

WELCOME TO MURIWAI

A scenic view of Muriwai, New Zealand. In the foreground, a person with long hair, wearing a dark tank top, stands on a hillside covered in lush green vegetation, including pine trees and coastal plants. They are looking out over a vast landscape. In the middle ground, there is a large green golf course, a small cluster of buildings, and a coastline with waves breaking on the shore. The background shows rolling hills and a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

A GUIDE FOR NEW RESIDENTS



NEW TO THE AREA?

Congratulations on your fine choice and WELCOME to our great little community! Currently the population at Muriwai Beach sits at just over 1,000. We are a diverse yet passionate, pro-active bunch, who care deeply for our backyard and love to look out for our neighbours.

Popular things to do here include surfing, kite surfing, blokarting, paraponting and hang gliding, especially when the prevailing westerly wind provides favourable conditions. Fishing is also popular (yet can be dangerous at times), as is mountain biking and hiking (there are some excellent wilderness tracks close by).

Our unbroken 50km stretch of beach extending all the way up the Tasman Sea coast to the mouth of the Kaipara Harbour is fantastic for dog walkers, horse riders and 4WD enthusiasts. And if you're a keen golfer you're in luck, as our links course is considered one of the world's best.

"That's all good, but when's rubbish day?" you may be asking. This booklet contains more info about living here, along with a practical guide on local services and amenities.

A BIT OF BACKGROUND

HISTORY The name Muriwai was not widely used until the 1920's. It means 'water's end' or 'backwater' and was used when referring to the lower portion of the Muriwai Stream (behind the Lodge Store). Prior to this, the 50km stretch of beach between Papakanui Spit at the entrance of the Kaipara Harbour and Toaraerae (Flat Rock) was known as Te One Rangatira (The Chiefly Beach) – while the surrounding area was known as Motutara, which means 'Island of Sea Birds'.

The first people to occupy the area were the Turehu – 'those who arose from the earth'. Small groups of Maori occupied pa sites on the point and on the hill north of the stream. It is believed that Europeans first visited the area in 1820, when Samuel Marsden (an early missionary to New Zealand) recorded the black sand hills. The first European settlers followed around 50 years later, and the first store was opened in 1888.

The area became a popular holiday retreat in the summer months, with up to 120 people camping on the land behind the beach, which the park now occupies. The beach was used extensively for motor racing from the 1920s through to the 1940s.





< 50KM OF BEACH

Our beautiful stretch of black sand beach extends all the way up to the mouth of the Kaipara Harbour.



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GANNET COLONY

About 1,200 pairs of adult gannets nest here, August to March every year.

PILLOW LAVA >

Unique volcanic formations found on the cliffs above Maukatia (Maori Bay).



GEOGRAPHY Muriwai Regional Park was established in 1969 and extends from Maukatia (Maori Bay) in the south up Muriwai Beach for 8km. Much of the land at the southern end of the beach is part of the Muriwai Regional Park. Maukatia to the south is separated from Muriwai Beach by Otakamiro Point, with its steep cliffs and rocky nesting areas that are home to the region's only colony of Australasian gannets. The Regional Park includes a golf course along Coast Rd, and the area north of Okiritoto Stream is known as the "Five Mile Strip" or "Five Mile Block" as this is its approximate length. A horse park (parking area for horse floats and trucks to unload) is located just to the south of Okiritoto Stream. Limited 4WD access on to the beach is also provided at this point (a permit is required).

GEOLOGY Sand and rock (sedimentary), older volcanic material, with many concretions and layers in the cliff walls. A blowhole plays often. The shore platform is also well jointed, with the main rock type being piha conglomerate. Muriwai Beach has black sand, caused by the iron content derived from the ancient volcanoes in the area, including the large "Kaipara Volcano" which was situated offshore from the Kaipara Heads, and erupted 23-16 million years ago. The black sand is moved up the west coast of the North Island by longshore drift.

