shared Path which follows the existing rail corridor and connects suburbs north of the city.

The 6.5km Onerahi Shared Path connects the city centre, Town Basin and Hātea Loop with the suburb of Onerahi and the Waimahanga Network of walks. The Shared Path section is fully accessible.

The Boswell Track 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 also enter or exit via George Point Road, the Waverley Street Link, or Cockburn and Pah Roads. From Pah Road, the path follows the attractive inner harbour along Beach Road to a playground, public toilets and the Onerahi boat ramp.

## 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 AH Reed Memorial Park.

**Otuihau – Whangārei Falls** 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.

**AH Reed Memorial Park** A remnant of the original Northland kauri forest with 500-year-old maturing kauri trees that can be viewed from a boardwalk in the forest canopy. The bubbling Wai Koromiko Stream runs through the middle of the park and there is a short detour to the 23m high Pukenui Falls.

**Parihaka Scenic Reserve & 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.

## Mt Manaia

Mt Manaia's summit provides a superb 360° vista of the Whangārei Harbour, Bream Bay, Taranga and Marotiri (the Hen & Chicks) and out to the ocean. It rises 420m above the entrance of the Whangārei Harbour and the striking silhouette of the rock formations, remnants of volcanic action, provides the most iconic view of the whole district.

This is a vigorous, hike up well maintained tracks with around 1,000 formed steps. Manaia features a large variety of beautiful, mature broadleaf trees, along with impressive stands of nikau. It is an important habitat for kiwi and other native birds and wildlife and strictly no dogs are allowed.

In Māori legend, the five key rock formations that make up Mt Manaia's skyline represent five people running a race across the mountain top; the paramount chief Manaia, his two children, Pito the beautiful wife he stole from the chief Hautatu and the aggrieved Hautatu who is in pursuit brandishing his mere (stone weapon). All five figures were turned to stone as they were struck by lightning by the God of Weather, Tāwhirimātea.



## Let the dogs out!



Let your dog off the leash at the **Dog Exercise Park** at William Fraser Memorial Park, purpose designed and built for dogs. More information about dog exercise areas can be found at: [www.wdc.govt.nz/dogs](http://www.wdc.govt.nz/dogs)



# WALKS

## Te Whara Track

Te Whara (Bream Head) Track is a challenging but rewarding hike. You will walk through some of the best coastal forest in New Zealand and be rewarded with truly breathtaking views of Northland's East Coast and offshore islands.

Dramatic volcanic outcrops and rock pinnacles are evidence that Whangārei Heads is part of a large family of dormant volcanoes. Rocks in the area can be dated back 135 million years and indicate that this land was part of Gondwanaland, the great continental mass that broke up and separated into smaller continental masses and islands in the Southern Hemisphere.

To minimise disturbance to the area and out of respect to local iwi, hapū and their ancestors, please do not venture off the marked tracks. No dogs are allowed.

Te Whara Track follows the ancient footprints of Manaia; a track that is at least 700 years old.

Te Whara was the principal wife of the rangatira (chief) Manaia. It was here that Manaia first met Puhi-moana-āriki, an early ancestor of the Ngāpuhi iwi and cautioned him with the words “Kei whara koe e Puhi i ngā tai e hāruru ana” (You may meet with disaster from the tides that thunder there).

Manaia's wife is said to have slighted Puhi and was turned into stone. She stands as the projecting up-thrust rock at the eastern-most point of Bream Head, known as 'Te Wahine iti a Manaia' ([www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)).



## Te Araroa – New Zealand's Trail

From the north, Te Araroa enters the Whangārei district at the Helena Bypass and includes Whananaki, Matapouri, Pātua North and South, Taiharuru and Bream Head and then through the Bream Trail onto the Mangawhai Walkway. Coastal camping, cabins and lodges are available along the trail. For detailed trail information, go to

[www.teararoa.org.nz](http://www.teararoa.org.nz)

## Tūtūkākā Coast, Whangārei Heads, Bream Bay and Waipū walks

The Whangārei district features an outstanding coastline with stunning coastal and forest walks. Well known walks include **Mt Manaia** and **Te Whara tracks**, both at Whangārei Heads.

There are many others to choose from; discover the longest footbridge in the Southern Hemisphere, stand beneath Tāne Moana, the largest kauri tree remaining on the East Coast, meander along boardwalks through pristine mangrove forests in tidal estuaries, spot rare and beautiful birds, maybe even hear a kiwi calling in the wild.



AH Reed Memorial Park



Glow Worms in the Milky Way Glow Worm Cave

Tomo Track - one of The Jurassic Walks

**A destination like no other, hosting a diverse range of nature-based activities and environments including the Milky Way Glow Worm Cave and The Jurassic Walks.**

See NZ's world-famous glow worms, pristine cave formations, stalactites, stalagmites and flow stones. Learn about the glow worms and geology of the newly opened Milky Way Glow Worm Cave. This is one of only a few caves in NZ where you can take photographs. The Jurassic Walks, spread over 320 acres, has multiple tracks through the karst limestone and biodiverse native bush.

Visit for the day or stay for several at one of our three tent or motorhome camping areas with cooking, toilet and shower facilities.

See website for tour times, prices, and so much more.

**Bush walks | Bike tracks | River swimming | Abseiling | Rock climbing | Friendly farm animals**








567 Waipū Caves Road, Waipū | 09 430 2722 | [waipucaves@gmail.com](mailto:waipucaves@gmail.com) | [www.waipucaves.nz](http://www.waipucaves.nz)




## CENTRAL WHANGĀREI

<b>Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai Walkway</b>	A fully accessible waterside walk that includes a sculpture trail and award-winning bridges. Dogs on leash allowed.	<b>1</b> 4.2kms	1 hour
<b>Hātea River Walks</b>	The full walk is between the Town Basin and Otuihau – Whangārei Falls. It follows the Hātea River and includes Mair Park and AH Reed Kauri Park. Dogs on leash allowed.	<b>2</b> 6kms	2.5 hours one way
<b>AH Reed Memorial Park</b>	Get up close and personal to giants of the forest with a treetop boardwalk among stately kauri trees.	<b>1</b> 890m loop	 25 min loop
<b>Parihaka Scenic Reserve</b>	Climb to the Parihaka summit where the lookout offers a panoramic view over the city.	<b>3</b> 2kms	 Up to 2 hours return
<b>Otuihau – Whangārei Falls</b>	This walk loops around the waterfall, crossing a footbridge at the bottom where a perfect photo opportunity awaits. Dogs on leash allowed.	<b>2</b> 1km	30 min loop
<b>Coronation Scenic Reserve</b>	Part of the larger Pukenui Forest and Western Hills that are the green backdrop for the city.	<b>4</b> 3.2kms	 90 mins one way
<b>Onerahi Shared Path</b>	A shared cycle and walkway that connects the Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai walkway with Onerahi and the Waimahanga Network.	<b>1</b> 6kms	1.5 hours return
<b>Waimahanga Network including Boswell Track</b>	Part of this track is formed on a disused railway embankment. See the rich, diverse ecology of mangrove forests that grow between sea level and the high tide line. Dogs on leash allowed.	<b>2</b> 2.5kms	45 mins one way
<b>Raumanga Falls</b>	Walk through the Raumanga Valley Scenic Reserve to cascading 15m waterfalls with naturally formed pools. Dogs are allowed but must be under control at all times.	<b>2</b> 1km	30 mins return

## WHANGĀREI HEADS

<b>Mt Manaia</b>	Manaia towers 420m above the Whangārei Harbour. This is a vigorous climb through beautiful native forest. The summit has breathtaking 360° views.	<b>3</b> 3.5kms	 2 hours return
<b>Te Whara Track</b>	Take up the challenge of this six hour walk through pristine native forest. You'll be rewarded with awe-inspiring panoramas.	<b>4</b> 7.5kms	 6 hours one way
<b>Smugglers Bay Loop Track</b>	A loop walk that takes you past an historic WWII gun emplacement. Follow the coastal track and discover beautiful Smugglers Bay.	<b>3</b> 3km loop	 2 hours
<b>Mt Aubrey – Reotahi Coastal Walkway</b>	A walk that skirts the Reotahi Marine Reserve with views over to the Marsden Point port and oil refinery.	<b>3</b> 2.8km loop	 2 hours
<b>Peach Cove</b>	This track runs up Bream Head Ridge and drops down into remote Peach Cove. Book the DOC hut and stay the night.	<b>4</b> 3.6kms	 3 hours return

