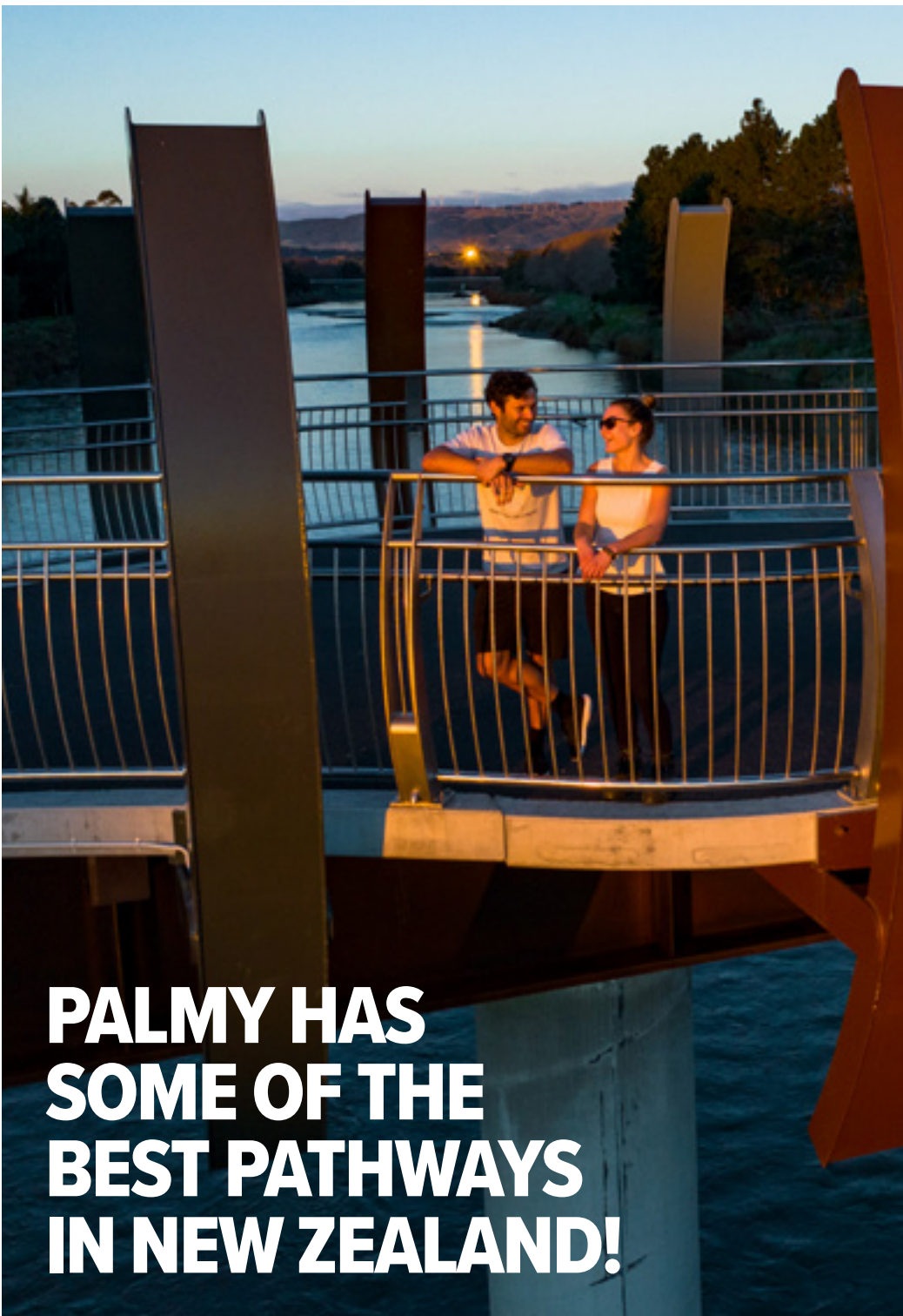


An aerial photograph of a wooden boardwalk winding through a dense, lush green forest. A stream flows through the center of the boardwalk. Two people are walking on the boardwalk. The forest is filled with various types of trees and plants, including palm trees and ferns. The overall scene is vibrant and natural.

**PALMY**<sup>®</sup>  
PAPAŌEA  
PALMERSTON  
NORTH  
CITY

YOUR  
GUIDE TO  
**PALMY CITY  
PATHWAYS**



# PALMY HAS SOME OF THE BEST PATHWAYS IN NEW ZEALAND!

Whether you're keen for a 2km stroll or a half-day hike, we've got you and your whānau covered.

This guide is broken into five sections, based on locations, to make it easy for you.

- First up we have our awa (river) and the varied nearby walks and hotspots to check out. This includes He Ara Kotahi pathway to Linton and Massey University.
- Then we have our Mangaone pathway, the longest stream in our city and connecting at each end via linking streets to the Manawatū River.
- Next, we move to the periphery of the city with a variety of walkways in the Summerhill/Aokautere and Kelvin Grove areas.
- Slightly east, we have a number of walks for you in the marvellous Ashhurst and Te Apiti/Manawatū Gorge area.
- Further south, our famous walks in the Kahuterawa area take you into Arapuke Forest Park and beyond into the Tararua Ranges.

Published in  
December 2021

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## BEFORE YOUR WALK, REMEMBER THESE THINGS:

- Plan where you're going, how long it will take and tell someone your plans. Some of our more remote walks have no cell phone coverage so this is especially important.
- Remember, even if rivers and streams look calm, this can change quickly. Keep an eye out for hidden objects before you swim and never enter a river or stream alone. If you're ever in doubt, stay out.
- Take your rubbish home with you. Be a tidy Kiwi!
- Many of our walkways border private properties, respect them like you would if it was your house.
- Fortune favours the bold, but more so, fortune favours those who are well-prepared. Check the weather forecast before you head out.
- Take adequate food and drink on longer walks.
- Wear suitable footwear and be prepared for changes in the weather.

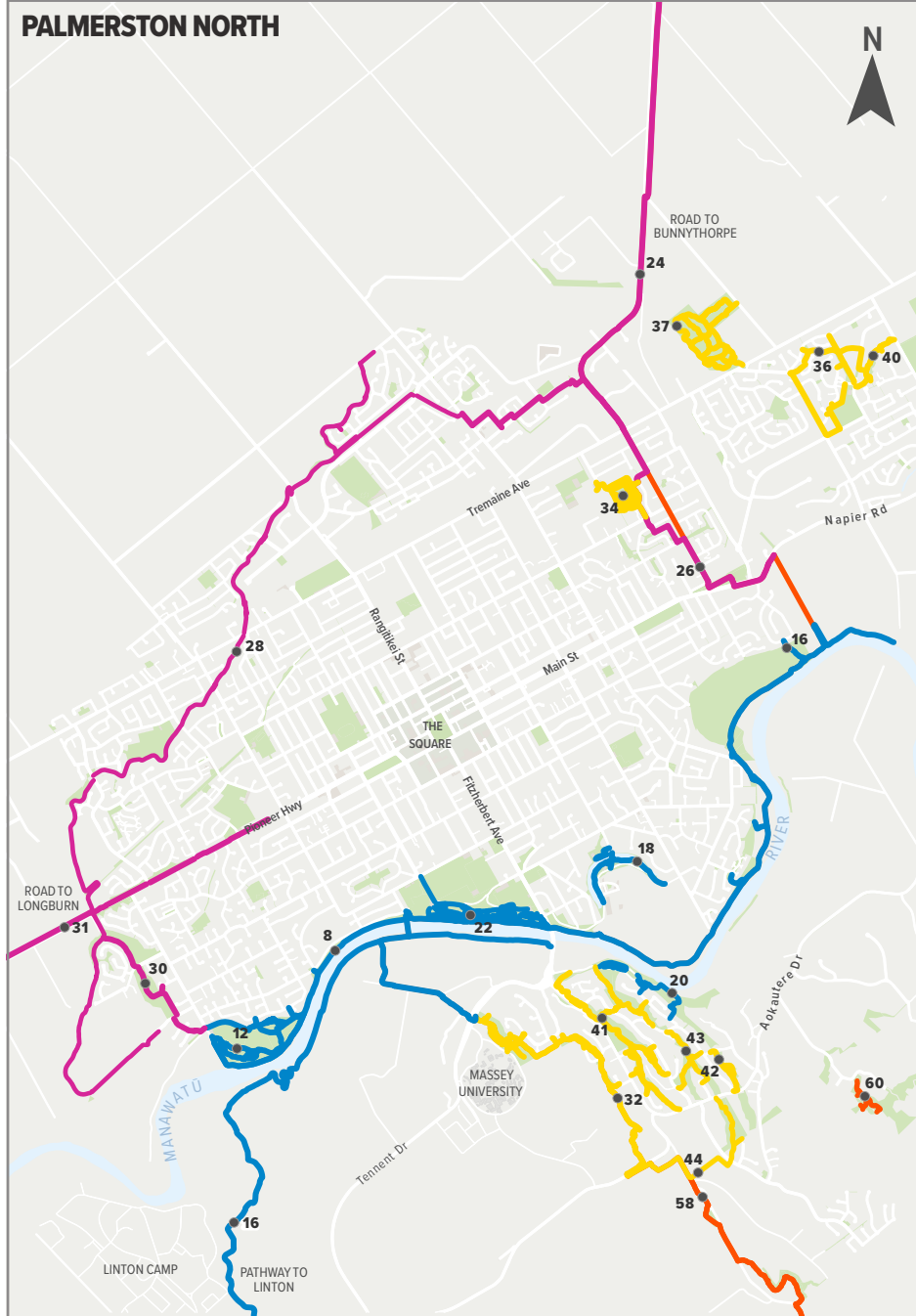
# USER GUIDE

At the edge of each page you'll see some symbols that describe the walk.

