



Pristine forests, swimming and camping

Only 45 minutes north of Wellington city, the spectacular Kaitoke Regional Park covers 2,860 hectares in the foothills of the Tararua Ranges. Steep bush-clad hills, the Hutt River gorge, and centuries-old rātā, rimu and beech forest feature in this magnificent area.

Swim in tranquil river pools or explore beautiful bush-clad tracks (some suitable for wheelchairs). Walk the Ridge Track for wonderful views of the Upper Hutt valley. Visit the magical spot used as a set for Rivendell in *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Stay the night at the campground and enjoy the BBQ facilities.

Towering rainforest

Near the fork of the Pākuraahi and Hutt rivers lies a podocarp broadleaf rainforest. This is the original vegetation of the Akatarawa and Hutt valleys. Rimu, rātā, hīnau and kamahi thrive on the fertile river flats, with red beech appearing on the lower slopes. Black beech forest is mostly found on the higher spurs, ridge tops and areas with poorer soils. There is an area of hard beech on the terrace above Farm Creek and the Pākuraahi River, near the campground. The rivers and variety of bush habitats provide food for many native birds. You'll often see the tūi, kererū (NZ pigeon), pīwakawaka (fantail), silvereye, and Kārearea (New Zealand bush falcon).

Activities in the park

Picnicking

There are good picnic areas on the river flats, and near the bush edges throughout the park. Portable gas BBQs may only be used in picnic and camping areas. Drinking water and free BBQs are available in the Waterworks Road campground shelters. If you have a group of 40 or more, you can book the large, sheltered BBQ area for a small fee. Open fires are permitted only on the riverbed. Please bring your own firewood.

Dog walking

The park tracks are popular for dog walking.

Swimming

The Hutt River has several deep swimming pools. Take care - the water is cold and can be swift! The Pākuraahi River and Farm Creek have shallower and safer swimming spots suitable for younger children.

Camping

The campground is beside the Pākuraahi River near the Waterworks Road entrance. Please pay and register at an information kiosk. Permit conditions apply. Park Rangers are on site seven days a week.



Powered campsites

For an additional fee there are a limited number of powered sites near the Ranger Office. There is also a BBQ shelter with drinking water nearby.

Fishing

Trout can be caught in the Hutt and Pākuraahi rivers. You must have a fishing licence.

Hunting

Hunting by permit only, north of the Hutt River gorge. For more information visit the hunting section at: gw.govt.nz/parks/kaitoke-regional-park/

Rafting

The Hutt River gorge between Pākuraahi Forks and Te Marua is popular for whitewater rafting, tubing and kayaking. At high flows, the gorge has grade 3+ rapids, so experience is necessary. It can be dangerous and extreme care is needed. Beware of logjams. The trip takes 2 to 6 hours, depending on your craft and water flow, so start early. Take survival gear and wear a wetsuit, lifejacket and helmet. Tell someone what time you intend to be home by, so they can raise the alarm if necessary.



Park open daily 6am-dusk

How to get there

Main entrances:

▲ Waterworks Road entrance

The main entrance is at Kaitoke. Turn off SH2 at Waterworks Road, 12km north of Upper Hutt. The park entrance is 1km down Waterworks Road.

▲ Te Marua entrance

Turn off SH2 at Twin Lakes Road, Te Marua, 5km north of Upper Hutt.

Public transport

Take the route 112 bus from Upper Hutt Railway Station to the Te Marua Store at Plateau Road. Then walk 1km along SH2 to the Te Marua entrance at Twin Lakes Road.

For information, timetables and fares visit www.metlink.org.nz or call 0800 801 700

Please take care of your park

Keep your rubbish with you. There are recycling depots near the Ranger office and campground information kiosk on the Lower Terrace. Keep dogs under control and pick up dog waste.

Do not remove, disturb or damage plants or animals. Mountain bikes and horse riding are only permitted on the Pylon Loop and Kaitoke Hill Tracks. Access is via the Te Marua entrance.

Fireworks are prohibited at all times.

For more information, contact the Greater Wellington Parks department: parks@gw.govt.nz

