

GETTING ABOUT

MIRAMAR OFFERS UNIQUE ATTRACTIONS & SCENERY JUST A STONE'S THROW FROM WELLINGTON'S CBD. IT'S THE CLOSEST SUBURB TO THE AIRPORT AND IS WELL-SERVED WITH BUSES TO & FROM THE CITY CENTRE, WHICH IS AN EASY 15-25 MINUTE'S DRIVE AWAY.

- **TO / FROM CBD:**
BY BUS — Buses are frequent between the CBD, and the bus stops at Miramar shops, and Park Rd, North Miramar. Trip time: approx 25 mins.
See www.metlink.org.nz for times & bus numbers.
BY CAR — Trip time: Approx 15 mins. Allow longer at peak commuter times (morning and early evening).
BY BIKE — Wellington has a developing network of cycle lanes and shared paths (which can be used by both cyclists and walkers). There are sections of cycle lanes along the scenic route between Oriental Bay near the CBD, Evans Bay Parade and Cobham Drive to Miramar. Trip time: approx 45 mins.

- **MIRAMAR TO AIRPORT:**
BY BUS — A short journey from Miramar shops, followed by a 10 minute walk. Trip time: approx 15 mins.
BY CAR — Trip time: approx 10 mins.

- **MIRAMAR PENINSULA SCENIC LOOP:**
MIRAMAR — SHELLY BAY — SCORCHING BAY — SEATOUN — TARAKENA BAY — MOA POINT — WELLINGTON AIRPORT — MIRAMAR
Follow this route (see Map overleaf) to get the real flavour of spectacular Te Motu Kairangi / Miramar Peninsula. Taking in views of Evans Bay Marina, Matiu / Somes and Ward Islands, golden sandy beaches and the rugged South Coast, you can enjoy a range of coffee stops, see Interislander ferries plying the way between Wellington and Picton — and maybe even spot a penguin, which are known to cross the road along this route.
BY CAR — Trip time: approx 15 mins.
BY BIKE — Trip time: approx 45 mins.

HAERE MAI WELCOME TO MIRAMAR TE MOTU KAIRANGI



ENTERPRISE MIRAMAR

PENINSULA INC.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

HISTORY

HAERE MAI & WELCOME TO TE MOTU KAIRANGI — THE 'PRECIOUS ISLAND' — AND MIRAMAR, MEANING 'BEHOLD THE SEA' IN SPANISH. THE MĀORI NAME RECALLS THE FACT THIS WAS ONCE AN ISLAND — UNTIL 1460, WHEN THE MASSIVE HAOWHENUA EARTHQUAKE UPLIFTED THE LAND BY FOUR METRES, FORMING A PENINSULA.

Kupe, the great Māori explorer is credited with discovering Aotearoa (New Zealand) and being the first person to land on what became Miramar Peninsula. His descendant Whatonga commanded the great Kurahaupo waka from the Pacific and settled in Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Wellington Harbour) in the 12th century, acknowledging the presence of Te Motu Kairangi.

Whatonga's son Tara built a heavily fortified, palisaded Pā (village) on the ridge of Te Motu Kairangi, and there were other Pā on headlands throughout the Peninsula. Following European settlement in Wellington from the early 1840s, much of the Peninsula's land was cleared of its indigenous vegetation — totara, rimu and tawai (beech) — and converted to farmland.

Fort Ballance, overlooking **Scorching Bay**, was established in 1886, with a camp at **Mahanga Bay** to defend Wellington against Russian seaborne attack. **Fort Dorset** was built at **Seatoun** around 1900 and was fully operational during World War II. The land at **Shelly Bay** was owned by the New Zealand Defence Force from 1885 to 2009. Remnants of gun emplacements and observation posts are dotted around the area, attesting to the Peninsula's strategic position at the Harbour Heads. By the 1890s there was a popular sporting resort with recreational grounds, a hunt club, polo field, golf links and trotting club. Urbanisation of the Peninsula began in 1902 with the auction of 132 residential sections. In 1904 the Miramar Borough Council was formed, and incorporated into the City of Wellington in 1921. The first electric tram reached the Peninsula in 1907, the same year as the Seatoun Tunnel opened.

Miramar (so named in 1872) became a family-orientated, mainly working class suburb with a strong manufacturing base. The suburb is still home to light industries and is a hub for internationally recognised creative industries.