## BREAM BAY

<b>Piroa Falls Track</b>	A short walk through native forest to a small waterfall that is big on beauty.	<b>2</b> 400m	 15 mins return
<b>Ruakākā Pipeline Road Track</b>	The track follows a gas pipeline and provides access to the back of the Bream Bay sand dunes.	<b>2</b> 3kms	 1 hour one way
<b>Waipū Caves Farm Park</b>	Forest and farm walking tracks in a karst limestone landscape.	<b>2-4</b> 10kms	 30 minutes to all day
<b>Waipū Caves Track</b>	Passing through the Waipū Caves Scenic Reserve, this walk features karst limestone formations, open farmland and regenerating forest.	<b>3</b> 4kms	 1.5 hours return
<b>Waipū Coastal Walkway</b>	See rock formations similar to the famous pancake rocks at Punakaiki, and incredible views of offshore islands Taranga (Hen) and Marotiri Islands (the Hen & Chicks).	<b>3</b> 2kms	1.5 hours return



## TŪTŪKĀKĀ

Matapōuri to Whale Bay	This trail follows the coast through native forest and has wonderful views of one of the world's most beautiful coastlines. Be sure to allow extra time for a swim and a picnic.	3 3kms	1.5 hours return
Whangaumu Bay to Ngunguru Estuary	From the south end of Whangaumu Bay, a stepped track leads you to the lookout and then down to Ngunguru. Dogs on leash allowed.	2 1.5kms	1.5 hours return Only attempt two hours either side of low tide
Tāne Moana Walkway	A hike to the largest kauri tree remaining on the East Coast. At 11m in circumference, he is second only to the famous Tāne Mahuta.	3 5kms	2 hours return
Tūtūkākā Headland/Lighthouse Walkway	A heart pumping walk with steep climbs and descents as well as spectacular views up and down the Tūtūkākā Coast.	3 2kms	1.5 hours return Only attempt one hour either side of low tide
Whananaki Walkway	A well-graded track with remarkable coastal and rural views. Walk the longest footbridge in the Southern Hemisphere. Dogs on leash allowed on walkway only – strictly no dogs on the beach.	4 5.8kms	4-5 hours return
Mimiwhangata Coastal Park Walks	Shady beaches, rocky shores, archaeological sites, farmland, native vegetation and bird-spotting.	3 500m to 4.5kms	15 mins to 4 hours
Whangaruru North Head Walking Tracks	Walk through native forest along ridgelines with panoramic views of the harbour and open coastlines.	3 2km and 4km loops	2 to 4 hours
Tāheke Waterfall Track	A 3km loop track that features regenerating kauri. At 46m high, Tāheke waterfall is the highest in Northland.	3 3kms	1.5 hour loop
Waro Lake & Limestone Reserve	A lovely calm lake and karst landscape with superb limestone rock features.	1 2.2kms	1 hour

## MARKETS

Whangārei is the proud home of New Zealand's first growers market, held every Saturday morning all year round, is where our locals go for fresh, high quality produce.

Don't miss the many other wonderful craft, art, antique, food, pop-up and community markets held regularly throughout the district, all with treasures to discover.

The popular Artisans Market and Canopy Night (food) Markets are held at the Town Basin from Labour Weekend to Easter.



The Artisans Market, Town Basin

Times for walks are guidelines only. Refer to [www.wdc.govt.nz/walks](http://www.wdc.govt.nz/walks) and [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz) for more info.  
Be safe – ensure you are appropriately prepared.

Walk Difficulty






1 Easy 2 Easy-Medium 3 Medium 4 Difficult

# Love our BEACHES!

*With no point of the Whangārei district more than 40kms from the Pacific Ocean and over 100 beaches to choose from, make the most of our subtropical coastal paradise offering breathtaking seascapes and wonderful adventures.*



## BREAM BAY

Ruakākā	Blue water and white sand as far as the eye can see. Lifeguards patrol in summer.	  30 mins
Langs Beach	Pōhutukawa fringed beach with white sand, rocky headlands and outstanding views of offshore islands.	  45 mins
Waipū Cove	A white sand coastal beach with handy shops, cafés and grassy areas – great for kids. Lifeguards patrol in summer.	 40 mins

## WHANGĀREI HEADS

Tamaterau	Sheltered within the Whangārei harbour, this is a great beach for the kids.	20 mins
McLeod Bay	A popular choice for families with sheltered swimming, playground, picnic and BBQ area.	30 mins
Reotahi	A pebbly beach within a marine reserve which is great for snorkelling.	35 mins
Smugglers Bay	Walk 20 mins over farmland and your reward is a secluded cove with white sand.	40 mins
Ocean Beach	A popular surf beach with lifeguards on patrol in summer.	  45 mins
Taiharuru	A pristine example of the fascinating mangrove forest eco-system. Great kayaking.	40 mins
Pātaua South	Choose from a sheltered estuary or ocean-side beach with a footbridge that links the two.	40 mins
Pātaua North	A long sweeping ocean-side beach. Note that there is no vehicle access from Pātaua South. Drive via Whareora Road.	 45 mins



Summer lifeguards




Surfing beach

## TŪTŪKĀKĀ COAST

Ngunguru	A sheltered estuary alongside the Ngunguru village with playground, shops and cafés.	25 mins
Whangaumu/Wellingtons Bay	Plenty of shady trees and grassy spaces. Great for kids or relaxing with a book.	35 mins
Matapouri	Cradled between rocky headlands, Matapouri offers great swimming for the whole family.	40 mins
Whale Bay	A 10 minute walk through native forest opens up to this idyllic, secluded bay.	40 mins
Woolleys Bay	Park right by the beach and enjoy body-surfing.	 45 mins
Sandy Bay	One of the East Coast's most popular surf beaches.	 55 mins
Whananaki Estuary	A sheltered estuary with a store and the longest footbridge in the Southern Hemisphere. Enjoy great kayaking in the mangrove forest.	45 mins
Moureeses Bay	At the end of a winding, gravel road, great surf and body-boarding beach.	 50 mins

## RUSSELL RD

Ōakura	Easily accessible from the road, this popular beach is sheltered from ocean swells.	55 mins
Whangaruru Harbour and Bland Bay	A harbour with two beaches of very different character. Remote and beautiful.	60 mins
Mimiwhangata Coastal Park	A challenging drive (take care) but you will arrive in paradise.	 1 hour + 15 mins


Drive times are from Whangārei city and are approximate



# Love our WATERFALLS!

*Discover six beautiful waterfalls, all with their own distinct personalities.  
Grab your camera and visit them all.*



 Piroa Falls, Waipū



# WATERFALLS

## Otuihau – Whangārei Falls

This picturesque waterfall is 26.3m high and cascades over basalt cliffs. The viewing platforms above the waterfall give spectacular views of the falls and the forest below. Traditionally this area was a good fishing spot for local Māori. There are accessible viewing platforms and you can choose from many lovely picnic areas. The carpark is located at Boundary Road, Tikipunga, 5kms from the city centre and is on the way to the Tūtūkākā Coast.

## Piroa Falls

A small waterfall that is big on beauty. Take a short 10 minute walk through beautiful native forest, cross the bridge over the Ahuroa River, and arrive at the gorgeous Piroa Falls, part of the Waipū Gorge Scenic Reserve. The turn off to Piroa Falls is off Waipū Gorge Road at the northern side of the Brynderwyn Hills.

## Omiru Falls - Wairua River

The 80km Wairua River was once a valuable food source for local Māori and a busy highway for waka (canoes). Omiru Falls was a major defensive point for iwi during inter-tribal warfare. Located 24kms west of Whangārei city, the waterfall can be viewed from the carpark.

## Pukenui Falls

A 23m waterfall hidden away in the AH Reed Memorial Park, a remnant of the original kauri forests which were once extensive throughout Northland. Follow the McKinnon Track and Waikoromiko Stream to the base of the waterfall.

## Raumanga Falls

Enjoy the pleasant walk from Raumanga Valley Reserve, 3kms from the city centre, through native forest to discover the 15m cascading waterfalls with naturally formed pools.

## Tāheke Falls

A 3km loop track featuring regenerating kauri trees within serene native forest. Take the short detour to the viewing platform overlooking the waterfalls and enjoy the impressive view downstream over the Tāheke Scenic Reserve. At 46m high, the Tāheke waterfall is the highest in Northland. The track to the falls is located at the end of Hoban Road, Whareora.



📍 Otuihau – Whangārei Falls



📍 Pukenui Falls




📍 Raumanga Falls

# Love our CYCLING!

*Discover and enjoy a network of fun, scenic cycle paths and circuit, pump, BMX and MTB tracks for riding all year round.*



 Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai



# CYCLING

## A Network of Shared Paths

Whangārei city has a network of approximately 50kms of Shared Paths cyclists can enjoy. From Raumanga in the south, through the city, around the Hātea Loop, out to Onerahi or north to Kamo and Tikipunga.

## Pohe Island Bike Park

There's something for all cyclists including an 800m circuit track, perfect for coaching road riders and para cyclists as well as being a great place to race the kids. Focus on road safety in the traffic skills and coaching area. The beginner bike skills track has ramps, see-saws and slalom poles. How many laps can you do on the world-class pump track without pedalling?! The park also links to the Shared Paths network creating multiple cycling routes around the city.

