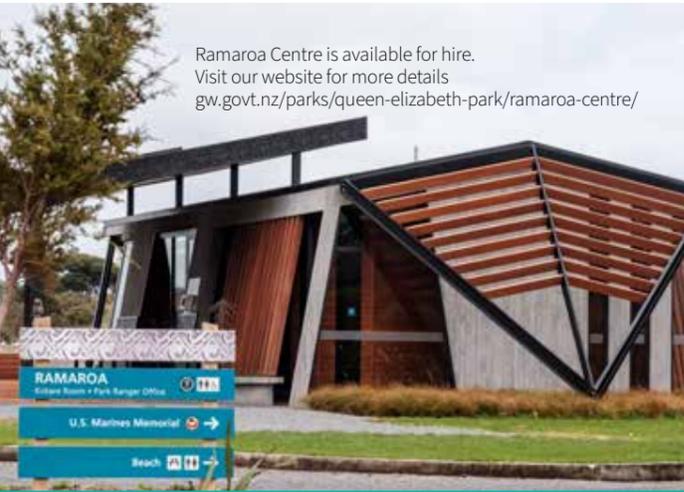


Ramaroa Centre is available for hire. Visit our website for more details [gw.govt.nz/parks/queen-elizabeth-park/ramaroa-centre/](http://gw.govt.nz/parks/queen-elizabeth-park/ramaroa-centre/)



Updated July 2022



# QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK



Queen Elizabeth Park is the last area of natural dunes on Kāpiti's coastline.

Māori have been living here for hundreds of years and there were major settlements at Wainui and Whareroa until the late 19th century.

Though the land was covered in forest, the numerous waterways were once deep enough for waka (canoes) to be paddled from Paekākāriki to Waikanae.

## Please take care of your park

- Dogs are welcome everywhere except on Te Ara o Tipapa. Please keep them under control and remove droppings.
- Take your rubbish home and recycle it where possible.
- Do not remove, disturb or damage native plants or animals.
- Keep to the tracks.
- Light no fires. Gas barbecues are permitted.
- No motorised recreation.

For more information visit [gw.govt.nz/parks/queen-elizabeth-park/](http://gw.govt.nz/parks/queen-elizabeth-park/)

Contact the Greater Wellington Parks department: [parks@gw.govt.nz](mailto:parks@gw.govt.nz)

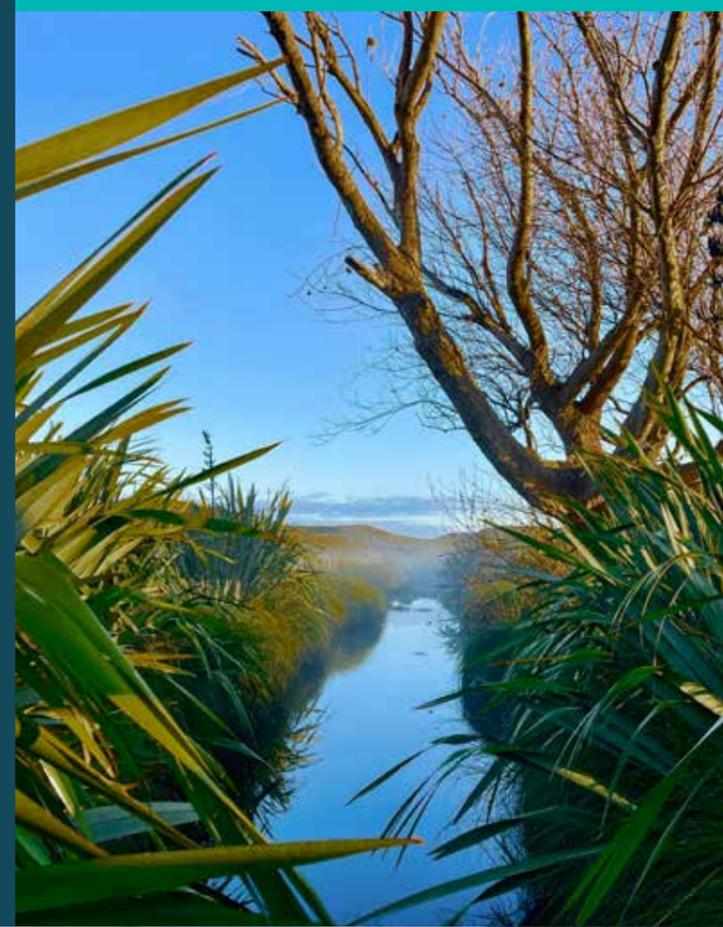
Greater Wellington contact centre: 0800 496 734