950 AD KUPE ARRIVES
1460 EARTHQUAKE
1840s EUROPEANS SETTLE
1886 FORT BALLANCE EST.
1902 FIRST SECTIONS SOLD
1907 SEATOUN TUNNEL OPENS
1935 AIRPORT OPENED
1937 NZ'S FIRST STATE HOUSE
1968 WAHINE DISASTER
1990s WETA WORKSHOP EST. IN MIRAMAR



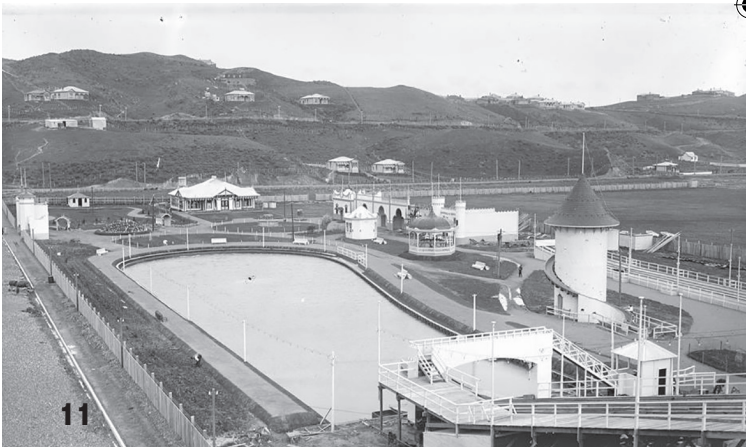
- 5 **SHELLY BAY** This was once the village Maru-Kai-Kuru, settled by the Ngāti Mutunga kin of Te Ati Awa, who migrated from Taranaki. In the 1890s the naval volunteer reserve unit at Shelly Bay carried out mine laying operations. Today Shelly Bay is a sun-filled recreational area with cafés, galleries, picnic areas, walking bush and bike trails, and nearby **MASSEY MEMORIAL**.

- 1 **RUKUTOA** Historically important fishing & shellfish gathering grounds for inner harbour tribes, near **Point Halswell Lighthouse**.
- 8 **TAIPAKUPAKU** Numerous burial sites of Māori tribes occupying this area in the early 1800s have been found here.
- 3 **WATT'S PENINSULA** Named after an early farmer, this area has been an important strategic defence location since early Māori occupation. European settlers installed guns and bunkers here and, while the large guns have gone, lookouts, bunkers and gun emplacements still stand.

- 23 **TE TURANGA-O-KUPE** Legendary Māori explorer Kupe gave this name to his landing site on the present day **Seatoun** foreshore, which means 'the great standing place of Kupe'.

- 24 **KIRIKIRI-TATANGI** This name conveys the rustling sound of the waves disturbing gravel on the beach at Seatoun's foreshore. Kupe left some of his tribesmen in Seatoun to grow food and replenish supplies while he explored **Cook Strait**.
- 54 **ORUAITI PĀ** The site of one of the Rangitāne stockaded Māori villages is nestled into the hill of **Dorset Cove**. Overlooking Araro-o-Kupe (Steeple Rock) and the harbour entrance, it was also a strategic vantage point in WWI.

- 60 **RANGITĀNE & POITA PĀ** Rangitātua Reserve, located on the western side of **Tarakena Bay**, is named after the Pā site. Inhabitants of the valley below at Poita Pā, near Te Poito Stream, took refuge at Rangitātua when invaders threatened from the north. Both Pā were destroyed and many killed in 1819-1820.



- 11 **WONDERLAND** Miramar's Mecca of Merry Souls' theme park opened in 1907 near the present site of Camperdown Studios bordering **Darlington** and **Camperdown Rds**. Owner Chase Morris Esq. had purchased many of the amusements from the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition. It went into receivership in 1911.

- 56 **NZ'S FIRST STATE HOUSE** NZ's first 'state house' at **12 Fife Lane**, Miramar South welcomed its first tenants in 1937. The then Labour Government aimed to build 5,000 new homes a year to rid the country of sub-standard housing. Nearby **Strathmore Park** became a state housing development from the 1930s onwards. The home was registered in 1983 by the then New Zealand Historic Places Trust as a place of 'very great social historical significance'.

- 2 **MASSEY MEMORIAL** The imposing mausoleum of NZ's Prime Minister William Massey (1856-1925) is located on **Point Halswell**, offering spectacular harbour views. Consulting architect on the project, Samuel Hurst Seager, is also known for the NZ War Memorial at Chunuk Bair, Gallipoli. The Memorial can be reached from **Shelly Bay Rd**.



