# **CYCLE TRAILS TAURANGA** WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY & THE WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT

SCENIC OPTIONS FOR EVERY RIDER



BAYOFPLENTYNZ.COM/CYCLE-TRAILS



Photo: Waikareao Estuary

#### LET'S PUMP THOSE PEDALS

From meandering coastal and riverside trails to historic city sites and challenging mountain bike tracks, the Coastal Bay of Plenty has an everexpanding network of epic places to ride your bike. With something for every age and ability, you can easily explore the special places that reflect our heritage and environment at your own pace.

For the best coastal views, try the Bowentown to Waihī Beach trail, the Ōmokoroa to Wairoa River trail, or the Port to Park trail that runs from Sulphur Point to Fergusson Park.

Stop for a bit of haiku inspiration in Katikati or take one of the village's nearby riverside or shoreline trails.

History lovers will enjoy the Historic Tauranga trail, which travels past sites that mark interactions between British settlers and Māori tribes more than 150 years ago. The shorter Te Ara Kahikatea path in Te Puke will take you under and over bridges and past the town's old cemetery as you traverse nearby rural paddocks. The region also features several stunning trails through ecologically important wetlands – choose Bethlehem reserves at one end of Tauranga city or the Papamoa waterways at the other end, or you can experience the Matua Saltmarsh, Kopurererua Valley, or Waikareao Estuary trails in the middle.

The award-winning TECT Park offers a challenging 10km mountain bike ride through remote forest tracks.

At the eastern end of the coast, the Õhope Harbourside Trail provides easy access to a picturesque estuary, which is home to a multitude of birds, fish and shellfish.

The nearby Onepū Mountain Bike Park has 12 short trails that cater for all abilities. Further inland, the Burma Road mountain bike track offers a 10km return trip through suburbia, bush and farmland.



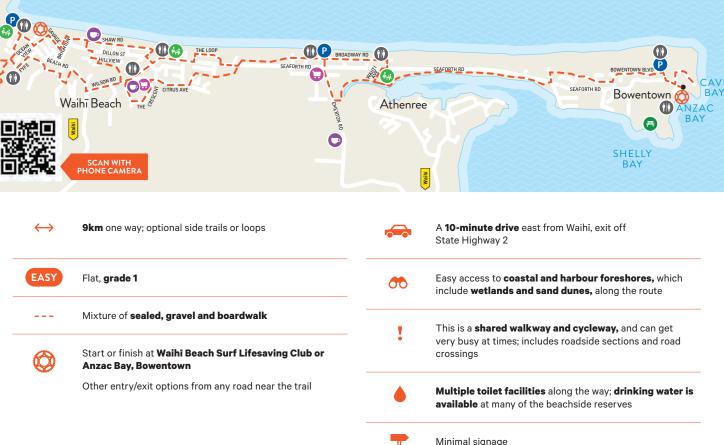
Get the best of both worlds with this popular coastal trail, which travels the length of Waihī Beach and Bowentown, with optional sidetracks that include the Athenree Estuary.

There are plenty of places you can stop along the way, such as reserves, playgrounds, cafés, shops and swimming spots.

Most of the trail is flat, but the view from the top of the eastern most point, above Cave Bay, is ample reward for the extra effort it takes to cycle there.









Choose your distance and direction – whichever Katikati trail you opt for, you'll get the chance to spot the art, birdlife and watersides this historic village is known for.

With each option located just a short distance from the main street, it will be easy to grab something to eat or drink before or after your ride.



#### Haiku Path to Henry Road

- ↔ Less than 5km (return)
- EASY 5-25m elevation, grade 1

options are taken

1-10m elevation, grade 1

**Noble Johnston Drive** 

**Uretara Stream to Beach Road** 

Approximately **11km** (loop)

1-15m elevation, grade 1

Noble Johnston Drive

Can be joined from any nearby road

short bush trail

Mixture of concrete, gravel and grass

Can be joined from any nearby road

Start and finish at the Uretara Stream boat ramp,

Mixture of urban and rural roads, concrete pathways,

grass reserves, gravel, orchard tractor tracks, and

Start and finish at the Uretara Stream boat ramp,

 $\leftrightarrow$ 

EASY

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 $(\mathbf{O})$ 

 $\leftrightarrow$ 

EASY

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- --- Mixture of concrete and sealed
- Start and finish at **Haiku Park**, on the western side of Katikati's main street

