



WALK/CYCLE IN THE CITY

Te Ara Hīkoi, Paihikara Hoki, o Tūranga ki Wainui

Gisborne - Wainui Cycle and Walkway



Grade
Easy



Distance
5km



Walking
60 mins



Cycling
20 mins



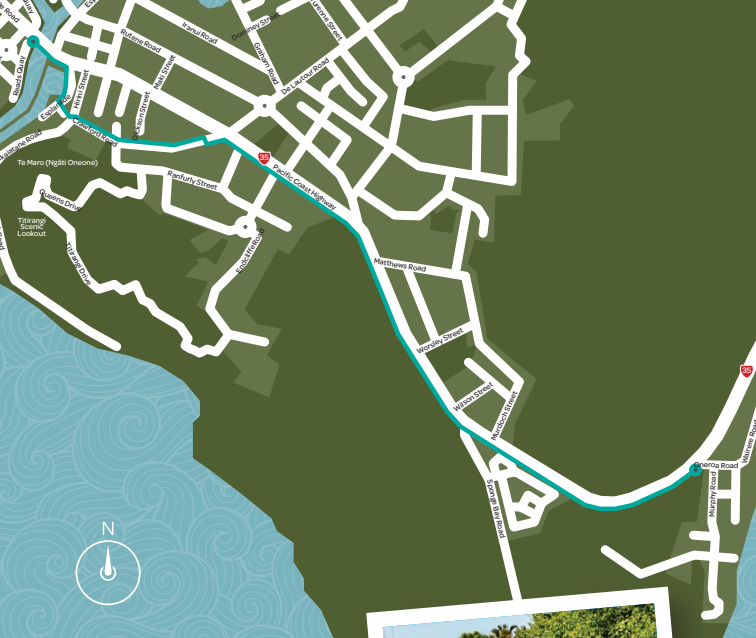
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This trail connects the city with suburbs to the east, formally ending at the start of Wainui Beach on the east coast. Wainui is an open beach with famous surf breaks and golden sands. If travelling from Wainui Beach, the shared-path concrete trail goes from Murphy Road corner, near Stock Route surf break, past the Sponge Bay and Tamarau subdivisions, into Kaiti, past Kaiti School and the Kaiti Hub of shops beside SH35 and Wainui Road, to Crawford Road. The path then diverts away from the main road along a shared path, safely divided from traffic, to the Inner Harbour. The trail ends on the city side of the 1925-built Gladstone Road Bridge but connects from there to the Oneroa and Ngā Wai Weherua (City Rivers) trails.

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Tapuwae Tairāwhiti Trails, leaving nothing
but your foot or bike tyre prints!

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Wainui is known for its surf beach and the start of a journey up Highway 35 to Opotiki. In the late 1880s and early 20th century, **horse-drawn coaches carried people and goods up the coast**, often on beaches. In the early sheepfarming days, stock was driven along the coast to the freezing works in Gisborne; live animals were sent up the coast to new pastures.

Wainui's beach access for sheep and cattle became **Stock Route**. The Gisborne - Wainui Cycle and Walkway was a long-held vision of many Wainui people, and spearheaded by former district councillor **Muriel Jones**. A sign commemorating her endeavours and bearing her name is in a rest area beside the trail, near the Sponge Bay subdivision. About 1.5 km from Wainui, the trail crosses the road to Sponge Bay. When conditions are right, surfers enjoy the waves off Sponge Bay and **Tuamotu Island**. In the late 1800s, a tramway carried rock for port development from the island area to Tūranganui River via Crawford and Wainui roads. Crawford Rd was named after Gisborne's first **Mayor William Crawford**, elected in 1877. Crawford's photographs of the district (1874-1913) can be found in Tairāwhiti Museum. Near the working port, the trail passes **yards of logs**, mainly destined for China. This reflects 150 years of **changing land use** from native bush to sheep and beef farms, and to pine trees.



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