WILDLIFE Muriwai Beach is home to a wide range of wildlife, including a fur seal colony on Oaia Island, nesting grounds north of the surf tower for the endangered dotterel, little blue penguins at Maukatia (Maori Bay), and of course, the famous colony of Takapu (Australasian gannets) on Otakamiro Point (currently about 1,200 pairs nest here from August to March each year). Ocean species are also abundant; whale and dolphin sightings are fairly common.

SERVICES & AMENITIES

ARC: Auckland Regional Parks. Phone: 09-301 0101
aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Ranger's Station. Bottom of Motutara Rd, on left before Surf School & playground. Phone: 027 290 1287 / 0800 462 685

ACCOMMODATION:

Houghton's Bush Camp. 75 Motutara Rd, Muriwai. Phone: 09 411 9191
houghtonsbushcamp.co.nz

Muriwai Beach Motor Camp. Motutara Rd, right down by

the beach, past Sand Dunz and on the right. Phone: 09 411 8672

Only Fools & Horses

Swimming pools, horse stay and accommodation. 376 Oaia Road, Muriwai. Phone: 021 1132662 / www.fools.co.nz

CAFES: Muriwai Lodge Store (Top Shop).

On left heading up Motutara Road. Currently under change of ownership.

Sand Dunz. Bottom of Motutara Road. Hours: Daily

7:30am - 5pm Phone: 09 4118558

The Espresso Room

Waimauku Village, 5-19 Factory Road, Waimauku
Hours: Mon-Fri, 7am – 3pm
Phone: 09-411 7910

DOCTORS: The Doctors

Waimauku. 8 Waimauku Station Road. Phone: 09 411 8094. Hours: Mon/Tues 8am - 5:30pm, Wed/Fri 8am - 5pm, Thu 8am - 7pm, Sat 8.30am - 12.30am / thedoctors.co.nz

The Doctors Silver Fern

Unit C12 Waimauku Village,
5-19 Factory Road. Phone: 09
4115222. Hours: Mon 8:30am
- 7pm, Tue 8am - 5pm, Wed
9am - 5pm, Thu 8am - 5pm,
Fri 8:30 am - 5pm, Sat 9am -
12:30pm. / silverfernmedical.
co.nz. **Closest 24 hour A&E:**
White Cross Healthcare. 131
Lincoln Road, Henderson
Phone: 09-836 3336

FITNESS / GYMS / YOGA:

Kumeu Gym - 24/7 Phone 09-
412 8932. **Fit Factory** - 24/7,
156A SH 16. Phone 09-412
8932. **Body Mastery Mat**
Pilates Classes contact Jenni
Abdelnoor (search for her on
Facebook). **Studio Sixteen**
Pilates. Unit B6/9A Factory
Road, Waimauku. Phone
027 216 1663. **Sacred Space**
Yoga, contact Kama Brown
(search on Facebook).





LIBRARY: Closest public library is Kumeu Library, 296 Main Road, Huapai. Closed Sundays. Phone 09-377 0209

LOCAL COUNCIL: Muriwai is part of the Rodney District Council; their office is located by the library, 296 Main Road, Huapai. Phone (09) 412 9120. Our local representative is Phelan Pirrie. Phone 021 837 167

MURIWAI GOLF LINKS: 18-hole championship golf links along with multiple practice areas, shop, café & full bar facilities. 101 Coast Rd, Muriwai. Phone: 09 411 8454 / muriwaigolfclub.co.nz

MURIWAI SURF SCHOOL: Awesome local family-owned business offering surf lessons, surfboard, gear and blokart

hire. Located just 1 min from the beach (by the ranger's station) at 458 Motutara Road. Phone: 021 4 78734 / muriwaisurfschool.co.nz

PLAYGROUND: All the fun climbing and swinging stuff, located at end of Motutara Rd, opp. beach car park.

**POLICE / FIRE
EMERGENCY SERVICES:**

Our closest police station / community constable is located at 4 Matua Rd, Huapai Ph 09-412 7756. Our local fire station is 341 Motutara Rd. If it's an emergency dial 111, otherwise 09 411 7999.

POST SHOP: The closest is at Westgate. Postal agents at Waimauku dairy and the Four Square in Kumeu. Our local posties are Jack and Amel.

SKATE & BIKE PARK:
Coast Rd, by tennis courts.

