

TUE 1st **TUAHU TRACK** **4 6h \$42**
 Start 9:00am **Meet:** End of Hot Springs Road, Katikati
 *Limited Spaces
 This track winds through the Waihou Valley Pine Forest, climbing steeply up the western side to reach the North-South Track. Enjoy stunning views from the summit, before crossing the Te Rereatukia Stream. Descend the eastern Kaimais past mature kauri trees, ending back at Hot Springs Road.

TUE 1st **OROKAWA TRIG WALK** **4 4h \$**
 Start 9:00am **Meet:** Water Reservoir C/Park, Waihi Beach
 The Orokawa Trig walk offers sweeping views over the Bay of Plenty and Orokawa Beach. Start by crossing the scenic Waihi Beach Stream track, passing waterfalls before a steep climb to the Fire Break track. Continue over a stile, through farmland, and out to the Orokawa Trig.

TUE 1st **WHARF ST WALK TO MARITIME PARK & MUSEUM ENDING WITH RIVER BOAT CRUISE** **1 3h \$45**
 Start 8:30am **Meet:** Wharf Street, Paeroa
 Walk the Hauraki Rail Trail to the Historical Maritime Park. Take in the gardens and museum, returning via a River cruise of Ohinemuri & Waihou Rivers to Paeroa.

TUE 1st **WHARF ST RIVER BOAT CRUISE TO MARITIME PARK & MUSEUM, THEN WALK RETURN** **1 3h \$45**
 Start 11:30am **Meet:** Wharf Street, Paeroa
 Start with a cruise of Ohinemuri & Waihou Rivers, arriving at the Historical Maritime Park. Take in the gardens and museum, returning via the Hauraki Rail Trail to Paeroa.

WED 2nd **KATIKATI MURAL TOUR WALK** **1 1h \$11**
 Start 10am **Meet:** The Arts Junction, 36 Main Road, Katikati
 *Limited Spaces
 A wonderful opportunity to learn about the murals and the towns history with a guided tour of some of the 80 plus pieces of art in the collection. Tours only take an hour and are concentrated in the centre of Katikati.

WED 2nd **UNION HILL WALK** **1-2 2h \$**
 Start 10am **Meet:** George Street C/Park, Waihi
 Explore Gilmour Reserve, visiting the Tunnellers Memorial, Pike River 29, and Miners Rest, plus park developments. Then, loop around Union Hill to see the vent shaft, pachuca tanks, battery site, and tailings ponds. Finish with the Millstream Walkway, butterfly garden, bamboo grove, and Speaks Quarry.

THU 3rd **WIRES TRACK LOOP** **4 3h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Water Reservoir C/Park, Waihi Beach
 Discover the remnants of Waihi Beach's section of Old Wires Track, which connected telegraphic communication between Auckland and Wellington, passing the old dam and Rewarewa trees.

THU 3rd **LUCK AT LAST** **2 5.5h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Corner, Port & Harbour View Roads, Tī Toki Reserve, Whangamata
 An easy walk along an old carriage way bounded by native trees and the Wharekawa Stream. View assorted mining machinery relics, left over from the 1897 workings.

FRI 4th **KAURI WALK TO DICKEY FLAT** **3-4 4h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Dickey Flat Adventure Camp, Waikino
 Hike along the Waitawheta River, past the few ancient kauri trees. Take in the settings along Dean, Mangakino and Dickey Flat Tracks. End with billy tea and toasted marshmallows over the fire at Dickey Flat Adventure Camp.

FRI 4th **OWHAROA FALLS HERITAGE BIKE AND TRAIN RIDE** **2-3 3-4h \$75**
 Start 10am **Meet:** Waihi Bicycle Hire, 126 Seddon Street, Waihi
 Scenic cycle to Owharoa Falls exploring the rich history along the way, through gentle farmland, then return to Waihi via the Goldfields Heritage Railway.

SAT 5th **TŪHUA (MAYOR ISLAND)** **5 10h \$150**
 Start 6:45am **Meet:** Tauranga Bridge Marina, 101 Te Awanui Dr
 *LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE
 Join us for an adventurous day on Mayor Island! After a 2-hour boat trip, we'll hike a challenging route along the crater rim, tackling rugged terrain, the Devil's Staircase, and Ruru Pass. Expect root climbing, ladders, and even some hands-and-knees crawling—this trek is for the brave!

