

IFTA in New Zealand

February 16–27, 2018

February 25–March 8, 2018

Te Mata Peak, Hawkes Bay

PRE-TRAVEL NOTES





Hello IFTA Members,

Now that the first days of 2018 are here, our educational adventure in New Zealand is fast approaching. We have put together this mailing to prepare you for this exciting adventure ahead.

In creating the Study Tour schedule, we have selected a good mix of orchard operations that exemplify the NZ industry in terms of operation size, management practices, adoption of technology, tree age and variety mix. We will focus on production efficiencies, orchard systems, varieties and available technologies including platforms, harvest assist, record keeping systems and cropland mapping. In addition to orchards, we will tour Waimea Nursery and NZ Plant and Food Research where we will meet with Prevar and station scientists. We will tour the “Future Orchard” plots at both the station and at a commercial orchard.

The Annual Conference will take place in Napier on February 26. The morning session will be focused on robotics in tree fruit production with presentations and panels by Steve Saunders, Robotics Plus and Dan Steere, Abundant Robotics. Dan will lead a grower panel to discuss their experience with designing robot-ready canopies. The morning session will end with a presentation by Lee Kalcsits, Washington State University on benefits and risks of integrating protective netting into apple production.

In the afternoon session Kalcsits will present practical horticultural strategies for reducing bitter pit in apples, Ross Wilson of AG First NZ, Hawkes Bay will discuss how and why to benchmark orchard performance and in addition to the IFTA business meeting we will have a “get to know your IFTA Board of Directors” Q and A.

Both tours have a diverse groups of travelers that represent all ages, farm sizes, and facets of the industry. We have much to learn from each other and from our local hosts. Our industry partners in New Zealand are looking forward to welcoming us and we anticipate a great sharing of ideas and insights. There are evening events in both Hawke's Bay and the Nelson/Tasman area where we've invited our local hosts to attend.

When you review the enclosed itinerary, note we've made a few special additions to the tour. There will be an opportunity for young professionals to connect with their Kiwi counterparts at a cidery in Hawke's Bay on Sunday afternoon, February 25. By that time all travelers should be in Napier (some more jet lagged than others!). All travelers overlap at the conference and post-conference party on February 26 and we've also added a drinks and desserts party with a piano player at Masonic Hotel the evening of February 25. If you would like to add an excursion in Hawke's Bay on the free day, please see options enclosed, prepared exclusively for IFTA members.

Your diligence and participation will make for a great Study Tour and Conference. Please come prepared to ask questions and interact with a great group of travelers. Over the course of these 11-night tours, no doubt wonderful relationships will be created and furthered across our dynamic industry. Please note the following:

☆ Complete the Pre-Travel survey at www.IFTATravel.com by January 20 to supply Onward Travel with flight numbers and a few other details. If you have emailed flight numbers or participated in the group air block, please still complete this survey and provide the requested info.

☆ We recognize there can be challenges with winter travel. Please consult the "Travel Notes" page in this booklet for our recommendations on how best to deal with any delays or flight cancellations.

☆ Please also note the biosecurity restrictions upon entering New Zealand. Officials are serious about prohibiting most foodstuffs and all soil from entering the country.

☆ A detailed day-by-day itinerary will be distributed upon arrival in New Zealand. All daily departure and event times will be listed. Pay attention to that schedule as punctuality is key.

☆ Now is a good time to locate your passport!

See you soon in beautiful New Zealand for a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Kia Ora, Be Well.

Karen Lewis & Rod Farrow, IFTA

Molly Crist & Kat Clauhs Dhand, Onward Travel

WEATHER & PACKING

We'll be visiting New Zealand in the mid to late summer. Be prepared for precipitation and sunshine. New Zealand's climate differs from warm subtropical in the far north to cool temperate climates in the far south, with relentless alpine conditions in the mountains. Because New Zealand lies in the Southern Hemisphere, the temperature decreases as you travel south. In summer, the average maximum temperature ranges between 20°C/68°F to 30°C/86°F.

