



Waiheke Island walkways

Waiheke Island is renowned for its great weather, splendid beaches, picturesque vineyards and native bush.

This is reason enough to go exploring, but if you take some time to experience one of the many walkways outlined in this booklet you will see that Waiheke is much more than meets the eye.

Each walk has something unique to offer, from serene bush with stunning views to expansive reserves and charming villages. The surprises are there, just waiting to be discovered.



For further information on these walkways, or any other parks in Auckland, visit our website: visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone 09 301 0101.



Explore our Waiheke Island walkways

Waiheke Island means sunshine, sandy beaches, vineyards and ferries. It is an island waiting to be explored, and numerous walkways make this a pleasure.

Whether it is the solitude and fragrance of the native bush, or the views from the cliff-tops and headlands, these walkways offer diversity and tranquility. Features of Waiheke's walkways range from areas of historic interest to native wood pigeons.

This brochure details eight of the island's major walkways and their side trips, which can either shorten or lengthen the walk. Many of the roads are narrow so take care when walking.

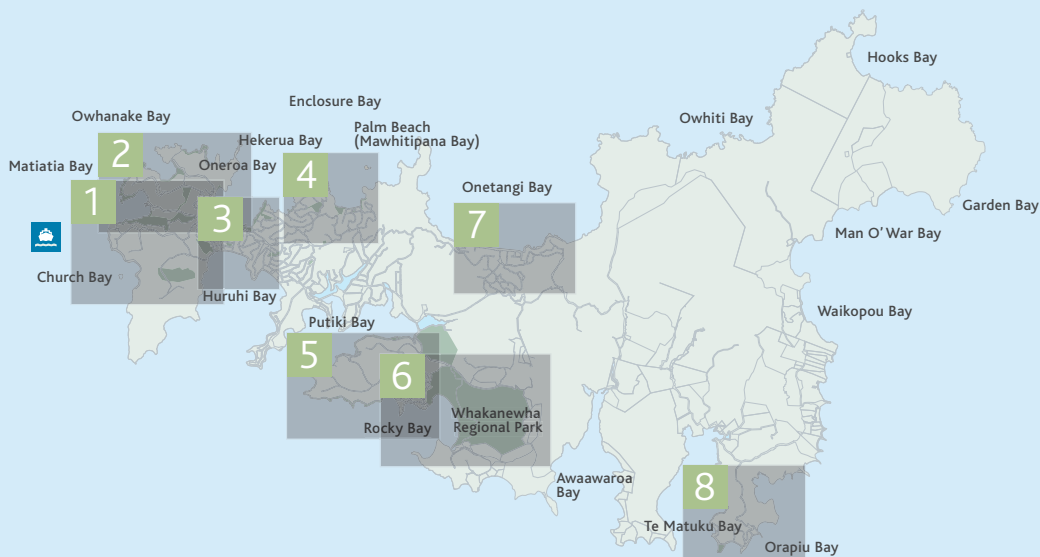
For your interest we have published additional information on our website: www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/walkways

Check it out for historical facts and added landmarks to look out for.

What to bring:

- drinking water
- hat
- sunscreen
- reliable walking shoes
- warm clothing
- rain jacket (in case of a change in weather).

Note: Drinking water is not available on the walks. Remember to bring your own. Please be careful on the steep sections of the walk.



Waiheke Island walks

This guide aims to help you navigate your way around Waiheke's major walkways, with alternatives that offer freedom when choosing your route.

Waiheke Island walks

Walk 1	Matiatia, Church Bay, Oneroa	Walk 5	Rocky Bay's Te Whau loop
Walk 2	Matiatia, Owhanake, Oneroa	Walk 6	Rocky Bay (featuring Whakanewha)
Walk 3	Oneroa, Blackpool	Walk 7	Onetangi
Walk 4	Hekerua, Palm Beach	Walk 8	Orapiu – Pearl Bay

Walk 1

Matiatia, Church Bay, Oneroa loop (Southern walk)




Highlights and facts

Spectacular views, a Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand revegetation project and historic sites are the highlights of this walk.

Time: Approximately two hours.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the track.

Facilities: Toilets and kiosk at Matiatia ferry terminal. Toilets and shops at Oneroa. Toilets at Blackpool Reserve.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes. 