SAT 5th **WAIOTAHĪ - KARAKA LOOP** **5 6-7h \$**
 Start 8am **Meet:** Karaka DOC Park, 501 Karaka Road, Thames
 Led by the Kauaeranga Tramping Club, this hike begins with a steep climb through bush before leveling out. Enjoy views over the Firth of Thames before descending to the Karaka Track, returning via the Red Rocks (named for their vivid lichen).

SUN 6th **DUBBO 96 TRACK LOOP WALK** **4 4h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Karangahake Gorge C/Park
 Starting at the Karangahake Gorge carpark, cross the swing bridge and follow the upper trail to Scotsman Gully. Then, take a left onto the country road for a gradual 1km climb. The Dubbo 96 track branches off the County Road/No 7 Level track.

SUN 6th **WAIHI CEMETERY WALK** **1 1.5h \$**
 Start 2:45pm **Meet:** Waihi Cemetery, Waihi
 Guided Waihi Cemetery Walk with Waihi Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. The theme - "More Wonderful Women of Waihi". A guided walk telling the stories of some of the "More Wonderful Women of Waihi".

MON 7th **BEACH TO WHENUAKURA ISLAND TOUR** **1-2 2-3h \$65**
 Start 10am **Meet:** Beach Reserve, Island View Road, Access #14, Whangamata
 Ocean kayak to Whenuakura (Donut) Island with guides from Surfup NZ. This short paddle rewards you with breathtaking scenery and the stunning sanctuary of Whenuakura Island, part of a protected group off the Whangamata coast.

MON 7th **PAPAMOA CULTURAL REGIONAL PARK & SUMMERHILL FARM** **4 4.5h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Papamoa Cultural Regional Park, Poplar Lane
 Join us for an enriching experience at the Papamoa Hills Cultural Regional Park and Summerhill Farm Trails. This guided walk to the Trig, 224m, offers breathtaking panoramic views of the Bay of Plenty, showcasing the region's stunning landscapes.

TUES 8th **2025 ECHO SURVIVAL EXPERIENCE** **2-3 Night \$50**
 Start 10am **Meet:** Dickey Flat Adventure Camp, Waikino
 Learn the essentials of survival! Start with theory on handling various situations, then put it into practice by spending a night with minimal equipment. Using just your day-tramp gear and a sleeping bag, you'll build your own shelter and experience a night in the wild.

WED 9th **SAPPHIRE SPRINGS NATURE TRAIL & SOAK** **3 2h \$11**
 Start 9:30am **Meet:** C/Park, 274 Hot Springs Road, Katikati
 This adventurous walk starts at the pool's carpark, with raised platforms over Kauri roots, steep sections and unbridged stream crossings. Suitable for those with good fitness and sturdy footwear. Afterward, relax with your packed lunch in the outdoor spa or book a private spa at the main office (extra cost).

WED 9th **WAIERĒ TO TE TUHI TRACK** **5 7h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Wairere Falls C/Park, Goodwin Road, Okauia
 We'll start at the Wairere Falls carpark, climbing to a lookout with views of the 153m two-stage drop of Wairere Falls. Continue to the summit (weather permitting). From there, follow the North-South track south, turning onto the Te Tuhi track for a steady downhill descent, ending with a stream crossing and a final climb to stunning southern views.

THU 10th **WALK THROUGH MARTHA MINE PIT FENCE** **2 2h \$**
 Start 10am **Meet:** Martha Mine Entrance, 140 Kenny St, Waihi
 OceanaGold invites you to a walk inside the Martha mine pit fence along the perimeter road. Enjoy unique views of the mine, with stops to see local Waihi icons. We'll exit on the north-west side and return via the popular Pit Rim Walkway to the carpark.

THU 10th **OPOUTERE BEACH & FOREST WALK** **1 5.5h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Cnr. Port & Harbour View Rds, Tī Toki Reserve
 We walk with Whangamata Ramblers Club along a very tranquil beach walk for 4 km and returning through the forestry. We may see some birds nesting in the area. A total of 8 km of flat walk, we stop for lunch along the way. Back around 2.30pm.

FRI 11th **HOMUNGA BAY TO WAIHI BEACH** **3-4 4h \$12**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Waihi Beach Surf Club
 Transport takes you from Waihi Beach to the start, high above Homunga Bay. This coastal walk takes you along headlands, cliffs and through stream gullies filled with Puriri, Pohutukawa and Nikau palms. Discover remnants of coastal forest and old mine tunnels, showcasing the area's gold-mining history—a truly varied and picturesque journey.

