

Porirua’s Great Walking and Cycling Tracks

For detailed maps of the first 12 tracks refer to “www.pcc.govt.nz” key word “pathways”

- 1

Ara Harakeke Pathway The 8.7km sealed pathway runs alongside rugged coastal areas, two beaches, a nationally important wetland, a steam train operation and WWII pillboxes. It passes through three villages offering great places to stop for refreshments. 1 ¾ hours ♂, 45 mins ♀ one way. Grade: easy - Airlie Rd south, moderate - Airlie Rd north. Wheelchairs - Yes; Links to Tracks 2 and/or 22 to make loop walk.
- 2

The Taua Tapu Track A 1.5km rural track that features views out to Mana Island, Porirua Harbour and the surrounding countryside. 40 minutes one way ♂. Dogs not permitted during lambing season from September to December, but on leads at other times. Grade: moderate - challenging; Wheelchairs - No; Links to Track 1 & 23
- 3

Whitireia Park (Dept of Conservation) 6.5km pathway through farmland following coastline or cliff tops. 1.5 hours one way ♂. Farm stiles to cross and amongst grazing cattle. Grade: Easy - Onehunga Bay east; Moderate - Onehunga Bay west. Wheelchairs - No; Links to Track 8
- 4

Camborne Walkway A 1.6km sheltered, flat pathway along coast with spectacular views across Pauatahanui Inlet. 30 mins one way ♂. Home to the colourful, iconic Camborne boatsheds. Grade - Easy; Wheelchair - possible with help; Links to Track 1 via beach.

- 5

Te Ara Piko Pathway A 1.8kms pathway along the edge of the Pauatahanui Inlet through native salt marshes and wetland habitat. Dogs must be kept on a leash. Start from toilets at western end of Motukaraka Point. 30 mins one way ♂. Grade Easy; Wheelchair - possible with help;

- 6

Pauatahanui Wildlife Management Reserve (Dept of Conservation) 2.2 km of tracks amongst estuary salt marsh vegetation. Nationally important wildlife reserve with bird watching hides. No Dogs or cyclists. Allow 1 hour ♂. Grade easy. Wheelchair - restricted but possible in places with help.

- 7

Whitby Walkway A 1.6km, wide shared pathway that meanders alongside a stream and past a children's playground. Close to Whitby shopping Centre. 30 mins one way ♂. Grade easy; Wheelchairs -Yes; Links to Tracks 10, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 & 32.

- 8

Southern Clifftop Walk A 2.8 km walk with views over Titahi Bay and Mana Island. Start at South Beach Rd, along the beach pass the boatsheds and into Stuart Park. Exit Moki St and return to South Beach access road via streets and Arnold Park. 1 hour return ♂. Grade challenging. Wheelchairs - No; Links to Track 3.

- 9

Aotea Lagoon Sheltered public park with wide, flat, sealed 732m pathway around the lagoon. Has an adventure playground, rose garden and fenced toddler's playground. Dotted with grassed picnic areas. On most fine Sundays you can ride a model train. The lagoon is an ideal place to take children or visitors. Come for a leisurely walk or test your fitness on modern fitness stations. Grade Easy; Wheelchairs - Yes.

- 10

Bothamley Pathway A 4.7 km shared pathway besides the Kenepuru stream with 3m wide gravel surface. 1¼ hour ♂, 40 mins ♀, one way. Grade - easy; Wheelchairs - restricted but possible in places with help; Links to Porirua railway station car park via Mephram Place underpass and Tracks 7, 16, 17, 18 & 37. No public toilets.

- 11

Colonial Knob There are three gravel tracks up the Colonial Knob area. Grade - all challenging; No Wheelchairs; No public toilets; No Dogs. Mountain Bikes not permitted on Tracks A) and C) as scenic bush reserves.

- A)

CAMP ELDON ENTRANCE TRACK 1.8km sheltered climb through native bush. Stairs. Access at end of cul de sac, off Raiha Street near Camp Elsdon entrance. 40 mins one way ♂. (Extra 2.1 km along Track B to summit). Links to tracks 11 & 15.
- B)

THE SUMMIT TRACK follows steep 4WD track through farmland with exotic and native bush regeneration. This 4.05km track is open to the elements. The 4WD track beyond where tracks A) and B) intersect, traverses across the hilltops up to gateway to DOC reserve. Expansive views across the city, rural hills and out to Cook Strait. 1 to 2 hours, one way ♂. Links to track 15.
- C)

BROKEN HILL ENTRANCE TRACK (Dept of Conservation) 3.1km walkway with steps through native bush up to 7 pines then open farmland up to summit. 1¾ hours one way ♂. Links to Te Araroa route south and passes historic water reservoirs and Spicer Botanical Park (Track 12). Access off car park at end of Broken hill Rd by landfill gates.

- 12

Spicer Botanical Park Explore an exotic tree arboretum with over 2km of tracks in a series of short loop walks. Time varies. Grade - easy to challenging. No public toilets; Wheelchairs - No; Links to Track 11.

Other Main Tracks by Area

Titahi Bay

- 13

Titahi Bay Beach
Good surfing beach and occasionally during the year at low tide, remnants of subfossil forest can be visible at the ends of Titahi Bay Beach.

