

WAIROA

Hawke's Bay | New Zealand



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INTRODUCTION

Wairoa district, northern Hawke's Bay is an area rich in history and sites of interest, making it an ideal starting point for exploring rugged coastline, wilderness adventures, safe beaches, world-class trout fishing, golf, waterfalls, hiking, hunting, rural experience, surfing, art and museum collections ... there is something for everyone!

Wairoa is only 1.5 hours drive from both Napier and Gisborne airports. Due to the vastness and geographic nature of the Wairoa district, to really explore and make the most of the experience, a vehicle is required, making us a perfect destination for the free independent traveller.

The population of Wairoa township is approximately 4800 and 8600 in the wider district; about 65% of our population is of Māori descent. Agriculture, forestry and horticulture are our main industries, along with support businesses and services. We have 37 marae within the district, providing an opportunity for visitors to have genuine, authentic Māori culture experience.

Lake Waikaremoana (Te Urewera, formerly a national park) is internationally renowned for its breath-taking beauty, as well as its stormy history. It is also home to one of New Zealand's nine Great Walks, the Lake Waikaremoana track. Boasting stunning native bush, glassy lakes and many waterfalls, Lake Waikaremoana is a must-do for every traveller visiting our district.

Mahia Peninsula is encircled by the Pacific Ocean and provides wonderful safe beaches, great surf breaks, rock fishing and diving, walks, golf and many other outdoor activities. Rocket Lab now calls Mahia home, with the development of their rocket launch pad at the southern end of the Mahia Peninsula.

Mōrere Hot Pools provide hot and cool pools among a network of walking tracks through a stunning nikau palm forest, ranging from an easy 10-minute stroll to two to three hour hikes.

Trout fishing in the Ruakituri and Hangaroa Rivers is a world-class experience.

There is something for everyone in the Wairoa district.



TO MURUPARA ROTORUA

TO GISBORNE
TOLAGA BAY
EAST COAST
WAIKOA GORGE
OPOTKI

TO NAPIER
TAUPO
WELLINGTON

LEGEND

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All icons and descriptions only show the approximate location of sights, activities and marae.



View of Mahia from Mokotahi Hill



Waikare



Wairoa Lighthouse

WAIROA



1 | Wairoa Bridge

2 | Portland Island Lighthouse

3 | Riverside Walk and Cycleway

4 | Water Ski Club

5 | Wairoa Community Centre

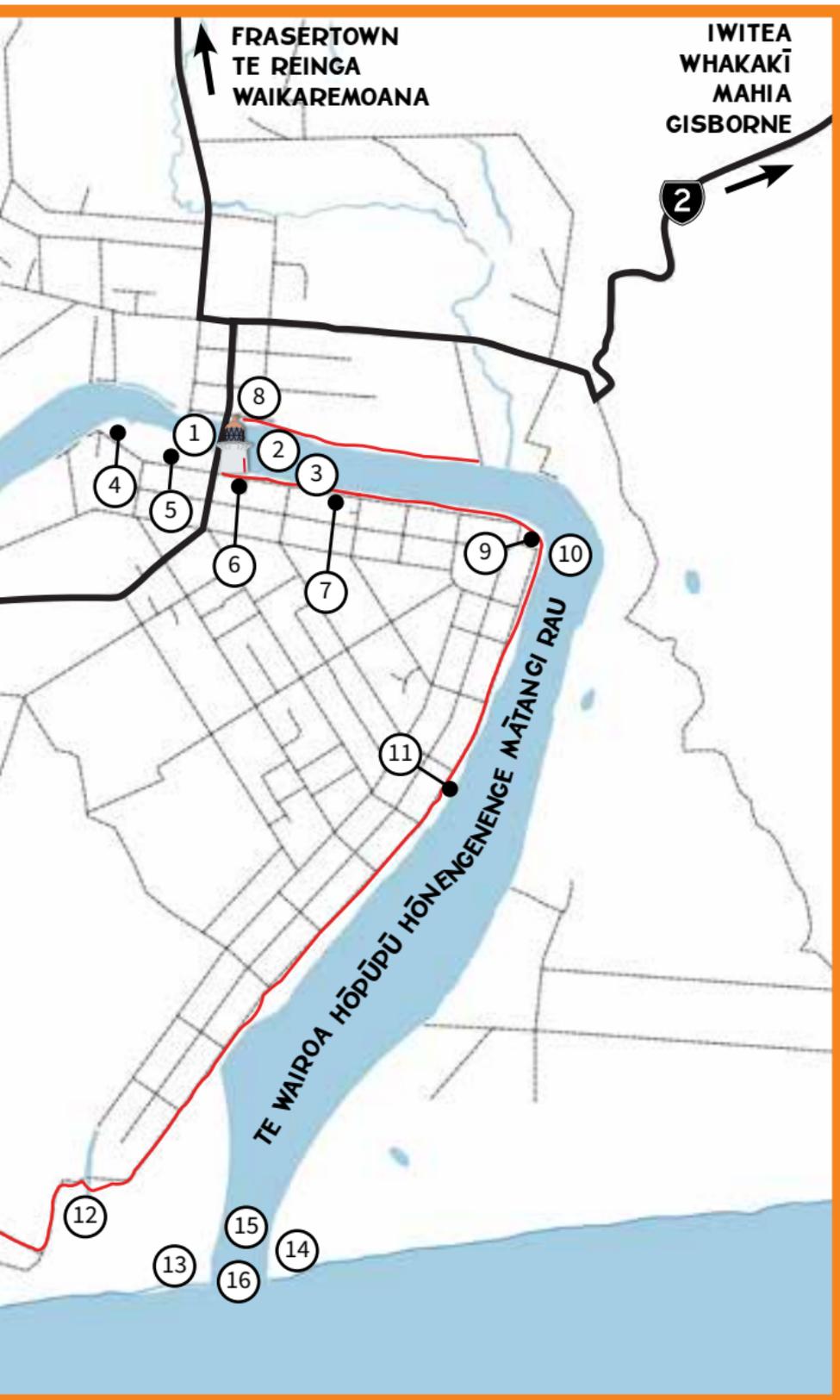
6 | Wairoa Museum

7 | The Gaiety Theatre

8 | Sir James Carroll Walkway

9 | Spooner's Point

10 | Wairoa River



- 11 | Wairoa Yacht Club
- 12 | Pilot Hill
- 13 | Taniwha: Tapuwae
- 14 | Taniwha: Te Maaha
- 15 | Taniwha: Tūpāheke

- 16 | Wairoa River Mouth
- 17 | Whakamahia Beach
- 18 | Waihirere (Takitimu) Marae

WAIROA



Located between Napier and Gisborne, the lovely riverside town of Wairoa is a handy place to stop and an ideal starting point for exploring the wider district. The district offers something for everyone - the rugged wilderness adventurer, art-collectors and beach-goers. It makes us second to none.

Wairoa River

The town of Wairoa got its name from the “Te Wairoa Hōpūpū Hōnengenenge Mātangi Rau” river which, in Māori language means “the long bubbling, swirling, uneven waters”. The ancestral canoe Takitimu travelled up the river and landed near where the Waihirere (Takitimu) marae (meeting house) now sits.

Te Wairoa Hōpūpū Hōnengenenge Mātangi Rau (the long, bubbling, swirling, uneven waters) is the full name of the Wairoa River and refers to its turbulence and hidden currents. Ruakituri, Hangaroa, Mangapoike, Mangaaruhe and Waiau Rivers are all tributaries of the Wairoa River.



Wairoa River

Wairoa Bridge

The first bridge was built in 1888 and damaged in the 1931 Hawke’s Bay earthquake. The second bridge was opened in 1933 and destroyed by Cyclone Bola in 1988. The present bridge was opened in February 1990 by Queen Elizabeth II.

FRASERTOWN

Frasertown is a small rural settlement west of Wairoa, with a long history. Frasertown was originally called Te Kapu, but was re-named by early settlers after Brevet-Major James Fraser, who captained military forces in Wairoa in the 1860s.

TE REINGA

Te Reinga is a small settlement about 34kms north of Wairoa. Trout fishing in this area is world-renowned and the



cave system is recorded among some of the most extensive and fascinating in New Zealand. Rocks in this area are of great interest, as they are heavily encrusted with ancient fossils.

LEGENDS & HISTORY

KŌRERO TUKU IHO

WAIROA RIVER MOUTH

Taniwha: Tūpāheke

Tūpāheke is the guardian taniwha of the Wairoa River as it enters the sea. He is said to have arms like a great crab, and is harmless to local people. However, according to local tradition, if a stranger touches the rock of Tūpāheke, it is said some misfortune will come to them.

Taniwha: Tapuwae & Te Maaha

Tapuwae's first wife was Te Rauhina, and his home was on the western side of the river. He was in a continual struggle with his younger brother Te Maaha, who lived on the eastern side of the river, as to where the entrance to the sea. The brothers struggled about the entrance to the river because they each wanted it to be closer to their side of the river, so that the distance to go to catch fish would be shorter. The bar is said to still shift today at the whim of the two brothers as they continue to struggle.

FRASERTOWN

The original name of Frasertown is “Te Kapu o taku ringa” (the palm of my hand). An early Māori leader, Hapimana Tunupaura, is quoted as saying “those who returned to Te Kapu would be living in the palm of my hand.”

TE REINGA

According to one legend of Ngāti Hine Hika, Ngāti Kōhatu and Ngā Uri Taniwha a Hine Kōrako, two taniwha named Hine Kōrako and her brother Ruamano once decided to race to the sea. On their journeys, Hine Kōrako carved the Hangaroa River, while Ruamano left the Ruakituri River in his wake. Hine Kōrako was leading the race and decided to stop at Te Reinga. Ruamano came close behind and crept by in order not to bother Hine Kōrako. Eventually, he moved ahead to the ocean and won the race by leaving Hine Kōrako behind at Te Reinga

ACTIVITIES TŪMOMO MAHI

BOATING | EKE WAKA

There are two ramps for boat launching in the Wairoa River.

WAIROA YACHT CLUB

📍 On Kopu Road opposite 100 Kopu Road, Wairoa

ADVENTURE WAIROA

📍 Marine Parade, at the reserve next to Riverside Motorcamp

FISHING | HĪ IKA

WHAKAMAHIA BEACH

★ This beach is great for fishing for kahawai and snapper. Spinning at the river mouth is a great option. When the whitebait are running, you'll see lots of locals fishing for kahawai at the river mouth.

📍 Whakamahia Road, Wairoa

! Due to a strong undertow swimming here is not advised!



SPOONER'S POINT

★ Locals enjoy fishing the Wairoa River from Spooner's Point, the point where the river bends around Wairoa.

📍 Follow Marine Parade east along the Wairoa River to the reserve where the river bends.