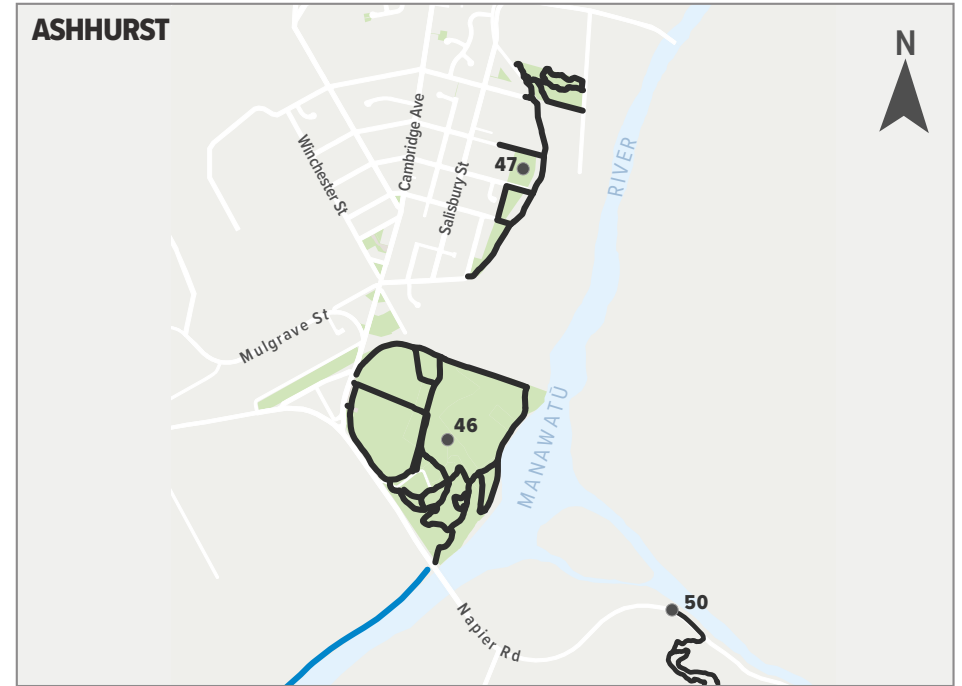
 Easy	 Dogs allowed	 Parking
 Moderate	 Dogs on leash area	 Playground
 Hard	 No dogs	 Swimming
 Accessible with help	 Toilets	 Eel viewing
 Accessible	 Horses allowed	 Outdoor gym
 Bike track	 No motorbikes	 BBQs available
 Green Corridors	 Picnic tables	 Links to Te Araroa Trail

The numbers on these maps refer to the page number in the book for detail

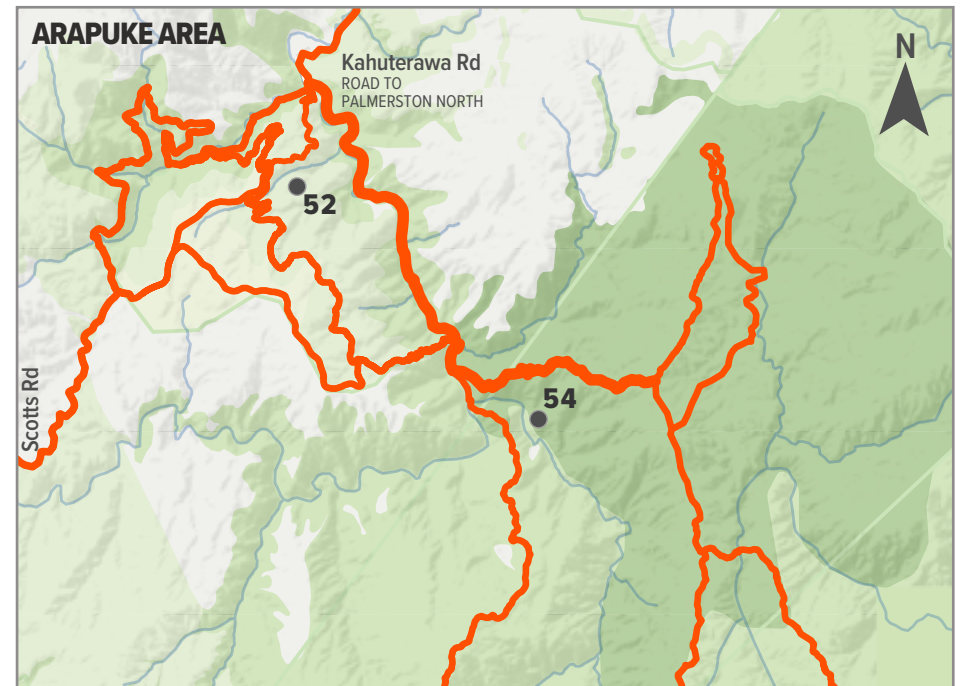
### PALMERSTON NORTH



### ASHHURST



### ARAPUKE AREA





Our awa has something for everyone. Here's an idea of distance so you can find a walk that suits you.

#### River Pathway

Maxwells Line to He Ara Kotahi Bridge:  
**2.68km**

He Ara Kotahi to Fitzherbert Bridge  
(the back of the Victoria Esplanade):  
**1.37km**

Fitzherbert Bridge to Albert Street:  
**1.74km**

Albert Street to Waterloo Crescent:  
**0.58km**

Waterloo Crescent to Ayr Place:  
**0.58km**

Ayr Place to Ruahine Street:  
**0.79km**

Ruahine Street to Ruamahunga Crescent:  
**1.21km**

Ruamahunga Crescent to Napier Road:  
**0.38km**

Napier Road to Riverside Drive:  
**0.95km**

**Total Distance: 10.28km**





# AHIMATE RESERVE

Nature lover? Dog Mum? Amateur mountain biker? Ahimate Reserve has a collection of short walkways and tracks fit for all to explore.

Whether you're on two legs, four legs, or even wheels; it doesn't matter. At Ahimate the well-formed limestone tracks mark the start (or end) of the Manawatū River shared pathway and are very popular with bike riders, runners and dog walkers.

The reserve is home to our signature enclosed dog park where your furry friends can burn off energy and test their agility skills and training.

**Distance:** 3.4km network. Multiple short walkways and mountain biking tracks, with a large grassed area.

**Surface:** Limestone, gravel, grass

**Access Points:** Buick Crescent, Maxwells Line, and Dittmer Drive (walking access only)

**Conveniences:** Toilets at Paneiri Park, carparks, seating and a water fountain for dogs

**Special Attractions:** Enclosed dog park, open parkland, mountain biking trails, river views and river access

**Connects to:** Manawatū River shared pathway, He Ara Kotahi shared pathway and the Mangaone pathway





He Ara Kotahi Bridge



# HE ARA KOTAHI SHARED PATHWAY

## To Linton, Fitzherbert Science Centres and Massey University

Crossing the Manawatū River from the city-side, the shared path leads you to He Ara Kotahi – ‘The pathway that brings people together.’ Since its completion in 2019, this pathway continues to provide a safe, direct and beautiful walking and cycling connection for those who are commuting or simply after some recreation.

Heading south from the iconic He Ara Kotahi Bridge, this walk will take you along a 5.8km path to Linton Military Camp. The track is 11.6km return, so make sure you pack enough water for the journey!

Surrounded by breathtaking beauty the entire way, you’ll be traversing battle sites, a pine forest, dairy farm, Keebles bush tree top walkway and Kahuterawa stream margins. We’ve got loos at each end, but none along the way. Please treat He Ara Kotahi like a Department of Conservation walk, and take all rubbish away with you, as there are no bins along the pathway. Dogs must be on leash.

The main He Ara Kotahi bridge is also spectacular at night, with beautiful lighting and a glow in the dark path.

### Bridge to Bridge Loop

One of the most popular walks based around He Ara Kotahi is nicknamed the ‘Bridge to Bridge loop’ and comes in at 3.2km. It’s a perfect stroll with kids as the entire loop is sealed, and they can gaze into the water from both the He Ara Kotahi and Fitzherbert Bridges.

### Food HQ, Fitzherbert Science Centres and Massey University

After crossing He Ara Kotahi bridge you can also travel along a short 2.3km distance to get to Massey University via Food HQ. This route is fully sealed for cycling commuter comfort. Taking this path also gives you easy access to the Bledisloe Park Walkway.

**Surface:** Sealed, asphalt, limestone

**Access points:** Fitzherbert Avenue Bridge, Dittmer Drive, Bells Road, Dairy Farm Road

**Conveniences:** Carpark, toilets at Linton and He Ara Kotahi Bridge

**Special attractions:** Views of the city and river, military camp; native bush tree-top pathway, historic pā sites, urban eels sanctuary. A part of Te Araroa Trail.

**Connects to:** Linton Military Camp, Massey University, Bledisloe Park walkway, Manawatū river shared pathway, Poutoa walkway

<b>Distance:</b> He Ara Kotahi Bridge to Linton Military Camp	5.8km
He Ara Kotahi Bridge to Massey University	2.3km
Fitzherbert Ave Bridge to He Ara Kotahi Bridge Loop	3.2km
Fitzherbert Ave Bridge to He Ara Kotahi Bridge	1.3km
Fitzherbert Ave Bridge to Linton Military Camp	7.1km
Linton Military Camp to Massey University	7.4km



### Urban Eels

Urban Eels is our tuna sanctuary and you can find it around 1km towards Linton along the He Ara Kotahi pathway. They once thrived in the Manawatū River but over time this has changed. At Urban Eels, you can feed eels in the Turitea Stream. You’re most likely to see them at sunrise and sunset, and if you want to feed them make sure you bring some kai. Eels love meat in fact, the smellier the better! A rahui or fishing ban is in place at the site to allow them to thrive again in the area. There’s also no swimming here. Don’t fret if you have your pooch with you - we have a dog parking area for them to be tied to so they are safe, away from our tuna, and able to see you at all times.



# HOKOWHITU LAGOON AND CACCIA BIRCH HOUSE

Hokowhitu Lagoon was once an important fishery for Rangitāne that had a thriving eel population. Nowadays, this place is a hotspot for water sports, or an ideal place to go for a walk with a view. Come on down for an easy outing or stroll.

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Distance:** 1.8km

**Surface:** Limestone, gravel, grass

**Access Points:** Centennial Drive, Caccia Birch Lane

**Conveniences:** Carpark, picnic benches, and toilets

**Special Attractions:** Lagoon views, parkland, bird life, the historic 1895 Caccia Birch House and photo opportunities

**Connects to:** Manawatū River shared pathway, Victoria Esplanade nearby





# TE MOTU O POUTOA AND TE ARAPIKI A TĀNE

Whether you're looking for one of the best views in the city and awa, or want a serious leg workout, Te Motu o Poutoa should be on your must-visit list.

While you're there you can also explore trails through regenerating bush or walk to the top of the hill to discover Te Arapiki a Tāne (The Stairway of Tāne).

