

# OTHER WALKS IN THE AREA

## THE HATEA LOOP (HUARAHĪ O TE WHAI)

The Hatea Loop, begins at the Town Basin, a picturesque international yachting marina with restaurants, cafes, specialty shopping, art and museums.

Along the 4.2km Walkway, enjoy the Sculpture Trail created by local artists, including the dramatic Waka and Wave stone sculpture, at Hihiaua Peninsular, of a Māori waka (canoe) breaking through a towering wave. Read about the history of the locations on Heritage Panels. Walk across the footbridge, Kotuitui Whitinga, and the international award-winning bascule (opening) bridge – Te Matau ā Pohe.

Allow 1-2 hours. 4.2km loop suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

## CORONATION SCENIC RESERVE

Part of the larger Pukenui Forest, the Coronation Scenic Reserve Track can be taken as short walks or as a longer two to three hour walk through the beautiful, bush-clad green hills that cradle much of Whangarei City.

Allow 1-3 hours.

## WAIMAHANGA WALKWAY

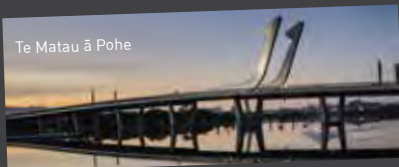
With a metalled all-weather path about 4kms long, this is a great walk for the family! Part of the track is formed on a disused railway embankment and meanders through bush and mangroves allowing you to observe life in this fascinating ecosystem.

Allow 1-2 hours.

## ABBEY CAVES WALK

Head down boarded steps from the road and parking area to enjoy a rural walk that features a beautiful mature podocarp-hardwood forest – including outstanding puriri trees. Walk and climb the wild and surreal limestone formations sculptured by the forces of nature. This is a photographer's dream.

Allow 1 hour.



Te Matau ā Pohe



To find out more about these, and other walks in the District go to [www.wdc.govt.nz](http://www.wdc.govt.nz)



Whangarei i-SITE  
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Tarewa Park, 92 Otaika Road,  
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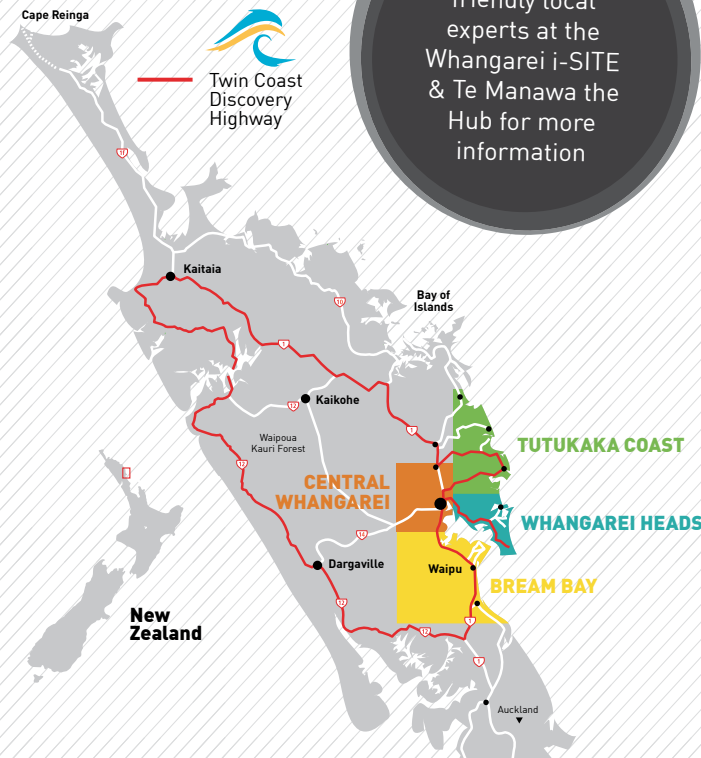
[whangareinz.com](http://whangareinz.com) [f whangareiloveithere](https://www.facebook.com/whangareiloveithere)



