

Whanganui and Manawatū



Nestled along the west coast of the lower North Island, the river regions of Whanganui and Manawatū are places rich in history, arts and culture, where breath-taking natural landscapes capture imaginations at every turn.

Whanganui is home to

Aotearoa's longest navigable river, linking mountains, rainforest, city, and sea. Twice crowned New Zealand's Most Beautiful City and a UNESCO City of Design, Whanganui is a unique blend of heritage architecture and cutting-edge creativity. Explore the Whanganui River, immerse yourself in museums and art galleries, take a leisurely cycle or walk in the stunning natural parks and reserves. Here, you'll find adventures that rejuvenate and experiences that last a lifetime. Manawatū, meaning 'Heart

Standing Still', rewards those who get off the beaten track to find hidden gems and unexpected moments. At its heart lies the vibrant urban city of Palmerston North, which serves up culinary delights, creative spaces to inspire, and top shops and theatre to keep the culture-hungry happy. For a slower pace, this region excels at boutique rural retreats that will refuel the mind and soul, all with the dramatic backdrop of bush-clad mountains where day hikes and mountain bike trails lie ready and waiting.

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nz

Email

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TE MAURI O
MANAWATŪ



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Getting There

Whanganui and Manawatū sit less than an hour apart on an easy, scenic road trip.

Wellington is just 2 hours drive from Manawatū and 2.5 hours from Whanganui. New Plymouth is 2 hours drive from Whanganui and 3 hours from Manawatū, while Taupo is about 3 hours drive from both destinations.

Whanganui offers daily one-hour direct flights to Auckland through Air Chathams. Palmerston North airport offers daily flights from New Zealand's main centres.

TOP 10 MUST DOS

1. A historic riverboat tour on Paddle Steamer Waimarie
2. Paddle the magnificent Whanganui River by canoe
3. Observe glass artists and give it a try at NZ Glassworks
4. Ride the 102 year old Durie Hill Tunnel and Elevator
5. Go back in time on Whanganui Vintage Weekend
6. Meet wildlife at Central Energy Trust Wildbase Recovery
7. Hike Rangiwahia Hut Track and its mystical bridge
8. Shred the trails at Arapuke Mountain Bike Park
9. Feel wind in your sails with Manawatū Blokating
10. Indulge in a luxury stay at Rathmoy Lodge

TOP 5 for OLDER TRAVELLERS

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Stay at the Riverside Retreat at Makoura Lodge
2. Delve into our national sport at NZ Rugby Museum
3. Stay near Whanganui city centre at Kings Court Motel
4. Overnight at the historic Rutland Arms Hotel
5. Enjoy history on the Paddle Steamer Waimarie

TOP 5 for FAMILIES

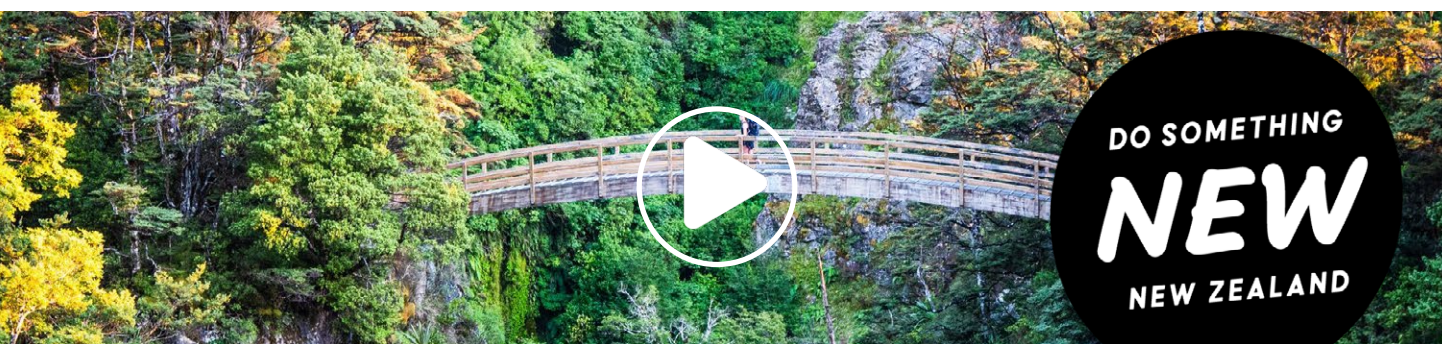
Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Take a scenic horse trek at Makoura Lodge
2. Speed away with Manawatū Blokart Club
3. Experience multi-activity fun at River Valley Lodge
4. Splash and giggle with Awastone's scenic raft
5. An iconic trip on Paddle Steamer Waimarie

TOP 5 for COUPLES

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Uncover treasures at Te Manawa Museum
2. Take Makoura Lodge's Horses Helping Humans Communication workshop
3. Enjoy the Paddle Steamer Waimarie
4. Sleep by the riverside in the Iona Tiny House
5. Whanganui Tours (Whanganui River Road)



DO SOMETHING
NEW
NEW ZEALAND