Start at Matiatia wharf and follow the path to the southern end of Matiatia Bay. Cross the footbridge, follow the track uphill to the lookout on Nick Johnstone Drive and along the coastal track to Te Miro Bay. Continue along the coast to Church Bay and, when you get to the end, follow the track along the fence line to the top of the hill towards Church Bay Road. Follow Church Bay Road through Alison Park to Oneroa village. If heading back to Matiatia, turn left into Ocean View Road and follow it to the wharf or enter Atawhai Whenua Reserve and follow the lower track along the edge of the wetland to Matiatia Bay.

Alternative routes:

- Option one:** Leave the track at Te Miro Bay and walk back to Oneroa via Nick Johnstone Drive. This will cut the length of the walk by half an hour.
- Option two:** Loop through Pio Rehuta Reserve at Church Bay Road. This will take you through the hills above Blackpool and Oneroa, and it links back to Church Bay Road. This will add half an hour to the walk. For a longer walk, from Church Bay Road walk up the private driveway with public access and take the loop back to Oneroa via Blackpool. At Blackpool there is also a loop track through Te Huruhi Reserve.

Walk 2

Matiatia, Owhanake, Oneroa (Northern walk)



Waiheke Island walks


Highlights and facts

This walk is ideal for visitors wanting to take in as much of the island as possible, without venturing too far from the ferry and Oneroa village. It provides stunning views out over the Hauraki Gulf and to inland parts of western Waiheke. Keep a lookout for World War Two pillboxes on Delamore Drive and terraces of a headland pa.

Time: Two to three hours.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the walks.

Facilities: Toilets and kiosk at Matiatia ferry terminal and toilets and shops at Oneroa; picnic tables at Owhanake Bay.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes. 

From Matiatia wharf, follow the track to Cable Bay around to Owhanake Bay. Follow the green and yellow marker posts from Island Bay to Korora Road until you reach Oneroa Bay. Continue south along Korora Road and then turn onto Ocean View Road to return to Matiatia wharf.

Alternative routes:

- **Option one:** From Matiatia Bay, head up the hill to Delamore Drive. Walk across the road and down the track to Owhanake Bay. This will cut the length of the walk by one hour.
- **Option two:** At Matiatia Bay, walk along Ocean View Road. Climb the scenic reserve track to Delamore Drive down into the eastern end of Owhanake Bay.

Walk 3

Oneroa, Blackpool



Highlights and facts

This walk features a series of coastal reserves and walkways linked by residential roads. It takes you through the island's main village, Oneroa, showcasing its charming shops and cafes. The beaches below the village are sheltered and safe to swim in.

Time: Approximately two hours.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the tracks.

Facilities: Toilets, shops and parking at Oneroa. BBQ, playground, toilets and a shop at Little Oneroa. Newton Reserve has a picnic area and panoramic views.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes.



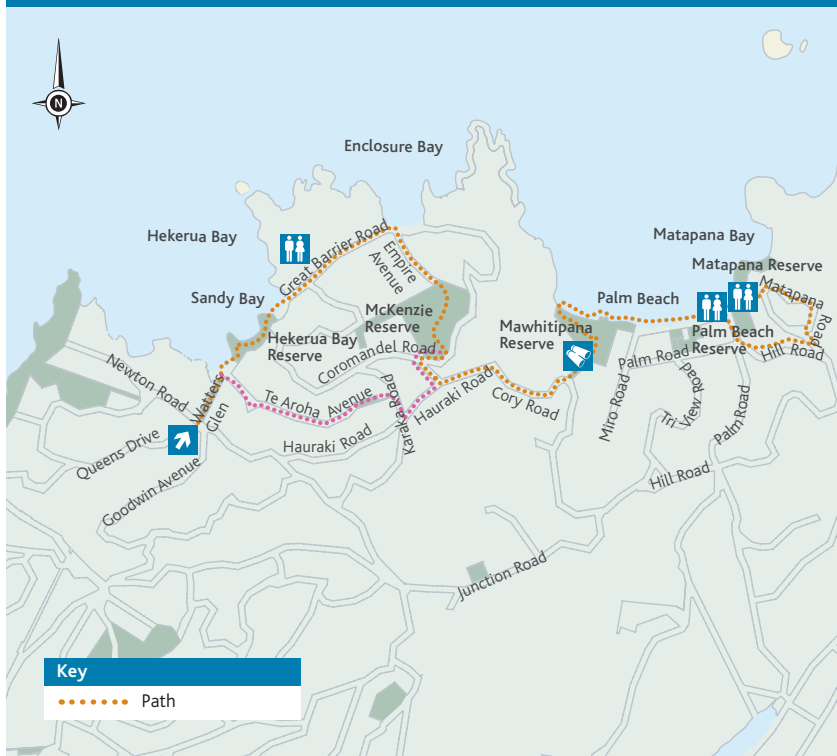
Walk along Oneroa Beach at low tide to Little Oneroa Beach. For high-tide access, join the track on the corner of Puriri and Ocean View roads. From Little Oneroa Beach, follow the track to the lookout near Fisherman's Rock. Follow Queens Drive and make your way back to Little Oneroa Beach via Goodwin Avenue.