FRI 11th **AONGATETE NIGHT WALK** **2 2h \$5**
 Start 7pm **Meet:** End of Pikirangi Road (off 834 Wright Road)
 Join Aongatete Outdoor Education Centre for a magical night walk through Aongatete forest. Discover glowworms, wētā and spiders that come alive after dark. Weather permitting, we'll finish with a cozy campfire and toasted marshmallows. Bring a torch, covered shoes and a rain jacket.

SAT 12th **DOGGY WANDER WALK** **1 1-2h \$**
 Start 9:30am **Meet:** Lawrence Oliver Dog Park, Te Puke
 Join the festivals only dog-focused walk! Explore the Te Ara Kahikatea Family with the Western Bay Animal Services Team. This walk is pathway friendly and all about giving dog owners some events just for them. Enjoy scenic spots and grab your pooch a doggy treat bag at the finish!

SAT 12th **TE WHĀNAU A TAUWHĀO KŌRERO & KAI - ECHO X FLAVOURS OF PLENTY**
 Echo Walking Festival is proudly supporting Te Whānau a Tauwhāo to present "Korero & Kai" with the Flavours of Plenty 2025 Festival. Head to www.flavoursofplentyfestival.com for more details and to register.

SAT 12th **MOUNT KARANGAHAKE SUMMIT WALK** **4 4-5h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Karangahake Gorge C/Park
 The Mount Karangahake walk is a 9km trek starting on the gorge floor and ending at the summit, over 500m above the Waitawheta River. From the car park, you'll get a clear view of the summit you're about to conquer.

SAT 12th **MARATOTO WIRES TRACK** **3-4 5-6h \$**
 Start 8am **Meet:** Convenient Cow, Hikutaia
 The Wires Track, named after the old telephone line that once ran through Maratoto, still features remnants of poles and a cattle pen fence. The well-marked trail offers lovely views across Maratoto, but can be steep in spots, ending at the Maratoto Track intersection.

SUN 13th **WAIHI BEACH NORTH END MINING HISTORY** **3 2h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Waihi Beach Surf Lifesaving Club C/Park
 Discover the history of Waihi Beach Gold Mining and the Treasure Island Reef. Our guide is from the Robinson family and has a wealth of knowledge and has some fascinating stories.

SUN 13th **HISTORIC WALK WAITAWHETA TO KARANGAHAKE** **1 4h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Dickey Flat Adventure Camp, Waikino
 We tramp along Waitawheta River (writhing serpent) you will discover the remnants of past days. This walk is one of the most popular in the Karangahake area. The track is in great condition and is easily managed.

MON 14th **AONGATETE FUNGI WALK** **2 2h \$5**
 Start 9:30am **Meet:** End of Pikirangi Road (off 834 Wright Road)
 Join the Aongatete Forest Project for an educational 2.2km walk around the Aongatete Short Loop. Discover the fascinating world of fungi and their vital role in the ecosystem on this guided stroll, exploring these quirky yet often overlooked forest dwellers.

MON 14th **OTANEWAINUKU TRIG + RIMU & WHATAROA FALLS TRACK** **3-4 5-6h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Otanewainuku Forest C/Park, 701 Mountain Rd
 Begin with the Summit Loop, climbing through native forest to stunning panoramic views. Continue through the Rimu Loop, surrounded by towering trees, before resting at the tranquil Whataroa Waterfall—perfect for lunch and a refreshing swim.

MON 14th **NIGHT TIME IN THE BUSH GLOW WORM WALK** **1 1h \$**
 Start 6pm **Meet:** Te Aroha Information Centre, 102 Whitaker St
 Adventure for the little people as we make our way into the forest as the stars and night creatures come out. We will follow the Upper Domain Track and look for titiwai (glow worms) and ruru (morepork). Bring a torch.

TUE 15th **TECT PARK NATIVE TREE WALK** **1-2 2h \$**
 Start 10:30am **Meet:** TECT Arrival Centre
 Native tree identification walk: TECT Park has many regenerating areas of natural bush. Join us on a walk through the bush, identifying native trees and looking at points of interest. Expect to be an active member of the group as you search for a variety of plants, berries and flowers en route.

TUE 15th **SENTINEL ROCK** **4 5h \$**
 Start 8:30am **Meet:** End of Hot Springs Road, Katikati
 The Sentinel Rock Lookout Walk, accessible from the Tuahu Track near Tuahu Kauri (25 mins from the carpark), is a challenging hike for those with moderate to high fitness. The steep, rough trail may require some scrambling but rewards you with stunning valley views from the lookout.

