



WALKING

+

CYCLING

+

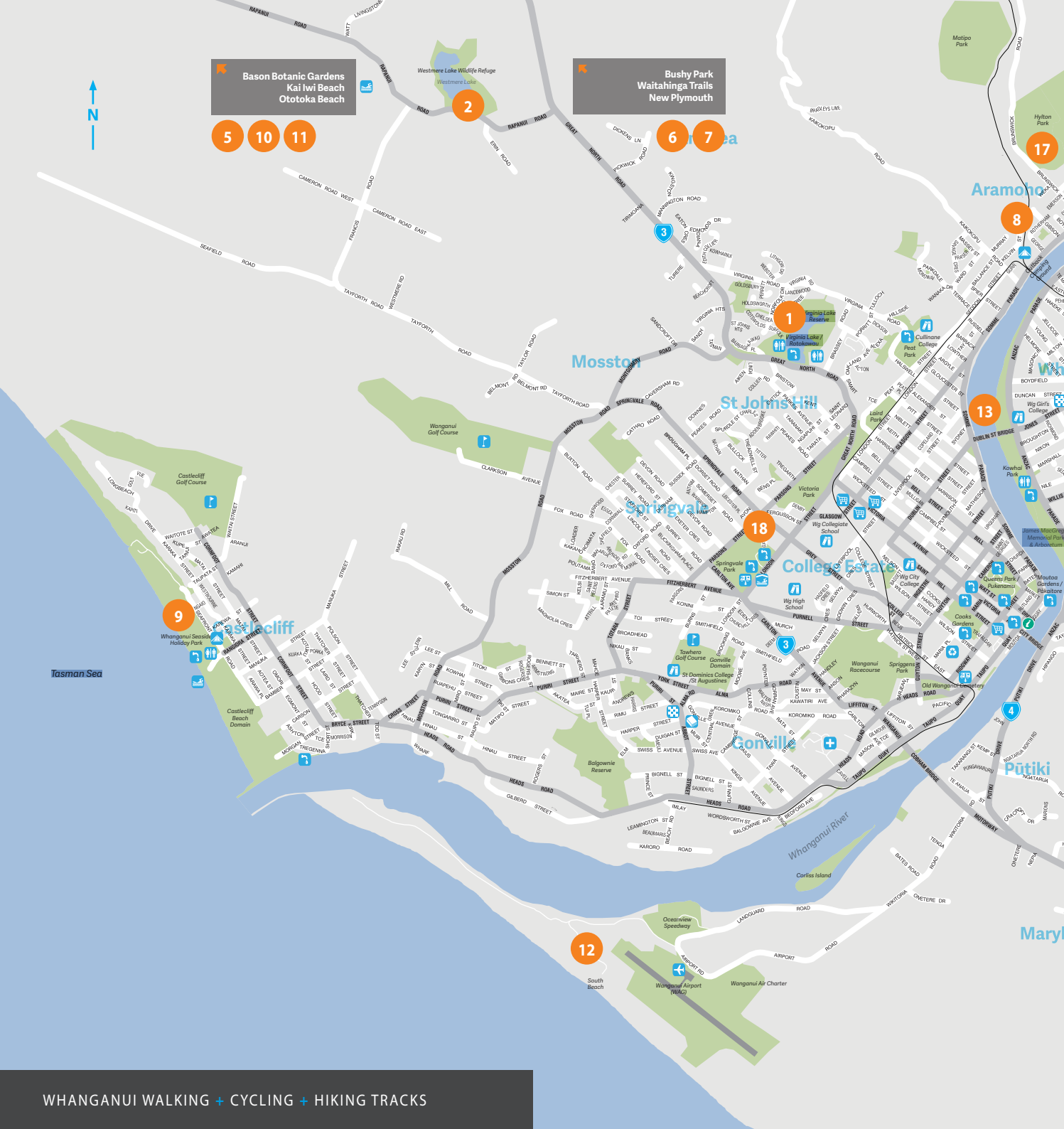
HIKING

WHANGANUI

ALL YOU NEED (AND THEN SOME)

WHANGANUI

ALL YOU NEED (AND THEN SOME)