The clifftop reserve, Te Motu o Poutoa, (aka ANZAC Park) is a former Rangitāne Pā site and is also dedicated as a memorial to fallen soldiers from the local area. This position gave Poutoa, an ancestor of Rangitāne, strategic views over the river and therefore the routes north and south.

Access to Te Arapiki a Tāne is from the Te Motu o Poutoa carpark or off Vaucluse Heights. Simply marvel at the stunning vista or take the 220 steps down to the river's edge then huff and puff your way back up.

**Distance:** Te Motu o Poutoa 0.55km  
Te Arapiki a Tāne - Two flights of steps 207 and 220

**Contour:** Te Motu o Poutoa: moderate  
Te Arapiki a Tāne: steep steps, with no hand rail

**Surface:** Gravel, grass, forest floor, steps

**Access Points:** Cliff Road, Vaucluse Heights

**Conveniences:** Carpark, seating, picnic tables

**Special Attractions:** Historic pā site, photo opportunities, river views, city views and the observatory

**Connects to:** Titoki walkway, Poutoa walkway



# VICTORIA ESPLANADE WALKWAYS

Victoria Esplanade is Palmy's premier park, home to our famous Dugald McKenzie Rose Garden, Central Energy Trust Wildlife Recovery Centre, Esplanade Scenic Railway, bird aviaries, playgrounds and much more, making it a great day out for the whole family.

You can also embark on multiple walks within the 2.5ha bush reserve depending on your ability and your mood. From native bush and established gardens, to the calm riverside, the Esplanade's walkways offer a variety of settings for exercise and leisure.

## Central Energy Trust Wildlife Recovery Centre

Just a hop, skip and a jump away from these pathways is our Central Energy Trust Wildlife Recovery Centre, where visitors can get up close and personal with some of New Zealand's endangered birds. Bring the kids down and see how Massey University's wildlife technicians care for our injured and sick native birds before releasing them back into the wild.

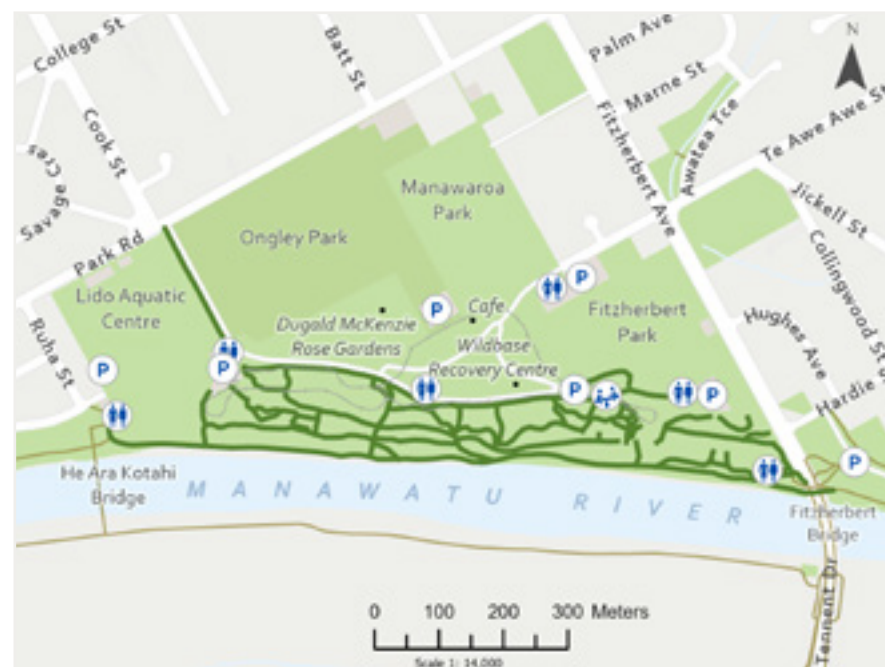


**Contour:** Flat

**Surface:** Asphalt, gravel, forest floor

**Connects to:** Manawatū River shared pathway

**Special Attractions:** Native bush, river access, established rose gardens. Nearby: BBQ's, paddling pools, playgrounds, Esplanade Scenic Railway, duck ponds, Peter Black Conservatory, Central Energy Trust Wildbase Recovery, bird aviaries and café.



# BUNNYTHORPE WALKWAY

A great way to move between Palmerston North and Bunnythorpe, along the Te Araroa Trail.

Running off the northern end of Vogel St and onto the 2.5km long shared path beside Railway Rd the sealed path ends at the Roberts Line crossing. Cross the railway then continue up the driveway which follows a paper road north, heading towards Bunnythorpe. The walking route here is marked with orange triangles and black and white Te Araroa chevrons. Take an off-road adventure keeping the railway close to your left and the power lines to your right continue across paddocks over stiles and small bridges until you arrive at Sangsters Road.

Follow the road north, cross a stile and follow the marked route north until the trail emerges onto Stoney Creek Rd just before the village of Bunnythorpe.

Portions of this route are grazed by neighbouring farmers so you may encounter livestock on your travels! Dogs must be on leash. Keep to the marked route and use the stiles or leave any gates as you found them.

**Distance:** 5.8km one-way

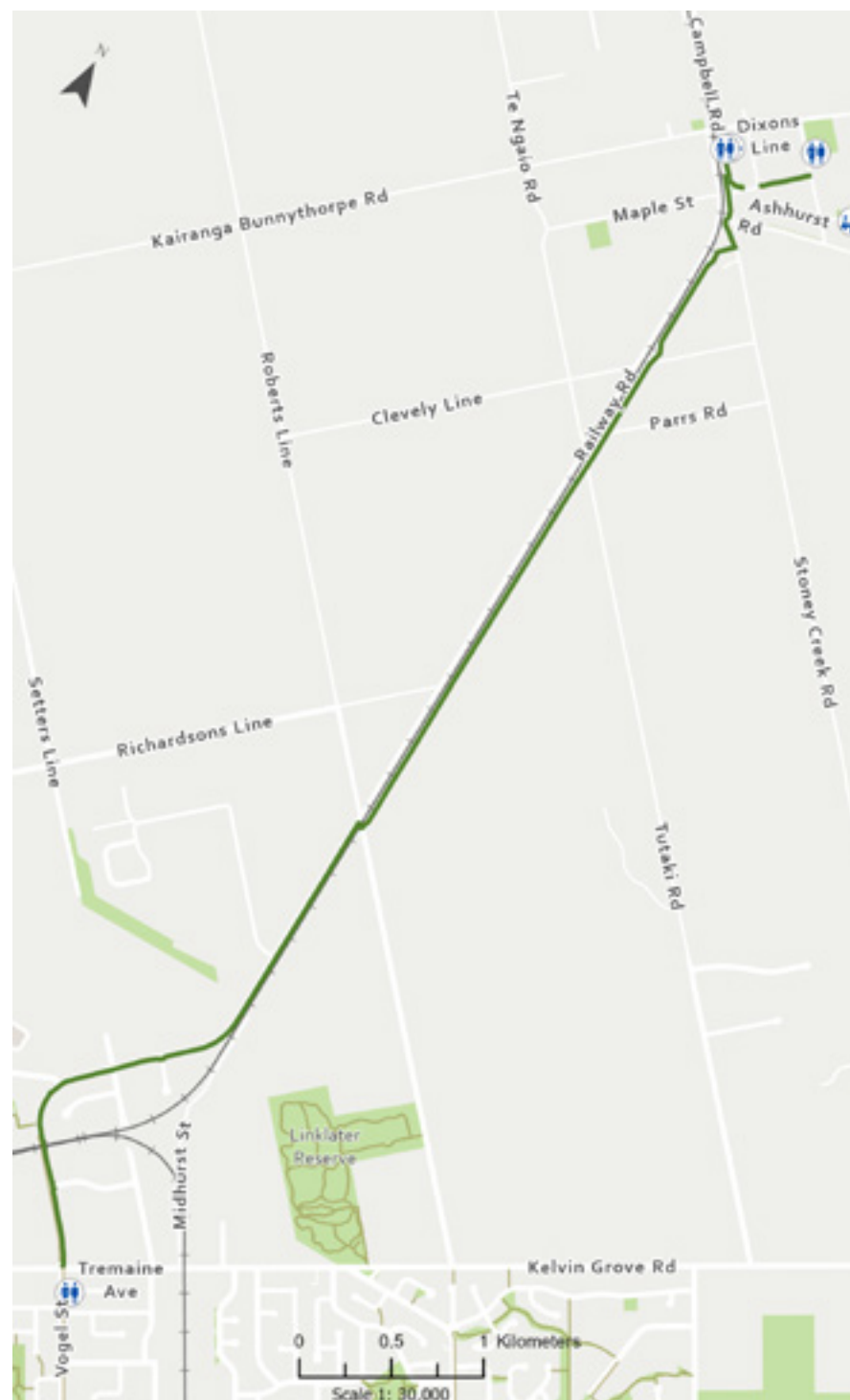
**Contour:** Gentle

**Surface:** Asphalt, grass

**Access points:** Tremaine Ave, Railway Rd, Roberts Line, Sangsters Rd, Clevely Line, Stoney Creek Rd

**Conveniences:** Toilets at Bunnythorpe and Milson Library

**Special attractions:** Rural experience, industrial areas, village destination, part of Te Araroa Trail



# CITY-LOOP LINK

Keen on a longer journey?  
While this isn't an official  
connection, we've worked  
on a route that can get you  
around our city in 26km loop.

Linking the Mangaone/Milson Stream with the Manawatū awa the route traverses residential land industrial areas, historic Edwards Pit Park, Palmy's oldest cemetery (Terrace End) and the Gas Works Drain. This route also follows part of the Te Araroa Trail, a 3000km walking route connecting Cape Reinga to Bluff which passes through Palmerston North.