GOLF | HAUPŌRO

WAIROA GOLF CLUB

☎ +64 6 838 6437

📍 Frasertown Road, Wairoa

SCENIC DRIVES | HUANUI ĀTANGA

HEREHERETAU ROAD

★ The trip along Hereheretau Road is perfect for a hot summer day. Stop at Hells Hole - are you brave enough to jump in? Don't forget to bring your boogie board for the rock-slide in the Makaretu Stream. This is great for outdoor adventure lovers.

📍 From Wairoa head towards Lake Waikaremoana on SH38. After you cross the bridge heading into Frasertown, turn right onto Mangapoike Road. Follow Mangapoike Road for about 17kms, then turn right onto Hereheretau Road. Follow Hereheretau Road for about 25kms until you reach SH2 at Whakakī.

OHUKA ROAD

★ This drive will provide you with amazing views over rolling hills, farmland and grazing animals. Along Ruakituri Road there are a few options to stay overnight. Fishing for trout in Ruakituri River is world renowned.

📍 From Wairoa, head towards Lake Waikaremoana on SH38. At Frasertown, turn right onto Tiniroto Road and follow it for about 25.9kms before turning left at Te Reinga onto Ruakituri Road. After about 20kms, continue straight on Erepeti Road. After about 10kms, continue on Ohuka Road. Ohuka Road will take you back to SH38, where you can either head north to Lake Waikaremoana or south to Wairoa via Frasertown.

! Be aware that some of the roads on this route are unsealed!

SKATEBOARDING | RETI RĀKAU

There is an outdoor skate bowl next to the Wairoa Community Centre, which is beside the Wairoa river.

SPORT | HĀKINAKINA

WAIROA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Gym and Pool

Showers are available

☎ +64 6 838 3086

🕒 Mon - Fri 8.00 am - 5.00 pm

Sat-Sun 10.00 am - 5.00 pm (Summer)

Sat-Sun 12.00 pm - 5.00 pm (Winter)

📍 West end of Marine Parade

SWIMMING | KAUHOE

! Due to a strong undertow at Whakamahia Beach, swimming here is not advised. Instead, check out one of our fresh water swimming locations on the next page!

HELLS HOLE

★ A great spot to cool down on a hot day. Jump into the deep water (Hells Hole), swim in the pool where water collects or go exploring along the stream and find swimming holes and fossils in the rock formations.

📍 From Wairoa, head towards Lake Waikaremoana on SH38.

Just before Frasertown, turn right onto Mangapoike Road and follow it for about 17kms. When you get to the turn-off to Hereheretau Road, continue straight on Mangapoike Road, cross the cattle stop and bridge. After 300m, park your car on the left-hand side, across from the driveway leading to the house on the hill. Walk through the gate on the left-hand side of the road, where a sign indicates 'angler's access'. Follow the little path down to the river.

ROCK-SLIDE

★ This is a favourite with locals on a hot summer's day, bring your boogie board to slide down the short but fast rock slide, or just enjoy the swimming hole. A great spot for the whole family.

📍 From Wairoa head towards Lake Waikaremoana on SH38. Just before Frasertown turn right onto Mangapoike Road. Follow Mangapoike Road for about 17kms. Turn right onto Hereheretau Road and keep going for about 4.5kms. Watch out for a pond-like swimming hole and a rock-slide on the left-hand side. Park next to the road and follow the path down to Makaretu Stream.



Rock-slide

WALKING | HIKOI

WAIROA RIVERSIDE WALK AND CYCLEWAY

Easy | ⌚ 1.5 hours (one way)

Wairoa's rich heritage of Māori and European culture can be appreciated on the well-signposted 7.9km trail alongside the southern bank of the Wairoa River.

★ Grab the Wairoa Riverside Walk and Cycleway brochure from the Wairoa i-SITE for more information about historical sites along the walkway. Visit the Wairoa Museum on Marine Parade and enjoy a coffee or a meal along Marine Parade.

📍 The walkway is on the southern bank of the Wairoa River. The starting point is at the famous Wairoa lighthouse.

SIR JAMES CARROLL WALKWAY

Easy | ⌚ 30 min (one way)

Along the walkway, one can see remains of wharves on both sides of the river. They serve as reminders of the time when Wairoa was a river port. The walk leads to the cabbage tree birth site of Sir James Carroll, the very first Māori to hold the position of Prime Minister (in an "acting" role from 1909 to 1911).

📍 This short walk is on the northern bank of the Wairoa River (referred to as "North Clyde"). The starting point is opposite the Vista Motor Lodge, next to the Wairoa Bridge on River Parade.

WAIATAI SCENIC RESERVE

Easy | ⌚ 5 min (one way)

This was once the site of a farmhouse that was damaged in the 1931 earthquake and subsequently relocated down onto the flats. The Reserve was its front garden, boasting a giant puka tree (*Meryta Sinclarii*) that is one of the largest of its kind in NZ. There is a tapu (sacred) site in the reserve near a grove of rewarewa trees. This is the burial site of a Tohunga or Māori priest. Please respect this area.

The reserve is not purely native trees - it also has exotic trees, for example walnut and lemon trees.

📍 Take SH2 towards Gisborne. Cross the railway line and continue up on Te Uhi Hill. The first road on the left is Waiatai Valley Road, take a turn left here. Follow this road to the small parking area.

TE REINGA FALLS SCENIC RESERVE

Easy | ⌚ 5 mins (one way)

From the carpark and picnic area, a short stroll takes you

to views of the spectacular Te Reinga Falls (35 metre drop in the Wairoa River). The falls are fed by the Hangaroa and Ruakituri Rivers that merge just above.

★ For scenic views, go for a drive along Ohuka Road (more information on page 10).

📍 Located 35kms inland from Wairoa. Take a right turn at Frasertown onto Tiniroto Road. Follow the road until you reach Te Reinga, where you turn left and cross the bridge over the river.



WATERSKIING | RETI WAI

WAIROA WATER SKI CLUB

If you want to learn how to waterski contact Len Urwin.

☎ +64 21 279 26 26, Len Unwin

📍 Marine Parade, at the reserve next to the Riverside Motorcamp.

WHITE BAITING | HE INANGA

WAIROA RIVER

The Wairoa River is great for white baiting. Just before the whitebaiting season starts (1 September - 30 October) the river banks are busy with locals working on preparing their whitebaiting stands. Join the locals and try your luck.



ATTRACTIONS NGA WĀHI PAI

MARAE

! When viewing marae around the Wairoa district, please respect local customs. Do not enter the Marae or the land that the marae is surrounded by and don't take photos. If you want to take photos please ask for permission. For more information, contact the Wairoa i-SITE.

WAIHIRERE (TAKITIMU)

This whare tipuna (ancestral house) is named after the waka (canoe), Takitimu, which local Māori trace their descent to, it was built in 1935 as a memorial to Sir James Carroll, a notable Māori parliamentarian.

The marae contains some fine modern carvings. The pare over both doors and window feature takarangi spirals, and tukutuku in the porch are in the poutama design, commonly known as the "Steps to Heaven" - a diagonal ascent of the panel symbolising growth from childhood to old age and the horizontal lines symbolising periods of learning.

📍 47 Waihirere Road, Wairoa



Carving at the Wairoa Museum

MUSEUM | KŌPUTUTANGA TAONGA

The Wairoa Museum is centrally located on Marine Parade, Wairoa. In late 2016 the Museum launched a major re-development - Kakapa (the Pulse). This included refurbishment of all galleries and installation of new exhibitions. Interactive discovery space was developed and the repatriation of a New Zealand Māori war flag from a museum in Scotland was completed.

☎ +64 6 838 3108

🌐 www.wairoadc.govt.nz/our-district/wairoa-museum

📘 www.facebook.com/WairoaMuseum/

✉ info@wairoamuseum.org.nz

🕒 Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 2pm

Closed on public holidays.

📍 142 Marine Parade, Wairoa

PORTLAND ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE WHARE RAMA O WAIKAWA

The Portland Island Lighthouse was brought from Portland Island, where it was no longer needed after a fully-automated light was installed.

It was partly rebuilt in Wairoa in 1961.

The Lighthouse was originally built on Portland Island off the Mahia Peninsula, being one of the earliest lighthouse sites in New Zealand. Built from solid kauri, it was in use from 1878-1960.

★ Today, our lighthouse is a well-known icon of our town. Make sure you have a look at the oscillating light at night-time.

📍 Corner of Marine Parade & SH2, Wairoa



Lighthouse on Marine Parade

ENTERTAINMENT WHAKANGAHAU

GAIETY THEATRE

The Gaiety theatre is Wairoa's historic cinema. It was originally built in 1925, collapsed in the 1931 Hawke's Bay earthquake, but was quickly rebuilt. It closed its doors in the late 1960s but was reopened and reinstated to its former glory in the mid 1990s. The Gaiety Theatre features one of the biggest screens in the country.

📌 www.facebook.com/Thegaietytheatre/

🕒 Open Wednesday to Sunday

📍 252 Marine Parade, Wairoa

EATING | WĀHI KAI

In addition to the eating out options listed below, there is a wide range of takeaway options to choose from along Marine Parade in Wairoa.

ARIGATO MUM'S SUSHI

☎ +64 6 838 8811

🕒 Mon - Sat 8am - 5pm

📍 204 Marine Parade, Wairoa

EASTEND CAFE

☎ +64 6 838 6070

🕒 Tue - Fri 7am - 4pm

Saturday 8am - 3.30pm

Sunday 9am - 3.30pm

📍 250 Marine Parade, Wairoa



Eastend Cafe

DRINKING | WĀHI INU

CLYDE HOTEL

☎ +64 6 838 7139

🕒 Mon - Sun 10am - 2am

📍 Queen Street, Wairoa

Bottle Store

🕒 Mon - Sun 10am - 11pm

FERRY HOTEL

☎ +64 6 838 8229

🕒 Mon - Thurs 11am - 12am

Fri - Sun 11am - 2am

📍 9 Carroll Street, Wairoa

EVENTS | TAKUNETANGA

For more information about the events in Wairoa, please visit www.visitwairoa.co.nz.