Te Manawa The Hub  
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WHANGAREI DISTRICT COUNCIL [wdc.govt.nz](http://wdc.govt.nz) [f whangareiDC](https://www.facebook.com/whangareiDC)



Talk to the friendly local experts at the Whangarei i-SITE & Te Manawa the Hub for more information

# WHANGAREI LOVE IT HERE!

Northland - New Zealand



# HATEA RIVER WALK

## & SURROUNDS



Including:  
Mair Park and Parihaka Reserves  
A H Reed Memorial Park  
Whangarei Falls Scenic Reserve

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

# I Hatea River Walk

This walk takes you from the Town Basin in the Whangarei CBD, along the Hatea River, to the gorgeous Whangarei Falls. It will take you approximately 2 ½ hours one way – time to immerse yourself fully in this beautiful environment.

You can start at either end, with parking available at both.

If you start at the Whangarei Falls end, you will be travelling gently downhill most of the time.

You also have the option of doing parts of the track with parking, and entries and exits available at multiple points.

## TOWN BASIN TO MAIR PARK

If you start at the Town Basin, ensure your vehicle is parked in an area that allows enough time for your walk. Cross the Canopy Bridge and turn directly left onto Elliot Reserve next to the Aquatic Centre where a short boardwalk leads through the mangroves on the edge of the Hatea River.

Following the track markers, continue up Ewing Road and turn right between houses near the end of the road. This narrow footpath bridges a stream and steps take you up to Vale Road. Turn left, continue to the end of the road and follow the metal path into Parihaka Forest. The bridge to Mair Park is on the left after about 660m.

**Town Basin to Elliot Reserve: 10 mins one way**

**Elliot Reserve to Mair Park: 30 mins one way**

## MAIR PARK TO AH REED MEMORIAL PARK

After crossing the Hatea River at the Mair Park Bridge, continue along the river bank to Whareora Road.

At Whareora Road, the track follows the footpath on the eastern side of the road. The track crosses to the western side of the road along the grassy bank of the stream up to the carpark at AH Reed Memorial Park.

**Mair Park to Whareora Road: 40 mins one way**

**Whareora Road to AH Reed Memorial Park: 15 mins one way**

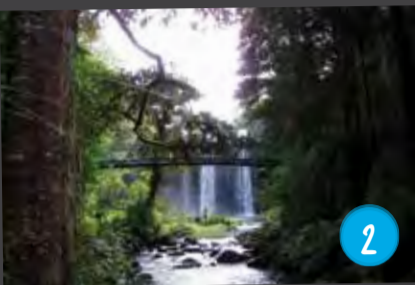
## AH REED MEMORIAL PARK TO WHANGAREI FALLS

The walk between the AH Reed Memorial Park and the waterfall follows the Hatea River which you will cross by footbridge. The track departs from the Elizabeth Track and is an easy stroll through pasture and forest to the base of the Whangarei Falls.

A short walk up a zig zag path on either side of the waterfall brings you to the Whangarei Falls Reserve.

**AH Reed Memorial Park to Whangarei Falls: 45 mins one way.**





This prestigious international Award recognises well-managed, high quality green spaces and is designed to encourage the provision of good quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable ways. In New Zealand the program is supported by the Department of Conservation, Opus International Consultants and is endorsed by the New Zealand Recreation Association.

## 2 Whangarei Falls Scenic Reserve

Walks in this area include a loop walk that starts at the top of the picturesque Whangarei Falls and zig zags down and up each side of the waterfall.

Viewing platforms on either side give outstanding views providing you with a bird's eye view of the falls and great photo opportunities.

This is an easy walk with some short, steep climbs, and is suitable for all ages.

For a longer walk, the Sands Road Loop also starts from the public carpark. Cross the road bridge over the river and walk along the road towards Ngunguru. Sands Road is on the right. After a 15 minute walk, this quiet road becomes unsurfaced, but is mown and maintained for walkers.

Further along, the road becomes surfaced again and is named Clapham Road. The AH Reed Memorial Park is on this road on the right. Tracks through here lead onto the Hatea River Walk and back to the Whangarei Falls. This walk can be done in reverse by starting at the AH Reed Memorial Park.

