

The complete guide to camping on the Coromandel

Places to stay, the rules and
handy tips for visitors **2013**



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Where can I camp? See our list of campsites and contact information for bookings. For more on camping in New Zealand visit www.camping.org.nz or one of our information centres.

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DOC – the Department of Conservation – provides paid campgrounds. See details on these pages.

9 DOC Freedom Camping Policy

A quick guide to the DOC freedom camping policy.

10-11 TCDC Freedom Camping sites and guidelines

If you are not in a self-contained vehicle you must not camp overnight outside of paid campgrounds. Don't risk a \$200 fine as it could ruin your holiday! Read our important guidelines on where you can and cannot park overnight in a self-contained campervan on these pages.

12 Freedom Camping Prohibited Areas

Don't risk a \$200 fine. Be sure you read the signage and do not park overnight in a prohibited area.



13-14 What to do with your rubbish and recycling

Drop your recyclables off at a recycling centre as you travel. We've listed your nearest Refuse Transfer Station and provided a map for where to find them.

15-16 Public toilets and dump stations

Camping our way is not using the roadside as a toilet. Read these pages for locations of public toilets and dump stations where you can empty your campervan wastewater.

17-18 Coromandel Road Map

Roads on the Coromandel are winding, narrow and there are limits on where you can take a rented vehicle so be sure to speak to your rental company and follow our advice and map on this page.

19 Information Centres

Visit our six information centres or check out www.thecoromandel.com for ideas on what to do, what to see and how to get there.



Where to stay (paid campgrounds)

Thames

CRUZ 'n' STOP, Thames
07 868 9833 **M**
www.campervancruznsttopcom.com

Dickson Holiday Park, Tararua
07 868 7308 **T M D**
www.dicksonpark.co.nz

Tapu Creek Campervan Park, Tapu
07 868 4560 **T M D**
www.tapucreek.co.nz

Tapu Motor Camp, Tapu
07 868 4837 **T M D**
www.topshelfcharters.co.nz

Te Puru Holiday Park, Te Puru
07 868 2879 **T M D**
www.tepuruholidaypark.co.nz

Kauaeranga Valley

Kauaeranga Valley campsites (8)
(DOC) 07 867 9080
Kauaerangavc@doc.govt.nz

Coromandel

Coromandel TOP 10 Holiday Park
0800 267 646 **T M D**
www.coromandeltop10.co.nz

Long Bay Motor Camp, Long Bay
07 866 8720 **T M**
www.holidayparks.co.nz/longbay

Shelly Beach Top 10 Holiday Park
07 866 8988 **T M D**
www.shellybeachcoromandel.co.nz

Tidewater Motel & Tourist Park
07 866 8888 **T M**
www.tidewater.co.nz

Oamaru Bay Caravan Park
07 866 7750

Colville

Otautu Bay Farm Camp
07 866 6801 **T M**
www.otautubaycamp.co.nz

Colville Farm Holidays
07 866 6820
www.colvillefarmholidays.co.nz

Colville Bay Motor Camp
07 866 6814 **T M D**
www.colvillebaymotel.co.nz

Papa Aroha Holiday Park
07 866 8818 **T M D**
www.papaaroha.co.nz

Anglers Lodge Motel & Holiday Park
07 866 8584 **T M D**
www.anglers.co.nz

North Coromandel

Waikawau Bay Recreation Reserve (DOC)
07 866 1106 **T M**
Fantail Bay Recreation Reserve (DOC)
Fletcher Bay Recreation Reserve (DOC)
Port Jackson Recreation Reserve (DOC)
Stony Bay Recreation Reserve (DOC)

Kuaotunu

Kuaotunu Camp Ground
07 866 5628 **T M D**
www.kcg2008.com

Otama

Otama Beach Farm Park
07 866 2362 **T M**
www.otamabeachcamp.co.nz

Whangapoua

Whangapoua Holiday Park
1266 Whangapoua Road Te Reenga
Whangapoua Coromandel Peninsula
07 866 5215 **T M**
www.whangapouaholidaypark.co.nz

Whitianga

Mercury Bay Holiday Park
07 866 5579 **T M D**
www.mercurybayholidaypark.co.nz

Harbourside Holiday Park
07 869 5152 **T M D**
www.holidaypark.co.nz

Mill Creek Bird & Campervan Park
07 866 0166 **T M D**
www.millcreekbirdpark.co.nz