JANUARY | KOHITĀTEA

A & P SHOW

January

🌐 www.wairoashow.co.nz

📍 Wairoa Showgrounds, Ruataniwha Rd

WAIKARE FISHING COMPETITION

📍 Waikare Beach

FEBRUARY | HUITANGURU

WAIROA CLUB SURFCASTING COMPETITION

Whakamahia Beach

☎ +64 6 838 7414

WAIROA RACES

Country Racing at it's Best

☎ +64 6 838 3999, Paul Toothill

EAST COAST FARMING WITH TECHNOLOGY EXPO

☎ +64 6 838 7823, Sue Wilson

WAITANGI DAY

📍 Wairoa

APRIL | HARATUA

ANZAC DAY

📍 Wairoa

MAY | HARATUA

DUCKSHOOTING

Opening of the duckshooting season. For more information and to buy a licence visit the Fish & Game website or contact the Wairoa i-SITE on

Fish & Game

🌐 www.fishandgame.org.nz

☎ 0800 542 362

JUNE | PIPIRI

MATARIKI

📍 Wairoa Community Centre

WAIROA MĀORI FILM FESTIVAL

🌐 www.manawairoa.com

SEPTEMBER | MAHURU

SPRING BALL

A & P Society

📍 War Memorial Hall, Wairoa

NOVEMBER | WHIRINGA-Ā-RANGI

NIGHT OF LIGHTS

☎ +64 6 838 6301

🌐 www.riversidemotorcamp.co.nz/fun-page/

📍 Riverside Motor Camp



Wairoa Christmas Parade

DECEMBER | HAKIHEA

CHRISTMAS PARADE

📍 Marine Parade, Wairoa

ACCOMMODATION & CAMPING WĀHI NOHO ME TŌPUNI NOHO

RIVERSIDE MOTOR CAMP

☎ +64 6 838 6301 | 📠 +64 21 2582 911

🌐 www.riversidemotorcamp.co.nz

✉ riversidewairoa@gmail.com

📍 19 Marine Parade, Wairoa

VISTA MOTOR LODGE

☎ +64 6 838 8279 | ☎ 0800 284 782

🌐 www.vistamotorlodge.co.nz

✉ vistamotorlodge@xtra.co.nz

📍 2 Bridge Street, Wairoa

★ For more accommodation options in Wairoa also check:

🌐 www.airbnb.co.nz

🌐 www.booking.com

🌐 www.bookabach.co.nz

FREEDOM CAMPING TŌPUNI NOHO HEREKORE

If you are travelling in a self-contained campervan, camping is permitted on all land owned by the local authority. Please watch out for any signs prohibiting freedom camping. If you are not travelling in a self-contained campervan, you are restricted to signposted freedom camping areas that have toilets.

SELF-CONTAINED FREEDOM CAMPING

Some popular options in Wairoa are:

WHAKAMAHIA BEACH

📍 Whakamahia Beach Road



PILOT HILL

📍 at the beach end of Kopu Road

WAR MEMORIAL PARK

📍 Cnr Freyberg Street & River Parade

NON SELF-CONTAINED FREEDOM CAMPING

CLYDE COURT

📍 Queen Street, Wairoa



Pilot Hill



TE UREWERA

MURUPARA
ROTORUA

16



1 | Te Kura Whenua - Visitor
Experience Centre

2 | Waikaremoana Holiday Park

3 | Aniwaniwa Falls Track

4 | Lake Waikareiti Track

5 | Ruapani Circuit Track

6 | Papakorito Falls Track

7 | Tawa Walk

8 | Whatapo Bay

9 | Lou's Lookout



10 | Onepoto Caves Track

11 | Lake Waikaremoana Great Walk (Onepoto)

12 | Kaitawa Power Station

13 | Lake Kaitawa Fairy Springs

14 | Tuai

15 | Lake Whakamarino

16 | Lake Waikaremoana Great Walk (Hopuruahine Landing)

TE UREWERA

A tall, slender tree with a thick trunk stands in a lush forest. The canopy is dense with green leaves, some showing yellowing. Three people are gathered at the base of the tree: one person in a blue jacket is climbing the trunk, while two others, one in a green jacket and one in a blue jacket, are sitting on the ground. The ground is covered in ferns and a dirt path leads away from the tree.

Te Urewera is renown for its breath-taking beauty as well as its stormy history. The sparsely populated hill country is the historical home of Tūhoe, an iwi (Māori tribe) known for their stance on Māori sovereignty. It extends over 2,127km² and is almost 600m above sea level. The winding scenic Te Urewera Rainforest Route (SH38) from Wairoa traverses the tribal territories of seven iwi as well as lush native rainforest.

Along the gateway to Te Urewera, there is a huge selection of walks and tracks. There are short strolls to waterfalls, lakeside swimming spots, one of the biggest rata trees in the country, cave exploring tracks, climbs to lookouts and multi-day hiking adventures. This is home to the Lake Waikaremoana Great Walk, one of the great nine walks of New Zealand.

WAIKAREMOANA

Waikaremoana is a name that encompasses both the lake and the settlement. The beautiful lake, which is sometimes described as ‘an inland fiord’, was formed about 2200 years ago by a huge landslide caused by an earthquake that blocked the Waikaretaheke River.

Waikaremoana Holiday Park and Te Kura Whenua (Te Urewera Experience Centre) are situated on the edge of Lake Waikaremoana and are the first stop if you want to learn more about the area and walks, or want to hire equipment.

Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre

☎ +64 6 837 3900

📍 6249 Lake Road, Te Urewera 4195

Department of Conservation

🌐 www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/east-coast/places/te-urewera

✉ teureweravc@doc.govt.nz

TUAI

Named after the ancestor Tuwai, Tuai is a small settlement at the shore of the hydro-lake Whakamarino, about 11kms from Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre.

POWER STATIONS

Three hydro-electric power stations - Kaitawa, Tuai and Piripaua - are fed by nearby Lake Waikaremoana. The first one at Tuai was constructed in 1929. Now the scheme makes use of Waikaremoana’s water by carrying it to

Kaitawa Power Station and then, via Tuai station into Lake Whakamarino. The water then passes on to Piripaua Station, before being finally discharged into the Waikaretaheke River. The stations normally operate as a trio but can also run independently.



Tuai Power Station

RUAKITURI

Ruakituri Valley has a reputation for having some of the best trout fishing in New Zealand. Hunting is another popular pastime. There are a number of places where river access is possible. The areas of native bush lining the hills make it one of the prettiest spots to visit.

LEGENDS & HISTORY

KŌRERO TUKU IHO

How Lake Waikaremoana was formed

Long ago before Lake Waikaremoana was formed, a Chief called Maahu lived with his wife and eight children. His people drew their water from two springs: Waikotikoti (used for sacred purposes) and Te Puna a Taupara (used for domestic purposes).

One night Maahu sent all his children to fetch water. However, six of his children brought water from the sacred spring which was closer. When the chief discovered this he flew into a rage and turned all six to stone. Meanwhile Haumapuhia, the remaining daughter, went searching for her father to give him the water from the domestic spring. She found him at the sacred Waikotikoti spring.

When she arrived her father thought she too had collected water from the sacred spring. Outraged he grabbed her and thrust her under the water intent on drowning her.

Knowing she had no chance against her father's might she cried out to the gods of the land for help, they heeded her pleas and turned her into a powerful taniwha. As a taniwha, she knew the light of day would bring her death so she tried to escape to the sea.

She set out north but was barred by the Huiarau Range and the Whanganui Inlet was formed. Next she thrust eastward and the Whanganui o Parua arm was formed. One by one the arms of the lake were carved out in this fashion until she was overtaken by daylight and turned to stone. She still lies in the bed of the Waikaretaheke River.

ACTIVITIES

TŪMOMO MAHI

FISHING & BOATING

HĪ IKA ME EKE WAKA

At Lake Waikaremoana and within Te Urewera are some of Hawke's Bay's best trout fishing. Make sure you purchase a compulsory fishing licence from Waikaremoana Holiday Park store, where you can also hire a fishing rod if you don't have one yourself.

If you want to find out where the best fishing spots are, book a tour and hear lots about the history of the area while you are fishing with an experienced local fisherman.

DARCY HAMILTON

Darcy loves to fish the isolated waters of Ruakituri River & Lake Waikaremoana, and to share these experiences with visitors to the area.

☎ +64 6 863 7192

🌐 www.ruakituri.co.nz | ✉ info@ruakituri.co.nz

📍 Kaikino Station, Private Bag 7307, Ruakituri Valley

HUNTING | PATU KARAREHE

Hunting is a popular activity in this area. If you wish to go hunting in Te Urewera you have to apply for a permit. Please visit the Ngāi Tūhoe website to apply for a permit. For more information about popular hunting spots contact Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre.

🌐 www.ngaituhoe.iwi.nz/permission_for_hunting

Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre

☎ +64 6 837 3803

📍 6249 Lake Road, Te Urewera 4195

WALKING & HIKING | HIKOI WHENUA

For more information about the walks listed below and other tracks, please visit the Department of Conservation or Wairoa i-SITE website.

Department of Conservation

🌐 www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/east-coast/places/te-urewera/

Wairoa i-SITE

🌐 www.visitwairoa.co.nz

ANIWANIWA FALLS TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 20 min (return)

📍 2kms north of Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre on SH38 to Rotorua.

PAPAKORITO FALLS TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 2 min (one way)

📍 2kms up Aniwaniwa Road.



TAWA WALK

Easy | ⌚ 30 min (return)

★ Take your time along this walk and have a close look at the beautiful lush green bush along the walkway.

📍 Start at Whitiri Point on Ngamoko Track, about 1.5kms south from Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre on SH38 to Wairoa.

WHATAPO BAY

Easy | ⌚ 20 min (return)

★ Whatapo Bay is an awesome spot for swimming. Relax at the little beach and enjoy the very clear water of Lake

Waikaremoana. Walk along the shore of the Lake and have a look for foot prints of animals in the sand.

📍 The carpark is located about 6kms south from Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre on SH38 to Wairoa.

LOU'S LOOKOUT

Easy | ⌚ 45 min (return)

📍 The small carpark is about 9kms south of Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre on SH38 to Wairoa.



LAKE KAITAWA FAIRY SPRINGS

Advanced | ⌚ 1 hour (return)

📍 About 12 km from Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre towards Wairoa a signpost indicates the turn-off on the left to Kaitawa. The track starts at the carpark by Kaitawa power station.



ONEPOTO CAVES TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 2 hours (return)

★ Take a torch if you intend to explore the caves as they have little natural light.

📍 The track is close to SH38, approximately 10kms south of Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre on SH38 to Wairoa.

LAKE WAIKAREITI TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 2 hours (return)

★ Hire a row boat from Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre and row around the many islands or find a quiet bay to go for a swim in the crystal clear water. Don't forget to take insect repellent.

📍 The track starts about 2kms north of Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre on SH38 to Rotorua.



Lake Waikareiti

RUAPANI CIRCUIT TRACK

Advanced | ⌚ 6 hours (return)

★ This is one of the most beautiful walks in the area, being very tranquil with different species of birds to be observed. Also, the diversity of the plants and trees along the way is breath-taking.

📍 The Ruapani Circuit Track has the same starting point as Lake Waikareiti Track.