**Bird Walk Trail - Summerset Walkway & Cycleway** 

Approximately **5.8km** (return) depending on which track

Can also be accessed from any nearby road

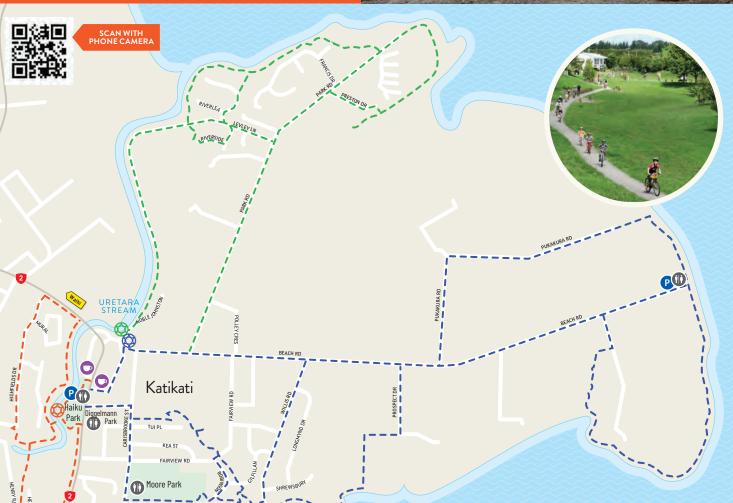
Follows the river stopbank, before travelling through a pleasant residential area; includes an **art installation** near the 45m suspension bridge over the Uretara Stream; look out for river birds and boulders engraved with thought-provoking haiku poems
Includes road crossings at Mural Drive and Highfields Drive

**Toilets, carpark and drinking water all available** at Haiku Park

No signage

- Start/finish point is **50m from State Highway 2**, which runs through Katikati's main street, turn-off is near the Talisman Hotel and Restaurant
- A family friendly trail which includes river wetlands, harbour views and art installations, along with description boards of the area's bird life
  - Includes some roadside sections and road crossings
  - Toilets are located off Katikati's main street, at Diggelmann Park; **no drinking water available en route;** limited car parking at the start and finish point, but there's more available in nearby side roads
- Map board in the seating area at the start
- Start/finish point is **50m from State Highway 2,** which runs through Katikati's main street, turn-off is near the Talisman Hotel and Restaurant
- Features bird life, harbour views, wetlands and working orchards
  - Includes long sections along **rural and urban roads;** rural areas include **vehicles travelling at high speeds**
- Toilets are located off Katikati's main street, at Diggelmann Park, and at the harbour end of Beach Road; **no drinking water available en route;** limited car parking at the start and finish point, but there's more available in nearby side roads







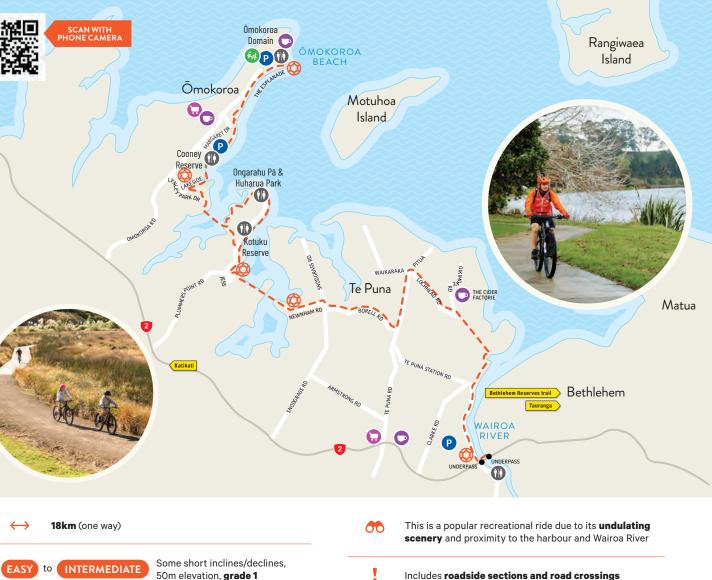
Explore the growing seaside town of Ōmokoroa, along with Te Puna estuary, the Plummers Point peninsula and Wairoa River.