Elsdon/Kenepuru

- 14

Porirua Scenic Reserve
Largest native forest reserve in Porirua
Links to Tracks 11 and 15.

- 15

Raiha Walkway
Track between Raiha St, Matiu Close and the City Centre with created wetland and established trees that attract Tui's and Wood Pigeons. Provides a pleasant scenic walk on the doorsteps of the City Centre. 20 minutes one way ♂. Links to Track 11.

City Centre

- 16

Streamside Park Pathways
1.7 km along Porirua stream from Kenepuru Drive to Wi Neera Drive and links to pathway on Ramp Bridge over SH1. 20 mins ♂.

Eastern Suburbs

- 17

Thompson Gully Reserve
A grass track linking Champion St with Mungavin Ave. 0.6 km, 15 min ♂.
- 18

Cannons Creek Park
Grassed sportsfield area that connects the Cannons Creek shops to Bothamley Park
No formed path. 0.9km, 10 mins ♂.

- 19

Cannons Creek Lakes
Walkways that wind around lakes full of bird life amongst regenerating forest. Wheelchair access possible with help. Links with Tracks 10, 18 & 38

Pukerua Bay

- 20

The Secret Valley Walk
Short zoom walk in bush with sculptures
- 21

Raroa Walkway
A gentle climb through a small forest of Kohekohe trees emerging on to spectacular cliffside views of Kapiti Island and coast. 0.8 km return, 30 mins ♂.
- 22

Wairaka Walkway
9.2 km coastal route from Pukerua Bay Beach to Moana Rd, Plimmerton. Middle section shingle beach. On clear day views of Kapiti, Mana and South Islands. Near Wairaka Rock need to climb over rocks if high tide. Suggest park car at Plimmerton or Pukerua Bay Station and catch train to opposite station then walk back around coast going with wind. 4.5 hrs one way ♂.

Plimmerton

- 23

Karehana Bay Scenic Reserve
370 m track that descends through a mature remnant of native Kohekohe forest. Links to Track 2 or Plimmerton shops via Plimmerton Promenade, Track 24.

- 24

Plimmerton Promenade
A wide promenade along the coastline with stunning views and access to sandy beaches and rock pools. Links to tracks 1, 22 & 23.

Paremata/Whitby

- 25

Golden Gate
Low tide 2.3 km walk around peninsula offering inlet views. Rugged footwear needed as across tidal rocks and sand. Park at Ivey Bay and use underpass to access foreshore. 40 min loop ♂.
- 26

Ivey Bay Walkway
Zigzags to Kiriwai Rd through Manuka forest or follow the track up through regenerating native forest to Kahu Rd for views of the entrance to Porirua harbour. 0.75km, 15 mins ♂.
- 27

Carvel Lane Walkway
Walkway through regenerating manuka forest, links Postgate Drive with Carvel Lane and Kahu Road. 0.7 km, 15 mins ♂. Links to Track 26 along Kahu Road.
- 28

Spinnaker Walkway
Series of connecting paths, at the top there is panoramic views spanning almost all Whitby, Mana and Pauatahanui Inlet. 30 min ♂ to the lookout from the Whitby Walkway
- 29

Quarterdeck Lookout
450 m path linking The Quarterdeck, Meridian Way, The Topdeck & lookout. 10 mins ♂.
- 30

The Village Walkway
800 m path that links Endeavour Park with the Whitby Shops and Whitby Walkway. 10 mins ♂.
- 31

Whitby Lakeside Paths
1.5km walk around manicured lower lake and then across Discovery Dr to the natural bushclad upper lake. 20 mins one way ♂. Grade easy; Wheelchair restricted access. Links to Tracks 7 & 32
- 32

The Skyline Route
1.4km walkway via The Mainsail through regenerating forest to Adventure Drive. Follow ridge line behind Cleat St and Stemhead Lane to reservoir for extensive views. 25 mins one way ♂.

Battle Hill Farm Forest Park

Regional park with a selection of walks, bike and horse riding tracks from farm paddocks to forests. Many suitable spots for picnicking and superb views of Pauatahanui from the summit of Battle Hill. See www.gw.govt.nz/battlehill for more info.

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Papakowhai/Ascot/Aotea

- 34

Conclusion/Ascot Park Walkway
Start Whitford Brown Ave, traverse along ridgeline around Doncaster Tce returning to Whitford Brown via Ascot Park. Good views over both arms of Porirua Harbour. Grade moderate; 3.2km, 1 hour loop ♂. Links to Tracks 10 & 37

- 35

Papakowhai Walkways
1.8 km network of short, easy walkways through tracts of native bush. Gradient easy to moderate.

- 36

Gear Homestead
0.5 km walk through native forest, old pines and gardens at old Colonial Homestead, that is available for hire. See www.pcc.govt.nz for more info.

- 37

The Dales Pathway
1.3 km path, 15 mins one way ♂. Links the Aotea Block to Bothamley Park through regenerating bush. Links to Walk 10 & 34.

Belmont Regional Park

- 38

A Regional Park located on the hills between Porirua & Hutt Valley offering vast open spaces and panoramic hilltop views. Large number of walking & cycling options including the Maara Roa Walk. For more info see www.gw.govt.nz or phone Greater Wellington 384 5708