LAKE WAIKAREMOANA GREAT WALK

Moderate | ⌚ 3 - 4 Days - 46kms (one way)

★ When you're doing the Great Walk, plan some time to view Korokoro Falls.

! Before you head to Waikaremoana to start the Great Walk, make sure to check the Department of Conservation website (www.doc.govt.nz) and make sure the track is open. Due to weather conditions, slips etc, parts of the track can

be closed at times. Also organise a water taxi before you go. You need to book huts or campsites for the Great Walk in advance. Bring your own supplies as there are no shops along the way. You also need to bring your own sleeping bag. Please arrange for the water taxi to pick up in advance as you will rarely have cell phone coverage in this area.

📍 The Great Walk can be accessed from SH38 at Onepoto or Hopuruahine Landing.



SWIMMING | KAUHOE

Lake Waikaremoana and Lake Waikareiti are both great lakes for swimming. Crystal clear water and also some sandy beaches invite you for a swim. Especially Whatapo Bay - a great spot for a relaxing swim in Lake Waikaremoana.

EATING & DRINKING WĀHI KAI ME WĀHI INU

There are no restaurant or takeaway options in this area. However there are basic food options that can be cooked in a microwave, available at the Waikaremoana Holiday Park during shop opening hours.

Make sure to stock up on supplies before you go.

Waikaremoana Holiday Park

☎ +64 6 837 3826

🕒 Mon - Sun 8am - 6pm

📍 6249 Lake Road (SH38), Te Urewera

EVENTS | TAKUNETANGA

NOVEMBER | WHIRINGA-Ā-RANGI

TAKE A KID FISHING

☎ +63 6 838 7577, Ian Gemmell - Wairoa Angling Club

📍 Lake Waikaremoana

ACCOMMODATION & CAMPING

WĀHI NOHO ME TŌPUNI NOHO

OHUKA LODGE

☎ +64 6 837 3717

🌐 www.ohukalodge.com | ✉ info@ohukalodge.com

📍 33 Ohuka Road, Frasertown 4195

WAIKAREMOANA HOLIDAY PARK

☎ +64 6 837 3826 |

🌐 www.waikaremoana.info



Waikaremoana Holiday Park

✉ waikaremoanahp@doc.govt.nz

📍 6249 Lake Road, Te Urewera 4195

TUAI SUITE

☎ +64 6 837 3779

🌐 www.waikaremoana.ollyfuntree.com

✉ stay@ollyfuntree.com

📍 45 Mountain Road, RD5, Tuai, 4195

KOHEREPO STATION

☎ +64 6 838 8324

🌐 www.koherepo-station.com

✉ koherepo@gmail.com

📍 1946 Ruakituri Valley Rd, Wairoa District

FREEDOM CAMPING **TŌPUNI NOHO HEREKORE**

If you are travelling in a self-contained campervan camping is permitted on all land owned by the local authority. Please watch out for any signs prohibiting freedom camping. If you are not travelling in a self-contained campervan, you are restricted to sign-posted freedom camping areas that have toilets.

ROSIE BAY DOC CAMPSITE

Basic Campsite offering six non-powered sites.



Rosie Bay

📍 SH38, 10km south of Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre.

MOKAU LANDING DOC CAMPSITE

Basic Campsite offering 10 non-powered sites.

📍 SH38, 14km north of Te Kura Whenua - Visitor Experience Centre.



Mokau Landing at Sunset



Paddle Boarding at Mokau Landing

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO MŌHIOTIA TE WĀHI

CELLPHONE COVERAGE

Cellphone coverage around Lake Waikaremoana is limited. Make arrangements like water taxi and pick ups before you go.

GROCERIES

There are no supermarkets at Lake Waikaremoana. The closest town with a supermarket and other shops is Wairoa (about one hour drive). Lake Waikaremoana Holiday Park has a shop with basic supplies.

Waikaremoana Holiday Park

☎ +64 6 837 3826

🕒 Mon - Sun 8am - 6pm

📍 6249 Lake Road (SH38), Te Urewera

SERVICE STATIONS

Please make sure to fuel your vehicle up when you are going from Wairoa to Rotorua via Lake Waikaremoana and Murupara. There is no service station for the duration of this journey. Waikaremoana Holiday Park has two pumps with diesel and petrol.

Waikaremoana Holiday Park

☎ +64 6 837 3826

🕒 Mon - Sun 8am - 6pm

📍 6249 Lake Road (SH38), Te Urewera

TRAVEL TIMES

Wairoa to Waikaremoana - 1h 15 mins

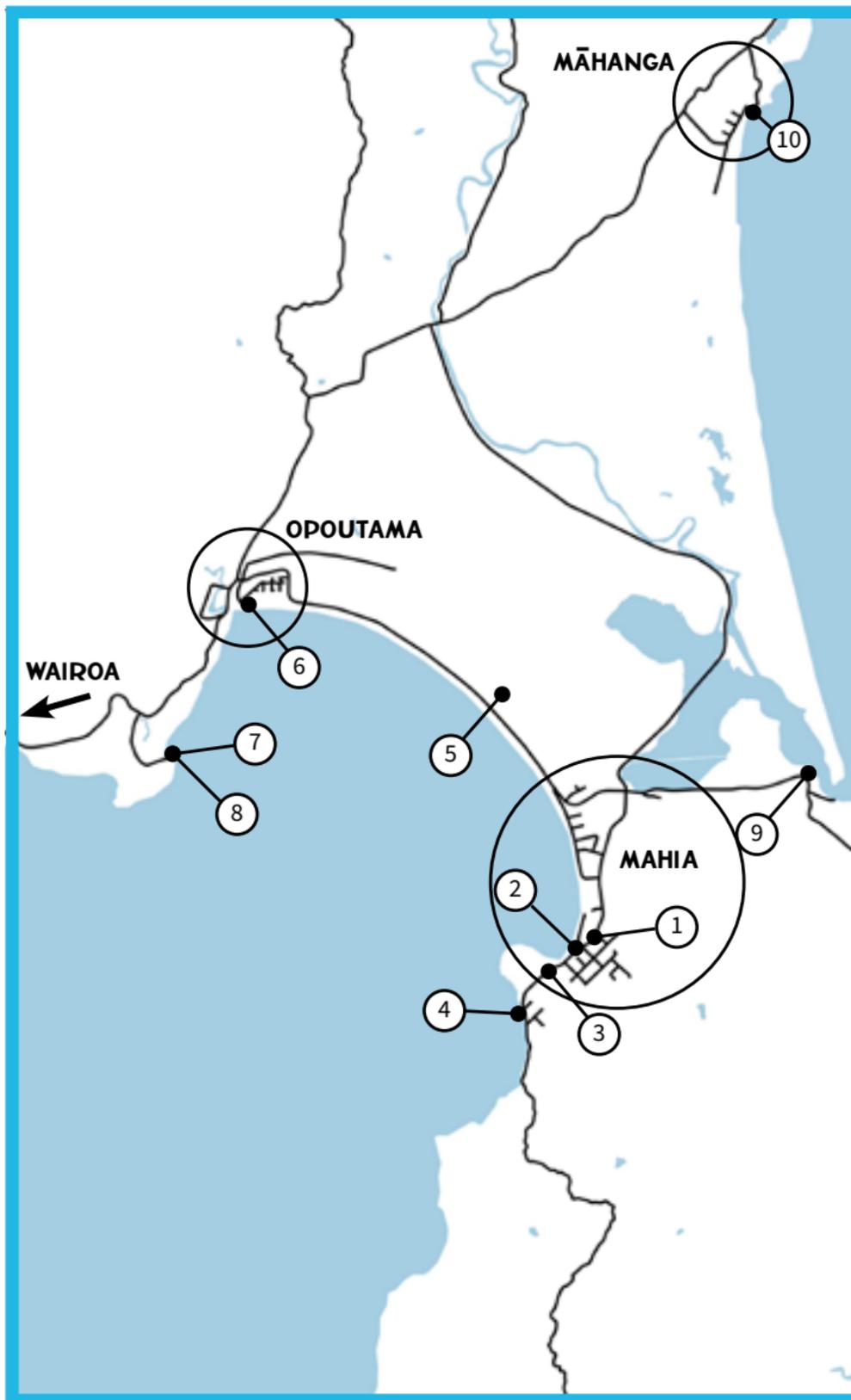
Rotorua to Waikaremoana - 3 hours

WEATHER

Pack for all seasons - the weather can change very quickly all year round.



