



Ambury foreshore.

## How to get there

Ambury Regional Park is just 15km (20 minute drive) from downtown Auckland. Take the motorway to the airport (SH20), take exit 12 for Mahunga Drive. Turn right over the motorway towards Mangere Bridge Village and go straight ahead along Rimu Road, Church Road and Wallace Road. Turn right onto Muir Avenue and then left onto Ambury Road. The main park entrance is at the end of Ambury Road.

### For public transport information:

Phone Auckland Transport **09 366 6400** or visit [at.govt.nz](http://at.govt.nz)

## Please take your rubbish home

Your parks provide open space, fresh air, a home for native plants and animals, clean water, beauty and inspiration. Help keep them this way.

- No bins • No rubbish • Better parks • 

## Dogs

For the protection of wildlife and farm animals, dogs are prohibited from all areas of the park except for Loop Road. Dogs on a leash are welcome on Loop Road (from below Bull paddocks up to Kiwi Esplanade).

For detailed information visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or phone Auckland Council on **09 301 0101**.

## Ambury Regional Park

Nestled on the shore of the Manukau Harbour, Ambury Regional Park is a working farm, an important education centre and a birdwatcher's paradise- all just 15km from downtown Auckland.

The park has an interesting volcanic history, located on ash-covered lava flows from Te Pane o Mataoho with views across the harbour to the Manukau Heads and Waitakere Ranges. It takes its name from the Ambury Milk Company, which milked cows and ran a town milk supply here from 1893 to 1965.

Feel free to wander through the park, but please leave gates as you find them.

## Plants and animals

The farm animals at Ambury are family favourites. You will see sheep, goats, cows, pigs, pet lambs (in spring), chickens, turkeys, rabbits, peacocks and horses. Grassy lanes between the animal enclosures help you get up close to the animals. Feel free to mingle with all the animals (except during lambing in late July and August). Orphan lamb feeding is available between August and September. Contact Auckland Council or check out Ambury Regional Park's web page for more details on specific times and days. Between the months of July and December, dairy cows are milked once a day at 9.45am. This milk is used to feed the calves and pigs.

Keen bird watchers have identified more than 80 species of birds around Ambury Regional Park. Many of these are wading birds that roost in their thousands around the coastal foreshore of the park and on nearby islands. During big autumn tides there can be up to 20,000 birds, which have migrated from the South Island and the Arctic, in the air at once. Look out for godwits, knots, pied oystercatchers and wrybills. Pied, black and little shags along with white-faced herons are also common around the rocky parts of the coast and small shelly beaches.

## History

To the east of the park is Te Pane o Mataoho/ Te Ara Pueru (Māngere Mountain), once the site of a large fortified Māori pā. The area now known as Ambury Regional Park was used by Māori for gardening. Māngere Mountain erupted approximately 18,000 years ago and the park sits on a lava field made fertile by ash from the volcano. The area also provided easy access to seafood (kaimoana) and canoe launching sites for the various iwi (including Wai-o-Hua and Ngāti Whātua) who lived in and around the pā.



## Auckland Council manages 28 regional parks

For more information on any of these parks: phone **09 301 0101** or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

### Ranger contact details

To contact a park ranger use the park phone in the information stable. If using a mobile phone, call **09 301 0101**.

The park and Ōtuataua Stonefields to the south are the only places in Auckland where Māori stone structures remain on public land. Stone mounds at Ambury mark pre-European gardening sites.

The dry stone walls bordering the park entrance date from the mid-1800s, when farmers from Cornwall and Scotland built them.

You can also see the remains of a windmill and wells that were part of the Ambury Milk Company.

## Volunteering

We would love to have your help with work in regional parks. Age and physical ability is no barrier as there are tasks and projects to suit all individuals and groups.

Ambury has a large group of volunteers that help look after the animals and with pest control when the dotterels are nesting on the foreshore.