- 59 **ATATURK MEMORIAL** Commemorating Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1881-1938), founder of modern Turkey and commander of the Turkish forces at the Battle of Gallipoli, this Memorial also recalls over 44,000 Allied troops who died during the campaign (April 1915 to January 1916). The operation jointly mounted by the British and French, resulted in heavy casualties on both sides and failed in its attempt to capture Constantinople and secure a sea route to Russia. Gallipoli was the first major battle by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corp (ANZAC), and is often seen as marking the birth of national consciousness in both countries. Inscribed on the Memorial are Atatürk's words from 1934: 'Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives... you are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours... your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well'.

- 61 **WAHINE MEMORIAL PARK** A massive storm lashed Wellington on 10 April 1968, causing the TEV **Wahine**, an interisland ferry of the Union Company, to founder on **Barrett Reef** at the entrance to Wellington Harbour. It later capsized near **Steeple Rock** (Te Araro-o-Kupe — 'the presence of Kupe') by the Seatoun foreshore and 53 of the 610 passengers and 123 crew died.

- 22 **CHURCHILL PARK** This is where survivors reached the Seatoun shore during the **Wahine's** tragic sinking. The park has a memorial plaque, the ship's anchor and chain, replica ventilation pipes and a children's playground.



FOOD & DRINK

A WORLD OF DINING AWAITS YOU IN MIRAMAR. THE CAFÉ SCENE IS AS VARIED AS THE LANDSCAPE — FROM QUIRKY BOHEMIAN AND 'BEACHY' TO AUTHENTIC ITALIAN AND CHIC CONTEMPORARY. AND AS YOU'RE IN WELLINGTON, THE SELF-PROFESSED 'COFFEE CAPITAL OF NZ', YOU CAN BE SURE OF GETTING A TOP QUALITY FLAT WHITE OR SHORT BLACK WHEREVER YOU GO!



If you are looking for quick, inexpensive eats, there are a range of cafés, bakeries and takeaways available in Miramar. It doesn't get more 'kiwi' than eating freshly fried fish and chips on the beach, straight out of the paper; the old-fashioned way. You can also enjoy an unpretentious pub meal, pizza or Thai takeaway.



If you are keen to experience something a bit more special, there are many cafés and restaurants offering top quality lunches and evening dining in stylish surroundings. Ethnic cuisine abounds, from Mexican, Greek, Malaysian and Indian, to contemporary New Zealand and Pacific-influenced fare. There's been a food and drink revolution in NZ cuisine over the past few decades and Miramar is definitely up with current trends; many eateries feature fresh, organic produce and offer gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options. You can get a taste of the flourishing local craft beer scene, as well as internationally-acclaimed NZ wine.

OUTDOORS

IT'S BUSH WALKING & BEACHCOMBING — OR HIGH ADRENALINE MOUNTAIN BIKING, SURFING & KITE BOARDING, THE PENINSULA IS WHERE IT'S AT! THE COASTLINE IS IDEAL FOR CYCLING AND STROLLING, WITH ROUTES FOR ALL FITNESS LEVELS. IT'S A SAILING, DIVING & KAYAKING PARADISE — AND THE VIEWS ARE FREE!

IN 2019 **PREDATOR FREE WELLINGTON** CHOSE MIRAMAR PENINSULA AS THE STARTING POINT FOR A FIVE-YEAR PROJECT TO CREATE THE WORLD'S FIRST PREDATOR-FREE CAPITAL CITY: A CITY FREE OF POSSUMS, RATS AND STOATS. THE LOCAL COMMUNITY HAS EMBRACED BACKYARD RAT TRAPPING, AND NATIVE BIRDS SUCH AS TUI, PIWAKAWAKA AND KERERU ARE FLOCKING BACK TO LOCAL RESERVES AND GARDENS. **TE MOTU KAIRANGI-MIRAMAR ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION** IS A VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY GROUP FOCUSED ON WEEDING, PEST CONTROL, EDUCATION AND RESTORING HABITAT. THE GROUP HAS PLANTED MORE THAN 15,000 TREES ON THE PENINSULA SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED BY LOCAL RESIDENT JOAKIM LIMAN IN 2010.