**Distance:** 5.8 km

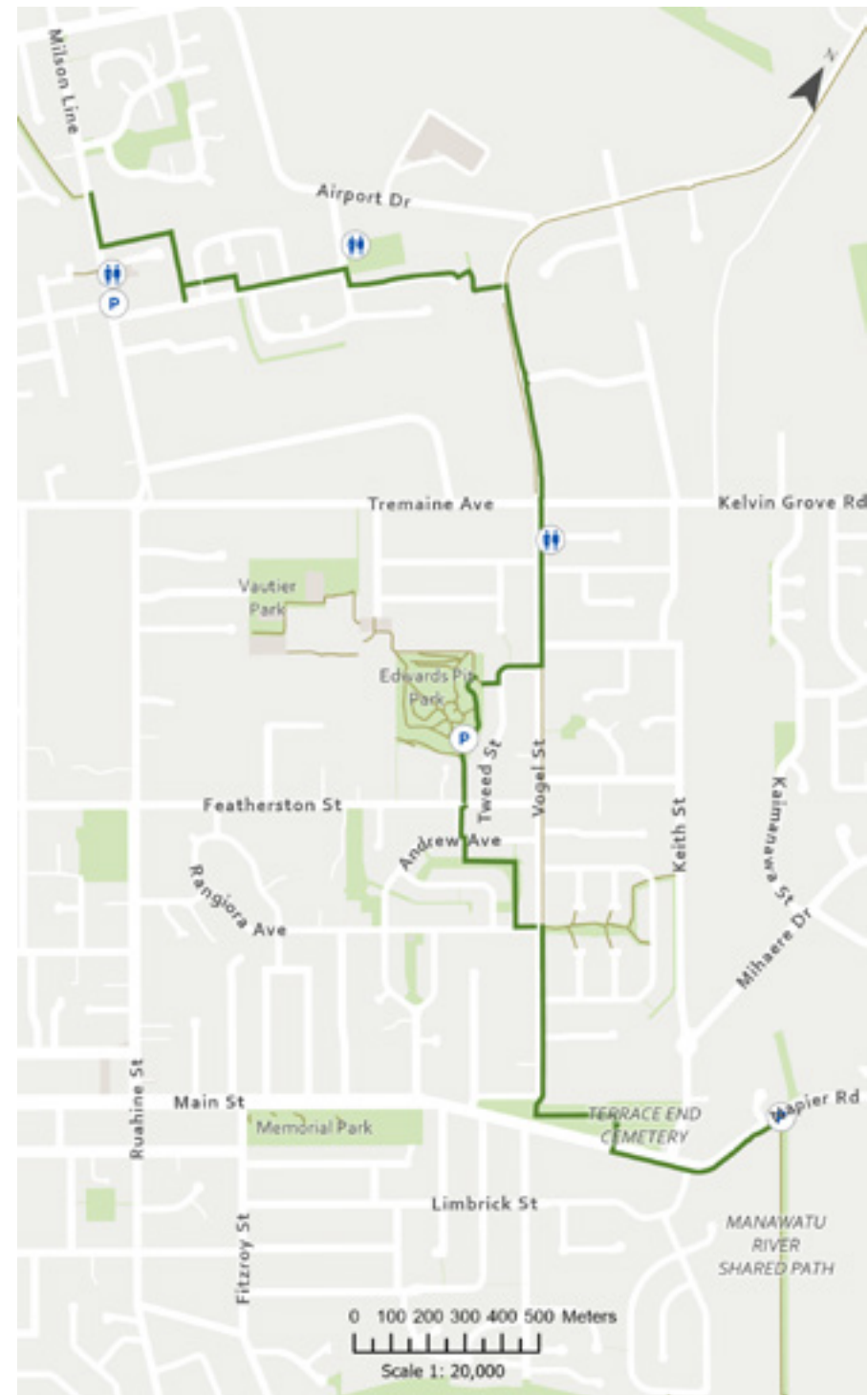
**Surface:** City footpaths, limestone, grass, asphalt

**Access points:** Start or finish at Milson Line and Napier Road

**Conveniences:** Toilets at Mahanga Kakariki Reserve, Milson shopping centre and in the Roslyn Branch Library off Vogel Street

**Special attractions:** Suburban streets, shops, Edwards Pit Park, light industry, parks, historic cemetery, part of Te Araroa Trail

**Connects to:** Mangaone Stream shared Cape Reinga to Bluff which passes through Palmerston North.



# MANGAONE STREAM SHARED PATHWAY

Strap on your helmet or get your walking shoes on and follow this pathway alongside the Mangaone Stream, stretching from Totara Road through to Milson Line and Flyers Line.

Depending on what type of walk or ride you're looking to do, you could be cruising anywhere from 0.4km to 11km. The stream connects to the Manawātū River and used to be a hotspot for kai for local iwi, Rangitāne.

Although you can walk the stopbanks on both sides, the formed path switches sides at Amberley Avenue. This path is great for short walks or as part of a full city loop.

## Distance:

Totara Road/Escort Grove - Pioneer Highway: **3.05km**

Pioneer Highway - Amberley Avenue: **1.68km**

Amberley Avenue - Highbury Avenue: **1.20km**

Highbury Avenue - Botanical Road: **0.50km**

Botanical Road - Tremaine Avenue: **0.56km**

Tremaine Avenue - Benmore Avenue: **1.20km**

Benmore Avenue - Rangitikei Line: **0.60km**

Rangitikei Line - John F Kennedy Drive: **0.40km**

John F Kennedy Drive - Milson Line: **0.47km**

Apollo Parade - Flyers Line: **1.44km**

**Total Distance 11km**

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Contour:** Flat

**Surface:** Limestone

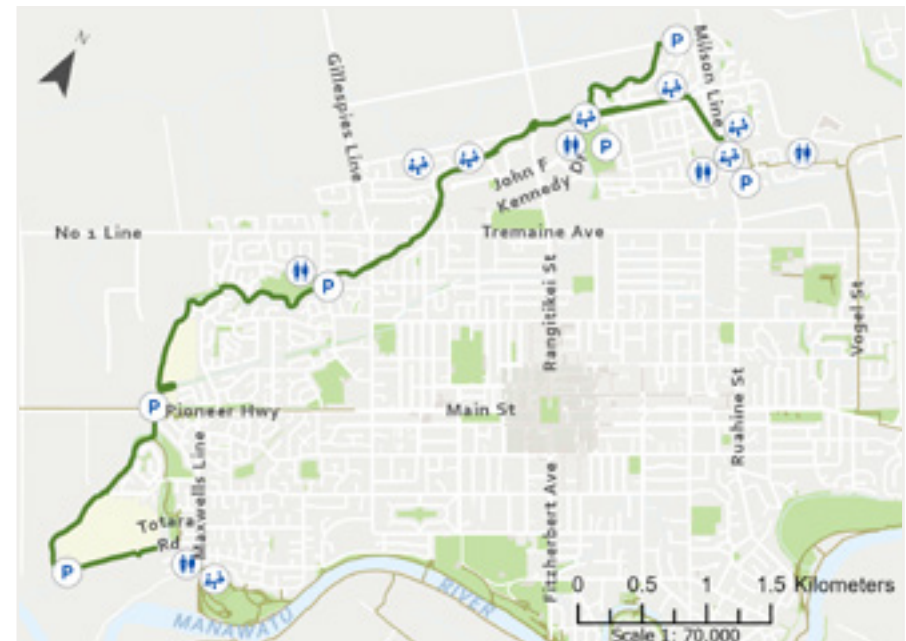
**Access points:** Totara Road, Grand Oaks Drive, Pioneer Highway, Strachan Way, Amberley Avenue, Clutha Place, Highbury Avenue, Botanical Road, Tremaine Avenue, Rosedale Crescent, Cecil Place, Benmore Avenue, Meadowbrook Drive, Rangitikei Line, Apollo Parade, John F Kennedy Drive, Presidential Drive, Milson Line and Flyers Line

**Conveniences:** Toilets at Bill Brown Park and at Milson Shopping Centre, underpasses at most main road crossings

**Connects to:** Manawātū River Shared Pathway, Otira – Rangitāne Walkway, City loop link pathway.



Mangaone Park – Awapuni

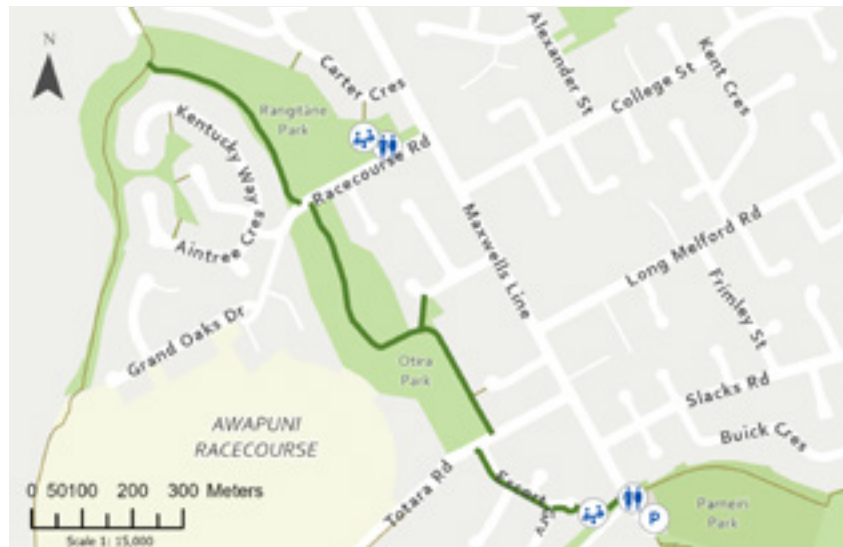


# OTIRA/RANGITĀNE WALKWAY

If you're after something a little on the lighter side, then this pathway is your best bet. Nestled between the Manawatū River shared pathway and Mangaone Stream pathway, there's plenty to look at. Snaking through quiet suburban streets, alongside paddocks, beside wetlands and across expansive sports fields, you can't get bored!

Back in the day this spot was once the large Awapuni Lagoon that wrapped around what is now the Awapuni Racecourse. Now, it offers a pleasant walk for locals or those looking to complete the full city walk/cycle loop.

