

A person is silhouetted while swinging on a swing set. The swing is suspended from a tree branch at the top left. The person is in mid-swing, facing away from the camera towards the ocean. The background features a sunset over the ocean with waves breaking on a sandy beach. A rocky coastline is visible on the right. The sky is a mix of blue and orange from the setting sun.

Aotea

GREAT BARRIER ISLAND

A world of its own

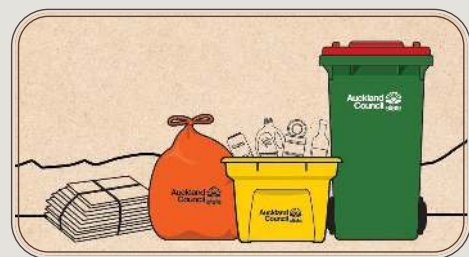


Visitor Guide 2021/22

greatbarrier.co.nz

WASTE DISPOSAL ON AOTEA GREAT BARRIER ISLAND

THE ISLAND IS ON A ZERO WASTE MISSION. SO, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WITH YOUR RUBBISH?



Anamata
RESOURCE RECOVERY
COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE



HELP US PROTECT THIS PARADISE - MINIMISE YOUR WASTE AND WHERE POSSIBLE, TAKE IT BACK WITH YOU. HERE ARE SOME SIMPLE WAYS YOU CAN DISPOSE OF YOUR RUBBISH ON THE ISLAND AND 'LIVE MORE LIGHTLY'...

STAYING ON LAND

Your accommodation provider will most likely provide either a rubbish bin or council bags for landfill rubbish, a yellow crate for recycling and a compost bin for food scraps (check if unsure). At DOC campgrounds and huts guests are expected to take their rubbish with them. They can purchase council rubbish bags locally (check with camp hosts).

Rubbish bins/council rubbish bags, recycling bins and bundled paper/card are placed out ready for collection prior to 8am on Monday (including Claris to the crossroads and South) or on Tuesday (rest of Island). For a map, refer makethemostofwaste.co.nz.

Checking out on a different day? Check for instructions at your accommodation or drop your recycling and reusable items to Anamata and rubbish to the landfill in Claris.

VISITING BY BOAT

Help to protect the Hauraki Gulf - minimise your waste.

There are no rubbish collection points at the wharves, except for a pop-up over peak summer at Port FitzRoy Wharf on certain days between 22nd Dec 2021- 5th Feb 2022. Refer to www.makethemostofwaste.co.nz for more details. Council rubbish bags are available to purchase using EFTPOS only and clean and sorted recycling can be disposed of for free.

At different wharves or outside peak season, council rubbish bags can be purchased at one of the local stores. They can be disposed of at the Claris landfill, or left for roadside collection, as per days above.

If these options don't quite work for you, please take your waste home with you.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
MAKETHEMOSTOFWASTE.CO.NZ OR ANAMATA.NZ

ANAMATA REUSE SHOP, RECYCLING & LANDFILL.

OPENING TIMES:

PEAK SEASON: (20 Dec - 5 Feb)

Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 10am-3pm

OFF PEAK: Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-4pm, Sat 10am-3pm. Closed Sundays and public holidays.

ANAMATA SHOP & RECYCLING: 66c Gray Road

LANDFILL: 70 Gray Road

PHONE: 09 4290 799

ROADSIDE COLLECTION: From 8am Monday south of and including Claris to the crossroads.

Tuesday for rest of island (Okupu, Whangaparapara and North)

AOTEA WASTE BUSTING INITIATIVES

COMPOSTING - Free community composting is available at Medlands community gardens, Anamata and Mulberry Grove school. Also check out www.sharewaste.org.nz.

ANAMATA PRELOVED CRAFT - Preloved and reusable items can be donated and are given a new lease of life at 66c Gray Road, just down from the landfill.

REUSABLE CUPS - Bring your own or buy from a local café, you can even purchase a quirky one from local Shoal Bay pottery as a souvenir.

REFILL STATIONS - The Rocks Bottle Shop and Aotea Brewing run refill stations, to fill up a flagon with fresh, chilled local brew.

BULK BINS - Stonewall Store and Claris Store have a great selection of package free bulk bin products.

COMMUNITY PANTRIES - At Mulberry Grove School, Okiwi school and Medlands Community Gardens. Fresh produce and non-perishables can be left here to share.

DONATE TO COMMUNITY OPPSHOPS - St. John's church in Medlands runs an opp shop and there is another opposite Mulberry Grove Store. Proceeds support local causes.



Nau mai haere mai ki Aotea Great Barrier Island!

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Welcome! To the shores of our beautiful motu. We invite you to explore the taonga Aotea Great Barrier Island holds.

As islanders, we are proud of our Maori and European heritage, and of our dark sky sanctuary sky. You'll find evidence of our creative personalities in our galleries, and in the wide variety of properties on offer as accommodation.

Our incredible beaches and our diverse landscapes teem with protected indigenous species, many unique to our island. Keep an eye out for them.

Aotea Great Barrier Island is the ultimate sustainable tourism destination. It is easy to limit your carbon footprint here - every household and business on our island is off the grid, generating their own power and harvesting their own water.

In line with New Zealand's Tiaki promise - which asks all of us to care for people and place - our visitors are responsible and independent, too. They tread lightly, leave no trace and take their time to enjoy our island.

Through kaitiakitanga and guided by mana whenua, we care for our motu, the moana that surrounds it and for our people. Through manaakitanga we share the abundance and spirit of generosity with our visitors, from their welcome through to their farewell, and on their likely return.

We hope this guide will assist you in enjoying our special place to the full.

Nau mai haere mai ki Aotea!

Destination Great Barrier Island

Proudly supported by



Visitor Information

www.greatbarrier.co.nz

info@dgbic.co.nz

[/greatbarrierislandofficial](https://www.facebook.com/greatbarrierislandofficial)

[@greatbarrierislandofficial](https://www.instagram.com/greatbarrierislandofficial)



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Help us to reduce waste by leaving this guide at your accommodation or at the information centre

Printed using a carbon neutral printer on FSC certified paper



What you won't find on Aotea

There are some things you won't find on Aotea, but once you've got your head around this the alternatives may just become the best part of your island experience.

You won't find...

Large supermarkets... but try our local shops and you'll be surprised by their selection, and their miraculous ability to keep their shelves stocked when the freight ferry doesn't come in.

Malls... but many quirky galleries, with creations from our talented locals that breathe the islands essence more than any photograph.

Footpaths... but our roads are shared, and we've got a diverse range of walking tracks with individual quirks, all over the island. Please be careful as a walker and driver on own narrow roads. Drivers stick to the left, especially around corners.

Streetlights... which is one of the reasons why we're a Dark Sky Sanctuary. Bring a torch if you intend to go out on foot at night.

Public transport... but Great Barrier Buses operate a daily post run from Tryphena to Port FitzRoy and back every weekday morning. Have a chat with the friendly driver - See page 9.

Taxis... but friendly shuttle services and rental cars. Book before you arrive. Or go light on luggage, rent a solar charged Motu Bike or catch a trike ride with Go Great Barrier.

Large tours... but small personalised experiences with Steve (Go Great Barrier), Chris (Hooked on Barrier), Benny (Star Treks) or Deb and Hilde (Good Heavens).

Zoo... but many taonga (treasures) more rare than the animals you see in the zoo. (Look out for kākā, tāiko, banded rails, dotterels, chevron skinks... see page 24).

Fun parks or adrenaline rides... instead, we have waves and the Hillary Outdoor Pursuit centre, same same but different.

Surf lifeguards.... so stay safe around the ocean, watch out for rip currents, swim with a buddy and stay within your limits.

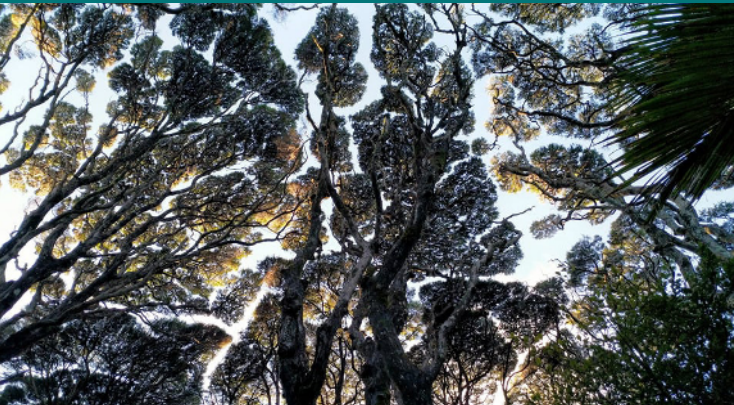
Reticulated power... so no hair dryers, electric toasters and rice cookers, please – but charging your device is usually fine.



Reticulated water... So take quick showers!

Banks... but most places now have EFTPOS facilities, although not always credit cards facilities.

Public Rubbish bins... but check out the inside cover to find out how you can dispose of your waste and how you can help us with our zero waste mission.