## BMX

The whole family will enjoy the BMX track at Pohe Island, Riverside Drive.

## Mountain Biking

Parihaka MTB Park is home to primarily Grade 3-5, flow and gravity-oriented trails and the Glenbervie MTB Trail offers 40kms of hand cut trails ranging in grades and lengths. Connect with the passionate MTB community at WhangāreiMTB.nz and ride these trails soon!

## Ngunguru Old Coach Trail

Cycle the 16km scenic coach trail, closed in 1950, between historic Scow Landing and the waterside Ngunguru village.

## Adventure Park

Just 10kms from the city centre, the adventure park has a wide range of easy to challenging riding tracks purpose-built for mountainbiking, and 'monster dirt scooters' which can be hired on site.

## Waipū Cycleway

A mostly off-road, 8.5km route between Waipū Village and Waipū Cove. 2.5kms in the middle is along the sometimes busy, Waipū Cove Road. The trail passes through farmland, with views of Mt Manaia at Whangārei Heads and glimpses of the estuary and Bream Bay.

## Three Waterfalls Trail

Enjoy cycling a fully paved route, mostly along Shared Paths, between three gorgeous waterfalls; Raumanga Falls, Otuihau – Whangārei Falls and Pukenui Falls at AH Reed Memorial Park.



Parihaka MTB Park



BMX Track, Pohe Island



Pohe Island Bike Park

## EVENTS

### JANUARY

#### Endless Summer Festival

A collection of events to enjoy from January to March during our subtropical summer.

#### Waipu Highland Games

Celebrating Scottish traditions, culture, music and dancing.

#### The Extravaganza Fair

The most fabulous travelling fair with unique entertainment for all.

### FEBRUARY

#### Northland Edible Garden Trail

Showcasing incredible edible gardens all around the district.

#### ArtBeat

The much-loved free interactive arts-based festival for the whole family.

### MARCH

#### Whangārei Pride Festival

A joyous celebration with our rainbow community.

#### Pasifika Fusion Festival

Pacific Island and Māori performance, culture, stalls, kai and more.

#### Fritter Festival

Music, food and refreshments headlined by kiwi legend, Sir Dave Dobbyn.

#### Wild Kiwi

Epic multisport event including what might be NZ's toughest half marathon, along with very achievable shorter distances.

#### Whangārei Heads Art Trail

Discover a wealth of locally created art. Meet and buy direct from the artists.

### APRIL

#### PLUNGE! Comics - Anime & Pop Culture Convention

For the whole family, Art & Literature through the medium of Comic Books, Anime and Pop Culture.

### JUNE

#### Puanga Matariki Festival

Through June and July, a series of special cultural events inviting people to come together and celebrate.

### JULY

#### Waipu Winter Festival

A mid-winter swim, pet parade, bike challenge, wearable art and other great entertainment, many with a Scottish theme.

### AUGUST

#### Polar Bear Surf Classic

Surfers from around the country gather to surf at iconic Sandy Bay.

### OCTOBER

#### Whangārei Fringe

A fantastic celebration of art, theatre, comedy, music and more!

#### Whangārei Maritime Festival

A free event celebrating the amazing maritime past, present and future of the beautiful Town Basin.

### NOVEMBER

#### Whangārei Lions Fireworks Spectacular

For the whole family!

### DECEMBER

#### A&P Summer Show

The country comes to town with animals, tractors and machinery, shearing and woodchopping along with food and entertainment.



📍 Fritter Festival



**FORUM  
NORTH**  
Entertainment Centre



To find out more about what's on at Forum North visit  
**[www.wdc.govt.nz/ForumNorth](http://www.wdc.govt.nz/ForumNorth)**

Tickets can be purchased for all shows from  
Eventfinda or the Whangārei isite.



# GARDENS

## Whangārei Quarry Gardens

Set in 2.5 hectares of a disused quarry, the Quarry Gardens enjoy a unique microclimate ideal for growing an abundance of native and exotic subtropical plants. The gardens feature a lake, waterfall, walking paths, forest walks, a variety of garden styles and several historic remnants. Find a perfect picnic spot or enjoy the café.

## Botanica & Cafler Park

A small oasis of green in the centre of the city with colourful subtropical plants, exotic palms, orchids, cacti, succulents and native and filmy ferns. Cross the pedestrian bridge that spans the Waiarohia Stream and enjoy mature native and exotic trees, and rose gardens at Cafler Park.

## The Gallery & Café Helena Bay

On the scenic road to Russell, wander through the lush foliage of subtropical plants interspersed with stunning sculptures.



### Whangārei's favourite horticultural haven

- Lush subtropical displays
- Dry cactus desert
- Japanese tranquillity
- Temperate house

Not to mention our famous native fernery and filmy fern house! Come and enjoy 'time out' no matter what the weather. There is a newspaper to read or just sit and relax. Our friendly team are always happy to see you and love to chat.



OPEN DAILY 10AM - 4PM

FREE ADMISSION

First Avenue | Whangārei | New Zealand

P 09 430 4200 | [www.wdc.govt.nz](http://www.wdc.govt.nz)

Wheelchair accessible



## Whangārei Quarry Gardens

A hidden oasis right in the heart of Whangārei. Come and enjoy the amazing sub-tropical Quarry Gardens where there is plenty to see and explore for the whole family. Guided golf cart tours are available and you can soak up the atmosphere and the great hospitality in the Quail Café. Our diverse gardens and varied micro-climates mean the gardens are beautiful year round.

[www.whangareigardens.org.nz](http://www.whangareigardens.org.nz)

Received from millions of TripAdvisor travellers (places this attraction in the top 10% worldwide)

**Whangārei Quarry Gardens**

★★★★★

Open 7 days, 9am - 5pm

37A Russell Road, Kensington, Whangārei

(09) 437 7210





# Love our ART!

*Discover trails, galleries and exhibitions showcasing unique works of art and craft in all mediums by local artists, many of them inspired by Whangārei's cultural, physical and spiritual environment.*

The Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery is an authentic Hundertwasser designed building, the last to be built in the world and housing the largest collection of original Hundertwasser artworks outside of Vienna.

📍 Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery

# ART

## Art in the Town Basin

The Town Basin is a great place to begin your discovery of the arts and crafts of Whangārei. The Sculpture Trail, along the Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai walkway, features artworks in a range of media and offers interpretations of the story of Whangārei. Find out more overleaf.

While at the Town Basin, purchase great gifts, souvenirs or a piece of hand-blown glass. Indulge yourself with a unique and precious piece from Whangārei's very own Master Jeweller.

### Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery

The Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery celebrates painter, architect, ecologist and visionary Friedensreich Hundertwasser and contemporary Māori artists. Visitors can enjoy multiple spaces including: the Hundertwasser in New Zealand 1973-2000 exhibition with original artworks, tapestries, ecological work and architectural models; and the Wairau Māori Art Gallery, the world's first dedicated Māori public art gallery. On top of the building is the award-winning Afforested Roof with the golden cupola which visitors can climb to gain sweeping views of the Hātea River and the Whangārei cityscape. The Centre also houses a small film theatre, MuseumShop and Café-Restaurant.

### Te Kākano (The Seed)

A stand-alone sculpture in the shape of a koru. Te Kākano was designed so local craftspeople could master the techniques required for the construction of the Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery.

### Town Basin Galleries

The Bach artists' collective gallery offers a diverse range of quality art and craft from Northland artists. Feel the heat of the furnaces while watching glass blowing expert Keith Grinter at Burning Issues Gallery which specialises in New Zealand glass, ceramics and jewellery.

### Reyburn House

Reyburn House is the oldest pioneer settlers house in Whangārei and home of the Northland Society of Arts. Enjoy the permanent art collection and monthly exhibitions from talented local artists.

### Whangārei Art Museum

The Whangārei Art Museum is Northland's public art gallery, and the permanent home of the city's art collection. Free to visit and open seven days a week, the Whangārei Art Museum presents a year-round programme of exhibitions, showcasing local and national voices in powerful and provocative exhibitions.

## Art in other Areas

Explore the wider Whangārei district and discover many more galleries featuring local and international artists' work in permanent and ever-changing exhibitions at superb locations.

### Street Prints Manaia Art Trail

In 2019, some of the world's best street artists took part in the Street Prints Manaia, International Art Festival in Whangārei and 15 incredible large scale art murals were completed. **Discover more on pages 28 & 29.**

### The Papermill

Gain a hands-on paper making experience at this joyous, creative place where artists with disabilities craft beautiful products from natural and recycled materials.

### Helena Bay Art Gallery

Discover emerging New Zealand artists, including contemporary Māori and Pacific artists, at this gallery set within superb subtropical gardens.