Historic Ongarahu Pā, at the northern end of Plummers Point, is one of the most well-preserved defensive fortifications in New Zealand. It's also worth checking beforehand which cafés you might want to detour to and stop at along the way.

A new track is being developed along the highway, on the Tauranga side of the Wairoa River, which will enable cyclists to connect to the Bethlehem Reserves trails.







Mixture of gravel, boardwalk and road ---

#### $(\mathfrak{O})$ Start or finish at Ömokoroa Boat Club or Wairoa **River Reserve**

Other entry/exit options at Lynley Park Drive, Lakeside Terrace, Huharua Park, Jess Road and Newnham Road

Ömokoroa Boat Club is 23km from the Tauranga CBD; Wairoa River Reserve is 10km from the Tauranga CBD

#### Includes roadside sections and road crossings

Toilets located at Ömokoroa Domain. Huharua Park (at the end of Plummers Point Road), and Wairoa River Reserve; drinking water is available at Huharua Park; carparking available at the start and finish, and also at other entry and exit roads

Signage in place



### **BETHLEHEM RESERVES** - TAURANGA

Gordon Carmichael Reserve is a gem in the heart of suburban Tauranga, featuring 60 hectares of waterways, native plantings and abundant birdlife.

The reserve has a playground, drinking fountain and toilets near the main carpark and is popular with walkers, runners, dog owners and

This attractive trail meanders through Bethlehem and past several ponds that host a wide range of waterfowl.



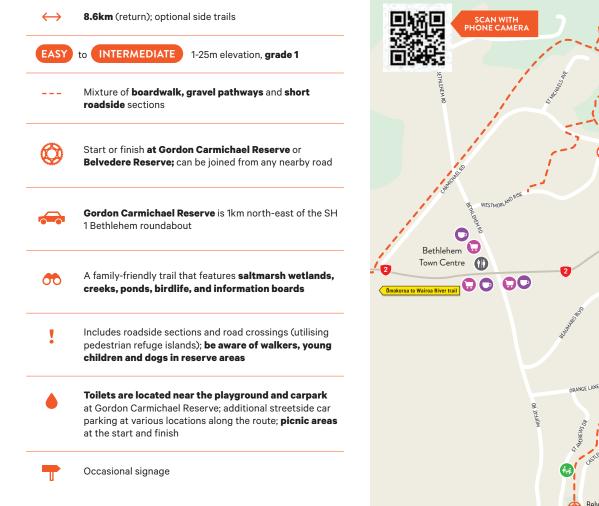
Reserve

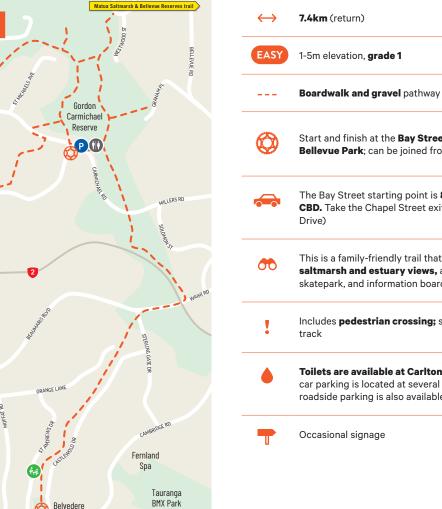
#### **MATUA SALTMARSH & BELLEVUE RESERVES**

The Matua Saltmarsh is a 21-hectare coastal wetland that helps enrich the quality of Tauranga Harbour, protects the shore from erosion, and provides a habitat for many species of plants, fish and birds.

This off-road trail features a 200m boardwalk at the Matua end and offers an appealing journey which links up two nearby recreational reserves.







