

Haere Mai, Welcome

In your own time, explore our unique nature walks, our colourful steaming lakes and thermal pools.

WALKING TRACKS

Explore our nature walks and view some of the unique flora and fauna of Whakarewarewa. Nowhere else in the world can you see several types of Manuka and Kanuka (tea tree), Pohutukawa (NZ Christmas tree) and many different types of fern and edible plants growing in such a harsh environment.

These walks only require a low level of fitness.

- Kanapanapa Track (40 - 50 mins)
- Tamaheke Track (10 - 15 mins)
- Werenga Track (10 mins)
- Tuturu Track (5 mins)

- A TE ROTO A TAMAHEKE (LAKE OF TAMAHEKE)**
This lake is named after Tamaheke, who was a chief living in this area many years ago. The lake has a number of hot springs that heat it above boiling point.
- B ROTO KANAPANAPA (LAKE KANAPANAPA)**
Infused with a mixture of geothermal minerals, this lake is green in colour and has a warm temperature. This pool was formally used by the Tohunga (Priest) in a ceremonial process to cleanse our deceased before burial.
- C HILL TOP LOOKOUT POINTS**
Enjoy the view of Rotorua city, including Mokoia Island and Whakarewarewa Village. From this vantage point you can see two hill-top Pa (fortified villages) of the Tūhourangi Ngāti Wāhiao people.



THE LIVING MĀORI VILLAGE
Whakarewarewa
 ROTORUA NEW ZEALAND

- Public Toilets
- Rest Areas
- Hangi Meals / Cafe
- First Aid
- Craft & Souvenir Shops
- Civil Defence Assembly Area
- No Wheelchair access beyond this point
- Lookout / Viewing point

1. TE WHAKAREWAREWATANGAOTEOPETAUĀWĀHIAO
2. MEMORIAL ARCHWAY
3. BRIDGE & PENNY DIVERS
4. TE PUARENGA STREAM (FLOATING BLOSSOM)
5. WHAREPUNI / SLEEPING HOUSE
6. RAHUI / RESERVE
7. STEAM BOX HANGI / COOKING FROM THE EARTH
8. PAREKOHURU / MURDEROUS RIPPLES
9. MAARA KAI / VEGETABLE GARDEN
10. OIL BATHS / TOP BATHS
11. WAIPURU / IMMERSE
12. PUREREHUA / BUTTERFLY
13. GEYSER LOOKOUT / VIEWING PLATFORM 1
14. KOROTIOTIO / GRUMPY MAN
15. TUHOROMATAKAKA
16. CAFÉ
17. WHARE TIPUNA / ANCESTRAL MEETING HOUSE
18. TE ARAWA ANGLICAN CHURCH
19. TE WERENGA / TO SUSPEND
20. TE MATAPUNA O PAPTUANUKU / EARTH SCIENCE FACILITY / GNS
21. TE KOHANGA REO / LANGUAGE NEST
22. WHARE TAONGA / SOUVENIR SHOP
23. CULTURAL PERFORMANCE AREA
24. CATHOLIC CHURCH
25. MAGGIE PAKAKURA / GUIDE RANGI MEMORIAL
26. URUPA / CEMETERY
27. GEYSER TERRACE LOOKOUT / VIEWING PLATFORM 2

See over for more information on each item of interest

1. TE WHAKAREWAREWATANGAOTEOPETAUĀAWĀHIAO

The full name of our village translates to 'The Uprising of the War Parties of Wāhiao'. Three centuries earlier a Warrior Chief named Wāhiao gathered an army to avenge the killing of his father and the people adopted the full name for the village. The name of our village was shortened to Whakarewarewa, or simply Whaka (pronounced 'Wok-a').

2. MEMORIAL ARCHWAY

This memorial archway was erected after World War II in commemoration of our fallen soldiers and tribal members who served in the two World Wars. The inscriptions in the front of archway Te Hokowhitu a Tu, acknowledges Tu (Tumatauenga), the guardian of War. Each year on the 25th April, the ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) dawn parade is held to commemorate our fallen war heroes.