Whitianga Campground
07 8665834
www.whitiangacampground.co.nz

Flaxmill Bay

Flaxmill Bay Hideaway Camp & Cabin
07 866 2386 **T M D**
www.flaxmillbay.co.nz

Cooks Beach

Cooks Beach Holiday Resort
07 866 5469 **T M D**
www.cooksbeachcamp.co.nz

Hahei

Hahei Holiday Resort
07 866 3889 **T M D**
www.haheiholidays.co.nz

Hot Water Beach

Hot Water Beach Holiday Park
0800hotbeach **T M D**
www.hotwaterbeachtop10.co.nz

Coroglen

River Glen Holiday Park &
Campground
07 866 3130 **T M D**
www.riverglencoromandel.co.nz

Whenuakite

Seabreeze Holiday Park
07 866 3050 **T M D**
www.seabreezeholidaypark.co.nz

Tairua

Tairua Holiday Park
07 864 8071 **T M D**
tairuaholidaypark@gmail.com

Hikuaui

Broken Hills, Puketui Valley (DOC) **T M**

Pauanui

The Glade Holiday Park
07 8648559 **T M D**
info@pauanui-glade.co.nz

Pauanui Club Carpark/self-contained
camper park (fees apply)
www.pauanuiclub.co.nz

Ph 07 864 8695 **M**
31 Shephard Ave

Opoutere

Opoutere Coastal Camping (seasonal)
07 865 9152 **T M D**
info@opouterebeach.co.nz

Whangamata

Settlers Motor Camp **T M**
07 8658181

Wentworth River (DOC)

Whangamata Motor Camp
07 865 9128 **T M D**





About the Department of Conservation (DOC) campsites

DOC also provides camping locations and charges a fee based on the category of campsite. DOC has its own 'freedom camping' sites which are in addition to the DOC campgrounds and are at specific locations only. Read more information on DOC's freedom camping sites on page 9.

If you are staying at a scenic, standard, or basic DOC campsite (all sites listed on the following pages are scenic) you need to be well prepared with food, water and all your own gear.

In areas such as the north Coromandel there are few, if any, shops for supplies.

We suggest you stop in at one of our great camping supply shops in settlements like Thames, Coromandel Town, Whitianga, Whangamata, Pauanui and Tairua where our local store operators are very knowledgeable and will help you to be well-prepared.

Fees for DOC campsites range from \$6–\$15 per adult and \$3–\$5 per child payable at the Kauaeranga Visitor Centre for Kaureanga campsites, to a camp manager at other sites or via an honesty box system. Kauaeranga Visitor Centre Ph 64 7 867 9080.

DOC Campgrounds List

Booms Flat, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Toilets Barbecue, Dogs are permitted.

Broken Hills, Hikuai

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Toilets Rubbish Bin Water from stream

Catleys, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Toilets Barbecue Picnic Table
 Rubbish Bin Water from stream

Fantail Bay campsite

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Water from tap Toilets Rubbish Bin
 Showers (cold)

Fletcher Bay campsite

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Water from tap Toilets Showers (cold)

Hotoritiri, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Toilets Barbecue Water from stream, Dogs are permitted.

Port Jackson Conservation Campsite

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Water from tap Toilets Barbecue
 Rubbish Bin Showers (cold)

Shag Stream, Kauaeranga Valley







Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities: Toilets Barbecue Picnic Table
 Rubbish Bin Water from stream

DOC Campgrounds List [cont]





Stony Bay campsite

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Water from tap  Toilets  Barbecue
 Picnic Table  Rubbish Bin  Showers (cold)





Totara Flat, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Toilets  Barbecue  Rubbish Bin
 Water from stream

Trestle View, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Toilets  Barbecue  Rubbish Bin
 Water from stream

Waikawau Bay campsite

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Water from tap  Toilets  Rubbish Bin
 Showers (cold)

Wainora, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Toilets  Barbecue  Rubbish Bin
 Water from stream




Wentworth campsite

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Water from tap  Toilets  Barbecue
 Picnic Table  Rubbish Bin  Showers (cold)

Whangaiterenga, Kauaeranga Valley

Campsite category: Scenic

Facilities:  Toilets  Barbecue  Picnic Table
 Rubbish Bin  Water from stream

DOC Freedom Camping Policy

Permitted

Freedom camping is permitted in certified self-contained motorhomes on public conservation land except in areas where it is expressly prohibited or restricted. This is indicated by signage.

Please ensure you are well-informed of where you can and cannot camp and if unsure, enquire with DOC. Read all signage and be sure to follow the rules that apply if you want to avoid a costly fine.