- Distance:** 1.5 km
- Contour:** Flat
- Surface:** Limestone, grass
- Access points:** Maxwells Line, Totara Road, Otira Place, Racecourse Road, Carter Crescent, Mangaone Stream walkway
- Conveniences:** Picnic tables, playground, toilet
- Special attractions:** Wetlands, pony club horses grazing, historic features, open parkland
- Connects to:** Manawatū River shared pathway, Mangaone Stream shared pathway

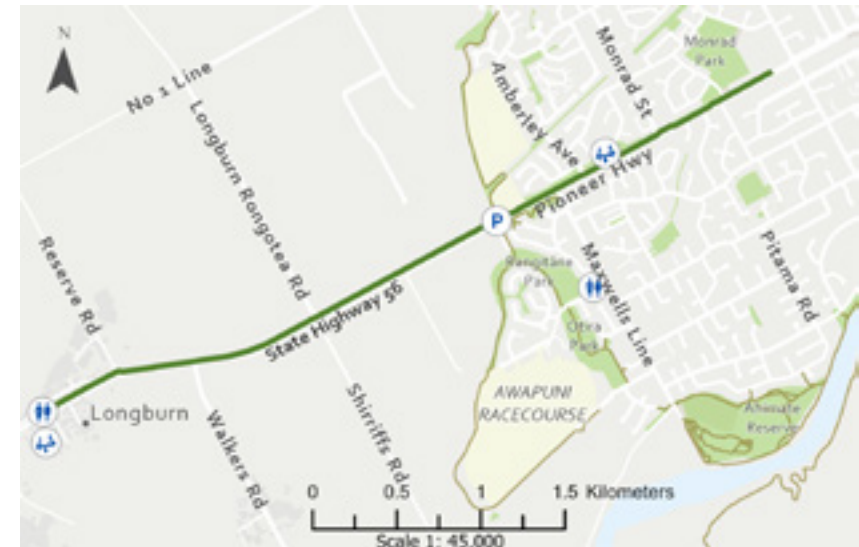


# PIONEER HIGHWAY SHARED PATH TO LONGBURN

Starting from Botanical Road, this 5km long sealed path will take you all the way to Longburn.

- Distance:** 5km
- Contour:** Flat
- Surface:** Asphalt
- Access points:** Longburn, Botanical Road and all points in between
- Conveniences:** Toilets at Longburn, skatepark, seating, picnic tables
- Special attractions:** Historical sites
- Connects to:** Mangaone Stream shared pathway

This off-road path follows the route of the original North Island main trunk railway when it passed right through the centre of the city. The railway was moved to its northern location in the 1950s and the last passenger train travelled this route in 1964. The original railway corridor now serves commuter and recreational users, with some seeing potential to one day extend the path to the coast.





# BLEDISLOE PARK TO OLD WEST ROAD WALKWAY

Work up a sweat and journey through one of Palmy's native bush remnants.

Take it easy with a flat stroll through to the Massey University arboretum or, if you're keen to really get your heart rate up, there are three sets of stairs for you to run or walk up in Bledisloe Park.

If you decide you're looking for a longer journey, opt to walk from Bledisloe Park to Old West Road which is just over 3km one way. This walkway traverses a variety of terrain and environments - mature bush, restoration plantings, parkland, and farmland. After leaving Bledisloe Park, the track passes through Atawhai Park, Springdale Park and Barbers Bush as well as following fenced walkways through Massey University farms ending at the Turitea Stream.

Opt to finish your walk on Old West Road or continue onwards and under the bridge onto the Turitea Walkway.



## Distance:

Bledisloe Park/Massey Arboretum:  
2.6km return

Bledisloe Park to Old West Rd:  
3.2km one way

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Contour:** Flat to moderate hills with some steep climbs

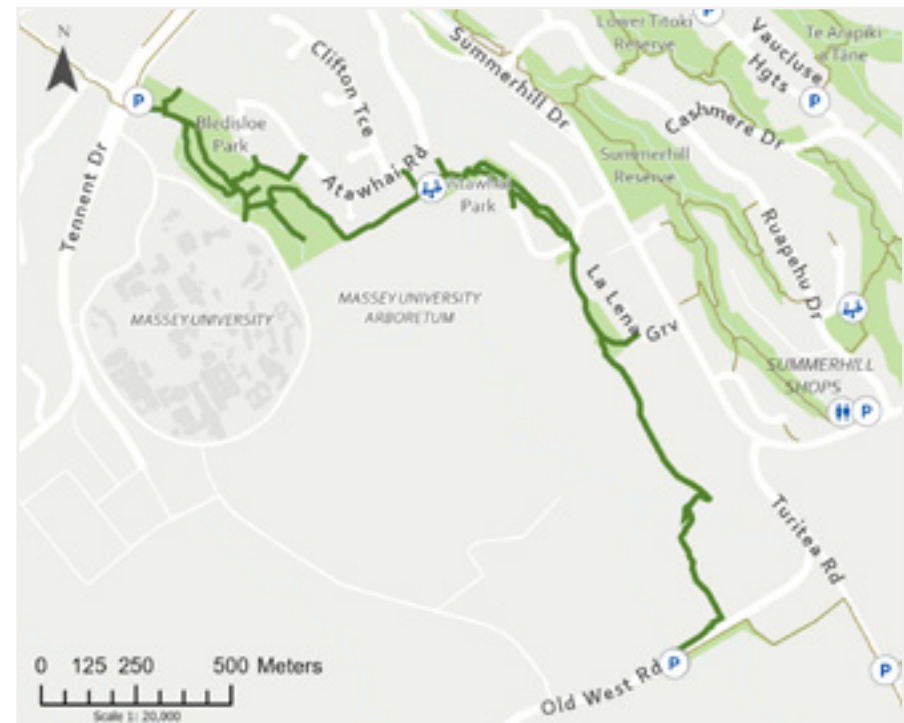
**Surface:** Gravel, steps

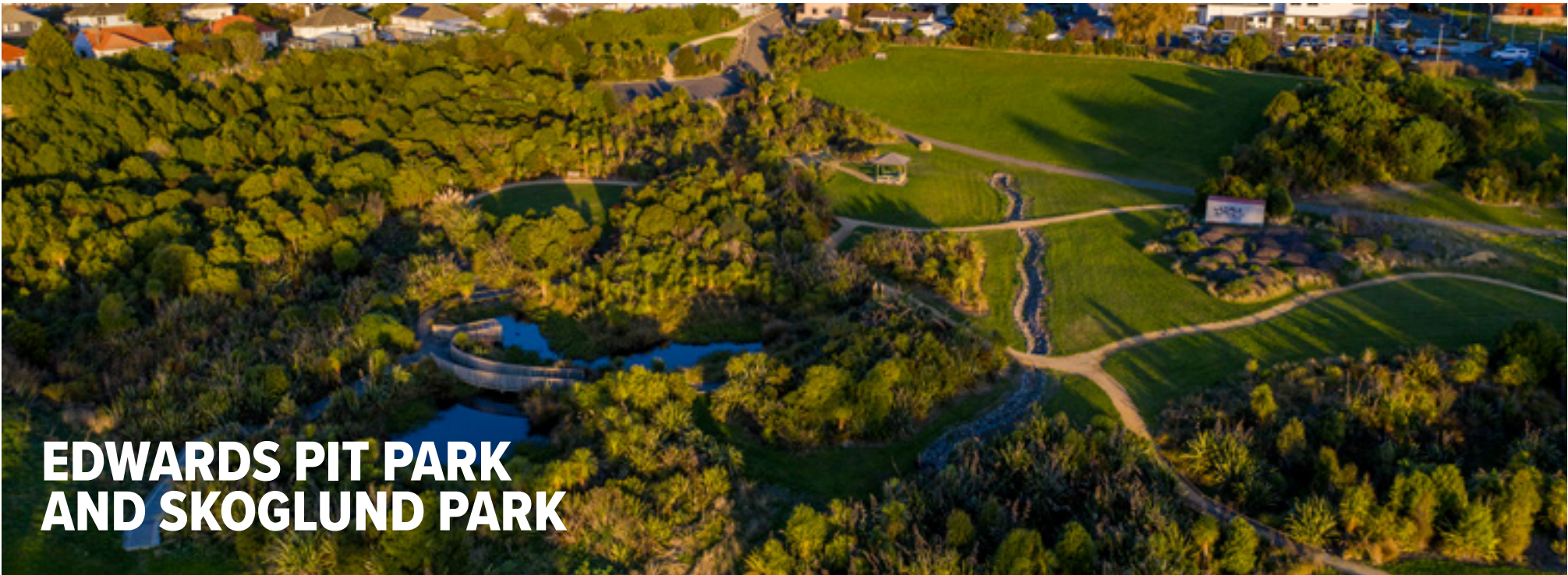
**Access points:** Old West Road, La Lena Grove, Springdale Grove, Atawhai Road, University Avenue, Tennent Drive

**Conveniences:** Carparks, picnic benches, seating, and playground

**Special attractions:** Views, access to swimming holes, native bush, part of Te Araroa Trail, and access to Massey University arboretum

**Connects to:** Turitea Walkway, and He Ara Kotahi Shared Pathway





# EDWARDS PIT PARK AND SKOGLUND PARK

This historic quarry site has been restored with the support of a passionate group of residents, the Pit Park People.

Walkways meander through restoration plantings, alongside wetlands and across the open spaces to provide a diversity of environments to enjoy on your walk. The site formerly provided clay for brick manufacture at the nearby Hoffman Kiln and subsequently hardfill for construction of the airport runway. There are great views into the Pit from the adjacent Skoglund Park sportfields.

- Distance:** 2.0 km network
- Contour:** Easy
- Surface:** Lime/gravel
- Access points:** Featherston St, Kauri Healthcare Medical Centre, Tweed St, Skoglund Park
- Conveniences:** Carpark, picnic tables, gazebo
- Special attractions:** Restoration bush, open parkland, wetlands, historic features



# FREDERICK KRULL WALKWAY

For a journey of varied scenery, take this walkway through the sports field, meadow reserve, wetland and suburban streets. High points provide great views back over the city and ranges. Dogs are welcome on parts of this loop so don't forget your pooch! Just make sure you pick up after them and don't leave anything behind.

**Distance:** 2.3km loop

**Contour:** Flat to mildly contoured

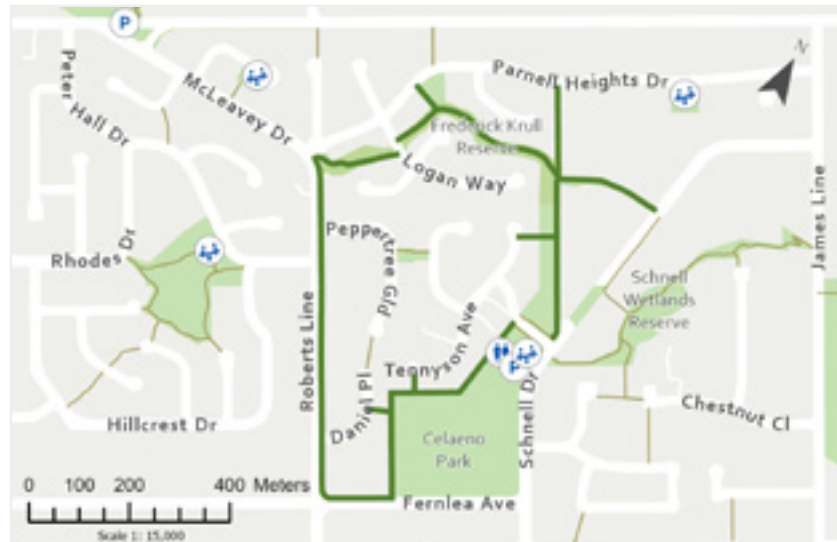
**Surface:** Grass, limestone, gravel and concrete.