MAHIA



1 | Mahia Beach Store

2 | Mahia Boating & Fishing Club

3 | Mokotahi Hill Reserve

4 | Taylor's Bay

5 | Mahia Golf Club

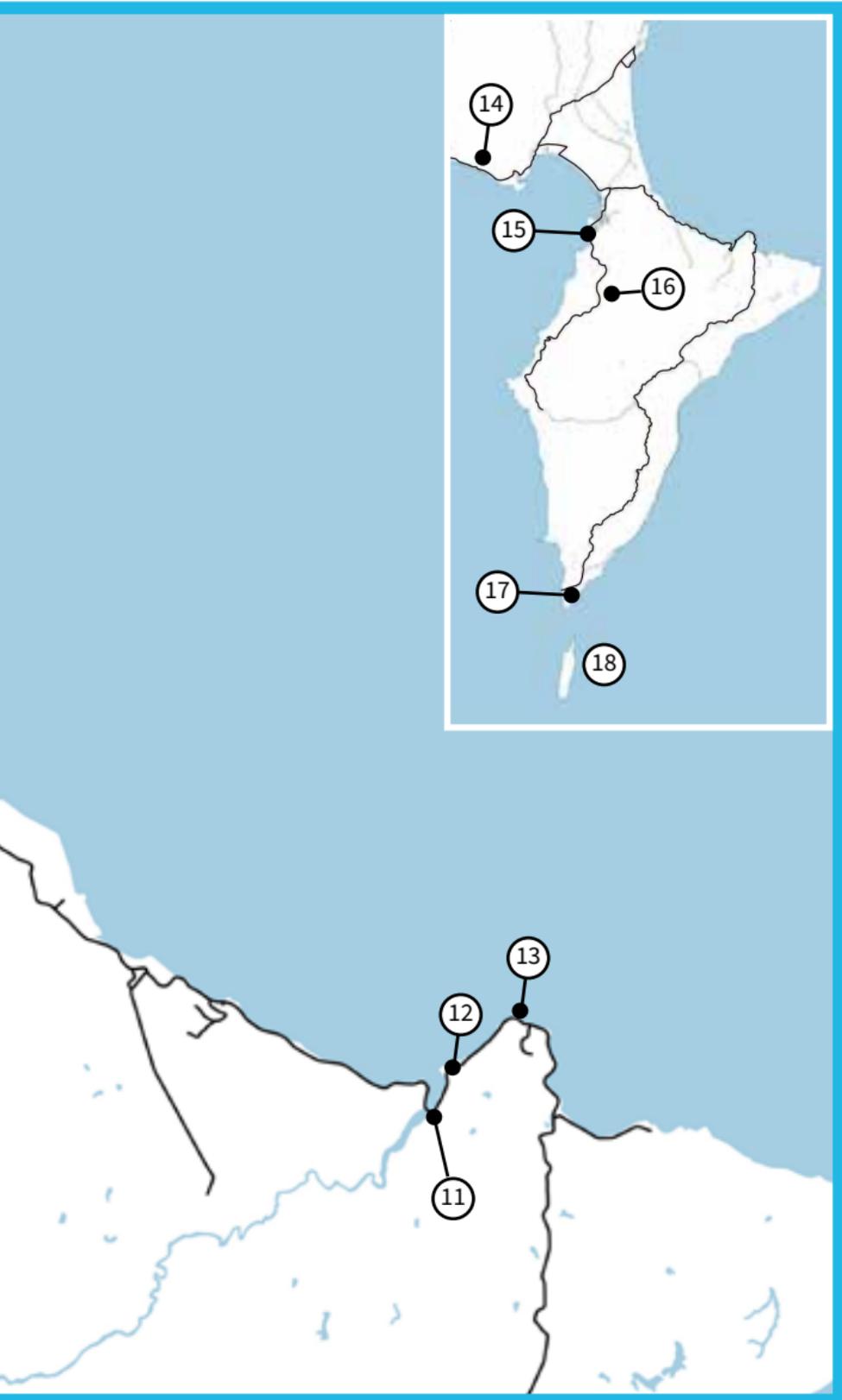
6 | Opoutama Beach

7 | Waikokopu

8 | Annihilation

9 | Oraka

10 | Māhanga



11 | Whangawehi Catchment

12 | Coronation Reserve

13 | Snapper Rock

14 | Black's Beach

15 | Kinikini Road

16 | Mahia Scenic Reserve

17 | Rocket Lab Launch Complex 1

18 | Portland Island

MAHIA PENINSULA



Mahia Peninsula is a hilly promontory projecting south into the sea, between Poverty Bay and Hawke's Bay. According to Māori legend, Mahia Peninsula is Te Matau a Māui - the fish-hook of Māui. The name Mahia means 'indistinct sound'.

The peninsula has a number of beautiful beaches and peaceful holiday houses, and is a natural playground for people who like to surf, fish, dive, kayak, swim and walk. It has an interesting mix of sandy and rocky beaches – some exposed to the ocean swells, others beautifully sheltered.

Discover the black sand of Black's Beach and the tranquillity of Opoutama and Mahia Beach. If you want to catch some waves, Māhanga Beach, the Reefs and Black's Beach are great destinations.

Mahia Peninsula Scenic Reserve is another "must do" activity when visiting Mahia Peninsula. Make time for a walk in one of the largest areas of lowland coastal forest in Eastland. A 3.5km track takes walkers through a range of different types of native vegetation - one of the largest tracts of lowland coastal forest remaining on the North Island's east coast. This is a lovely way to escape the sun for a couple of hours.

Coronation Reserve

A special place of interest on the eastern side of the peninsula is Coronation Reserve, known as Piko o Te Rangi by local Māori. Within the reserve is a rock with a naturally formed basin. In early settlement times this was used as a font where Māori were baptised into the Christian faith by Bishop William Williams. A hole in the wall of rocks nearby is believed to have been used to store bibles.

LEGENDS & HISTORY

KŌRERO TUKU IHO

In mythology, the claw-like Mahia Peninsula was the barb of Māui's enchanted fish hook when the Polynesian demi-god caught his great fish and dragged Te Ika-a-Māui (the north Island) to the surface.

Arrival of Takitimu

On its arrival to Aotearoa, the sacred waka (canoe) Takitimu made its way from its first landing spot at Awanui (near Ninety Mile Beach) down the east coast of the North Island. Eventually the waka arrived at the place called Te





Papa near Kaiuku Marae. It was there that the high priest Ruawharo left the waka and decided to settle overlooking Mahia Beach. Ruawharo proceeded to plant the mauri (life principle) of the whales and fish of the sea which, is said to have brought whales to the bay. The meeting house at Opoutama is named after Ruawharo in remembrance of this renowned tipuna (ancestor).

Rongomaiwahine

It was stories of the beautiful Rongomaiwahine that lead the equally famous Kahungunu to Mahia. On his arrival he was delighted to find that the stories were not exaggerated. Kahungunu and Rongomaiwahine eventually married. This marriage is described as unique because of how it changed the whole history of the East Coast. This union has brought about the current Ngāti Kahungunu and Rongomaiwahine iwi of Mahia.

Early Settlement

Māori lived on Portland Island over 600 years ago. They had easy access to an abundance of fish and shellfish and kept gardens on the eastern side of the island. The original name of the island was Waikawa (sour water).

Captain Cook sailed closely around it in October 1769 but a large number of canoe parties did not welcome him or his ship so he sailed on. Cook gave the Island the name Portland as it was similar topography to Portland Island in England.

Waikokopu

In 1837 whalers arrived and Mahia served as a principal whaling base in the North Island. The distinctive fishhook shape of the bay was a natural whale trap and alludes to the rich whaling history of the area. Waikokopu was the first whaling station in the area.

A port company was formed about 1910 as a means of improving facilities for the loading out of farm produce, which was being handled by lighters to ships, anchored some distance off shore. The wharf was no longer required from 1942, when the railway line to Gisborne was completed.

Portland Island

Portland Island today is known as the former location of our Lighthouse. It is the district's most isolated lonely outpost. A barren, windswept island lying 1.4km south of Mahia Peninsula. It is 3.2km in length, 700 metres at its widest point, 100 metres at its highest point and the top of the Island is almost flat to the cliff edges.

ACTIVITIES

TŪMOMO MAHI

BOATING | EKE WAKA

MAHIA BOATING & FISHING CLUB

🌐 www.mahiafishingclub.com | ✉ moroney4@xtra.co.nz

📍 Mahia Beach Reserve, Corner Newcastle Street & Pohutukawa Drive

DIVING & SNORKELLING | RUKU

All around Mahia Peninsula are great snorkelling and diving spots, especially on the north-eastern more rocky side. The area around the old Waikokopu wharf is also popular with locals.

! Take care when diving at Mahia, Mātaitai reserves are in place that are developed and managed by tangata whenua.

Mātaitai reserves **ALLOW:**

- customary fishing
- recreational fishing without needing a permit.

Mātaitai reserves **DON'T:**

- allow commercial fishing (unless reinstated by a regulation)
- allow landing of commercial catch or holding pots
- affect commercial fishing vessel activities like transiting and mooring
- affect recreational fishing rules unless there are bylaws in place
- control whitebait fishing
- affect access to beaches and rivers
- change restrictions on access to private land.

There are three mātaitai reserves in Mahia:

- Te Hoe
- Horokaka
- Toka Tāmure

Please refer to our freedom camping brochure and Mahia map for more information.

FISHING | HĪ IKA

BLACK'S BEACH

★ This is a great spot for fishing at sunset - snapper, kahawai, dogfish, trevally, cod, gurnard and the occasional moki are taken here.

📍 From Wairoa, take SH2 towards Gisborne. At the roundabout at Nuhaka go straight, and follow the signs to Mahia. Follow the road for about 7kms, stop in one of the parking spots off the road, there are multiple tracks down to the beach.



Blacks Beach

MAHIA EAST COAST ROAD & SNAPPER ROCK

★ The small bays and beaches along this area provide all types of fishing. With the right conditions, you will find out why it earned its nickname Snapper Rock. Fish close to the rock as this is far more productive. Snapper, kahawai and kingfish can be taken.

📍 From Wairoa, take State Highway 2 towards Gisborne. At Nuhaka, continue straight ahead towards Mahia. At Mahia follow Ormond Drive and then continue straight onto Mahia East Coast Road. Follow Mahia East Coast Road for about 9.5kms until you see big flat rock formations on your left hand side - Snapper Rock.

ORAKA BEACH

📍 From Wairoa, take State Highway 2 towards Gisborne. At Nuhaka, continue straight ahead towards Mahia. At Mahia follow Ormond Drive and then continue straight onto Mahia East Coast Road. Turn left onto Oraka Road.

MĀHANGA

★ There are public toilets at the main parking area and multiple small parking areas along the beach.

📍 Judges Parade, Māhanga

OPOUTAMA BEACH

Large rays and kahawai are the main inhabitants of the beach, but the occasional good-sized snapper is taken in the evenings. There are public toilets at the parking area.

📍 Blue Bay Road, Opoutama

GOLF | HAUPŌRO

MAHIA GOLF CLUB

☎ +64 6 837 5700

🌐 mahiagolfclub.com

✉ lil.m@actrix.co.nz | ✉ info@voyagemahia.co.nz

📍 293 Ormond Drive, Mahia

SCENIC DRIVES | HUANUI ĀTANGA

KINIKINI ROAD

★ When you're at Mahia on a nice day, make sure that you go for a drive along Kinikini Road. You will be rewarded with stunning views along cliffs, down valleys, along the coast and the isthmus that connects Mahia Peninsula with the mainland. Walk up one of the hills, feel the breeze and admire the beautiful patterns of the sea.

📍 Follow SH2 towards Gisborne, at the Nuhaka roundabout and go straight to Mahia. At Mahia, follow Newcastle Street past the Beach Store, Mahia Fishing Club and Mokotahi Hill. Continue onto Kinikini Road for about 7kms to a small parking area.

! Please take caution on this road as it is very narrow and windy. Not suitable for campervans!



Views from Kinikini Road

SURFING | EKE NGARU

The surfing conditions at Mahia are so good, that many famous surfers have been spotted surfing here since the 50s. Numerous surf breaks entice surfers from around the world. There is consistent and high-quality surf in almost any weather condition.

Mahia Peninsula's shape and geographical features mean that there is great diversity in the types of breaks and swell direction - with beach, point and reef breaks picking up swells from the north, east and south.

Have a look below for some of the most popular surfing locations. For more information about the surfing locations please visit www.visitwairoa.co.nz.

MĀHANGA

Suitable for less experienced surfers | Toilets available

📍 From Wairoa, take SH2 towards Gisborne. At the roundabout at Nuhaka go straight, following the signs to Mahia. From Mahia follow the signs to Māhanga. There are multiple parking areas and public toilets at the main parking area.

OPOUTAMA

Great for learners | Toilets available

📍 Blue Bay Road, Opoutama

ANNIHILATION

For experienced surfers only

📍 From Wairoa take SH2 towards Gisborne. At the roundabout at Nuhaka go straight, following the signs to Mahia. Follow the road for about 10kms, then turn right onto Waikokopu Road. There are two little parking areas at the end of the road.



