

# Duder Regional Park



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



## Campgrounds

### Te Wharau (Malua Bay) Campground

Te Wharau/ Malua Bay Campground is one of the overnight options that make up the Te Ara Moana kayak trail. This remote camp site is only accessible by kayak or foot and those wanting to book must carry all equipment in and rubbish out.

Campers have access to the wider park track network by heading south along the coast for 5 minutes and picking up the Karaka Trail as it heads up to the ridge via Mangeao Valley.

Please take care when using cooking equipment and be sure to clear space away from long grass and flammable materials.

Open fires are not permitted at any time within Regional Parks.

## Staying overnight in selected car parks

Duder has Certified Self-Contained (CSC) campervan sites for up to 5 CSC campervans in the car park, at the end of the main entrance to Duder Regional Park.

## Other accommodation

Te Kuiti Cottage (max. capacity four) and Te Whetuki House (max. capacity six) are both old farm houses located on the stunning Umupuia Beach. Nestled on the coastal side of Duder Regional Park these facilities offer visitors a unique opportunity to get away and explore the whole Park and the surrounding area over multiple days. For more details check out the Auckland Council website.

## Bookings

There is no freedom camping allowed in regional parks. For camping or bach information and bookings phone **09 301 0101** or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](https://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz). This must be booked and paid for online.



Te Whetuki House.

## Duder Regional Park

Duder Regional Park is located on the pōhutukawa-fringed Whakakaiwhara Peninsula, which extends out into the Tāmaki Strait. Visitors may feel like they are on their own island as they enjoy the 360-degree views extending to the Brookby/Maraetai hills, the Hunua Ranges and Hauraki Gulf islands.



View towards Whakakaiwhara Pā.

## Plants and animals

While much of the park is pasture, mature pohutakawa grow along the coast and remnant forest within the gullies. Native planting continues to extend bush cover throughout the park. Common species you may see around Duder include taraire, tawa, kanuka, puriri and karaka with the occasional remaining kauri.

Resident native birds include silvereye (tauhou), kererū, morepork (rūrū), tūi, fantail (pīwakawaka), grey warbler (riroriro) and kingfisher (kōtare).

Inter-tidal mudflats around the park are important feeding and roosting areas for shore and wading birds such as pied shag (kāruhiruhi), white-faced heron, oystercatcher (tōrea), pied stilt (poaka), godwit (kūaka) and gulls (tarāpunga).

Small numbers of tūturi whatu, the New Zealand dotterel, breed on beaches around the park including the shell banks south of the park. There are only about 2000 of these birds in the world. The southern shell banks are not accessible to the public.



Duder Regional Park.

## How to get there

The main park entrance to Duder Regional Park is located at 933R North Road, Clevedon. This is 10km from the Clevedon Village or 5km from Maraetai.

Bach users will need to use the shared drive off Maraetai Coast Road where it intersects with North Road.

For public transport information: phone Auckland Transport on **09 366 6400** or visit [at.govt.nz](https://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 •

## History

In the 14th century, this was the first place in the Waitemata Harbour to be visited by the Tainui canoe. Its crew went ashore and harvested forest foods, which led to the peninsula's name – Whaka-kai-whara meaning 'to eat the bracts of the kiekie vine'.

Some of the descendants of the crew settled in the area and became known as Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. They lived on the peninsula until the 1860s, taking advantage of its abundant food resources (including seasonal shark fishing) and its strategic location near the Wairoa River mouth.

Ngāi Tai's affiliation to the land is reflected in the many archaeological sites on and near the park. The most significant of these are Whakakaiwhara Pā at the tip of the peninsula and Oue Pā several kilometres to the south, which can be seen from the park.

The kauri forest on the peninsula was logged in the 1850s. In 1866 the Duder family began its association with the area when Thomas Duder, a survivor of the HMS Buffalo wreck (1840), bought the 243-hectare property from Ngāi Tai. His descendants farmed the property until it was sold to the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) and became a regional park in 1995.

## 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.

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

## Park facilities

### Prime picnic spots

You can find your own favourite spot and picnic with friends and family any time at Duder Regional Park. 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.



View over the regional park.



## Auckland Council manages 28 regional parks

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

## Ranger contact details

To contact a park ranger for any concerns or issues relating to Duder Regional Park, please call Auckland Council on **09 301 0101** to discuss the situation.