Kopurererua Valley trail

- Start and finish at the **Bay Street Reserve, Matua**, or at Bellevue Park; can be joined from any nearby road
- The Bay Street starting point is 8km from the Tauranga CBD. Take the Chapel Street exit off SH 2 (Takitimu
- This is a family-friendly trail that includes **picturesque** saltmarsh and estuary views, a variety of birdlife, a skatepark, and information boards
- Includes pedestrian crossing; short section near train
- Toilets are available at Carlton Street Reserve; car parking is located at several points along the route; roadside parking is also available





# **KOPURERERUA VALLEY**

Kopurererua Valley is a 300-hectare natural, urban wetland and one of the city's largest reserves.

It encompasses farmland, native bush, a river, ponds, and many sites of historic and archaeological significance. It also serves as an important part of the Tauranga cycleways network.

There are plenty of options to grab a drink or something to eat near both ends of this trail.



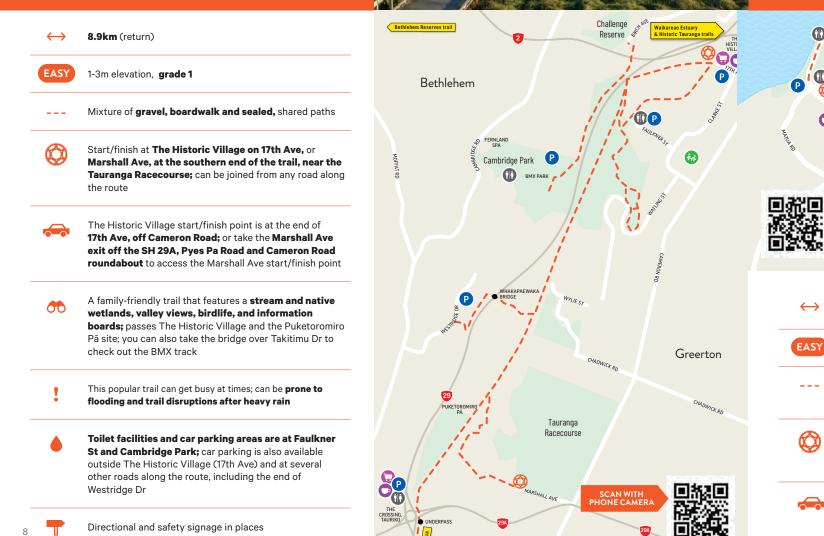
## **SULPHUR POINT TO FERGUSSON PARK**

This popular trail provides stunning tidal views across Tauranga Harbour to Mauao (Mount Maunganui), Matakana Island and the Kaimāī Ranges.

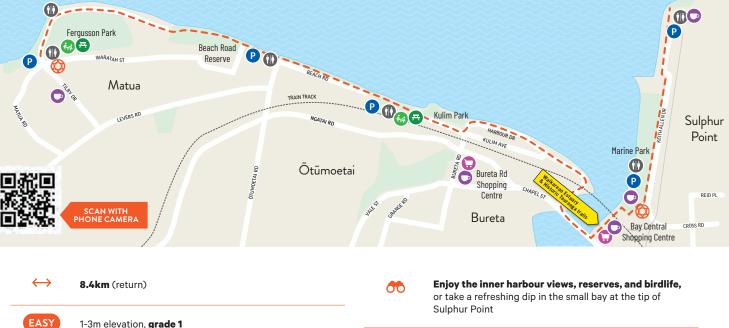
Sulphur Point features a marina, fishing and swimming spots, picnic area, carved Māori pou and a large boat ramp.

Fergusson Park (in Matua) and Kulim Park (in Ōtūmoetai) are wellutilised recreation areas that include playgrounds, toilets and BBQs.





OVERPASS



Concrete shared walkway/cycleway; includes a busy urban road section, bridges and grass tracks

Start and finish at the Sulphur Point boat ramp carpark or Fergusson Park, Matua; can be joined from any road or park along the route

Sulphur Point carpark is 1km from the Tauranga CBD take the Sulphur Point exit off SH 2 (Takitimu Drive)

Includes roadside sections, and road and rail crossings; this is a **shared walkway and cycleway** which is narrow in places and can get busy at times

Toilets and carparks are available at Kulim Park and Fergusson Park; toilets are also available at Shaw Place Reserve; further car parking is available at parks and roads along the route

Nil



#### WAIKAREAO ESTUARY - TAURANGA

Waikareao means "sparkling waters of the new day", and as you follow the shoreline of this large tidal estuary you'll journey through native bush, mangroves and saltwater marshes.