Surfing at Black's Beach

BLACK'S BEACH

Great for experienced surfers

📍 From Wairoa take SH2 towards Gisborne. At the roundabout at Nuhaka go straight, following the signs to Mahia. Follow the road for about 7kms, to the parking area next to SH2.

SWIMMING & BEACHES **KAUHOE ME TĀTAHI**

OPOUTAMA

Opoutama Beach, or Blue Bay as it is often called, is a great family beach. The white, sandy beach is safe for swimming, relaxing, picnics, walking and surfing.

📍 Blue Bay Road, Mahia

MAHIA BEACH

Mahia Beach is a safe and shallow family beach. This beach is great for water sport lovers. Bring your SUP or surf board and enjoy the sea.

There are parking areas in various locations along the road. Public toilets are located next to the Mahia Fishing and Boating Club.

📍 From Wairoa, take State Highway 2 heading towards Gisborne. At Nuhaka continue straight ahead towards Mahia.

TAYLOR'S BAY

Taylor's Bay is a quiet, safe and shallow family beach on the southern side of Mokotahi Hill. You can park along the beach next to Newcastle Road.

📍 Follow SH2 towards Gisborne, at the Nuhaka roundabout go straight to Mahia. At Mahia follow Newcastle Street past the Beach Store, Mahia Fishing Club and Mokotahi Hill.

MĀHANGA

Māhanga is a white sandy beach, great for walking, collecting shells and fishing. It's also a great beach for boogie boarding and surfing.

Public toilets available at the end of Judges Parade and off-road parking along the beach.

📍 From Wairoa, take State Highway 2 towards Gisborne. At Nuhaka, continue straight ahead towards Mahia and Opoutama. At Opoutama continue on Māhanga Road for about 7kms to the turnoff to Māhanga on the right hand side.





Mahanga Beach

ROCK POOLS

Drive along Mahia East Coast Road where you will find a rocky coastline. Stop to explore the coastline and find some rockpools to swim in.

📍 From Wairoa, take State Highway 2 towards Gisborne. At Nuhaka, continue straight ahead towards Mahia. At Mahia follow Ormond Drive and then continue straight onto Mahia East Coast Road.

WALKING, TRAMPING & BIKING HIKOI WHENUA ME PAHIKARA

MAHIA PENINSULA SCENIC RESERVE

Advanced | ⌚ 2.5 hours

★ Take a drive on Kinikini Road, as you will be rewarded with stunning views along cliffs, down valleys and along the coast. The views from Kinikini Road are breath-taking.

📍 Follow SH2 towards Gisborne, at the Nuhaka roundabout go straight to Mahia. At Mahia follow Newcastle Street past the Beach Store, Mahia Fishing Club and Mokotahi Hill. Continue onto Kinikini Road for about 7kms to a small parking area on the right-hand side.



View from Kinikini Road

WHANGAWEHI CATCHMENT

During summer the Whangawehi Catchment Management Group offers guided walks and mountain bike rides to promote and raise awareness for its restoration work. For dates please visit the website below.

Whangawehi Catchment Management Group

🌐 www.whangawehi.com

TE ARATIA WALKWAY

Advanced | ⌚ 2 - 3 hours

★ The Whangawehi walkway also named Te Aratia Walkway was started in December 2020. The project was led by the Whangawehi Catchment Management Group, a community initiative including Marae, landowners and agencies whose focus is to protect the Whangawehi stream. Since 2014, 250 000 native trees have been planted in the catchment, 150 ha of riparian margins retired and 30 ha of bush blocks protected. The group also carries out pest control and engages with the local school.

The idea of developing a walkway over private land came from a desire to share the benefits of such a large scale restoration project with the wider community.

From an Heritage view point, there were once several Maori settlements in the valley which was part of a traditional route across the Peninsula. The Whangawehi river was and still is a source of abundant fish and the fertile river terraces were used to grow crops. Interpretative signs placed along the way will explain some of these stories.

The track offers a number of tramping and cycling possibilities, see the map and the sign for some brief descriptions.

Key indicative distances:

Whangawehi boat ramp to the hut: 6 km

Hut to the Kinikini car park: 6 km

Full loop by Whangawehi boat ramp - Mahia beach – Oraka - Whangawehi boat ramp: 24 km

📍 Follow SH2 towards Gisborne, at the Nuhaka roundabout go towards Mahia, along Ormond Drive until you get to the Mahia East Coast Road turn off. Continue straight along Mahia East Coast Road until you get to Whangawehi.

🌐 www.whangawehi.com/walkway/

ATTRACTIONS NGA WĀHI PAI

RESERVES | WĀHI TAONGA

MOKOTAHI HILL

The walk from the parking area to the top will take about 15 to 30 minutes. The track is well formed but narrow and very steep in some parts - but the view is worth it. From the top you can enjoy beautiful 360-degree views towards Napier, Gisborne, the isthmus that connects the Mahia Peninsula to the mainland and hilly back country.

📍 Follow Newcastle Street past Mahia Beach Store. About 500m along there is a small parking area on the right side of the road. The track starts at the parking area.

EATING & DRINKING WĀHI KAI ME WĀHI INU

ROCKET CAFE

☎ +64 6 837 5094

🕒 Mon - Thur 9am - 2pm

Fri & Sat 9am - 3pm, 4pm - 7pm

Sun 9am - 3pm

📍 476 Mahia East Coast Rd, Mahia

SUNSET POINT

☎ +64 6 837 5071

🕒 Mon-Sun 11am-late (Dec - Easter)

📍 Cnr Newcastle & Ratau Street, Mahia

EVENTS | TAKUNETANGA

JANUARY | KOHITĀTEA

GOOD TIME FOODS GOLF TOURNAMENT

☎ +64 6 837 5696, Lil Morgan

📍 Mahia Golf Club

FAMILY FISHING DAY

📍 Mahia Boating & Fishing Club

KIDS DAY

📍 Mahia Boating & Fishing Club

FEBRUARY | HUITANGURU



ANZAC dawn service at Kaiuku Marae

TUNA BIG GAME TOURNAMENT

📍 Mahia Boating & Fishing Club

MARCH | POUTŪTERANGI POLICE FISHING TOURNAMENT

📍 Mahia Boating & Fishing Club

APRIL | PAENGAWHĀWHĀ

ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE AT KAIUKU MARAE

★ There is a beautiful dawn service held at Kaiuku Marae on ANZAC Day. The sun is slowly starting to rise during the service. This service attracts locals as well as visitors.

📍 Kaiuku Marae, 349 Mahia East Coast Rd, Mahia

MAY | HARATUA

DUCKSHOOTING

Opening of duckshooting season. For more information and to buy a licence, visit the Fish & Game website or contact the Wairoa i-SITE.

Fish & Game

🌐 www.fishandgame.org.nz

NOVEMBER | WHIRINGA-Ā-RANGI

TAHAENUI CHRISTMAS FETE

Annual Event

Stallholders from around the North Island offer superb array of artisan wares, food and beverages

🌐 www.facebook.com/tahaenuichristmasfete

✉ fete@thebarnattahaenui.co.nz

📍 Tahaenui Station, SH2 Nuhaka, Wairoa

DECEMBER | HAKIHEA

GIFTED SANDS

December

Mahia Māori Arts Exhibition

📍 Mokotahi Hall, Mahia

MARKETS | TŪMOMO TOA

MAHIA SEASIDE MARKETS

Mahia Seaside Markets are popular for fresh produce, clothing, jewellery, baking, artwork, crafts and much more, all locally hand-made and affordable.

🕒 Every Sunday 9am - 12pm (during summer)

📍 Mahia Seaside Market

📍 Reserve by the Mahia Fishing Club.

ACCOMMODATION WĀHI NOHO

MAHIA BEACH HOLIDAY PARK

☎ +64 27 260 06 59

📘 www.facebook.com/Mahiaholidaypark

✉ mahiabeachholidaypark@gmail.com

📍 43 Moana Drive, Mahia

REOMOANA

☎ +64 6 837 5898

🌐 www.reomoana.co.nz | ✉ reomoana@gmail.com

📍 629 Māhanga Road, Māhanga Beach, Mahia Peninsula

SANCTUARY LODGE

☎ +64 6 837 5867 | ☎ +64 21 0254 54 63

🌐 www.sanctuarylodgemahia.co.nz

📍 249 Māhanga Road, Mahia

THE QUARTERS

☎ + 64 6 837 5751 | Te Au Farm

🌐 www.quarters.co.nz | ✉ info@quarters.co.nz

📍 867 Māhanga Road, Mahia Peninsula

FREEDOM CAMPING TŌPUNI NOHO HEREKORE

If you are travelling in a self-contained campervan, camping is permitted on all land owned by the local authority. Please watch out for any signs prohibiting freedom camping. If you are

not travelling in a self-contained campervan, you are restricted to sign-posted freedom camping areas that have toilets.

NON SELF-CONTAINED FREEDOM CAMPING

ORAKA

📍 Mahia East Coast Road

HOLIDAY HOUSES WHARE HARAREI

There are lots of privately owned holiday houses for rent around Mahia Peninsula. Have a look at www.bookabach.co.nz or www.holidayhouses.co.nz for more information.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO MŌHIOTIA TE WĀHI

BANKS, ATM'S & POST SHOPS WHARE PŪTEA, WĀHI PŪTEA ME POUTĀPETA

MAHIA BEACH STORE - ATM

☎ +64 6 837 5890

📍 Newcastle Street, Mahia

🕒 Mon - Sun 7.30 am - 7 pm (6.00 pm in Winter)
(7.00 am - 8.30 pm during holidays)

GROCERIES | TOA HOKOMAHA

MAHIA BEACH STORE

☎ +64 6 837 5890

🕒 Mon - Sun 7.30 am - 7 pm (6.00 pm in Winter)
(7.00 am - 8.30 pm during holidays)

📍 Newcastle Street, Mahia



Freedom Camping at Oraka

MŌRERE



1 | Whakakī Lagoon

2 | Whakakī Beach

3 | Rocket Viewing

4 | Bluck's Pit



5 | Mangaone Caves

6 | Mōreere Hot Springs

7 | Tunanui Road

MŌRERE



Mōrere Scenic Reserve and mineral pools at Mōrere Hot Springs are one of the “must do” activities while in the Wairoa district. Visitors can enjoy the hot and cool pools and the great wilderness on the network of walking tracks ranging from easy 10-minute native bushwalks to challenging three-hour hikes.

Mōrere Hot Springs are set in 364 hectares of native bush reserve, which is one of the last remaining tracts of lowland indigenous rainforest on the East Coast of New Zealand. Local Māori tribes have used the hot springs for many years, prior to Europeans discovering them in 1884. Māori spoke of the healing qualities.