For more information on volunteering: phone 09 301 0101 or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

## Ambury education programmes

Every year, the education programmes at Ambury Regional Park give thousands of Auckland school children a taste of life on a working farm. Children participate in spinning wool, making butter, and watching sheep shearing and cow milking. The programmes include a range of topics in areas such as science, technology and social sciences. There is also opportunities for pre-school aged children and other groups to enjoy and learn more about the farm by booking a discovery walk with one of our rangers.

For more information on our education programmes: phone **09 301 0101**, email [ambury.schoolbookings@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:ambury.schoolbookings@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

## Ambury Farm Day

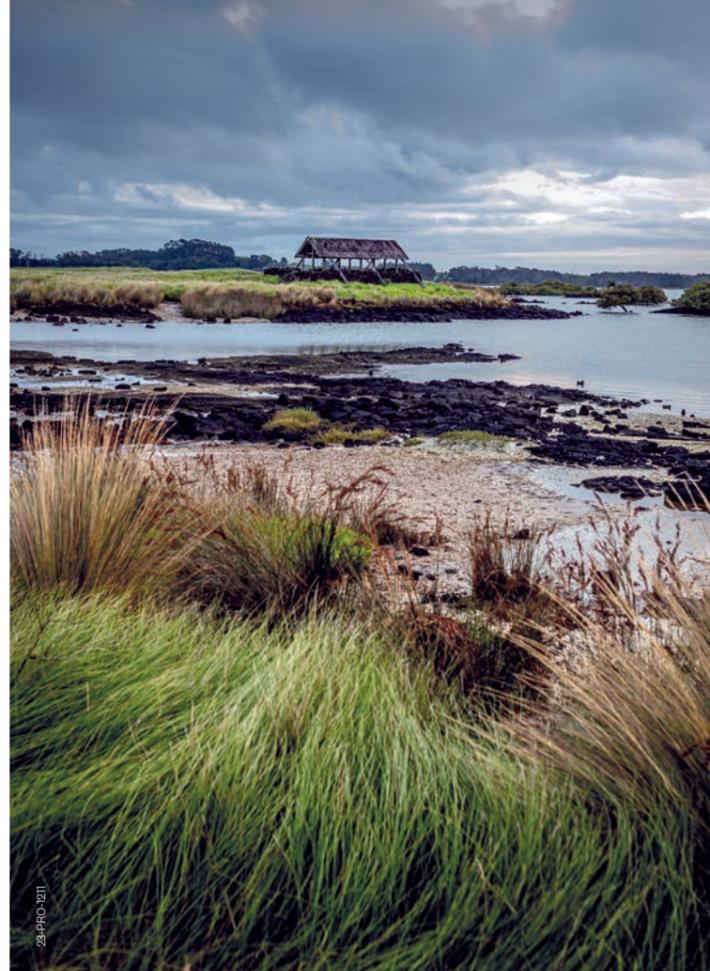
Ambury farm day is a long-standing free family fun day held at Ambury. It's a day filled with farming and recreation displays, demonstrations and activities including wood chopping, sheep shearing, butter and felt making, farm animal petting and feeding, and lots of other entertainment.



Events at Ambury.

# Ambury Regional Park

Recipient of the Green Flag and Large Urban Park Silver Award 2020.



28-11-10-101

Visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or call **09 301 0101** for more information.



Ambury Regional Park is also home to both the Ambury Park Centre for Riding Therapy and the Māngere Pony Club.

## Park facilities

### Prime picnic spots (Ambury bookable site 1)

Find your own favourite spot and picnic with friends and family. There is a large picnic site that groups can book. Please do not bring your own solid fuel BBQs due to the fire risk of disposing of the hot embers. This includes but is not limited to wood fire, coal and pellet BBQs.

### Campground

Ambury has an all modes campground with toilets and water nearby. In winter when the ground conditions get too boggy for tents, the campground remains open with 10 hardstands serving Certified Self-Contained (CSC) vehicles.

Please don't forget to book online before arrival, however specific sites are on a first-come first-served basis.