SUPERMARKETS: Fresh Choice Waimauku Village (10 mins drive) Phone: 09 411 7890 Open daily 7am - 9pm.
New World Kumeu, 108-110 Main Rd Kumeu 0810 (15 mins drive) Phone: 09 412 7044. Open daily 7am - 9pm.
PAK'nSAVE. The closest one is at Westgate (25 mins drive), 17/19 Fred Taylor Drive, Massey. Phone: 09-417 0162. Open daily 7am - 9pm.

TENNIS COURTS: 101 Coast Rd. You need to pay for a key (this helps upkeep).

VETS: Your Mobile Vet. Jono is amazing and he'll come to you. Phone 027 559 0889. **Vets North Waimauku, Cattery & Groomers.** 1 Sarah

Todd Lane, Waimauku (10 mins drive). Phone: 0800 887 684 / 09 411 7575. Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm, Sat 9am - 1pm. www.vetsnorth.co.nz **Vets North Huapai & Veterinary Rehab Centre** 344 Main Road, Huapai (15 mins drive). Phone: 0800 887 684 / 09 412 7577. Mon - Fri 8am - 5.30pm. www.vetsnorth.co.nz

VINEYARDS: Waimarie Wines 234 Muriwai Valley Road. Phone 022 043 4615
Coopers Creek 601 SH16, Huapai. Phone 09-412 8560. **The Hunting Lodge Winery** 305/307 Waikoukou Valley Road. Phone 09-964 0565 **Kumeu River** 550 SH16. Phone 09-412 8415
Westbrook Winery 215 Ararimu Valley Road. Phone 09-411 9924.

GOOD TO KNOW

RUBBISH DISPOSAL: This is a paid service. Collection is every Tuesday morning, either from a red bin or pre-paid green bags (these are available from our local supermarkets). Recycling service is free. Collection is every other Tuesday morning from green and yellow bins.

SEPTIC TANKS: Muriwai does not have a sewerage system and all houses use some kind of septic treatment. There are three

types. Standard septic tanks are usually made from concrete and have a single tank. These tanks separate solids and liquids and usually require little maintenance. These tanks do however need to be serviced every 3 - 5 years as they can pollute the surrounding environment. They also don't allow for treatment or waste disposal. Treatment plants and aerobic septic tanks are either provided with one tank, or tank that is separated into

separate chambers/tanks. These provide either aeration, sand or cloth filtration. These tanks are environmentally friendly, treats effluents and separates solids. However, these tanks should be serviced twice annually and emptied every 3 - 5 years. Not all treatment plants have equal usability. Worm farm treatment plants either have a one tank chamber or are divided into separate tanks. They are extremely versatile and work by breaking down

solids naturally, including food waste - providing an environmentally friendly tank which only has to be emptied every 10 - 15 years. These tanks should be serviced twice a year and can only be cleaned with bio safe products.

WATER SUPPLY /TANKS:

Most of Motutara Rd is on mains water and most of Oaia Rd, Waitea Rd, Constable Rd and Domain Crescent is on tank supply. If your water comes from a collection tank, it's up to you to keep your water safe and reduce the risk of water-borne illness from contaminated water. More info can be found at: <https://www.health.govt.nz/resource/water-collection-tanks-and-safe-household-water>





CLUBS, GROUPS & EVENTS

MURIWAI ARTS / OPEN STUDIOS CO-OP (MAOS):

Local group of artists that run bi-annual exhibitions, ongoing activities, workshops and forums designed to connect the community and wider population with the creative talent out here. muriwaiarts.co.nz / muriwaiartsopenstudios.com

MAORI BAY BOARD RIDERS (MBBR): Club for local surfers, established 30 years ago. They run a full

programme of competitions and events throughout the year and offer ongoing support, funding and coaching for the next generation of groms. (Also, their end of year ball is always EPIC.) www.facebook.com/pg/Maoribayboardbidersclub

MURIWAI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (MCA):

Local group formed 50 years ago to manage, promote and develop community facilities and

amenities. www.facebook.com/pg/muriwaicommunity/

MURIWAI ENVIRONMENT ACTION TRUST (MEACT)

A group of eco-conscious locals who work to nurture and enhance the community's environment, protecting and preserving for future generations. Involved in native planting, weed eradication, composting, pest control initiatives, beach clean ups etc. www.muriwai-environment.org / search up on Facebook.

