

How to get there

Shakespear Regional Park is approximately 50km or a 40 minutes' drive from downtown Auckland. Follow SH1 north to the Silverdale off ramp. Go through Silverdale, turn right on to Whangaparāoa Road and follow the signs to the end of the peninsula. There are connecting buses that run daily from downtown Auckland to the park entrance, however, the bus and ferry are the most direct route from downtown Auckland.

For public transport information: phone Auckland Transport 09 366 6400 or visit at.govt.nz

Set netting ban



Set netting ban at Army Bay and Te Haruhi Bay, 20 Dec to 31 Mar, within 200m of mean high water springs.

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

Open sanctuary areas:



Prohibited at all times. Covers all of the Shakespear open sanctuary, Te Haruhi Bay, Waterfall Gully and foreshore including all picnic areas, walking and cycle tracks, Te Haruhi Bay Beach, car parking area and Lookout car park.

Beach:



Summer (1 Dec to 1 Mar) Winter (2 Mar to 30 Mar)

Off-leash (5pm-10am) Off-leash all times



Prohibited (10am-5pm)

Grass areas:



Off-leash at all times. This covers Army Bay and Okoromai Bay picnic, grassland and foreshore areas.

Walking track areas:



On-leash at all times. This covers all areas on walking tracks and roads at Army Bay and Okoromai Bay.

Car park:



Off-leash at all times.

Campground:



Prohibited at all times.

Dogs, pets and wildlife don't mix. Please report any dogs within the open sanctuary immediately. **Freephone from the park information hut or call 09 301 0101.**



Auckland Council manages 27 regional parks

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

When on the park you can use the phone at the information board in Te Haruhi Bay.

Protect **kauri** for future generations



SCRUB all soil off your footwear and gear every time you enter or leave an area with kauri.



SPRAY with disinfectant after you have removed all soil.



STAY on track and off kauri roots.

Shakespear Regional Park



20-PRO-0811



Shakespear Regional Park

At the tip of the Whangaparāoa Peninsula, Shakespear Regional Park is an Open Sanctuary that has sheltered bays, pastureland, regenerating native forest, cliffs and a lookout with views second to none.

The park is a great place for all kinds of land and water activities including picnicking, camping, fishing, windsurfing, snorkeling and diving (around the wreck of the SS Wainui at the western end of Te Haruhi Bay). Feel free to enjoy the working farm setting and walk among the animals. Spring sees the rolling pastures alive with new born lambs.

Shakespear Open Sanctuary

Close to Tiritiri Matangi Island Scientific Reserve, Shakespear Regional Park was considered an ideal site to create an open sanctuary – a pest-free haven for native species. The 500ha sanctuary includes the regional park and adjoining land, and is New Zealand's most visited and accessible wildlife sanctuary integrating conservation with public recreation and farming. A 1.7km pest-proof fence keeps pests out of the open sanctuary. A pest eradication and monitoring programme ensures the open sanctuary remains a pest-free haven for native species. Early human occupants of this area cleared much of the original forest. Today Auckland Council, Shakespear Open Sanctuary Society Inc. and volunteers are working together to replant native forest in gullies and restore wildlife. Many endemic species, including Little Spotted Kiwis, Robins, Whiteheads and Saddlebacks have been reintroduced, with more to come.

To help protect the open sanctuary, please check all vehicles and equipment before entering Shakespear Regional Park to ensure it is free of pests, vermin and hazardous material and take rubbish and food scraps home.



Shakespear Open Sanctuary Society Inc. (SOSSI)

Enthusiastic supporters raise funds for the open sanctuary and assist with pest eradication, public education, and restoration of wetlands and forest. Visit sossi.org.nz

Plants, animals and birds

White-faced herons (matuku-moana), stilts (poaka) and occasionally dotterels (tūturiwhatu) frequent the tidal flats of Ōkoromai Bay.

On the northern side of the park, the regenerating forest of Waterfall Gully is home to native pigeons (kererū), tui and bellbird (korimako). While you are on the lookout for glow worms (titiwai) in Waterfall Gully, keep your ears and eyes open in case you spot a kiwi, but remember not to shine your torches directly at them as the light can be harmful.

History

People have visited and lived at Shakespear on and off for about 1000 years. The Ngāti Kahu iwi occupied the Whangaparāoa Peninsula before European settlers arrived in the 1820s. Archaeological surveys show two main living sites – at Army Bay and Te Haruhi Bay.

Mr W H Shakespear purchased 800ha at the tip of the peninsula in 1883. In 1910 the Shakespear family built a homestead (now the YMCA Lodge) overlooking Te Haruhi Bay on ground that retains evidence of a Māori pā. During World War II the army acquired 130ha of the northeastern tip of the peninsula.

The end of the peninsula was an important defence site during the war. The army constructed a range of defenses including 11 pillboxes, searchlights, electrified barbed wire entanglements and an anti-tank ditch. The Ministry of Defence continues to use the adjacent land.

The Auckland Regional Authority purchased the area now known as Shakespear Regional Park in 1967 from the Shakespear family.



Park facilities

Prime picnic spots

Find your own favourite spot and picnic with friends and family any time at Shakespear Regional Park. Feel free to use the barbecues provided or bring your own gas barbecue.