3. BRIDGE & PENNY DIVERS

Our first bridge was erected in 1885. Prior to the building of the bridge the only way the visitors could enter our village was to be carried across the river by the men, often in return for a penny. For generations, local village children have jumped from the bridge for pennies (now gold coins) tossed into the river by visitors crossing the bridge earning them the nickname "Penny Divers". This tradition proudly continues today.

4. TE PUARENGA STREAM (FLOATING BLOSSOM)

The floating blossoms refers to the yellow sulphur deposits that float and swirl as the deposits come down the stream.

5. WHAREPUNI / SLEEPING HOUSE

Traditionally natural materials, kaponga (Tree fern), were utilised to build wharepuni/homes. The first occupants of Whakarewarewa built directly on top of the geothermal area to take advantage and availability of the heat and warmth.

6. RAHUI / RESERVE

This area is the locality of many hot springs. The residents of the village and families of Tūhourangi, Ngāti Wāhiao utilise the resources for daily cooking and bathing.

7. STEAM BOX HANGI / COOKING FROM THE EARTH

The first inhabitants of the village discovered that, by harnessing the heat from the ground, food could be cooked. This has always been the traditional way of cooking within the village. You can sample and taste food in our Café (No.16), along with our world-famous hangi pies.

8. PAREKOHURU / MURDEROUS RIPPLES

This is the largest hot spring in our village and every 45 minutes to an hour the pool pulsates and the water begins to rise. After each pulsation when the water level drops, bubbles rise to the surface. This has earned the pool the nickname "The Champagne Pool". This pool is used for cooking of leaf and root vegetables and seafood. Corn on the cob, which is cooked in Parekohuru, can be purchased from the Café (No16).

9. MAARA KAI / VEGETABLE GARDEN

This area is where the original wharekai, or village communal dining hall named Papawharanui, stood. The Maara Kai supports the traditional communal lifestyle and the sustainability of the village. The two carved houses in the garden, called pataka, are used for food storage and are raised from the ground to deter rodents.

10.OIL BATHS / TOP BATHS

These are the village communal baths where residents bathe. The name comes from the oily texture and the mineral deposits within the water. Its healing properties were used to treat ailments such as arthritis, lumbago and rheumatism.

11.WAIPURU / IMMERSE

This pool was once used as the village copper to sterilise linen and babies' nappies before washing. It was only used for this purpose.

12.PUREREHUA / BUTTERFLY

These pools are often referred to as the local weather forecaster. They are affected by the change in the weather (atmospheric pressure). When the water level drops - we know that the weather is going to change!

13.GEYSER LOOKOUT / VIEWING PLATFORM 1

From this platform you can see three of New Zealand's most active geysers. Pohutu is to the left, Prince of Wales 'Feathers' to the right and Kereru to the far right. Ultimately, Mother Nature determines when the geysers will erupt, however, on average they erupt at least once every hour. Pohutu (meaning Big Splash) is the most famous and largest of all NZ's geysers and varies in height from 10 to 40 meters. Prince of Wales 'Feathers' is also known as Te Tohu (The Indicator) and is the most active of the three geysers. Kereru (meaning Wood Pigeon), on the other hand, erupts randomly.

14.KOROTIOTIO / GRUMPY OLD MAN

This is the most volatile spring gushing super-heated water to the surface. This is the only pool in the village, and Rotorua, where you can see water exploding out from the ground. In former days this pool was the main outlet for the oil baths and has a consistent temperature of 104+ degrees Celsius, but can reach 120 degrees Celsius.

15.TUHOROMATAKAKA

This house is named after our ancestor Tuhoromatakaka and was built by master carver Tene Waitere for Maggie Papakura, one of our famous guides (Guides Profile No3).