### Tūtūkākā Gallery

Resident artist Steve Moase collaborates with other talented local and New Zealand artists to bring you a beautiful collection of art, sculpture, glass and jewellery.

### The Quarry Arts Centre

Established in the early 1980s, this artists' cooperative is a thriving creative space set within a serene, bush-clad former quarry site. Workshops, events and exhibitions are held regularly and artists' work is available for purchase at the Quarry Craft Co-op Shop.

### Hangar Art & Framing

Showcasing the talents of a wide range of craftspeople and avant-garde contemporary and traditional artists including painters, printmakers, sculptors, jewellers and glass artists.



View or download the Northland Art Guide and discover galleries, artist studios and public artworks all around Whangārei and Northland.



# HUNDERTWASSER ART CENTRE with Wairau Māori Art Gallery



## Northland's iconic new tourist destination.

Journey into the world of painter, architect, ecologist and visionary Friedensreich Hundertwasser.

Experience architecture in harmony with nature.

- Hundertwasser in New Zealand 1973-2000 Exhibition
- Wairau Māori Art Gallery
- Afforested Roof
- Regentag film
- MuseumShop
- Aqua Café-Restaurant

Guided Tours available Thursday - Sunday

Book tickets online or at the door

Open 7 days 10am - 4pm

[www.hundertwasserartcentre.co.nz](http://www.hundertwasserartcentre.co.nz)

81 Dent Street, Whangārei

Town Basin Marina

Ph: 09 430 4230



# TOWN BASIN SCULPTURE

Discover Whangārei through the heart and creativity of its artists. Many of the sculptures on the Trail are a celebration of our place, our people, our history and our environment.





**1 Te Kākano (The Seed)** was created to give builders and artists the opportunity to adapt their skills for the construction of the Hundertwasser Art Centre (HAC) with Wairau Māori Art Gallery which was completed at the end of 2020.

**2 Kaitiaki** Manos Nathan, 2002. *Fired clay*. A two metre tall figure conveying both welcome and guardianship, the meaning of Kaitiaki, to Whangārei Art Museum.

**3 Parihaka** Sandra Meyst, 2010. *Oamaru Stone*.

**4 Te Rongopai** Brothers Thomas, Stanford and George Wihongi, 2000. Carved totora. Te Rongopai symbolises the settlement of Whangārei and represents the early interaction between Māori and Pākehā inhabitants. It is a multi-cultural portrayal of the community, with the two figures represented in a contemporary style, rather than strictly traditional.

**5 The Ghost Moth** Warren Viscoe, 2004. *Sheet aluminium and wood*. Reflecting the persistence of nature, along with the rhythm, balance and symmetry of the building at Cafler Park it was originally designed for.

**6 Sentinel 2000** Charlotte Fisher, 2000. *Bronze and stone*. In celebration of the millennium, this work alludes to peoples long past who inhabited this place - both indigenous Māori and colonising Pākehā. The forms are also evocative of the qualities of boats; textures in bronze of the ripples in the nearby river.

**7 Lottie** Kap Pothan, 1989. *Paradise sandstone*. Reyburn House is the oldest surviving settlers' house in Whangārei and home to the Northland Society of Arts. This sculpture commemorates Charlotte (Lottie) Reyburn, the first child born to the Reyburn family in New Zealand.

**8 Punga** Kim Groeneveld and Trent Morgan, 2011. *Pine poles, corten steel, rope, stainless steel*. Representing the history and presence of local Māori with its form referencing a hinaki (eel trap), while the poles, steel and rope pay homage to the area's current incarnation as a marina.

**9 Kaitiaki Manu** Rex O'Brien, 2016. *Maungatapere Basalt*. This kukupa (wood pigeon) shaped piece is a response to the first people arriving in New Zealand and the impact this had, "Kaitiaki Manu flying on the winds of change."

**10 Aurere** *Journey of the Waka* - Anna Korver, 2012. *Takaka marble, basalt base*. The story of the journey and the balance and protection found between the people, the land and the birds.

**11 Dobbie Canopy** Trish Clarke, 2011. *Stainless steel*. Based on the local flora of the area this canopy reflects the work of author and fern collector H.B. Dobbie who in 1910 donated 122 acres of land on the face of Parihaka to the Whangārei Borough Council to enable the area to be enjoyed by all.

**12 Hei Matau** Nigel Scanlon, 2014. *Puhipuhi and Whakapara basalt*. A reimagination of the hook in different textures. Both of the basalts used in the sculpture were sourced from the same mountain near Whakapara.

**13 Legend of Reitu and Reipae** John Ioane, 2011, *Macrocapa wood, epoxy resin*. Reitu and Reipae were twin sisters from the Waikato region who fell in love with the young Chieftain/Ueoneone. Read how this love story plays out on the panels that are part of the Heritage Trail along the Hātea Loop.

**14 Landfall** Justin Murfitt, 2011, *Concrete, reinforcing steel*. These forms mimic seabirds landing, providing a sense of movement and arrival.

**15 Swirl** Neville Parker, 2011. *Steel pipe, cut and then carved*. SWIRL depicts a natural event in the marine environment, the coming together of a community of fish to feed; SWIRL invites us to consider the strength and power available to us all when we work together.

**16 Wave and Waka** Chris Booth and Te Warihi Hetaraka, 2003. *Carved and suspended stone*. An enduring symbol of partnership for Aotearoa, the waka and immense stone wave forms rise from the Hātea River onto the shore, against the changing backdrop of harbour, hills, Mount Parihaka and the contemporary skyline. A landmark welcoming visitors arriving by sea, land and air.

**17 Drift** Miriam Von Mulert and Culham Engineering, 2015. *Steel*. Paula Green's poem Drift, has been transformed into a steel sculpture, folded to seem like the empty page or a billowing sail, both anchored and ready to drift.

**18 Intrepid Journey** Steve Molloy, 2018, *a tribute to Tuia Encounters 250 celebrations. Taranaki andesite and Whangārei basalt*. Guided by the wind and the stars our ancestors set forth on their Intrepid Journey. Using the knowledge from the past to use in the present and guide us into the future. They have travelled to come together and tell a story about our past as we speak of it in the present and will be told again in the future.

**19 Camera Obscura Timatatanga Hou** is a large scale interactive sculpture which reflects the Hātea River and Whangārei-te-rerengaparāoa maritime history. Enter the structure and experience the exterior environment in a new way through the camera obscura.



# CLAPHAMS

## NATIONAL CLOCK MUSEUM

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Open Daily 9am - 4.30pm**

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[www.claphamsclocks.com](http://www.claphamsclocks.com)



Whangārei District  
*Love it Here!*

**Clocks | Watches | Gifts | Souvenirs**

## QUARRY CRAFT SHOP

**FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN LOCAL & NZ CRAFT**

- Open 7 Days, 10am - 4pm
- Free Parking
- Just minutes from Whangārei CBD
- Easy access off State Highway 1

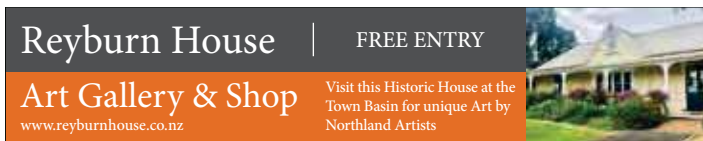
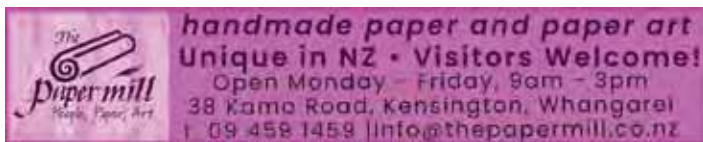
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## STREET PRINTS MANAIA ART TRAIL

In 2019, some of the world's best street artists took part in the Street Prints Manaia, International Art Festival in Whangārei. 15 large scale art murals based on the theme "Tuia te muka Tāngata" – "Weaving the threads of Humanity" were completed and Whangārei and Aotearoa has been gifted with these incredible works of art.