DOC Sites suitable for certified self-contained motorhomes:

- Macdonald Recreation Reserve
- Sandy Bay Recreation Reserve
- Waikawau Recreation Reserve
- Otama East Recreation Reserve

Prohibited

The DOC website (search for freedom camping) lists all areas where freedom camping is prohibited and at the time of printing these included the following locations:

- Kauaearanga Road Visitor Centre carpark, Coromandel Forest Park
- Kauaearanga Road end carpark, Coromandel Forest Park
- Muriwai Walk Carpark, Port Jackson
- Waikawau Beach boat ramp carpark, Waikawau Bay Farm Park Recreation
- Waikawau Beach access carpark (west)

Restricted

At Cathedral Cove carpark freedom camping is restricted to self-contained vehicles for four night's maximum in a single calendar month between 5pm and 9am.

**For more information visit the DOC website
www.DOC.govt.nz/camping or call on 07 867 9080**



Freedom Camping on the Coromandel

What is freedom camping? Freedom camping means to camp in a public place other than a camping ground either in a vehicle, caravan, campervan or tent.

If you intend to freedom camp, our advice is: Assume nothing.

Our local Community Boards have established 'Freedom Camping' sites on selected Council land in Thames, Tairua, Mercury Bay and Whangamata.

Important! Only self-contained vehicles that can show they comply with NZS 5465:2001 are permitted to use the designated freedom camping sites. Ask your rental company if your motorhome is certified.

You can get fined \$200 for freedom camping illegally. Always read the signs. If you are unsure, check at one of our local information centres or visit www.tcdc.govt.nz/camping.

Be firewise – observe fire bans indicated on signage and at www.tcdc.govt.nz.

Council sites and guidelines

Coromandel

Four parks at Kapanga Road car park

Four parks at the Woollam Ave car park

Conditions of use:

- Only self-contained vehicles that can show they comply with NZS 5465:2001 will be permitted
- A maximum of one night stay
- Kapanga Road site available between the hours of 5pm-9am
- Woollams Ave Carpark site available between the hours of 5pm-8.30am
- Persons must move at the request of an authorised officer

Tairua

Four carparks at Paku Bay Carpark, Paku Drive opp Tairua Surf Club
Conditions of use:

- Only self-contained vehicles that can show they comply with NZS 5465:2001 will be permitted
- A maximum of one night stay; site to be vacated by 7.30am
- Persons must move at the request of an authorised officer

Thames

Danby Field middle parking bay, Queen Street SH25

Conditions of use:

- Only self-contained vehicles that can show they comply with NZS 5465:2001 will be permitted
- A maximum of two night stay; site to be vacated by 9.00am
- Persons must move at the request of an authorised officer

Mercury Bay

Kuaotunu 200m north of the Boat Ramp on SH25.

Over-flow car park at Purangi Boat Ramp

TCDC Council office carpark, off Monk St, Whitianga

Conditions of use:

- Only self-contained vehicles that can show they comply with NZS 5465:2001 will be permitted
- A maximum of one night stay
- TCDC Council office car park available between 5pm and 8am only
- All other sites vacated by 9am
- Persons must move at the request of an authorised officer

Whangamata

Four sites at the i-SITE carpark off Port Rd, Whangamata

Four sites at Beach Road Reserve, Whangamata.

Conditions of use:

- Only self-contained vehicles that can show they comply with NZS 5465:2001 will be permitted
- A maximum of one night stay; site to be vacated by 7.30am
- Persons must move at the request of an authorised officer

Please refer to the map on page 18 for locations and check www.tcdc.govt.nz/camping for updates.



Prohibited Freedom Camping Zones

The following roads, areas, towns and TCDC reserves do not allow camping unless in specified freedom camping sites that are clearly specified by signage that it is permissible to do so. Read the signage carefully to ensure you know the conditions and if in doubt, don't risk a fine!

Coromandel Town	Whangapoua
Colville	Whangamata
Cooks Beach	Waikawau
Hahei	Rings Beach
Hotwater Beach	Te Kouma
Little Bay	Tararu Urban Area
Matarangi	Ngarimu Bay
Kuaotunu	Colville Road
Oamaru Bay	Port Jackson Road
Otama	Blackjack Road
Opito	Port Charles Road
Pauanui	Wentworth Valley Road
Thornton Bay	Shakespeare Cliff Reserve
Te Puru Urban Area	Egan Park
Tapu Urban Area	Te Puia Reserve
Te Mata Urban Area	(Hotwater Beach middle carpark)
Tairua	Sailors Grave Reserve
Thames	Coroglen - Waiwaiwa River
Tuateawa	Esplanade Reserve
Waiomu	Quarry Point Reserve (Kuaotunu)
Whitianga	Little Waikawau Reserve

What to do with your rubbish and recycling

On the Coromandel it's free to recycle. For non-recyclables, we operate a pre-paid bag system. Ask for the 'TCDC blue rubbish bags' at local supermarkets and food stores and deliver these to one of the refuse transfer stations listed below and indicated on the map.

