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Omokoroa 2 Rotorua

155 km 96.56 Miles

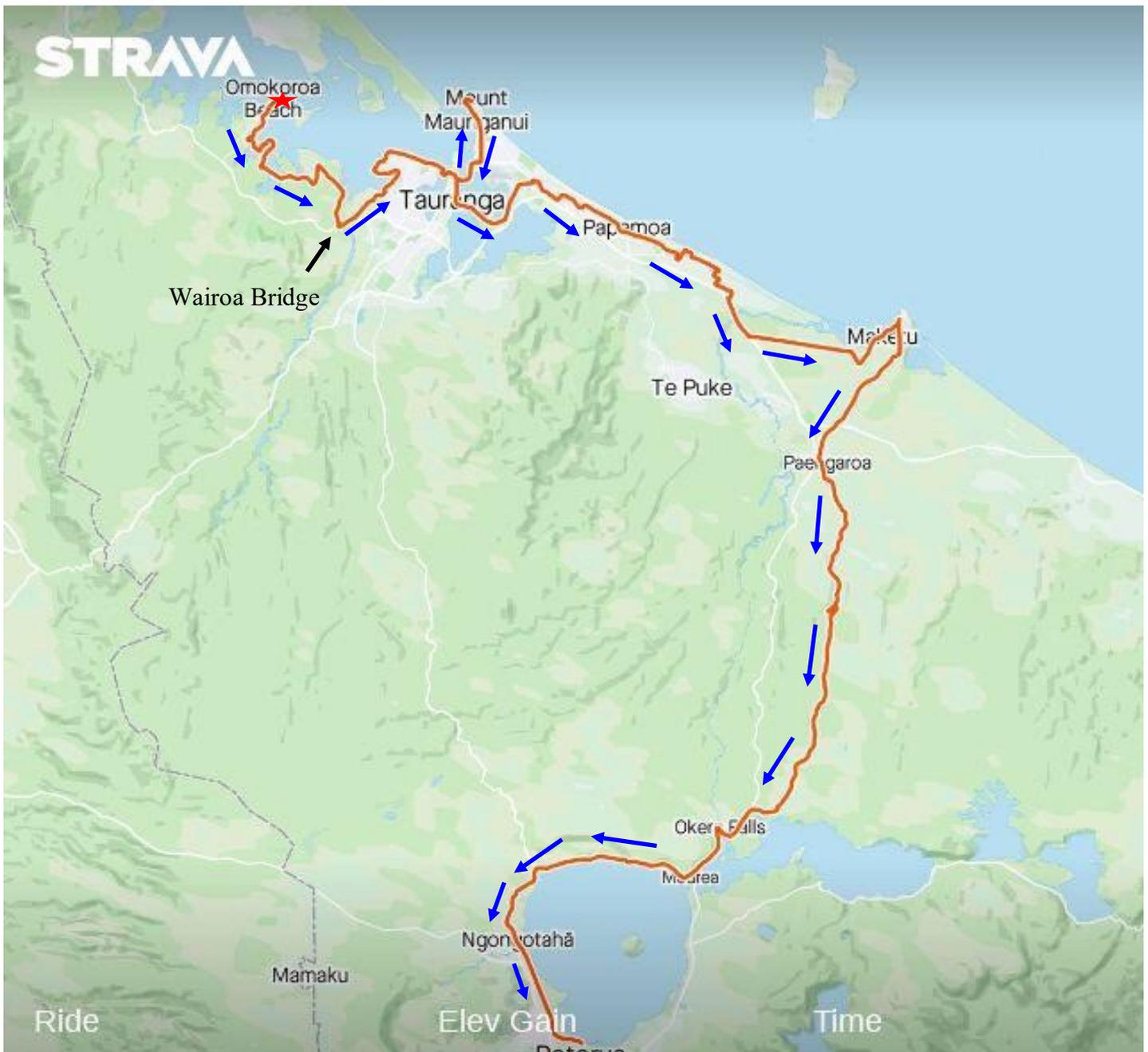
Omokoroa - Tauranga - Mount Maunganui - Papamoa - Maketu - Paengaroa - Okere Falls - Hamurana - Ngongotaha - Rotorua

Omokoroa - Wairoa Bridge 17.7 km 11.01 miles

Wairoa Bridge - Mount Maunganui 21.9 km 13.60 miles

Mount Maunganui - Maketu - Paengaroa 58km 36 miles (Surf 2 Geysers route)

Paengaroa - Okere Falls - Hamurana - Rotorua 55.2 km 34.29miles (Surf 2 Geysers Route)



Ride details:

Total Distance: 155km 96.56 miles

About this ride: Starting with coastal harbour views, through suburbs and parks, stunning beaches, waterways, off road paths, quiet country roads, gravel back country roads, a gravel 2 km native bush reserve, 1.1km on a main highway with verge, lakes and finally Rotorua. The route takes you past Kiwifruit, dairy farms, and dry stock farms.

This ride can be done in smaller sections: Wairoa Bridge 2 Omokoroa and return. Wairoa Bridge 2 Tauranga Strand, Sulphur Point Marina Mount Loop. Surf 2 Geysers.

Bike Type: Mountain bike or any bike with a wider tyre.

Park and start: The parking area around Beached on Blue Café 4 Esplanade Omokoroa.

Omokoroa 2 Wairoa Bridge

Approx: 17.7 km 11.01 miles

Time: 1 hr 15 approx

Area: Omokoroa and Te Puna

This is a mainly flat ride taking in coastal views with a few minor hills.