CITY MAP

- | | | |
|----|--|----------|
| 1 | Rotokawau/Virginia Lake | PG.05 |
| 2 | Westmere Lake | PG.05 |
| 3 | Gordon Park | PG.05 |
| 4 | Paloma Gardens | PG.05 |
| 5 | Basen Botanic Gardens | PG.06 |
| 6 | Waitahinga Trails | PG.06/07 |
| 7 | Bushy Park Homestead + Sanctuary | PG.06 |
| 8 | Westmere Walkway | PG.08 |
| 9 | Castlecliff Beach | PG.09 |
| 10 | Kai Iwi Beach | PG.09 |
| 11 | Ototoka Beach | PG.09 |
| 12 | South Beach | PG.09 |
| 13 | Dublin Street Bridge - Round the Bridges | PG.10/11 |
| 14 | Bastia Hill | PG.10/11 |
| 15 | Durie Hill Tower + Elevator | PG.10/11 |
| 16 | Araheke Mountain Bike Park | PG.12/13 |
| 17 | Hylton Park | PG.12/13 |
| 18 | Springvale Pump Track | PG.12 |
| 19 | i-SITE to Castlecliff - Mountains to Sea | PG. 14 |
| 20 | Whanganui River Road | PG.14 |
| 21 | Ātene Skyline Track + Skyline Walk | PG.14 |



Bastia Hill Water Tower

ABOUT WHANGANUI











Welcome to Whanganui! Our district is known for its diverse natural environment, rich cultural legacy and vibrant arts scene. There's a lot to experience, but our parks, gardens and trails make it easy to get outside and discover what makes our district unique. Experience the legendary Whanganui River, cultured gardens, native forest, public art and rare native birds via our walkways and cycleways.

SAFETY/COURTESY

Help us keep our cycleways and walkways safe and enjoyable.

- Please be aware of others on our shared pathways and remember to keep to the left. Cyclists should alert pedestrians to their presence, slow down and give wide berth when passing.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Carry water.
- Carry personal identification and a mobile phone when you go out. In New Zealand, the emergency number is 111.
- Bright clothing and lights will enhance your visibility and safety.
- Remember that cycle helmets are compulsory on roadways in New Zealand.
- Check the weather forecast and dress appropriately. Take waterproof clothing if the forecast suggests rain.

GUIDE KEY

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|  W WALKING |  TOILETS |  DRINKING WATER |
|  C CYCLING |  CAFE |  BBQ |
|  O ORIENTEERING |  PICNIC |  CAMPING |
|  DISABLED ACCESS | | |



Rotokawau Virginia Lake

ROKOKAWAU VIRGINIA LAKE



30 MIN WALK

The easy 2km track around the lake takes you past the Band Rotunda, twin bridges, wisteria pergolas and public art. The park also encourages visitors to explore, with an Aviary, Winter Gardens and Art Garden on site.

- 8 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

WESTMERE LAKE



30 MIN WALK

A great outing for families, this easy 1.7km loop winds through woodlands and around the shores of Westmere Lake. The area is a designated wildlife refuge and is home to native birds and water fowl.

- 10 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui



Westmere Lake

GORDON PARK



This short loop takes you along a well-formed track through native podocarp-hardwood forest. The reserve is home to native birds and is an excellent picnic spot.

- 10 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui



Paloma Gardens



Gordon Park

PALOMA GARDENS



These private gardens have been landscaped with plants from around the world and have been awarded 'Garden of National Significance' by the NZ Gardens Trust. Explore the whimsically themed sections, scattered with outdoor art. There is a \$10 entry fee to be paid at an honesty box.

- 20 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui



Bason Botanic Gardens

BASON BOTANIC GARDENS



The Bason Botanic Gardens, rated a 'Garden of Regional Significance' by the New Zealand Gardens Trust, covers 25 hectares. Explore the English Garden, the Mediterranean plantings, the Native Wetlands and more. Expansive lawns, free gas BBQs, picnic tables and a Frisbee course make this an ideal spot for picnics.

- 15 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

WAITAHINGA TRAILS



The Waitahinga Trails are shaded by native forest canopy and feature picnic areas and look-outs along the way. On a clear day there are great views of Taranaki and Mt Ruapehu. The emerald Waitahinga Dam, built in 1904, is a worthwhile destination for more advanced walkers.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| The Picnic Dell | • 10 minutes from the carpark |
| The Chicken Run | • 1 hour return easy walk |
| Cropper's Clearing | • 90 minute return easy walk |
| Waitahinga Dam | • 4 to 5 hours return with steep climbs |

- 45 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

BUSHY PARK HOMESTEAD AND SANCTUARY



This predator-free reserve features 5km of well-marked, easy walking paths through native lowland forest and wetlands. Ranked as one of Australasia's top conservation projects, you're likely to encounter rare native birds even on short walks. The forest is open during daylight hours but self-contained motorhomes, camping or accommodation in the Edwardian homestead can be arranged. No dogs permitted.