16.CAFÉ

A 'NZ Must Do' is experience our unique geothermal hangi meal and our world-famous hangi pies. Our food is cooked in natural geothermal steam boxes that are around the village, as well as the hot spring, Parekohuru (No8 on the map). Our meals are available between 12pm - 2pm, bookings are recommended to avoid disappointment.

17.WHARE TŪPUNA / ANCESTRAL MEETING HOUSE

This house is named after our great ancestor, Wāhiao. The best of all Māori carving is saved for the Ancestral Meeting House. The carver takes pride in displaying his artistic skill and knowledge as he creates the history, whakapapa (genealogy) of his people. Without a written language, the carver tells, through carvings, the stories and legends of his people and their tribal connections.

18.TE ARAWA ANGLICAN CHURCH

After the Tarawera eruption (1886) many of the survivors who were Anglican moved to be with family living at Whakarewarewa and with them they bought the faith of the Anglican Church.

19. TE WERENGA / TO SUSPEND

This is the largest and most spectacular mud pool in our village. The mud is renowned for healing arthritis, lumbago, rheumatism and it is also said to give your skin a younger appearance. The temperature of the mud is between 80-90 degrees Celsius and has the consistency like quick sand.

20.TE MATĀPUNA O PĀPATUANUKU / EARTH SCIENCE FACILITY / GNS

This facility offers you a source of knowledge relating to the many features of our geothermal environment and landscape, such as from Māori legends about how our people came to be living on top of the geothermal. Also learn about evolving earth sciences.

21.TE KŌHANGA REO/ LANGUAGE NEST

The Māori language was introduced into the educational curriculum in 1982 after a movement by the Māori people to the Government to retain our language. The Māori language only is spoken at Kōhanga Reo throughout New Zealand, including in the village pre-school which was established for local children. The children speak Māori commencing from the time they can talk, up to the age of 5 when they move on to Primary School.

22.WHARE TAONGA / SOUVENIR SHOP

Some of the souvenir shops in our village are privately owned and operated. These sell an array of souvenirs and mementos.

23.CULTURAL PERFORMANCE AREA

Be entertained by our local performing group Te Pakira, and enjoy both traditional and modern Māori song and dance. There are two 30 minute shows daily 11.15am and 2.00pm. The show includes the ferocious Haka (war dance), Waiata a Ringa (action songs), long and short stick games, Poi dancing and audience participation.

24.CATHOLIC CHURCH

This was built in 1905. Many family members of the village are Catholic and so are buried in the tombs around the Catholic Church.

25.MAGGIE PĀPĀKURA / GUIDE RANGI MEMORIAL

In the early part of last century Maggie Papakura was one of the most famous Whakarewarewa guides. She was renowned for her beauty and her wealth of knowledge about her history and people. The tomb to the right of the memorial is probably the most famous of all Whakarewarewa guides, Guide Rangi. Rangi was married to the son of Maggie Papakura, Te Aonui Dennon, who is also buried to the left of his mother's memorial stone.

26.URUPA / CEMETERY

Due to the ongoing geothermal activity underground, the bodies of those passed are placed in tombs above the ground.

27.GEYSER TERRACE LOOKOUT / VIEWING PLATFORM 2

This point is as close that you are able to get to the geysers. The small blue lake below the geyser terraces is nicknamed 'The Blueys', because of the bright blue water.

For Your Safety

Here at Whakarewarewa the wellbeing and safety of everybody is our first priority. Here are a few things you need to know when visiting our village:

- Please watch children at all times. Holding the hands of young children is encouraged.
- Please keep to all marked paths/tracks. Due to geothermal activity, DO NOT wander of the paths/tracks.
- Observe all warnings and signage
- As this is a living village, be careful of moving vehicles

More safety information can be found on the sign post near our Memorial Archway.

Guided Tours:

Hourly from 9.00am to 4.00pm
(Excluding concert times)

Map reference: 1

Concert / Cultural Performances:

Daily 11.15am & 2.00pm

Map reference: 23

Day-Time Hangi Meals:

Served between 12.00pm - 2.00pm

Map reference: 16



www.whakarewarewa.com