MURIWAI 'FRAME OF MIND' FILM CLUB:

In association with Muriwai Arts, screenings at the surf club every few months, with the objective of raising funds for projection equipment. Sign up for news: <https://mailchi.mp/7d8d4cc2628f/muriwaiarts>

MURIWAI SPORTS FISHING CLUB):

A recreational fishing club that meets monthly at the surf club. www.facebook.com/pg/Muriwai-Sports-Fishing-Club

MURIWAI PLAYGROUP: A community initiative for pre-schoolers and caregivers that has been running for over 15 years at the surf club. Weekly sessions aim to provide stimulation in a nurturing environment for children to

learn and grow, and a relaxed environment for parents and caregivers to relax and socialise / www.facebook.com/muriwaiplaygroup/

THE SURF CLUB (Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service / Community Hub):

Muriwai Beach is patrolled by volunteer guards every weekend through the summer months (Labour weekend until Easter). Paid lifeguards watch over the beach on weekdays during Dec / Jan. The surf club doubles as a community facility (free for local events and gatherings etc) and is also available for hire. More info at <https://www.muriwaisurf.org.nz>

MURIWAI VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE:

A group

of local residents dedicated to ensuring we have a fire and rescue capability 24/7 to protect and serve the community. They're always looking for volunteers! More info at www.muriwaifire.org or search on Facebook.

OPEN MIC NIGHT: Held at the surf club on the first Thursday of every month, a chance for locals to come along and enjoy some great talent, while providing an open forum for musicians to perform to a friendly and familiar audience. Search Muriwai Open Mic on Facebook.

TWILIGHT CHRISTMAS MARKET:

Held at the surf club early Dec every year. Local artisans selling locally-made goods. Contact Erin: 021 411 568



< MBBR

Club for local surfers, involved in a great line up of year-round, local and national comps and events.



OPEN MIC NIGHT >

Popular social event, first Thursday of every month at the surf club.



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PLAYGROUP

A weekly catch up for preschoolers and their caregivers.



< MURIWAI ARTS

Keenly anticipated bi-annual exhibition held at the surf club + open studio 'arts trail' - showcasing the work of our talented local artists.



MVLS >

The Muriwai Volunteer Surf Lifesaving Club - keeping our beach safe since 1948.



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MVFB

Our local Muriwai Volunteer Fire Brigade, 'manned' by a team of wonderful volunteers.



SCHOOLS & PRESCHOOLS

Closest Primary:

WAIMAUKU PRIMARY

SCHOOL: Highly regarded in-zone primary school, semi-rural with a roll of around 700 pupils. Located at 2 Muriwai Road, Waimauku. Phone 09 411 8222. Email office@waimauku.school.nz / Visit www.waimauku.school.nz

In-zone Secondary:

KAIPARA COLLEGE:

Rautawhiri Rd, Helensville. Phone 09 420 8640 / email admin@kaiparacollege.school.nz

[school.nz](http://www.school.nz) / Visit www.kaiparacollege.school.nz

MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL:

Don Buck Road, Massey (near Westgate). Phone 09 831 0500 / email office@masseyhigh.school.nz / Visit www.masseyhigh.school.nz

Early learning options:

WAIMAUKU KINDERGARTEN:

18 Freshfields Road, Waimauku. Phone: 09 411 8890. Session times: Mon to Fri 8:30am - 2:30pm / Visit

www.kaitiakikindergartens.org.nz/kindergartens/waimauku-kindergarten/

WAIMAUKU PLAYCENTRE:

69 Muriwai Road, Waimauku. Phone: 09 411 8256. Session times: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9am-12noon / Visit www.playcentre.org.nz/centre/waimauku/

There are also a number of private kindergartens and daycare centres in and around the Waimauku / Huapai and Kumeu areas.