Some helpful numbers.

Barrier Air	0800 900 600
Sunair	0800 786 247
SeaLink (www.sealink.co.nz/sign-up-for-text-alerts)	0800 732 546
Dept of Conservation	0800 DOC HOT
Aotea Health - 24/7 Acute Emergency	09 4290 356
Ambulance, Fire or Police emergency	111

Emergency Numbers		Marine	
Police	09 4290 343	GBI Marine Radio	09 4290 281
P. FitzRoy Nurses Cottage	09 4290 047	Maritime Radio	VHF channel 6
Okiwi DOC Office	09 4290 044	Coastguard North Region	*500 or 111 or VHF channel 16
Local Services		Auckland Harbour Master	09 362 0397
Auckland Council	09 4290 258	Animal Services	
Pharmacy	09 4290 006	Vet - Anne Kernohan	09 4290 463
Barrier Automotive	09 4290 830	Animal Control	09 4290 931
Aotea Gas (LPG)	09 4290 968	Bird Rescue (Karen Walker)	09 4290 478
Claris Tyres	09 4290 885	DOC wildlife/strandings	0800 362 468

Whakapapa

Aotea and every one of the 50-odd islands and rock stacks that surround it have names. Some are well-known, like Rakitū and Kaikoura. Others, known to just a few, markers to a past stretching back a thousand years.

Rodney Ngawaka, is part of the Ngawaka family and related families take their hapū name, Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea, from the tupuna Rehua who led the conquest of Aotea around the 17th Century.

He says Great Barrier’s Māori name likely comes from the waka Aotea. The harbour between Raglan and Kawhia shares the name, the final resting place of the voyaging canoe.

Ruahine, the high peak in the south of the island, was the granddaughter of Turi, the waka’s chief.

There are island names that reference earlier arrivals, from the Tainui and Arawa waka. Even mythical navigator Kupe – regarded one of the first arrivals from Hawaiki – is referred to in the place now called Okupu, or correctly Ō-Kupe-Mai-Tawhiti.

Rehua’s people originated from the coastal area north of Auckland. Through a series of conquests of the Ngāti Tai hapū and accommodations with others they came to control Aotea’s settlements as mana whenua ahead of the first contact with Europeans.

Stand on Medlands beach and imagine yourself in those times, part of a group of around 30-40 people of mixed generations, the oldest kaumātua and kuia not much older than 35 years. Several other similar sized groups share the landscape around you.

The headlands to the north and south are pā with palisades and trenches, places of retreat when enemies arrive and for important gatherings. Otherwise, life revolves around gardens and dwellings scattered around the lower hills and edges of the swamp. Memory Rock and Boatsheds – the rocky outcrops in the middle and south of the beach – and the ridgelines below the pā are dotted with clay-lined pits used for storing kūmara, taro, yams and gourds. Waka are drawn up in the sheltered bay to the south and campfires in the dunes are used for preparing fish, shellfish and birds brought back from foraging parties which travel regularly across and around the island. Urupā or burial places are sited around pohutukawa in carefully tended spots behind the beach.

Local archaeologist Don Prince says most coastal headlands around the island show signs of occupation in the period before European contact. Around Tryphena were several pā, at Pā Beach, above the entrance lighthouse (Te Kūrae-o-Turi) and Millers Point (Rangitāwhiri).

Rodney explains how place names reveal a hidden world of belief systems and knowledge across all corners of the island.

In the North, The Needles, Ngā Taratara ō Toi, are part of Ngā Poitō ō Te Kupenga ō Toi Te Huatahi, the floats of the net of ancestor Toi, and when viewed from the ocean in certain weather, they indeed bob like floats on a net.

To the east an important marker is Kaitoke, the reef at the mouth of the main river emerging from the swamp, meaning food (kai) from the conger eel (toke).



NGĀTI WAI KI AOTEA



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The island off Cape Barrier in the south is Te Motu Tohora, referring to the fluke of a rolling right whale.

Westward is Rangiahua, the seat of the Rangi, the sky father figure of Māori mythology.

The names of the island’s highest peaks Hirakimatā and Te Ahumatā both refer to the presence of obsidian (matā), flakes of which were used to create cutting instruments that were traded around the Auckland region. Hirakimatā refers to the flash of lightning strike on obsidian.

The arrival of Europeans brought rapid changes to the patterns of habitation on the island. Private land deals and government acquisitions to enable mineral and timber extraction and aid European settlement occurred. This left Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea with just 1800 hectares in the northwest of the island around marae at Kawa and Motairehe.



Motairehe Marae

The Waitangi Tribunal has documented this history, resulting in an apology by the Crown for causing prejudice or breaches of the Treaty of Waitangi and an associated Deed of Settlement.

Through the work of Rodney and Don we are being invited to look at landscapes around Aotea and see the histories and stories of two peoples afresh.

Excerpt taken from 'Through Fresh Eyes' part of the Island Stones series, written by Tim Higham with thanks to Rodney Ngawaka and Don Prince, for their insights.

Our dark skies



Imagine dark silhouettes of stargazers huddled around a telescope somewhere on top of a sand dune. Not an unusual sight in the Dark Sky Sanctuary of Aotea Great Barrier Island. These people are here to enjoy the absolute delight of our certified magnificent sky.

Aotea Great Barrier Island became a Dark Sky Sanctuary in 2017. According to the International Dark sky Association a Dark Sky Sanctuary is public or private land that has an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is protected for its scientific, natural, or educational value, its cultural heritage and public enjoyment.

Currently, Aotea is one of just over a dozen of these sanctuaries worldwide. It’s the only one within the limits of a major city, with Auckland at only ½ hours’ flight away. Most sanctuaries are in places that are very hard to access. Not so our island. It’s easy, comfortable and warm to stay overnight here.

So what are the advantages of a super dark sky? Well, that you can see more stars for one. And clouds. Special clouds!

When Portuguese discoverer Ferdinand Magellan ventured into southern hemisphere oceans during his circumnavigation of the world (1519-1522), he noticed them... Two small mysteriously shimmering clouds night after night. He wondered what they were.

On a dark and moonless night in our Dark Sky Sanctuary you can easily see them with the naked eye: the Magellanic Clouds that were named after him. You’ll find them, as described by Magellan, about a spread hand-width away from the Southern Cross, in the southern sky. We now know that these misty, patches of light have been there for millions of years.



Magellanic clouds above Pa Point

Northern hemisphere astronomers may travel to the southern hemisphere to see them: these satellite galaxies to the Milky Way. The smaller of the two clouds is arguably the most distant object visible to us humans with the naked eye. Both clouds are galaxies like our Milky Way but they are much smaller. 3-5% respectively of the mass of our galaxy. Still, both contain many billions of stars. So lean back and look up to the sky, either by yourself, or enjoy a guided stargazing experience with one of our local companies.



LEARN HOW TO SHOOT THE STARS WITH A LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER


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Photo: Carmen Bird

Settlements



TRYPHENA - Civilisation - Barrier Style

This is the first stop for many who come to the Barrier by ferry, as it docks at the Southern end of the harbour. From there the winding road hugs the harbour coastline, opening up to many lookouts to spot dolphins, schools of fish and Bryde’s whales. This is the largest settlement on the island, home to two grocery stores, postshop, fuel station, cafes, pub, local club and several artist’s studios. You’ll also find great safe swimming on Gooseberry Flat and Mulberry Grove beaches.

Head to Cape Barrier for incredible views to the Coromandel and beyond, with several walks to beautiful secluded bays all less than 3 hours return. In Puriri & Schooner Bay you’ll find the Black Cow and Elephant galleries.

CLARIS - Services Hub

Home to most of the island’s public services, including the aerodrome, the touch point for many of our visitors. You’ll find the police station, council service centre, library, mechanics, medical centre, fuel station, bottle shop, local sports club, golf club, cafe, burger bar, lunch bar, museums and art galleries.

Make sure to stock up on essentials in Claris before hitting the tracks or beaches, if you’re heading North. The next store and fuel stop is in Port FitzRoy!

OKUPU - Family picnic spot

Winding Blind Bay road brings you to sheltered, giant Pohutukawa-lined Blind Bay, a magical place for a family picnic, dolphin spotting and beach time. Stop off at Iona mine on the way down to Okupu or head around the coast to beautiful Blind Bay wharf.

WHANGAPARAPARA - Remnants of big industry

Once bustling with industry and now a sleepy harbour, this is the perfect place to explore for a day. Take a break for lunch overlooking the harbour at Great Barrier Lodge. You’ll find the remains of a whaling station and remnants of the old timber mill from the kauri logging days and a history exhibition in the wharf shed. Grab a DOC track map and you’ll find Whangaparapara is the perfect place for a day hike or to commence the Aotea Track. Heading back out of the harbour you’ll pass the stamper battery from gold and silver mining days, followed by the car park for the renowned Kaitoke Hot Springs.