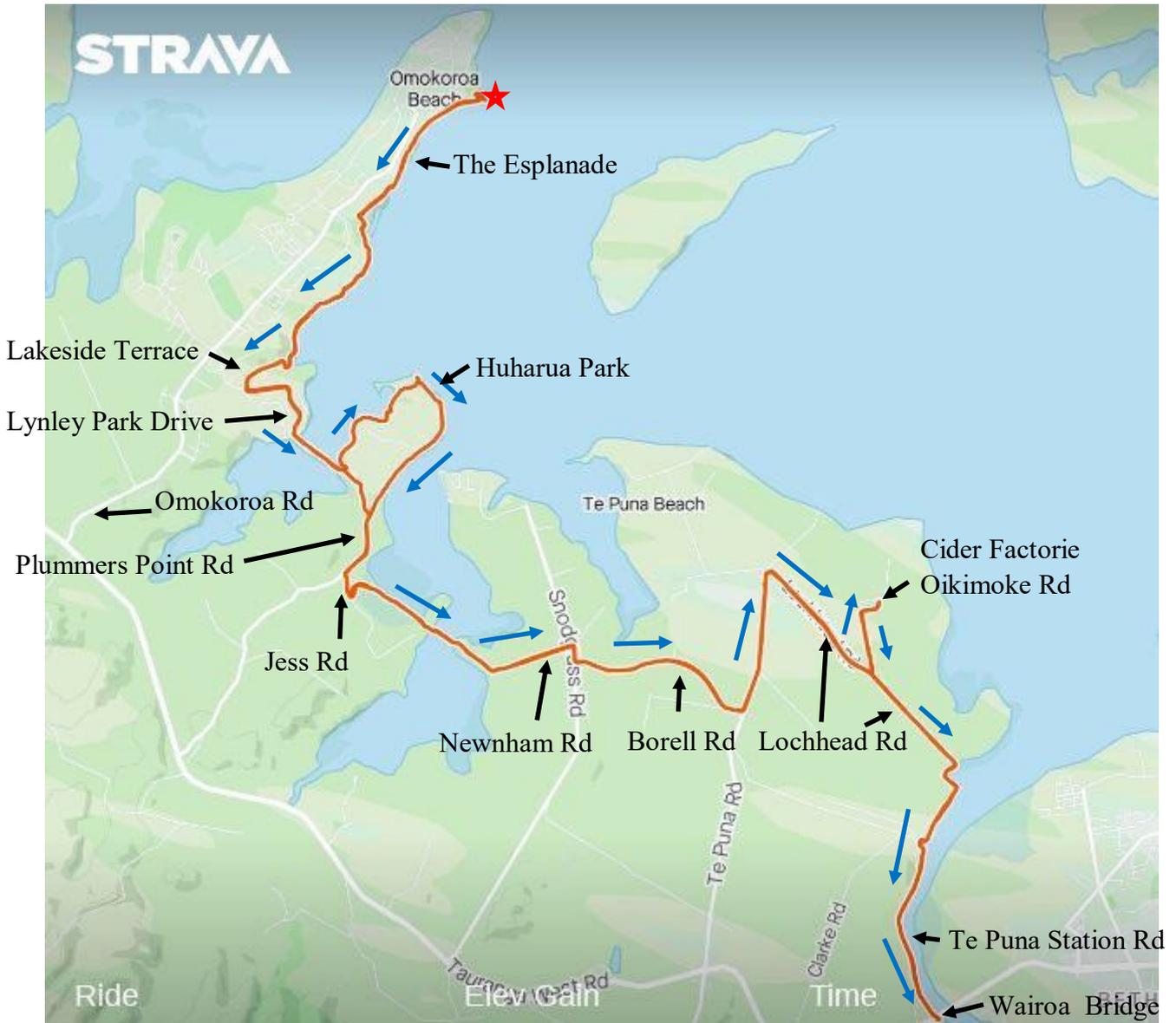
Directions: With your back to the beach and the Café on your right ride down Esplanade road, this takes you through Cooney Reserve following the direction for the Omokoroa Cycleway. Onto Lakeside Terrace for 400m, turning left at the round about for 700m on Lynley Park Drive, Turn left across the bridge on the Omokoroa Cycleway riding through Plummers Point Cycleway on Huhurua Harbour Park. Into Plummers Point Rd for approx. 2km (wonderful views from the grass verge reserve.) Left into Jess Rd for 220m (**the turning onto the wetland is easy to miss**) ride through the Jess Rd Wetland on your left. Over the bridge and follow the off road path right into Newham Rd for 500m, left into Snodgrass Rd for 140m, left into Borell Rd for 1.5km, right into Te Puna Rd for 1.2km. Continue onto Lochhead Rd for 1.2km.

Place of interest/ refreshment : on your left Oikimoke Rd, 550m down here is the Cider Factorie at 50 Oikimoke Rd 075524558, well worth a stop for food / refreshments and enjoy the fabulous outlook. Return back up Oikimoke Rd.

Continue left along Lochhead Rd onto an off road path and under the railway line that brings you out into a car park on Te Puna Station Rd for approx. 1.5km to a parking area beside the Wairoa Bridge (toilets here and sometimes a coffee cart)

Omokoroa to Wairoa Bridge 17.7 km 11.01 miles

Approx 1 km return to the Cider Factorie



Wairoa Bridge -Tauranga - Mount Maunganui Scenic Route

Approx: 21.9 km 13.60 miles

Time: 1 Hour 30 minutes approx.

About this ride: Mainly flat, on and off road paths

Area: Suburbs of Bethlehem, Otumoetai, Matua, Tauranga and Mount Maunganui

Bike type: Suitable for road bikes but a wider tyre would be easier.