- 30 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui



Bushy Park Homestead



Bushy Park - Ratanui



WESTMERE WALKWAY

- 6 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

- 1



3

- Cattle
- Uneven Ground
- Mud and Manure
- A Poled Route
- Stiles
- Any Weather
- Unfenced Water
- No Drinking Water
- No Toilets

BEACHES



Kai Iwi Beach

CASTLECLIFF BEACH



Castlecliff beach can be reached via a short drive from town or a bike ride along the riverside path, see page 15 for map. The North Mole, where the Whanganui River meets the sea, is a popular fishing and surfing spot, and a system of trails through the sand dunes are good for exploring.

• 15 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

KAI IWI BEACH



Kai Iwi Beach is in Mowhanau Village, just 15 km west of Whanganui. A big playground, shallow stream and wood-burning BBQs make this popular swimming beach a great destination for families. At low tide you can walk all the way to Castlecliff Beach (2-3 hours one way) or Okehu Stream (about 2 hours).

• 20 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

OTOTOKA BEACH



Park on the cliff tops and pass by a small waterfall on your way to the beach. At the bottom of the trail, you'll find a pristine black sand beach to explore. The cliffs are great for fossil-hunting.

• 30 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

SOUTH BEACH



Adjacent to Whanganui Airport is South Beach. As soon as the tide goes out South Beach is a 20km stretch of sand perfect for walking, fishing and swimming.

• 10 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

FEELING INSPIRED?

Do the Round the Bridges, Bastia Hill and Durie Hill Towers walk all together!

ROUND THE BRIDGES



This picturesque 1-3 hour route runs over footpaths and boardwalks along the Whanganui River. You can do a circuit of all three of the city's bridges or choose a shorter circuit.

Cobham (SH3) & Whanganui City Bridge Circuit	• 3.6km, 1 hour
Whanganui City & Dublin St Bridge Circuit	• 4.2km, 1 ¼ hour
Dublin St & Railway Bridge Circuit	• 3.3km, 1 hour
Cobham, Whanganui & Dublin St Bridge	• 10.5km, 3 hours

The section between the Dublin St Bridge and the City Bridge on the city side of the river is wheelchair accessible.

If you want to extend your walk, you can also turn off Somme Parade at Halswell St and walk up the tree-lined street and up St John's Hill along the Peat Park Deer Sanctuary. Follow Virginia Road to Rotokawau Virginia Lake.

BASTIA HILL



1 ¼ HOURS

This loop takes you up Bastia Hill to the iconic water tower and offers remarkable views of the city. Start at the base of Georgetti Rd, off Anzac Parade, and head uphill. At the top, you'll get an up-close look at the Roman-inspired water tower, built in 1927 (water tower is not open to the public). Return down Wairere Rd for panoramic views of the town centre. The path is steep and may require a moderate level of fitness.

DURIE HILL TOWER + ELEVATOR



20 MINUTES

Visit the iconic Durie Hill War Memorial Tower (free entry) via the unique Durie Hill Elevator. Enter through the carved gateway and walk the 213m tunnel to the elevator. Built in 1919, the elevator is still used daily by commuters (\$2/adult, \$1/child one way - cash only). At the top, you can take in panoramic views of the city, the river and the harbour from the elevator's viewing platform or climb to the top of the nearby Memorial Tower. Complete the circuit by coming down the steps to the City Bridge.

Durie Hill Tower



MOUNTAIN BIKING

ARAHEKE MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK



EASY-GRADE 2, INTERMEDIATE-GRADE 3

Ideal for families and young children, a grand circuit of 10km covers trails in two separate areas (Wiritoa and Pauri) connected by a short section of road. Pauri provides the easiest trails and the best for children. All trails are signposted and numbered to form a continuous loop. Easy short loops are identified by road marker poles. A couple of hill climbs reward bikers with wonderful views. Sand-based Wiritoa and Pauri tracks provide all-weather riding.