- 1 Untitled** Melinda Butt from Whangārei, New Zealand. Located in the Bank Street Gallery, 9 Bank St.
- 2 Tuia Te Muka Tangata** Charles and Janine Williams from Auckland, New Zealand. Located at 168 Bank St.
- 3 Tena ko te tumanako mo toku iwi – Hope for my people** Mike Tupaea from Whangārei, New Zealand assisted by Bub Dewes and Isaiah-Matthew Rameka. Located at the Town Basin.
- 4 Untitled** Askew One/Elliott O'Donnell from New York City, USA (originally Auckland, New Zealand). Located at 17 Finlayson St.
- 5 Kotahitanga – Unity** Earnest Bradley from Whangārei, New Zealand. Located at 70 John St.
- 6 Respect Tomorrow** Bryce Williams and Jasmine Fuller from Whangārei, New Zealand. Located at Corner of John Street and Dent St.
- 7 CANDICE 00:00,02** Dourone from Spain and France. Located behind the ASB, Butter Factory Lane.
- 8 Manaia** Mateus Bailon from São Paulo, Brazil. Located behind Quest Apartments, Butter Factory Lane.
- 9 Opening up, Sharing the Colours, Communication is Connection** Gina Kiel from Wellington, New Zealand. Located at 26 James St.
- 10 Untitled** Swiftmantis and Ephraim Russell from Palmerston North, New Zealand. Located behind Event Cinemas, John St.
- 11 Alex and Carmilita** Lisa King from Adelaide, Australia. Located at 49 Walton St.
- 12 HONGI – The Breath of Life** Millo from Rome, Italy. Located at back of the Police Station, Lower Cameron St.
- 13 Selenia** Fin Dac from Dublin, Ireland. Located at 10 Hannah St.
- 14 Untitled** Amanda Valdes from Miami, USA. Located at 8 Hannah St.
- 15 Kotahi** Uno Paola Delfin, from Mexico City, Mexico. Located at 88 Robert St.





## EAT & DRINK

The Whangārei district offers a delicious variety of dining options. Pair pizzas with craft beer, seafood with a view over the water and really great coffee with your bacon and eggs. Discover divine handmade bagels and delicious raw, plant-based and vegan treats and takeaways. Do what the locals do and grab the iconic kiwi takeaway meal of fish and chips, wrapped up and eaten by the water or in a park. Finish up with ice cream, made from New Zealand's finest cream and fruits, in a cone. Enjoy!

A photograph of a smiling woman behind a counter at Bocky Boo Jelato. She is holding three ice cream cones. In front of her is a sign that says "THE FUN PLACE". Below the counter, there are several trays of different flavored ice cream and gelato.

**BOCKY BOO JELATO**

DESSERT CAFE

Whangare  
City Centre  
71 Cameron St

Open til 9pm  
09 601 3067

### Markets for Foodies

With a subtropical climate and productive soils, the Whangārei district grows a bountiful array of quality produce, from exotic fruits to more common vegetables. And every weekend, locals flock to the many community markets across the district to chat with the growers and producers and buy their weekly supplies of seasonal, locally-grown produce. The Whangārei Growers Market, held in the city centre, was the first of its kind in New Zealand and now has over 100 growers and stall holders.

During summer and autumn, usually on Friday nights at the picturesque Town Basin, enjoy the family friendly Canopy Night Markets with street food vendors providing a wide range of multicultural food. Choose your delicious dishes and tasty treats and then sit back and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere in this lovely shared space.

A collage-style advertisement for Jimmy Jack's Rib Shack and Craft Bar. It features various food items like ribs, burgers, and fries, along with a glass of beer. The text is bold and stylized, with a mix of fonts and colors.

**Jimmy JACK'S**

RIB SHACK AND CRAFT BAR

HOME OF THE **STONEGRILL®** Experience

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**f** 117 BANK ST, WHANGAREI | PH: 09 430 0760 | OPEN 7 DAYS FROM 11.30AM

[www.jimmyjacksribshack.co.nz](http://www.jimmyjacksribshack.co.nz)

dining with the best background playlist.  
+ live music. comedy. bingo. quizzes.  
general banter.

28 Bank Street Whangārei  
09 988 9189 @roostonbank



## Judge House of Ale

Sports bar | Great value meals

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- Delicious coffee
- Wide range of cakes and pastries
- Full breakfast & lunch menu
- Free WiFi hotspot
- Open Every day 8am to 5pm





# CENTRAL WHANGAREI







**\*not to scale**



## RESPONSIBLE CAMPING

Whangārei is an accredited Motorhome Friendly City. We recommend you stay at one of our Holiday Parks or Campsites. To find out more about camping in public places, visit [www.wdc.govt.nz/FreedomCamping](http://www.wdc.govt.nz/FreedomCamping)

Whangārei District  
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### So close to the city centre

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📍 Hātea Loop - Huarahi o te Whai

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📍 Cameron Street, Whangārei city



# CENTRAL WHANGĀREI

*Whangārei city, Northland's only city and largest commercial centre is nestled between the forest-clad ranges of the Western Hills, Pukenui Forest and Mt Parihaka at the heart of the beautiful Whangārei Harbour.*



Whangārei city from Parihaka





30 MINUTES TO  
**WHANGĀREI  
HEADS**



**\*not to scale**

There is much to explore within the central city including the Town Basin Marina precinct, a great place to grab a coffee or meal. Enjoy the craft and art galleries and soak up the atmosphere of a charming international yachting hub. From here, take an easy walk to the attractive city centre which features a laneway with sculptural trees among the greenery and a timeline of bronze plaques that tell the area's history.

### 1 The Town Basin Marina

This waterside destination offers cafés and restaurants, craft and art galleries, museums, shops and children's playgrounds. Enjoy the frequent markets and events amidst the ever-changing scenery of fishing boats, small pleasure craft and local and international yachts.

### 2 The Hātea Loop Walkway with the Sculpture & Heritage Trails

The Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te Whai is a 4.2km shared loop path that follows the Hātea River, crossing two bridges and passing many interesting attractions along the way, including the Town Basin, with restaurants, cafés and shopping. Also enjoy the Heritage and Sculpture Trails, murals, destination adventure playground, the Camera Obscura and rolling ball clock. The entire loop is accessible for walking, jogging, pushbikes, mobility aids, scooters and push-chairs.

### 3 Hundertwasser Art Centre with 4 Wairau Māori Art Gallery

The Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery celebrates painter, architect, ecologist and visionary Friedensreich Hundertwasser and contemporary Māori artists. Visitors can enjoy multiple spaces including: the Hundertwasser in New Zealand 1973-2000 exhibition with original artworks, tapestries, ecological work and architectural models; and the Wairau Māori Art Gallery, the world's first dedicated Māori public art gallery. On top of the building is the award-winning Afforested Roof with the golden cupola which visitors can climb to gain sweeping views of the Hātea River and the Whangārei cityscape. The Centre also houses a small film theatre, MuseumShop and Café-Restaurant.

### 5 The Artisans Market & The Canopy Night Market

The Artisans Market is filled to overflowing with a wonderful array of colourful arts, quality crafts, music and food. The markets are held on Saturdays from Labour Weekend in October through to April.

The Canopy Night Market is held monthly from December to March and brings together incredible street food vendors from both Whangārei and across the Northland region. Both markets are held at the Town Basin.

### 6 Whangārei Art Museum

The Whangārei Art Museum is Northland's public art gallery, and the permanent home of the city's art collection. Free to visit and open seven days a week, the Whangārei Art Museum presents a year-round programme of exhibitions, showcasing local and national voices in powerful and provocative exhibitions.

### 7 Claphams National Clock Museum

With one of the largest collection of timepieces in the Southern Hemisphere, be surprised and delighted by unique and quirky clocks including Victorian cuckoo clocks and rare antiques. Introductory tours are available and group guided tours are available with advance booking.

### 8 Rolling Ball Clock

A unique kinetic sculpture, a striking wave form roof, and 35 "bowling balls" running on stainless steel tracks that perform various physical motions like banked corners, loop the loop, ride in elevators etc as well as telling the time via timing racks. The sculpture features a central carved Pou which tells the story of Maramataka, the moon calendar.



Claphams National Clock Museum

### 9 Reyburn House Art Gallery

A vibrant art gallery in a historic house belonging to the Northland Society of Arts. Exhibitions, featuring New Zealand artists, change monthly and the shop has a fine selection of gifts.

### 10 Hihiaua Cultural Centre

The Hihiaua Cultural Centre is the manifestation of the wish of local elders to reclaim, restore and renew Māori arts and culture. Out of their vision has risen what is now an award-winning architectural workshop, gallery and retail space filled with an eclectic exhibition of authentic Māori art and unique local creations from nationally renowned artists. Enjoy frequent events, performances and learning experiences at this very special place of cross-cultural awareness and understanding.

### 11 Te Matau a Pohe

One of the most innovative bridges in New Zealand, Te Matau a Pohe means 'The Fish Hook of Pohe'; Pohe was the Māori chief who welcomed the first settlers to Whangārei. The design of the bascule (lifting) bridge is inspired by the shape of the Māori fish hook and the prows of waka (canoe). You can walk across the bridge as part of the Hātea Loop and see it raise and lower every day at noon.

### 12 Camera Obscura – Timatatanga Hou

Walk into the large, dramatic structure, arrive in a camera obscura room and experience the exterior environment and bridge in a new way. The design of the sculpture reflects the Hātea River and the Whangārei-te-renga-parāoa maritime history.

