



View to Waitawa Bay

How to get there

Take State Highway 1 south. After 22km, take exit 451 Hill Road and turn left onto Hill Road. After 0.8km you will reach a roundabout; turn right taking exit 2 onto Stratford Road. At the next roundabout, go straight through onto Alfriston Rd. Follow this road until the T-junction and turn right onto West Road. Continue along and turn left onto Papakura-Clevedon Road. Continue along until you reach Waitawa.

For public transport information: phone Auckland Transport **09 366 6400** or visit at.govt.nz

Please take your rubbish home

Your parks provide open space, fresh air, a home for native plants and animals, clean water, beauty and inspiration. Help keep them this way.

- No bins • No rubbish • Better parks • 

Dogs

Dogs on a leash are welcome on walking tracks within Waitawa Regional Park except during lambing season which runs mid-July to the end of September.

Dogs are allowed off leash and under control on Mātaitai Bay beach. On busy days rangers recommend the western end of the beach away from the crowds.

Dogs are prohibited from all mountain bike tracks, picnic areas and Waitawa Wharf.

For detailed information phone Auckland Council on **09 301 0101** or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Waitawa Regional Park

Located 50km from central Auckland on our south-eastern coast, Waitawa is made up of three small peninsulas with beaches, picnic areas, trails and accommodation. This is a recreation park, planned and developed with outdoor activities, exercise and fun in mind.

Walking, horse riding and mountain biking tracks have been created throughout the varied landscape on the park, in areas of former pine forest and regenerating native bush.

Look out for information panels that tell the story of Waitawa at prominent locations, special sites or interesting places. Visitors can take the short walk to the Pāwhetau headland for spectacular vistas towards Pakihi and Pōnui Islands.

Waitawa also has two disc golf courses. For beginners or a quick game, park up at the Hoiho Car Park and try your hand at the Coastal 9 that loops through the coastal paddocks near Waitawa Bay. Alternatively, challenge your friends and whanau to a full 18-holes on the Waitawa Disc Golf Course. Parking at the haybarn, golfers of all levels will enjoy exploring the park as you wind your way through the re-generating native bush and farm paddocks. Check out the Auckland Council website disc golf page for course details.

Māori Heritage

Waitawa is of great importance to Māori as it is located upon a traditional boundary line between Te Urikaraka (Ngāti Paoa) and Ngāti Kohua (Ngai Tai / Te Waiohua). The area has a long and rich history of human occupation, which is reflected in the numerous archaeological sites on the park and in the wider area. Sites of significance include Waitawa, Waipatukahu and Ruakākāriki kainga, the inland kainga of Papapōrutu, Oamio and Karioi the Pāwhetau, Ōrākau, Mātaitai and Kōheruārahi as well as cultivations at Te Aroaro.

Plants and animals

The park contains a significant wetland and several smaller wetlands at the base of gully systems. Mature pōhutukawa line the coastal fringe. There is a population of the nationally threatened shrub *Pomaderris rugosa*.

The park has a tree planting programme in place to regenerate the original forest of the area.



Auckland Council manages 28 regional parks

For more information on any of these parks: phone **09 301 0101** or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Volunteering

We would love to have your help with work in regional parks. Age and physical ability is no barrier as there are tasks and projects to suit all individuals and groups.

For more information on volunteering: phone **09 301 0101** or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Enjoying the water at Mātaitai Bay.

Waitawa Regional Park



Visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or call **09 301 0101** for more information.



Park facilities

Prime picnic spots

There are three gas barbecues at Mātaitai Bay as well as one in each of the Hauraki Car Park and Mountain Bike Car Park picnic areas. Feel free to also bring your own cooker. Please do not bring your own solid fuel BBQs due to the fire risk of disposing of the hot embers. This includes but is not limited to wood fire, charcoal and pellet BBQs. **Please clean after use.**

Campgrounds

Waitawa Bay Sea Kayak Campground

Located on a traditional boundary line between Te Urikaraka (Ngāti Paoa) and Ngāti Kohua (Ngai Tai - Te Waiohua), this land holds deep significance for local Māori. The area has a long and rich history of human occupation, reflected in the numerous archaeological sites recorded on the parkland and in the wider area.

Waitawa Bay Campground is part of Te Ara Moana - 'the sea-going pathway'. Nestled in Waitawa Bay, the campground has a shelter, toilet and basic water supply.

Waitawa Certified Self-Contained (CSC) parking area

Located on the old Orica manufacturing site, the self-contained campground has hard stands that offer extensive coastal and inland views. Bookings can be made online (use holiday places link) or by calling Auckland Council on **09 301 0101** or by using one of the park phones.

Other accommodation

Waitawa Bach

Waitawa Bach can sleep up to 6 people and offers a chance to take your time in experiencing all that Waitawa Regional Park has to offer over several days. With sweeping views over Waitawa Bay, easy access to the beach and distant views across to the Coromandel, there is no better place to escape the hustle and bustle of the city.