The estuary's high biodiversity value means it's a Category 1 ecological area and information boards along the route explain how the ecosystem works.

Motuopae Island, in the middle of the estuary, is a sacred burial ground that belongs to Ngãi Tamarâwaho of Huria Pã (Judea).



PILLANS RD

WAIKAREAO

ESTUARY

Graham

## HISTORIC TAURANGA

The Tauranga central business district is notable for its historical sites, retail and dining options, and harbour and estuary views.

This mainly off-road trail will give you space from the inner-city traffic and you'll have the option to stop and explore several noteworthy locations along the way, such as the Monmouth Redoubt, Robbins Park rose gardens, Mission Cemetery, and the Pukehinahina battle site (Gate Pā).





8.7 km (loop)  $\leftrightarrow$ SCAN WITH EASY 1-5m elevation. grade 1 Ōtūmoetai ----Mixture of **boardwalk**, gravel pathway, concrete path  $\bigcirc$ Start and finish at Maxwells Road, Pillans Point; the trail can be done clockwise or anti-clockwise; can also be joined from any nearby road McCardles The Maxwells Road start point is 2km from the Bush Tauranga CBD - take the Chapel Street exit off SH 2 (Takitimu Drive) to get there A family-friendly trail that makes the best of its natural 00 environment, keep an eye out for bird and marine life; there are several café options at the Bay Central Shopping Centre, on Chapel Street Motuopae Island A shared walkway and cycleway that gets busy at times and may require confidence to negotiate; includes shared pathway alongside busy Chapel Street; the eastern side Judea Sports Ground of the trail runs along SH 2 (Takitimu Drive) but features a safety barrier to protect riders Toilets are located at Coach Drive Reserve and Ngāi Tamarāwaho Crescent; car parking at Maxwells Road, Coach Drive Reserve, and just after the Waihī Road entrance to Takitimu Drive; limited parking also available at streets along the route

elizaetti Tauranga

> Memorial Park

Tauranga

Domain

- ↔ 14km (return)
- EASY to INTERMEDIATE 0-10m elevation; grade 2
- A mixture of urban roadsides, boardwalks, small bridges, and gravel and concrete paths; includes a short, steep incline near The Strand starting point, and a 100m incline shortly before the Gate På finish point

Start or finish at the **Hairy Maclary statues**, on the waterfront, and head for the path at the northern end of The Strand, or start/finish at **Pukehinahina | Gate Pā Historic Reserve** on the corner of Cameron Road and Church Street, Gate Pā; can also be joined from any nearby road along the route

#### Harbour and estuary views, birdlife, and historic sites

Includes road sections and busy intersections (pedestrian crossings available); this is a **shared walkway** and cycleway which is narrow in places and can get busy at times

Carpark and toilet facilities are at The Strand and Faulkner Street; other car parking options are available on various roads along the route

Nil



follow Papamoa's essential and picturesque storm water system.

Featuring well-formed paths, native plantings, bridges, and information boards, this trail is a great alternative to all the beach side activities that are available only a short distance away.

You'll also be able to spot the Papamoa Plaza along the way, which offers a wide range of eateries.



#### PAPAMOA **TO PAENGAROA**

This trail offers a safe cycling route alongside the Tauranga Eastern Link highway, with scenic views of the surrounding countryside.

Nearby banks have been extensively planted with native species and the Kaituna River bridge features a stunning set of pouwhenua (carved Māori land markers).

