

City Views and Shelly Bay

3.7km | 1.5hrs

This moderate difficulty walk takes you past historic military buildings and some of the best views in Wellington.

The trail starts through the high metal gates to the left of the bus stop in the prison car park. Head down the road, passing old armoury storage buildings along the way. Stay on the road. Go over the first gate you come to, taking in the large open space to your right, which had been the site of the **Wellington Women's Prison**, then a productive prison-run **farm**, and most recently a filming location for movies including **The Hobbit** and **King Kong**. Continue along the road until you reach **Shelly Bay**. Turn right along the road.

Only a small number of the historic military building that once made up the **Shelly Bay Naval** and then **Air Force** base remain. Until recently, Shelly Bay was the heart of a thriving creative and small business community. Despite community opposition, legal battles and a 525 day occupation by Mau Whenua, all but two of the buildings were demolished to make way for a contentious large-scale housing project. However, the land was purchased in late 2023 by Sir Peter Jackson and Dame Fran Walsh, who plan to revegetate the site. One of the few buildings that remain is home to the **Chocolate Fish Cafe**, a welcome half-way stop on your walk.

Continue along the road and take the well-marked track toward **Massey Memorial**, which starts opposite a carpark (OR backtrack to the south to pick up the **Chocolate Fish 'n Fairies** loop). From the memorial, pick up the track next to the tubular iron fence. It's a short climb from here, with a couple branching tracks to navigate. Follow the markers (or just keep heading up!) until you come to a stile, over which you will see the large, graffitied structures that are the **Point Halswell Anti-Aircraft Battery**. Pass around the battery via a track on it's right, then enjoy one of the best views of the city. Pass through the structures and keep to the high side of a large bush to make your way to another stile and onto the road. On your right is a prominent mound, **Te Mata ki Kai Poinga Pā**. Continue left and uphill along the road back to the prison. Stop in at the **Miramar Prison Garden** where visitors are welcome.



Scan to access the latest version of this map online.

Chocolate Fish 'n Fairies

4.5 km | 2hrs

This big-kid friendly walk includes a wander through a fairy garden, after a stop to refuel at Chocolate Fish Cafe.

Follow the directions for **City Views and Shelly Bay**, then after stopping at Chocolate Fish Cafe, head south along Shelly Bay Road until you get to the sign for the **Maupuia Walkway**. Follow the steep and zigzagging track all the way to the top, stopping to check out the fairy garden along the way. The well-maintained track branches to the right, but keep left and after a short flight of stairs, you'll emerge onto Akaroa Drive, where you can follow the road back to the **Miramar Prison Garden**.

A moving waiata tangi (lament) was composed at Puhirangi Pā c1500 by Te Ihuini o Tonga as she mourned the death of her daughter Rangī and references the pā. Reflect on some of her words, passed down orally over centuries, as you take in the wild beauty of this place, .

Whatatai noa atu e te tinana lia a au ki roto o Puhirangi,

Weariness my body bends as I, here in Puhirangi sit,

E rauwiri noa mai ra a Hine-moana i waho

Looking lonely forth on Hine-moana, surging unrestrainedly beyond the headlands.

Tena ia koe ka riro i te au kume

But you have gone, bourne on the ocean stream

Made by a local who loves this place. I am grateful for content drawn from the Motukairangi, Cultural Safety Report 2020,