### 13 Pohe Island Bike Park

Your 'one-stop' cycling destination with a smooth-surface Circuit Track, Traffic Skills and Coaching area beginner bike skills track and world-class Pump Track; all just a heartbeat away from the inner city and connecting to a network of trails around Whangārei.



📍 Camera Obscura – Timatatanga Hou

### 14 Whangārei Aquatic Centre

Indoor swimming pools, fitness centre, spa and sauna, café, wave pool and hydrosides for the kids. Located next to the Town Basin marina.

### 15 Whangārei Growers Market

New Zealand's first growers market offers an abundance of fresh, high quality, locally grown produce every Saturday morning – no matter what the weather. Find a wide range of seasonal fruits, vegetables, plants and flowers, as well as preserves, honey, eggs and seafood along with coffee, food stalls and live music. Open every Saturday from 6am to 10.30am.

### 16 Parihaka Reserve

Just a few minutes from the city centre, the Parihaka Reserve offers outstanding forest and riverside walks and many scenic and peaceful picnic spots. Take longer walks to the Parihaka summit track or AH Reed Memorial Park and Otuihau – Whangārei Falls. The Parihaka Reserve is a recipient of the prestigious international Green Flag Award, which acknowledge the world's best parks and green spaces.

### 17 Mt Parihaka

This ancient volcanic cone dominates the Whangārei skyline. A short drive or a climb via one of the walkways from the Town Basin or Mair Park will take visitors to the top of the summit for spectacular panoramic views of the city and its harbour. The war memorial at the summit lights up the sky at night.

### 18 AH Reed Memorial Park

Get up close and personal with native New Zealand forest. This remnant of original kauri forest features a tree-top boardwalk with impressive 500 year old kauri trees and Pukenui Falls.

### 19 Otuihau – Whangārei Falls

A picturesque 26m high waterfall, set in native forest. Enjoy the view from easy to access viewing platforms and walk the short loop track to the base of the waterfall for fantastic photo opportunities.

### 20 Whangārei Quarry Gardens

Set in 25 hectares of a disused quarry, the Quarry Gardens enjoy a unique microclimate ideal for growing an abundance of native and exotic subtropical plants. The gardens feature a lake, waterfall, walking paths, forest walks, a variety of garden styles and several historic remnants. Find a perfect picnic spot or enjoy the café. Open daily, entry by donation.



### 21 Abbey Caves Reserve

A wonderful 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 pūriri trees.

### 22 Botanica

Discover the largest public collection of delicate native ferns in New Zealand, along with subtropical plants and cacti. Open daily, free admission.

### 23 The Papermill

A joyous, creative place where artists with disabilities craft beautiful products from natural and recycled materials. Gain a hands-on paper making experience and purchase unique gifts. Open weekdays, 9am to 3pm.

### 24 Kiwi North Museum, Kiwi House & Heritage Park

When you visit Kiwi North you'll see **Living Treasures** including native geckos, invertebrates and kiwi in Northland's only nocturnal Kiwi House. You'll see a collection of local stories in the **Whangārei Museum** and feel like you're stepping back in time as you wander through the expansive grounds of the **Heritage Park** among mid-19th century buildings and heritage clubs. All this and more, open daily and just a five-minute drive or bus ride from central Whangārei.

### 25 Packard Motor Museum

One of the largest collections of Packard automobiles anywhere in the world plus classic motorcycles, military, vintage and rare vehicles and much more. Located 10 minutes from the city. Open Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.

### 26 The Quarry Arts Centre & Quarry Craft Shop

This forest-clad former quarry site is home to a local co-operative of artists and craftspeople. Wander through this rambling collection of studios, workshops, galleries, café and shop. Open daily, free admission.

### 27 Adventure Playground

An exciting destination play experience featuring climbing structures, slides, a large sandpit, many swings, new toilets and space to run around. The park is along the Hātea Loop on the east side of the river, or drive to Pohe Island Road where there is plenty of parking.



## Discover Northland's unique natural history and heritage at **Kiwi North**



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# Helping you get around Northland



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## FAR NORTH

## link

- AHIPARA
- KAITAIA
- MANGONUI
- PUKENUI

## BREAM BAY

## link

- KAIWAKA
- MANGAWHAI
- LANGS BEACH
- WAIPU
- RUAKAKĀ
- WHANGĀREI

For more information and timetables  
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Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Tai Tokerau

# BREAM BAY & WAIPŪ

*A sweeping arc of golden sand and blue waters, with picturesque rural landscapes, native forest and coastal walks. Fish, swim, surf, dine, shop or just stop and take time out to relax and enjoy.*





## The Guardians

The kaitiaki (traditional guardians) of Bream Bay are the Patuharakeke tribe whose ancestral lands cover the whole area. In 1817, early settlers of Scottish heritage who had journeyed from the other side of the world, also made their home here.



### 1 Waipū

Waipū village is rich in Scottish heritage and boasts a great selection of local art, crafts, markets and cafés. The Waipū Highland Games are held every New Year's Day and people come from around the world to dance and compete in traditional Celtic challenges. In July, the village hosts Waipū in Tartan with many Scottish themed events including the Art N Tartan Wearable Art Awards.

### 2 Waipū Scottish Migration Museum

The amazing story of one of the world's greatest migrations; the Scottish Highlanders who travelled to Nova Scotia, Australia and then on to Waipū is told through interactive award winning museum displays and the UNESCO MOW (Memory of the World) listed collections. View the informative new display which records the local history prior to the settlers arrival.

### 3 Markets

The Waipū Saturday Market is held on the first Saturday of the month and the Waipū Boutique Sunday Market is held every second Sunday of the month. Over long weekends, enjoy the Street Market on Saturday and the Waipū Antiques & Collectables Fair on Sunday.

### 4 Waipū Cycle & Walkway

A 2.5km cycle and walkway from Waipū Village to Riverview Place. The further 5.5kms to Waipū Cove can be ridden on the road.

### 5 Waipū Cove

A popular white sandy beach, patrolled by lifeguards over summer, with the river at the south end of the beach providing sheltered swimming. There is a campground, handy store and café, and the grass verge and trees make lovely, shady picnic areas.

### 6 Waipū Coastal Walkway

Along this trail, you will see, and can climb, rock formations similar to the famous pancake rocks at Punakaiki. Stunning panoramas and secluded coves and beaches are revealed around every corner.

The walk is accessible from both ends via Cove Road. At the Waipū Cove end, access is across a usually shallow river, but do check the tides before embarking. A reasonable level of fitness and ability is required.

### 7 Langs Beach

A stunning white sandy beach framed by craggy headlands, gnarled trees and with wonderful views to offshore islands. This is an excellent spot for swimming, surfing and bodysurfing, or for a relaxing shoreline stroll.

### 8 Waipū Caves Walkway

The 4km return walk climbs from the Reserve by the Waipū Caves through karst limestone formations, climbing steeply through open grassland before ending at a gate on the ridgeline where you will be rewarded with panoramic coastal views. Return the same way you came. Some of the track passes through private property – please be respectful.



📍 Langs Beach

### 9 Waipū Caves Farm Park

A diverse range of nature-based activities and environments to explore on this 130ha farm park with camping and campervan sites. Enjoy the Jurassic Walks with karst limestone features and mature native forest. See amazing glow worms in the Milky Way Glow Worm Cave and meet friendly farm animals.

### 10 Marsden Cove Marina

Featuring excellent marina and boating facilities, café, frequent markets and supply stores, this is a perfect base for boat owners to launch and explore the Whangārei Harbour, coastlines and offshore islands.

### 11 One Tree Point

On the edge of the Whangārei Harbour, One Tree Point is enjoyed for its sheltered swimming beaches, easy access to local fishing spots and magnificent views of Mt Manaia across the channel.



Waipū Coastal Walkway

### 12 Ruakākā Racecourse

Where the surf meets the turf and horse racing events are held throughout the year. Ruakākā Beach is just a short distance away and racehorses can often be seen galloping along the beach when in training.

### 13 Wildlife Refuges

The Ruakākā and Waipū estuaries provide a unique habitat for some of New Zealand's rarest birds including the critically endangered tara-iti/New Zealand fairy tern. Birdwatchers may spot wrybill, reef heron and banded dotterel, and migrating godwits can be seen at certain times of the year.

### 14 Ruakākā Beach

A 13km expanse of white sand and surf, Ruakākā Beach is popular for a range of water activities including surfing and kite surfing.

### 15 Surf Lifesaving

Surf lifesaving clubs patrol Ruakākā Beach and Waipū Cove for the extended summer period as well as hosting beach education days and competitions throughout the year.

### 16 Uretiti Beach

Surf, fish, swim or simply relax at this beautiful sandy beach that offers stunning views to offshore islands. The south end of the beach is a popular naturist spot. Just a few hundred metres off the main highway, there is a Department of Conservation campsite in the sand dunes behind the beach.