20km (one way)

15m elevation, grade 1

Mixture of sealed and gravel

east off SH33 at Paengaroa

Start or finish end of Te Okuroa Road, Papamoa; or next to Comvita, Wilson Road South, Paengaroa

Te Okuroa Drive, Papamoa, is 12km north-east from Te Puke; Paengaroa is 11km south of Te Puke - turn

An increasingly popular trail for **recreational and** 

Most of this trail is safely sectioned off from the

Highway 33; carparking is available at both start/finish

offers several food and beverage options

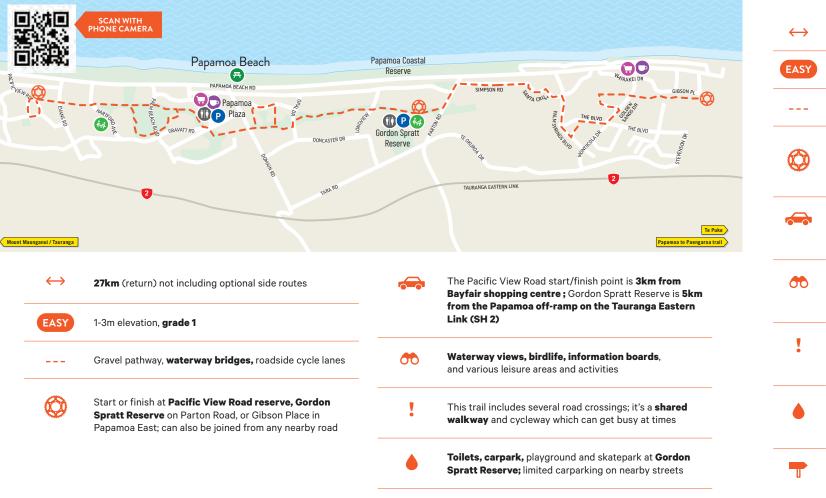
the Te Puke Highway near Paengaroa

points; no drinking water available

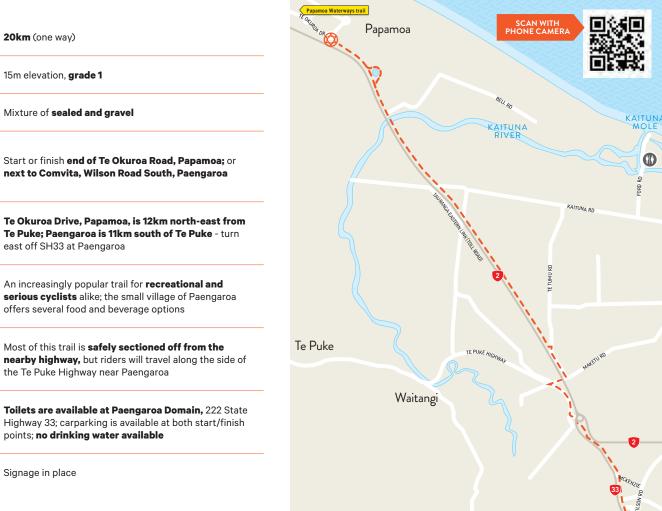
Signage in place

serious cyclists alike; the small village of Paengaroa





Location signage



Paengaroa



## Pedal through wetlands and alongside the Waiari Stream on the eastern outskirts of this bustling rural town.

Starting just one street back from the main road, the pathway crosses over Jubilee Park and runs along Stock Road and King Street, before looping around through rural paddocks.

Originally created by passionate volunteers, you'll enjoy several points of interest as you cycle over and under bridges and past the town's oldest cemetery, which dates back to 1886.

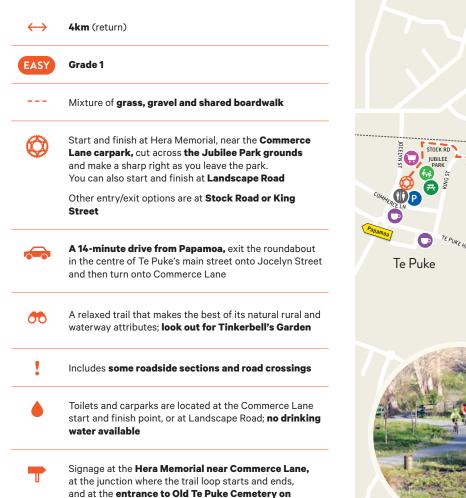


#### ÖHOPE HARBOURSIDE TRAIL

Enjoy a relaxing ride along the shoreline of one of the country's most pristine estuaries, Õhiwa Harbour. With its multitude of birdlife, shellfish, and fish species, the harbour has always been culturally significant to indigenous tangata whenua.