**Access points:** Fernlea Avenue, Shakespeare Way, Schnell Drive, Parnell Heights, Logan Way, Roberts Line

**Conveniences:** Picnic tables, playground, toilets and carpark at Celaeno Park

**Special attractions:** City views, open parkland, wetlands, and shops

**Connects to:** Schnell Wetland walkway, close to Linklater Reserve



# LINKLATER RESERVE WALKWAY

Head to Linklater Reserve in Kelvin Grove and explore this rural piece of paradise. This reserve is one of the city's largest at 25.5 hectares and has a 3.1km pathway to explore.

**Distance:** 3.1km network

**Contour:** Gentle

**Surface:** Limestone, gravel, boardwalks and asphalt

**Access points:** Kelvin Grove Road, Roberts Line

**Conveniences:** Toilet, picnic tables, BBQ, gazebo, carpark, playground

**Special attractions:** Views, frisbee golf circuit, dog exercise area, plane spotting, wetlands, open parkland, photo opportunities

**Connects to:** Close to Frederick Krull Walkway





Linklater Reserve Walkway

# PARI RESERVE WALKWAY

Take a short walk past natural swampland and a vegetation-edged pond on this residential walkway.

This walkway is part of the Green Corridors programme, which enhances native bush along streams to provide a place for wildlife to thrive from the Tararua Ranges to the Manawatū River.

**Distance:** 0.5 km

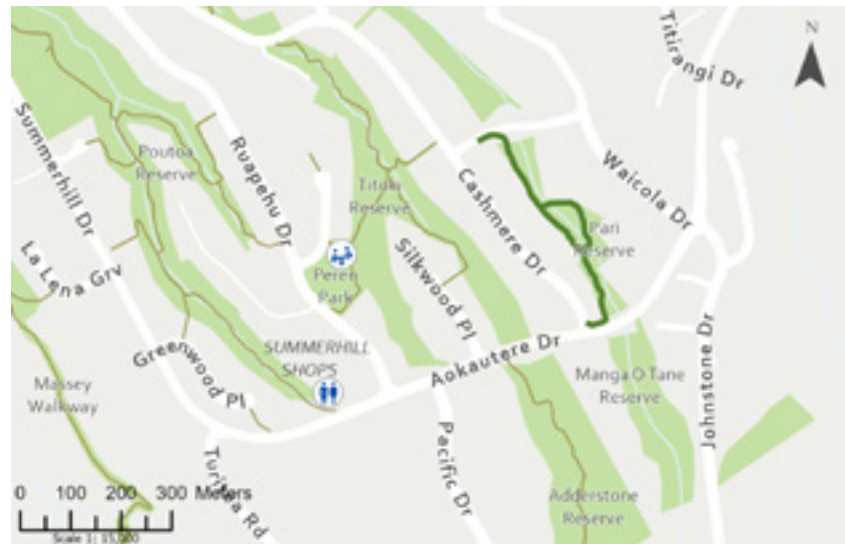
**Contour:** Moderate

**Surface:** Gravel

**Access points:** Waicola Drive and Aokautere Drive

**Special attractions:** Wetlands, restoration bush

**Connects to:** Near to Adderstone and Titoki walkways



# POUTOA WALKWAY

Enjoy the quiet escape on this dog-friendly walk through valleys of native and exotic plantings.

**Distance:** 3.3 km network

**Contour:** Steep access points, moderate

**Surface:** Gravel, steps

**Access points:** Aokautere Drive, Greenwood Place, Summerhill Drive, Jasmine Place, Ruapehu Drive, Cliff Road

**Conveniences:** Picnic tables and seats. Parking and public toilets at Summerhill shops

**Special attractions:** Diverse environments of exotic and native restoration bush, wetlands, shops

**Connects to:** Titoki Walkway, Te Motu o Poutoa



# SCHNELL WETLAND WALKWAY

If you are after a very quick stroll to catch fresh air, then this is the walk for you.

Linking Schnell Drive/Celaeno Park with James Line, this walkway is made up of boardwalks and gravel or grassed pathways. Interest points include an old bridge that had been intended for a railway link between Milson and Whakarongo, started in the 1920s and finally abandoned in the early 80s. The northern end of the path emerges onto James Line, close to an entrance to the Kelvin Grove Cemetery.

- Distance:** 0.7 km
- Contour:** Flat to moderate
- Surface:** Gravel, grass, timber boardwalk
- Access points:** James Line, Galea Grove, Chestnut Close, Sorrento Place, Schnell Drive
- Conveniences:** Toilets and carparking at Celaeno Park and Kelvin Grove Cemetery, picnic tables, Playground at Celaeno Park
- Special attractions:** Historic bridge, wetland, open parkland
- Connects to:** Frederick Krull walkway



# TITOKI WALKWAY

Following a gully system between Cliff Road and Aokautere Drive, this entire valley walkway has been transformed from farmland by Green Corridors plantings.

Start your walk at any of the several entrances to this network and extend your walk by linking to other valley systems nearby.

- Distance:** 2.3km network
- Contour:** Flat to steep
- Surface:** Gravel, boardwalks stairs
- Access points:** Cliff Road, Ruapehu Drive, Vaucluse Heights, Cashmere Drive, Peren Park, Silkwood Place
- Conveniences:** Picnic tables, seats
- Special attractions:** Restoration bush, wetlands
- Connects to:** Te Motu o Poutoa, Poutoa walkway, Pari Reserve walkway, Adderstone Reserve/Turitea walkway, Poutoa walkway, Te Arapiki a Tāne



# TURITEA AND ADDERSTONE WALKWAYS

If you're keen to sight-see and work up a sweat, but don't want to break your back doing so, give the Turitea and Adderstone Walkways a go.

Leave the Old West Road carpark behind as you climb to Turitea Road and further on to Pacific Drive where you will be rewarded with amazing views over the Manawatū countryside. Cross Pacific Drive to continue along the Adderstone walkway to Aokautere Drive. Work up an appetite and after exiting the walkway, you will arrive near the Summerhill Shopping Centre for refreshments and toilets.

**Distance:** 2.3km

**Contour:** Flat to steep

**Surface:** Gravel, chipseal

**Access points:** Old West Road, Turitea Road, Pacific Drive, Aokautere Drive

**Conveniences:** Carpark near Old West Rd bridge, Picnic tables, Carpark and toilets at Summerhill shops

**Special attractions:** Views, Green Corridor plantings, ponds, shops, partly on Te Araroa Trail

**Connects to:** Turitea Green Corridor Walkway, Poutoa walkway, Bledisloe Park to Old West Road walkway. Part of Te Araroa Trail.



# ASHHURST DOMAIN PATHWAYS

If you're after some light cardio, head out to the Ashhurst Domain and choose from a range of easy to moderate walks. Some guide you through native bush, while others offer revealing views overlooking conservation wetlands, out to the wind farm, or alongside the Manawatu River. You can even go down to the river's edge for a paddle. The world's your oyster here at the domain!

The upper circuit offers two shorter, wheelchair-friendly walks, while the lower loop and bushwalks are more challenging.

**Distance** Full loop: 3.5km  
Upper Circuit (large): 1.88km  
Upper Circuit (small): 1.40km  
Domain bush loop: 1.2km

**Contour:** A flat terrace area with moderate to steep slopes leading to the riverside

**Surface:** Limestone, gravel, grass, forest floor

**Access points:** Cambridge Ave, Napier Road

**Conveniences:** Carparks, toilets, picnic tables, seating, playground, BBQ

**Special attractions:** Views of wetlands, windfarms, Te Apiti/Manawatū Gorge, Te Ahu a Turanga Highway. Historic cemetery, sportsfields, open parkland, river access, native bush, campground



# ASHHURST DURHAM STREET RESERVE TO MCCRAE'S BUSH

Wander through a mix of native bush and rural environments on this relatively flat path.

Don't forget your four-legged friends! Feel free to ride your horse in the more open reserves and dogs can be exercised off-leash, just not in McCrae's Bush.

**Distance:** 2km

**Contour:** Mainly flat, steps to get from McCrae's Bush

**Surface:** Limestone, gravel, grass

**Access Points:** River Road, The Terrace, Wyndham Street, Lincoln Street, and Durham Street

**Conveniences:** Parking at River Road and Lincoln Park. Toilets at Lincoln Park

**Special Attractions:** Views, native bush, open parkland and community orchard







Ashhurst Domain

# TE ĀPITI – MANAWATŪ GORGE

Nestled between Palmerston North and the Manawatū and Tararua Districts, Te Āpiti – Manawatū Gorge is one of the most iconic natural playgrounds in our region.

Covered in ancient bush and home to a variety of wildlife, Te Āpiti is steeped in legend and has many a story to tell. Explore the walking tracks and you'll see ancient bush, native birds and plants, and the mighty Whātonga, an ancient warrior who stands guard over the forest.

Passing through unique landscapes of steep greywacke ranges covered in bush, you will predominantly find tawa and podocarp forest, along with broadleaved trees and nikau palms. What makes Te Āpiti especially unique is the maidenhair fern, only found in New Zealand in the Manawatū.

For more information check out their website: [teapiti.co.nz](http://teapiti.co.nz)

## Tawa Loop track

If you want to see all the beauty that Te Āpiti has to offer, but don't want to tackle the full Manawatū Gorge track, then the Tawa Loop track at the Ashhurst end is for you. This track provides all the beauty and wilderness of the full track, but is less than half the distance and takes half the time.

Tawa Loop follows a steady 5% gradient, however, it is steep in places and can prove challenging. The loop branches off the Manawatū Gorge track 500 metres into the walk. Upon meeting up with the main track again, you can choose to either go straight ahead, or turn left and head back down the track to return to the Ashhurst end car park.

Type: Walk | Loop  
Distance: 4km  
Time: 2 hours approx.  
Fitness Level: Medium

## Manawatū Gorge track (full length)

High above the river and gorge below, this one-way (or two-way for the more adventurous) walking track is covered in native bush and native birds, providing an awe-inspiring experience. Viewpoints are dotted along the track allowing you take a peek at the beautiful scenery.

