



Ōmana Regional Park

### How to get there

Turn off State Highway 1 at Highbrook Drive and veer left. Continue onto Allens Road and turn left at Te Irirangi Drive. Turn right into Ti Rakau Drive at Botany Town Centre then left into Chapel Road. Turn right at the next roundabout (1.6km) onto Whitford Road.

Travel straight through the next two roundabouts (5.6km). Continue through Whitford roundabout and follow Whitford-Maraetai road (10km). The park is on the left just before you enter the township.

For public transport information: phone Auckland Transport **09 366 6400** or visit **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

Dogs are allowed on a leash in the arrival area, and on the Beachlands to Maraetai walk/cycle way.

Dogs are allowed off leash on the Perimeter Walk and associated foreshore (excluding Ōmana Beach).

Dogs are prohibited in all other areas of the park.

Note: Temporary restrictions may apply during seasonal farming operations (lambing and calving) under Clause 10 of the Dog Management Bylaw.

## Ōmana Regional Park

Ōmana Regional Park lies on a gently contoured hill from which visitors can enjoy expansive views of the inner Hauraki Gulf.

Located south-east of Auckland city, between Beachlands and Maraetai, Ōmana is an ideal family park with a shelly beach offering safe swimming at high tide, a playground, picnic areas and barbecues. This area of the coast is linked by the Beachlands-Maraetai Walkway, with cafes and restaurants and a sealed all-weather pathway.

### Māori Heritage

The park has an intriguing name which is a shorthand version of Ō-Manawatore (‘the dwelling place of Manawatore’) a Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki pā site in the park. Ngāi Tai tradition records that this ancestor travelled from the Pacific homeland not by canoe, but by ‘gliding over the waves on a Taniwha’.

The Ōmana playground has a Māori theme and features impressive pou (carved poles).

### Plants and animals

As well as the large grassy areas and farmland, you will find areas of regenerating native forest. Trees such as tānekaha, pūriri, taraire, rewarewa, māpou, kōwhai and kahikatea are flourishing here. The forest is home to native birds such as fantails (piwakawaka), grey warblers (riro riro), tūi and native pigeon (kererū). North Island dotteral can often be found nesting along the foreshore, please take care when walking around these areas in spring and summer, to not disturb their nests and fledging chicks.

Pūkeko, spur-winged plover and paradise shelducks (pūtangitangi) roam around the farmed area of the park. Look out for South Island pied oystercatchers (tōrea), pied shags (kawau tikitiki) and kingfishers (kōtare) on the foreshore and on the pōhutukawa-fringed cliffs. Below the Waitemata sandstone cliffs, a large rock platform stretches into the sea.



Views of the Hauraki Gulf.



## Auckland Council manages 28 regional parks

For more information on any of these parks: **phone 09 301 0101** or visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz**

### 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**

Explore this at low tide to discover barnacles, sea anemones, small black mussels, tubeworms, chitons, snails, Neptune’s necklace seaweed and sharp-shelled Pacific oysters.

Two boardwalks cross the mangroves (manawa) and salt marshes of Te Puru Creek, which form the park’s southern boundary.

### History

Ngāi Tai Tāmaki lived here for many generations, and built the Ō-Manawatore Pā. The pā is a small rectangular area on the cliff edge with a defensive ring-ditch around the three inland sides.

Ngāi Tai and members of other Hauraki tribes lived on the land when it was part of William Fairburn’s Maraetai Mission Station which included a small school for Māori from 1837-1842.

Ōmana was one of the region’s first farms, developed from 1837 as part of the mission farm. As with the surrounding district, the forest was felled for timber, the area was dug for kauri gum and even prospected for gold and silver. The land continued to be farmed from 1837 until 1970, when the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) purchased it for use as a regional park.

### Park facilities

#### Prime picnic spots

Find your own favourite spot and picnic with friends and family anytime at Ōmana Regional Park or use the free gas barbecues provided. Four of these sit on bookable sites, allowing groups to book in advance.