This trail is designed to ensure the least disruption to the natural environment, whilst allowing stunning views as you traverse a series of esplanade and recreation reserves.









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← **5.8km** (return)

EASY Grade 1

--- Mixture of grass and gravel

- Start or finish at **Waterways Drive** or **Port Öhope Wharf**; other entry/exit options along **Harbour Road** and Õhiwa Parade
- Waterways Drive is 10km from Whakatāne CBD; Port Öhope Wharf is 13km from the CBD

- Peaceful harbour views and popular community reserves; **spot the wildlife** as you go
- This is a shared walkway and cycleway; **give way to pedestrians**; dogs must be on a leash
- **Toilet facilities** and **drinking water** are available at Port Ōhope Wharf; car parking is available at both ends of the trail, along with roadside parking

Signage at **key access points** 

Landscape Road



## WAITEKOHEKOHE **RECREATIONAL PARK**

This 88-hectare park on the outskirts of Katikati offers a series of short forest tracks for mountain bikers, horse riders, and walkers to enjoy.

The Waitekohekohe name was gifted by Ngāi Tamawhariua (the local hapū, or sub-tribe) and refers to spiritual waters, a sense of yearning and climbing. The park is part of the 37,000-hectare Kaimai Mamaku Conversation Park.

The swimming hole, which one of the cycle tracks passes through, is a great place to cool off in summer.



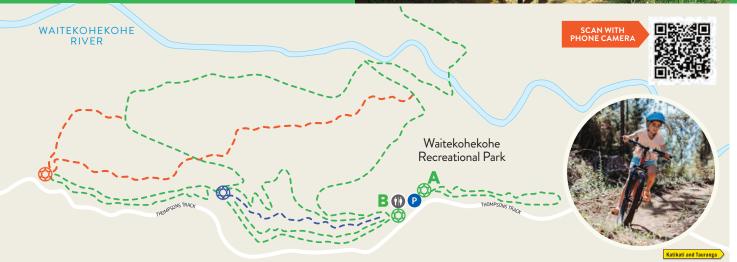
#### **TECT PARK** 15 - NGAWARO

TECT Park offers 1650 hectares of action-packed options and recently earned the 2022 Active Park of the Year title and the 2022 International People's Choice Green Flag Award.

There are three mountain bike trails - the challenging Buffalo Girl Track and two shorter tracks to suit less experienced riders.

Bring a picnic to this remote, tree-covered park and check out some of the other activities while you're here.





A. 500m kids loop - grade 2 EASY B. 4.7km (loop, with optional side trails) - grade 2



ADVANCED 1058m (2x one-way trails) - grade 4

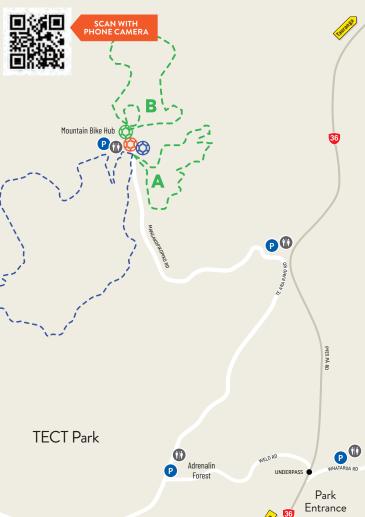
::: Dirt mountain bike track



Start and finish at 360 Thompsons Track, Katikati (you will pass the Waitekohekohe Recreational Park's equestrian car park first, the mountain biking carpark is further along the road)

- Thompsons Track is a rural road that connects to State Highway 2. The park is a 40-minute drive from the Tauranga CBD or a 13-minute drive from the centre of Katikati
- This park offers a remote, scenic ride along a series of off-60 road trails
- Walkers permitted on easy trails and may be accompanied by dogs; watch for trail intersections
- A **toilet** is located to the left of the mountain biking car park
- Well signposted on the roadside and along each trail, but we'd advise you to take a photo of the trail map beforehand