Nuhaka

Nga Nuhaka is named after an ancestor who lived in the district. Nuhaka is famous for its historic Nuhaka General Store which has been in the same location for more than 100 years. It's also a good stop if you're looking for souvenirs. Nuhaka is also host to the world-famous Māori Film Festival.

At the heart of Nuhaka, on the corner of Ihaka and Mataira Streets, is Kahungunu Marae. This beautiful master-carved marae was built and carved by World War II veterans in the late 1940s under the tutelage of John Taiapa.

Whakakī

Whakakī is a small settlement by State Highway 2 between Nuhaka and Wairoa. Whakakī Lake and Lagoon are home to a variety of birds.

LEGENDS & HISTORY **KŌRERO TUKU IHO**

The name Mōrere only came into existence during the late 1890s, the traditional name is 'Ngā Waiariki o Ngāti Rakaipaaka' (The Hot Springs of Ngāti Rakaipaaka), or more loosely 'the healing waters'. There was a small lake close to Mōrere called Maukanui, which was well-known for its tuna (eels). Today there is evidence of this occupation with the discovery of storage pits and an old pā (fortified village) site. For many years, local Māori utilised the hot springs for cooking, but through legislation this practice was stopped. The current area became a thermal reserve in 1885.

ACTIVITIES

TŪMOMO MAHI

BIRD WATCHING | TIROHANGA MANU

WHAKAKĪ LAGOON

★ This 1500 acre body of water is owned and managed by Whakakī Lake Trust, who are dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the wetland environment. It is the largest of a network of wetlands that stretch along the 35km coast from Nuhaka to Wairoa. In pre-European times there were a number of Māori villages strategically placed along this coastline to take advantage of the bounty of food from the sea and wetland sources.



Whakakī Lagoon

A number of different bird species can be observed here in their natural habitat. Whakakī Lake provides habitat for regionally important waterfowl and wader species such as the Australasian bittern *botaurus poiciloptilus* and also provides habitat for the secretive marsh crake *porzana pusilla* and spotless crake *porzana tabuensis* and provides roosting for a small population of royal spoonbill *platelea regia* found in Hawkes Bay.

📍 From Wairoa follow SH2 towards Gisborne for about 13kms. You will see Whakakī Lake on your right-hand side.

FISHING | HĪ IKA

BLUCK'S PIT

★ The beach is not safe for swimming, but is great for fishing for snapper. This is a very quiet beach.

📍 From Wairoa, head towards Gisborne on SH2 for approximately 29kms. Then turn right onto Bluck's Pit Road. Follow the straight road and then turn right onto a narrow unsealed road to get to the small carpark.

WHAKAKĪ BEACH

★ This is a very popular beach when the fish are running and it is easily accessible. This spot is popular for catching snapper and kahawai.

📍 From Wairoa, head towards Gisborne on SH2 for approximately 21kms. Then turn right (**with caution**) onto Whakakī Beach Road.

SCENIC DRIVES | HUANUI ĀTANGA

TUNANUI ROAD - MŌRERE TO MĀHANGA

★ This drive takes about 30 minutes and provides views over the Mahia Peninsula and the isthmus connecting the peninsula to the Wairoa district. Enjoy unique views from a high altitude and see the outlines of the Mahia Peninsula from a different angle. There are lots of opportunities to stop and take great photos along the way.

! The 13kms between Mōrere and Māhanga Road are unsealed, narrow and windy!

📍 From Wairoa, head towards Gisborne on SH2. 900m past Mōrere Hot Springs, on the right-hand side is the turnoff to Tunanui Road.



View of Mahia from Tunanui Road

MŌRERE HOT SPRINGS WAIARIKI A MŌRERE

☎ +64 6 837 8856

🌐 www.morerehotsprings.co.nz

✉ info@morerehotsprings.co.nz

🕒 Mon to Sun 10am - 6pm | Closed Christmas Day

📍 State Highway 2, Mōrere

ROCKET VIEWING TIROHANGA TĀKIRIRANGI

Rocket Lab is launching rockets from the tip of the Mahia Peninsula into lower-space orbit. If you would like to experience the excitement of watching a rocket launch, head to Bluck's Beach (accessible via Bluck's Pit Road) and wait with other eager spectators for the launch.

📍 For information about the next rocket launch, visit the website of the Wairoa i-SITE where you can find a countdown to the start of the next rocket launch window, closer to launch time.

Wairoa i-SITE

www.visitwairoa.co.nz

Rocket Lab

www.rocketlabusa.com

WALKING | HIKOI WHENUA

NIKAU POOLS TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 15 mins return

★ This short walk leads from the main entrance of the Mōrere Hot Springs to the hot pools. The walk leads through lush stands of nikau palms and alongside the Mangakawa stream. Along the way signs point out plants, trees, animals and local history.

📍 This walk starts at the main entrance of the Mōrere Hot Springs.

NIKAU LOOP TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 25 mins return

📍 This walk starts at the main entrance of the Mōrere Hot Springs.



Nikau Loop Track

RIDGE TRACK

Advanced | ⌚ 2 hours return

📍 This walk starts at the main entrance of the Mōrere Hot Springs.

MANGAKAWA TRACK

Advanced | ⌚ 2.5 hours return

📍 This walk starts at the main entrance of the Mōrere Hot Springs.

MANGAONE CAVES TRACK

Easy | ⌚ 20 min one way

★ The main cave is around 40 metres long and 9 metres high. Two passages, about 3 metres above the floor of the main cavern, can be accessed by ladders.

📍 Turn off SH2 onto Mangaone Road, approximately 4kms north of Nuhaka or 5kms south of Mōrere Hot Springs. Follow the road for about 6kms to a small grassed parking area.

ATTRACTIONS NGA WĀHI PAI

BREMDALE COASTAL GARDENS

Bremdale has an atmosphere of old-world charm. Everywhere there is perfume and surprises to enhance the beauty of the gardens. Creeper-covered archways flow into garden rooms featuring ponds, statues, rocks, ponga trees and Roger's handmade rustic furniture and fences. Weddings can be held at the outdoor chapel.

! Visit by appointment only.

☎ +64 6 837 8729

🌐 www.bremdale.co.nz | ✉ bremdale@xtra.co.nz

📍 Wai Street, Nuhaka

MARAE

KAHUNGNUNU MARAE

Kahungunu meeting house at Nuhaka has some magnificent Māori carvings portraying history and stories of the early people. It was built and paid for by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, as a tribute to the Ngāti Rakaipaaka, who sponsored the annual Easter Conference (hui-a-tau) for the Church during World War II (1940-1945). All carving and panel work was done by returned servicemen and women. The meeting house was dedicated and opened in 1949. The church maintained the meeting house until 1978. The building and Marae area was then gifted to the Nuhaka community. Since then, it has been registered as a community marae and used as the focal point for the people of Nuhaka and the surrounding district.

! Please be respectful and stay on the street when looking at the marae. Also, don't take photos without prior approval!

📍 6 Mataira St, Nuhaka

EVENTS | TAKUNETANGA

FEBRUARY | HUITANGURU

WHAKAKI FISHING COMPETITION

ACCOMMODATION & CAMPING

WĀHI NOHO ME TŌPUNI NOHO

MŌRERE

BLACKBERRY HILL FARM STAY

☎ +64 6 837 8773

🌐 www.blackberryhill.co.nz

✉ johnny.lepper@hotmail.com

📍 3897 Pacific Coast Highway, Mōrere



MŌRERE HOT SPRINGS LODGE

☎ +64 6 837 8824

🌐 www.morerelodge.co.nz | ✉ morerehslodge@xtra.co.nz

📍 3987 State Highway 2, Mōrere

NŪHAKA

BREMDALE COUNTRY COTTAGE

☎ +64 6 837 8729

🌐 www.bremdale.co.nz | ✉ bremdale@xtra.co.nz

📍 Wai Street, Nuhaka

FREEDOM CAMPING TŌPUNI NOHO HEREKORE

If you are travelling in a self-contained campervan camping is permitted on all land owned by the local authority. Please watch out for any signs prohibiting freedom camping.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO MŌHIOTIA TE WĀHI

GROCERIES | TOA HOKOMAHA

NŪHAKA GENERAL STORE

☎ +64 6 837 8717

📍 SH2 (by the roundabout in Nuhaka), Nuhaka

MOHAKA



1 | Mohaka Railway viaduct

2 | Putere Road

3 | Mohaka River

4 | Mohaka Beach

5 | Waihua Beach



MOHAKA



Situated 30 minutes south-west of Wairoa is the small seaside settlement of Mohaka. During the early 1800s Mohaka was a thriving village of Māori and Europeans, linked by the Mohaka River. Whalers and seafarers would utilise the Mohaka River to bring supplies and materials to the area.

Mohaka is the principal locality for the iwi of Ngāti Pāhauwera, an iwi with a proud history. Mohaka is renowned for its fishing and in particular the use of the reti board, an ancient method of fishing still used by locals today. Ngāti Pāhauwera are the guardians of the local hangi stones, a taonga (treasure) of the district.

Today, Mohaka is a quiet settlement, with a school and marae. The local marae, Waipapa-ā-Iwi, is home to the famous 'round hall' named Rongomaiwahine. Farming is very prominent in this region.

Raupunga and Mohaka Railway viaduct

Approximately 10 kilometres from Mohaka is the settlement of Raupunga on SH2. This former railway village once had a post office, shops, garage, movie theatre, railway station, primary school, high school and a Ministry of Works depot. Many of the locals who live there are generational and either worked on the railways, forestry or farms. Raupunga is home to the famous Mohaka Railway Viaduct, which was constructed between 1930 and 1937 and at a height of 95 metres, it is the highest viaduct in Australasia, spanning the Mohaka River.

Mohaka River

The Mohaka River is the principal river of Ngāti Pāhauwera and travels 172 kilometres from the headwaters of the Kaweka and Kaimanawa Ranges to the river mouth at Mohaka. Other iwi such as Ngāti Hineuru and Ngāti Tūwharetoa are also connected to the Mohaka River. The river continues to be popular for rafting and recreational fishing.

Reti

At the mouth of the Mohaka River, you will find all kinds of people hoping to catch fish. Some use surf-casting rods, a few use a 'kontiki' and occasionally you might see a local with a strange looking contraption that slices through the water like a shark's fin. At first glance it looks like a person is playing with some kind of toy, but if you look closer you will soon realise that they too are fishing. They are using an ingenious device known as a reti board, a fishing device controlled from shore by a hand-held line. The reti board is





designed to move against the current, dragging a lure and hook. For Ngāti Pāhauwera, fishing with a reti is a way of life and it has been a tradition that has been passed down through generations.