Packing List:

✗ Passport! Double check that it is valid for at least 3 months beyond the date of travel

TIP: Email yourself a color copy of your passport. If you lose/misplace your passport, it will make the replacement process much simpler if you have a copy.

✗ Sturdy, comfortable shoes, especially if you want to do some hiking

✗ Rain gear. Bring a small umbrella and a windbreaker in case of a rainy/windy day.

✗ A hair dryer, soap, and shampoo will be provided for you at the hotels, so no need to pack them.

✗ A small backpack or crossbody bag to carry your camera, extra layers, notebook, etc.

✗ Bathing suit

✗ Destination Guide

✗ Sunglasses

✗ Notebook & pen

✗ Sunscreen

✗ Medications

✗ Wide-brimmed hat

✗ Refillable water bottle

✗ Electricity converter(s): Type I

Sun Protection!

We will be spending most of our time in New Zealand on orchards, outside without much cover. Please use a wide-brimmed hat and sunscreen and take care to protect yourself from the sun. From NASA.gov: "All this protection is necessary because New Zealand's location in the Southern Hemisphere puts it very close to the 'ozone hole' that forms over the South Pole at this time every year. Ozone is Earth's natural sunscreen. The ozone layer in the upper atmosphere, or stratosphere, absorbs harmful ultraviolet rays from the sun."

As the Kiwis say:

"Slip, Slop, Slap."

Slip on a t-shirt, slop on some sunscreen and slap on a hat.

NOTES ON CLOTHING:

Weather changes quickly in New Zealand so layers are important! The majority of the tour is very casual and you want to simply be comfortable. Quick dry clothing is a good idea.

✗ Warm tops (wool or fleece) & windbreakers are needed for those kayaking and/or swimming with dolphins.

✗ The post-conference party on February 26 is *optional* Cocktail Party attire.

✗ Because the weather varies, you will probably want shorts and sandals, plus pants, shoes & a warm jacket.

✗ Did we mention layers?

SOME OTHER THINGS YOU MAY WANT TO PACK:

✗ Reading material / entertainment for bus rides

✗ Earplugs & sleeping mask, travel pillow

✗ Clipboard for note taking

✗ Travel detergent packets, such as Tide Liquid Detergent Travel Sink Packets available on Amazon.

✗ Credit Card for best rate on int'l purchases & Debit Card for ATM withdrawals (make a note of the contact numbers on the back of each card in case any cards are lost)

✗ Camera, extra batteries or charger, extra SIM card(s)

CELL PHONE & TECHNOLOGY

If you do not have international cell phone coverage, you can add a temporary international data package with your carrier. For example, ATT has an international plan with unlimited data, int'l and domestic calls and texts for \$10/day. Many people find that wifi keeps them sufficiently in the loop and connected thanks to WhatsApp, Skype, social media apps, email, etc. The easiest way to avoid roaming is to put your phone on airplane mode and connect to wifi when it is available.

Since New Zealand is a remote island, wifi is often limited. Wifi is included for you at all of our accommodations. Some cities have free wifi hotspots. In general, free wifi has not taken off in NZ and connections are often slow.

How to call a New Zealand phone number:

1. Dial 011, the U.S. & Canada exit code.
2. Next dial 64, the country code for New Zealand.
3. Finally dial the phone number (8-10 digits).

BAGGAGE

For international flights, generally one checked bag is complimentary, maximum 50 pounds. Make sure your name and contact information is on all of your luggage. One checked bag will be complimentary on the mid-tour domestic flight.

- ✗ Make sure your name and contact information is on all of your luggage.
- ✗ Packing light is never a bad thing. You need to be able to manage your belongings.
- ✗ Keep necessities in your hand luggage. In the event your bags are lost (usually 24-48 hours), you will be happy if you have any necessary medication, toiletries, comfortable shoes, and a change of clothes.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

The Rutherford Hotel in Nelson has a same-day laundry service which travelers may find useful. Note hotel laundry services are often pricey and we suggest you verify cost before the service. Additionally there are self-service laundromats in Nelson and Napier.

COMMUNICATION APPS TO DOWNLOAD:

✗ **WhatsApp** allows texting over wifi and is very convenient. As long as both parties have WhatsApp, texting is free.

