

Some of the plant species you will see on the walkway:

- Pohutukawa
- Harakeke or lowland flax
- Kowhai
- Saltmarsh ribbonwood
- Needlegrass
- Whau
- Oioi
- Speckled sedge
- Taupata
- Cabbage Tree
- Giant umbrella sedge



Watercare's Coastal Walkway and tracks



Dogs are not permitted on the walkway, however nearby Greenwood Road Park is ideal for dog exercising.

March, 2017

Come and explore Watercare's Coastal Walkway



Where

Just a few kilometres from the heart of urban Auckland is one of the best walking tracks that New Zealand has to offer.

Why not come and spend a few hours exploring the Watercare Coastal Walkway.

The seven-kilometre Watercare Coastal Walkway winds around the Manukau foreshore between Ambury Regional Park and the Otuataua Stonefields, and is perfect for a weekend bike ride or walk.

The well-maintained gravel tracks and boardwalks are relatively flat, making it suitable for cyclists and walkers of all ages and level of fitness. They are also accessible for prams and wheelchair users.



How it all came about

The Watercare Coastal Walkway was created during New Zealand's largest marine restoration project, a project that stretches back to the mid-1990s. Completed in 2005, Watercare's upgrade of its Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant included the removal of 500 hectares of oxidation ponds and the construction of some 13 kilometres of white-shell beaches.

Watercare and local community groups have planted more than 270,000 native trees, providing food and shelter for a diverse range of birdlife, including tens of thousands of sandpipers, godwits, and other migratory birds that every year head to the Manukau Harbour to escape the northern winter.

The industrial area, including the decommissioned pump station at the eastern end of the Puketutu causeway, has undergone a complete transformation and is now public open space with seating and extensive native planting, while a boardwalk made out of recycled plastic crosses over the rehabilitated stormwater overflow.

Volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints help Watercare staff to build up an eroded bird roost.



What you can see and do

- Visit Ambury Park, a working farm, with plenty of opportunity to get up close to the residents
- Otuataua Stonefields, a historic reserve, evokes Auckland's volcanic past and provides a record of early Maori and European farms and gardens
- Fresh water springs along the foreshore
- Observe the inhabitants at the four bird roosts along the walkway. These roosts attract birds from the Arctic Circle, Asia and the South Island, as well as local wading birds.

Birds you may spot near the walkway

- Eastern bar-tailed godwit
- Lesser knot
- Turnstone
- Golden plover
- Curlew sandpiper
- Long-billed curlew
- Whimbrel
- Pied oyster catcher
- Banded dotterel
- Pied stilt
- Wrybill