- 57 **EASTERN WALKWAY** Part of the capital's extensive network of green belt routes, this loop walk offers spectacular views of Wellington Harbour and the Heads. It starts at the **Pass of Branda**, **Seatoun** or **Tarakena Bay**, with a number of entry/exit points along the way. From Tarakena Bay, pass the **ATATURK MEMORIAL** and climb onto a bush-covered ridge which has some steep sections and staircases. This drops down to the road at the Pass of Branda from where you head south along Breaker Bay Road back to Tarakena Bay. Cycling is only allowed along the coast road. FITNESS: AVERAGE. TIME FOR 8KM ROUND TRIP: 2-3 HOURS.

- 19 **MAUPUIA WALKWAY** An easy 1km dog-friendly walk with a wide path for you and lots of grassy slopes for our four-legged friends. Start at the carpark at Akaroa Drive or Prison Rd, **Maupuia**, and enjoy stunning views of Evans Bay and the harbour. Detour down to **Shelly Bay** via a zig-zag path through bush that's shared with mountain bikers — or continue up Prison Rd to **CENTENNIAL RESERVE**. FITNESS: EASY. TIME FOR 2KM ROUND TRIP: 40-60 MINS.

- 7 **CENTENNIAL PARK** Experience 360 degree views of Wellington from the site of the former prison at **Mt Crawford** (163 metres). There is a range of tracks for walkers, runners, and mountain bikers, leading from the peak back down into Miramar. This is also a great place for a picnic, with views north to Hutt Valley and south to the Airport.

FILM & ART

THE CAPITAL'S AFFECTIONATE NAME — 'WELLYWOOD' — IS LARGELY DUE TO MIRAMAR. THE SUBURB IS THE WORKING HUB OF THE CITY'S FILM INDUSTRY, CREATIVE HOME OF PETER JACKSON'S BLOCKBUSTER TRILOGY **LORD OF THE RINGS**, AND THE BASE FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CREATIVES WHO FLOCK HERE TO WORK ON CUTTING-EDGE PROJECTS. ROLL UP FOR YOUR FILM & ARTS FIX!

Miramar's film heritage dates back to 1923 when a publicity office was set up here to produce scenic 'shorts' and travelogues for the tourism industry. Miramar Film Studios was built in **Darlington Road** in 1928, and evolved into the National Film Unit in 1941, focusing then on publicising New Zealand's war effort. The unit also produced fictional films, documentaries, and promotional material on many other aspects of national life. Fast forward to the last two decades when a cluster of multimillion-dollar studios, sound stages, and pre and post production facilities have sprung up in Miramar, all within walking distance of the original film studio. Weta, named after NZ's prickly prehistoric giant cricket, was formed in 1993 by world renowned filmmakers Sir Peter Jackson, Sir Richard Taylor and Jamie Selkirk, later expanding into Weta Workshop, a special effects and props company, and Weta Digital, a digital visual effects company. Park Road Post Production, Stone Street Studios and Portsmouth Rentals are also part of the Weta group of companies. Spot the giant outdoor green screen at Stone Street Studios and visit **Miramar Wharf** where the **SS Venture**, a converted tuna fishing boat and one of the larger props featured in **King Kong**, was docked from 2003 to 2005. Other 'must-sees' for movie fans:

- 10 **WETA CAVE** A mini museum showcasing the creativity of the studio through merchandise, books and large-scale sculptures. The retail store has statuettes, jewelry and other collectibles designed by **WETA WORKSHOP** artists. A free short film runs regularly for visitors. Book here for a range of studio tours.

- 10 **WETA WORKSHOP** Get up close with amazing props, costumes, creatures and vehicles created for the iconic movies such as *The Lord of the Rings*, *Thunderbirds* are Go and *Ghost in the Shell*. See the tools of the trade and marvel at the artistry of Weta's award-winning creative departments.



- 4 **SCORCHING BAY** A safe-for-swimming beach with golden sand, looking out to the interisland ferry route and **Pencarrow Coast**. Scorching Bay has a café, picnic areas, children's playground, toilets, changing rooms and carparking — making it perfect for a day out by the sea.

- 12 **WORSEY BAY BOATING CLUB** Some of the nation's top sailors have honed their skills on the fickle waters surrounding WBBCC, founded in 1926. Run by volunteers and affiliated to Yachting NZ, this is a quintessential family-oriented club with all age groups welcome and opportunities to learn to sail, crew, and hire club boats.