Directions from the Wairoa Bridge car park

At the Wairoa Bridge car park there are toilets and sometimes a coffee cart. Riding up and over the bridge on the road verge for 900m on **SHW 2**, turning left at the top of the hill into **Carmichael Rd** for 1.5m going straight through the roundabout (2nd exit)

At the **St Michaels Ave** and **Carmichael Rd** round about turn left into **St Michaels Ave** for 450m then onto the unsealed path at the end of this no exit Rd following the (City Centre signs), veering left coming out and turning left onto **Westwood St** for 120m, Left into **Princess Rd** for 450m, Left into **Margaret Rd** for 250m and left into **Ngatai Rd** for 500m. Left under the railway on the shared path. This is the **Matua Saltmarsh** area, follow the path veering left at the standing pole frames, and through the archway veering left as you go along the board walks staying on the seaward side of the path, up a hill on a concrete path which comes out onto **Sunny Bay Rd** for 210m, Left into **Levers Rd** for 450m to the T intersection with **Kings Ave**. To your left and opposite is **Kings Ave Reserve**, ride through this and out into **Manuwai Drive** which flows into **Matua Rd** for 900m. Left into **Tainui St** for 350m, Left again and into **Fergusson Park** riding along the waterfront **Beach Rd** and shared path, through **Kulim park** (toilets all along this area) From the Fergusson Park entrance way to Kulim Park exit is 2.6km. As you exit the Kulim Park gates, veer left then right to ride between the houses and the beach. There is no formed path here, just grass and a dirt path, with wonderful views of the harbor. Flowing into **Harbour Drive** for 1.6km which flows at the corner into **Maxwells Rd** for 240m Turn left over the bridge on **Chapel St** for 300m, Just after the bridge on your left, turn left taking the path beside the harbor this will take you up and over the bridge at the Nautilus Restaurant & Espresso Bar and the Nautilus Dry Stack (boat storage) **The bridge you will go over is the water way exit from the dry Stack storage facility and is the only one in NZ apart from one in Auckland. (www.fortnautilus.co.nz) This is a very interesting concept if you are lucky enough to be there when they are taking a boat in or out)**

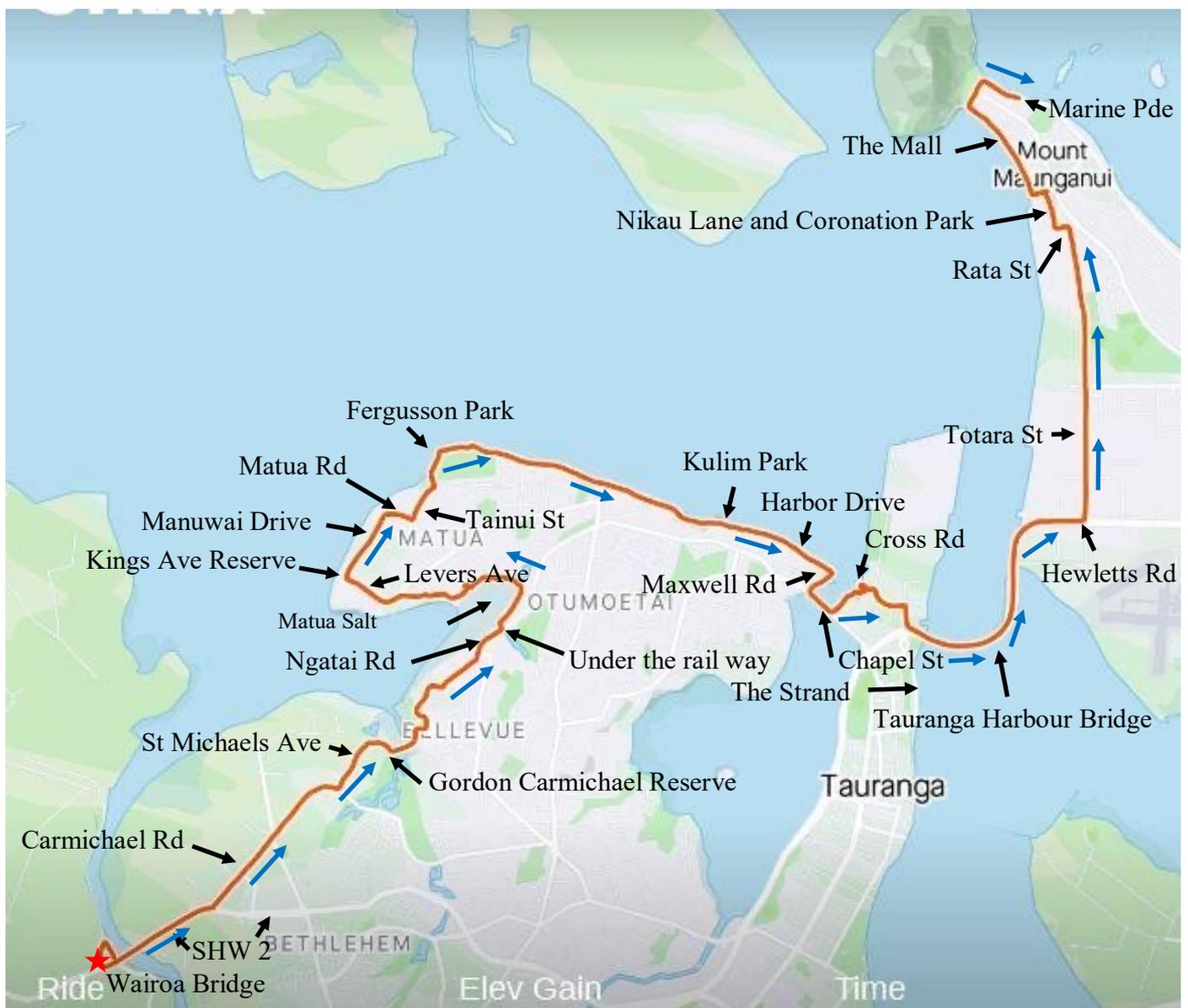
Riding through the car park on **Cross Rd**, at the T intersection which is also Cross Rd turn left for the **Scenic Interest** or turn right to carry on and across the railway line.