• 10 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

HYLTON PARK



EASY-ADVANCED: GRADE 2-4

Hylton Park is a venue for the biennial Masters Games MTB events. The tracks offer the rider a bit of everything packed into a series of linked tracks containing short climbs and descents and featuring a professionally built flow trail (Shredder). In total the trails make up a 9.3km loop overall. There is also an area for jumps. The trails are great for beginner and intermediate riders, though mud can make it challenging in winter months. Please respect the trails during wet conditions.

• 8 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui

SPRINGVALE PUMP TRACK



The pump track is a circuit of dirt rollers, berms and jumps that loops back on itself. It includes senior and junior tracks, two permanent shade areas and a learn-to-ride track for young children to practise safe cycling and scootering.

• 7 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui



HYLTON PARK

WIRITOA AREA Total Distance 3.4km

- RIVER RUN** 460m. Easy road single track.
- EEYORE GULLY** 680m. Single undulating track with three optional harder loops.
- LONGFIN LOOP** 280m. Intermediate loop.
- JUNCTION** Option for easy "short" or "long" hard intermediate loop.
- L'IL RIPPER** 450m. Intermediate loop with short and long (more difficult) option.
- TUNA** 810m. Intermediate.
- RIDGE LOOP** 425m. Hard intermediate great roller coaster fun and easier "short cut".
- GORSE ALLEY** 280m. Easy Intermediate.
- LINK** Connecting areas road. 260m, Scoutlands Track 210m.

PAURI AREA Total Distance 5.3km

- ALCATRAZ** 600m. Intermediate.
- KATIPU** 700m. Intermediate loop. Turn right and follow road for 70m.
- LAKES VIEW** 780m. Hard intermediate with an easy short loop. There is an easy short route, go back left along road for 70m.
- DRAGON WIGGLES** Easy with optional exit to Pauri Road.
- DRAGON RIDGE** 780m for all of Dragon. Hard intermediate with moderate hills and great roller coaster.
- PAURI** 870m. Easy on flats plus harder short loop. From Pauri Road onto side ridge easy intermediate.
- JUNGLE JINX** Easy intermediate.
- JUNGLE JUJU** 1120m for all of Jungle. Easy Intermediate.
- LINK** Connecting areas Road. 260m, Scoutlands Track 210m.



WIRITOA AREA



PAURI AREA



Jerusalem Whanganui River Road

MOUNTAINS TO SEA



The Mountains to Sea Cycle Trail is one of the longest and most diverse cycle trails in New Zealand. The full trail takes three to five days to complete and stretches from the mountains of Tongariro National Park to Castlecliff Beach in Whanganui. For more information see www.mountainstosea.co.nz.

TOWN TO SEA



30 MINUTES ONE WAY CYCLE

This pleasant section of the Mountains to Sea trail is a paved, one way riverside cycling and walking track that connects downtown Whanganui with Castlecliff Beach.

Whanganui River Mouth



Whanganui River Road

WHANGANUI RIVER ROAD



7.5 HOURS PĪPIRIKI TO WHANGANUI

Cycling the scenic River Road from Pipiriki to Whanganui takes approximately 7.5 hours, depending on your choice of stops. The route takes you past important cultural and historical sites, including marae/māori meeting houses, villages, the Kawana Flour Mill as well as natural features like Omorehu Waterfall and the Oyster Cliffs. You can arrange for transport to Pipiriki from Whanganui. Accommodation is available along the River Road. Contact Whanganui i-SITE to book.

For more information, see the Whanganui River Road Guide at the Whanganui **i-SITE** or online at www.mountainstosea.co.nz.

ĀTENE SKYLINE TRACK & VIEWPOINT WALK



2 HOURS OR 6-8 HOURS

For more serious walkers, the Ātene Skyline Track is a six to eight hour round trip hike through a small accessible section of Whanganui National Park. The walk includes some steep climbs, which are rewarded with good views. A free campsite midway provides shelter, water and a toilet.

The Viewpoint Walk is a two-hour walk to a lookout point. From here you can see views of the cut-off meander of the old Whanganui River bed. Return the same way.

For more information about these and other walks in the Whanganui National Park, visit the Department of Conservation website www.doc.govt.nz.

