

Ōhope Scenic Reserve

Fairbrother loop self guided walk points of interest



Time needed: approx 1 hour

The Fairbrother Loop Walk is the first portion of the Ōhope Scenic Reserve. It can be an exciting place to visit during the day or night! It takes one hour if you take the full loop back to Ōhope.

The Whakatāne Kiwi Trust run guided night walks during the months of May and June. But you can go on a self guided walk anytime. You can use this map as a guide, and there are also a number of markers and information panels along the track pointing out things of interest.

← links to Mokarua Bush Scenic Reserve



DAY ☀

- i* information panel
- toutouwai (robin)
- view
- nikau palm

NIGHT 🌙

- kiwi
- great kiwi listening
- ruru (morepork)
- S* spider *Look out for the reflective discs at night that will help you locate wētā and spiders.*
- W* wētā

100.0 m

START waharoa (entrance way)

To Whakatāne →

ŌHOPE BEACH



View this map on your mobile device using the QR code or visit www.whakatanekiwi.org.nz



Google earth

WHO YOU MAY SEE OR HEAR ON THE FAIRBROTHER LOOPTRACK

TOUTOUWAI / ROBIN



40 robin were released into the reserve in August 2014. Robins are known for their 'bold, curious and trusting' natures, often coming to within a few metres of people. As ground feeders, eating worms, larvae and insects, the North Island robin are especially vulnerable to predators such as rats, possums, mustelids (stoats, weasels and ferrets), cats and hedgehogs



RURU / MOREPORK



The morepork (*Ninox noveaseelandiae*) is New Zealand's only surviving native owl.

Morepork are speckled brown with yellow eyes in a dark facial mask. Often heard in the forest at dusk and throughout the night, the morepork is known for its haunting, melancholic call. Its Maori name, ruru, reflects this call.



Morepork are nocturnal, hunting at night for large invertebrates including beetles, wētā, moths and spiders. They will also take small birds, rats and mice.

They fly silently as they have soft fridges on the edge of the wing feathers. They catch prey using large sharp talons or beak.

By day they roost in the cavities of trees or in thick vegetation. If they are visible during the day they can get mobbed by other birds and are forced to move.

KIWI



There are over 300 North Island brown kiwi in the Whakatane area. Kiwi are nocturnal. The Ohope Scenic Reserve is a great place to hear kiwi. The best time to hear them is during the months of April – July. There is more information about kiwi on the panels as you walk around the track.

SHEETWEB SPIDERS



Sheetweb spiders are large nocturnal spiders (up to 25mm in body length) usually seen hanging underneath a large 'trampoline' or 'bed sheet' web, waiting for prey.

The Web can be up to half a metre across and has lots of anchoring silk threads on tree trunks. They are very common in the bush and you can see their webs. During the day they hide in a silk lined tunnel out of sight. If disturbed at night they rush back to hide.

WĒTĀ



Wētā are incredible looking creatures. They range in size, but with their big bodies, spiny legs, and curved tusks, they are one of New Zealand's most recognisable creepy-crawlies.

Wētā have become icons for invertebrate conservation in New Zealand because many species are threatened or endangered. There are more than 70 species of wētā in New Zealand, 16 of which are at risk.

The decline of most wētā is due to three major causes: Predation, habitat destruction and browsers. The population of wētā in Ōhōpe Scenic Reserve has dramatically increased with intensive pest control. You are most likely to see cave wētā and tree wētā on the Fairbrother Loop.