✗ **Skype** is great for communicating with friends and family at home. Add some money to your account and you can effortlessly call mobiles and landlines at home from your smartphone or computer over wifi, or call Skype-to-Skype for free.

✗ **Facebook Messenger** allows for free calling and messaging over wifi.

FUN FACT: Although it is around the size of Japan, New Zealand's population is just over four million, making it one of the world's least populated countries.

CREDIT CARDS & MONEY OVERSEAS



CASH

ATMs are the best place to exchange money. You'll pay an ATM fee (usually ~ \$5) but you'll get the best exchange rate with no commission. Note that your bank may charge a foreign transaction fee. Upon arrival, withdraw cash using your debit card at the airport. ATMs are readily available throughout the locations we'll be visiting.

CREDIT CARDS

Be sure to call your credit card company before the trip so they know you are overseas, otherwise they may freeze your account. Also check and see if your card charges foreign transaction fees so you know what to expect on your bill, and can plan the smartest way to use your credit card. NZ is plastic friendly.

CURRENCY

New Zealand's currency is New Zealand Dollar.

Current exchange rate can be determined by googling "USD to NZD" or "CAD to NZD"

As of writing on 12/26/2017 1.00 USD = 1.42 NZD and 1.00 NZD = 0.70 USD

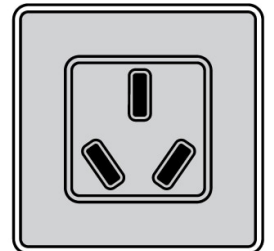
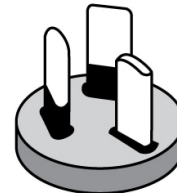
As of writing on 12/26/2017 1.00 CAD = 1.12 NZD and 1.00 NZD = 0.89 CAD

FUN FACT: Over one third of New Zealand is made up of protected park land and marine reserves

OTHER USEFUL INFO

ELECTRICITY

New Zealand's electricity supply runs at 230V, 50Hz. Angled two or three pin plugs are used (the same as Australia). An adaptor will be needed, specifically you'll need a "Type I" adaptor. You can easily find one on Amazon.



TIME ZONE

New Zealand Daylight Time (NZDT) is 13 hours ahead of UTC.

TRIP INSURANCE

Trip insurance is recommended. Onward recommends Travelex's Travel Select policy. Information is available at www.onwardtravel.co/trip-insurance. Onward's location number is 32-0704.



WEIGHTS & MEASURES

New Zealand uses the metric system.

To quickly convert kilometers to miles, multiply kilometers by 1.6.

To convert miles to km, multiply miles by 0.6.

POSTAGE

Stop by a PostShop to purchase postage. Stamps for letters/postcards to send internationally are \$2.20 NZD each.

Packages may also be mailed home at a PostShop.

TRAVEL NOTES

HOW TO HANDLE A FLIGHT DELAY EN ROUTE

Hopefully no one will need the following information, but considering that this is winter travel it's best to be prepared for unlikely complications.

In the event of bad weather or in case of flight cancellations or delays for any other reason, remember that your ultimate goal is to get to the airport where your flight to New Zealand departs (Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston or Vancouver for those flying with Air New Zealand). Those who can help you most will be the on the ground agents working for the airline you are scheduled to fly with during the disrupted leg of the journey. You'll want to ask the agents to look into all other options to get you to your departure airport in time for your flight to Auckland.

The last daily departure for Auckland is from LAX, the flight is NZ 5 at 21:40. If you cannot get to your originally schedule departure, we recommend that you call Air New Zealand to see if they can rebook you on that flight, and if so work with the gate agents to try to get there instead. Don't confirm any legs until it's clear that all the pieces line up.

If those agents are not successful, here are some contacts we hope will be useful:

Air New Zealand Customer Service 1 800 262 1234

Delta Customer Service 1 888 750 3284

United Customer Service 1 800 864 8331

Alaska Airlines Customer Service 1 800 252 7522

For advice you may contact Onward Travel by phone, Whatsapp or Skype.

