

EXPLORE WHAKATANE BY BIKE

Whakatāne Cycle Trails

1. RIVERSIDE TRAIL

Distance: 8.6km return ride

If you're keen for an easy cycling cruise or walk with lots to see, Warren Cole Walk and Cycleway along the riverside trail is superb. One trail end is by the Whakatāne River bridge on Landing Road, and the other is near the Whakatāne Heads. It's fully paved, and you'll be alongside the river the whole way. Near the Whakatāne River mouth, you can watch the Pacific Ocean swell rolling in. Upriver from here, the Whakatāne wharves usually have plenty going on – perfect if you're with kids. About midway along the track, the river has large areas of salt marsh. If you enjoy bird-watching, there are many species to spot.

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2. URBAN NATURE TRAIL

Distance: 6km

Starting at the bridge, head upstream along the gravel track until you reach the gate with Ferry Road. Here, at the river's edge, take time to explore the whitebait (inanga) spawning ponds before riding along the relatively quiet Ferry Road and Kowhai Street onto the winding Awatapu lagoon shared pathway. Alongside this track you'll see pest control, picnic areas and information boards on lagoon restoration projects. At the junction with Hinemoa Street, take a right until you cross and follow the Wainui Te Whara Stream. Look out for wildlife before turning right at King Street, right again at Bridge Street and along the shared pathway. After a right turn back onto Hinemoa Street, you can return along the shared pathway to the Whakatāne Bridge.



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3. TOWN TO SEA TRAIL

Distance: A total of 16km with stunning climbs, bush and coastal scenery!

From the roundabout at the junction of Valley Road and Gorge Road, head uphill along the shared path to Ōhope Beach. The beach is 5km from town with uphill, flat and downhill sections. Upon reaching Ōhope, ride along the Pohutukawa Avenue on road cycleway until you reach Maraetotara Reserve – a great place to refresh and relax. Head back along Maraetotara Road and up Burma Road along both sealed and unsealed sections of quiet roads, until turning left back onto the shared pathway towards town.