Metlink  
(for public transport timetables and fares)  
0800 801 700  
[www.metlink.org.nz](http://www.metlink.org.nz)

Walking or cycling to the park?  
Check out [www.gw.govt.nz/cycling/](http://www.gw.govt.nz/cycling/) for the most direct route



Cover photo: Gary Wheaton



## Marines Memorials

The two WWII U.S. Marines Camp interpretations tell the story of the Marines based at the camp and local residents. These are situated at two sites in the park. Camp Russell is at the **Mackays crossing entrance, Whareroa Rd.** And camp Paekākāriki is at the **Paekākāriki entrance, Wellington Rd.**

We would like to acknowledge The Kāpiti US Marines Trust for the work they have done bringing this project to life.



## Swimming/fishing

The beach is excellent for swimming. For your safety, swim between the Paekākāriki Surf Club flags in summer. You can surf cast from the beach.

## Picnicking

Good picnic spots are located throughout the park. Large groups (over 25) can pre-book sites at Whareroa and Paekākāriki for a small fee. Contact us for more information.

## Horse riding

Begin your ride at Mackays Crossing and follow the designated tracks, giving way to walkers. Access points to the beach are at Paekākāriki, Whareroa and Raumati South. Horses are permitted on all Kāpiti beaches. During summer access is restricted between 11am and 5pm on beaches neighbouring urban areas.

## Cycling

There's plenty of opportunity for easy cycling on the park's tracks, including the winding Te Ara o Whareroa shared path, which skirts the dunes for 6 km between Raumati South and Paekākāriki. To protect the park's sensitive environment, cyclists are asked to please keep to the tracks, be courteous and give way to walkers, and horse riders at crossing points.

## Camping

Camping is available at the Paekākāriki Holiday Park, at the Paekākāriki entrance to Queen Elizabeth Park. For bookings: [www.paekakarikiholidaypark.co.nz](http://www.paekakarikiholidaypark.co.nz)

## Other activities

### Wellington Tramway Museum

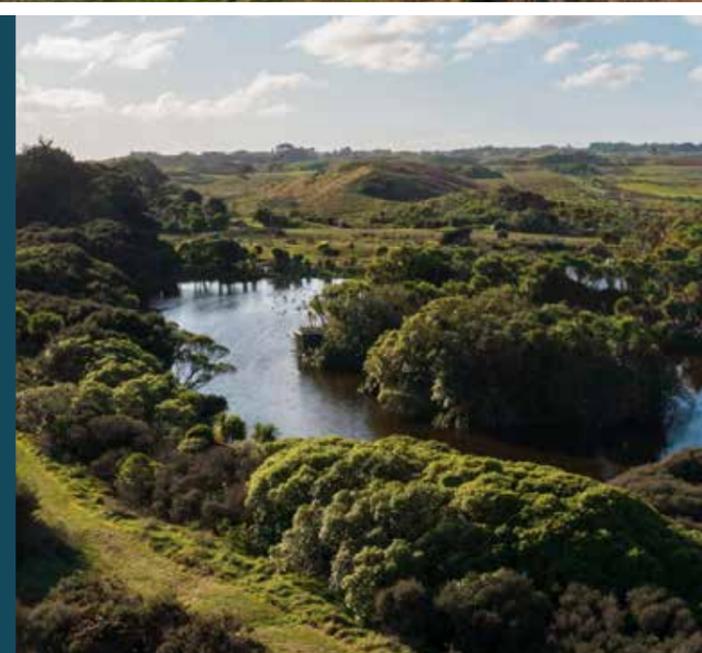
Visit the museum or take a tram ride from Mackays Crossing to Whareroa Beach and back. Open weekends and public holidays 11am. [www.wellingtontrams.org.nz](http://www.wellingtontrams.org.nz)

### Model aircraft

Model aeroplane enthusiasts meet regularly near Whareroa Beach to fly their aircraft.

### Equestrian eventing

Regional events held at Mackays Crossing. [www.nzequestrian.org.nz](http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz)



## Get involved in dune and bush restoration

With the help of the community we are restoring areas of the natural coastal environment. Activities include seed growing, planting and maintenance.

### Friends of Queen Elizabeth Park

The Friends are an important partner in restoration projects to improve the park environment, enhancing enjoyment, education and recreation for all.

