

Magnificent sunrises in the east are matched by superb sunsets in the west - only 88 km away - but the tides are different, the coastlines are different and the relaxed towns of the Hokianga are a contrast to the busier towns of Paihia and Russell on the edge of the Bay of Islands.



Stand at the place where our founding document, the Treaty of Waitangi, was signed by Maori Chiefs and the British Crown on 6 February 1840. The new Museum of Waitangi tells the story of this special place through multimedia displays and significant taonga (treasures) associated with Waitangi.

Paihia Wharf

There is always something happening here. Enjoy a drink or dine at one of the waterfront bars and restaurants, or board a boat to head out into the bay. Visitors can also find more information at the i-Site.

Paihia Township

Enjoy the excitement that is Paihia where the cafés, restaurants, shops and tourism businesses are all geared towards you enjoying this beautiful bay.

Haruru Falls

A lovely horseshoe shaped waterfall only 3km from Paihia. Also connecting with 5km walk through to Waitangi Treaty Grounds.





With over 500 years of continuous settlement Kaikohe is home to Ngāpuhi - New Zealand's largest Iwi (tribe) and it's also the midpoint of your journey from coast to coast and the midpoint for Pou Herenga Tai - Twin Coast Cycle Trail.

The Pioneer Village New Zealand as a traditional site. It shows

There are some hidden gems here inside and outside the 11 heritage buildings dating back to 1862. The friendly guides have the time to share some of the secrets of the village with you.

Hone Heke Memorial Park Head up the hill to the Hone Heke monument at the western end of town for great views of the surrounding area.

Wairere Boulders Nature Park Classed as an 'outstanding natural feature' these eroded basalt rocks alongside subtropical rainforest offer self-guided walks of between 30 minutes and 2 hours.

Horeke

When visitors want to get away from it all, places like Horeke answer the call. Once home to NZ's first shipvard. post office, and hotel, Horeke is now a quaint settlement that wraps the harbour's edge. Mangungu Mission House is close by.

Mangungu Mission House ® Originally a Weslevan mission station this beautifully positioned house became the scene of the largest signing of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Rawene

No trip to this part of the world would be complete without visiting this picturesque waterfront town where the Hokianga car ferry connects Rawene with Kohukohu on the northern shore of the harbour.

Clendon House

Enjoy a glimpse of stylish colonial living dating back to 1860. Learn about the resourceful wife of Captain James Reddy Clendon.

Opononi

A beautiful place to stop for a coffee or a bite to eat on a sunny café balconv and enjoy the views across to the sand hills on the northern side of the Hokianga Harbour.

Sand Dunes Sandboarding, hiking or fishing, with

sand hills more like sand mountains there's some serious fun to be had in the north-western side of the Hokianga Harbour.

Omapere

This is the place for a walk on the beach or jumping in for a swim, and afterwards a rewarding view of the sunset from the hotel deck is a must.

Arai Te Uru

The views from here are legendary and there's a legend here to behold just a short walk from the carpark. Arai Te Uru Heritage Walk offers much more than spectacular views - the legacy of Kupe and his descendants are described here.

Must Do's

Celebrate the different coasts by dipping your toes in the ocean then the sea or the sea then the ocean. You could even photograph the messages you write in the sand on either coast.

Taste

The name Kaikohe is a shortened version of Kai kohekohe which means 'to eat berries'. Kaikohe is the midpoint of your journey from east to west (or west to east). It's a busy service town with cafes famous for their fried bread sandwiches and, if it's a hot day, an ice cream - preferably berry flavoured - is a must!

Pa Sites

If you were to travel this route a few hundred years ago you would see a series of Pa sites on many of the hilltops between the coasts.

Tohu Whenua are places around New Zealand that matter to us. Northland has nine 'Tohu Whenua' - places rich in historical or cultural significance. Visit www.tohuwhenua.nz







New Zealand's first farm was

Darwin for Christmas in 1835!

and from the pa site.

Pakaraka Church

to Pakaraka.

Ludbrook House

Taiamai Rock

Ohaeawai

Pouērua (basaltic scoria cone)

established by the Church Missionary

Society to teach farming practices in

the new colony. There have been many

Pouērua is registered with the Heritage

a series of contours that would have been

pathways up and around the mountain to

The Holy Trinity Church (Anglican)

is listed as a historic place built in

Still in the Ludbrook family, this

and is now registered by the New

1873 to commemorate the life of early

missionary Henry Williams, who retired

heritage property dates back 190 years

Zealand Gardens Trust. Offers garden

to book in advance (ph 09 4059 846).

About 400 metres south east of the

Today Ohaeawai is famous for its

authentic wooden buildings on the

corner of two highways but in 1845

near St Michael's Church it was the

site of a major battle at Hone Heke's

The healing and hot waters of Waiariki

special place for local Māori. Waiariki

means chiefly waters. All pools have

individual names and amazingly they

are different colours and different

Hot Springs and Ngāwha Spa are a very

pa where 41 British soldiers died

and over 70 were injured.

Ngāwha Springs

temperatures.

Ohaeawai Hotel there's a large volcanic,

sacred boulder standing 3.5 metres high.

and farm tours incl. gourmet food. Best

visitors over the years including Charles