TUE 15th **WAIORONGOMAI LOW LEVEL LOOP** **2 3h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Information Centre, 102 Whitaker St, Te Aroha
 Join in this leisurely walk around Waiorongomai Low Level Loop and learn about the history and flora of this old gold mining area. With mining relics, regenerating bush and a few small streams, this valley is one of the North Island's best kept secrets.

WED 16th **DISCOVERY MINE & OROKAWA LOOP TRACK** **4 3.5h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Waihi Beach Water Reservoir C/Park
 Passing the Discovery Mine site, learn about this early Waihi Beach mining venture before following the stream, crossing it several times, heading past waterfalls. A 10-minute climb offers views over Orokawa Reserve, then descends passing a nikau grove to Orokawa Beach.

WED 16th **TARURU CREEK BATTERY SITES** **1 3-4h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Dickson Holiday Park C/Park, 115 Victoria St
 This walk starts at the Dickson Holiday Park carpark, following the road to the Sylvia Battery while visiting six historic sites: Bleazard's, Brown and Campbell's, Flora McDonald, Russell's, Wild Missouri, and Sylvia Battery. Return via the same route. Info packs provided. Part of the NZ Week of Archaeology.

WED 16th **KAURI LOOP TRACK AND SNACK WITH NUTRITIONIST GINNY MCARTHUR** **2 3h \$10**
 Start 10am **Meet:** End of Hot Springs Road, Katikati
 Discover the magnificent Tuahu Kauri along an old Māori route. A 20-minute walk leads to a platform around one of the Bay of Plenty's largest kauri trees. Afterward, enjoy mid-morning tea at the Arts Junction with a homemade hiking bar and cacao, plus nutrition tips from Ginny to boost energy.

WED 16th **TUI DOMAIN TRACK** **2 4.5h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Information Centre, 102 Whitaker St, Te Aroha
 This gentle walk along the Tui Domain Track on Mt Te Aroha includes a 10-minute detour to Tutumangaro Falls. Continue to Tui Rd for another waterfall and the historic Mayflower Mine. Return the same way and enjoy a relaxing soak in the hot pools.

THU 17th **WAITEKOHEKOHE KIDS EDUCATIONAL WALK** **3 3h \$**
 Start 9:30am **Meet:** 360 Thompson Track, Aongatete
 *Limited Spaces
 Join an educational walk at Waitekohekohe Reserve to learn about myrtle rust, freshwater mussels, and native tree species. Discover pest control efforts and invasive weed management as you explore down to the Waitekohekohe watering hole—perfect for kids! **Parents to accompany kids for the walk.**

SAT 19th **TE KURA A MAIA** **2-3 2h \$**
 Start 9am **Meet:** Waipaopao (Anzac Bay) C/Park, Bowentown
 Reon Tuanau of Te Whānau a Tauwhāo will share with us the area's rich cultural history throughout the morning. This gentle walk offers stunning views of Te Moana a Toi with time taken to stop and be enriched with this land's stories. An opportunity not to be missed!

SAT 19th **PINNACLES WALK** **4-5 6-8h \$**
 Start 8am **Meet:** Kaugeranga Road end C/Park
 This popular walk leads to the Pinnacles Hut and summit, offering spectacular views of the Coromandel Peninsula. Follow an old packhorse route used by kauri bushmen in the 1920s, ascending Webb Creek Track to Hydro Camp, where rock steps eased the way for packhorses during the kauri logging era.

SAT 19th **PŪKOROKORO SHOREBIRD CENTRE** **1 2h \$5.5**
 Start 9:30am **Meet:** 283 East Coast Road, Pūkoro, Miranda
 Explore the fascinating world of shorebirds at the Shorebird Centre. Learn about these unique birds, then head 2km to the Bird Hides for a closer look. You can walk the trail from the Centre or drive 2km to the nearby car park and walk from there.

SUN 20th **HALLS ARBORETUM** **1 3-4h \$**
 Start 9:30am **Meet:** Top End of Currie St, Parawai, Thames
 Join local archaeologist Dave Wilton for a guided walk as part of the Echo Walking Festival and National Archaeology Week. Explore Hall's Arboretum, established in the 1870s, and Parawai Mission Station from 1837. Hall's Arboretum, a key site in the 1913 Royal Commission on Forestry, has influenced NZ forestry policy to this day.

Echo Explorers Bingo
 Check out our fun Echo Explorer activities for kids—visit our website to explore more!

Learn more about the walks online at www.echowalkfest.org.nz