Alternative routes:

- **Option one:** From Oneroa village, head south down Tui Street to The Esplanade and Blackpool Beach. From The Esplanade, follow the track to Makora Avenue to Tawa Street back to Oneroa.
- **Option two:** From The Esplanade, continue along the coastline to Surfdale Access Reserve. Follow the track up to Burrell Road on to the Burrell Road extension, then cross over Ocean View Road. Join Goodwin Avenue and head back to Oneroa Village.

Walk 4

Hekerua, Palm Beach



Waiheke Island walks

Highlights and facts

Hekerua Bay and Enclosure Bay boast shingle beaches, rocky pools and coastal rock outcrops. Palm Beach is a very popular white sandy beach ideal for swimming and sunbathing, with nude bathing at the western end of the beach.

Time: Approximately two hours.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the tracks.

Facilities: Toilets at Sandy Bay, Palm Beach and Matapana reserves. Shops and BBQs at Palm Beach.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes.



From Watters Glen, at the corner of Queens Drive and Goodwin Avenue, follow the track through Hekerua Bay Reserve to Sandy Bay. Follow Great Barrier Road to Enclosure Bay and turn right into Empire Avenue through McKenzie Reserve to Coromandel Road. Turn left into Hauraki Road and Cory Road. Then walk to the lookout through Mawhitipana Reserve to Palm Beach. Continue along Palm Beach to Matapana Reserve and up to Matapana Road. Follow Hill Road, which loops back down to Palm Beach.

Alternative route:

..... From McKenzie Reserve follow Hauraki Road to Karaka Road. Turn right into Karaka Road and then left onto Te Aroha Avenue track. At Hekerua Bay Reserve turn back onto the zigzag track back to the starting point. This will cut the length of the walk by one hour.

Walk 5

Rocky Bay's Te Whau loop



Highlights and facts

This walk explores a more secluded part of the island. Discover panoramic views over Rocky Bay, Te Whau Point, inland parts of western Waiheke and to Auckland. The walk features serene excursions through mature coastal forest and vineyards. This area is home to many artists and crafts people.

Time: Approximately two hours.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the tracks.

Facilities: BBQ and toilets at Mary Wilson Reserve on Valley Road – also a great spot for children to play. Picnic tables at Kuakarau Bay Forest Reserve. BBQ at Onetangi Sports Park.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes.

Starting at Onetangi Sports Park, take the track up the right-hand side of O'Brien Road. Turn right into Margaret Reeve Lane down to Okoka Bay (Dead Dog Bay). Cross the beach and follow the markers up the hill, turn left into Vintage Lane then right into Te Whau Drive. Follow the road until you reach the Hitapa Bay walkway on the left (the first part of the walk down to the beach is steep). Follow the track past several secluded bays until you reach Kuakarau Bay. Turn back inland on Wairua Road then left into Kuakarau Bay Forest Reserve. Two tracks in the reserve take you to Te Whau Drive or O'Brien Road, leading you back to the start.

Alternative routes:

- Option one:** As above, except after exiting Kuakarau Bay Forest Reserve cross over O'Brien Road and take the Stanimoroff Walkway that traverses the ridge line behind Rocky Bay village. At the end of this walkway a track passes through Whakanewha Regional Park to Gordon's Road. This will add half an hour to your journey.
- Option two:** There is a short walk near the start that takes you past privately-owned houseboats into Putiki Bay. Return to the road and follow the walk above. This takes 20 minutes.

Walk 6

Rocky Bay (featuring Whakanewha)



Waiheke Island walks

Highlights and facts


These walks offer the chance to enjoy beautiful southern bays and Maori archaeological sites. Go for a bush walk to the Cascades in the Whakanewha Regional Park, or relax under the pohutukawa.