LEGENDS & HISTORY

KŌRERO TUKU IHO

Te Kahu o Te Rangi, who is the eponymous ancestor of Ngāti Pāhauwera, was marking the boundaries of his iwi, when he was asked to stop near Waikaremoana. During that time he uttered, ‘Tāku rekereke, tāku tūrangawaewae’ (Where I plant my heels, is where I make my stand). This now well-known whakataukī (proverb) is used in reference to control the use, protection, preservation and strategic purpose of the environment and resources of the district, for the betterment of the whānau (family) and hapū (sub-tribes) of Ngāti Pāhauwera.

The sacred mountain of Ngāti Pāhauwera is Maungaharuru, which is located close to Tūtira. According to Māori history, Tūpai, a tohunga (high priest) of the sacred canoe Takitimu threw his staff, Papauma, high into the air and it landed on the summit of the mountain, and the mountain roared and rumbled every morning and evening as the many birds took flight and returned. It was through this action that the mauri (life-force) of birdlife came to exist, hence the name Maungaharuru (the mountain that rumbled and roared).

ACTIVITIES

TŪMOMO MAHI

FISHING | HĪ IKA

WAIHUA BEACH

★ The seabed in front of the car park is very rocky and swallows sinkers. A walk of 750m either way will take you clear of most of the foul ground and into good fishing.

Snapper of all sizes are regularly caught as well as kahawai, dogfish, trevally, gurnard and blue moki. This beach is not safe for swimming.

📍 Follow SH2 from Wairoa heading towards Napier for about 22kms. At the small Waihua settlement, turn left on Waihua Beach Road. Follow the shingle road for approximately 1km.



Waihua Beach

MOHAKA BEACH & RIVER MOUTH

★ The river mouth offers excellent spin fishing for kahawai, especially when whitebait are about. The beach away from the mouth offers snapper, kahawai, dogfish, gurnard, trevally and at times those pesky paddle crabs. Most bait will do the trick. If the crabs are about, try a piece of squid or octopus and add a cork or float to your trace to try and keep it out of reach.

📍 Follow SH2 from Wairoa heading towards Napier for about 27kms. Turn left onto Mohaka Township Road. Keep going past the marae and school, then turn left onto East Beach Road. There is a small parking area at the end of this road.



Mohaka river mouth

WAIKARE

★ Snapper of all size are caught with 9kg plus being regular. The usual kahawai and gurnard are also taken, as well as large rays and at times sharks. Trevally and the occasional

barracuda complete the picture. Best baits are shellfish, skip jack, whole pilchards and fresh kahawai.

📍 Follow SH2 from Wairoa heading south towards Napier for about 60kms. Turn left onto Waikare Road and follow the metal road for about 12kms to a well appointed car park area.

SCENIC DRIVES | HUANUI ĀTANGA

RAUPUNGA TO LAKE WAIKAREMOANA

Take a detour from the usual route from Napier to Lake Waikaremoana and follow Putere Road, Waireka Road and Waihi Road to the Lake.

! This route is largely unsealed, so only use it in good weather conditions and take care!

📍 When you are coming from Napier, take a left turn at Raupunga onto Putere Road. Follow Putere Road for about 20kms until you get to the three Putere lakes. The first and biggest of the three lakes is called Lake Rotonuiaha, the second Lake Rotoroa and lastly Lake Rotongaio. Putere Lakes are especially beautiful at sunset.

Take a right turn onto Waireka Road and follow this road for about 15kms, then turn right onto Waihi Road. Follow Waihi Road for another 20kms until you get onto SH38. Take a left turn and you'll soon be at the stunning Lake Waikaremoana.



Lake Rotonuiaha - Putere

EVENTS | TAKUNETANGA

JANUARY | KOHITĀTEA

ANGLICAN PARISH WHANAU FISHING
COMPETITION

WAIKARE FISHING COMPETITION

📍 Waikare Beach

FEBRUARY | HUITANGURU

WAIKARE CHALLENGE

Multisport event involving running, kayaking and cycling.

🌐 www.schoolground.co.nz/waikarechallenge

📍 Putorino

MAY | HARATUA

MEGA MOHAKA TRAIL RUN

Coastal trail run

🌐 www.sporty.co.nz/megamohaka

📍 Waiotia Station, Mohaka



TO NIHUKA
MAHIA
GIBSBORNE



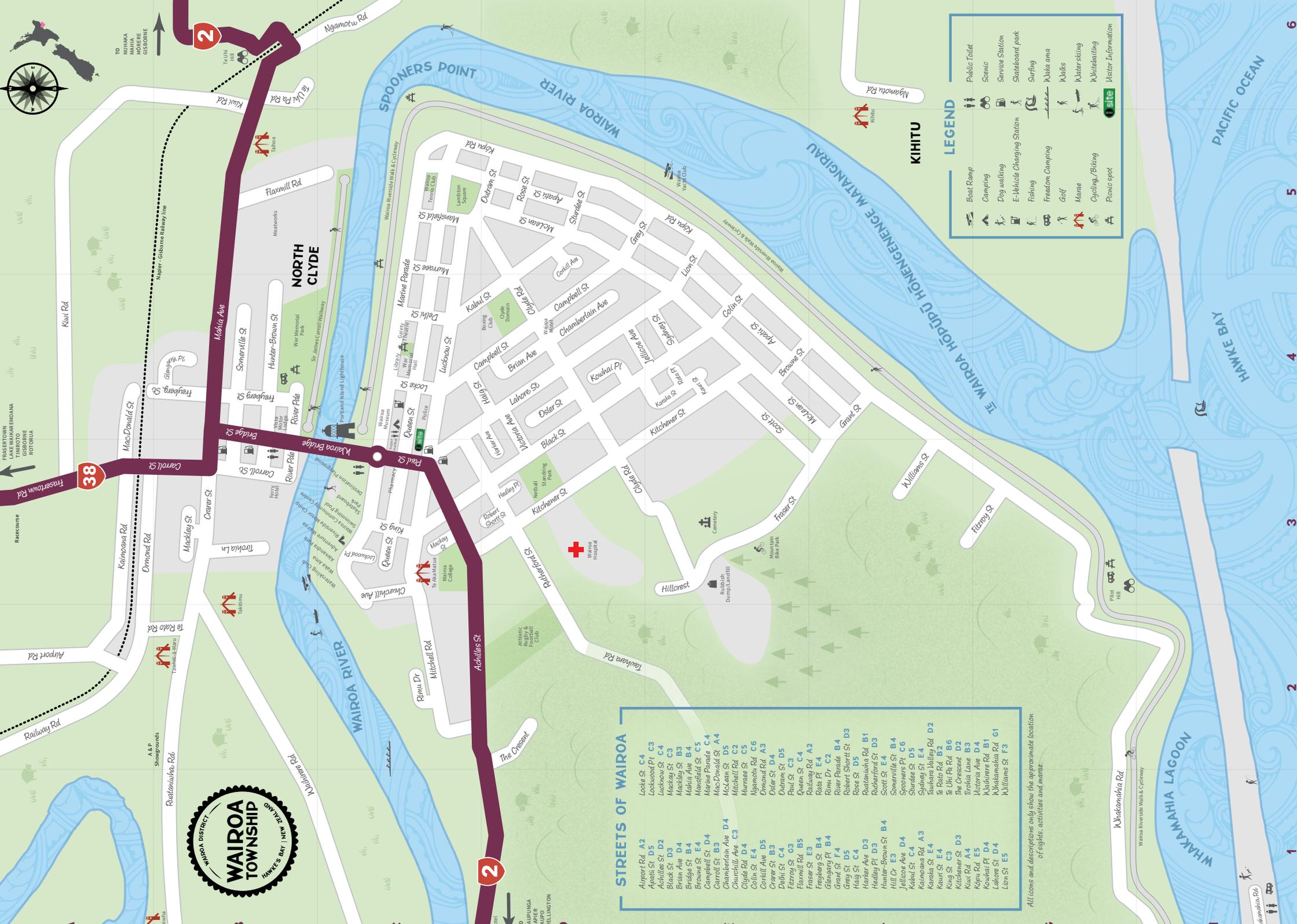
STREETS OF WAIROA

- Airport Rd A2
- Apatai St D5
- Achilles St D2
- Black St D3
- Brian Ave D4
- Bridge St B4
- Browne St E4
- Campbell St D4
- Carroll St B3
- Chamberlain Ave D4
- Churchill Ave C3
- Clyde Rd D4
- Collin St E4
- Corkill Ave D5
- Crarer St B3
- Delhi St C4
- Flaxmill Rd B5
- Fraser St E3
- Freyberg St B4
- Glenyng Pk B4
- Grant St F4
- Gray St D5
- Haig St C4
- Harrier Ave D3
- Hedley Pt D3
- Hunter-Brown St B4
- Hill Cr E3
- Jellison Ave D4
- Kabul St C4
- Kaunonara Rd A3
- Kanaka St E4
- Kauri St E4
- King St C3
- Kitchener St D3
- Kiwi Rd A4
- Kopu Rd A5
- Kowhai Pt D4
- Lahore St D4
- Lion St E5
- Loke St C4
- Lockwood Pt C3
- Lucknow St C4
- Mackley St C3
- Maori Ave B4
- Mansfield St C5
- Marine Parade A4
- MacDonald St A4
- McLean St D2
- Mitchell Rd C2
- Murrays St C5
- Ngamotu Rd A3
- Omanu Rd A3
- Osler St D4
- Duram St D5
- Paul St C3
- Queen St C4
- Railway Rd A2
- Rata Pt E4
- Rimu Dr C2
- River Parade B4
- Robert Shortt St D3
- Rose St D5
- Rudamuihua Rd B1
- Rutherford St D3
- Scott St E4
- Somersville St B4
- Spoonsers Pt C6
- Sturges St D5
- Sydney St E4
- Tauhara Valley Rd D2
- Ti Rato Rd B2
- Ti Uki Pt Rd B6
- The Crescent D2
- Tirohia Lane B3
- Victoria Ave D4
- Whakarewa Rd B1
- Whakamahiua Rd G1
- Williams St F3

All icons and descriptions only show the approximate location of sights, activities and marae.

LEGEND

- Boat Ramp
- Camping
- Day walking
- E-Bike Hire Changing Station
- Fishing
- Freedom Camping
- Golf
- Marae
- Cycling/Biking
- Picnic spot
- Public Toilet
- Scenic
- Service Station
- Stateboard park
- Surfing
- Niwa area
- Niwa
- Water skiing
- Whitebaiting
- Visitor Information



1
2
3
4
5
6

WAIROA

9 Paul Street

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🌐 www.visitwairoa.co.nz

✉ isitewairoa@wairoadc.govt.nz