- 55 **ORUAITI RESERVE** Follow the coastal track from the Seatoun foreshore at **CHURCHILL PARK** or the **Pass of Branda** (one of the starting points of the **EASTERN WALKWAY**) to experience the rugged beauty of Wellington's South Coast. At the peak of the reserve's headland are World War II bunkers and the site of **ORUAITI PĀ** which is marked by a waka sculpture and carved Māori pou (marker post). **Point Dorset** at the southern most tip is the ideal place to bird-watch, overlooking **Pinnacle Rocks**. FITNESS: EASY — AVERAGE. TIME FOR 2KM ROUND TRIP: 40-60 MINS.

- 58 **MIRAMAR LINKS GOLF CLUB** This championship golf course next to **Wellington Airport** was established in 1908 and re-designed by Australian Graham Marsh. Visitors are welcome to play golf or enjoy the café and bars with panoramic views.



HELP US PROTECT THE UNIQUE BEAUTY OF MIRAMAR PENINSULA'S ENVIRONMENT BY **TAKING ONLY MEMORIES AND LEAVING ONLY FOOTPRINTS**. PLEASE USE THE BINS PROVIDED & DISPOSE OF PLASTIC CAREFULLY, AS THIS CAN EASILY BE BLOWN INTO THE SEA.

- 45 **ROXY CINEMA** This art deco gem was originally the Capitol Theatre (built in 1928). It was lovingly restored and opened its doors as the Roxy Cinema in 2011. The interior features stunning murals, an imposing staircase and fabulous period-style lighting designed by Weta Workshop. Housing two state-of-the-art theatres, a café and the stylish CoCo restaurant.

- 52 **MIRAMAR MURALS & 'BLOWN AWAY' SIGN** Greeting you as you arrive in Miramar are bold black and white images showing early forms of transport on the Peninsula, and Wellington Airport's breezy tribute to the city's famed winds.

- 20 **OUTDOOR ART** Enjoy work by local artists at bus shelters and substations along **Miramar Ave** and **Park Rd**. And check out the Miramar Photo Box in Park Rd, home to a unique photo essay on Miramar history.

- 26 **REALGLASS STUDIO** Experience the colour, heat and drama of glassblowing when you visit Tony Kueper at work.

- 44 **WHIRLWIND DESIGN STORE** An eclectic mix of pieces, many of them one-off and inspired by the Miramar coast. See the artist / owners' ingenious takes on discarded materials, plus delightful curios, fabrics and other goods carefully selected on their trips to Japan. Plus work by other New Zealand artists and designers.

- 53 **WELLINGTON ART CLUB** Established in 1892, the Club is still run by and for artists. Art activities are happening most days (and some evenings) at the 27 Chelsea St premises, next to the local community centre. Members can learn new skills, meet other artists and exhibit their work. Membership is open to all.

GET CREATIVE IN MIRAMAR WITH YOUR OWN SELFIE TOUR USING **#SELFIETOURMIRAMAR**. WE'VE MARKED OUR FAVE SPOTS ON THE MAP — JUST LOOK FOR THE #.

GO LOCAL

IT'S NOT JUST THE SCENERY THAT KEEPS MIRAMAR RESIDENTS IN THE AREA — IT'S THE FACT THAT YOU CAN FIND ALMOST EVERYTHING YOU NEED RIGHT HERE, LOCALLY. WHETHER IT'S PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, RETAIL OR REPAIRS, WHY GO TO TOWN WHEN YOU CAN 'GO LOCAL'? (SEE MAP OVERLEAF FOR BUSINESSES)



Miramar has a supermarket and smaller community stores which have household essentials including groceries, fruit and vegetables. You will find flowers, homewares, New Zealand souvenirs, and designer items made by local artists in Wellington, along with a large garden centre. If you are keen on recycling and shopping sustainably, you'll find a cluster of friendly and well-stocked second-hand shops. Miramar is well-served on the health, beauty and fitness fronts, with several medical centres, pharmacies, gyms, health centres, and hair salons. There is a wide range of automotive services available, from spraypainting and panelbeating, to tyre retail and mechanical repairs. Professional services include legal, accounting, design, printing and computing. Support your local community by Going Local!

This map has been produced by Enterprise Miramar Peninsula Inc., Miramar BID, a voluntary, non-political organisation dedicated to furthering the economic development of Miramar; working with businesses, landlords and the community to enhance prosperity, safety and security in Miramar.

WWW.MIRAMARPENINSULA.ORG.NZ