Please remember that for actual assistance your best option is to contact the airline directly.

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Molly Crist +1 267 825 5880 // skype: mollyclauhs

ENTERING NEW ZEALAND

- ☆ No visa is required for Americans or Canadians.
- ☆ All food items must be declared; it is illegal to bring most foodstuffs into New Zealand.
- ☆ Any gear, boots, etc., that may have soil on them should be completely cleaned. You can expect that they will be investigated upon entry and there is a hefty fine for attempting to bring even the smallest amount of outside soil into New Zealand.

All travelers are recommended to review the "Travelling to New Zealand" section at www.customs.govt.nz

If you are traveling to Australia before or after New Zealand, please note that a visa is required for entry. It is simple and quick to obtain online before your trip; citizens of the US and Canada may do so at <https://www.eta.immi.gov.au/ETAS3/etas>

ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT IN NEW ZEALAND

When you arrive at Queenstown, Christchurch or Napier please proceed past security to the arrivals hall. Look for the Onward Travel representative holding an IFTA sign and she will point you in the direction of the shuttle bus. Complimentary shuttles between the airport and hotel(s) have been arranged on all arrival days and will be running at increments to suit traveler arrival times.

To confirm your complimentary arrival/departure transfer take the pre-travel survey at www.iftatravel.com by Jan. 20

For those arriving or departing on different days than the official tour start and end dates please note that taxi service is available to and from each airport or you may book a shuttle in advance (recommended) at www.supershuttle.co.nz

HAWKE'S BAY TRAILS

WATER RIDE

Loop from Napier i-SITE to Ahuriri to Westshore to Bay View to Napier Airport to Church Road to Pettigrew Green Arena to Puketapu to Awatoto to Napier i-SITE • 68km

LANDSCAPES RIDE

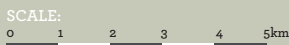
Loop from Havelock North Visitor Info Centre to River Road to Black Bridge to Haumoana to Te Awanga to Clifton and back via Red Bridge to Havelock North Visitor Info Centre • 56km

WINERIES RIDE

Loop through the Hawke's Bay's western wine growing area. Starting anywhere and including an out and back leg to Sileni Winery. This will become off-road from July 2012 • 36km