Type: Walk | one-way  
Distance: 11km one-way  
Time: 3-5 hours approx.  
Fitness Level: Medium

## Upper Gorge Bridge track

Starting at the Upper Gorge Bridge on the old main road, this Woodville end track offers all the native bird and plant life of the full Manawatū Gorge track, and is a great alternative if you are short on time. With steep climbs and fantastic viewing points high above the Manawatū River, this a popular track for those wanting a bit of a challenge.

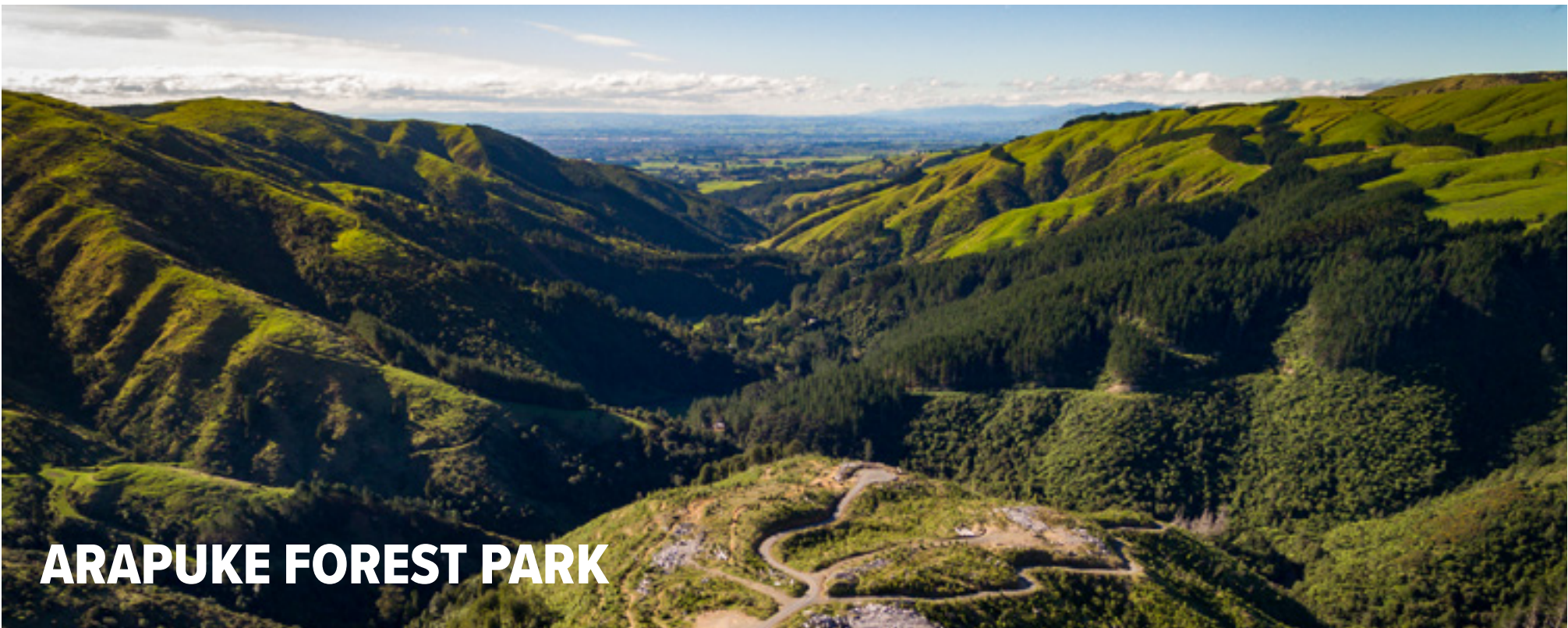
Type: Walk | one-way  
Distance: 4km  
Time: 1.5 – 2 hours approx.  
Fitness Level: Medium

## Manawatū Gorge Loop track

If you're short on time, or you're travelling with people who can't manage a long walk, this is a great option. This short loop track is located at the Woodville end of the Te Āpiti. It's an easy walk through some beautiful native bush, there are no steps and it's suitable for pushchairs. A playground and toilet in Ballance Domain across the road from the car park make it an ideal destination for young families.

Type: Walk | Loop-track  
Distance: 1.2km  
Time: 15 – 30 minutes approx.  
Fitness Level: Easy





# ARAPUKE FOREST PARK

Better known by some for its mountain biking adventures, Arapuke Forest Park also offers a range of walks to suit every age and fitness level.

Back Track, starting across the bridge, provides access to short climbs to stunning lookouts. Take the Pupurahi shared trail after 1.0km as an access route into the middle levels of Arapuke or continue on with the 4.0km climb to the top of the park. Either option provides entries to various loop tracks within the park.

Alternatively stay left of the Kahuterawa Stream and walk the first 2.2km of Sledge Track. Cross the Arapuke Swing Bridge to enter the SW corner of the park.

There is a steep climb before you choose between a shorter or longer walk back to the carpark.

Walkers should keep to the forestry roads, and trails marked “Walking only” or “Shared paths” to avoid conflict with mountain bikers on specialist trails.

**Distance:** Options from short walks of a few hundred metres to loop walks up to 10km

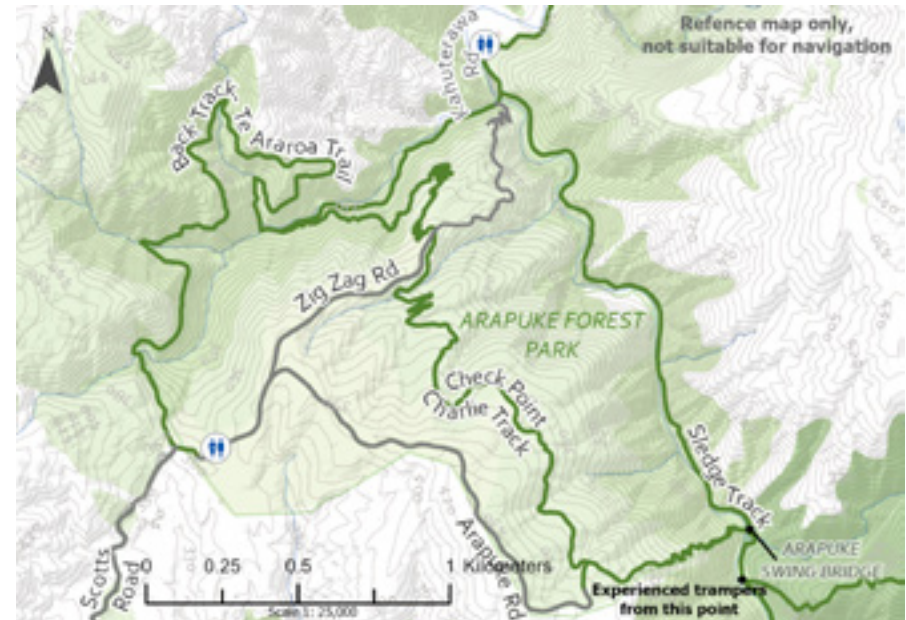
**Contour:** Flat to very steep

**Surface:** Bush trails, forestry roads

**Access Points:** Kahuterawa Rd end, Scotts Rd end

**Conveniences:** Toilets, picnic tables, seating

**Special Attractions:** Native bush, Sledge Track, Arapuke swing bridge, Back Track, Part of Te Araroa Trail, mountain biking trails, windfarm views



# SLEDGE TRACK AND HARDING'S PARK LOOPS

Nestled in the heart of the Kahuterawa Valley, the Kahuterawa Recreation Hub is just a 25 min drive from Palmy, offering a stunning and varied adventure past towering trees, rocky waterfalls and historic mining relics. For all these adventures, do not cross Black Bridge but stay to the left of the Kahuterawa Stream as you walk beyond the end of the road.

## Sledge Track

If you are after something easy, or are with young children, the first section of this track is for you. You will come across a popular swimming hole and if the kids are keen, you can push on to Argyle Rocks. Another 15 mins gets you to the swing bridge. Cross here into Arapuke Forest Park. Otherwise continue on to longer loop tracks in Harding's Park. The trails beyond here are recommended for those who are fit, prepared and ready for a challenge.

At the next junction, 200m beyond the bridge, go left to Toe Toe and Otangane Loop Tracks. Go right towards Quartz Creek for the Aruwaru Loop Track.

## Otangane Loop Track

This 8.5km loop from the swing bridge heads west then south across Harding's Park and into Tararua Forest Park, completing a circuit around the headwaters of the Otangane Stream. Get your camera out as the view from Pukenaenae offers spectacular views down into the Tararua district.

## Naenae Rd connection

A 1.7km side track off the Otangane Loop takes you down a paper road to the end of Naenae Rd in the Tararua district.

## Toe Toe Loop Track

This loop takes you from Toe Toe Junction, north through Harding's Park to an area where prospector Alexander Menesdorfer searched for platinum ore in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The main loop returns via the Toe Toe Flats (spectacular in Feb/Mar). It is wise to keep to the marked track as there may be undiscovered mine shafts in the vicinity.

## Aruwaru Loop Track

This track is a tough 10km circuit from the swing bridge, climbing south to the Aruwaru trig at 767m above sea level before turning west and heading back to Sledge Track via part of the Otangane Loop.

## WARNING:

Go well prepared for changeable weather and hard tramping conditions. Allow the better part of a day for these longer loops or crossing of the ranges. Remember to allow for the 2.2km return trek back along Sledge Track from the swing bridge to the carpark.

## Walking times

Black Bridge to Swimming hole (one way)	10-15min
Black Bridge to Argyle Rocks (one way)	20-30min
Black Bridge to Arapuke swing Bridge (one way)	40-60 min
Sledge Track and Toe Toe Loop: (return)	5-6hrs
Sledge Track and Otangane Loop:(return)	6-7 hrs
Platinum Mines loop (off the end of Toe Toe loop) :	30 min
Tararua crossing: Naenae Rd to Kahuterawa Rd	4-5 hrs





Kahuterawa Stream, Sledge Track

# TURITEA GREEN CORRIDOR AND GREENS ROAD HIKE

If you're looking to go for a workout in the wilderness but want to stay close to the city, check out the Turitea Green Corridors. These corridors weave along various streams and gullies from the Tararua Ranges all the way to our mighty awa, with a few walkways included.