If you're having a family reunion, social club, Christmas or birthday event, Shakespear Regional Park is an ideal venue. The park has excellent picnic sites that large groups (up to 500 people) can book. Groups of 100 or more must book.

Drinking water is available throughout the park.

Campgrounds

Stay up to seven nights at the all modes campground behind the sand dunes at the very eastern end of Te Haruhi Bay.

SCC Campground

Campervans, vehicle units and caravans with a Self-Containment Certificate (SCC) can stay up to three nights in the SCC campground all year round.

Other accommodation

YMCA Shakespear Lodge is an outdoor education centre and accommodation complex. It has 84 beds, a hall, full facilities and a fantastic view. The lodge is available for hire to schools, community and corporate groups and the general public.

For lodge bookings or more information:
phone 0508 Y-OUTDOORS (968836).

For information on park facilities, conditions and restrictions and to make a booking: phone 09 301 0101, from the park use the contact phone at the office in Te Haruhi Bay following the on site instruction, or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Feature tracks and trails

Note: colours correspond to painted marker posts on each track.

Kanuka Track ---

15 minutes one way, 1km

The Kanuka Track is a stunning new track that was designed for the purpose of an alternative route through native bush. It links the Waterfall Gully Track to the Picture Frame, travelling through regenerating Kanuka forest that flourishes with Saddlebacks and Whiteheads.

Heritage Trail ---

2 hours return, 3.9km

Follow the yellow markers on this fascinating walk that begins at the Waterfall Gully car park and takes in historic sites, a WWII gun emplacement, native forest, farmland, spectacular views over Auckland and a wetland.

Lookout Track ---

1 hour return, 2.5km

One of the park's highlights is the spectacular 360-degree view that can be seen from the lookout, including the Auckland city skyline, the islands of the Hauraki Gulf and Wenderholm and Mahurangi regional parks.

Follow the blue markers; note that this walk does include one steep area.

Tiritiri Track ---

2 hours return, 4.8km

Follow the red markers from the car park at Te Haruhi Bay head along the beach, past the campground and an old Māori settlement area at the eastern end of the bay. Continue along the cliff line for the best view of Tiritiri Matangi Island and return via the park's main lookout.

Ōkoromai Track ---

45–60 minutes one way, 2km

The Ōkoromai Track crosses the headland and links Ōkoromai and Te Haruhi bays. From Ōkoromai or Te Haruhi Bays, follow the white marker posts. The track passes through native bush, friendly farm animal paddocks, and you can enjoy panoramic views of the Hauraki Gulf. There is an alternative route via the Heritage Trail to bypass the Ōkoromai Bay foreshore at high tide.

Mountain bikes are welcome in the park but please do not cycle on bush tracks – see map for details.

Other tracks ---

Be safe in regional parks

The water safety code

1. Be prepared.
2. Watch out for yourself and others.
3. Be aware of the dangers.
4. Know your limits.

The outdoor safety code

1. Plan your trip.
2. Tell someone.
3. Be aware of the weather.
4. Know your limits.
5. Take sufficient supplies.

New Zealand Defence Force land.
Please keep out!

Dogs, all other animals and pets are prohibited beyond the solid red marked lines. This includes dogs, animals and pets in vehicles.



Key

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | Biking | | Authorised vehicle access |
| | Bird colony | | Roads |
| | Boat launching | | Pest-proof fence |
| | Bus stop | | Cliffs |
| | Camping | | Streams |
| | Changing room | | Campground |
| | Disabled access | | Parkland |
| | Farmland/cattle yard | | Bush |
| | Fishing from rocks | | Wetland |
| | Historic site | | Sand |
| | Information | | Non parkland |
| | Information office/Ranger station | | No dogs |
| | Kite surfing | | Bookable activity site |
| | Lookout | | Please quote number or 'designated site' when booking an activity site |
| | Paragliding | | |
| | Parking | | |
| | Phone to contact ranger | | |
| | Picnic information | | |
| | Scuba diving | | |
| | Self-containment Certificate (SCC) campground | | |
| | Snorkelling | | |
| | Swimming | | |
| | Toilets | | |
| | Walking | | |
| | Windsurfing | | |
| | Woolshed | | |
| | YMCA | | |
| | No biking | | |
| | No vehicle access | | |

Volunteering

We would love to have your help with work in regional parks. Age and physical ability are no barriers 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

The [Shakespear Open Sanctuary Society Incorporated](http://sossi.org.nz) (SOSSI) is a not-for-profit organisation that works in

partnership with Auckland Council at Shakespear Regional Park. They are involved in volunteer programmes, fundraising, education and advocacy.

You can help maintain and develop Shakespear Open Sanctuary as a pest free haven for wildlife by becoming a member or by volunteering.

For more information visit sossi.org.nz



Ranger recommendations

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

If you have two hours...

Don't miss the magnificent 360-degree views from the lookout at the top of the Lookout Track, before heading down to Te Haruhi Bay for a beach walk.

If you have half a day...

As well as the lookout views and Te Haruhi Bay, you will have time

to see much more of the park – walk the heritage trail, mountain bike around the park or take time out for a picnic.

If you have a full day...

Explore the park at your leisure, find your own spot for a picnic and indulge your passion for fishing, snorkelling, diving or windsurfing.

For something different, end the day with a walk through the Waterfall Gully where the glow worms put on their evening display.