iWAY

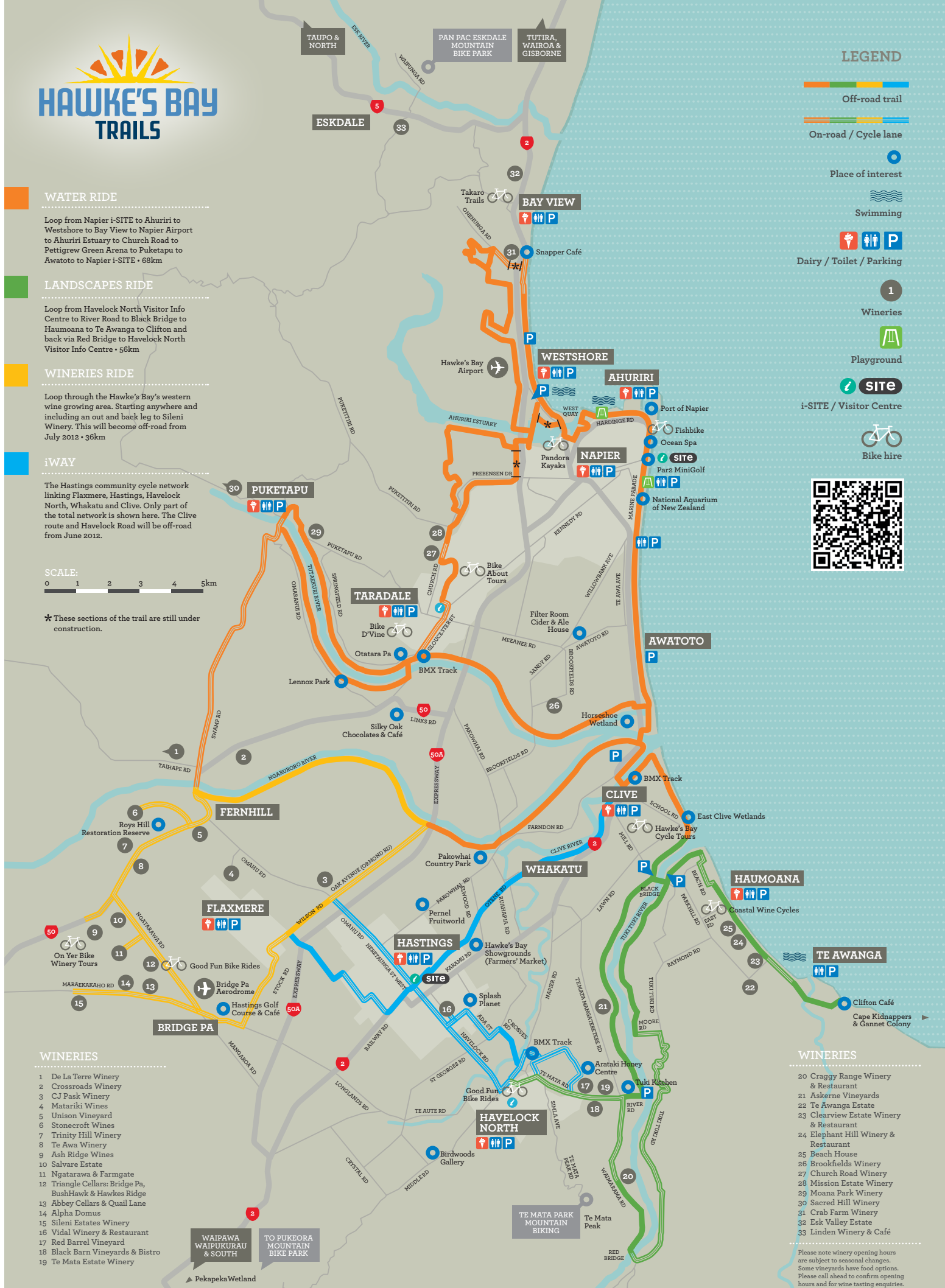
The Hastings community cycle network linking Flaxmere, Hastings, Havelock North, Whakatu and Clive. Only part of the total network is shown here. The Clive route and Havelock Road will be off-road from June 2012.



* These sections of the trail are still under construction.

LEGEND

- Off-road trail
- On-road / Cycle lane
- Place of interest
- Swimming
- Dairy / Toilet / Parking
- Wineries
- Playground
- SITE
- i-SITE / Visitor Centre
- Bike hire



WINERIES

- 1 De La Terre Winery
- 2 Crossroads Winery
- 3 CJ Pask Winery
- 4 Matariki Wines
- 5 Unison Vineyard
- 6 Stonecroft Wines
- 7 Trinity Hill Winery
- 8 Te Awa Winery
- 9 Ash Ridge Wines
- 10 Salvare Estate
- 11 Ngatarawa & Farmgate
- 12 Triangle Cellars: Bridge Pa, BushHawk & Hawkes Ridge
- 13 Abbey Cellars & Quail Lane
- 14 Alpha Domus
- 15 Sileni Estates Winery
- 16 Vidal Winery & Restaurant
- 17 Red Barrel Vineyard
- 18 Black Barn Vineyards & Bistro
- 19 Te Mata Estate Winery

WINERIES

- 20 Craggy Range Winery & Restaurant
- 21 Askerne Vineyards
- 22 Te Awanga Estate
- 23 Clearview Estate Winery & Restaurant
- 24 Elephant Hill Winery & Restaurant
- 25 Beach House
- 26 Brookfields Winery
- 27 Church Road Winery
- 28 Mission Estate Winery
- 29 Moana Park Winery
- 30 Sacred Hill Winery
- 31 Crab Farm Winery
- 32 Esk Valley Estate
- 33 Linden Winery & Café

Please note winery opening hours are subject to seasonal changes. Some vineyards have food options. Please call ahead to confirm opening hours and for wine tasting enquiries.