PORT FITZROY - Boaties paradise

The largest natural harbour in the Hauraki Gulf is a boaties paradise and the start or end of the Aotea track. Port FitzRoy is the perfect place to stop off for supplies by boat, to discover secluded bays, take a walk or to visit Glenfern Sanctuary - our regional park where you can learn more about pest eradication and biodiversity on Aotea.





General Stores
Mulberry Grove - Tryphena
Stonewall Village - Tryphena
Claris Store
Port FitzRoy Store



Fuel
Mulberry Grove - Tryphena
Whangaparapara Wharf
Claris Centre
Port FitzRoy Wharf



Medical
Claris Health Centre
Port FitzRoy Nurses Cottage
St John Ambulance (111)



Internet -Free wi-fi at
Claris Airport
Claris Store
Council service centre (Claris)
Barrier Social Club (Tryphena)
Tryphena Hall

The island is a lot bigger than people expect. Here are some approximate drive times from Claris:

Medlands: 10 minutes

Tryphena Wharf: 40 minutes

Schooner Bay: 30 minutes

Whangaparapara: 20 minutes

Okupu Wharf: 15 minutes

Awana: 10 minutes

Harataonga: 20 minutes

Okiwi: 30 minutes


Port FitzRoy: 40 minutes

Katherine/Kawa Bay: 1 hour

Getting Around



There is no public transport on Aotea. So to get the most from your trip, we highly recommend booking in advance a car, electric motubike or shuttle transfers. For hikers or boaties wanting to transfer between the north and south of the island People & Post run a daily service, every day but Sunday from Tryphena Wharf to Port FitzRoy and back (see on the right).



Top Tips:
Hitch hiking - is safe, common and a great way to get to know locals on the island.
Walking - our roads are shared, so beware of traffic especially in the peak summer months.
Vistas - Pull over at look out points and enjoy the stunning vistas, there are so many.

Car Rentals

Airport Rentals (Neal)	09 4290 417
Aotea Car Rentals (Sue)	09 4290 474 or 0800 426 832
Claris Rental Cars (Orla)	021 1741 537
Fiona’s Shuttles	027 909 1462
GO Great Barrier - transport services, rental cars, custom & group tours (Steve & Leebee)	0800 997 222
Great Barrier Wheels (Nic)	09 4290 062
Medlands Rentals (Skilly)	09 4290 861
North Barrier Rentals (Jeff)	09 4290 848
Shoal Bay Rentals (Val)	09 4290 543 or 0274 774 018
Stray Possum Lodge Rentals (Kev)	09 4290 109

Motorbike/Scooter

Motubikes	022 344 0645
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Passenger Transport

Norm & Fleur (Explore Great Barrier)	021 636 398
Fiona’s Shuttles	027 909 1462
GO Great Barrier - transport services, rental cars, custom & group tours (Steve & Leebee)	0800 997 222
People & Post Shuttle/transfer service (Great Barrier Travel) (Sue)	09 4290 474 or 0800 426 832
Nic (Great Barrier Wheels)	09 4290 062
Skilly (Medland’s Rentals)	09 4290 861
Mike Newman (based in Port FitzRoy)	021 876 296
Debbie (Pick Me Up Shuttles)	02PICKMEUP
Kevin (Stray Possum Lodge)	09 4290 109

People & Post

Your friendly local transport provider still runs this daily service

Departs Tryphena 10am 6 days a week.
Departs Port FitzRoy 11am to Tryphena.

Passengers \$25 pp, Small freight items \$12
This service is free if you have an Aotea Rentals car.



Great Barrier Travel
39 Medlands Road, Tryphena,
Great Barrier Island
gbbuses@xtra.co.nz 0800426832
www.aoteacarrental.co.nz

EXPLORE
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- Island tours
- Group bookings
- Call us today to secure your seat

Pick Me Up

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027 42 563 87

Stonewall Store

Fresh Harmony & Supreme Meat
Excellent range of organics
Bulk bins
Specialty foods
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
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Open 7 days a week. EFTPOS.
Ph: (09) 4290 451

Located in Tryphena,
at the start of Blackwell drive

Eat & Drink



From cafés serving delicious brunches and organic coffee, to waterfront dining and mouth watering takeaway burgers, the Barrier has a lot of yummy bites to offer. We recommend heading to our social clubs for dinner, to eat like a local and to get to know the locals too.



Top Tip: Call ahead and book in advance, especially over the winter months.

SOUTH – Tryphena

Barrier Social Club. À la carte & blackboard menu. Bar and takeaways. WiFi available. 09 4290 421

Currach Irish Pub. Bookings essential to avoid disappointment. À la carte & blackboard menus. Licensed. WiFi available. 09 4290 211

Mulberry Grove Café & Takeaway. 09 4290 909
Open 7 days. Meals, takeaways, breakfasts available from 8am. Coffee bar, bottle shop. Open till 7pm.

Pa Beach Café. Delicious cabinet food, great coffee, breakfast and lunch options. Cafe right by the beach! 09 4290 905

Tipi & Bobs. Friday nights only from Labour weekend. Waterfront setting. Book ahead. 09 4290 550

Stray Possum Bar & Restaurant. Group bookings only 09 4290 109

CENTRAL – Claris & Whangaparapara

Angsana Thai Restaurant, Gray Road. Bookings essential. Takeaways available. 09 4290 272

GBI Sports & Social Club, Whangaparapara Road. Club bistro, à la carte menu and takeaways. Licensed. 09 4290 260

Golf Club, Whangaparapara Road. Delicious meal, great steaks and cold drinks. 09 4290 420

My Fat Puku Café, Claris. Fresh food, fabulous organic coffee, garden setting. 09 4290 811

Swallow Gourmet Takeaways & Catering, Claris. Gourmet, burgers, wraps, salads, fries, seafood, hot and cold drinks. 09 4290 226

Baked on Barrier, Claris. Lunch bar, hot & cold food, sweet & savoury. Fresh daily. 09 4290 800

Aotea Brewing, Mason Rd - Medlands. Fresh local beer refill station, events through summer. Visit: aoteabrewing.co.nz

The Yumkai Catering Co, at Aotea Brewing - Maori Asian fusion Bedford food truck. theyumkai@gmail.com

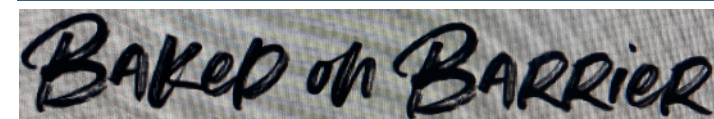
NORTH - Port FitzRoy & Okiwi

Port FitzRoy Burger Bar. Chips, Burgers, Cold Drinks. 09 4290 868

Port FitzRoy Boat Club 021 210 9799



Tryphena Ph: (09) 4290 905 Open 8:30am - close



- Lunch Bar
- Hot & Cold
- Sweet & Savoury
- Fresh daily

Open 7 days
7am-2pm Mon-Fri
9am-2pm Sat & Sun

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Organic coffee and home baking.
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THE YUMKAI

CATERING COMPANY

AOTEA

1975 Bedford Food truck. Fresh, local & organic Maori/Asian Fusion.
Kokako Organic coffee. Located at Aotea Brewing.
Wednesday-Sunday. Check Instagram for hours: @the_yumkai.
Available for offsite catering. theyumkai@gmail.com



Authentic, traditional Irish Pub with lots of character.

Award winning chef with food which is sure to impress, great menu choices, daily specials, woodfired pizza and so much more.

Large sunny deck to rear, a perfect way to enjoy the sun setting.

Live music and Thursday music nights are fantastic.

Awarded Certificate of Excellence by Trip Advisor every year since 2013.



THE CURRACH IRISH PUB

021 174 1537 or 09 4290 211 | www.currachirishpub.co.nz

Buy Local



Our stores across the island have a wide range of groceries, so you shouldn't need to bring much with you at all!

What you will notice is that things may be a little pricier than on the mainland, but that comes with our geography and the effort that goes into getting supplies to the island.

Our shopkeepers work hard to keep their shelves stocked with a great product range and where possible use local suppliers.

We encourage our visitors to shop local, to support local jobs, our very unique island economy.

Stonewall store and Claris store both have bulk bins of essentials from rice, other grains and flour to dried fruit and lollies. Stonewall in Tryphena has a particularly good range of organic groceries and products for those with dietary requirements.



Top Tip: You can help us reduce waste that ends up in the landfill by buying local and using low packaging options, like bulk bins and refill options. Also, keep an eye out for local markets and stalls.

