

Horowhenua

Foxton and the Beach

Places to walk and cycle



Enjoy our walkways and cycleways

Foxton and Foxton Beach offer a variety of walkways and cycleways for residents and visitors to enjoy.

These maps and accompanying information will help you decide on which ones to do and in what order.

In Foxton, the routes include urban footpaths and tracks through reserves, as well as a boardwalk along part of the Manawatu River Loop. Also of interest is the Foxton Historic Walk with numerous landmarks and features that celebrate the town's rich history as the first town established in the Manawatu.

At Foxton Beach the routes are a mix of urban pathways and gentle tracks through dunes and grasslands. Along the way there are many spots to take in sights and features of the coastal reserves and Manawatu River Estuary.

The coastal reserves are important environments and home to over 20 threatened species of birds (one of the most diverse ranges of birds to be found in any one place) as well as fish and plants.

Foxton Beach also has one of the most active prograding sand dune-fields in New Zealand and one of the largest parabolic dune systems in the southern hemisphere. These provide a natural buffer between land and sea, and are a changing and dynamic environment.



Our dunes are unique and precious

The fragile plants that hold our sand dunes together are easily destroyed by vehicles, motorbikes, horse riding, and even walking.

These activities can cause sand to erode and kill the native plants that keep the dunes stable such as spinifex and pingao. This has severe consequences for the dunes themselves.

When plant cover is lost, the dunes become more vulnerable to wind erosion, wind funnels and 'blow outs' where the dune collapses and sand is blown inland. When sand blows inland it causes problems by burying access roads, car parks, farmland, gardens and encroaching into residents' homes and properties.

It is important that when accessing dune areas, please use the formed public accesses. Standing on vegetation, including dune grasses will kill the plants and cause sand erosion – and none of us want that.



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1 River Mouth Trail

Access: Start at the beach car-park at the end of Ocean Beach St, turn left onto the beach. Continue round the point and up the river edge, through the signposted 'cut' to the Foxton Motor Camp. Cross the road into Holben Reserve, following the pathway to Signal St. Turn right past the Simply Balmy Café then left up the hill, back to the beach car-park.



 **NOTE:** Unformed track around beach and sections. This track is dependent on tides, plus footpaths.

2 Sunset Walk

Access: Follow the pathway from Carter Cres along the edge of the Manawatu River Estuary to the end of Hartley St. Go through Flagstaff Park turning left onto Seabury Ave. Left again at Nash Pde, taking you back to Carter Cres.



 **NOTE:** Formed track and pathways. Please stay away from the bird roosting sites.

3 Cousins Ave Track & Kids Track

Access: This is a great track for mountain-biking. Turn left at the intersection of Nash Pde and Cousins Ave. Enter the forest at the end of the road and follow the track back to the start.



Kids access: Entrance marked on the main track approximately 500m in from the start. The actual track is approximately 1km in length, is great for mountain-biking and fun for kids.



NOTE: Partially formed track/surface.

4 Ferry Reserve Track

Access: Start at the Seabury Ave carpark and track through the forest to Palmer Rd. Return the same way or turn right at Palmer Rd and right again onto Foxton Beach Rd back to the car-park.



 **NOTE:** Partially formed track/surface, plus footpaths

5 The Foxton to Foxton Beach Connection

This is a dedicated pedestrian and cycle pathway alongside Foxton Beach Rd. The actual pathway is 2.2km long but additional time will need to be added at both ends depending on start point and destination.



6 Piriharakeke Walkway

Access: Start at the corner of Purcell St and Harbour St and follow the track onto the Manawatu River Loop and then onto the Moutoa Floodway stopbanks to the Whirokino Bridge. Historic signs along the walk have photographs and text explaining the history of the area.

The walk is 3.6km-long (one way). Allow about two hours for the return trip or arrange a 'pick-up' at the northern end of the Trestle Bridge.



 **NOTE:** Partially formed track/surface. Take care to leave gates open or closed as you find them.

7 Foxton's Historic Walk (see inset map)

Access: This is an easy footpath walk. Start at Duncan St and follow the signs to all points of information. See inset map.



8 Te Awahou Board Walk

Access: Start at the northern end of the River Loop Reserve next to the Awahou Indoor Bowls building, and follow the boardwalk through some of the riverbank's unique plant life.



9 Foxton Town - River Loop Amble

Access: Start at the war memorial, head down Main St, into Clyde St, left into Harbour St, up into Seaview Gardens to admire the vista. Elevation in Seaview Gardens is 10.96m. Walk back down again through town.



 **NOTE:** Formed track/surface, plus footpaths. Take some extra time to enjoy sightseeing, shopping and the cafes.

10 Stock Route Track

Access: Enter Donnelly Rd, off State Highway 1 just south of the Mobil Service Station. This then becomes 'the Stock Route'. Turn right onto Hickford Rd and right again onto Avenue Rd. Right again into Spring St. At the end of Spring St, back on to the Stock Route again back to Donnelly Rd.



 **NOTE:** Partially formed track/surface, plus footpaths.



Foxton Beach

Foxton

Key

-  Restrooms
-  Cafe/restaurant
-  Caravan/camp site
-  Grade 1 - Mostly foot paths
-  Grade 2 - Firm even surface
-  Grade 3 - Uneven formed surface
-  Grade 4 - Unformed identified track/route

 **NOTE:** Allow approx 15 mins per kilometre at an easy pace

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