An eco-conscious group of residents, have transformed former farmland into a treasure of revitalised native flora and fauna.

Start your journey at the beginning of Turitea Road and pop in and out of the Green Corridor plantings on alternating sides of the road. Continue on up the gravel portion of Turitea Rd as you head up towards the end of Greens Road. Return the same way, or if you're up for a longer journey, continue over the hill on Greens Road to connect with Kahuterawa Road.

There's a wide range of people and animals and vehicles that use this trail, so be alert for cars and mountain bikers as well as horse riders. This is a strenuous walk with stairs and hills. Allow plenty of time for the return trip, or arrange pick-up from the end of the one-way hike.

**Distance:** 11 km one way between valleys, or 4.0 km Turitea Rd Green Corridors only

**Contour:** Flat alongside streams but steep as you cross the foothills

**Surface:** Gravel roads, grass, bush tracks

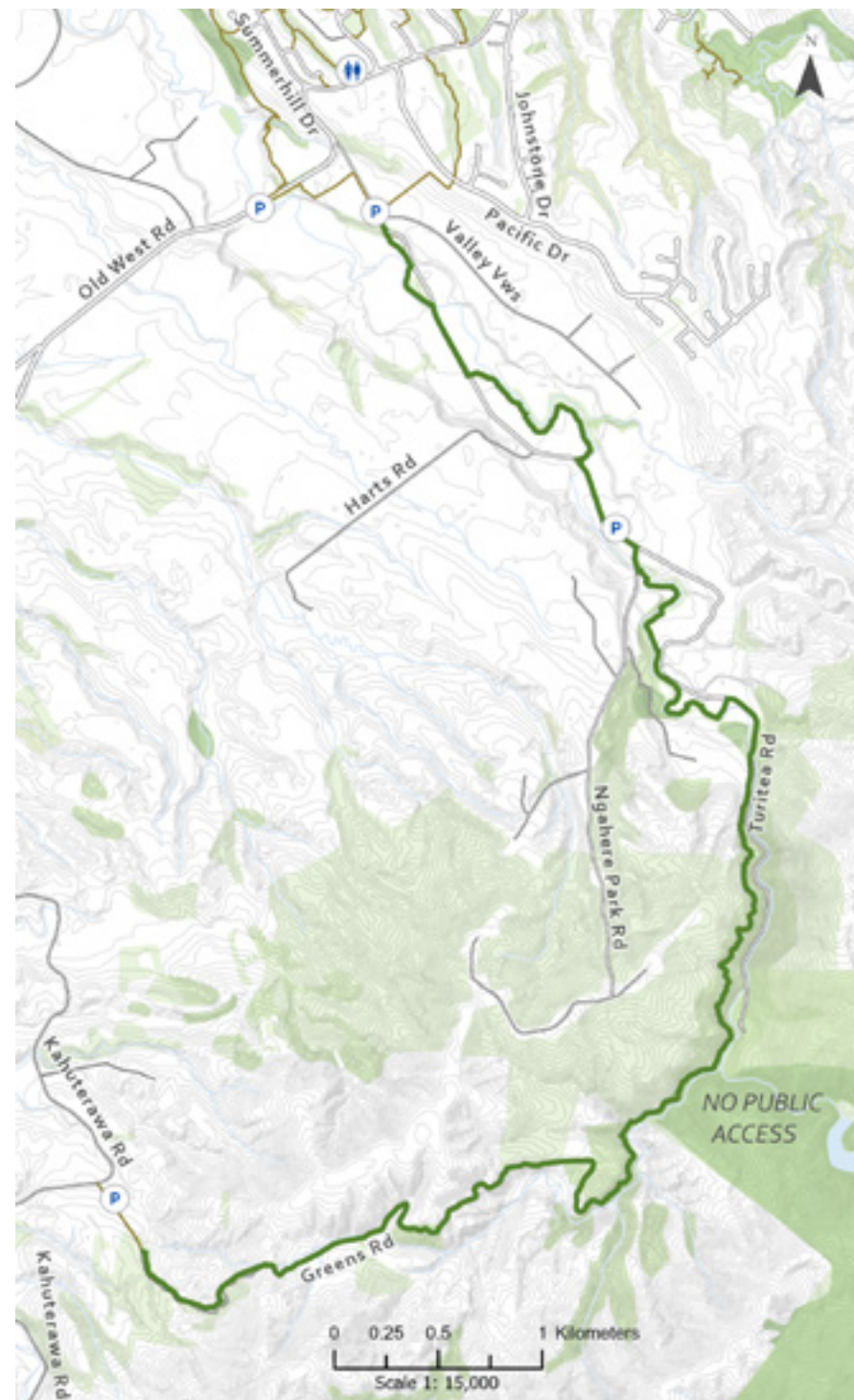
**Access points:** Turitea Road, Ngahere Park Road, Kahuterawa Road / Greens Road

**Conveniences:** Seating, picnic tables

**Special attractions:** Restoration bush, views, Turitea stream access, part of Te Araroa Trail

**Connects to:** Turitea Walkway, Kahuterawa Road

**This walkway is partially on public roads so please take extra care.**



# TUTUKIWI RESERVE SHORT WALK

Named after one of New Zealand's largest orchids that can be found flowering in the bush remnant between October and December

Part way up Moonshine Valley Road, turn sharp right into the signposted Tutukiwi Reserve carpark. This is the starting point for a short walk along Manga-o-tane stream and alongside a pair of man-made lakes. Cool off in the stream or simply enjoy the serenity of this hidden bush remnant reserve. The bridge over the stream originally crossed the Waikato River, taking tourists over to view the Huka Falls.

**Distance:** 0.4km

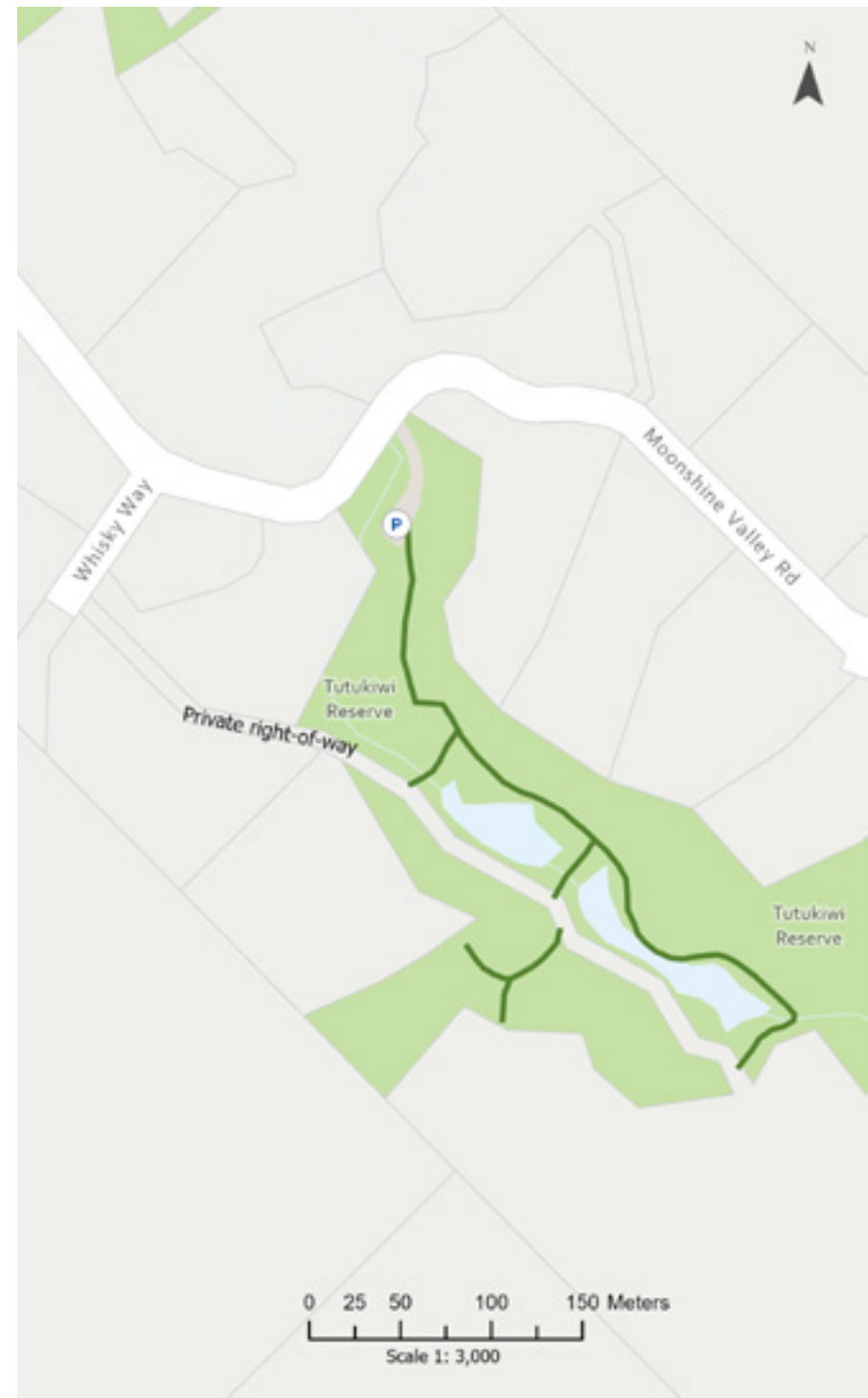
**Contour:** Gentle

**Surface:** Grass

**Access points:** Moonshine Valley Road

**Conveniences:** Carpark, Picnic tables

**Special attractions:** Historic Huka Falls bridge, mature and restoration native bush, wetlands, stream access



# TE ARAROA TRAIL, NEW ZEALAND'S TRAIL

If you're keen for a more challenging hīkoi, this is the track for you.

Palmy marks the halfway point for the Te Araroa Trail which is a walking route connecting Cape Reinga all the way to Bluff, a whopping 3000km hike.

For people wanting to walk our local section of the Te Araroa Trail, it starts at the Campbell Road/Waughs Road railway level crossing, north of Bunnythorpe and leaves our district at the start of Burton's Track, beyond Scotts Road. The trail is well marked with black and white Te Araroa logos and chevrons right through the city.

To find out more about this track, visit [teararoa.org.nz/the-trail/Manawatū-whanganui](http://teararoa.org.nz/the-trail/Manawatū-whanganui)