South:

Barrier Building Supplies (ITM).
Open Mon-Sat 09 4290 466

Mulberry Grove Store & Bottle
Store. Open 7 days 09 4290 909

Outpost Gift Shop 09 4290 610

Stonewall Store & Bottle
Store. Open 7 days 09 4290 451

North:

Port FitzRoy General Store &
Bottle Shop 09 4290 056

Central:

Claris General Store
Open 7 days 09 4290 852

Great Barrier Pharmacy
09 4290 006

Laundromat - Claris centre

Pigeon Post Open Mon - Fri
(Sat in summer) 09 4290 242

The Rocks Bottle Store
09 4290 118

Island Gin Distillery
09 4290 690

Pigeon Post CLARIS

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Port FitzRoy Store
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NZ**

>Beer, wine, spirits, ice, snacks
>Local breweries refillery station
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Wholesale prices for group functions
Open 7 days

therocks@xtra.co.nz
www.therocksaotea.co.nz
09 4290 118

CLARIS STORE

Stocking all the essentials, including locally sourced
produce, fresh fruit, veg and organic options.
Open | Mon to Fri 8:30am-5pm | Sat & Sun 9am-4pm
Extended hours over summer
09 4290 852 | clarisstoreaotea@gmail.com

Great Barrier Island
Sports & Social Club
Full bar facilities – delicious meals at the Club Bistro-
Conference facilities – Pool tables – Tennis courts –
Sports field

Whangaparapara Rd, Claris. Open Wednesday,
Friday & Saturday. Email: clarisclub@xtra.co.nz Ph: 4290 260

Made on Aotea

You'll find fresh, island-grown fruit and vegetables, the southern hemisphere's most remote, award winning, boutique gin distillery, zero-waste solar powered microbreweries plus an abundance of manuka and bush honey products all produced on our beautiful island.

This produce can be found in our stores and eateries island wide. Be sure to support and indulge in these local goodies on your trip.

If you can't quite squeeze them into your luggage, you can order some of these products online. To taste the essence of Aotea long after your holiday.



Top Tip: Keep an eye out for markets and stalls!

Some producers also offer tours, or workshops. Get in contact and learn more about the process behind the product.

Globally awarded, locally made.

ISLAND GIN

OKIWI PASSION

Local, Freshly Harvested and Naturally Grown
Vegetables · Fruit · Herbs · Sensational Salad
Please order online at www.okiwiipassion.co.nz

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FRESH, DELICIOUS CRAFT BEER



aoteabrewing.co.nz
[@aoteabrewing](https://www.instagram.com/aoteabrewing)

**AOTEA
BREWING**

Come in for a visit
50A Mason Road, Medlands

Mulberry Grove Store

Fuel - Bottleshop - Takeaways - Cafe - Groceries
09 4290 909



Open Everyday
All day breakfast
Hot Food
Great Coffee
Fish & Chips by the seaside
Uninterrupted views of Tryphena Harbour
Full On & Off license

Rongoa & Natural Skincare Products

Aotea is home to an abundance of natural skincare and health care products sourced from our environment and made on the island by local entrepreneurs.

Bee by-products

One of the by-products of our honey industry is beeswax, and this resource is used by many producers of natural beauty products on island. Most of these products are made from locally sourced plant-derived ingredients.

You'll find medicinal balms and remedies, soaps, moisturisers, facial oils and synergy blends - something for every stage of your regime.

Beautiful gifts

These products are available from the shops, galleries and occasional markets. They make beautiful gifts and are a great daily reminder of your blissful break to Aotea/ Great Barrier Island.

If you can't quite squeeze them into your luggage or don't have the time for the mad dash to the gallery before you board your flight home, you'll find many of these products are also available online.



A therapeutic range of small-batch skincare made right here on Aotea, Great Barrier Island
www.kaitokewilds.nz / In stores throughout Aotea



Guided by Vicky Kyan
(ANFT cert. guide and trainer)
www.naturebathing.nz
| +64 9 4290 129 | +64 27 383 8300 |



Gallery / Museum / Meeting Venue
80 Hector Sanderson Rd, Claris
Gallery: 09 4290 580 Gallery.Coordinator@aotea.org
Office: 09 4290 570 www.gbicommunitygallery.org
f @GBIArtGallery



Top Tip: As a time saver in your busy island itinerary check in for your flight first, then dash to the Aotea Community gallery next to the airport to buy some last minute gifts. Dash back for your departure.



Great Barrier Active Honey



Available at shops
on the island
and online: greatbarrierislandbeeco.co.nz




Group accommodation
Sleeps up to 16
Waterfront Location.
Outdoor Heated Baths.
Watersports Gear.
www.tryphenahouse.co.nz







Sightseeing Tours and Fishing Trips
Shared trips or group charters.
visit [//hookedonbarrier.co.nz](http://hookedonbarrier.co.nz) for online bookings
or phone Chris on 021 0276 2332





LOCALLY GUIDED DAY TREKS & TWILIGHT ADVENTURES
GREAT BARRIER ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND

LOCAL GUIDES
Be entertained by our island's past and present, characters and stories. Learn about New Zealand flora and fauna. Our guides are enthusiastic locals living off-grid on this remote island.

DISCOVER
Experience the essence of Great Barrier Island. Tranquil forests, beaches and expansive ocean views. As night falls, encounter our protected starry night skies.

TOURS
Star Treks offer memorable guided journeys. Choose from our thoughtfully crafted daylight or twilight treks.

CONTACT US TO CREATE YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!
WWW.STARTREKS.KIWI PH +64 27 387 7950
EMAIL: INFO@STARTREKS.KIWI
FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM: @STAR TREKS

Experiences

Here is your go to list of activities and experiences on the island. From kayak hire in different locations around the island to dark sky adventures, there is something for everyone. All our operators are small local businesses who offer truly authentic and personal experiences.

Dark Sky Sanctuary

Good Heavens – Stargazing experiences	027 4290 877
Carol Comer – Astrophotography Adventures	027 767 0071
Star Treks - Dark Sky Adventures	027 387 7950

Diving

Port FitzRoy Dive Station For fills, hire, tests, batteries	021 0829 3887
Hooked on Barrier, Claris	0210 276 2332

Electric Motorbikes

MotuBikes	022 344 0645
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Fishing Charters/Coastal Tours

Hooked on Barrier, Claris	09 4290 740
Hauraki Express (Water taxi & fishing)	027 664 6644

Golf

Great Barrier Island Golf Club. 9 holes. Clubhouse open Thurs & Sun 10am-6pm. Clubs available every day from “The Rocks” Claris. Ph: 09 4290 118. Green Fee \$25, Club Hire \$5 SUMMER. Boxing Day to end February, Saturdays to 8pm. Whangaparapara Rd, Claris	09 4290 420
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Kayaking

Great Barrier Lodge, Whangaparapara	09 4290 488
Hooked on Barrier, Claris	09 4290 740
Tryphenahouse. Bookings only.	027 410 2688
Shoal Bay Estate, Tryphenahouse	09 4290 543
Aquahut, Sunset Lodge, Tryphenahouse	09 4290 051

Outdoor Educational Programmes

Hillary Outdoors, Port FitzRoy. Available for group bookings, closed 8 Dec - 8 Jan	09 4290 762
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Paddleboarding

Tryphenahouse. Bookings only.	027 410 2688
Motupaddles. Tours and rentals in the North	022 197 8230
Aquahut, Sunset Lodge, Tryphenahouse	09 4290 051



To download our slow travel map with the locations of all these experiences and local tips, head to:

www.greatbarrier.co.nz/maps

Tours - Land

Crazyhorse Trike Tours	0800 997 222 or 09 4290 222
Go Great Barrier	0800 997 222 or 09 4290 222
Explore Great Barrier	021 636 398
Great Barrier Travel	09 4290 474
Great Barrier Active Honey Tours	027 350 4444
Pick Me Up Shuttles	02PICKMEUP
Star Treks - Guided Motubike Tour	027 387 7950

Walking & Tramping (Tracks on page 20)

Check out page 20 and collect a DOC track map from the airport	
Glenfern Sanctuary - Regional Park. Guided and Unguided walks. Port FitzRoy	09 4290 091
Star Treks - Locally guided walks	027 387 7950

Water Taxi

Hauraki Express from AKL	027 664 6644
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Wellbeing, Massage & Yoga

Aotea Holistic Therapy	09 4290 968
WaiOra Wellbeing Wanders	027 383 8300



Top Tip: Book experiences ahead and check the weather. If in doubt ask the operator or a local.






Spend a day golfing, socialising, sharing a drink or delicious meal.

- 9-hole course
- Club house open - Thursday & Sunday from 11am
- Meals for members and guests from 5pm


Clubs available from the Rocks in Claris. Green fee \$25. Club hire \$5. Located on Whangaparapara Road
Ph: 09 4290 420





**BLACK COW
ART GALLERY**
**SCHOONER BAY
GREAT BARRIER ISLAND
PHONE: 09 4290414**

**WOODWORK, CARVINGS,
SCULPTURE & PAINTINGS**
BY PETER EDMONDS & FENELLA CHRISTIAN



**ELECTRIC
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"fun and easy to ride"
"The best way to explore"
"Environmentally friendly"
"The highlight of our trip"

What do you need?
- NZ/Int full car license
- Covered footwear
- A sense of adventure!