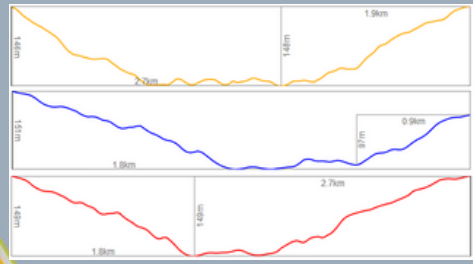
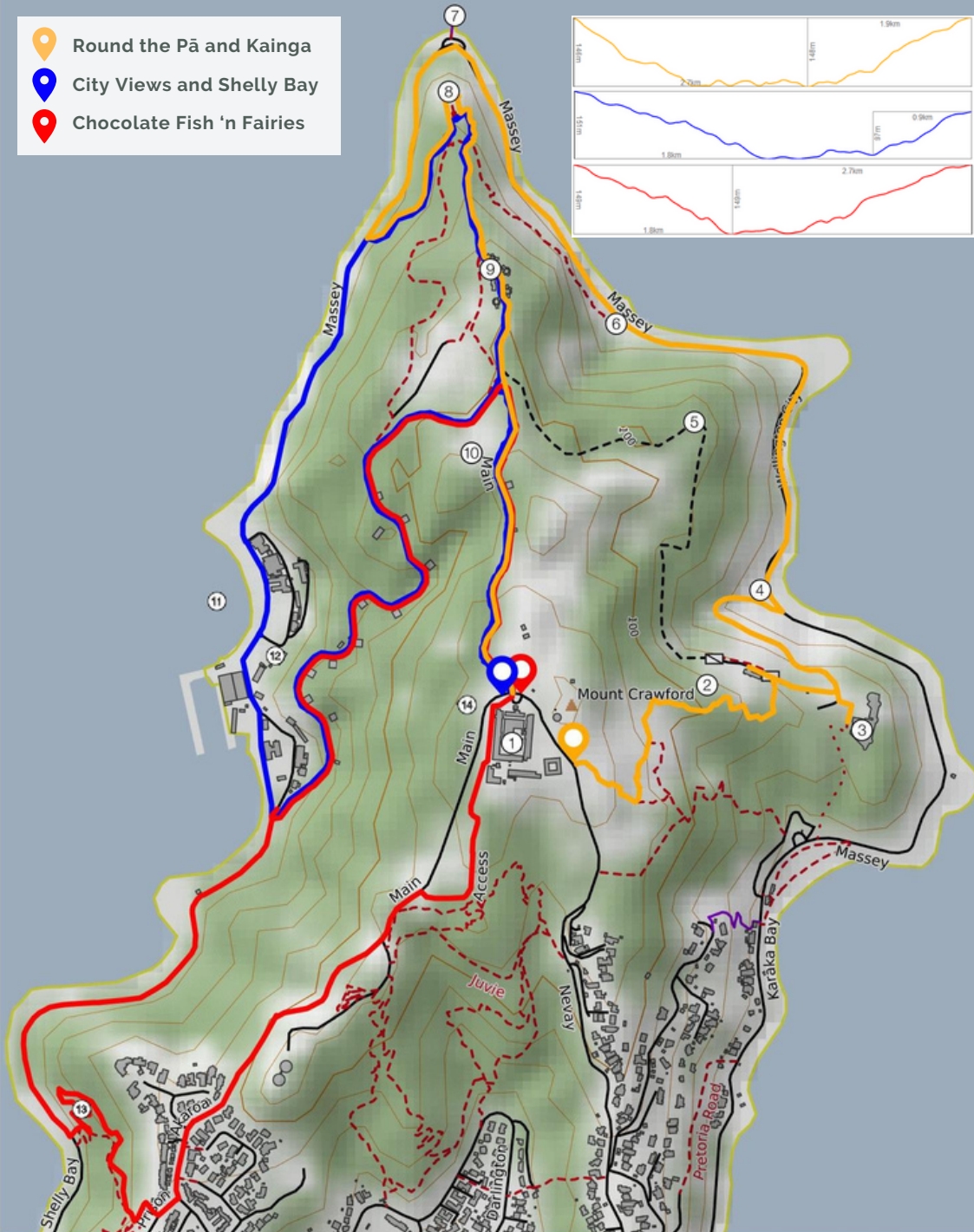
learning@miramarprisongarden.org

MATAIMOANA MT CRAWFORD

TRAIL MAP

Stay on the trails. There are many disused and dangerous tracks around this site. Please respect the pā and kainga sites as you pass them. Mataimoana is home to nesting kārere and kākā who need space. And so do the cows.

-  Round the Pā and Kainga
-  City Views and Shelly Bay
-  Chocolate Fish 'n Fairies



Round the Pā and Kainga

4km | 1.5hrs

This moderate difficulty walk takes you past 4 pā (fort) and 2 harbourside kainga (village) sites, with great views.