### HISTORY

The area was known as Otuihau to local Maori, which possibly refers to the whirlwinds which used to be common at the foot of the falls. The area was also rich in tuna (eels) and koura (freshwater crayfish) and local Maori set their traps here.

The area has been a popular picnic spot since the turn of the century, and continues to be so today.

In the late 1920s, a Mr Archibald brought the property, reputedly to prevent the Whangarei Falls being developed as a commercial watermill. In 1946, a local businessmen's association raised the purchase price by public subscription and the property was vested as a public domain from which we now all benefit.

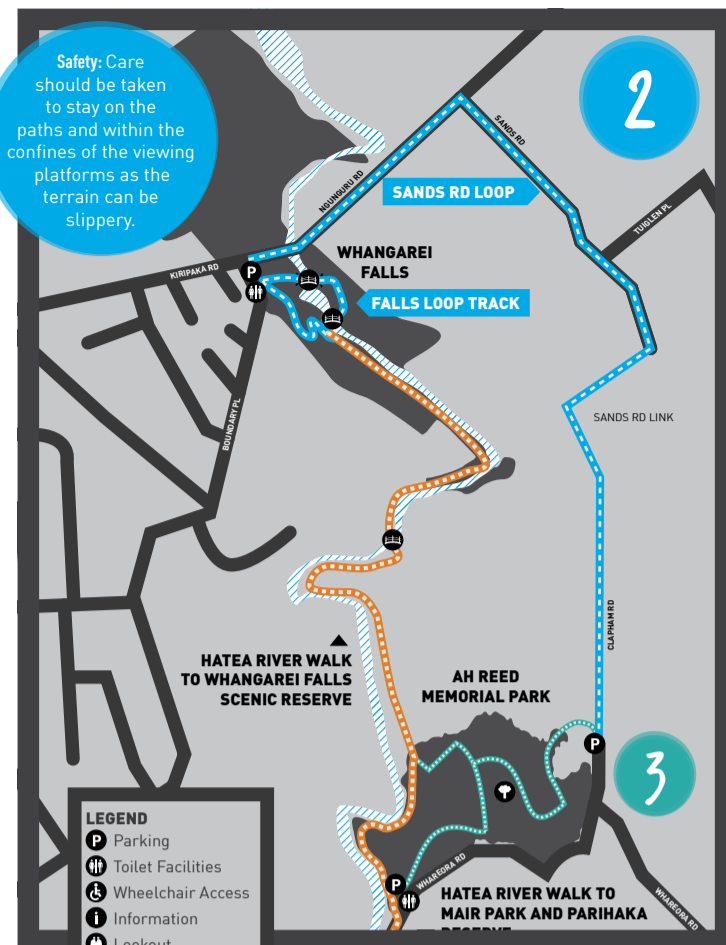
### TIMES AND DISTANCES

**Falls Loop Track: 20 mins, 1km return**

**Sands Rd Loop Track: 2 ½ hours, 4.8km return**

### PARKING

Available at the Whangarei Falls Reserve on Boundary Road and at AH Reed Memorial Park.



## 3 AH Reed Memorial Park

AH Reed Memorial Park is a remnant of the original, magnificent kauri forests which were once extensive throughout Northland. The Park features a stunning canopy walkway, enabling visitors to get 'up close and personal' with stately, 500-year old kauri trees.

You will also enjoy the unusual view of looking down on beautiful nikau palms and other trees. Visitors have described it as like being in a tree house. A detour from the Canopy Walkway, which crosses over the Waikoromiko Stream, will take you on a short walk to the beautiful, 23.8m high Paranui Falls.

### HISTORY

The park is named after the late AH Reed, a New Zealand historian, author, publisher and long distance walker. AH Reed was also a significant player in protecting the falls from quarrying, and retaining the kauri trees in the forest.

The site of the Reed homestead was on the opposite side of Clapham Road from the upper carpark.

### TIMES AND DISTANCES

The walk could take as little as 15 minutes, but we recommend at least 30 minutes to allow you to fully experience the ambience of the forest, trees and birds.