Scenic Interest: Ride out of Cross Rd, turning left which flows into **Keith Allen drive** for 1.3km , and down to the **Tauranga Yacht and Power Boat Club** and Marina to enjoy a little boat watching. Refreshments options and toilets are here. Retrace your path, carrying on and over the rail way line.

At the end of Cross Rd, turn right into Mirrielees Rd, at the lights turn left and ride up and over the Tauranga Harbour bridge on the shared path.

It is worth taking the time to stop at the top of the bridge to enjoy the view of the Harbour, Marina & Mount. Continue on this safe path. Left (**carefully**) into Totaroa St at the 2nd set of lights, onto the road cycle lane for **2.6km**, this is a very busy road so **extreme care** must be taken. Passing Dominion Salt on your right and My Ride Bicycle Shop (37 Totora St) Fabulous wall art on the vet side of the My Ride Shop. Left onto **Rata St** at the T intersection for **120m**. Right into **Nikau Cres** ride 170m on a shared path on your left and straight ahead and across Coronation Park which will bring you out beside Spongedrop, and the toilets onto **Salsibury Ave** which you will turn left onto (turning right takes you to the main shopping centre). This veers right into **The Mall** (the Harbour side for 1km) Veering right again at the base of the Mount into **Adams Ave** for **280m** past the Hot Pools on your left and the Copenhagen Ice Cream shop on your right. Veering right again onto **Marine Parade** (the surf side) There are many refreshment / accommodation options here. (**this is a busy area please take care**) Opposite Commons Ave (350 m down Marine Parade) is a viewing platform (toilets below) which gives a spectacular view of the beach, Mount and coast line. There is also a water fountain between the platform and foot-

Wairoa Bridge - Tauranga - Mount Maunganui Scenic Route 21.9kkm hours 13.60 miles



The next part of the route is the Surf 2 Geysers

Route: Mount Maunganui - Tauranga - Matapihi - Bayfair - Papamoa - Maketu - Paengaroa

58 km (36 miles)

The first part of this section takes you back to the Tauranga Harbour Bridge to then carry on your way. Your starting photo opportunity, the viewing platform on Marine Parade, opposite **Commons Ave** (with toilets below it and water drinking fountain beside the footpath) ride back towards the Mount, Mauao following the road for **350 m** flowing left into **Adams Ave** for **280m** , past the Hot Pools on your right and the Copenhagen Ice Cream shop on your left. Left into **The Mall** (Harbour side) for **1km** which flows - Left into **Salisbury Ave** then half way along this road on your right ride left of Spongedrop and the toilets, straight through Coronation Park which comes out on **Nikau Cres**, ride **170m** straight ahead on the shared path on your right. Left into **Rata St** away from the Port for **120m**. Right into **Tоторa St** for **2.6km** along the road/cycle path past (**or ride on the footpath, this stretch is very busy and extreme care must be taken**) **My Ride** Cycle Shop on the mount side of the **My Ride** wall is a fabulous piece of art work, well worth a stop, by the Vet sign) & Dominion Salt on your left.

At the second set of traffic lights is a major intersection with **Hewletts Rd**, you need to be on the right hand side of the road with the oncoming traffic coming towards you. The safest way to do this is to go up onto the footpath with Ultimate Motor Group on your left and behind you and cross the road as a pedestrian. You will then be on a concrete walk / bike path with **Hewletts Rd** traffic coming towards you. You have done a right hand turn but stayed on the right side of the road. Ride up and over the Harbour bridge. It is worth taking a moment at the top of the bridge to enjoy the view of the Mount, Harbour, Marina, Port and Tauranga.

As you come off the Tauranga Harbour Bridge immediately turn right onto a cycle path that will take you back the way you came but at ground level, signed posted Cycle Mount Maunganui. This will take you under the bridge you have just ridden over. Veering right, head towards the white building which is the Trinity Wharf Hotel and ride in front of the foundation pillars which will take you left onto the cycle /walk path on **Dive Cres**. Continue left (don't cross over the railway line.) just past Bobby's Fish shop ride onto the footpath and foreshore path and park straight ahead of you.

Proceed ahead, watching out for **two sets of low bollards** in the middle of the path, half way along you will come across the Hairy Maclary bronze sculptures from famed children's book author Lynley Dodd. Proceed ahead, when you get to a small white building turn right and you will see a small fountain near the rail way line, cross the rail way line carefully here. This is downtown Tauranga. Plenty of eating options along the Strand.

Left down the **Strand Rd** at the roundabout, (sign posted Bayfair with a cycle) heading towards the railway bridge, ride left up and over this and onto the Matapihi cycle path for **5.4km** enjoying views out over the harbour at points along the way. Passing Omanu Golf course on your left. When you meet the railway line cross as directed to the Bayfair shopping centre car park via the walk/ ride traffic lights

Once through the traffic lights push your bike through the car park towards the Bayfair building, turning right at the Bayfair building following the building around (Girven Road directional stickers on the pavement) veering left at the corner of the building, when the underground car park is on your left turn right into the traffic lights area, and ride straight through the traffic lights across **Girven Rd**, into **Gloucester Rd** for **1.8km**

Left into **Hibiscus St** for **450m**

Right into **Grenada St** for **1.5 km**

Left into **Pacific View Rd** at the round about for **250 m**

Right onto the **Reserve path**. (slightly obscured by a rubbish bin, trees and electrical boxes, it is just after Reef Ave) James Henry Ave is on your left.

