Tauranga Walkways & Cycleways

www.tauranga.govt.nz
Some recommended easy access walks are:

- Waikareao Estuary (map 3)
- Beach Road (map 4)
- Gordon Carmichael Reserve (map 5)
- Papamoa stormwater reserves (map 11)
- Kopurererua Valley (map 6)

Walkways and cycleways

Using Tauranga’s walkways and cycleways is a great way to experience the city’s natural beauty.

Most of the pathways identified in this booklet are suitable for both walking and cycling. The only place where bikes aren’t allowed is on and around Mauao.

Many tracks are also suitable for prams and wheelchairs, although some may contain slopes and obstacles that people with wheelchairs will need assistance with.
Walking groups

City on its Feet is a programme aimed at getting more people enjoying walking more often. Over 25 walking groups meet regularly all over Tauranga. These groups are a great way to keep active, have fun and meet likeminded people.

For more information go to: www.sportbop.co.nz/cityonitsfeet or contact Sport Bay of Plenty on 07 578 0016.

McLaren Falls Park

This jewel of the city is in Western Bay, 190 hectares of lakeland park with one of the best botanical collections of trees in the North Island. The park has extensive walkways, a campground and disc golf facilities. Pick up a McLaren Falls Park brochure from council offices or view it on our website.

How to get there: From Tauranga take State Highway 29 heading towards Hamilton, about 10 minutes’ drive, and turn left into McLaren Falls Road.

Take care of yourself and others!

When using Tauranga’s walkways, we recommend you:

- secure your valuables and property from possible theft and damage
- tell someone where you are going
- keep to the left and allow others to pass
- carry a mobile phone in case of emergencies
- in case of fire or any other emergency call 111.
Mauao ("the Mount")

Stroll around the base or venture higher up to enjoy the breathtaking views this mountain has to offer.

Mauao (meaning “caught by the dawn”) is an historic reserve. It is owned by Maori and managed jointly by the owners and Tauranga City Council.

The base track is 2.5km and takes about 50 minutes to walk.

There are several tracks to the summit. The two tracks recommended for sightseers are the Oruahine and Waikorire. The summit is 232m high – it takes about 40 minutes to get to the top.

Be wary of steep drops, rock falls and surging waves. On a hot day it can also be hard work – pace yourself and take water, sunscreen and a hat.

There are no rubbish bins on Mauao. Please take all rubbish away with you.
CBD to Mount Maunganui

The Tauranga CBD is notable for its historical points of interest and harbour views.

Walk along The Strand and dip your toes in the water at the tidal steps, or visit one of the restaurants and bars that dot the waterfront. Take a look at the Elms Mission House, the oldest building in Tauranga, or walk up to Robbins Park to view the rose garden and tropical display house.

There are walking and cycling paths across the harbour bridge to Mount Maunganui, and a rail bridge to Matapihi.
Waikareao Estuary

An 8.2km loop track ideal for walking and cycling.

Waikareao means “sparkling waters of the new day”. There is car parking at Maxwells Road, Coach Drive and the Waihi Road entrance to Takitimu Drive.

Please share with care while using the estuary loop – keep to the left of the track where possible and, if you’re cycling, use your bell.
Otumoetai and Matua reserves

Fergusson and Kulim Parks are popular picnic and paddling areas with views of the inner harbour and Rangiwaea and Matakana Islands.

Both parks feature a playground, and Kulim Park also has an exercise gym for adults.

The Matua Saltmarsh, a coastal wetland of 21 hectares, has permanent protection for its ecological value to Tauranga.

Princess Road links the saltmarsh to Gordon Carmichael reserve (map 5).
Gordon Carmichael Reserve

Excellent walking and cycling links between Bethlehem and Brookfield through 60 hectares of stormwater reserve with native plants and a wide variety of birds. An outdoor classroom was built in the reserve in 2009, which is used for the Learning Through Discovery programme for schools.

The park has a playground, toilets and a drinking fountain available in the centre, near the main car park.
Kopurererua Valley is one of Tauranga’s largest reserves. It provides a variety of different experiences, from farmland to native bush land and ponds. It is home to many sites of historic and archaeological significance.

It's also an important part of Tauranga’s transport network – 12km of tracks link Bethlehem and The Lakes to the CBD via Cameron Road. It’s perfect for a quiet Sunday walk or ride, for bringing the dog, or from commuting to and from school or work on your bike.
Waimapu Estuary

The Waimapu Estuary covers Yatton Park through to Maungatapu.

Yatton Park is home to some of the city's tallest trees and is a popular dog walking area.

While there are a few sections of road, you can walk or cycle all the way from Hammond Street Reserve, over Turret Road and through to Fraser Cove/ Yatton Park.
The Lakes

The Lakes is built around man-made parks and lakes. Many cycle and walkways are suitable for mobility scooters and learner cyclists.

The walkways connect to Kopurererua Valley, providing off-road access to the CBD.
Ohauiti Reserve

A destination walkway featuring bushwalks, flood plains and open grasslands.

Parts of Ohauiti Reserve can be flooded after heavy rain. Keep to the high ground track on the west side of the reserve if flooded.
Welcome Bay

Waipuna Park and Johnson Reserve are Welcome Bay’s most popular open spaces.

In Waipuna Park you’ll find sports fields, a playground and a community centre. Johnson Reserve is perfect for walking and cycling with its bushwalks, streams and wetland areas.
Papamoa

A series of pathways follows the Papamoa stormwater reserves, providing a walking and cycle link from Pacific View Road to Parton Road.

Turn this walk into a loop by returning along Papamoa Beach, but be aware that no dogs are allowed within 200m of the surf club at Papamoa Domain.

Be cautious at high tide as Papamoa Beach sometimes gets large swells.