

For more information, contact the Greater Wellington Parks department: parks@gw.govt.nz

Greater Wellington contact centre: 0800 496 734



WAINUIOMATA REGIONAL PARK




How to get there


Reservoir Road Entrance: First right-hand turn off Moores Valley Road into Whitcher Grove which turns into Reservoir Road


Hine Road Entrance: Hine Road, Wainuiomata

Public transport: Take the 170 bus from Waterloo Interchange to Hine Road
Timetables and fares – www.metlink.org.nz

Please take care of your park

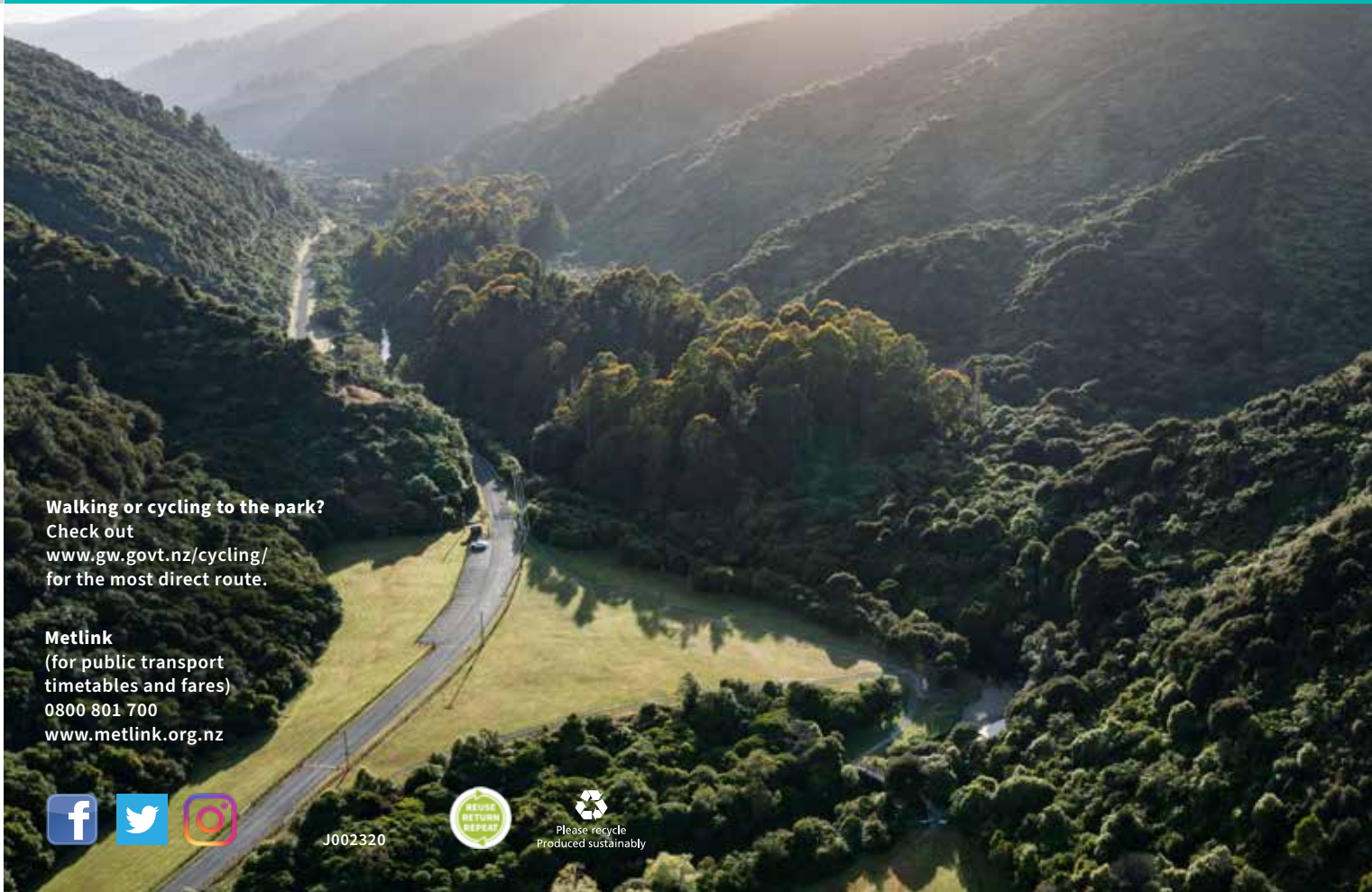
 Take your rubbish home and recycle where possible.