Locations for dropping off your rubbish and recycling

Coromandel

525 Hauraki Road,
Coromandel

Matarangi

101 Matarangi Drive,
Matarangi

Whitianga

237 South Highway,
Whitianga

Tairua

3 Red Bridge Road, Tairua

Pauanui

887 Hikuai Settlement Road,
Pauanui

Whangamata

2755 SH25 Waihi-Whangamata,
Whangamata

Thames

102 Burke Street, Thames



eco tip
Always put all your rubbish in the bin provided, or take it with you when you leave.

Recyclable
plastic, bottles
and cans.



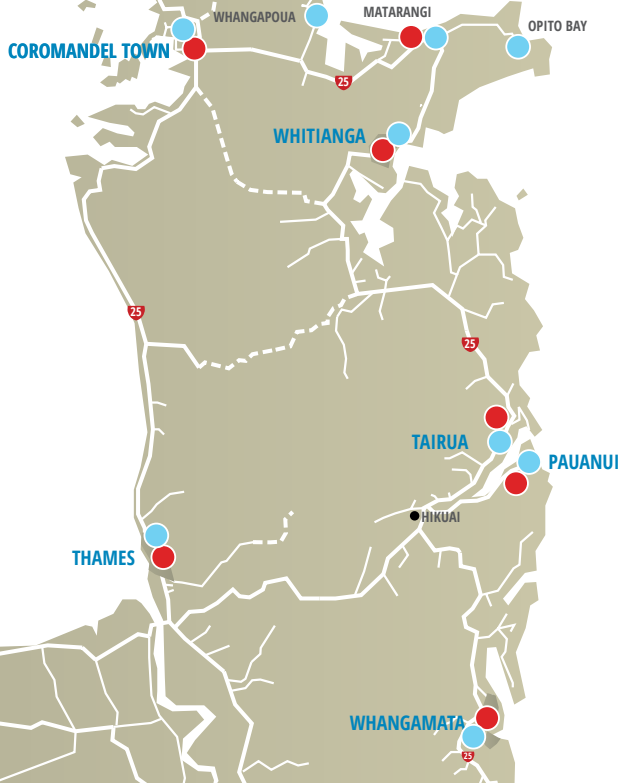
eco tip

Reuse plastic
bags or try
not to use
them at all.

KEY

● Transfer Station

● 24/7 Drop-off available



Public Toilets

'Camping our way' is not using the side of the road or the bush as a toilet – please use on-board or public facilities.

There are public toilets located in:

Whangamata, Opoutere, Onemana, Pauanui, Tairua, Sailors Grave, Hot Water Beach, Hahei, Cooks Beach, Whitianga, Kuaotunu, Whangapoua North, Coromandel Town, Te Puru and Thames.

If you are unsure, enquire at one of our information centres or ask a local.

Go to www.aa.co.nz for maps and directions in our area.

Unless otherwise stated, our tap water is potable so you can reuse your water bottles quite safely.



Wash and dry your gear between waterways to prevent the spread of unwanted pests like didymo (freshwater algae).



Dump Stations

Dump stations – The listed places below are where you can empty your campervan toilet and wastewater. The TCDC locations are free of charge. Locations are indicated on the map on page 14.

Charges may apply at a holiday park where customers are not staying.