Marked with interim white trail markers, the trailhead is through a locked metal gate just opposite the **prison office building**, downhill from the prison carpark on Nevay Rd. Through the gate, look for the markers to find where the trail starts just over the ridge. It can be a little hard to spot. The patch of old pavement just downhill from a section of fence marks the start. Follow the grassy trail down the slope towards **Fort Balance**. Along the way, you will skirt a raised area to your left, **Puhirangi Pā**. Continue down the slope, and go over the locked metal gate next to a water trough, then along a short path lined with prickly gorse and fennel. Turn right on the gravel road, go through another unlocked tall metal gate and you will reach **Te Māhanga Pā**, which is also the site of **Fort Balance**. Take the time to carefully explore.

Go back out through the entrance to the fort and follow the road down the slope to the coastal Massey Rd. Turn left along the road and you will pass **Te Māhanga Kainga**. Round the headland, passing below **Kau-whakara-waru Pā**. Continue around past the **Point Halswell Lighthouse**. Take the well-marked track toward **Massey Memorial**, which starts opposite a carpark. From the memorial, pick up the track next to the tubular iron fence. It's a short climb from here, with a couple branching tracks to navigate. Follow the markers uphill until you come to a stile, over which you will see the large, graffitied structures that are the **Point Halswell Battery**. Pass around the battery via a track on it's right, then enjoy one of the best views of the city. Pass through the structures and keep to the high side of a large bush to another stile and onto the road. On your right is a prominent mound, **Te Mata ki Kai Poinga Pā**. Continue left and uphill along the road back to the prison, passing old armoury storage buildings as you go.

Te Mata ki Kai Poinga Pā

The headland where food is swung

Te Mata ki Kai Poinga Pā was home to Tūāhuriri, who fell out of favour with a prominent relative Hikaorora and another rangatira Tūtekawa. In the early 1600s, The two men attacked Te Mata ki Kai Poinga Pā and after Tūāhuriri escaped, Tūtekawa executed his two wives, Hine Kaitaki and Tuarā Whati. Tūtekawa fled across the Cook Strait to the South Island, and when Tūāhuriri and his son followed him, they drowned when their waka capsized. Undeterred, Tūāhuriri's brother-in-law led a war party to find Tūtekawa and finally kill him.

Kau-whakara-waru Pā

Bathe in the summer

Established by Kahukura Te Paku of Ngāi Tara, Kau-whakara-waru Pā covers a horseshoe-shaped area of 8,200m². It made good use of a knoll that provided a natural defensive barrier. The small Kau-whakara-waru Kainga site sits below the pā in the elbow of Kau Bay.

Te Māhanga Pā

The snare

Terraced hut sites were still visible on Te Māhanga pā until the 1880s, when the site was excavated and Fort Ballance built on top of it in response to the perceived threat of Russian invasion. During construction, large totara posts that had made up parts of the pā's fortifications were unearthed. Below the pā Te Māhanga Kainga provided housing and a rich source of food first to Ngāti Ira and later to the Te Āti Awa hapu. It was later the site of a NIWA research centre, and is now abandoned.

Puhirangi Pā

The feather adorned sky

The oldest pā on Mātaimoana, Puhirangi Pā was established as the primary Ngāi Tara fortress in 1350. It was first occupied in the early 1500s by Ngāi Tara chief Te Rangitūpewa. The Puhirangi Pā is 100 x 20 metres, providing ample space for a marae complex and around 30 wharepuni (houses).

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|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mt Crawford Prison | 6. Kau-whakara-waru Kainga | 11. Shelly Bay |
| 2. Puhirangi Pā | 7. Point Halswell Lighthouse | 12. Chocolate Fish Cafe |
| 3. Te Māhanga Pā Fort Balance | 8. Massey Memorial | 13. Fairy Garden |
| 4. Te Māhanga Kainga | 9. Point Halswell Battery | 14. Miramar Prison Garden |
| 5. Kau-whakara-waru Pā | 10. Te Mata ki Kai Poinga Pā | |