

TRAVEL IDEAS

# OUTDOORS IN TAURANGA & MOUNT MAUNGANUI

Sure You Smile

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# **CYCLE TRAILS**

What better way to see the Bay than by bike? Te Moananui ā Toi (the Coastal Bay of Plenty) is blessed to have a huge range of great cycle trails suitable for all types of cycling, from mountain biking and commuting trails, to guided e-bike tours through the city and surrounding region.

#### **Tauranga**

Tauranga is a great city for cycling; the urban cycle trails offer up a great selection of coastal and inland rides - offering up a great way to explore the city. Bring your own bike, or hire an e-bike from Bike the Bay or Day Trippers (who both offer fantastic guided tours around the city, if that's more your cup of tea).

For something a little more fast-paced, check out Oropi Grove MTB Park, Summerhill, or TECT Park for some epic off-road mountain biking.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Enjoy a chilled out bike ride around the region, or get the heart racing on some epic mountain bike trails.





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# **HIKING & WALKING**

#### Ōtanewainuku Forest

Located just south of Tauranga and Te Puke is the Ōtanewainuku Forest, which not only home to some great family-friendly walking tracks and spectacular waterfalls, but it is also home to the North Island Brown Kiwi (lovingly cared for a protected by the Ōtanewainuku Kiwi Trust).

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Explore the Bay by foot - choose from a huge range of stunning walking & hiking tracks.

#### Mauao

It wouldn't be a trip to the Coastal Bay of Plenty without walking up or around Mauao - it is one of New Zealand's most popular short walks, after all. Meander around the base track, spot seals (and sometimes orca) and sea birds while you admire the stunning views - allow about 45-minutes. Or, head up to the summit - it's worth the climb! You'll be treated to 360 degree views at the top - definitely one for the memory bank. Download the Arataki Cultural Trails app to learn about the history of Mauao as you explore it.

## Pāpāmoa Hills Regional Park

Located just out of Te Puke, the Pāpāmoa Hills Regional Park is home to a great selection of walking trails. Enjoy panoramic views as you walk through native bush and forest, past ancient pā sites and open grassland to the summit at 224m. Tauranga is a great city for cycling; the urban cycle trails offer up a great selection of coastal and inland rides - offering up a great way to explore the city. Bring your own bike, or hire an e-bike from Bike the Bay or Day Trippers (who both offer fantastic guided tours around the city, if that's more your cup of tea).









## **OCEAN ADVENTURES**

#### **Fishing**

There's plenty of places to go fishing in the wider Tauranga region. With wharves and jetties dotted all over the place, you'll be spoiled for choice when it comes to choosing where to go! For something more serious, book a charter with Tauranga Marine Charters or Blue Ocean Charters.

#### Kayaking

For an unforgettable experience, book an Evening Glow Work Kayak tour with Waimarino; you'll be treated to an amazing evening kayaking on Lake McLaren before arriving at a glow worm-filled canyon - it's breathtaking!

## **Dolphin & Wildlife Tours**

Here's one for the bucket list. Jump on board with one of the experienced local operators for your chance to get up close with dolphins, seals, whales, sea birds, and other amazing marine wildlife - an unforgettable experience! Check out Bay Explorer, Dolphin Blue, or Dolphin Seafaris to see which tour suits you best - they all offer something completely unique.

#### Scenic Cruise around Tauranga Moana

Sit back and relax onboard the Kewpie as you cruise around Tauranga Harbour on a 1-hour scenic cruise. This historic boat is a local icon and offers a fun way to see the Tauranga and Western Bay region. You have the option to disembark on Matakana Island and get picked up later - if you want to make a day of it.





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# SEE THE BAY FROM THE SKY

Time to treat yourself! For the ultimate indulgence, book a scenic flight Aerius or Adventure Helicopters and see the Bay from above.

## **Aerius Helicopters**

Choose from an amazing range of scenic flights and heli adventures - from coastal beach landings to flights out to a winery for a tasting, Aerius Helicopters will definitely have something to get you excited.

## **Adventure Helicopters**

Can't decide if you love cars or helicopters more? You don't have to! Combine them both on one of Adventure Helicopters' Heli car combos; choose between the Carbon Neutral package, or the Cobra Classic package - you won't regret it.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

See the Bay from above with an unforgettable scenic flight (and skydive, if you're that way inclined!).

## **Skydive Tauranga**

Take it to the next level with the most beautiful skydive in New Zealand. Enjoy a scenic flight to an altitude of 10,000 or 12,000ft and then - jump! Skydive Tauranga would love to help you tick a tandem skydive off your bucket list.









## WHERE TO STAY

There's plenty of accommodation to choose from during your time at the Mount and Tauranga, some popular options include: Pacific Coast Lodge & Backpackers, Mount Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park, Mission Belle Motel, The Beaumont Apartments, or Mount Backpackers.

If you're looking for accommodation in Tauranga City, some great options include: Trinity Wharf Hotel, Hotel on Devonport, Clarence Hotel, Hotel Armitage, and the soon-to-be opened Wanderlust New Zealand (opening 22 October, 2020).

# WHERE TO EAT

You'll be spoilt for choice when it comes to choosing where to eat in Tauranga and Mount Maunganui.

Downtown Tauranga has a wide range of delicious eateries, from high end waterfront dining at Harbourside, to arguably some of the best dumplings (the lamb and kale are a must!) and street food at Our Place. Stroll along The Strand and choose from one of the bars, restaurants or cafes and sit back, relax and watch the world (and a few boats) go past.

Mount Main Street is a busy hub of restaurants, bars and boutique shopping. No matter what you're in the mood for, you'll find something tasty to satisfy your tastebuds. The laidback surf vibe at Astrolabe is appealing if you're after a casual meal or drink - it's great for families with a large outdoor area. For something a little more fancy, head to No.8 or Alpino. Rice Rice Baby is newish to the Mount, it's always busy and once you've been, you'll see why!





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