



IDEAS: COUNTRY EXCURSIONS BY CAR FOR YOUR DAY OF CYCLING

1. North of Napier: White Pine Bush - Lake Tutira - Waipatiki Beach - Tangoio – take a picnic lunch – no shops!
2. East of Napier Ocean Beach Waimarama Beach return via Okaihau and Maraetotara Road Napier 78kms
3. East of Napier Te Mata Peak
4. West of Napier Bay View Panoramic Loop:
5. West of Napier Ohiti Valley Matapiro Road Otamauki Road return via Taihape Road - take a picnic lunch –no shops!

NORTH OF NAPIER: WHITE PINE BUSH LAKE TUTIRA WAIPATIKI BEACH – TANGOIO

Take a picnic lunch – no shops!

White Pine Bush is 30kms north of Napier of SH2. on your left (Toilets No)

The Short loop Time: 30 min **Distance:** 800 m

The short loop track has a grade and surface suitable for people using wheelchairs. This 650 m path, which takes in much that the reserve has to offer, should be completed in an anticlockwise direction.

About halfway along the track, there are table and chairs, a perfect spot to sit and listen to the songs of native birds while enjoying a picnic lunch.

Longer loop Time: 40 min **Distance:** 1.6 km

Follow the longer loop track to see some large kahikatea and a great view over parts of the reserve. This section of track is not suitable for wheelchairs.

Nature and conservation

Kahikatea (white pine) is the predominant feature in this 19 ha of bush while a stand of nikau palms provide their own unique natural beauty. A picturesque stream and small waterfall are both visible from the track—sometimes small fish, eels and koura (freshwater crayfish) can be seen. Keep an eye out for native birds including Tui, pigeons, fantails, bellbirds, silvereyes and grey warblers. *Please do not touch the giant stinging nettle (ongaonga), especially in summer, when its full of new growth. Despite their fierce reputation, nettles are the exclusive food of the red admiral butterfly.*

Continue on this road driving North to Lake Tutira



NORTH OF NAPIER: LAKE TUTIRA

Lake Tutira is 41kms North of Napier on your right

Toilets Yes

Set amidst a large country park between Napier and Wairoa, Lake Tutira is a wildlife refuge that's popular for camping and picnics. Memorable for its weeping willows and prolific bird life, the lake was declared a bird sanctuary in 1929 at the

instigation of Scottish farmer/author/ornithologist William Herbert Guthrie-Smith, who once farmed neighboring Tutira Station. Birdlife at the lake includes scaup, grey ducks, black swans, little white-throated shags, black shags, white-face herons, pukeko, fantails, New Zealand wood pigeons, swallows and kingfishers - just to name a few. There is good swimming in the lake and excellent trout fishing where a stream flows into its northern reaches. For centuries Maori seasonally lived by Lake Tutira and you can see the remains of six pa sites. The Tutira Walkway, which takes around five hours to complete, ascends to the Table Mountain trig station for stunning views over Hawke's Bay. The Tutira Walkway is closed for lambing from 1 August until 30 September. Shelters, picnic and toilet facilities are available at the lake.



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Moderate fitness Medium fitness High fitness level

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Continued.... NORTH OF NAPIER: WAIPATIKI BEACH TANGOIO

Toilet yes!

Waipatiki Beach Waipatiki Beach, (42kms from Base) situated 11km from SH2 is a picturesque settlement with native bush and a broad stretch of golden sand. Near the beach is a camping ground, beach picnic area and toilets. The name Waipatiki means "water...sand flounder" and was so called because it was once an estuarine valley, and a very good place for early Maori to catch these fish. The long steep decent to the valley brings you to the Waipatiki Scenic Reserve, a 64ha remnant of coastal forest. In pre-European times this area was well-populated as the estuary was a rich source of flounder. However, the 1931 Earthquake lifted the flats and a stream system formed. The Waipatiki Scenic Reserve contains 64 hectares of coastal bush with nikau palms dominating the lower flat while kanuka and a wide variety of larger native trees cover the hillside. Tui and native pigeons are plentiful. Within the scenic reserve, traces of the original pre-European foot track, which connected Napier to Wairoa, still remain. By 1860 this had been enlarged to become a bridle track which pack trains used for nearly forty years. By 1900 a dray road had been constructed inland via Tutira and the coastal route fell into disrepair. Waipatiki Domain, a small native bush area, was in danger of being eaten out by goats and possums, but with fencing and predator control the native bush has regenerated.