### Bookable facilities

Ambury has a class-room-sized space set up with tables, chairs, running water and power. Ideal for children's parties this space can host up to 30 people, is located near the animal area and available on weekends or during the holiday periods.

For more information and booking of these facilities phone **09 301 0101** or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



Enjoying Ambury sheepyards.

## Feature walks

### Family Farm Walk - - -

**45 minutes return, 1km**

This is a great walk for the whole family. From the car park head toward the woolshed and milking shed. Wander through the grassy lanes between the animal enclosures and take your time getting to know the animals. There is pushchair and wheelchair access. Please leave the gates as you find them.

### Foreshore Walk - - -

**45 minutes return, 2km**

From the far end of the main car park this easy (but often windswept) track is great for an evening or winter walk to blow away the cobwebs. Follow the yellow markers and discover the local history of the area through information panels along the way. This track will take you across open pasture and areas of regenerating native vegetation, to the foreshore, where birds roost on the rocks and on the small shelly beaches, and gather food from the mud flats at low tide. There are plenty of lookout points along the way.

### Lost Gardens Walk - - -

**30 minutes, 1km from woolshed**

From the woolshed, follow the marker posts through the paddocks towards Kiekie Road to the Lost Gardens to see remnants of Māori stone mounds, once used for gardening. This walk links into the WaterCare Coastal Walkway to Ōtuataua Stonefields Historic Reserve.

## Cycling

### Ambury mountain biking

**15 minutes, 2.5km**

Mountain biking is allowed on open farmland and on some of the shared tracks such as the Lost Gardens Walk and Watercare Coastal Walkway. Restrictions may apply. Ambury is a great starting point for connecting into a number of the cycle trails within South Auckland. Head south-west along the Watercare Coastal Walkway to the Ōtuataua Stonefields or meander northeast along Kiwi Esplanade and over Ngā Hau Māngere to explore Onehunga and beyond. Check out [at.govt.nz](http://at.govt.nz) for more information or download the cycle trail maps

## Be safe in regional parks

### The water safety code

1. Be prepared.
2. Watch out for yourself and others.
3. Be aware of the dangers.
4. Know your limits.

### Land safety code

1. Choose the right trip for you.
2. Understand the weather.
3. Pack warm clothes and extra food.
4. Share your plans and take ways to get help.
5. Take care of yourself and each other.

## Stop kauri dieback

[kauridieback.co.nz](http://kauridieback.co.nz)

A disease known as kauri dieback (Phytophthora taxon Agathis), which is threatening the survival of kauri trees, has been identified in the Waitākere Ranges. Help prevent the spread of kauri dieback by keeping to defined tracks and cleaning footwear before and after your visit.



Kauri trees.



### Key

- Barbecue
- Camping
- Certified Self-Contained (CSC) vehicle car park
- Information
- Lookout
- Parking
- Phone to contact ranger
- Mountain biking
- Toilets
- Walking
- Gate
- Wool shed
- Milking shed
- Historic site
- Significant ecological area
- Disabled access
- Picnic area
- No cars
- No dogs
- Dogs allowed on leash
- Roads
- Parkland
- Campground
- Bush
- Non parkland
- Streams

## Ranger recommendations

**Tips on how to make the most of your visit to Ambury Regional Park.**

### If you have two hours...

Visit the friendly farm animals any time of year, and in Spring they will have their babies.

### If you have half a day...

Take in all the sites of Ambury Regional Park by taking on the Kiwi Guardian challenge. Great for kids of all ages and the perfect way to explore the full extent of what the park has to offer.

To find out more about the Kiwi Guardian challenge, visit: [doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/toyota-kiwi-guardians/all-sites/north-island/ambury-regional-park/](http://doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/toyota-kiwi-guardians/all-sites/north-island/ambury-regional-park/)

### If you have a full day...

You'll have time to explore the park and picnic or barbecue at your leisure. While you're in the area why not visit Te Pane O Mataoho or the WaterCare Coastal Walkway to the Ōtuataua Stonefields Historic Reserve.