Time: Approximately two hours.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the tracks.

Facilities: BBQ and toilets at Mary Wilson Reserve, toilets at Omiha Bay. Toilets, picnic tables, BBQ and camping ground at Whakanewha Regional Park.

Visit www.arc.govt.nz for more information and a downloadable Whakanewha Park brochure.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes. 

Starting opposite the old Rocky Bay Store, walk up Glen Brook Road and turn right into Omiha Road. Follow this road until you reach the Upland Road track, which leads you to the coast of Whakanewha Regional Park. This will take you to a car park and picnic area. On the opposite side of the road from the toilet block enter the Nikau track and turn left onto the Tarata track. This will take you onto Carsons and Gordon's roads. Cross the road and walk up through Whakanewha Regional Park to the Stanimoroff Walkway. Follow this walkway to Te Whau Drive and enter the Kuakarau Bay Forest Reserve. Follow the track down to Rocky Bay.

Alternative route:

..... From the old Rocky Bay Store, walk up Glen Brook Road and turn left into Glenbrook Reserve and follow the track down to Okoka Road. Walk down into Fairview Crescent and follow this to Bella Vista Road and Crosby Reserve overlooking Whakanewha and Rocky Bays. Continue along Bella Vista Road and turn left into Upland Road and Omiha Road to the start. Time for this walk is one hour.

Walk 7

Onetangi



Highlights and facts

This walk offers the chance to see the sights at Waiheke's biggest beach. The route criss-crosses the area, taking in the spectacular views from the cliffs above the beach out towards Great Barrier and Little Barrier islands and a number of local reserves. You can view mature bush remnants including a kauri and nikau grove in Victoria Reserve.

Time: One hour.

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the tracks.

Facilities: Toilets are located on The Strand, between Fourth Avenue and Jacob's Ladder, and at Seventh Avenue.

Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes.



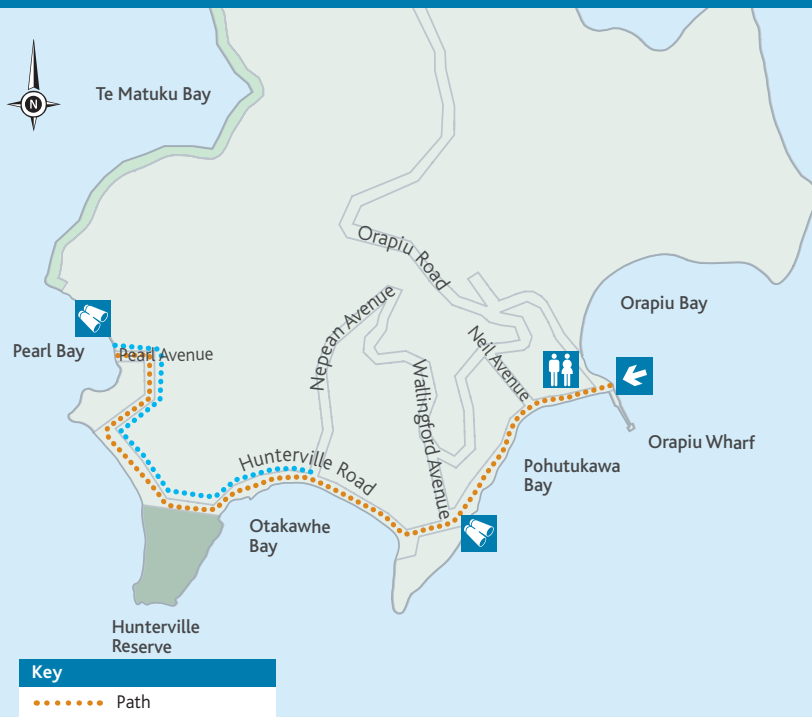
Beginning at The Strand and Fourth Avenue intersection, walk eastwards along the beach and take the steps at the end leading to Garratt Road. Turn right into Waiheke Road following it to Tin Boat Reserve (Fourth Avenue Reserve) and playground. Take the track to Pah Road and, at the junction of Pah and Seaview roads, follow the Jacob's Ladder walkway back to the beach. Turn left onto the beach, heading towards the Seventh Avenue Accessway Reserve and climb the 187 steps to reach Seaview Road. Turn left into Seaview Road and back to the Pah Road junction. Walk along Pah Road and down the path through Tin Boat Reserve back to Onetangi Beach.