Carry on the Reserve path for **2.57km**, crossing over Evans Rd and Hartford Ave (a little down on your left the reserve path continues.) cross over Palm Beach Blvd continue on the reserve, until you pop out at the Fashion Island shopping centre on **Gravatt Rd** and the Beachwater roundabout. Refreshment options here.

As you popped out of the reserve track onto Gravatt Rd, ride left along the foot path past the Beachwater Roundabout and cross the road and ride between the white bollards under the Norfolk Pine tree, directly opposite, this path goes around the back of the Fashion Island shopping centre which takes you past a small lake on your right and out onto Domain Rd, cross **Domain Rd** at the lights and continue on the reserve track.

Carry on the reserve track, crossing **Opal Drive**, and **Longview Drive** exiting right off the reserve track sign posted **Alice Lane**. Left opposite the bowling green and follow the track between the skate parks and straight across busy **Parton Rd**.

Optional Side Trip: Coffee Option - Right into Parton Rd for 350m right at the Parton Rd / Tara Rd roundabout, into Tara Rd ride 1km, on your right at 112 is **Pacifica Home and Garden Centre**, a lovely gift shop, garden centre and café which is well used to cyclists. There is a cycle rack left of the main door by some outdoor tables. Coming out of the garden centre turn left into Tara Rd, ride through the round about and left at Parton Rd for 900 m to Simpson Rd on your right.

Other wise straight across **Parton Rd** onto a sealed track, veering right on the grass and between an avenue of trees. This comes out on **Ashley Place**. Left into **Ashley Place** which flows into **Kopukairoa Blvd** for 200m, Left into **Hou Hou Cres** for 170m straight ahead, (**do not take the bend**) following the track and respecting the access given by Nga Potiki. This comes out onto **Simpson Rd** (opposite Kirkpatrick Rd) , turn right into **Simpson Rd** for 1km. At the end of Simpson Rd, ride through the shared path coming out onto **Santa Cruz Drive** and turning right for 180m, right into **Mandalay Key** taking the path on your left between houses 15 and 21. turning left as you come out onto the Te Ara O Wairakei Stormwater Reserve pathway. Follow the pathway, crossing over **Palm Springs Blvd.** and **Golden Sands Drive**.

Optional side Trip / refreshments: Crossing over Golden Sands Drive and continuing on the Te Ara O Wairakeri Storm Water Reserve, take the 2nd exit left off the trail into Sarah Place for 210m, left into Wairakei Ave for 86m, right into Turutu Lane (car Park) and you will see Henry and Ted's café on your left at 5 Golden Springs Drive or Rise Artisan Bakery on 4 Golden Sands Drive opposite Henry and Teds. Return back the way you have come to the Reserve.

Continuing along the waterway after crossing Golden Sands Drive for 550m, taking your first turn on your right for 120m crossing over the waterway and into **Harding Drive** for 500 m. Left at the roundabout onto **The Boulevard** for 450m. Right into **Stevenson Drive** for 540m, left into **Te Okuroa Drive**. Riding right through the bollards onto the wetlands gravel road / path, coming out at the small lakes and turning left onto the TEL (Tauranga Eastern Link) shared sealed pathway, riding for 2.6km, (this path also goes straight ahead) left again to come out onto Kaituna Rd. Ride 4.2km for the side trip below.

Optional side trip : a side trip if you wish down Ford Rd (on your left) , 1.7km one way – commonly called ‘The Cut’ where a White Heron can sometimes be seen and plenty of anglers fish and whitebaiters congregate where the Kaituna River meets the sea with a fabulous view down the coast to the Mount.

Otherwise continue riding the whole 6.9km along **Kaituna Road**. Left at the T intersection into **Maketu Rd** for **2km**

1st exit left at the Roundabout into **Park Rd** for **260m**

Right at the foreshore in the direction of the playground carpark.

Left into Beach Road for **400m** running along the Estuary edge until you get to **Maketu Surf Club, Maketu Beachside Café** and **Holiday Park**. A refreshment stop.

Continuing past the Maketu Surf Club up **Town Point Rd**, riding for **1.3km** for your one hill of the day to the end of the road. From here you get a good view of Plate Island on your right, on the left, low Motiti Island and behind, Mayor Island. Also the Mount and Coromandel peninsular. Cycle back along **Town Point Rd** for 500m, turning left into **Williams Cres**. Turning left at the T intersection with **Rauporoa Rd / Arawa Ave**, **STOP** and look back to an amazing vista of the Papamoa hills, Hinterland and coast to the Mount. Ride for **1.1km** along Arawa Ave to the optional side trip

Optional side trip : 1.1km along Arawa Ave on your left is Bledisloe Park Ave, it is worth a small 210m detour or full 1.3km one way down Bledisloe Park Ave to Little Waihi. Seeing the East Coast towards Whakatane, Pukehina Beach and Estuary just below you, Whale Island, Volcanic White Island and on a clear day down to Cape Runaway, all the way to the bottom of this hill through the park & white barrier arm on your left to the beach, this hill has a surprisingly friendly gradient to return up.)