★★★★★
\$20 per hour / \$75 full day

Arts & Heritage

Venture through our creative island. Follow our art trail and enjoy the variety of work on offer, chat to the artists and discover how Aotea inspiores their work. Buy local, purchase a piece of Aotea, a long lasting connection to its land and people.

Starting close to the wharf in Tryphena, pop into **(1) Sarah’s pottery in Shoal Bay**. There are plenty of recycled projects to admire in the garden of this talented and friendly potter, too.

Another friendly face can be found at the **(2) Elephant gallery in Puriri Bay**, where Marion has an excellent array of beautifully knitted clothing for new-borns and small children, the popular Bee Glad Honey Bee wraps and stunning works from island creatives.

Continue onto **(3) The Black Cow in Schooner Bay** which showcases work by woodworker and painter Peter Edmonds and painter Fenella Christian. The door is open 24/7 and an honesty box offers buyers easy access to some of the quirkiest art on island. Its picturesque location is the perfect setting to enjoy a packed lunch.

In Claris, you’ll find the **(4) Milk, Honey and Grain museum** where you can gain insight into the island’s rich early settler history.

Also in Claris, **(5) the Aotea Community Art Gallery** provides exposition and retail space for a wide variety of arts and crafts from locals and artists with a local connection. Close proximity to the airport makes this the perfect place to dash for that last souvenir or gift, once you have checked in for your flight.

Just up the road from the community gallery in Claris, you will find **(6) Award winning ceramicist Elise Bishop’s micro-gallery**. Elise’s work is held in museum collections in Aotearoa and internationally, she sources uses natural materials from local sources. She loves hosting visitors in her tiny space, but text ahead, as visits are by appointment only.

In Okupu you will find **(7) Monique Endt** in her studio/ gallery over the summer. Monique paints the natural world of Aotea in the most exquisitely unique style, so indulge in an original Endt from the artist’s easel or buy (and send) some of her stunning post cards.

One last stop, **(8) Anamata reuse shop**, not your typical gallery, where the crafty team turn trash into treasure. You never know what you might find.



1. Shoal Bay Pottery
Open all year. 200m from the wharf in Tryphena
09 4290 455



2. Black Cow Gallery
Open all year. Just past Schooner Bay.
021 538 874



3. Elephant Gallery
Open during summer. At the start of Schooner Bay Rd.
027 961 4315



4. Milk, Honey & Grain Museum
Open all year. 200m south of the airport.
09 4290 773



5. Aotea Community Art Gallery & Grays Homestead Museum.
Open all year. Next to the airport. 09 4290 580



6. Elise Bishop Ceramics
Open over summer. Visits by appointment, text or whatsapp 022 3539 193. Visit: elisebishopceramics.co.nz



7. Monique Endt
Open in summer. Okupu. Look for the sign at the Okupu/ Whangaparapara crossroads or call 027 4121 652



8. Anamata Reuse Shop
Open year round. 66c Gray Road.
09 4290 799

Beaches



The beaches on Aotea range from sweeping expanses of pristine surf on the east coast, to sheltered harbours, sandy shores and secluded coves on the west coast.

On the 60 minute drive north from Tryphena wharf to Port FitzRoy wharf, you will pass safe, sheltered and gently sloping sandy beaches where small children play in Tryphena, and the breathtaking dramatic surf beaches at Medlands, Awana and Okiwi.

Leave the main road and drive down the smaller roads to the coast, to discover more secluded beaches, rocky headlands, and natural harbours and coves at Schooner Bay, Okupu, Whangaparapara, Harataonga, Karaka Bay and Port Abercrombie with Nagle’s Cove in the distance.

The road to Kawa and Motairahē takes you to Katherine Bay and Kawa Bay, where two marae form the heart of Aotea’s iwi community of Ngāti Rehua and Ngātiwai



Local Beach Tips

Gooseberry Flat - Purple caves, family friendly and easy access to Stonewall for an ice block and public toilets.

Medland’s - For waves and frolicking in mermaid pools.

Kaitoke - Stay at magical Sugarloaf campground

Blind Bay - For family picnics beneath ancient Pohutukawa Trees.

Harataonga - For the best camping adventure.

Northern end of Whangapoua and Mabey’s Beach - Visit the SS Wairapa graves and discover what seclusion really feels like.



Top Tip: Dogs

Many of our beaches are nesting sites for native birds (see page 24). Check out page 21 for places to walk your dog.



Pa beach and Gooseberry Flat, Tryphena



Quirky Campers now available to rent on Great Barrier Island.
To book ‘Fergus’ who lives on the island visit:
www.quirkycampers.com/nz/campervan/148658/

Sugarloaf Campground

One of the original settler camps of Aotea

Kaitoke Beach|Sea views|Shade|Safe creek for swimming

Managed by memorable character Johnny Blackwell. The campground provides a unique opportunity to experience camping of a long gone era. Situated on the edge of Kaitoke beach still owned privately by the Blackwell whanau. Amazing landscapes, beautiful artisan drinking water, rustic and charming.
Call Christina on: 027 249 5181

Comfortable homestay on Medlands.
Sleeps 3 in guest room with private access.
Shared kitchen, living space, decks and garden.
DIY Breakfast on request.
Seasonal holiday rentals & self contained garden chalet on request.

Hosted by Vicky Kyan
www.waiorabeachretreat.nz
|+64 9 4290 129 | vicky@gbi.nz

Walking



Just like our beaches, the walks on Aotea are varied and many. Walking tracks are well maintained and mostly on public land, owned by the people of Aotearoa/New Zealand and managed by either the Department of Conservation (Aotea Conservation Park) or Auckland City Council.

The Aotea Conservation Park is the biggest park in the Auckland area. It covers more than 12,000 hectares and has multiple walking tracks for novice and experienced walkers. The Aotea Track is a multi-day wilderness hike with two DOC huts. It is the perfect destination for outdoor enthusiasts and families.

On the next page spread you'll find more shorter walks around the settlements of Tryphena, Whangaparapara and PortFitzRoy.

TRACK MAPS

Department of Conservation Track Brochures and maps are available with detailed information of tracks on DOC land.

> Pick up a copy from the airport

> Or download from www.greatbarrier.co.nz or the DOC website

AOTEA TRACK

The 25km loop track takes hikers deep into the forest and high onto the mountain tops, with two fantastic backcountry huts to stay in overnight. There is a mix of steep climbs and easy flat trails. There are multiple entrances to the track.

From Whangaparapara road:

- Kaitoke Hot Springs track
- Forest Road track
- Tramline track
- Witheys track (via Tramline track)

From Aotea Road

- Tramline track
- Palmers track via Windy Canyon
- Coopers Castle track

From Kaiaraara Bay/Port FitzRoy

- Forest road track



Essential Information for walkers



Fire. There is a complete fire ban on the island all year round, as the fire risk is very high. Please use gas fires for cooking and check info boards.



Dogs and other domestic animals are not permitted on DOC campgrounds or any conservation land. All campgrounds are near special wildlife habitats and home to endangered birds like the brown teal duck. If you are using a campground that permits dogs, please keep them under control.



Rubbish. There are no rubbish bins on the tracks or at the huts and campgrounds. Recycling bins for bottles, cans and plastics are provided except at the Green Camground. Camp hosts will have a supply of official orange council rubbish bags which you can also purchase at the service centre or local store. These are the only bags that can be used for rubbish collection. Further waste info can be found on the inside cover.



Kauri Protection

Stop the spread of Kauri dieback.

Please use the cleaning stations and kits installed at track entrances. This is especially vital on the Forest Road track. Scrub soil off your shoes, mountain bike tyres and other dirty equipment. This not only eliminates Phytophthora agathidicida (PA) spores, but other potential nasty pests, such as weed seeds. Any movement of infested soil into kauri roots will enable PA to germinate and find new healthy trees to infect and kill.

Please be vigilant and take simple biosecurity measures to protect kauri against this proven and deadly disease. For more information on PA and kauri dieback and what you can do to help refer to the website: www.kauridieback.co.nz

Huts & Campgrounds



DOC huts and campgrounds must be booked online. They get busy over the summer months, so book in advance. A self-registration system is in operation at each campground, a supervisor may collect fees.

Camping: Adult \$15, Youth (5-17) \$7.50, Infants free.

Huts: Adult \$15, Youth (5-17) \$7.50, Infants free.

Visit: www.bookings.doc.govt.nz

Huts

Kaiaraara Hut. Located at the beginning of the Hiramimata (Mt Hobson) track at Kaiaraara Bay, Port FitzRoy. 28 Bunks in 2 rooms, wood stove, water supply, toilets.

Mt Heale Hut. Set in a saddle below Mt Heale the hut offers back country accommodation with stunning views across the Hauraki Gulf and Hauturu/Little Barrier Island. 20 beds in 2 rooms, gas cooking, water supply, toilets.

Campgrounds

Akapoua, DOC. Right at the harbour edge, a 10min walk from the Port FitzRoy wharf. Access to many short walks and the Aotea Track. Trees for shade. Cold showers, toilets, shop at Port FitzRoy. Suitable for campervans.