### 17 Offshore Islands

The islands that can be seen from shore are Taranga and Marotiri (the Hen & Chicks) with Sail Rock just to the south. They are the remains of long dormant volcanoes, part of the Pacific Ring of Fire, and are now wildlife sanctuaries. Landing on the islands without a permit is prohibited.

### 18 Piroy Falls

A short 10 minute track through forest and over the Ahuroa River leads to this small, ever so pretty waterfall.

### 19 Brynderwyn Walkway

The 12km (one way) Brynderwyn Walkway follows the top of the mountain range and has fantastic coastal and inland views. The ranges are host to many native bird species as well as the rare hochstetter frog. The track winds through private farm land and forestry roads. Check with the Department of Conservation for access.





We offer quality accommodation in Ruakākā which is motorbike friendly. Ruakākā is located close to white sand beaches and ideal to use our accommodation as a base to discover what Northland has to offer.

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Ph: (09) 432-0746

[www.waipumuseum.com](http://www.waipumuseum.com)  
Open daily from 10am to 4pm



Ruakākā Beach

# WHANGĀREI HEADS

*A drive along the Whangārei Heads road is one of the most scenic road trips imaginable. The road hugs the harbour and meanders through pōhutukawa fringed bays, with stunning vistas of the area's distinctive volcanic outcrops. The road ends at the East Coast looking out to the Pacific Ocean.*









## 1 Onerahi

A loop drive or walk around Whangārei's airport and Beach Road will reward with gorgeous views of the Whangārei Harbour. The Onerahi foreshore has a children's playground, boat launching ramp, jetty to fish from and sheltered swimming at high tide.

## 2 Matakōhe-Limestone Island Scenic Reserve

Matakōhe-Limestone Island, a sanctuary in the Whangārei Harbour, was once a Māori pā (village) and, in later times a limestone quarry and cement works. The island is a great kayaking destination, the ruins are fun to explore and there is a sheltered picnic hut. Volunteers are replanting the island which is now a refuge for rare and threatened wildlife including kiwi. Before visiting the island, please complete a biosecurity check, i.e. check your belongings for ants, skinks, and other stowaways before landing on the island and please leave your pets behind.

## 3 Onerahi Shared Path

The Onerahi Shared Path is an accessible off-road, sealed path that connects the Hātea Loop with the Waimahanga Network. Continue along the Waimahanga Network, which is loose metal, to reach Beach Road, Onerahi.

## 4 Waimahanga Network including the Boswell Track

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 and passes through a tidal ecosystem rich in mangroves. You can also enter or exit via George Point Road, the Waverley Street Link, or Cockburn and Pah Roads.

## 5 Tamaterau

This harbourside picnic spot is just a short drive from the city centre and is great for swimming, sailing and windsurfing. Also enjoy the short coastal cliff walk between two lovely inner-harbour beaches.

## 6 Parua Bay Marina

The Parua Bay Marina has launching for trailer boats and easy access to the inner harbour, Bream Bay and the coast. Just around the corner, the historic Parua Bay Tavern provides refreshments and meals on the water's edge.

## 7 Parua Bay Village

The Parua Bay village is a small, active community with shops and cafés. Events are held throughout the year, many based on the strong creative community.



Whangārei Harbour from Mt Manaia

### 8 McLeod Bay

The seaside village of McLeod Bay sits beneath the watchful gazes of Mt Manaia and Mt Aubrey. Enjoy the playground, picnic and BBQ areas and sheltered swimming. The St James Church on the foreshore was built in 1858 and is still used for Sunday worship. A floating wharf provides a good fishing spot and marks the start of the coastal track to neighbouring Reotahi Beach.

### 9 Mt Aubrey

From the Tiller Park carpark, this track passes between two large rocks before climbing Mt Aubrey. Admire the expansive views over Pātāua, Whangārei Heads, Mt Manaia and the Pacific coastline. This walk can be extended to include the Reotahi Coastal Walkway.

### 10 Whangārei Harbour Marine Reserve

The reserve has two sites, one at Waikaraka and another at Reotahi that includes Motukaroro Island. At Reotahi, swim among large boulders, explore rock pools, and kayak and snorkel around the island. The reserve is an important nursery for a wide range of fish and marine life. There are strong tidal currents and fins and a wetsuit are recommended.

### 11 Norfolk Avenue Lookout

Turn off Reotahi Road for a dramatic view of Marsden Point and the port. There is a children's playground and picnic area at the end of the Avenue.

### 12 Early Settlers Memorial

A plaque, located at the base of Mt Manaia, is dedicated to the memory of the district's early European settlers, Scottish Highlanders with the names of McLeod, McGregor and Urquhart who gave their names to some of the area's beaches. Find out more about their epic migration at the Waipū Scottish Memorial Museum.

### 13 Mt Manaia Track

The majestic rocky outcrop of Mt Manaia dominates the skyline, towering 420m above the Whangārei Harbour. A vigorous one hour climb up through beautiful native forest takes you to the summit for breathtaking 360° views.

### 14 Taurikura

This pleasant sandy beach is popular with families for its sheltered swimming, picnic areas and playground. Taurikura has a natural volcanic causeway or 'jetty' that projects from the shore into the middle of the bay.

In Māori legend, the volcanic causeway is an unfinished work by the great chief Manaia who had a lover across the harbour. He tired of her before it was finished and the bridge was never completed.



### 15 Urquharts Bay & McKenzie Bay

Urquharts and McKenzie Bays are located at the outermost reaches of the Whangārei Harbour. Urquharts Bay has safe boat launching and the carpark at the end of the bay leads to a range of walkways including Busby Head and Te Whara Track.

### 16 Smugglers Bay Loop Track

From the Urquharts Bay carpark, this two hour loop walk takes you around Busby Head to Smugglers Bay. The walk passes an historic World War II gun emplacement at Home Point, built as a defence against possible invasion. The six-inch naval gun was aimed with the help of a camouflaged radar station on the ridge above Ocean Beach.

### 17 Smugglers Bay

Park at Urquharts Bay and walk 20 minutes up and over farmland to this secluded white sandy beach. Be aware, you may meet curious cattle along the way!

### 18 Ocean Beach & Kauri Mountain Beach

At the end of Whangārei Heads Road is Ocean Beach, popular for surfing, body boarding or just relaxing. Dolphins are often seen just offshore and surf lifeguards patrol in the summer. A memorial to commemorate the sinking of the only navy ship lost to enemy action in New Zealand waters during World War II can be seen at the lookout. You can also start or finish the superb Te Whara Track from here.

Over the dunes to the north of Ocean Beach is Kauri Mountain Beach, a remote and wild 5km long beach.

## 19 Bream Head Scenic Reserve & Te Whara Track

The steep rocks which form Te Whara Bream Head are the eroded remains of a range of volcanoes which erupted approximately 20 million years ago. Bream Head is one of the country's premier coastal forest reserves and a refuge for a variety of rare flora and fauna, including kiwi. Te Whara Track follows an ancient Māori trail between Urquharts Bay and Ocean Beach. Allow six hours one way for this hike that has magnificent coastal and harbour views. Shorter walks can be taken, such as the three-hour return hike to Peach Cove with a Department of Conservation hut available for overnight stays (booking required). This area is an important kiwi and wildlife habitat. Strictly no dogs are allowed.

The imposing peninsula of Bream Head Scenic Reserve is of special significance to the Ngātiwai Iwi (tribe). The mountain, Te Whara, is revered as an ancestor and the area the tracks pass through is considered wahi tapu (a sacred place).

### Help Save Kiwi

Whangārei district is making great progress in bringing the iconic kiwi bird back to our wild forests. PLEASE, never take your dog, even on a leash, into forests or tracks that are signposted – **No Dogs**.



## 20 Huitau Bay (McGregors Bay)

Find pōhutukawa trees, safe swimming, clear waters for snorkelling and rock pools to explore at remote Huitau Bay.

## 21 Taiharuru

The inlets of the Taiharuru estuary provide a pristine example of Northland's mangrove forests, a fascinating ecosystem that nature lovers will enjoy. Kayak the clear waters and see unique plants and wildlife up close.

## 22 Pātāua South

This coastal community is a step back in time, with an estuary on one side and sandy surf beach on the other. Kayak the estuary or cross the long footbridge to Pātāua North to enjoy the ocean-side surf beach.






# TŪTŪKĀKĀ COAST

*One of the most beautiful coastlines  
in the world and the gateway to the  
extraordinary Poor Knights Islands  
Reserve, a world-class dive destination.*



 Daisy Bay, Tūtūkākā – Iain Urquhart

**\*not to scale**







Drive through stone wall country and discover a coastline with superb sandy beaches, spectacular seascapes and natural harbours. Enjoy world-class diving, snorkelling, surfing, swimming, fishing and walking.