- A. 1.8km Uno Track (loop) grade 1 EASY B. 3km Kererū Track (loop) - grade 1
- **INTERMEDIATE 10km** Buffalo Girl Track (loop)
- ----Dirt mountain bike track - - -
- Start and finish: once you enter the park, follow the signs to the mountain bike area
- TECT Park is situated approximately halfway between Tauranga and Rotorua, off SH 36 (29km from Tauranga and 30km from Rotorua); the park's eastern entry is signposted on the highway
- This park hosts a lot of clubs so you may spot activities 60 like paintball, clay target shooting, off-road driving, and **model aircraft**; there are some lovely walking tracks, an off-leash dog exercise area, and you can pay to take on the high-wire challenges at Adrenalin Forest
- Check the park website (tectpark.co.nz) or Facebook page for possible track closures prior to your arrival; respect the rights of other track users (e.g walkers, runners and horse riders); the Buffalo Girl Track has three shallow stream crossings and can be quite slippery
- Toilets are located in the mountain bike area and near the main entrance to the park
- Tracks are well marked





### ONEPŪ MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK - TE TEKO

This mountain biking spot is highly regarded by the local community. Volunteers maintain the tracks, while private landowners generously permit public access.

The park offers a range of mountain bike trails catering for all skill levels. Two of these trails are dual use, enabling mountain bikers and walkers or runners to share the tracks.

A smaller area within the park offers picturesque wetlands. These tracks and boardwalks are designated for pedestrian and wheelchair users.







Highway 30, almost directly opposite Braemar Road

advise you to take a photo of the trail map beforehand,

located at the park entry



Get off the beaten track with this bush and farmland trail which includes Õhope Scenic Reserve, the home of endangered wild Kiwi.

This partly hilly, partly flat track used to be part of the original road between Õhope and Whakatāne.

It features several interesting lookout points.







EASY to INTERMEDIATE 120m elevation, grade 1 - 3

--- Mixture of paved and gravel surfaces

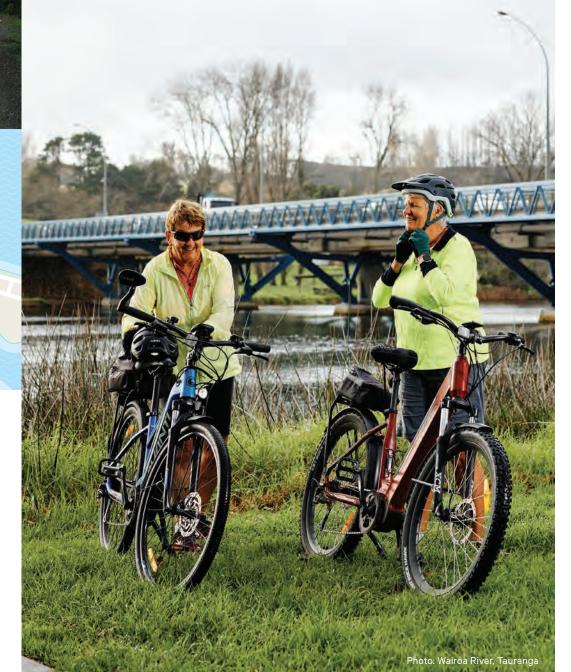
Start and finish at the intersection of **Pohutukawa Ave** and **Maraetōtara Road**, or at the intersection of **Õhope Road** and **Burma Road** 

The Öhope Road/Burma Road intersection is **3km from the Whakatāne CBD**; the Pohutukawa Ave/Maraetōtara Road intersection is 8km from the CBD In 1999, several North Island Brown Kiwi were discovered in Õhope Scenic Reserve, which had miraculously survived without the anti-predator support they usually need. Nearby residents sometimes encounter these rare nocturnal birds, which has led to Whakatāne becoming the Kiwi Capital of the World™

The cycleway section on Õhope Road runs adjacent to a busy main road; no dogs are permitted on the trail - **this is 'Kiwi Country'** 

Toilet facilities and drinking water are available at Maraetōtara Reserve and at **the beach end of Öhope Road;** car parking available at trail start and finish points

Minimal signage





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