< WAIMAUKU PRIMARY SCHOOL

Just at the roundabout on the Muriwai Rd turn-off. 10 minutes drive. Local school bus service.



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MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL

Just past Westgate in Massey, approx 30 minutes drive. Local school bus service.

KAIPARA COLLEGE >

Located in Helensville, approx 25 minutes drive. Local school bus service.





OUT & ABOUT

MURIWAI LOOKOUT:

½ hour - 0.7km. Entry points at bottom of Waitea Rd and Domain Crescent. Pleasant stroll through mature native bush along to the lookout, with sweeping views put to Oaia Island and up the coast.

TAKAPU REFUGE TRACK:

½ hour - 0.8 km. Enter from the carpark at Maukatia/ Maori Bay, skirt around the headland then descend to the end of Muriwai Beach Access Road. At the top, two

tracks branch out to lookouts over the gannet colony.

EDWIN MITCHELSON

TRACK: ½ hour - 1.1km

Enter from the reserve on Oaia Road, descend through forest to the lookout Track (20 mins) then branch off to Edwin Mitchelson Road. Enjoy spectacular views north up Muriwai Beach.

MAUKATIA / MAORI BAY

TRACK: 10 mins - 0.2 km.

Connecting the two carparks,

this lovely little track passes by a number of big Puriri trees.

MURIWAI BEACH LOOP:

1.5 hrs one way, 4.8km

From car park behind surf tower head northwards along marked track through the back of dunes eventually coming out onto beach. Continue north to the beach 4WD vehicle access way before heading inland. From the horse park parking area take Coast Road Track leading back to car park.

GOLDIE BUSH WALKWAY:

4 - 5 hours - 4.5 km one way. Entry is at Constable Rd. Descends gently through native forest with regenerating Kauri, includes the swing bridge (pictured left) and a track along the Mokoroa Stream to the impressive Mokoroa Falls.

TE HENGA WALKWAY:

3 ½ hours one way - 10.3 km. Enter at Constable Road or alternatively at the Bethells end. Dramatic cliffs, waves smashing into rocks and elevated ocean views - it's a spectacular walk, and part of the Hillary Trail.

FOREST USE: The Five Mile Block (extending beyond Coast Road and the horse park) offers recreational trails for walkers and riders. Cyclists

enjoy the Coast Rd as far as the top of the Regional Park (but are not permitted into the adjoining Woodhill Forest). Dog walkers also frequent the area, as it provides a range of off-leash walking opportunities.

4WD & BEACH USE: You need a permit if you want to take a vehicle up the beach. These are free, and can be obtained easily online, at the Auckland Council website.

HORSE RIDING: There is dedicated parking for horse trucks/floats at the end of Coast Road. Riding areas includes the beach (north) and Okiritoto Stream.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: Best place to go nearby is the Woodhill Mountain Bike Park; a purpose-built

rider accessed single track network. Loaded with fun for people of all ages.

SURFING: There are multiple spots around Muriwai where you'll find great surf. Maori Bay features a peaky beach break, with swells refracting off the cliffs. South Muriwai is a classic beach break that sometimes has a good lefthander, depending on the sand banks. If you're able to 4WD up the beach, it's likely you'll find a sweet spot all to yourself. Heaven.

ROCK FISHING: Flat rock is the perfect spot - but be aware that fishing from there can be dangerous as the waves are unpredictable. Wear a lifejacket, and check sea conditions first.



< SURFING

One of our most popular outdoor pursuits and a key reason why many people choose to live here.



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CYCLING

There are loads of local tracks, the Woodhill Mountain Bike Park is also close by.

FISHING >

Off the rocks, off the beach, or out in a boat on the ocean!





THANKS TO:

This is a Muriwai Community Association (MCA) initiative. Thanks to local real estate agent Simon Spiller (021 968 068), owner of The

Gannet (www.gannetnews.org) for hosting us online. Danielle Hart (021880028 / www.dhartcreative.com) for content creation and production. Dan Mitchinson (see

[danmitchinchips](https://www.instagram.com/danmitchinchips) on Instagram) for the following photos: front and back cover shots, pages 2, 22, 25. Whites Aviation photo credit for archive shot on page 5.