Continuing along **Arawa Ave** for 1.6km from the Bledisloe Park Ave

Left into **Wilson Rd North** for 4.7km

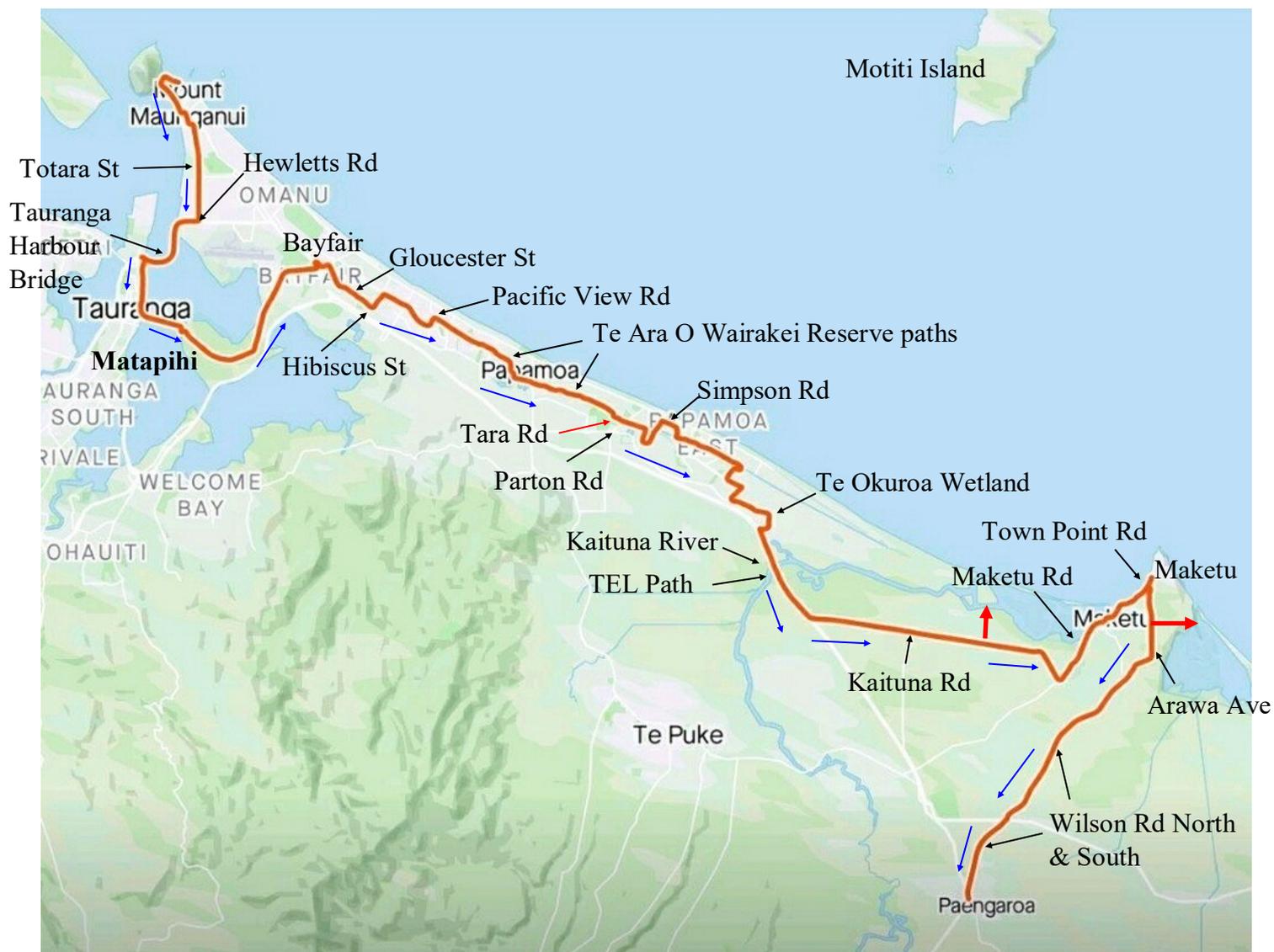
Right veer into **SHW 2** and across in the direction of Paengaroa on **Wilson Road South** for 2.6km until you reach Paengaroa Village.

Maketu to Paengaroa a total of 10.7 km + 2.6 for Little Waihi 13.3km

Look out for **Comvita** on your right and The Trading Post French Bistro on your left. Also other eateries in Paengaroa.

Mount - Tauranga - Matapihi - Bayfair- Papamoa - Maketu - Paengaroa

Accommodation in Paengaroa: Junction Motel: www.junctionmotel.co.nz 246 SHW 33 Paengaroa. 07 5331023 where there is secure bike storage and space for your car while you ride the trail. junctionmotel@xtra.co.nz. Carry on Old Coach Rd, through the village past Paengaroa Hall, opposite Paengaroa School turn right down Sunset Drive and left at the T intersection on SHW 33 and the Junction Motel will be on your right. (700m- a less traffic busy option)



Paengaroa - Rotorua **59.3km (36.84miles)**

Riding out of the Motel turning left into SHW 33 back towards Paengaroa (this is a busy highway so take care)

Right into Sunset Drive and Right again into Old Coach Rd at the school (you might like to stop at Paengaroa for coffee or food to take with you, in which case you will turn left at the school and into the village and then retrace your path)

Continuing along **Old Coach Rd**. Today's ride is mainly undulating through Kiwifruit and Avocado orchards, Dairy farms in the first half of the ride and Sheep and Cattle in the second half (visits to any of these can be arranged in advance)