Alternative routes:

- **Option one:** The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand offers a looped track through Onetangi Reserve with five entry and exit points, featuring mature New Zealand natives including a grove of kauri. Allow an extra two hours.
- **Option two:** At the intersection of Waiheke Road and Victoria Road North, walk up the hill and enter the walkway through Victoria Reserve to Marine View Road that takes you through a nikau grove. Turn right at the top and walk to the Eden Terrace corner opposite the old Crocker's General Store, and then right again at Onetangi Road to head down to the beach. Allow an extra half hour.

Walk 8

Orapiu, Pearl Bay



Waiheke Island walks

Highlights and facts

This walk offers amazing close-up views to Ponui Island, Coromandel Peninsula and the eastern Auckland mainland. Te Matuku Bay and Otakawhe Bay are part of a new marine reserve where no fishing is allowed.

Time: Approximately two hours (return).

Dogs: Keep your dog/s under control, particularly on steep sections of the tracks.

Facilities: Toilet and wharf at Orapiu Bay.

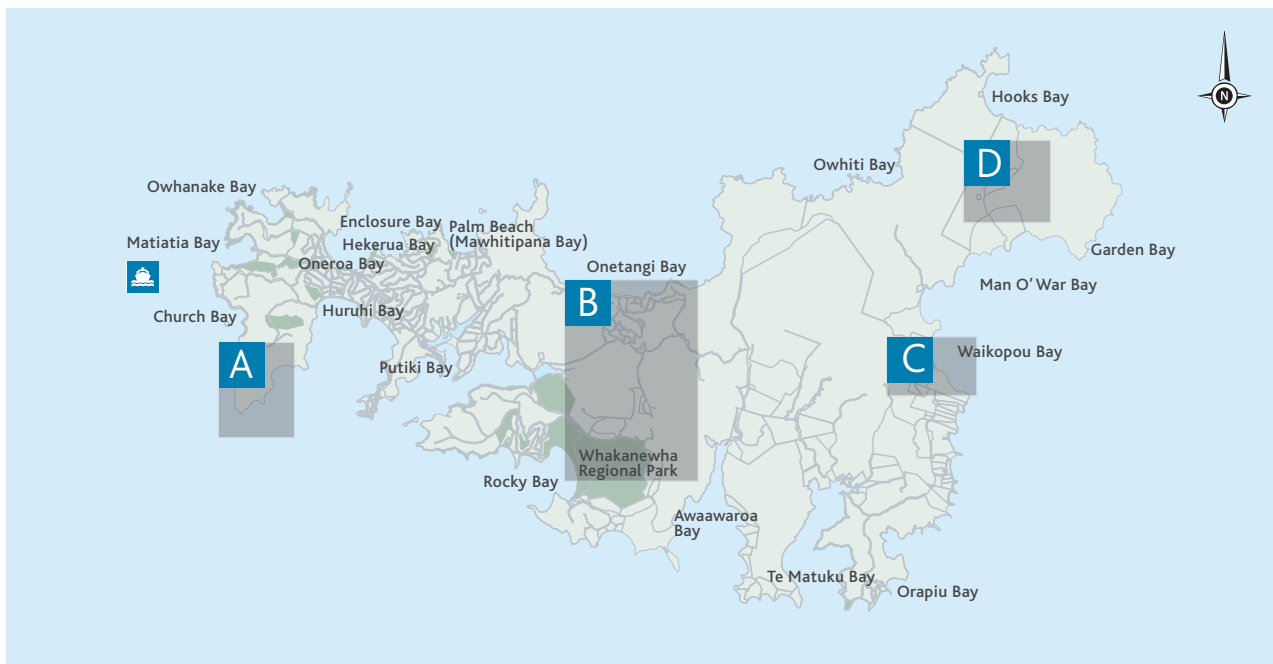
Note: Keep a lookout for signs showing alternative routes.



At Orapiu Wharf, follow the signs around the coast to Otakawhe Bay into Pearl Bay at the southern end of Te Matuku Bay. Return to Orapiu Bay by the same route. There is no public transport to this location.

Alternative route:

- Park your car at the junction of Nepean Avenue and Hunterville Road and follow the walkway to Pearl Bay. This will halve the time of the walk. You can also walk from here to Orapiu wharf.



