



HOBSONVILLE POINT EXISTING AMENITIES

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- PARKING
- COFFEE
- PUBLIC TOILETS
- SHOW HOMES
- CATALINA CAFE INFORMATION CENTRE
- DOGS WELCOME ON LEASH AT HOBSONVILLE POINT
- FENCED OFF LEASH DOG PARK
- DRIVEABLE ROAD
- MOTORWAY
- PARKS AND RESERVES
- COASTAL EDGE
- COASTAL WALKWAY

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HOBSONVILLE POINT
Moments away, a world apart.

TE ARA MANAWA HOBSONVILLE / ONEKIRITEA Coastal Walkway



5km circuit



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WELCOME TO TE ARA MANAWA HOBSONVILLE/ONEKIRITEA COASTAL WALKWAY

When you visit Hobsonville Point we hope you'll stay and explore the 5km Te Ara Manawa – Hobsonville/Onekiritea Coastal Walkway, that hugs the Hobsonville Point coastline.

No matter your direction of travel around the loop track, there's plenty to see at every turn – be it public art, historic buildings, picture-perfect views or native bush and open skies.

Iwi have gifted the walkway the name, Te Ara Manawa - Hobsonville/Onekiritea Coastal Walkway, means a 'pathway amongst the mangroves' of Onekiritea (Hobsonville Point). The name also refers to the heartfelt intent to care for this special environment and all those who come to visit.

Welcome to the walkway...
ready, steady, explore!

1. CATALINA BAY

Catalina Bay is set to become a new precinct which will provide a social hub for the Hobsonville Point community and an exciting new destination for Aucklanders. Stage One of four – the refurbishment of the heritage buildings – will be completed in 2019. Three further stages will include 60-80 apartments, shops, office space and fun, friendly places to eat and drink.

The area played an important part in New Zealand's military and aviation history. Once known as 'The Landing', it was laboriously carved out of the cliff face by pickaxe in 1928 to create a launching/landing platform for boats and seaplanes.



3. MATA

Expect the unexpected on the section of the walkway between Catalina Bay and Bomb Point. Here, the path has been deliberately disrupted by mata (meaning eye), circular landscape features intentionally placed along the way. Drawing on the Māori concept of whakarare, meaning to distort, the Mata provide opportunities to pause, see the surrounding landscape and rest awhile.



4. MEADOW CLEARING

After a stint of exploring, there's no better place to recharge the troops than the Meadow Clearing. Pick up something to eat from the Catalina Bay Farmers Market and take a short stroll along the coast to the clearing, an open space surrounded by native bush. There you'll also find our habitat markers – large posts assortment with an assortment of holes and hollows that act as a home to insects and birds.



2. HARRIER POINT PARK

Harrier Point Park, on the corner of Launch and Boundary Roads, is one of the point's most magical spots. With stunning sea views and native bush nearby, it offers everything from fitness and play equipment to shaded grassy spots, barbeques and picnic tables. Soon it will also be home to a 10-metre-tall pied shag sculpture, offering those who dare to climb up to the viewing platform in its head a view on par with that enjoyed from a three storey building. Don't miss this park and its hidden charms – just keep an eye out for Estuarine, the sculpture on the gabion wall at the bottom of Launch Road, and venture up the nearby steps to find the park.



5. BOMB POINT

Bomb Point was once the site of New Zealand's largest Air Force explosives depot – home to bombs, torpedoes, missiles and more. Thirteen robust brick magazines (stores) remain, testament to the extensive facility that operated here as recently as 2001. Following a Treaty of Waitangi settlement with Te Kawerau a Maki, Bomb Point has since adopted its official name of Te Onekiritea Point, referencing the kainga (Māori village) that was once located on the peninsula and the white clay Maori sourced here. Today it provides a place to roam, complete with a fenced dog exercise area.



6. RIFLE RANGE

Time it right and you might just catch a show as you pass the Rifle Range. The range, built in 1940, has been transformed into an amphitheatre and comes alive with regular community events and performances.

Traces of its past as an Air Force weapons training facility can still be seen with bullet holes peppered across the walls. Many New Zealanders honed their shooting skills at the range, firing at cardboard targets mounted on what is now the stage. These days, it is performers and instructors that visitors have in their sights as the facility hosts shows, classes and gatherings.



7. ENGINE TESTING BAY

Those with green fingers will love the plant nursery located in the former Air Force engine testing bay. Operated by the Kaipatiki Project the nursery is the place where seeds collected from the coast are grown into seedlings. Kaipatiki volunteers plant the seedlings back on the coast to regenerate the bush. The plant nursery also welcomes visits from school and community groups who are keen to learn about the environment at Hobsonville Point.



