

What makes Tiromoana Bush a unique experience?

Lowland coastal forest once covered the hills surrounding Mt Cass in the Waipara area, one hour's drive north of Christchurch. After 150 years of farming only a few remnants of the forest remained.

In 2004 an ambitious restoration project began, funded by Transwaste, the company that owns both the bush and the adjacent Kate Valley Landfill.

With tree planting and pest control, native plants and birds are thriving as Tiromoana Bush regenerates from farmland back to native forest.

You can walk past forests of five-finger, kahikatea, kāmuka, mānuka, ngaio, ribbonwood, and tōtara. Native birds such as korimako (bellbird), riroriro (grey warbler) and kererū (pigeon) can be heard calling or seen as you walk.

A QEII National Trust Open Space Covenant protects Tiromoana Bush for perpetuity.

Indicative walking times

Car park to Kate Pond	60 minutes
Car park to beach	90 minutes

Welcome to Canterbury's regenerating native forest

Tiromoana Bush is a special place, a 407-hectare home to 177 native plants and 22 native bird species.

Best of all a network of walking tracks takes you around the bush, ponds and wetlands, all the way to the beach at Pegasus Bay.

Inside this Guide there's a map and descriptions of the walking tracks.

The main track takes up to 4 hours to walk and requires sturdy shoes and a reasonable level of fitness.

Tiromoana Bush is open year round during daylight hours, but does close at times of high fire risk.

Cell phone coverage is limited in the area, so visitors are advised to take this Guide with them into the bush.

THIS PROJECT IS
PROUDLY FUNDED BY



For more information visit
tiromoanawalkways.nz

TIROMOANA BUSH WALKWAY



Mt Cass Road

Turn off SH1 at the Waipara Junction



tiromoanawalkways.nz

Your walkway Guide

The Walkways travel through grassland, regenerating forest and wetland with sweeping views over the valley and coastline to Pegasus Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

Walking the complete track takes 3 hours and 30 minutes, though with two additional loop tracks, three lookouts, three picnic areas and the beach along the way most walkers will happily spend 4 hours or more enjoying their visit to Tiromoana Bush.

Commencing at the car park on Mt Cass Road **1** (see map) the main walkway travels across plantation forest. A short path leads to Barbara's Lookout **2**, or descend past the remnant and regenerating native forest of black beech, five-finger, kahikatea, kānuka, kōhuhu, lacebark, mānuka, ngaio, ribbonwood, tī kōuka, and tōtara, down to Kate Stream by the coast. From there it's just 10 minutes along a track by Kate Stream **4** to the beach.

Alternatively head up the hillside and take a track that leads to a lookout – Te Ara Matairangi. **5**

Local Māori Runanga, Ngāi Tūāhuriri, who has mana whenua (customary ownership) over the area designed and built an ika pou whenua (mahinga kai fishing marker) at the walkway's coastal lookout. The carvings on the pou reflect cultural values and relate to the importance of the area to Ngāi Tūāhuriri and for mahinga kai (resources that come from the area). The lookout view takes in Motunau Island in the north to Banks Peninsula in the south.



The track winds back through the forest, with sidetracks through a gully of regenerating kānuka **6** and to the lookout at Ella Peak **7**, before looping past a picnic spot by the wetlands at Kate Pond **8**, surrounded with harakeke/flax.



The wetlands are a habitat for birds including rare species such as the spotless crane. Kahikatea planted in 2006 around Kate Pond are now well established at 4-5 metres in height.

The main track ascends through the regenerating forest and rejoins the track along the ridgeline in the plantation forest. An alternative track **9** takes a longer gentler climb through the forest back to the main track and the car park. **1**



1 Car Park

Your journey begins at the car park on Mt Cass Road, about 8kms from SH1 in Waipara. At the car park there's an information display.

2 Barbara's Lookout

The track to Barbara's Lookout is signposted about 5 minutes from the car park. Climb through the deer fence and walk 500 metres to enjoy views over Kate Valley to the coast.

*Distance from Walkway: 500 metres
(10 minutes return walk)*

3 + 9 Te Ara Tawhai

This loop track starts at the Barbara's Lookout junction and descends to join the main track in the valley. A great option for a short walk with a stop at the Kate Pond wetland before following the main track to the car park.

*Distance (loop from car park) 5.2kms
(2 hours return walk)*



4 Beach Track

Where the main track crosses the Kate Stream there's a short track along the stream to the remote beach.

*Distance from Walkway: 1 km
(20 minutes return walk)*



5 Te Ara Matairangi

The coastal lookout includes a viewing platform and ika pou whenua, by Ngāi Tūāhuriri. The spectacular views stretch from Motunau Island in the north, along Pegasus Bay south to Banks Peninsula.

*Distance from Walkway: 1km
(20 minutes return walk)*

6 Te Ara Kānuka

Walking through a steep gully of regenerating kānuka on this alternative track won't add any extra time, as it rejoins the main track.

7 Ella Peak

Though a steep climb to the top of Ella Peak, at 346 metres high, the hill rewards you with panoramic views from Christchurch to the Kaikouras.

*Distance from Walkway: 1.5 kms
(50 minutes return walk)*



8 Kate Pond wetlands

Water management at the upstream landfill ensures a flow of water year round enabling vigorous plant growth around Kate Pond and a habitat for a diversity of fresh water birds. The picnic table is a great spot to enjoy the birdsong.

*Distance from Walkway: 500 metres
(10 minutes return walk)*