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.

Drinking water is available at the park. No open fires permitted.

Ōmana is also popular for group picnics and has bookable picnic sites suitable for large groups. Large groups must book.

For bookings or more information phone Auckland Council



Ō-Manawatore welcome visitors to the playground.

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Visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz** or call **09 301 0101** for more information.



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### Campground

#### Cliff Top Campground

The large campground is family friendly as well as ideal for larger group gatherings. However, please remember to call and talk to us should you wish to exceed the permitted group size. Campers may also bring a smaller trailer boat which can be launched at the boat ramp just down the road.

CSC vehicles can camp throughout the year for up to seven consecutive nights. Overnight parking is also available for CSC vehicles in the main arrival car park. Conditions apply.

CSC campervans, vehicle units and caravans, can stay overnight for a maximum of one night when the campground opens, and two nights when it’s closed. Conditions apply.

For camping or bach information and bookings, phone **09 301 0101** or visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz**

### Education

Ōmana offers ranger-led education programmes, ranger discovery walks and orphan lamb feeding (between Aug-Sept). **southernsectorevents@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz** for more information.

### Farm animals

Ōmana has sheep and some friendly goats to come and see. You may also be lucky to occasionally see our park ranger moving our sheep flocks with their farm dogs.



Ōmana Regional Park Playground

Feature walks

Lookout Walk - - -

**10 minutes, 600m**  
Starting at the cattlegird near the main toilets, the Lookout Walk is a short climb to discover extensive views across the Tāmaki Strait with stunning views through to many of the gulf islands.

Perimeter Walk - - -

**1 hour, 2.5km**  
This walk features native forest, tidal estuaries with life-giving mangroves (manawa), open paddocks, coastal views, shady pōhutukawa and a Māori pā site. This easy, one-hour walk around the park has it all. Take the short detour to the lookout and you will be rewarded with expansive views to Waiheke Island and the inner Hauraki Gulf.

Ōmana Farm Walk - - -

**15 minutes, 600m**  
The Ōmana Farm Walk provides an interesting diversion from the Perimeter Walk in the south-west of the park. It is a gentle stroll across a picture-postcard rural setting, rejoining the Perimeter Walk at either end.

The Beachlands-Maraetai Walkway - - -

**1 hour 30 minutes, 6km**  
This is a coastal walkway and cycle path that can be started at either end of the walkway, at Maraetai Park (off Maraetai Drive) or from the end of Second View Ave in Beachlands. You can access the walkway from Ōmana Esplanade Reserve, Ōmana Regional Park or Te Puru Park.

Sea kayaking

You can launch your kayak from the beach or boat ramp at Ōmana Esplanade. Kayaking is best at high tide.  
  
Ōmana is part of Te Ara Moana - ‘the sea-going pathway’. This is a self-guided five-day sea kayak tour along approximately 51km of Auckland’s picturesque south eastern coastline, connecting five of Auckland’s charming Regional Parks.

To find out more check out [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/parks-recreation/get-outdoors/coastal-marine/Pages/te-aro-moana.aspx](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/parks-recreation/get-outdoors/coastal-marine/Pages/te-aro-moana.aspx)

Ranger recommendations

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

If you have two hours...

Be sure to take in the view from the lookout. Depending on the tide, go swimming at the beach (one hour either side of high tide) or explore the fascinating rock pools below the cliffs.

If you have half a day...

Ōmana is the ideal place to take the family for a picnic or barbecue and games on the large flat grass areas. There is even a playground for the kids.

If you have a full day...

A full day gives you a chance to take in all aspects of the park by adding the Perimeter Walk to the activities mentioned above. If you have time to spare, the park’s coastal location lends itself to fishing or kayaking. Or if you really want to get away from it all, consider a visit to Duder Regional Park just a 10-minute drive away.

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.

Ranger contact details

To contact a park ranger use the phone at the information board just inside the park entrance and follow the instructions. If using a mobile phone call **09 301 0101**.