Greater Wellington contact centre:
0800 496 734



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KAITOKE REGIONAL PARK





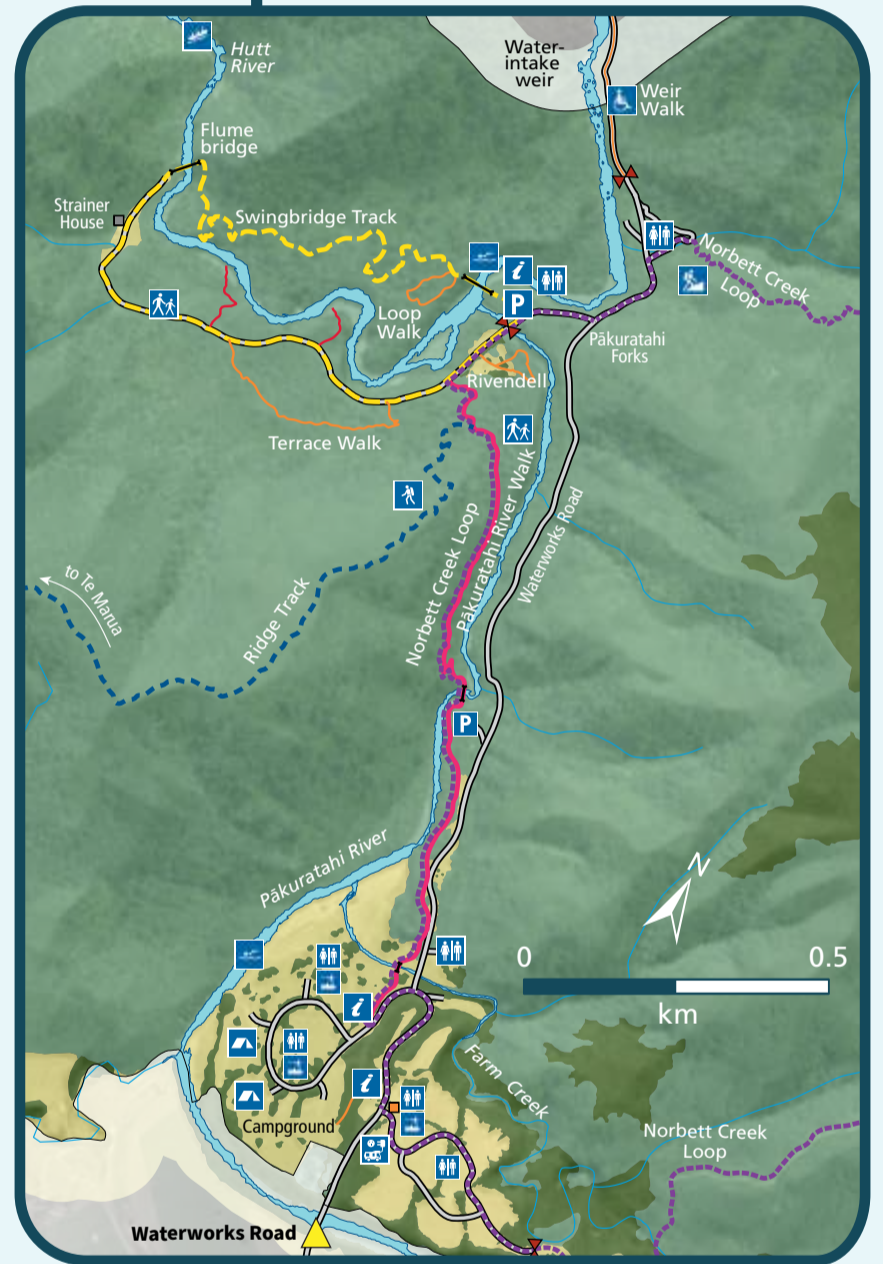
Tracks

Te Marua entrance *There is no public access to water treatment plants or the Macaskill Lakes.*

Track	Distance	Time (walk)	Description	Grade (Easy, Intermediate, Moderate, Hard)
Kaitoke Hill Track	2.5km	40min	This track leads from the end of Twin Lakes Rd to the Pylon Loop Track. Together, both tracks take about an hour (return).	I
Pylon Loop Track	1km	20min	Together, this track with the Kaitoke Hill Track take about an hour (return).	I
Ridge Track	7.5km one way	3hrs each way	This 7.5km track runs along the main skyline ridge and links Pākūratāhi Forks with the Te Marua entrance. It passes through beech forest and offers superb views of the water storage lakes and Upper Hutt valley. You need to be reasonably fit to do this walk. Tramping: wear sturdy shoes or boots, and take warm clothes, a waterproof jacket, food and water.	M

Waterworks Road entrance

Track	Distance	Time (walk)	Description	Grade (Easy, Intermediate, Moderate, Hard)
Weir Walk	700m	15min return	Follow the sealed access road to the Kaitoke Weir. This dam-like structure is the collection point for almost half of Wellington's water!	E
Terrace Walk	1.3km	30min return	A gentle walk along a river terrace through mixed rimu and rātā forest.	E
Rivendell	450m	15min return	Visit the site where Rivendell, home of the elves, was filmed for The Lord of The Rings trilogy. Information panels and elvish information posts help to recreate the magic from the film.	E
Loop Walk	450m	15min return	An easy walk over the swing bridge and through the rainforest. Learn about this unique forest with the information panels along the way.	E
Pākūratāhi River Walk	3km return	40min return	This easy track links the campground to Pākūratāhi Forks via a pedestrian bridge over the river and through mixed podocarp broadleaf forest.	E
Swingbridge Track	2km	1hr return	Cross the swing bridge and follow Te Awa Kairangi (the Hutt River) downstream on an easy trail through rimu/rātā forest. There are great views of the Hutt River gorge. Return via the Flume Bridge and along the road.	I
Ridge Track	7.5km one way	3hrs each way	This track runs along the main skyline ridge and links Pākūratāhi Forks with the Te Marua entrance. It passes through beech forest and offers superb views of the water storage lakes and Upper Hutt valley. You need to be reasonably fit to do this walk. Tramping: wear sturdy shoes or boots, and take warm clothes, a waterproof jacket, food and water.	M
Norbett Creek Loop	4km	2.5hrs return	This steep route follows Norbett Creek before climbing up a beech forest-clad ridge to the Catchment Road. Once there, you'll be rewarded with great views of the Hutt Valley south of Wellington Harbour. Follow the road down to the Park Ranger's office and return to your starting point via the Pākūratāhi River Walk.	H



KEY

Natural features

- Native forest
- Regrowing forest
- Grassland
- Pine forest
- Rivers & streams

Tracks

- Other short walks
- Other walking tracks
- Other routes

Other features

- Public entrance
- Road
- 4WD road
- Ranger office
- Water treatment building
- Footbridge
- Locked gate

- Information board
- Parking
- Toilets
- Camping
- Powered campsites
- Gas BBQs
- Swimming
- Accessible path
- Short walk
- Walking track
- Tramping track
- Route
- Dog walking
- Mountain biking
- Horse riding
- Lookout
- Fishing
- Rafting
- Hunting by permit