THAMES/THAMES COAST

Tapu Motor Camp, Tapu

Te Puru Holiday Park, Te Puru

Dickson Park Motor Camp,
Victoria Street, Thames

TCDC Dump Station at BP -
Stuart Moore Motors,
100 Banks Street, Thames

COROMANDEL

TCDC Dump Station at
Patukerikeri Reserve,
Wharf Road, Coromandel

Coromandel TOP 10 Holiday
Park, 636-732 Rings Road,
Coromandel

COLVILLE

Colville Bay Motel & Motor,
Wharf Rd, Colville Bay

Papa Aroha Holiday Park,
Colville Rd, Papa Aroha

Anglers Lodge Motel and
Holiday Park, Colville Road,
Amodeo Bay

WHITIANGA

Public Dump Station at
Transfer Station South
Highway, Whitianga

Mercury Bay Holiday Park,
Whitianga

TCDC Dump Station at
Abrahamson Road,
off Moewai Road, Whitianga

FLAXMILL BAY

Cooks Beach Holiday Resort,
Cooks Beach

HAHEI

Hahei Holiday Resort

Hot Water Beach Holiday Park

WHENUAKITE

Seabreeze Holiday Park,
Whenuakite

TAIRUA

Tairua Holiday Park

TCDC Dump Station on the
corner of Ocean Road and
Paku Drive, Tairua

PAUANUI

TCDC Dump Station, adjacent
to Pleasant Point Boat Ramp,
Pauanui

Glade Motor Camp,
Vista Paku, Pauanui

OPOUTERE

Opoutere Coastal Camping,
Ohui Rd, Opoutere

WHANGAMATA

TCDC Dump Station,
Martyn Road, Whangamata

Wentworth, Wentworth River
(DoC)

Whangamata Motor Camp
Settlers Motor Camp,
Whangamata

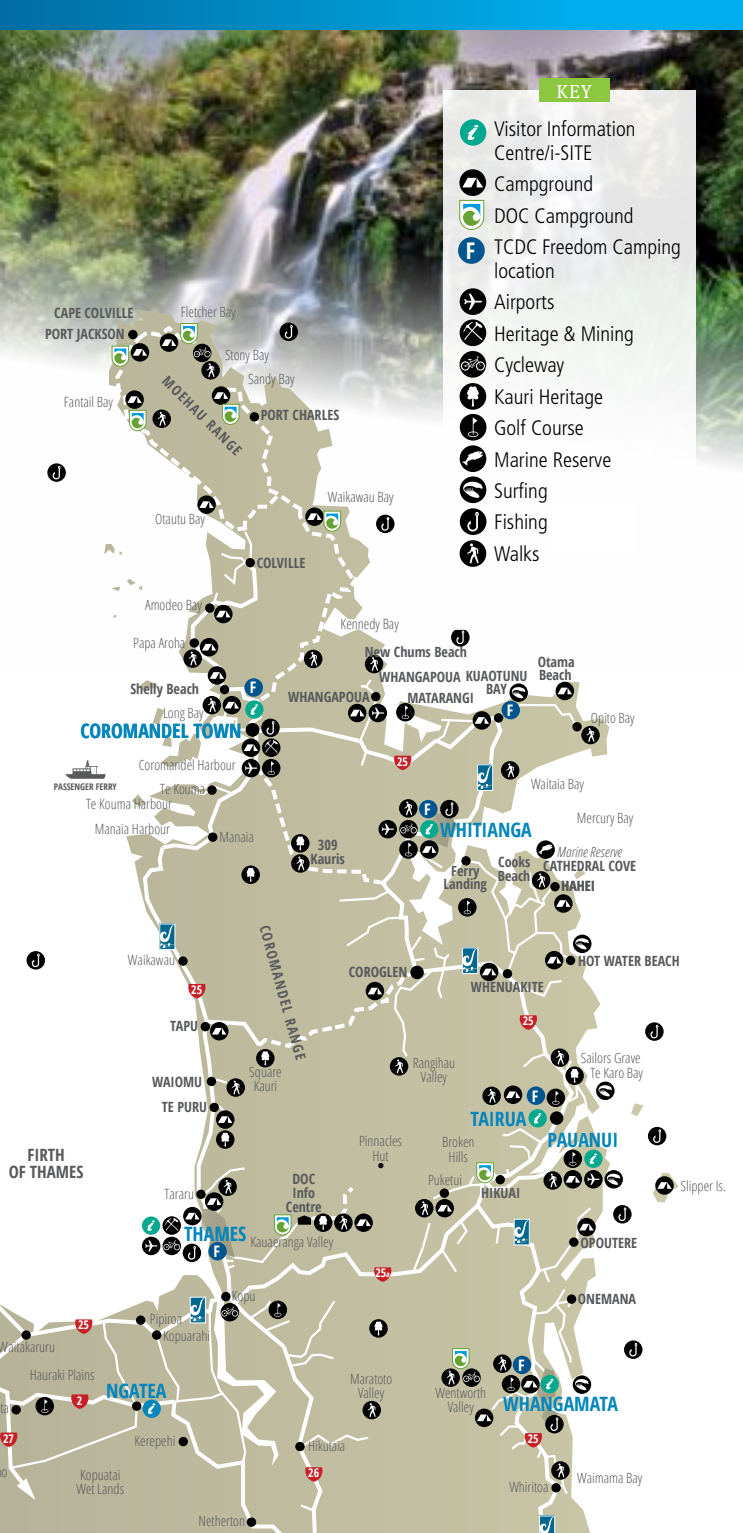
Coromandel Road Map

The Coromandel is one of New Zealand's great road trip destinations. To review the status of the State Highway 25 on the Coromandel, please visit the New Zealand Transport Agency's (NZTA) website. NZTA manage this highway.