For information on how to help, see the noticeboards or visit [www.friendsofqp.nz](http://www.friendsofqp.nz)



## Tracks and trails

Track/Time	Description	Icons
Whareroa Stream Loop 1 hr	The track follows Whareroa Stream through farmland to the rolling sandhills of the northern Inland Track. Along the track you will see a number of native re-vegetation plantings. Turn left onto the northern Inland Track and do the loop walk back to Mackays Crossing via Whareroa Road.	
Te Ara o Tipapa (Wetland Walk) 45 min	This track runs through the Mackays Crossing wetlands, then crosses low dunes to wetlands that alternate seasonally from dry to wet. Continue to the bush remnant, the only piece of original kahikatea forest remaining on the Kāpiti Coast. You can follow a shady track through the remnant or walk on by for good views over the equestrian paddock and the park entrance. Further on you walk through the "Marines" wetland, first planted in 2003, then past the memorial commemorating the camps that were here during World War II.	
Coastal Track 1 hr 20 mins	This walk follows the seaward dunes along the coast between Paekākāriki and Whareroa Beach, with an entry point at either end. See pingao and spinifex catching and holding the sand on the foreshore while further back muehlenbeckia, shore bindweed and flax protect and strengthen the dune system. A variety of short tracks along the way link with the beach. This is an intermediate mountain bike track with some short, steep sections. If you wish to continue north to Raumati South, you can either use the beach or the Te Ara o Whareroa trail.	
Inland Track 40 mins	The main section of the Inland Track winds through rolling sand dune ridges between the Memorial lookout in Paekākāriki and heads north providing stunning views of both Mana and Kāpiti Island. It ends at The Coastal Track just before Whareroa Road.	
Yankee Trail 90 mins	Yankee Trail – This trail takes you between the two US Marines memorials in Queen Elizabeth Park. Retrace the steps of the US Marines who used this track to walk between Camp Mackay and Paekākāriki in 1942 and 1943. A sheltered, undulating track that is an easy to intermediate mountain bike ride.	
Te Ara o Whareroa Trail 2 hrs	This is an easy 6km sealed trail that traverses the dune lands of Kāpiti Coast, just one hour's drive from Wellington. The trail extends from Queen Elizabeth Park in Paraparaumu all the way through to Tilley Road in Paekākāriki. This popular shared route is used by locals for recreational walking and biking.	
Dune Swamp Loop 30 mins	This area has been a long term restoration project by The Friends of QEP and Greater Wellington. Initially the area was planted with pioneer species and now trees such as kahikatea are starting to emerge. The planting has gradually crept year-by-year towards the railway line and is slowly helping to form a bush corridor from the coast to Whareroa Farm, and eventually Akatarawa Forest. The walk is a reasonably flat grass track that can be a little bit muddy in the winter. It's suitable for most fitness levels, walking and horse riding, but not ideal for buggies.	
Peatland Ridge Track 30 mins (one way)	The 1.4km walk from Rainbow Court to the Pony Club gate follows gentle undulating terrain that allows you to see the transition from farming to a newly formed native forest. You will walk past regenerating native bush and newly formed natural wetlands as you get near the Old Farm Track. Continue onto the ridge where you will have views over the northern corner of the park where much of the area has been replanted. This replanting was an initiative funded by The Maclean Trust. A peat restoration project is also in the pipeline.	
Old Farm Track 60 mins (one way)	This 3.5km flat, easy walk will take you through previously farmed areas of the park. You will see native regeneration take place over the coming years which is the result of the Recloning Papatūānuku project started in 2022. Walk from Poplar Avenue in Raumati South (this entrance is not suitable for parking) all the way to the Mackays Crossing entrance.	
Peatland Loop 40 mins	This 2.2km loop is a great place to bring your horse as it's a more remote grass track and not as suitable for cycling. You may see a number of changes in this area over the coming years due to peat restoration projects.	
Kānuka Track 7 mins	This 500m track links from Te Ara o Whareroa Trail into the parts of the park opened in 2022 and conveniently connects with The Old Farm Track and The Peatland Loop.	

Be aware of mowers and maintenance vehicles when using all tracks

No off-road vehicles in all park areas

<b>KEY</b>	<b>Natural features</b>	<b>Other features</b>	<b>Restrictions</b>	<b>Activities</b>
	Coastal scrub and restoration plantings	Entrances	No dogs	Horsing riding
	Bush remnants	Public road	Camping	Parking
	Wetland	Park Ranger office	Toilets	Mapboard
Non-native trees	US Marines memorial	Walking	Buggy walks	
Grassland	Ramaroa	Easy walking	Dogs under control	
Ponds and streams	Park building	Swimming	Mountain biking	
	Tramline		Drinking water	
			Fishing	
			Tram rides	
			Minor tracks	
			Horse access to beach	