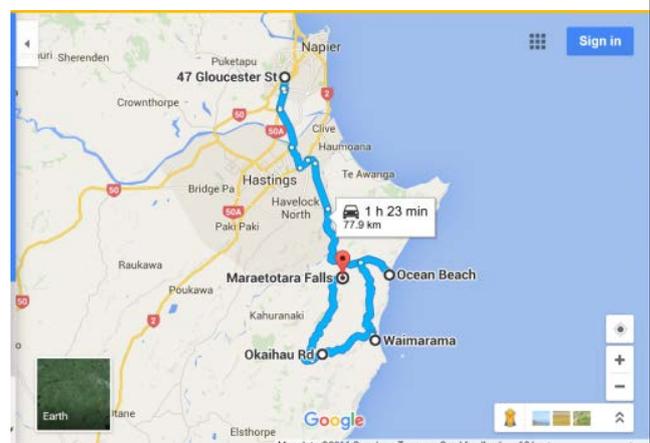


Back track to Tangoio Road – you will have lovely views looking towards Napier as you descend down this interesting country road.

EAST OF NAPIER: OCEAN BEACH WAIMARAMA BEACH RETURN VIA OKAIHAU & MARAETOTARA ROADS NAPIER

78KMS Toilets yes!

A lovely drive in the country visiting the two popular beaches, Ocean Beach village is very small, Waimarama is a lovely coastal village - many people live there and travel to Napier to work daily. There is a café at Waimarama Beach – then turn inland via Okaihau and Maraetotara Road – soak in the beauty of nature as you wind your way through the country side



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EAST OF NAPIER: TE MATA PEAK No toilets

Te Mata Peak behind Havelock North is at the western boundary of the wine-producing Heretaunga Plains and stands nearly 400 metres above sea level. From the summit of the peak you can enjoy panoramic views of the Ruahine, Kaweka and Maungaharuru Ranges and Cape Kidnappers. The volcano Ruapehu, in the centre of Tongariro National Park, is also visible on a clear day.

The Te Mata hillscape has an amazing story to tell: Many centuries ago the people living in pa (fortified villages) on the Heretaunga Plains were under constant threat of war from the coastal tribes of Waimarama. At a gathering in Pakipaki (near Hastings), a wise old woman (kuia) suggested that the leader of the Waimarama tribes, a giant named Te Mata, could be made to fall in love with Hinerakau - the daughter of a Pakipaki chief - and turn his thoughts from war to peace. This mission was quickly accomplished, and Te Mata fell under the spell of the beautifully Hinerakau.



However the people of Heretaunga had not forgotten the past and wanted revenge. They demanded that Hinerakau make Te Mata prove his devotion by accomplishing seemingly impossible tasks. His last task was to bite through the hills between the coast and the plains, so that people could come and go with greater ease. His last task was to bite through the hills between the coast and the plains, so that people could come and go with greater ease.

Te Mata died while eating his way through the hills. His half-accomplished work can be seen in what is known as The Gap or Pari Karangaranga (echoing cliffs) and his prostrate body forms Te Mata Peak

WEST OF NAPIER: BAY VIEW PANORAMIC LOOP 40KMS

Dark Blue line on map: Besides being a cycle ride for the experienced rider on country roads it is also a ride you can do by car!

No toilets:

Meander through this breathtaking countryside, experiencing a combination of windy valley roads, flat terrain, and gentle rolling hills with a surprise around every bend and of course the odd hill or two to climb, care needs to be taken when freewheeling downhill grades, there are plenty of these!

Puketitiri Road has a stunning panoramic view overlooking the old inner harbour and Napier in the distance, cycle past vineyards, orchards and farmlands to Seafield Road (12.6kms)



Seafield Road winds down through a spectacular valley, home to beautiful mature trees and rolling farmland. There are many Lifestyle blocks with large homes perched on the surrounding hills to capture the views, at the bottom of the valley floor you turn right into Hill Road (12.2kms) Explore the village of Bay View, maybe a pint of ale at the Bay View Pub, or a glass of wine at *Crab Farm Winery or a coffee at Snapper Park Café

Return to Napier passing by the Hawkes Bay Airport .



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WEST OF NAPIER: OHITI VALLEY – MATAPIRO ROAD OTAMAUKI ROAD RETURN VIA TAIHAPE ROAD

Besides being a cycle ride for the experienced rider on country roads it is also a ride you can do by car!

No toilets - Take a picnic lunch – no shops!

On arrival at Fernhill Village turn right onto Taihape Road continue about 4kms then turn left into Ohiti Road, this picturesque valley floor is a sight to behold, you pass by rocky outcrops, farming flats; every bend the valley unfolds its secrets, and ever-changing panoramic vistas. A little way along the valley floor widens to a multitude of immaculate vineyards sheltered by the rolling hills and the high river stock bank on your left. To make your way out of the valley gentle grade to climb to Matapiro Road. Turn left and meander along this road, there is a church further down if you wish to stretch your legs.

Turn right into Otamauri Road then right onto Taihape Road - you are rewarded with a downhill ride on a gentle grade through this enchanting valley as you make your way back to the village of Fernhill finish the day off at Crossroad Winery or continue along Swamp Road to Puketapu Village and return to base via Puketapu Road – you can go left or right here – both roads will bring you back into Napier



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