Awana, DOC. 400 metres from the popular Awana surf beach. No shade. Cold showers, toilets and suitable for campervans.

Awana, Mickey's Place - 09 4290 707. Flat sites on a farm under mature trees. Near bush, beach and on the main road. People and post bus goes past once a day. Showers, flush toilets, no animals. Your host; Mickey O'Shea.

Harataonga, DOC. 300m from beach. Mature trees for shade. Isolated, 2.5km off the main road. Cold showers, toilets and suitable for campervans.

Sugarloaf Campground. Call Christina - 027 2495 181. Southern end of Kaitoke Beach. One of the original settler camps of Aotea. (Camping of a long gone era, managed by memorable character Johnny Blackwell. Stunning vistas and artisan drinking water. Shaded by pohutukawa and macrocarpa trees. Safe swimming.)

Medlands DOC. Situated by a saltwater creek, southern end of Medlands beach. Some shade. Cold showers, toilets and suitable for campervans.

Puriri Bay, Tryphena. 021 298 8905. Nestled among native bush and beside a fresh water stream. 200m to beach, boatramp and moorings.

Stray Possum Lodge, Tryphena. 09 4290 109 or 0800 possum. Backpacker lodge with campground. Walking distance from the wharf. Hot showers, shared kitchen/lounge.

Whangaparapara, DOC. The Green. Located on the edge of Whangaparapara Harbour. No vehicle access, 1km from the road. Cold showers, toilets. Not suitable for campervans.

Whangapoua, DOC. 09 429 0044. Situated near Okiwi airfield, adjacent to Whangapoua estuary. No shade or shelter. Cold showers, toilets. Suitable for campervans.



Mount Heale Hut. (© Todd Eyre)

Dogs



Are allowed under control off a leash ONLY at:

- ✗ Awana Beach. From council access south to the point
- ✗ Gooseberry Flat, Tryphena. From Pohutukawa tree by bbq/picnic tables south to the Pohutukawa tree before the playground. Then Northern end from the bluff, around to the public toilets and including headland reserve between Gooseberry Flat and Pa Beach.
- ✗ Medlands Beach. From 100m from The Lane walkway to the south, stopping 100 metres north of the creek.
- ✗ Mulberry Grove Beach, Tryphena. All excluding the creeks at each end
- ✗ Okupu Beach. The entire beach area.
- ✗ Okiwi. Northern side of the airstrip beside the airfield.

Dogs are prohibited on all Department of Conservation land including tracks and campgrounds, in any playground or sports surface and they must be under control on a leash within 10 metres of these areas.

More information can be found on the [Auckland Council website](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz).

Avian (bird) awareness and aversion training help reduce the chance native birds are disturbed or killed by dogs. Courses are held regularly on Aotea, contact Auckland Council on (09) 3010101 or 0800 DOC HOT

Mountain Biking

Biking is permitted on public roads, Forest Road track between Port FitzRoy and Whangaparapara, Harataonga Coastal track, Kowhai track (Medlands) and the track below Te Ahumata. Mountain bikes are not permitted on other DOC walking tracks.

Short Walks & Day Hikes



For a full list of walks and locations visit:
www.greatbarrier.co.nz/walks

South/Cape Barrier

Dolphin/Ross Bay Track |3 hours return|

Just 1km along Cape Barrier Road. Follow the track, which is steep in places, through the bush to a secluded Dolphin Bay. For Ross Bay take the right fork 25 minutes along the track. Great for snorkelling after a rocky descent.

Island Bay Track |1 hour return|

Follow the track along the ridgeline, for expansive views of the bay and to get up close to Motu Tohora -the tail of the Southern Right Whale, otherwise known as Rabbit Island.

Johnsons’ Bay/Ruahine Lookout |3-4 hours return|

Reach the end of Cape Barrier Road, park up and follow the marked track to Johnson’s Bay. The trail then heads up to the right winding up the mountain. It stops at a great view point. Note it is private land from there on. **Whalers Lookout** is 1 hour return from the car park. From this southernmost point on the Barrier, you’ll have a good chance of spotting Brydes Whales.

Station Rock Lookout |25 minute return|

Park at the top of Medland’s road. After a short steep walk to one of the island’s biggest peaks, you’ll be rewarded with stunning views of Tryphena and clear views of the rest of the island.

Kowhai Valley Track

|1-2 hours walking one way. 30 minutes by bike|

From the top of Rosalie Bay road this track is downhill most of the way to Medlands. Beware - it’s steep on a bike!

Whangaparapara/Okupu

Te Ahumata Track & Summit |2 hour return|

This track links Whangaparapara road and Blind Bay. Marvel at the species of orchid and extensive views from atop of the white cliffs. Branch off to the summit (extra 1 hour return)

Kaitoke Hot Springs Track |40 minutes one way|

Easy walk, starts 2.5km along Whangaparapara Rd. The track crosses a stream and follows the edge of the Kaitoke swamp to sulphurous hot springs where a series of natural pools are dammed. Stream water may be hot. Do not put your head under the water, because of the meningococcal risk.

Old Mill Site Track |1 hour return|

Cross the suspension bridge from Whangaparapara, turn south towards the harbour through the camping area to climb steeply to the ridge top. Descend and climb again before descending to the site of Kauri Timber Company Sawmill. At low tide you can walk around the shoreline to the old whaling station remains.

Tramline Track to Kauri Falls |45 minutes or 4-5 hour loop|

Part of an extensive network of tramlines from the kauri logging days. An easy walk for 45 minutes will lead you to the waterfall, beyond that the track is more challenging. For a loop head up the Tramline track south and turn right on Forest Road and back along Whangaparapara road.

Harpoon Hill |20 minute return|

Just up from Whangaparapara wharf is a loop connecting French Road to Harpoon Hill - you’ll be rewarded with harbour views

Iona Mine Track |40 minutes return|

Signposted halfway down Blind Bay Road, past Moana View Rd. Go up and it’s on the right, a few hundred metres above the Macmillan Road turn off. A well constructed track with a clamber over the creek and some down and uphill, although not steep. The mine shaft is open for about 10 metres and then closed off with a grill. Take a torch, the weta viewing is good.



North/Port FitzRoy

Harataonga Coastal Walkway |4-5 hours one way|

An easy walk with hardly any steep grades. Through regenerating forest. From Harataonga Campground head west across the stream before following the coastline. Finishes on Aotea Road at Okiwi.

Windy Canyon Lookout |25 minutes return|

Start at the summit of Whangapoua Hill and climb 100m through the andesitic rock bluffs of Windy Canyon to the central ridge. Extensive views of Okiwi and Kaitoke. Rare and endemic plants grow along the ridge.

HSS Wairarapa Graves |20 minutes return|

30 mins drive from Port FitzRoy. Take Mabey Road at Okiwi School, to the road end, follow signposts to the beach and then go left towards Tapuwai Point. The graves are on the left.

Bridle Track |20 minutes return|

Starts at Port FitzRoy with an exit at Akapoua near the campground or you can continue from this track onto the loop track which comes out at the Waterfall on Warrens Track, passing through a kauri grove and with views down upon the tree canopy as you walk.

Warren’s Track |1 hour return|

Gentle graded walk through a kauri plantation to a waterfall. Several deep pools, great for swimming. You can carry onto the loop track up the steps, which joins the Bridle track.

Old Lady Track |45 minutes|

This track links the harbour to FitzRoy Hill. A steep side track leads you to a lookout rock with impressive views over the harbour.

Glenfern Loop Track

This walk is inside Glenfern Sanctuary. Takes you along Aotea Stream, through regenerative bush and a 100m climb with expansive views of the Hauraki gulf.

Itinerary Ideas

For more itinerary ideas visit:
www.greatbarrier.co.nz

BEST OF BARRIER IN THREE DAYS



Day 1: Tryphena and Medland’s Beach

- Enjoy a coffee, brunch or lunch at Pa Beach Cafe.
- Take the morning to visit local artists (Trail on page 18).
- If you love a short hike with an incredible view, take half an hour to head up Station Rock track.

- Head to Medland’s beach for relaxing, mermaid pools, swimming and surfing.

- Have an early dinner topped off with a local beer at the global award winning Currach Irish Pub or local club in Claris or Tryphena.

- Book in for a tour with Good Heavens to be guided through our night skies



Day 2: Take the full day to explore.

- Rise early. Pick up a coffee and lunch from My Fat Puku or Baked on Barrier, and head North up the island. Check out these spots:

- Awana - Watch the surfers in the break, beware of the rip if you go for a swim!

- Harataonga - Worth the detour, enjoy the adventure down to this magical beach.

- Windy Canyon Lookout - A 15 minute walk and 360 degree views if you hike a little further from the top of the steps.

- Glenfern Sanctuary - Walk through protected peninsula with or without a guide.

- Pick up a Swallow Burger or grab a refill at Aotea Brewing and Asian fusion take-out from the Yumkai.



