

Auckland to Whangarei: Attractions on the way



Here are some suggestions for stops or detours on the way from or to Auckland.



1. Before setting off enjoy a coffee at **Takapuna Beach**, visit the **factory outlets** for Icebreaker, Billabong and RipCurl in Rosedale (exit Greville Rd - left into Tawa Rd - left into Rosedale Rd - right into 7 Triton Drive) or the huge **Westfield Albany Shopping Mall** next to the North Harbour Stadium (also exit Greville Rd).
2. SH16 would take you close to wild **Muriwai Beach** with a rare mainland gannet colony in a spectacular setting with great observation platforms.
3. Before Orewa on the right side of the motorway there is an **indoor ski and go-kart centre**.
4. You can now take the **toll road** (pay at the rest stop or use our phone to pay by credit card) or the more **scenic drive** along the coast. **Orewa** itself has a long beach.
5. Relax in **Waiwera Thermal Park** or walk through beautiful rain forest up to the hill lookout in **Wenderholm Regional Park** with its nice beach.
6. The **Puhoi Historic Village** offers old buildings and a Bohemian museum.
7. At Warkworth you can visit a **giant Kauri tree** in Parry Kauri Park, next to the carpark of Warkworth Museum (the whole bush walk is very nice), drive to the beaches of the **Matakana Coast** (snorkel **Goat Island Reserve**) or visit the **Ransom Winery** next to SH1.
8. After Warkworth you can walk the **Dome Forest Walkway** to the summit and **Sheep World** offers fun for the whole family. See the **Maori Cultural Centre** in Te Hana with hourly tours.
9. Turn off towards Dargaville to see the **Matakoho Kauri Museum**. Find out about how the early settlers of New Zealand logged the mighty Kauri trees of Northland and see how big they were. To the west of Dargaville **Baylys Beach** with 110kms of pure wide sand. Before Whangarei stop at the **Kiwi House & Whangarei Museum**, to visit the grounds is free.
10. Or take the scenic detour to **Langs Beach, Waipu Cove and Mangawhai Heads**, a beautiful coast line with the **Mangawhai Cliff Walk**. On the way back to SH1 stop at the **Scottish Settler's Museum** in Waipu.
11. The long **Ruakaka beach** with a view to the Whangarei Heads is worth a short stop, or take a stroll along the **Uretiti Beach Reserve**.
12. Just before Whangarei on the left is the **Longview Estate Winery**.

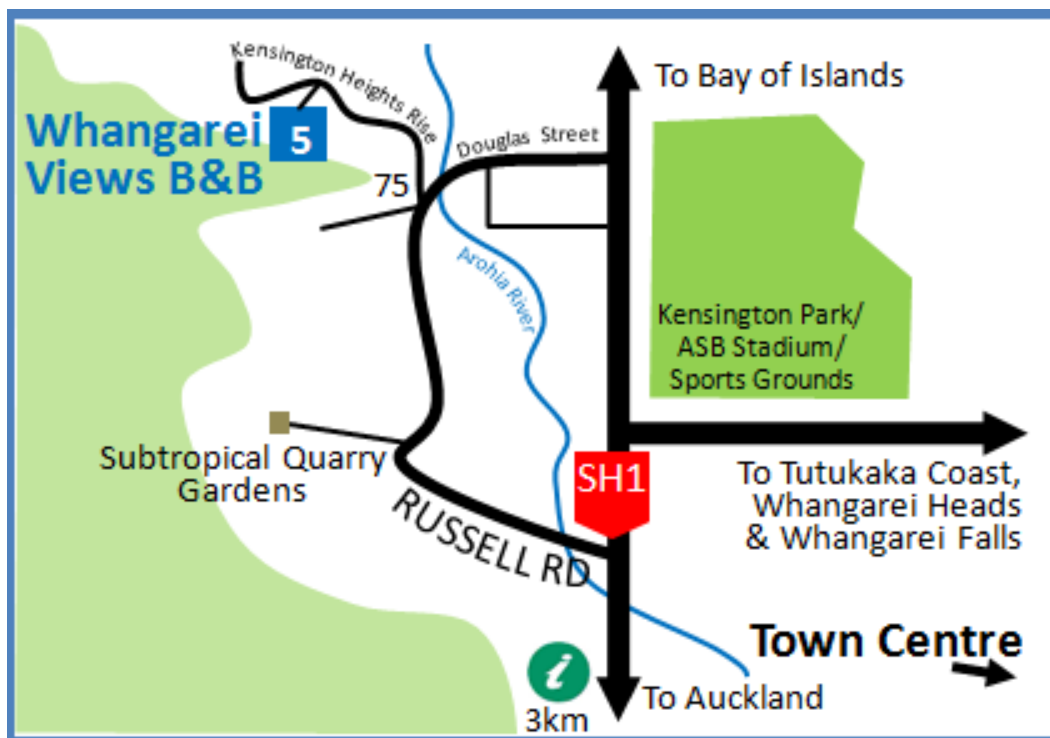
After entering Whangarei continue north on **State Highway 1**, past the i-SITE information centre on the left and past the turn off for Town Centre and Town Basin on the right. After 3kms and 3 traffic lights turn left into **Russell Road** at the brown sign for the “**Subtropical Quarry Garden**”.

Follow Russell Road almost to the end, just before you cross a bridge is our driveway **Kensington Heights Rise**, to the right side of the hill (it says 'Private Access').



We are **number 5**, the third house up on the left.

This is a view of our own drive.



Toll road info:

If you take the Northern Gateway Tollroad between Orewa and Puhoi then you can either pay by phone (0800 40 20 20 - fee applies), online (www.tollroad.govt.nz) or at a self-service kiosk:

- Going north - inside the BP Connect service station at Dairy Flat
- Going south - just off State Highway 1, about 1km before the Waiwera exit

Keep your registration plate number handy. Cars are \$2.20 per trip (+ 0.40\$ at kiosks) with 5 days allowed for payment, the toll road reduces travel time by 15mins but is less scenic than the coast.