**AH Reed Memorial Park: 15 to 30 mins, 0.5 km return**

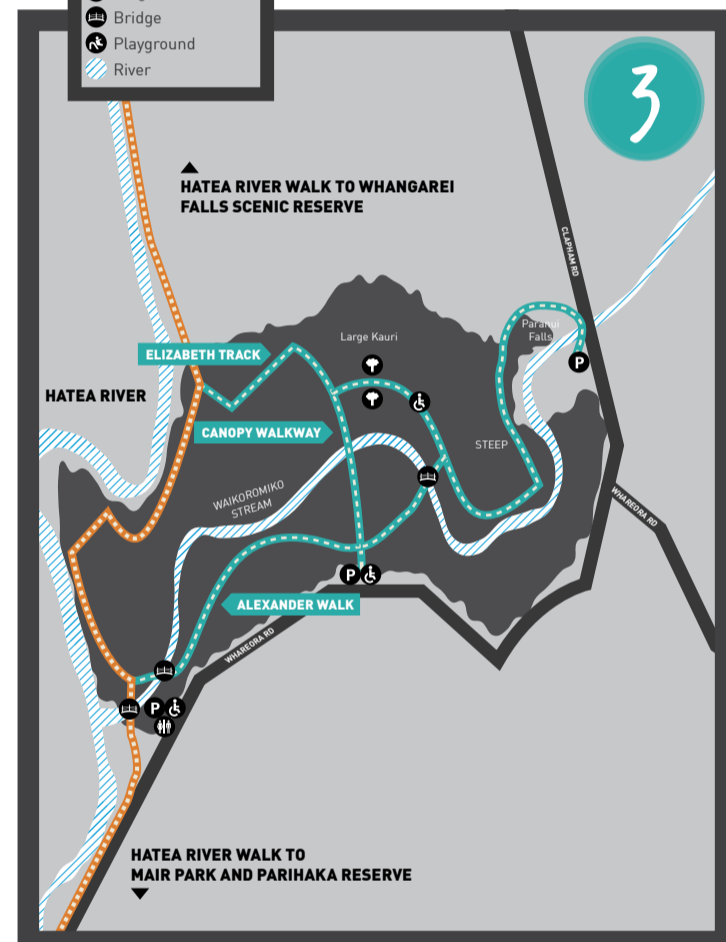
### PARKING

Available at the start of the walk on Whareora Road.

### WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

Wheelchair access for the short Canopy Walkway is available from the middle carpark on Whareora Road.

The Canopy Walkway and Alexander Walk are accessible by the disabled.



## 4 Mair Park and Parihaka Reserve

A great walk for the energetic! Many locals walk/run this small mountain on a regular basis. Parihaka is an eroded volcanic cone rising to 241m above sea level. At the summit, the views of the city and harbour are just magnificent.

The tracks and steps are generally in good order and you have a choice of entry options.

Most people would use the carpark on Mair St, first following the metalled track down to Hatea River, crossing the footbridge and immediately beginning the ascent on Drummond Track.

For a slightly longer walk, take the Hokianga and then the Dobbie Tracks.

You can also choose to depart on the Ross Track that starts at the end of Dundas Road.

Return on the track you came up or take an alternative route.

If your start point is from Mair Park, take some bread to feed the ducks that are permanent residents of the Hatea River.

### HISTORY

The Hokianga and Dobbie Tracks have extensive remnants of Maori settlement extending along 3km of ridge and including three heavily defended Pa sites. More than 100 household terraces and 300 kumara pits have been identified. The Pa complex at Parihaka was the site of a significant battle and massacre in the 1700's.

The summit is also home to the War Memorial, an obelisk unveiled in 1957 that glows red in the night sky – a local landmark.

### TIMES AND DISTANCES

**Dobbie Track via Hokianga Track: 1 hour, 1.9km one way**

**Drummond Track: 1 hour, 1.4km one way**

**Ross Track: 1 hour, 1.45km one way**

A moderate level of fitness and suitable footwear are required.

### PARKING

Many options are available including the carpark at Mair Park, and the end of Dundas Road.

