



View of front veranda



View from back veranda



Bedroom 1



Kitchen



Bedroom 2

## Accommodation Option 2 Āwhitu Regional Park

### Context

Āwhitu Regional Park is situated on the southwestern shores of the Manukau Harbour.

The park has two tranquil bays, sandy beaches (Kauritūtahi Beach and Brook Beach), heritage buildings, archeological sites and 115 hectares of rolling farmland. Visitors love to come here for swimming, walking, picnicking, mountain biking, boating and horse riding.

Wetlands have been rehabilitated behind the beach and along with the salt marsh, intertidal areas and adjacent creeks, they provide wonderful habitats for birds, including the rare fernbird (mātātā) and banded rail (moho pererū).

The traditional name for the park's location was Kauritūtahi, so named for the single kauri tree which stood on the small islet visible from the park. The Ngāti Te Ata and Ngāti Kahukoka people originally occupied the Āwhitu Peninsula. Their descendants still maintain strong links to this place.

English immigrants John and Sarah Brook built the Brook homestead in 1878 and it remains a feature of the park. The family added the bach in front of the homestead in 1907 and the iconic jetty was also built by the Brook family. Basic supplies and visitors arrived via the jetty and kauri timber and farm products were shipped out from here. In 1971, John Brook's grandson Fred sold his land to the ARC.

Current conservation programmes on the park aim to reduce erosion, extend sustainable farming practices, control weeds, enhance forest remnants, enrich habitats for native fauna and limit kauri dieback.

### Āwhitu House

Āwhitu House, now used as a bach, was built in the 1930s and was used as a farmhouse and then as a ranger's lodge until 2007. The house is 5 minutes from the beach.

### Bach facilities

- French doors open out to verandas with glorious views
- Open plan kitchen, dining
- Lounge area – sofa and two armchairs
- Dining room – table & chairs sits 4
- Kitchen – fridge/freezer, oven, kettle, toaster, microwave, crockery and cutlery
- Bedroom 1 – queen bed
- Bedroom 2 – 2 single beds with 2 trundle beds
- Bedroom 3 – 2 single beds
- Bathroom – bath and toilet. Shower in laundry
- Fireplace for heating living room, electric column heaters provided
- Water supply - treated bore water
- Phone coverage within the bach is reliable but is patchy across the park
- No wi-fi.

### Workspace

There is a carport behind the bach that could be used as a basic workspace.

### Facilities and supplies

- Waiuku is the closest town for stocking up on supplies.
- Waiuku has a small local museum - useful for any research-related projects.
- A campground (distant from the bach) enables visitors to stay on and explore the park.

### Need to know

- No pets or animals of any kind are allowed at the bach or on the parkland.
- No smoking – our regional parks are smoke free.
- Āwhitu Regional Park has kauri-dieback disease. The artist will be required to follow strict protocols to reduce risk to kauri.