 Recreational use of motorised bikes and quad bikes are not permitted.

 Do not remove, disturb or damage native plants or animals.

Ranger service

Wainuiomata Regional Park has a 5-day Park Ranger service, including most weekends. Those with mobility needs should contact the Park Ranger for advice on accessible facilities within the park.



Walking or cycling to the park?
Check out www.gw.govt.nz/cycling/ for the most direct route.

Metlink
(for public transport timetables and fares)
0800 801 700
www.metlink.org.nz



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Swimming

The Wainuiomata River has several safe swimming holes. Check the water for logs and debris before swimming. The Lower Dam is an ecologically-sensitive area and entering the water is not allowed here.

Picnicking/BBQs

There are good picnic sites along the Wainuiomata River, with several picnic tables provided. Light no fires. You are welcome to use portable gas BBQs.

Dog walking

There are kiwi in the area, so always keep dogs on a lead and remove droppings. No dogs allowed on the Lower Dam Walk above the swingbridge junction on Gums Loop.

Museum

In 2018 a water history museum opened in the lower dam area and is open daily from 9am – 5pm. You will be able to see the historic water catchment artefacts and learn about the history of the area. Make sure you allow time to have a look around.

















History

Māori used the hills and valleys to travel between the Wairarapa and Te Whanganui-a-Tara (Wellington Harbour). The Wainuiomata River has been a source of Wellington's drinking water since 1884 when the Lower Dam and pipeline were built. The Morton Dam was completed in 1911, a weir and pipeline from Ōrongorongo River were constructed in 1926 and a simple water treatment plant built in 1963.

By the late 1980s the Morton Dam was decommissioned, the lake drained, and in 1993 a new treatment plant was taking water from weirs in both the Wainuiomata and Ōrongorongo rivers. This plant produces up to 60 million litres of high-quality water per day and supplies about 15% of the water used by the Wellington metropolitan area.

Public access to the Wainuiomata Water Collection Area is by guided walking tours only. Follow our Facebook page for updates on when these are available.

Tracks and trails

Track	Distance (km)	Time (walk)	Description	Grade Easy, Intermediate, Moderate, Hard
Nīkau Track	1.5km	30 min return	This track follows the Nīkau Creek and passes through regenerating bush before reaching mature beech forest. Return the way you came.	E  
Gums Loop	2.7km	40 min return	Take the track across the bridge to the Hine Road entrance. Follow the river upstream through the gum trees, past regenerating bush and the sites of the old dam-construction houses. Cross back over the river via the swingbridge and return to the carpark beside the sealed road.	E    
Sledge Track Loop	1.5km	40 min return	This track takes you up through native bush and gives views down over the Wainuiomata valley. Starting and finishing from the old house site, it runs past the Pa Harakeke (flax planting site). It then veers to the right, following the route of a historic logging track put in by the Sinclair family in the mid-1800s. Climbing through regenerating bush beside the Sledge Track Creek, the path loops back towards the house site	E   
Tana Umaga Track	1.1 km	25 mins one way	Some steep sections lead to a nice view of the Lower Dam wetland. Views of the Upper Wainuiomata River Valley are also excellent from a rest stop. The easiest direction is up the Sledge Track then down the Tana Umaga Track to the Gums Loop. Tana Umaga is a former captain of the All Blacks and Wainuiomata resident.	E   
Lower Dam Walk	3.2km	1 hour return	An easy walk to one of New Zealand's oldest dams. Learn about Wellington's water history and enjoy the bird song! Heavy vehicles use this road so for your safety please walk on the track.	E    



KEY

Natural features

-  Native forest
-  Scrub
-  Grassland
-  Gum trees
-  Water collection area (no public access)
-  Rivers and streams

Other features

-  Public entrance
-  Road
-  Ranger office
-  Building
-  Footbridge
-  Vehicle gate
-  Information kiosk
-  Parking
-  Toilets
-  Bus stop
-  Picknicking
-  Swimming
-  Dog walking
-  Walking
-  Buggy walks