Follow **Old Coach Rd**, for **3.7km**

Right into **Roydon Downs Rd** for **6.8k** Left into Ridge Rd with an uphill to start for 6.6km until you reach the parking area. Through the bush reserve, Kaikokopu Trail for approx 2km of native bush then pine trees, coming out onto Lichenstein Rd for 6.6km. Once you get into the Cattle and Beef farming area you get magnificent views south to the Rotorua hills and Tarawera to the left, and Papamaoa Hills to the right. Right into Maniatutu Rd for 2.2km. **If you wish to take a rest & (toilet stop next to the playground) by Lake Rotoiti, Turn left down Otaramarae Rd for 400m and you will come to the lake.**

Retracing your path back up **Otaramarae Rd** and turn left onto **SHW 33**, you will be briefly **1.1km** on a busy road, with a good verge. **Take care**

Left down **Okere Rd** for 1.9km, follow this road to the end passing **Lake Rotoiti Holiday Park** on your left (Paengaroa to Okere Falls **36.9km**)

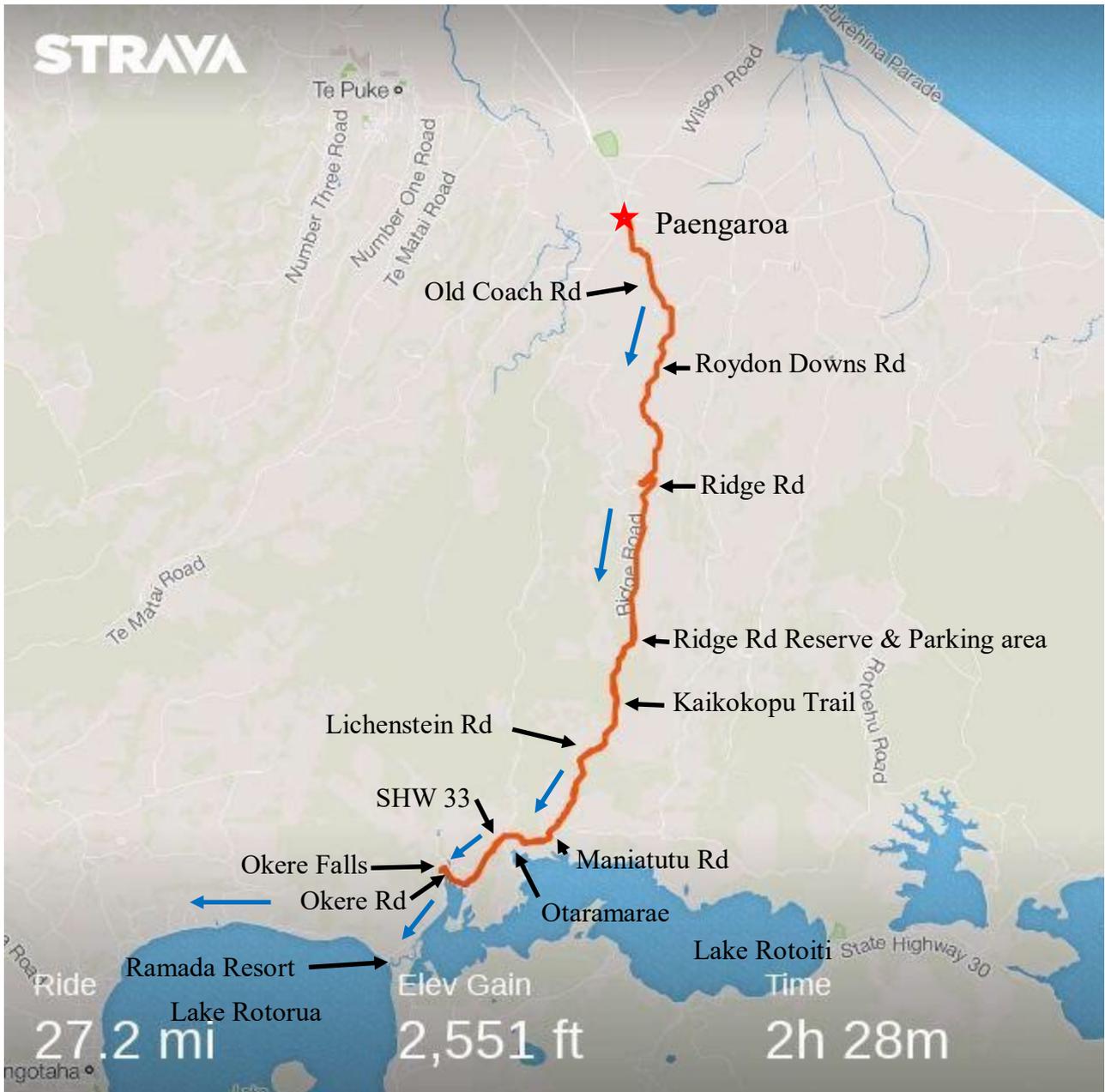
Okere Falls is where **Rafting** and **sledging** down the **Kaituna river** starts. Also Glow Worm Cave Kayak Tours.

At the end of the no exit Okere Rd take the path immediately on your left which will lead you over a small foot bridge and the start of the Kaituna River. (**mind this tree sheltered path may be slippery**) then left to the Okere Falls Café.

Scenic Option : Okere Falls Scenic Reserve: At the Okere Falls café lock up your bikes there and enjoy refreshments before or after. Walk back to Trout Pool Rd, which is just opposite the bridge you crossed. 0.3 km down Trout Pool Rd on your right you will find a parking area to the very pretty Okere Falls Scenic Reserve. From this very pretty bush clad area you observe the rafters/ kayakers and waterfalls on the river. (**mind slippery spray laden steps in your bike shoes**)

There are several B & B's at **Okere Falls** if you wish to make this your accommodation stop. The Okere Falls café is a very popular refreshment option. Or continue for 3.8km for more accommodation options. Check out the Rotorua Accommodation page.