Information for drivers

- We drive on the left side of the road
- We have many hilly, narrow or winding roads that mean your journey may take longer than you expect.
- You must carry your driver licence on you at all times. If your licence is not in English, you must carry a translation from an approved translator.

Choose to buy or hire a fuel-efficient vehicle and switch off your engine when stopped.



KEY

-  Visitor Information Centre/i-SITE
-  Campground
-  DOC Campground
-  TCDC Freedom Camping location
-  Airports
-  Heritage & Mining
-  Cycleway
-  Kauri Heritage
-  Golf Course
-  Marine Reserve
-  Surfing
-  Fishing
-  Walks

Ask a local

Our Local Information Centres

We've got six Visitor Information Centres on the Coromandel that can point you in the right direction.

i-SITE Thames

206 Pollen St
 07 868 7284
thames@ihug.co.nz
www.thamesinfo.co.nz
 Mon-Fri: 8.30am - 5.00pm
 Sat, Sun & Pub Hols:
 9.00am - 4.00pm
Holiday Hours (17 Dec - 6 Jan)
 Mon-Fri: 8.30am - 7.00pm
 Sat-Sun: 9.00am-5.00pm
Holiday Hours (7 Jan - 3 Feb)
 Mon-Fri: 8.30am-6.30pm
 Sat-Sun: 9.00am-5.00pm

i-SITE Whitianga

66 Albert Street
 07 866 5555 Fax: 866 2205
info@whitianga.co.nz
www.whitianga.co.nz
 Mon-Fri: 9.00am - 5.00pm
 Sat & Sun: 9.00am - 4.00pm
Holiday Hours (26 Dec - 1 Feb)
 Mon-Sun: 9.00am - 6.00pm

i-SITE Whangamata

616 Port Rd
 07 865 8340
info-whangamata@xtra.co.nz
www.whangamatainfo.co.nz
 Mon-Sat: 9.00am - 5.00pm
 Sun: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Holiday Hours (26 Dec - 1 Feb)
 Mon-Sun: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Tairua Information Centre

233 Main Rd
 07 864 7575
info.tairua@xtra.co.nz
www.tairua.info
 Daily: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Pauanui Information Centre

Cnr Vista Paku & Sheppard Ave
 07 864 7101
family-friends-fun@pauanui.co.nz
www.pauanuionline.co.nz
 9.30am - 4.00pm daily
with extended hours for Summer

Coromandel Information Centre

Kapanga Road
 07-866-8598
coroinfo@ihug.co.nz
www.coromandeltown.co.nz
 Open 7 Days
 Mon-Sun 10.00am-4.00pm
Public Holidays 10.00am-3.00pm

Kauaeranga Visitor Centre

Kauaeranga Valley Road
 Thames
 07-8679-080
kauaerangavc@doc.govt.nz
 Open 7 Days
 Weekend before Christmas to weekend after Waitangi Day
 8:30 am – 5:30 pm daily
 Weekend after Waitangi Day to weekend before Christmas
 8:30 am – 4:00 pm daily
Open public holidays except Christmas Day

Assume Nothing Always ask here



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Ataturu

Where can you camp?		Fully Self Contained	Non Self Contained (no toilet, shower or grey water storage)
1	Holiday Parks	YES	YES
2	DOC Campsites	YES	YES
3	Designated camping sites with a toilet	YES	YES
4	Designated camping sites without a toilet	YES	NO

For all enquiries call our friendly Customer Services Team
they'll be happy to hear from you

Phone 07 868 0200

Offices in Thames – Coromandel – Whangamata – Whitianga

District Office: 515 Mackay Street, Thames
Opening hours: 8 am – 5 pm
(close 4.30 pm Wednesdays)

Area offices phone:
Coromandel 07 868 1001
Mercury Bay 07 867 2010
Whangamata 07 865 0060

Fax: 07 868 0234
Website: www.tcdc.govt.nz