8. HOBSONVILLE POINT PARK AND PLAYGROUND

Hobsonville Point Park straddles Buckley Avenue and includes an award winning playground with sculptural play equipment based on seedpod forms. This is where you'll find Catalina Café. On warmer days there's picnic tables outside plus plenty of room to put out a rug under a tree.



9. CATALINA COMMUNITY GARDENS

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10. WEST SUNDERLAND BRIDGE

Grab a glimpse of Herald Island through the tree canopy from the West Sunderland Bridge, a 35 metre timber-decked structure spanning Isitt Gully. The sweeping curve of the bridge gently draws passers-by along the coastal walkway, elevating them above the gully floor below. Fern trunks have been incorporated into the bridge's design, providing a tangible connection to the surrounding landscape.



11. EAST SUNDERLAND BRIDGE

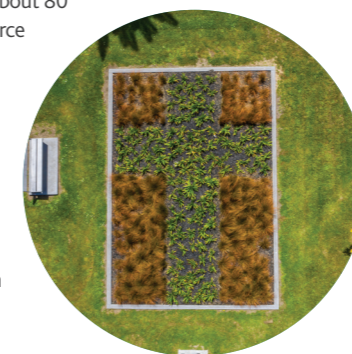
The section of the walkway between Waterford on Hobsonville Point retirement village and Mill House features two stunning bridges which elevate users many metres above the ground. The East Sunderland Bridge gently curves across Cochrane Gully, providing a new perspective from amongst the tree canopy. Just past the bridge, you may notice shell inlaid into the pavement as you rise towards Mill House. Sourced from a midden found on the site during construction, it has been reused in the walkway to acknowledge the site and pay tribute to those who once lived here.



12. SAINT MARK'S CHAPEL MEMORIAL GARDEN

Just one metre from Te Ara Manawa – Hobsonville/Onekiritea Coastal Walkway lies a carefully planted garden rich with symbolism. The native grasses and agapanthus have been planted in the shape of a cross, marking the site where Saint Mark's Chapel once stood. Built in 1942 to complement neighbouring Mill House, the former Hobsonville Base chapel provided church services for about 80 worshippers, local families and Air Force personnel for many decades.

While it was moved offsite in 2005, the role it played in the area has not been forgotten. Indeed, the memorial garden, commemorative plaque and adjacent bench seat all offer an opportunity to rest and reflect, just as the chapel once did on this very same spot.



13. MILL HOUSE

The grandeur and elegance of a bygone era are on display as you pass the historic Mill House nestled in its park-like grounds. The homestead, which was built in 1929, served as the home of aviation pioneers, Doug and Audrey Mills until the outbreak of World War Two when it was absorbed into the surrounding Air Force base. No longer the venue for boating and tennis parties, the house instead became part of the Hobsonville Officers' Mess. Today some of our youngest residents enjoy the historic building, which has been transformed once more into a Bear Park childcare centre.



14. CHICHESTER COTTAGE

Small and simple but with plenty of heart, Chichester Cottage has stood the test of time. Built in 1927, "the shack" provided accommodation for owners' Doug and Audrey Mill while they constructed their much grander home, Windover (now called Mill House), nearby. Once their home was completed in 1929, the cottage at the end of the garden became a guest retreat used by visitors, including the renowned British sailor and aviator Sir Francis Chichester, for whom it is named. The newly renovated cottage is now owned by the Hobsonville Point Residents Society and is available for hire as a community venue.



15. OLD WHARF LOOKOUT

Engage your imagination for your visit to the Old Wharf Lookout, a cantilevered viewing spot from which to view the site of Hobsonville Point's old wharf and the harbour beyond. Although the original structure has gone, leaning timber posts now mark the approach to the lookout, evoking the wharf which once stood in the waters below. The timber and steel lookout extends over the tree canopy, with viewfinders on hand to take in all that the eye can see.

16. MARLBOROUGH OVAL AND MARRIED OFFICERS HOUSES

In days gone by, the Marlborough Oval was off limits except during formal Air Force parades. While we've kept the oval's shape, we've transformed it into an informal place for rest and recreation. Bench seats offer a spot to soak up the sun while an adjacent pocket park and communal table provide more ways in which to enjoy this beautiful green space at the centre of the Launch Bay precinct. available for hire as a community venue.