Day 3: Slow down and discover our history.

- Stop off at the Milk, Honey & Grain museum in Claris

- Head to Whangaparapara, take the Green gate entrance along the Old Mill track to take a step back in time to the days of industry.

- Enjoy a long lunch at Great Barrier Lodge overlooking picturesque Whangaparapara Harbour.

- One last stop on your return: take a spa, Barrier Style at Kaitoke Hotsprings

SIX DAY HIKES SOUTH TO NORTH

Day 1: Dolphin Bay. Cape Barrier Road - 3 hours return

Day 2: Kowhai Valley Track - 2-4 hours return

Day 3: Te Ahumata - 2-3 hours return

Day 4: Hirakimata Summit via Palmers Track - 3-4 hours return

Day 5: Harataonga Track - 4-5 hours return

Day 6: Warrens Track & Glenfern Guided loop track - 1 + 2 hours

EIGHT TOP GUIDED TOURS

Sap up stories and knowledge of the land & bush from local Benny, on a hike with Star Treks (page 16).



Immerse yourself in the island tales, culture & art on a group tour with Go Great Barrier Island. (page 17)

Meet the Queen bee on a apiary tour with beekeeper Nikki from Great Barrier Active Honey (page 17)

Discover the Broken Island’s on a sightseeing tour with Skipper Chris on the Sundancer (page 17).

Get solar charged on a brewery tour and tasting with Aotea Brewing (page 13).



Feel the sun on your face and wind through your hair on a trike tour with Steve (Go Great Barrier Island page 17).

Explore the ins and outs of the island with Norm & Fleur (page 9).

Restore and reconnect with nature on a wellbeing wander with nature bathing guide Vicky Kyan (Page 17).

Be the master of your own adventure and hire a solar powered Motubike from Seagar in Claris. (page 17).

Get lost in our dark skies with Hilde & Deb from Good Heavens on a group or private tour (page 7).

Ecology & Conservation

Isolated Island

As an isolated island in the Hauraki Gulf, many pests present on the mainland have not been able to establish themselves here. Some of the flora and fauna extinct on the mainland have been able to survive on the island. We have no possums, ferrets, weasels, stoats, hedgehogs, Norway rats, ferrel goats or freshwater pest fish. A lot of effort is put into managing ship rats, kiore rats, wild cats and protecting wildlife from dogs.

Aotea is home to many rare and endemic species, including the banded rail, black petrel, dotterel, North island kaka, kakariki and pateke brown teal ducks. Blue penguins, albatross and gannets can also seen off the coast.

Environmental Protection

There are many environmental protection and restoration projects around the island. Glenfern Sanctuary in Port FitzRoy has a 2km-long predator proof fence. It is the gateway to pest-free Kotuku peninsula. In this conservation precinct where native species can breed and flourish. Open daily to the public, the park is free and visitors can explore and experience some of Aotea’s most endangered species on the 2km loop track through pristine native bush. Historic Fitzroy House and Glenfern Cottage provide unique holiday accommodation in the park.

Local Vision

There are many other environmental groups on the island. They all play a part in the protection of our ecology. In Rosalie Bay, Tryphena, Windy Hill Sanctuary are working to increase the biodiversity and create a model for ecological restoration on private land. Great Barrier Island Environmental Trust work with the community to reduce feral cats and rats across the island, with the vision to bring back kokako to Aotea. The Ecology Vision also supports the community to protect, enrich and restore our island’s ecosystems.

Local Projects

Smaller localised projects such as the Oruawhoro Medlands Ecovision and Okiwi Community Ecology project are lead by locals and focus on reducing predatory pest numbers, improving breeding grounds for native birds and restoring waterways, sand-dunes and wetlands.

Okiwi Green and the Aotea Community Native Plant Nursery supply plants to properties and projects around the island, specialising in natives for reforestation, restoring waterways and creating an abundance of food for native birds.

Eco-sourcing plants grown from local seeds helps maintain the natural resistance of plants to pests and diseases. Buying plants locally is also a great way to reduce your carbon footprint.

Our Treasures/Taonga



PĀTEKE (Brown Teal). Endemic to NZ and the rarest waterfowl on the mainland. You’ll find them in several locations around the island foraging in estuaries and on the waters edge.



TŪTURIWHATU (NZ Dotterel). You will also find the smaller banded dotterel on Aotea along the shorelines and in the dunes of our many beautiful beaches.



MIOWEKA/KONINI (Banded Rail). Across NZ, banded rails are rarely seen, but on Aotea, they are very common and seen often. They are strong but reluctant flyers, curious and cute.



BANDED KŌKOPU (Native trout). A type of whitebait migratory galaxiid, found in small tributaries and need streamside plants to survive.

Threats to Wildlife



Feral Cats. Cats brought to the island on holiday disappear into the bush. There are an estimated 7000 feral cats on the island. Live capture traps are used across the island for feral cats. Ensure your cat is desexed, and microchipped or collared.



Rats. Rats prey on eggs, chicks, birds, lizards, frogs and plants. Aotea is home to the ship rat and the kiore rat. There are many rat control projects across the island.



Argentine Ants. Transported in cars and bags. With just one queen and five workers needed to create a colony, check your gear to stop new infestation of this invasive ant on the island.



Plague Skinks are expert stowaways, check your gear regularly to avoid these skinks from hitching a ride. Avoid placing goods that may attract skinks in vegetated areas.



Mediterranean Fanworm is a threat to native biodiversity, forming dense colonies, displacing native species and disrupting natural ecosystems. This marine pest fouls and spreads on hulls and niche areas of boats.

To learn more about our native treasures, get involved in conservation or to find out what events are happening on Aotea visit:

www.ecologyvision.co.nz



The Hauraki Gulf

Conservation doesn’t just stop at the shoreline. After 20 years of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, the Gulf is still in decline. Overfishing, sedimentation, invasive species, climate change and plastic pollution are taking their toll.

Weeds, pest animals and disease all threaten the special taonga of the Gulf. Trying to eradicate pests from islands and controlling them once they get there is a challenging job. We need your help to keep pests away, visit: pestfreehaurakigulf.org.nz



There are some things you can do as a visitor to help protect and restore the Hauraki Gulf:

- ✗ *Reduce your plastic waste and dispose of it responsibly*
- ✗ *When you explore our incredible beaches searching for treasures why not do a beach clean too*
- ✗ *Ensure you are familiar with recreational fishing rules and only catch what you need*
- ✗ *Prevent the spread of invasive marine pests like Mediterranean fanworm by checking your boat hull for pests and maintaining a clean hull. Remember to check holding tanks, pontoons and equipment including fishing and dive gear. Visit www.marinepests.nz to learn more*
- ✗ *Rather than bringing potted plants with you to Aotea, buy locally to help stop the transfer of unwanted pests and diseases to the island*
- ✗ *Check your boat, vehicle, kayak, camping and hiking gear etc. for stowaway pests, soil and seeds before you travel*



OKIWI GREEN



FOOD FOR THE BIRDS

Karamu, Cabbage Tree, Puriri, Lacebark, Manuka, Flax, Karaka, Karo, Kanuka, Mahoe, Kawakawa, Pigeonwood.

REFORESTATION

Manuka, Karaka, Kanuka, Taraire, Mahoe, Hebe, Puriri.

STURDY SPECIMENS FOR SALTY AREAS

Rengarenga, Astelia, Pohutukawa, Karamu, Manuka, Kohokohe, Nikau, Karo.

WATERWAYS AND WETLANDS

Flax, Cabbage Tree, Grasses & Sedges, Manuka, Kanuka, Puriri, Karamu.



GLENFERN

SANCTUARY & ACCOMODATION

Let’s get away.. to our own backyard
Go off-grid to chill, get active, and explore local trails. Tune into our native ecology and conservation work.
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Glenfern Regional Park is free for all visitors.

20 Glenfern Rd Port Fitzroy | 09 4290 091
info@glenfern.org.nz



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The Jetty

Tourist Lodge


Located 2kms from Port FitzRoy wharf in Kaiaaraa Bay. Tranquil setting for boating and swimming with walking tracks nearby. Self-contained cottage sleeps 6. Two chalets sleep 2 each. Vehicle and boat access to an all tide jetty.

Ph: +64 9 4290 050
thejettybarrier@gmail.com
www.thejetty.co.nz

Great Barrier Lodge Whangaparapara



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735 Whangaparapara Road ~ Ph: 09 429 0488
www.greatbarrierlodge.co.nz
info@greatbarrierlodge.co.nz




Caulerpa brachypus, an aggressive pest seaweed, has been found in Aotea Great Barrier Island waters.

This seaweed can form dense mats and smother our native species.

You can help

To stop it spreading, a rāhui and legal controls are in place in the affected areas.


If you're planning boating, fishing or diving at Aotea, check the rules at:
www.biosecurity.govt.nz/caulerpa



Report it at 0800 80 99 66

Ko Tātou. This is Us.