Feature walks

Whakakaiwhara / Duder Regional Park is rich with beaches, history, trees and views and while you are welcome to walk freely through the paddocks and along the coastline, the following waymarked tracks are a good way to start your exploring.

Duder Farm Loop 4.2.km, 1 hour – 1.5 hours return

A good introduction for first time visitors to experience walking through gently rolling farmland with sheep and cows close by. Follow the red waymarker poles for amazing views. There are no steep hills or steps, so this is also the best circular loop for cyclists, horse riders and robust push chairs.

Kowhai Loop 3.5km, 1 hr return

Follow the yellow poles straight up the steep hill you can see from the car park. It is a challenge to start with but your efforts will be rewarded with great views and then its downhill all the way back, much of it in the quiet coolness of Shady Gully – the only running stream in the park.

Whakakaiwhara Pā

2.6km, 1 hr return off the Duder Farm Loop or 5.5km , 2.5- 3hrs hrs return from the car park

Halfway round the Duder Farm Loop the blue poles branch off and lead visitors east out to the end of the Whakakaiwhara peninsula to an old Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki pā site. Here the extensive views over the Hauraki Gulf and into the Firth of Thames reinforce why this was such a good position for a defensive settlement; look closely and you will see the remains of the trenches that surrounded the pā, protecting if from invasion.

Karaka Trail 3.1km one way, 1 hour

From the car park follow the main road, opposite the entrance to Shady Gully, orange way-markers lead off to your right taking you along the south coast on Karaka trail. You will pass several lovely beaches, including Te Wharau beach where there is a basic campground for sea kayakers, and a toilet for those in need. Carry on along the beach for a couple a few minutes, keeping a keen eye out for the orange pole showing you where to start your trip back inland, up through Mangeao Valley and onto the ridge by the Eastern Red Barn. From there the orange poles continue out to the Pā, or, you can head back to the car park via the blue and then red poles.

Tawa Link

1.3km, 25 minutes from Mangeao Valley to Shady Gully

This route links Shady Gully with Mangeao Valley and so by combining it with Shady Gully ( yellow ) and Karaka Trail (orange) you have a circular walk with the most shade in the park – perfect for a hot summer’s day.

Horse Riding

Horse riding is permitted across the farm paddocks around the Farm Loop, when ground conditions allow (seasonal closures apply). Parking for floats is available on the grass around the toilets and access is through the old stockyards to the left of the main car park. Riders must have a current regional parks horse riding permit to obtain the code. This permit is free and applications can be found on the Auckland Councils website.

Cycling

Cyclists are allowed on the Farm Loop and in the paddocks. They are not allowed on the bush tracks, namely Shady Gully, Mangeao Valley and Karaka Trail or past the last gate out to the pā site at the end of the peninsula..

Stop kauri dieback

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 within bush areas and cleaning footwear before and after your visit and using kauri dieback disease hygiene stations when you come across them.

Dogs

Dogs are prohibited from Duder Regional Park and adjoining foreshore areas at all times. For detailed information phone Auckland Council on 09 301 0101 or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Ranger recommendations

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

If you have two hours...

Duder is known for its tranquillity and views. You will get a sense of escape and a feel for this place with a stroll or ride around the Farm Loop.

If you have half a day...

Take the time to head out to the end of the peninsula to Whakaauiwhara Pā, a defensive settlement built by Ngai Tai ki Tamaki from stone tools.

Enjoy the sense of being on your own island as you look out at the Firth of Thames towards the Coromandel and Great Barrier Island/ Aotea.

If you have a full day...

As well as visiting the high areas of the park and the fabulous views, if time allows you have the opportunity to explore the rocky shore and

see the abundant wading birds feeding on the tidal flats around the park at low tide. Please avoid disturbing the birds. Alternatively take the time to link up to Shady Gully or Karaka trail to enjoy the shade offered by the mature bush and delight in the wildlife to be found here.

For something different try orienteering on the park’s permanent orienteering course. If you have never tried orienteering before, this is a great chance to do so and enjoy the brilliant views from the park at the same time. Pick up your free orienteering map from the information board or download in advance from aucklandcouncil.govt.nz