Paengaroa to Okere Falls 30.9km



Section 2 Start: Okere Falls 28km

End: Rotorua

Continue on a slightly busier road for 3.8km with good verges and turning right into **Hamurana Rd** you will come to - **Ramada Resort Rotorua Marama** which is on your left, 1420 Hamurana Rd, Mourea 07 3624120, www.ramada.com Depending on how far you want to ride and what activities you want to do, this is a very good accommodation / refreshment stop. This resort is on the Ohau Channel which joins Lake Rotoiti to Lake Rotorua.

(There is also accommodation at Okawa Bay, Mourea. Instead of turning right into Hamurana Rd, carry on for 1km to **V R Rotorua Lake Resort**, 366 SHW 33, Mourea. +647 3624599. www.vrrotorua.co.nz, reservations@vrhotels.co.nz and retrace your track the next morning to Hamurana Rd.)

(Ramada Resort to the Rotorua main waterfront is 22.8km if you wish to carry on)

Rotorua is very fortunate to have a wide range of accommodation including some exquisite Boutique Luxury lodges, to find what accommodation suits your needs: www.rotorua.com/visit/accommodation There are many options around this north western side of the lake.

From Ramada Resort there is one hill to start then flat with a couple of very minor hills, the first part of this very scenic route is narrow so take care. Many of Rotorua's attractions and activities are around this northern and western side of the Lake Rotorua.

Ramada Resort to Ngongotaha Village is 15.2km

Ngongotaha to Rotorua waterfront Reserve is 7.6km

There are many shops in the little village of Ngongotaha also Dynasty Café on your right 125 Ngongotaha Rd. With plenty of outside space to park your bikes.

Optional side trip: For the **Agrodome** (show times 9.30am, 11.00am & 2.30pm) & **Agroventures**, ride to the end of the Ngongotaha village and turn right down Western Rd, riding 1.7km, then retrace your pedals.

And / or

Optional side trip and / or detour: For **Paradise Valley Springs**, continue through Ngongotaha right at the roundabout into SHW 5 for 2km, then left into Paradise Valley Rd Riding up Paradise Valley Rd for 8.8km until you come to the Park. Exit the park by turning right onto Paradise Valley Rd, Left onto Clayton Rd, straight ahead into Lake Rd at the big intersection with Fairy Springs Rd, and onto the bike ride path, watching out for the entry exit ways.

Section 2 Okere Falls to Rotorua

Left at the traffic lights into Lakefront Rd, you will come to the lake front reserve (10.1km from Paradise Valley Springs to Lake front Reserve) Ibis or Novotel Hotel are very close to the reserve

And / or

If you don't wish to ride or see any of the above and want an off road direct route to Rotorua, turn left into **Taui Rd** in Ngongotaha and right into the car park, at the back of this is a path leading over a bridge on your left until you get to Railway Rd *

* From Ngongotaha continue along **Ngongotaha Rd** you will come across **Adventure Playground** and **Dirt Bike Tours, Canopy Tours, Rainbow Springs Kiwi Wildlife park** and **Skyline Rotorua Gondola**

From the roundabout the footpath is a shared walking/ cycling path.

At the second set of traffic lights, just past the Skyline Rotorua Gondola intersection turn left into **Kawaha Point Rd** for 500m,

Right on to the riding trail (also on your left) this is just before Matthew Place on your right. Follow the riding trail until you come out beside Railway Rd,* turning left at the roundabout onto **Lake Rd** on a very nice concrete bike /walk path. **Mind the road /drive way exits as you ride along here.**

Left at the traffic lights into **Lake Front Rd**, as you get to the top of this road, look down on your left into the car park for lake views and the Te Papaiaouru Marae and Saint Faith's Anglican Church.

Left at the roundabout into Lakefront Rd, you will come to the beautiful **Lake Front Reserve**. Overlooking the Lake Front Reserve are the Ibis or Novotel accommodation, which have secure bike storage. If the weather is not nice and you don't have an accompanying car, you can dine in or easily walk to the nearby restaurants and shops from here. The accommodation choice is entirely yours.

Scenic Option extension: (water front area under beautification construction as at 12.1.2021 to access this area: up Memorial Drive, Left into Whakaue St, right into Hinemaru St and left into the Gardens in Queens Drive.)

From the lake front reserve carry on riding along Lakefront Drive and the lake in an anti-clock wise direction, (on the road) flowing into Oruawhata Drive which will take you into Queens Drive *(go back to this point when you have finished exploring the beautiful gardens - Government Gardens - and magnificent building that is the Rotorua Museum, formally the Bath House, & Café. (www.rotoruamuseum.co.nz) *Riding down Queens Drive, towards the back of Rotorua Museum, with the Energy Events Centre on your right, you will come to an intersection with Hatupatu Dr, directly behind this road sign and the Government Gardens sign is the path you want to take onto a boardwalk, - turning right onto it (mind your tyres as you ride onto this board walk as the wooden slates are wide)

Keep on this path past the Polynesian Spa following along the lake side edge of the car park. When you come out at the T intersection with Eurera St & Amohau St (Accommodation facility Sudima Lake Rotorua will be in front of you) left into a bike / walk path, keep veering left. Following the **bike signs** along this very interesting path through the Sulphur flats (**always stay on the path - this is a geothermal area !**) you will come out onto SHW 30 (at the traffic lights.) 5.1km Return back the way you have come to the Lake front.

Okere Falls to Rotorua