The Tūtūkākā Coast was populated by the Māori people of the Ngātiwai iwi, whose successors live along the coast today and are regarded as the children of the seas.

## 1 Ngunguru Village

This delightful coastal village is a wonderful place to enjoy a picnic by the water. There is sheltered swimming, a boat ramp and water ski lane. Watersport equipment, including kayaks, surfboards and stand up paddleboards are available for hire online and from the nearby Tūtūkākā Marina.

## 2 Ngunguru Sandspit

Across the estuary from Ngunguru village lies the pristine Ngunguru Sandspit, one of the few unmodified sandspits remaining in New Zealand. It has significant cultural, spiritual, historical and environmental values, particularly with local tangata whenua (indigenous peoples) the Ngātiwai iwi. You are welcome to visit the spit, but please tread with care. Access is by boat only and strictly no dogs are allowed.

## 3 World-Class Dive Destination

The Tūtūkākā Coast offers outstanding dive experiences. Learn to dive or improve your skills; training from Open Water through to Instructor ratings is available at PADI accredited Dive Centres. Then enjoy the incredible waters, teeming with wildlife, off the coast or at nearby islands.

## 4 Tūtūkākā Marina & Village

The Tūtūkākā Marina lies at the head of a small natural harbour that is a fishing port, coastal waypoint for local and international yachties and home to a fleet of private launches and charter boats for diving and fishing. There is a small cluster of shops including a general store, art gallery, dive shop, surf shop and great casual dining and bar options. Enjoy frequent markets through summer and autumn.

## 5 Saltwater Fishing

Trophies for several world record catches are displayed at the Whangārei Deep Sea Anglers Club. Charter a boat and choose your fish; marlin, kingfish, snapper, hapuka, trevally and more.

## 6 Tūtūkākā Head Walkway

This one-hour return track takes in beautiful scenery including panoramic views of the Poor Knights Islands, Tūtūkākā Coast and Pacific Ocean.



Overlooking Tutukaka Marina, Schnappa Rock is a unique fale style restaurant & bar. The perfect venue for post-dive drinks & dining, a romantic meal, quiet drink, family or work celebration.

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## 7 Poor Knights Islands Marine Reserve

These world-renowned islands, 24km off the Tūtūkākā Coast, are a breathtaking marine and nature reserve, densely populated with rare and unique plants, birds and fish life. Beneath the ocean surface, spectacular water clarity and warm subtropical currents provide a rich, varied and abundant sea life. Steep cliffs plummet 100m below sea level, broken only by caves, archways and fissures that are habitats for over 125 species of fish, soft corals, sponges, vibrant anemones, kelp forests, stingrays and myriad other life forms. This makes the islands one of the most spectacular dive sites in the world.

Tawhiti Rahi is the Māori name for the largest of the Poor Knights islands. The second largest island is Aorangi and the largest of the islets is Motu Kapiti.



## 8 Tūtūkākā & Kukutauwhao Island Walk

A walk that will get the heart pumping, from the steep climbs and descents, as well as the breathtaking views up and down the stunning Tūtūkākā Coast at the top. Check tides as crossing to the island should only be done an hour either side of low tide. Do not attempt to cross in rough sea conditions.

## 9 Tāne Moana/Te Araroa Walkway

A two hour return hike to see magnificent Tāne Moana; at 11m in circumference, he is the largest kauri tree remaining on the East Coast. Along the way, enjoy the incredible native birdlife.

## 10 Twin Wrecks Diving Adventure

Just off the Tūtūkākā Coast, two large navy vessels, the Tui and the Waikato, lie underwater at diver-friendly depths. The ships are colonised with sea life and have purpose-cut access points to allow exploration.

## 11 Scow Landing

Long ago, sailing scows were loaded here with coal and timber destined for the Auckland market. It is now a great spot to launch your kayak and explore the winding Ngunguru River.

## 12 Ngunguru to Whangaumu Bay Walkway

A lovely walk, accessed from either Whangaumu Bay (south end of the beach) or Ngunguru (Te Maika Road) with secluded beaches and rocky outcrops. Start two hours each side of low tide for each direction of your walk and allow 40 minutes each way.

## 13 Te Maika Headland

Tūtūkākā Block Road passes the secluded harbourside beaches of Church Bay, Kowharewa Bay and Pacific Bay before ending on the coast at Whangaumu (Wellingtons) Bay. These sheltered harbour beaches offer great swimming and grassy picnic spots.

## 14 Matapouri Bay

A spectacular white sand coastal beach and sheltered, peaceful estuary. There is a walkway with spectacular coastal views via the coast to Whale Bay (20 minutes one way).

## 15 Whale Bay

A piece of paradise, this secluded beach has white sand and a forest-fringed beach. The only access is via a walking track from the carpark on Matapouri Road, (allow 10 minutes) or a longer walkway (20 minutes) from neighbouring Matapouri Beach.

## 16 Woolleys Bay

Fantastic for body surfing and picnics on the grassy areas, with easy access and parking from the main road.

## 17 Sandy Bay

Sandy Bay is one of the East Coast's most popular surfing destinations and is suitable for all abilities. Learn to surf or enjoy horse-trekking in this beautiful place. From here the road turns inland, weaving through farms and valleys before rejoining State Highway 1 at the village of Hikurangi.

## 18 Hikurangi, Waro Lake & Limestone Reserve

Turn off State Highway 1 and take a break in this quaint rural village. Explore the fascinating karst limestone formations at the Waro Limestone Reserve and Waro Lake, also a popular picnic and swimming spot. The Hikurangi Museum tells the stories of early settlers and the coal mining industry of 1890. Play a round at the Hikurangi Golf Course with stunning rural vistas and the nearby water adventure park has a wakeboarding cable with New Zealand's largest inflatable water course.

## 19 Whananaki

Turn back time, relax, reconnect with yourself and the elements. Well off the beaten track, the farmland and forest, estuary and beaches of Whananaki provide laid back coastal beauty with great examples of the classic kiwi bach. There are camping grounds and a store. The road continues beyond the small village along a series of stunning ocean beaches and forest clad headlands.

20 The Longest Footbridge

For something completely fun, check out the Whananaki Footbridge, the longest footbridge in the Southern Hemisphere which stretches 395m across the Whananaki Estuary. Park outside the community hall (grab an ice cream from the store) and follow the track that runs alongside the school. The bridge spans the estuary and is a popular fishing spot for locals and visitors alike. If you're lucky, you'll see stingray in the water beneath.

21 Whananaki Coastal Walkway

A walkway with incredible coastal views. The Capitaine Bougainville Monument on the track commemorates Northland's worst maritime disaster, when a freighter carrying goods to Sydney in 1975 sank following an onboard fire, claiming 16 lives. Track access is from the end of McAuslin Road at Sandy Bay or from Whananaki South. The walkway is two hours one way.

22 Helena Bay Art Gallery & Café

Treat yourself to a few hours at this gallery and café set amongst lush, subtropical gardens. The gallery exhibits established and emerging New Zealand artists, many of whom are Northland based, including contemporary Māori and Pacific artists.

23 Mimiwhangata Coastal Park

This Department of Conservation Reserve has a stunning landscape and shoreline, fringed for 1km seaward by a specially designated marine park. The property is run as a working farm, with stock excluded from the sensitive areas. The park is a home to threatened bird species, including one of the world's rarest water fowl, the brown teal or pateke. Camping at the secluded Waikahoa Bay is a magical experience; be ready to carry your gear the last few hundred metres as there is no vehicle access. Note also that the road in may not be suitable for long vehicles.

24 Ōakura Bay

This sandy beach is a popular holiday destination and a great base from which to explore the Whangaruru Harbour. The bay is sheltered from ocean swells by several outlying islands and provides great swimming for all ages. There is a fishing store, general store, fuel pumps and boat launching ramp. Fishing and diving charters are also available.

25 Whangaruru Harbour

Remote Whangaruru is a large harbour with several small communities on its shores. Pods of dolphins and orca may be seen off the coast and in the harbour. The Department of Conservation manages regenerating forest and calls of the little brown kiwi can be heard at night. It is a lovely place to explore by kayak or boat and offers safe anchorage for passing yachts.

26 Bland Bay

Bland Bay, on the northern shores of Whangaruru Harbour, has two beaches of very different character. There is a sheltered bay on the harbour side and an exposed Pacific Ocean surf beach only 400m away across a flat isthmus. A large campground bridges the gap between the two beaches. The harbour and isthmus are the historic home of Ngātiwai and the area is dotted with pā sites. Although most are on private land, a pā on the Kirikiri headland has open access.

27 Pātaua North

Take 'a road less travelled' and arrive at the sweeping white sands and blue waters of Pātaua North where the surf is often good. It connects to Pātaua South via footbridge only.



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