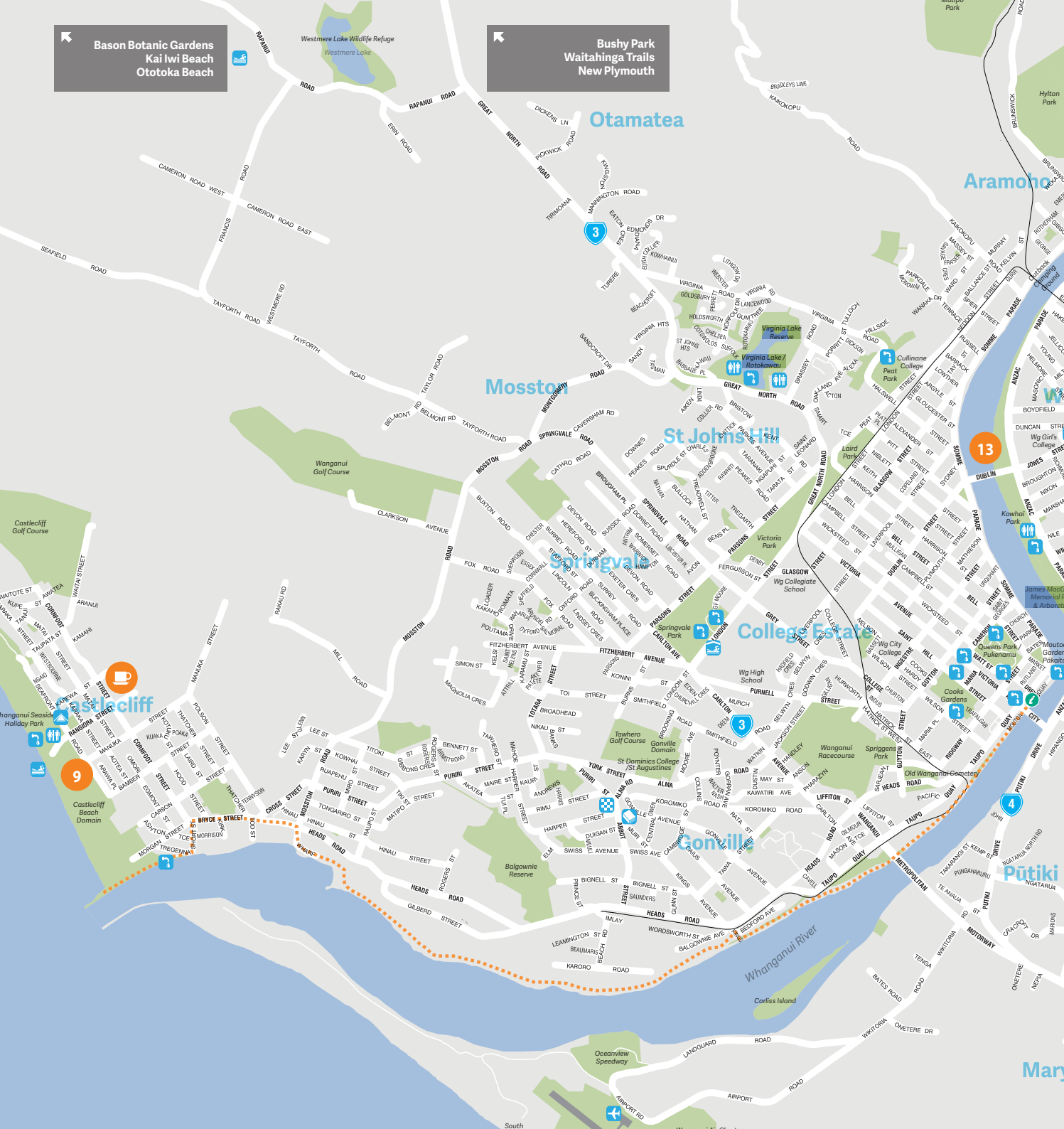
• 40 Min Drive From i-SITE Whanganui



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Bason Botanic Gardens
Kai Iwi Beach
Ototoka Beach

Bushy Park
Waitahinga Trails
New Plymouth



WHANGANUI

ALL YOU NEED (AND THEN SOME)

**NO MATTER WHAT
YOU'RE INTO,
THERE ARE GREAT
REASONS TO VISIT
WHANGANUI**

Visit us online or at the Whanganui i-SITE
for guides on Heritage and Arts,
the River Road and more.