Bookings

For information and bookings for these overnight facilities, phone **09 301 0101** or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Waitawa Regional Park

Feature walks from Mātaitai Bay

Kererū Loop —

1 hour 15 minutes, 4km

The shortest of the loops, Kererū Loop follows the Waitawa Bay Track from Mātaitai Bay up and through the native forest then down the steps before branching off onto the Farm Track, which descends along an open ridgeline. It continues along the ridgeline amongst grazing sheep with views across farmland, then descends to a sheltered picnic area and toilets. It then joins the Valley Track alongside wetlands to the head of the valley, before a short climb up to the road near Tikapa Moana carpark to rejoin the Waitawa Bay Track for the descent back to Mātaitai Bay.

Kōtare Loop —

1 hour 30 minutes, 6km

This loop follows the Waitawa Bay Track from Mātaitai Bay, then connects to the Pāwhetau Pā Track. After crossing the park road by the main entrance, it follows a wide track along a valley to a picnic and toilet area. It then joins the Valley Track alongside a wetland area and travels to the head of the valley before a short climb up to the road near the Tikapa Moana carpark. It joins back onto the Waitawa Bay Track for the descent back to Mātaitai Bay.

Pīwakawaka Loop —

2 hours 15 minutes, 8km

This loop follows the Waitawa Bay Track from Mātaitai Bay up and through the native forest then down the steps before branching off onto the Farm Track, which it follows all the way round to Tikapa Moana carpark before joining onto Waitawa Bay Track back down to Mātaitai Bay. The first part of the walk has magnificent views and snippets of native forest with the chance of encountering friendly fantails flitting along the track. It then passes by grazing farm animals, before ambling through regenerating mānuka.

Pūweto Loop —

2 hours 30 minutes, 10km

The longest of the loop tracks, Pūweto Loop follows Waitawa Bay Track onto Pāwhetau Pā Track crossing the park road at the main entrance and joining Farm Track to go up the open ridge-line, with views across neighbouring farmland and down between tall eucalyptus trees to a picnic area with toilets. It then joins Valley Track to take in the wetland area before rejoining the Farm Track up and along the ridgeline to join back onto Waitawa Bay Track for the final descent to Mātaitai Bay.

Mountain biking

The mountain bike tracks have been designed with families in mind, offering a good range of beginner and easier grade tracks. Intermediate tracks are designed for those with a bit more experience behind the handlebars.

Tracks have been created throughout the varied landscape on the park, in areas of former pine forest and regenerating native bush, up and down steep hills and through pasture. Some are shared with walkers, horse riders and other park users, please show respect to your fellow track users. There are also many important cultural and heritage sites on this park, so please keep to the formed tracks.

Park in the mountain bike car park for easy access to the track network. Enjoy your time out on the park, take care and visit again in the future, as we're planning more tracks as the park develops. Ride within your limits.

Sea kayaking

Waitawa is part of Te Ara Moana – 'the sea-going pathway'. This is a self-guided five day sea kayak tour along approximately 51km of Auckland's picturesque south eastern coastline, connecting five of Auckland's charming Regional Parks. Book and camp at the Waitawa Bay Sea Kayak Campsite.

v. 12/07/2023



Key

- Mountain bike parking
- Barbecue
- Camping
- Certified Self-Contained (CSC) vehicle car park
- Information
- Lookout
- Parking
- Fishing; surf casting
- Disc golf
- Phone to contact ranger
- Picnic area
- Mountain biking
- Canoeing / kayaking
- Toilets
- Walking
- Historic site
- Bach
- Shelter
- Horseriding
- No swimming
- No self-contained vehicles
- No access
- Streams
- Roads
- Parkland
- Bush
- Wetland
- Non parkland
- Sand
- Grade 1: Easiest
- Grade 2: Easy
- Grade 3: Intermediate
- Grade 4: Advanced

You can launch your kayak from the beach at Mātaitai Bay and paddle to the jetty and beyond if visiting for the day. For those wishing to walk in, please contact Auckland Council for permission.

Ranger contact details

To contact a park ranger call Auckland Council from your mobile phone, on **09 301 0101**.

Stop kauri dieback

kauridieback.co.nz

A disease known as kauri dieback (Phytophthora taxon Agathis), which is threatening the survival of kauri trees, has been identified in the Waitākere Ranges. Help prevent the spread of kauri dieback by keeping to defined tracks and cleaning footwear before and after your visit.

Be safe in regional parks

The water safety code

1. Be prepared.
2. Watch out for yourself and others.
3. Be aware of the dangers.
4. Know your limits.

Land safety code

1. Choose the right trip for you.
2. Understand the weather.
3. Pack warm clothes and extra food.
4. Share your plans and take ways to get help.
5. Take care of yourself and each other.