Other walks to explore

A Park Point walkway

From the end of Church Bay road continue walking past Pio Rehutai Reserve to Walter Frank Drive. Take the loop track to Te Wharau Bay or continue along the road through a coastal forest to link up to the Church Bay walkway. This walk takes approximately one hour. 🗺️

B Cross Island walkway

Start at the eastern end of Onetangi Beach. Walk up First Avenue and take the stairs through Pohutukawa Reserve. Cross the road into the Onetangi Forest and Bird Reserve and follow the signs to the Trig Hill exit. Turn left onto Trig Hill Road past Pukeatua Reserve to the end of the road. Walk the track to Whakanewha Regional Park and beach. This walk takes approximately three hours. 🗺️ 🚶

C Waikopou Bay

Park your car at the entrance to the walkway on Cowes Bay Road. The walkway is steep but shaded. Turn left at the beach to reach the reserve. This walk takes approximately an hour and a half return. There is no public transport to this location. 🗺️

D Stony Batter

Stony Batter Historic Reserve is at the eastern end of Waiheke. Its main features are rock outcrops, gun sites and extensive tunnels. Go to www.doc.govt.nz for more information on Auckland's World War Two history. There is no public transport to this location. 🗺️

Discover nature in the city

Our living spaces offer much to the mind and body. They are natural pleasures, generous in spirit, rich in history and brought to life everyday by the elements and by the energy of those who visit. The surprises are there, just waiting to be explored.

Parks in Auckland

Waiheke Island's walkways pass through some of the 800 parks cared for by Auckland Council for residents and visitors to enjoy. For further information on these walks and other city walkways, go to www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/walkways or phone 09 301 0101.

Contacts

Auckland Council (for walkway enquiries)
09 301 0101

Waiheke Island Visitor Information Centre
09 372 1234

Fullers – Hauraki Gulf ferries
09 367 9111

Medical attention
09 372 8756 or 09 372 5005

Emergencies
111

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand
09 372 7662

Sealink (vehicle ferry from Half Moon Bay)
09 300 5900 and 0800 732 546



Getting around

For information on catching buses, trains and ferries in Auckland and Waiheke visit www.maxx.co.nz or phone 09 366 6400 or 0800 103 080.

Rental cars are available on Waiheke Island. Visit www.waihekerentalcars.co.nz

Classifications (key)



Walking track – suitable for most ages and levels of fitness and mobility. Not suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs.



Tramping track – suitable for users of average fitness and mobility.



Route – marked only by signposts and basic route markers. May be cross country. Requires a reasonable level of fitness.



Lookout points



Playground



BBQ



Parking



Toilets



Transport

Environmental care code

Please protect our plants, wildlife and natural heritage:

- remove your rubbish
- keep streams and the sea clean
- keep to the track and respect private property
- keep dogs on a leash and remove droppings (go to www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone 09 301 0101 for more information on dogs)
- do not light fires.

Toitu te whenua – leave the land undisturbed.



Plan your Waiheke Island walks

Date: _____ Walk number: _____

Depart from: _____ Departure time: _____

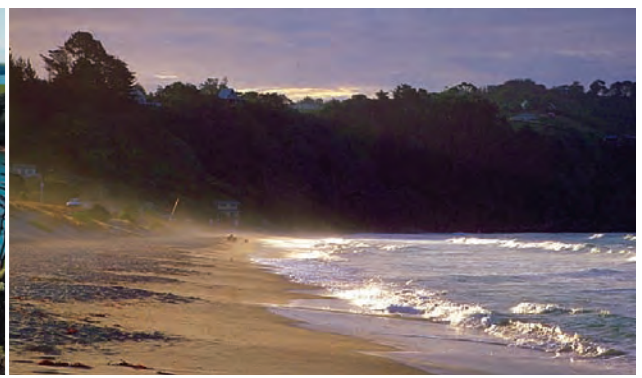
Arrive at: _____ Arrival time: _____

Places of interest: _____

Check list:

Drinking water Hat Sunscreen Walking shoes Warm clothing Rain jacket

Notes: _____



Date: _____ Walk number: _____

Depart from: _____ Departure time: _____

Arrive at: _____ Arrival time: _____

Places of interest: _____

Check list:

Drinking water Hat Sunscreen Walking shoes Warm clothing Rain jacket

Notes: _____

Explore Waiheke Island's walkways

A walker's guide

For more information phone 09 301 0101
or visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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