Information for Boaties



Important notice: Caulerpa brachypus, a pest seaweed has been found in the waters around the island. Please read the notice to the left and visit the biosecurity website for up to date information about the rāhui and legal controls in place. These can affect taking seafood, anchoring and fishing.



Marine Radio. VHF Channel 01

Great Barrier Marine Radio (GBMR) takes trip reports, provides local information, plane and ferry timetables etc. Liaison with police, health, rural fire and Department of Conservation. Marine weather bulletins rebroadcast each day at approximately 07:45 and 17:45.

Coverage from Aldermans to Tutukaka and out the back of Aotea/Great Barrier Island. Maintaining a listening watch on Channel 16 and monitoring Channel 01, 24/7 10:00pm - 07:00am. Emergency transmissions only.

Operating on solar power only. Carelessly stowed microphones can block the channel and cripple the system.


A non-profit organisation funded by membership subscription. Forms available Ph: 09 4290 281 or email emmygbmr@gmail.com or write to GBMR at Claris RD1, Aotea/Great Barrier Island.


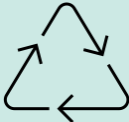
Fuel & Water*.

Whangaparapara Wharf
Port FitzRoy Wharf

*Water is subject to availability over summer



Dogs are prohibited on all DOC public conservation land and boaties should note that there are no beaches in the Port FitzRoy Harbour to exercise dogs. A list of dog exercise areas can be found on page 21.

Rubbish.

A pop up waste collection service is available at Port FitzRoy Wharf through the summer months. (22 Dec - 8 Feb), refer to www.makethemostofwaste.co.nz for days). Council rubbish bags can be purchased via EFTPOS and clean recycling can be dropped off for free.

There is no rubbish collection at the other wharves. You will need to purchase council rubbish bags from one of the local stores, dispose of it the Claris landfill or leave out for roadside collection with other household waste on a Monday (south of the island) and Tuesday (north of the island, including Okupu and Whangaparapara) prior to 8am.

For other information for boaties around Aotea/Great Barrier Island go to: www.greatbarrier.co.nz

Marine	
GBI Marine Radio	09 4290 281
Maritime Radio	VHF channel 16
Coastguard North Region	*500 or 111 or VHF channel 16
Auckland Harbour Master	09 362 0397
MarineMate App	

Boat Ramps

There are 7 designated boat ramps on the island - none are on the East Coast although it is possible to launch a boat into the estuary at Whangapoua at high tide. Wharves: Tryphena, Okupu (Blind Bay), Whangaparapara and Port FitzRoy

Medlands: Access by the DOC campground. Suitable in all tides.

Okupu: By the wharf and at the beach.

Whangaparapara: By the wharf.

North Barrier: Port FitzRoy wharf, Akapoua Bay, Karaka Bay, Whangapoua campground into the estuary at low tide only.

Tryphena:

Intersection of Schooner Bay Rd/Puriri Bay Road.

Intersection of Medlands Rd/Shoal Bay Rd, by the Community Hall.

Mulberry Grove by the school.

Shoal Bay Road opposite the Shoal Bay Pottery.


Boat Sewage

To discharge untreated sewage from a boat, you must be in water that is more than 5m deep, be more than 500m from shore, 500m from a marine farm, 200m from a marine reserve and not in Port FitzRoy, Nagle Cove or Tryphena Harbour. The [boat discharge rules app](#) provides your location in relation to the restrictions. For instructions, search 'Boat Sewage' at:

www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Pests

Check your boat, gear and equipment for pests e.g. ants and signs of pests before you travel to Aotea and between islands. Close your bags and use sealed containers. Store rubbish in bins with lids. Some pests can swim, so you should check again if you are going within 1km of an island. For more tips:



www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/environment/what-you-can-do-for-environment/Pages/visiting-hauraki-gulf-islands.aspx

Accommodation

The Barrier offers a great range of sustainable eco accommodation across the island. Find baches within a stones throw of the beach, or a cabin hidden deep within the pristine native bush. Accommodation is available in every corner of the island.

From boutique cabins to back to basic baches, award winning architectural masterpieces, backpackers and eco lodges perfect for group getaways, there are accommodation options for everyone.



Top Tip: For local accommodation advice and bookings visit: www.greatbarrier.co.nz or send an email to our visitor centre: info@dgbi.co.nz

Nikau Heights Kaka Cottage & Kereru Cottage

Two self-contained cottages in Tryphena. Kaka Cottage sleeps one couple. Kereru Cottage sleeps 6 people. Peaceful setting on a large block of regenerating native bush. Seaviews, close to the beach, shops.

T: 021 858 927 or 021 214 7157 E: nikauheights@gmail.com
www.holidayhouses.co.nz Ref: 21679 and 17975



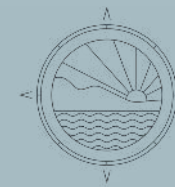
Bed & Breakfast. Our elevated situation commands panoramic views over Tryphena Harbour and beyond to Coromandel. Packages available.

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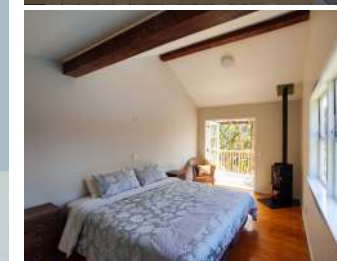
www.medlandsbeach.com
roberts@slingshot.co.nz





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027 4290 877
www.xspot.co.nz

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The Innkeeper's Lodge

Ph: 09 4290 211 or 021 1741 517

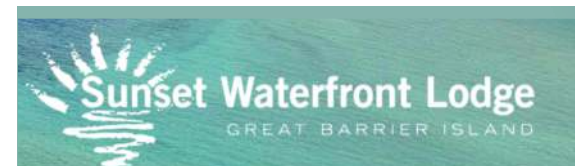




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Getting Here



By air or by sea, getting to Aotea Great Barrier Island is all part of the adventure.

For short weekend stays we recommend taking a short flight from Auckland and hiring a car. For longer stays a return boat trip or fly in, boat out are also great options.

Top Tip: Over the peak summer months and long weekends you will need to book far in advance.

FLIGHTS

Just a 30 minute journey on a 6-12 seater plane with a regular daily schedule. Depart Auckland International Airport, Domestic Terminal for Claris or Okiwi.

Barrier Air - Scheduled air services from/to Auckland Airport, Northshore, Aotea/Great Barrier Island, Whitianga and Kaitia. 0800 900 600 or 09 275 9120

Sunair - Scheduled services to Whangarei, Great Barrier incl. Okiwi Whitianga, Tauranga, Hamilton, Ardmore 0800 786 247

Air Auckland - Transfer, scenic and charter flights. 7 days a week, sunrise to sunset, unscheduled basis. 09 426 4276 or 0508 235 969

Auckland Seaplanes - Adventure trips and charter services to GBI from Auckland Harbour Aerodrome. 40 minutes door to door in a De Havilland Beaver Floatplane with seats for 6 adults. 09 390 1121

Heletranz - Base at Rosedale Rd, Albany and pads at Mechanics Bay, Auckland Airport and Waiheke Island for collection and drop off. 09 415 3550

Oceania Helicopters - 09 238 8676 or 027 494 2045 Charter flights from Mechanics Bay downtown Auckland, Ardmore Airfield, Auckland Airport, Drury. 09 415 3550

Helicopterme - Scenic flights, tours and charters 09 303 4354

BY BOAT

A relaxing four and a half hours from Auckland, or charter a boat for a shorter crossing.

SeaLink - Vehicular and passenger ferry departs Hamer Street in Auckland to Tryphena 0800 SEALINK (732 546) or 09 300 5900

Hauraki Express - Fishing charters from the Auckland area and water taxi service within the Hauraki Gulf. 027 664 6644

Nautilus Charters 027 2122 233

Hapuka Cottage

Clean and tidy 2 bedroom cottage, 3 minutes walk to Medlands Beach. Solar powered 240v power. Electric fridge/freezer, gas hot water, gas stove and oven. Small TV with Freeview. Large section with plenty of parking. www.holidayhouses.co.nz Property 22475

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W: www.sunair.co.nz
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Barrier Air is a 100% New Zealand owned and operated airline.

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Or book online: www.barrierair.kiwi

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GLENFERN SANCTUARY & ACCOMODATION



OPEN DAILY

10am-6pm (summer)

10am-4pm (winter)



There's something for everyone at Glenfern Sanctuary Regional Park

Come explore the north and discover our unique Sanctuary, the gateway to the predator fenced wilderness of the 240h Kotuku Peninsula. Here you can experience kaitiakitanga, guardianship and protection of the Island's native species and their habitats.

Breathe in the pristine sky, land, and sea. Walk our 2km loop track through the bush or take a tour. Hear incredible birdsong and learn about our mahi.

We also welcome you to stay at our beautifully restored historic homesteads, Fitzroy House or Glenfern Cottage.

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www.glenfern.org.nz